The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

6900 Nubbin Ridge, Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ E-mail: firstcpc@earthlink.net ~

(865) 588-8581

Kevin Wood ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

December 31, 2008

How did it all begin?
Where was the Garden of Eden located?
Answers to many of your questions discussed during the



Young Earth Seminar

a unique multi-media presentation supporting Biblical creation and the "young earth" viewpoint

Sunday, January 11, 6:00 p.m.

First Cumberland Presbyterian Church with special guests Frank Galbraith and Fred Mynatt www.kingdom-builders. com

This may be the only chance your children and grandchildren get to hear how the Bible and science can agree on how the world began. We encourage all teachers, parents, and students of Thursday Connection and the public school system to attend!

WELCOME BILLIE WILSON

Last Sunday Billie Wilson became the newest member of First Church, transferring her letter of membership. We thank God for Billie's renewed commitment to faith and we pray God's blessings on Joe and her as they worship and serve the Lord together with us!

PIONEER CLUBS BEGINS SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

The second session of Pioneer Clubs begins Sunday, January 18, 4:00 p.m. in the chapel. Pioneer Clubs provides weekly club programs for boys and girls in pre-school through middle school that help them make Christ Lord in every aspect of life.

We encourage all children who were in Pioneer Clubs last fall to bring their friends and classmates to learn of our big plans for the next ten weeks of Pioneer Clubs. There's lots of fun things you won't want to miss!

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

The first two Sundays of January, 2009 I will be preaching a two-part message on how to share your personal story of faith.

This Sunday, January 4 the sermon title will be "His Story--- Seven Biblical Word Pictures You Can Use to Tell Anyone About Christ." Take notes and see if you can remember them and use them this year.

Sunday, January 11 the sermon will be "What's Your Story?" Your assignment will be to write down your own story of encounters and/or life experiences you have had with Christ in 100-200 words. I hope you will send them to me by regular mail or e-mail and let me have the privilege of reading them and compiling them for a devotional book during Lent called "Our Stories of Faith—First Cumberland Presbyterian Church."

I hope all of you will take this opportunity to reflect and share your unique personal story of what God has done for you! "And you will be My witnesses..." (Acts 1:8b)

HYMNAL DEDICATION

The dedication of 300 new hymnals by members and friends of First Church will be held during the worship service on Sunday, January 18. The beautiful white hymnals have been given to the glory of God and in memory/honor of those who love the Lord and His Church. Special thanks to Sam and Karen Ware and Tom Witmer for preparing the hymnals and the dedication service.

HOW FAITHFUL WILL YOU BE IN 2009?

Are you a member of First Church in name only? Should someone put "FBP" beside your name on the church roll (for "Burial Purposes Only")?

We all take the same membership vow when we join First Church: "Do you promise to be a faithful member of this church by participating in worship, sharing in its ministry of witness and service, supporting the government of the church, and loving your brothers and sisters in Christ?" (Confession of Faith, p. 105)

Will you keep your promise to be a faithful member in 2009? God took your commitment to the Church seriously. Do you?

Pastor Kevin







Happy Birthday



January 9-Stella Holt



Activities for January 4-10, 2009

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service Tues., 11:00 a.m. West Circle Wed., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for December 28, 2008Sunday School41Worship76Offering\$4,759.50Capital Improvements Fund80.00Memorial/Building Fund\$0.00Expenses paid last week\$5,170.52

Year-to-Date (as of December 28, 2008)

Offerings received to date: \$151,772.20 Facility usage fees received to date: \$23,339.50 Expenses paid to date: \$248,459.34

Building / Cap. Improve. Fund......\$101,405.55 Gift to The King.....\$253.00

UPWARD BASKETBALL BEGINS JANUARY 10

Saturday, January 10 the second season of Upward Basketball will begin at First Church. 77 boys and girls, kindergarten through grade six, will play each week for eight weeks and all their parents, grandparents, and friends will be in the gym to watch them.

God has given us a wonderful opportunity not only to teach these kids the game of basketball but to introduce them and their families to Jesus Christ.

Please pray for the success of Upward Basketball in 2009. If you want to help in any way, contact director Steve Summers (922-3999 or 548-9698).

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

A service of ordination and installation for new elders Richard Congdon, Maxine Curtis, and Kim Halbert will be held at the conclusion of the worship service Sunday, January 11. Please pray for them as they begin their three-year terms on the Session.

The first regular Session meeting of 2009 will be Tuesday, January 20, 6:00 p.m. in the Keene Room.



Deadline

You got news. I want to hear it. I want to print it.

Let everyone know about church and small group events, such as Circle and committee meetings, parties, luncheons, Sunday School class get togethers, etc. Help me keep the calendar current. All Newsletter articles, events, or announcements should be sent by 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays to Tom Witmer at firstcpc@earthlink.net or thomaswitmer @Comcast.net or call the church.

Prayer Concerns In the Hospital

Taylor Adkins (friend of MariKate Walker), St. Jude's Children's Hospital

Earl Dunn, St. Mary's (friend of Maxine McGuire) Cecil Presnell, Baptist West (coworker of Dianne Fielder) Sheena Richardson Beal, Park West (daughter of Jean and Regina Richardson)

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Taylor Ford; CP Missionaries; Brack Emory; Mary Jane Blaylock; Ileana Grace Hayes; Bill Hammill; Reba Smith; Bill & Flora Mae Keene; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Priscilla McCoy; Margaret Lindsay; Mary Cregger; William Barron; Joyce Creasman; Jonathan Migas; Bonnie Holbert; Otis Clinton Shelby; Lois Witmer; Elena Zimmerman; Gladys Stone; Lea Acuff; Mildred Acuff; A. R. Wood (Kevin Wood's brother); Lisa Deal; JoAnn Ford; Maxine McGuire; Pat Booher; Fred Johnson; Millie Jones (the Acuff's great-granddaughter); Steve Goodrich; Marlene Ritchey; Irene Brooks (Nancy Wood's mother); Doug Bailey (friend of the Witmer's); Marjorie Thompson (Shelia Emory's sister~in~law); Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Gordon Blaylock; Bridget, daughter of John Lindley (friend of the Bachman's); Rex Holt (Beaver Creek CP church, friend of Kevin); Lisa Teknus (Pioneer Club's Mom); The Cooper Children (Justin, Jeremy, Kasey and Jeffery); Tyler, Becca and Skylar Meece; Bud & Betty Hickman; Brenda Ball (friend of Congdons and Wares); Howell Sherrod (Becky Rader's brother—heart by-pass surgery); the family of Mark West (son of CP minister Fred West).

Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes, additions or deletions to our Prayer Concerns list.

Needed & Give Away Items

Needed Items: a clothes washing machine, a used car, an engine for a Toyota (call for information), firewood. **Give Away Items:** a gas dryer in good working condition, and a pair of lamps.

Please call the office for information on the above items. If you have good give away items or need an item call the church office and we will add to our list.

The 199th Denominational Day Celebration

The Denominational day Celebration will be held on Sunday, February 1, 2009 at 3:30 at the First Church of Knoxville. This year's agenda will be the historical meeting of General Assembly held in Japan last June. There will be a slide presentation and the Commissioners have been asked to make brief reports of their experiences. There will be a question and answer session to follow.

After the service there will be a meal offered by the host church. If you plan to stay for the meal, please call Tom Witmer at (865) 588-8581 or e-mail at firstcpc@earthlink.net, with the number of your party. The meal will be \$6.00. Please have your reservations turned in no later than Saturday January 24, 2009.