

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Our Weekly Newsletter "Loving God, Loving People" January 30, 2008

WE SAW MIRACLES LAST SUNDAY!

The story of what God is doing in Korea is utterly amazing and miraculous in its scope. Ernest and Michelle Gillis shared the story of 92 baptisms, a congregation of 136 averaging 25-30 years of age and mission work begun in Mongolia, the Philippines, Africa, Vietnam, and Cambodia with more to come!

Thanks to all of you who came and gave your time, attention, and encouragement as well as \$700.00 is special offerings for our continuing mission in Korea. Thanks for the great food you brought as well!

Please remember the requests the Gillises left with us: (1) pray for us; (2) help us find a place to call home (expansion of existing facilities to make room for explosive growth); (3) come to see us! (let's get a mission team to visit in the next 2-3 years!!!) and (4) grow your own church in Knoxville where the Lord is truly served!

Special thanks to Steve and Kim McCurry who hosted the Gillises in their home last weekend!

We will not soon forget our trip to Korea through the eyes of Ernest and Michelle Gillis, the pastoral family of First Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Korea! God bless you as you prepare to return to Korea in June.

DENOMINATION DAY SERVICE FEBRUARY 3

Cumberland Presbyterians of East Tennessee Presbytery will gather for our annual "Denomination Day" celebration Sunday, February 3, 3:30 p.m. at Cedar Hill CP Church in Greeneville. Rev. Iwao Satoh from Japan will deliver the message and a fellowship meal will follow. By the way we will be 198 years-old. Our denomination was founded February 4, 1810 in Dickson, Tennessee (40 miles south of Nashville).

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY

Sunday, February 10 is "Boy Scout Sunday" at First Church and we welcome scouts and families of Troop 20 for morning worship. Scoutmaster for Troop 20 is Jon Schaffer. Our Mike Bachman is an adult leader in the troop.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER

Vikki McCombie, a longtime friend of First Church joined us "officially" last week by transfer of membership from a Presbyterian Church in Hampton, Virginia. Also present with Vikki were her sister Karen Price, and her four grandchildren, Jeremy, Justin, Jeffery, and Kacie Cooper. It was great to see all of you again. Welcome, Vikki!

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN 'AGAPE' FEAST!

Easter comes early in 2008 (March 23) so the elders and I invite you to an "Agape Feast" during the season of Lent. The early church held daily love feasts! Look at Acts 2:46 if you want to get an idea of what they were like.

Our "Agape Feasts" will include all members and regular attenders but they are also an excellent opportunity for you to bring friends and family who do not have a church family.

Our "Agape Feasts" will include time for fellowship, prayer, a Lenten devotional from the Bible, and Holy Communion. The schedule includes four Sunday evenings during Lent:

Sunday, February 17, 5:00 p.m. (hosted by Elders Lee Barron and Valerie Wann)

Sunday, February 24, 5:00 p.m. (hosted by Elders James O'Neal and Dianne Pipkin)

Sunday, March 9, 5:00 p.m. (hosted by Elders Tom and Lois Witmer and Steve Summers)

Sunday, March 16, 5:00 p.m. (hosted by Elders Steve McCurry and Steve Goodrich)

For the next two Sundays we will pass around a sign-up sheet for you to indicate which Sunday you are not available to join us. After that, we will be in touch with you to let you know the date and time and all other details for the "Agape Feasts."

May God richly bless our time of fellowship in the Lord!

WHEN CHILDREN ASK QUESTIONS

Perhaps the best indicator that Upward Basketball is reaching children and parents for the Lord was Eric's deep desire to ask me "when did God begin?" during last Saturday's games. He and his parents came to my office afterward and we talked about what the Bible says about God's "beginnings". Most of all Eric was pleased it was alright to ask the "big" questions about God. We both learned that is one way God invites us to get to know Him and grow closer to Him. So don't ever be afraid to ask questions!

COMMITTEE ORIENTATION MEETING

A one-time orientation meeting for all committees/teams of the church will be held Sunday, February 10, 3:30 p.m. in the chapel. This includes new members who agreed to serve in 2008. A complete list is available on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Committees/teams include Building & Grounds, Christian Education, Worship, Missions & Outreach, Stewardship & Finance, and Small Group Team.

Initially, the meeting will cover basic guidelines and goals for everyone. Then committees/teams will break into groups, elect officers, and begin planning. The church is grateful to all those who will serve!

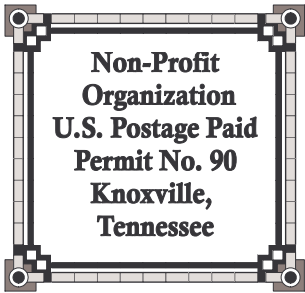
'ELDER ON CALL' FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY

<i>February 3</i>	<i>Steve Summers</i>	<i>February 17</i>	<i>Lois Witmer</i>
<i>February 10</i>	<i>Valerie Wann</i>	<i>February 24</i>	<i>Tom Witmer</i>

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club invites everyone 55 and older to join us for our February luncheon at the Chop House, 9700 Kingston Pike, Wednesday February 27, 11:00 a.m. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office or call 588-8581.

