# The Cumberlander

### Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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We b site: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

April 27, 2011



#### **EASTER FOREVER!**

We've gotten the celebration down to just one Sunday a year, "Easter Sunday." The church calendar says we can carry on the festival for another fifty days during "Eastertide."

But the truth is Easter is forever! Why stop the celebration? Why not live in light of the Resurrection every day from now on?

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, has risen from the dead! In doing so, He has answered the three most important questions people have about eternal life:

(1) Does It Exist? (2) What Is It Like? (3) How Do You Get It?

The answer to question number one is YES! Jesus' own resurrection proved there is life beyond the grave! Over 500 people walked, talked, broke bread, ate, and in the case of Thomas, conducted a personal examination of Jesus' scars and wounds from the crucifixion. And last, but not least, He appeared to the apostle Paul. Hundreds of eyewitness accounts, countless testimonies of changed lives through the centuries, the calendar, the Church, and even now the Holy Spirit convicting and confirming the risen Lord is living in our hearts today.

Jesus Christ was dead and buried. He was laid in a borrowed tomb, but He didn't borrow it long, because He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

Jesus proved eternal life exists! He also demonstrated what it is like! I Corinthians 15:20 says: "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep." First-fruits means an example of that which is to come! In other words, if you want to know what it's like to die and live again, look at Jesus' experience!

There was a separation of the spirit from the body ("Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit!) but after three days, Jesus returned to the tomb to re-inhabit the same body. Only this time the body was His "resurrected," glorified body. If God has the power to make matter out of energy, and to make Adam out of the dust of the earth, then He has the power to recreate our decomposed bodies and make them "resurrected," glorified, eternal bodies!

Two other aspects of Jesus' "resurrected" body also demonstrate what the future holds for all who trust in Him for salvation and eternal life. He enjoyed real food (Luke 24:38; John 21:15) and he ate regularly with the disciples and others following His resurrection! One day He will be our host for the marriage feast of the Lamb!

The disciples also knew who He was! The Bible teaches us that once we are raised from the dead, we will retain our identities and personalities and have fellowship with one another, just like Jesus and the disciples! We're going to meet the saints of the ages and be re-united with all those we've known and loved on earth, with no threat of death, disunity, or separation ever again!

The third question: How do you get it? Well, Jesus purchased it for us! None of us could ever afford it, earn it, or deserve it. But we can have it by faith in the Son of God, who died for our sins, was buried, and was raised by God, the Father, on the third day!

Don't let the love of sin and the pride of this life keep you from knowing Him and experiencing the power of His resurrection!

Jesus said: "I assure you: anyone who hears My word and believes in Him who sent me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life!" (John 5:24)

Happy Easter...forever!

#### THANK YOU!

So many people worked so hard to bless our Holy Week and Easter Services at First Church. The list is too lengthy to name, but we thank God for all the time you spent and the impact of your ministry on everyone who came. The scriptures, the preaching, the fellowship, the food, the laughter of children, even the beautiful landscaping of the grounds and the courtyard spoke powerfully of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. Thank you for helping us celebrate new life in Christ!

#### **OUR SYMPATHY!**

The love and prayers of the church are with the family of longtime member Stella Holt who died Wednesday, April 20 at NHC Healthcare, St. Mary's. The service was conducted Monday evening at Rose Mortuary, Broadway Chapel. May the grace and peace of the resurrected Lord be with you!

~ Pastor Kevin



Join Us For Worship this Sunday! And bring a friend!





## Happy Birthday



2-Ann Bachman 2-Amanda Roberts

3-Charlotte Byrd

6-Joshua Rech

7-John Golliher

#### Activities for May 1-7, 2011

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sun., 10:45 a.m. Worship Service **Choir Practice** Weds., 6:30 p.m.

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

#### Stewardship Report for April 24, 2011

Sunday School	53
Worship	
Offering	
Capital Improvements Fund	
Expenses paid last week	\$3,130.14

#### SonSurf Beach Bash VBS 2011 June 12-16



Grab your surfboard and paddle out to ride a wave of fun and adventure at SonSurf Beach Bash VBS! Learn about cool sea creature like clownfish, dolphins, and sea turtles. Explore tide pools and collect seashells. Jump into cool, refreshing waves or sit on the beach and feel the soft, warm sand between your toes.

