

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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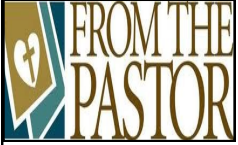
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

November 23, 2016



I want to wish everyone a great **Thanksgiving!** I hope that it will be more than a day of food, family, and football, though all these things are good; I pray that it will be a special day for each of us as we pause and give thanks, first and foremost to God for the many blessing He pours into our lives, and then to our family and friends for what they mean to us. Remember the theme from the Citibank advertising campaign that I quoted in last Sunday's sermon: "It's amazing what a simple 'thank you' can do."

I want to give you a brief update on our annual stewardship campaign: to date, 31 *Estimated Giving Cards for 2017* totaling \$152,560.00 in annual giving have been turned in. This amount is slightly more than last year's total, resulting in our **Stewardship and Finance Committee** being able to submit to our **Session** a responsible budget proposal for 2017. Thank you for your continued generosity!

While I do not yet know how much money was raised, I do know that last Sunday's **Bake/Craft Sale** was a success; all the food items were sold and many of the craft items were sold as well. Our **Ladies' Ministry** thanks you for your support.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Holiday Ministry Opportunities

Our **Mission and Outreach Committee** is helping the **Volunteer Ministry Center (VMC)** stock their **Holiday Store** by contributing items for this store. Recipients of **VMC** services must earn points by doing service projects in order to "buy" these items. Please keep new bought items in their original packaging; do not wrap any item. We will be collecting these items through the month of November; donation boxes are in both the Narthex and the Gym.

In conjunction with our **Mission and Outreach Committee**, our **Ladies' Ministry** will have two "**Mitten Trees**" in the Narthex. Throughout the month of December, we will be collecting gloves, mittens, scarves, and hats for children in Appalachia through the **Coalition for Appalachian Ministry (CAM)**, located in Townsend, TN. We will also have an "**Angel Tree**" in the Library for residents in **Serene Manor Nursing Home**. Thank you for participating in these ministries which will help to make a brighter Christmas for many in our community.

Christmas Gift Cards are a wonderful way to honor family and friends and also to help feed hungry families in the Knoxville-area. The **FISH Hospitality Pantries** are walk-in pantries in the northern, eastern, and southern parts of Knox County. Order blanks and two sample cards are in the Narthex on the table. You can order the cards and mail them yourselves, or you can send them your names and addresses and they will mail them for you. A family of four can be fed for three days with just a \$5.00 gift. Contact **Betty Hammill** (690-8739) for more information.

Upcoming Events

- * Thursday, November 24th ~ **Thanksgiving Day**
- * Sunday, November 27th ~ **First Sunday of Advent**
- * Sunday, December 11th ~ **Third Sunday of Advent** ~ Our **Choir** will present this year's *Christmas music* during our **Worship Service**, at 10:45 a.m.
- * Saturday, December 24th ~ **Christmas Eve** ~ **Candle Light Communion Service**, at 5:00 p.m.
- * Sunday, December 25th ~ **Christmas Day** ~ no Sunday School ~ **Worship Service**, at 10:45 a.m.
- * Sunday, January 8th ~ **Congregational Meeting** to elect, ordain, and/or install the *Elder Class of 2018* at the close of our **Worship Service**, approximately 12:00 noon

Nursery Worker

Welcome our new Nursery Worker: **Kim Boyatt** began serving in this vital ministry last Sunday. **Kim** is a longtime friend of Susan Edwards. In addition to working in our nursery, **Kim** also works for the Knox County School System and at a private daycare facility. Drop by our Nursery next Sunday and introduce yourself to **Kim**.

Rocky Hill Christmas Parade

First Cumberland will once again have a float in this year's **Rocky Hill Christmas Parade**, which will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to help decorate our float, please meet here at the church that Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. and bring any Christmas decorations you think might be useful. In addition to having a float, we will also host a hospitality tent in the parking lot of Rocky Hill Center where we will give away coffee and hot chocolate, as well as distribute flyers about our congregation.

From Our Mail Box

The family of **Ruth Porter Halbert** deeply appreciates and gratefully acknowledges your kind expression of sympathy. Thank you for all your beautiful cards, prayers, and kind words,

Love,
Bill, Kim, and Robyn Halbert

*For the glory of God, Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church exists to **worship** Christ, **evangelize** the lost, **love** one another and our neighbor, and **learn** more about our God.*



First Cumberland,
where you belong!



