

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Kevin Wood ~ Pastor Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter "Loving God, Loving People" December 5, 2007

THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

The children of our church will tell the story of the birth of Jesus Christ this Sunday, December 9, 10:45 a.m. They will remind us of the miracle of Christmas announcing God’s love to the whole world. Bring family and friends to experience the Gospel through the eyes, hearts, and voices of our children!

Also bring a meat, salad, vegetable, or dessert dish to share during the church-wide Christmas party in the gym following the service.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING THIS SUNDAY

This coming Sunday, December 9 a congregational meeting will be held at the conclusion of morning worship for the purpose of electing three new elders. At that time the Session will place in nomination three candidates. Others may be nominated from the floor by members of the congregation provided they have contacted the person prior to the meeting and they have agreed to serve if elected. Please pray for the election of our new elders. All members are encouraged to vote this Sunday.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT THIS SUNDAY

This Sunday, December 9 is “Stewardship Commitment Sunday” and you will have time during the service to bring your commitment card to the Communion table and make your pledge of money, time, faith, gifts and talents to the ongoing ministry of First Church. Will you be available to do the Lord’s work?

SPECIAL INVITATION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT!

You are invited to join the Chapel Class as they begin their study of the New Testament this Sunday, December 9, 9:30 a.m. in McDonald Chapel. If you don’t know much about the Bible and want to get the “big picture” of the New Testament, we’d love to have you for this ten-week journey. Hope to see you this Sunday!

UPWARD BASKETBALL

By the time we finish registration over 80 children will be signed up to play in our very first Upward Basketball league! Thanks to everyone who prayed for a great turnout!

Please keep in mind the league begins Saturday, January 12. Between now and then we still are looking for more prayer partners, concession helpers, referees, and set up and clean up crews. If you can help for any part of the eight-week ministry please call league director Steve Summers (922-3999).

THANK YOU!

What a beautiful sanctuary we enjoyed during the first Sunday of Advent thanks to Barbara McCammon, Leigh Ann Summers, Judy Gammon, Mary Ann Haney, Tom Witmer, and Dianne Fielder. Everyone took a moment at the close of the service to hang “Chrismons” and to reflect on the symbols and decorations glorifying the birth of the Savior.

THANK YOU, TOO!

All of the names of needy children were taken from the “Secret Magi Tree” last Sunday. Please do your shopping this week and return the Christmas gifts by next Sunday, December 9. If you have any questions, please call the church office (588-8581). God bless you for your generosity!

INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO OUR ADVENT EVENTS!

This Advent-Christmas season we have decided to present all our special programs during the Sunday morning services. We’re doing this so you can invite everyone you know who doesn’t have a church family. Christmas is one of the best times of the year to welcome people to experience the joy and peace of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, December 16, 10:45 a.m. Third Sunday in Advent. The choir will present their annual Christmas cantata entitled: “Emmanuel: Celebrating Heaven’s Child.”

Sunday, December 23, 10:45 a.m. Fourth Sunday in Advent. Morning Message: “Incarnation: God is with Us!”

Monday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. Christmas-eve Candlelight Communion Service with special guest soloist Hallerin Hilton Hill.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB CHRISTMAS OUTING

The Friendship Club invites everyone 55 and older to our annual Christmas gathering Wednesday, December 12, 11:30 a.m. at the Copper Cellar, 7316 Kingston Pike.

Sign up on the bulletin board or call the church office. Please bring a \$3 Christmas exchange ornament.

‘ELDER ON CALL’ DURING DECEMBER

December 9: Lee Barron December 16: Jewell Kerr December 23: Eugene McCammon

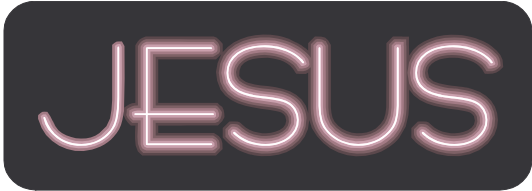
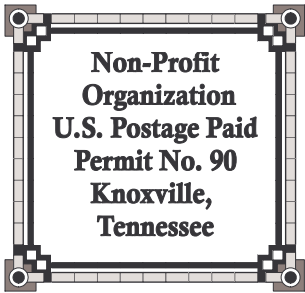
CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR VETS

If you would like to express your love and appreciation to those who have been wounded in the cause of freedom in Iraq, you are invited to send Christmas cards to the following addresses:

Wally Holt
Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C. 20307-5001

A Recovering American Soldier
C/O Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C. 20307-5001

~Pastor Kevin



Happy Birthday



December

- 4-Andrea Golliher
- 8-Andrew Clark
- 12-Allison Davis
- 13-Taylor Ford
- 14-Rodney Godwin



Activities for December 8-15, 2007

Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service, Children's Play
	12:15 p.m.	Pot Luck Luncheon
Wed.,	11:30 a.m.	Friendship Club Lunch
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Stewardship & Finance

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for December 2, 2007

Sunday School.....	52
Worship.....	96
Offering.....	\$3,714.75
Capital Improvements Fund	\$400.00
Memorial/Building Fund.....	\$155.00
Expenses paid last week	\$3,163.07

Year-to-Date (as of December 2, 2007)

Offerings received to date:.....	\$144,914.67
Expenses paid to date:.....	\$243,741.09
Building / Cap. Improve. Fund.....	\$24,384.00

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

The Building & Grounds Committee will have met with the Session on Tuesday, December 4 in a joint meeting to hear a presentation from Al Bedinger on the HVAC design. After the presentation there will be a question and answer period. If you were not able to attend the meeting please ask someone who was there about 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).

Thank You!

Just wanted to send you a sign of my gratitude! Thanks so much for your help and all your prayers.
Fred Johnson

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.

If you would like to receive The Cumberlander via email in

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
Edna Ivey, Park West, hip replacement
Madeline Vaught (Vickie McCombie's mother), Ft. Sanders

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Ted Ford; 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; Jennie Lee Middlemas; Irene Brooks; William Barron; Nancy Bandermlen; 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; Lucy and Glen Hesler; Curtis McNabb (Tammy Eblen's father); Lois Witmer; Francis Bogart; Noreen Bogart; David Summers; Barbara Leith; Elena Zimmerman; Adrienne Murphy; Thomas King; Terry Davidson; Peggy O'Neal; Gladys Stone; Sam Bivens; Wayne Huskey; Ann McGraw; Matt Lambert; Kay Tipton; Sam Stone; Lea Acuff; Donna Walker.

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

THE MITTEN TREE IS IN THE LIBRARY!

For many years we have participated with CAM, (Coalition of Appalachian Ministries) to help keep children warm.

You may help by decorating the tree with mittens, scarves, or caps.

Lakeshore Gifts

We are collecting gifts for Lakeshore patients. Please place the gift in the box in the library for delivery to Lakeshore by December 4th. There is a list of suggested items on the CPWM bulletin board. Please do NOT wrap the gift and do not include any item with glass. Thank you for your support of this worthy project.

Elder Election

This Sunday the Session will place in nomination Dianne Pipkin, Steve Goodrich, and Steve McCurry for the office Elder for a term of three years.

Thank You!

To Friends at 1st C.P. Church, God, Holy Spirit, and friends helped me accept Tom's death. Thank you for your cards, notes, visits & concern during this time. He is now well, and I have lots of good memories. He would want us to be happy. It's time to celebrate Christmas.

Always,
Alice Montgomery