~Pastor Kevin



Happy Birthday



February
7– Jane Carroll
9-Stephanie Saults



Activities for February 2–9, 2008

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
(Librarian on duty)
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
Tues., 10:45 a.m. West Circle
7:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Committee
Wed., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for January 27, 2008

Sunday School.....59
Worship.....110
Offering.....\$2,151.00
Capital Improvements Fund\$20,135.00*
Memorial/Building Fund.....\$10.00
Expenses paid last week\$2,288.24

Year-to-Date (as of January 27, 2008)

Offerings received to date:.....\$12,999.67
Expenses paid to date:.....\$16,629.93

Building / Cap. Improve. Fund.....\$73,187.00*
*Includes giving toward pledges

Keep an eye on the thermometer in the Narthex. Keep up with the our progress of the Building / Capital Improvement Fund Raising Campaign.

Update on Building Repairs and Maintenance

We have been informed that our loan request was approved for the amount of \$200,000. Work has already begun on the roof. As far as the HVAC needs go we will put that project on the back burner until we can secure funds to tackle it. If you have any questions or comments about these projects or other facility needs, please contact any member of the Building & Grounds Committee. (Tom Witmer, James O’Neal, Billy Davis, Barbara McCammon, Dick Congdon or Charlie Franks).

New Volunteer Program

We are attempting to revive an old volunteer program, Office Volunteers. We are asking persons who are able to come and work in the office for a couple of hours a day. Duties would include: answering the phone, making copies, entering data into our computer system, helping Pastor, helping in office and building, collecting attendance registers from Church, maintain office area, being another happy face for our building guests to see, etc. If interested, contact Jewell Kerr at 690-8903 or Tom Witmer.

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 office at 588-8581.



Prayer Concerns



In the Military

Shane McGhee in Iraq, wife Tamara in California
Bill Hickman in Iraq, Lee Barron’s cousin

In the Hospital

Wally Holt, Ft. Campbell Military Hospital, Iraq War Veteran

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Taylor Ford; JoAnn Ford; Marlene Ritchey; Pastors Euripides Morera, Rodrigo Torress and Gilberto Arteaga, and their congregations in Buenaventura, Columbia; Brack Emory; Mary Jane Blaylock; Denominational Center Task Force; Ileana Grace Hayes; Bill Hammill; Reba Smith; Bill & Flora Mae Keene; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Maxine McGuire; Mrs. Don Franks; Priscilla McCoy; Margaret Lindsay; Mary Cregger; Irene Brooks; William Barron; Nancy Bandermoden; Doug Bailey; Mike Roberts; Joyce Creasman; Brenda Burk; Jonathan Migas; Bernie Migas; Levi Bailey; Lillian Stephens; Neal Denton; Bonnie Holbert; Otis Clinton Shelby; Reba Hauser; Franklin Graham Crusade coming to Knoxville in April, 2008; Lois Witmer; Francis Bogart; Noreen Bogart; David Summers; Barbara Leith; Elena Zimmerman; Thomas King; Gladys Stone; Ann McGraw; Matt Lambert; Marion Biggs; Margaret Knopp; Mary Hines; Judy and Toby Rogers; Lea Acuff; Cliff Limerick; Judy Lawson (Lisa Deal’s Aunt); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (Dianne Fielder’s cousin); A. R. Wood (Kevin Wood’s brother); the family of Olivia Grace Thrasher who died January 14 (great niece of Faye O’Neal); Hannah Davis; Lisa Deal; Jane Matthews.

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

A Need

Special Need! Young, single mother needs a car to get her and her children back and forth to work and daycare. If you know where to find an inexpensive, dependable car or have one to donate, please call the church office right away. The need is immediate!



The BOOMERS are back and ready to get together! This group is for 30, 40, 50, and 60 somethings (the older we get, the more we raise the age limit!) to get together for dinner and socializing. Our first dinner will be held on Saturday, Feb. 16th at P.F. Changs at 6:00. We would love to have a great turnout and make this a regular part of our church family relationship. Please call Steve and Wendy Goodrich (691-4069) by Wednesday, Feb. 14th if you will be able to join us. All are invited and we hope to see everyone there!

West Circle

will meet at the church at 10:45 a.m. on Tuesday February 5th. Please bring a sandwich for lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided. It is hoped that all will attend.

Thank you!

To Kevin and everybody for the visits, flowers and flowers and the rides to the doctor’s offices.
Maxine McGuire