Happy Birthday
November 23rd-29th
23rd - Mary Helen Daniel
23rd - Kian Pipkin



Faithfulness Record for November 20, 2016	
Sunday School.....	46
Worship Service.....	71
Offering.....	\$2,010.00
Music Fund.....	\$50.00
Youth Fund.....	\$50.00
Building Reimbursement.....	\$900.00

Activities for November 23-29, 2016

Thursday: Thanksgiving Day - Church Office closed

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
12:15 p.m. Mission and Outreach
6:00 p.m. Session

(See our web site for complete calendar listings)

Among Our People

Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis) fell on Monday, November 14th, and broke her leg; she is now in Westmoreland Health and Rehabilitation Center. ~ Congratulations to **Hailey Davis** (granddaughter of Tom and Lois Witmer) on being selected **Freshman Student of the Week** at South-Doyle High School. ~ Congratulations to **Jack** and **Jin Gaston** on celebrating their sixty-sixth wedding anniversary last Sunday. ~ It was great having **Lesa Medley** (daughter of Mary Helen Daniel) worshipping with us again last Sunday. ~ It was great having **Carl** and **Leonette Ware** (father and sister of Sam Ware) worshipping with us last Sunday. ~ **Lois Witmer** is in Parkwest Medical Center being treated for bleeding ulcers.

Women of Joy Conference


The will be a **Women of Joy Conference** in Pigeon Forge the weekend of April 28-30, 2017. Cost for the conference is \$109.00 per person; cost for lodging is \$144.00 (two nights, double occupancy); each lady is responsible for her own meals. A non-refundable deposit of \$25.00 is due by November 30th, with the balance (\$228.00) due by March 30, 2017. Contact **Joanna Wilkinson** at 3girls-mom@KFCPC.comcastbiz.net or 205-533-2001 to confirm your interest in attending and to make your deposit.

Missions and Outreach Committee Meeting

Our **Missions and Outreach Committee** will meet in the Keene Room this coming Sunday, November 27th, following our Worship Service, to finalize plans for our participation in the **Rocky Hill Christmas Parade**.

Session Meeting

Our **Session** will meet in Keene Room this coming Sunday, November 27th, at 6:00 p.m.




Prayer Concerns
In the Hospital
Lois Witmer @ Parkwest Medical Center

Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

Mildred Acuff; Preston Beeler (cousin of Greg Beeler); Charlotte Byrd; Gordon Blaylock; Peggy Bradshaw (mother of Dianne Fielder); Wanell Brown (friend of Rose Wilkinson); **Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries**, Mae Denton (friend of Tammy Eblen); Nora Derreberry (mother of Maxine Curtis); Grace Flory (mother of Lois Witmer); Judy Gammon; Jack Gaston; Bill Gregory (friend of Greg Beeler); Wayne Haddox (father of Ryan Haddox); Mark Hester; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Bobbie Himes (sister of Jin Gaston); Becky Ingle (friend of Amanda Roberts); Jewell Kerr; **Kids Hope USA Mentoring Program**; Steve Kusenda (brother-in-law of Margaret Migas); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Georgia Moore (sister of Jewell Kerr); Mary Anne Moncier (aunt of Dianne Fielder); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (cousin of Dianne Fielder); Alice Montgomery; Carl W. Montgomery (nephew of Alice Montgomery); Amy Beth Davidson Morgan; Barbara Mullenax; Cliff Parrott; Tom Parrott (son of Cliff Parrott); **persecuted Christians around the world**, Jan Pipkin (sister-in-law of Dianne Pipkin); David Poore (coworker of Phil Bridges); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); David and Rebecca Rech (parents of Justin Rech); John Snoderly (brother of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Jean Stapleton (mother of Elaine Stapleton); Gladys Stone; Angel Tindell (granddaughter of Catherine McKinney); Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Codde Weaver (son of Elaine Stapleton); Lee Wells (mother of a coworker of Susan Edwards); Devan Wilhite (friend of Greg Beeler); Rose Wilkinson (mother of Pastor Mike and Susan Edwards); Lois Witmer; Theola York (mother of a coworker of Susan Edwards)

Please keep the Church Office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list.



Church's Website

The church's website, www.first-cumberland.org, includes audio recordings of the sermons from the previous four [Worship Services](#).

Friendship Club, P.M. Edition

The next Dutch-treat dinner outing of the **Friendship Club, P.M. Edition** will be Thursday, December 1st, at **Red Lobster Seafood Restaurant** (8040 Kingston Pike), at 6:30 p.m. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join us on these outings.

Friendship Club

The next Dutch-treat lunch outing of the **Friendship Club** will be Wednesday, December 14th, at **Copper Cellar West** (7316 Kingston Pike), at 11:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join you on these outings.