As your kids explore the wonders of the beach, they'll also get Big Answers to their Big Questions about Jesus: Who is Jesus? Why can I trust Jesus? Why do I need Jesus? How can Jesus help me when I mess up? What does Jesus want me to do?

Bring your kids to SonSurf Beach Bash VBS and introduce them to Jesus the Savior. It's the most rewarding week you'll ever spend at the beach!

Mark your calendars for SonSurf Beach Bash VBS 2011 June 12-16.

Look for more information each week here in the Cumberlander.

#### THANK YOU FOR BREAKFAST

A huge thanks to the Cornerstone Sunday School Class for providing breakfast after the Easter Early Service. Thanks to Amanda, Scott, Julie, Brent, Allison and Susan.

A extra thanks to Dianne Pipkin for organizing and making it happen.



#### **Prayer Concerns** In the Hospital



### On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

CP Missionaries; Mary Jane & Gordon Blaylock; Reba Smith; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Bonnie Holbert; Otis Clinton Shelby; Gladys Stone; Mildred Acuff; A. R. Wood; Maxine McGuire; Millie Jones; Marjorie Thompson; Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Bud & Betty Hickman; Pam Wisner; Caleb Michael Bundon; Gene Murr (co-worker of Nick Deal); Judy Lawson (Lisa Deal's aunt); Jackie Turbbeyville (Jim Curtis's niece); the Banvelos family (friends of the Deals); Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Lucas Lacascio (former student of Wendy Goodrich) battling a recurrence of a brain tumor; JoAnn Ford; Al (friend of Patty Fitzgerald); Ronnie Joiner (friend of the McCurrys, the Gollihers); Jessie Black (Ann Bachman's mother); Rocky Dukes (Nancy Woods co-worker's husband); Matthew Crawford (12 year old friend of Phil Bridges' niece Melissa Roach); Melanie Ball: Judy Moore; Jonathan Migas; Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder's mother); Eric Nelson (friend of Witmers and Davis's); Mike Grebe (friend of Karen Ware); Rhonda Wilson's father (friend of the Witmers, McCurrys, Golliher and Carol Seeman); J.B. & Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis parents); Ann Redding (Andrea Golliher's mother).); Ernie Hoen (father of Zarah Yerger, a friend of Kim McCurry, Andrea Golliher and Carol Seeman); Steven Park; Marlene Ritchey; Betty Hammill; Lynne Garrison (Lois Witmer's sister); Kathy Langston (mother of a co worker of Brent Witmer); Earl Beeler (Greg Beeler's uncle); Brian Migas; Donald Witmer (Tom's uncle); Richard Dougherty; Richard H. Zimmerman (Richard Zimmerman's father); Virginia Brown, (Kim Halbert's grandmother); Anita Hall (friend of the Congdons); the family of Stella Holt; Reed Davis (future father-in-law of Danny Goodrich).

Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns list. Call 588-8581 or email firstcpc@earthlink.net.

#### **YOUTH LOCK-IN APRIL 29!**

Calling all children and youth, pre-school through junior high! A special all-night "Lock-In" is planned for you and your friends starting this coming Friday, April 29, 5:30 p.m. The "Lock-In" will include meals, games, midnight worship, movies and much more! Please bring your Bible, sleeping bag, pillow, gym clothes and shoes, and personal clean-up items. Parents/grandparents, please note: you may pick them up in the gym on Saturday morning between 9:00-10:00 a.m.

#### **Faith for the Future**

Our campaign to secure funds for the repair of our HVAC system continues to gain ground.

Through Easter Sunday, we are posting \$75,340 in gifts and pledges.

Have you made your commitment yet? If not you may place your pledge card with your offering in the plates Sunday. All gifts are wel-

We do have FAITH FOR THE FUTURE!

J. David Hester