

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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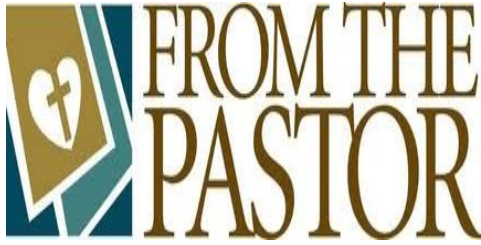
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: [www.first-cumberland.org](http://www.first-cumberland.org)

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

November 20, 2013



### God Is Faithful!

As Steve Summers said in last Sunday's *Stewardship Moment*, "Stewardship is about God's faithfulness. Over the last month, you have both read and heard me speak about tithing. As our annual *Stewardship Emphasis Month* draws to a close, I want to share with you a statement from John Ortberg. He writes: "Tithing was never meant to be a way to 'pay our debt to God.' It has always been a training exercise to cultivate a generous and God-centered heart." My experience tells me that people with "a generous and God-centered heart" are the most joyous of all people. My prayer is that you too will know this joy.

This coming Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, will be *Dedication Sunday*, when each family will have the opportunity to come forward and express your conviction that **God is faithful** by simply placing your Estimate Giving Card on the altar. If you will not be present that day, you can put your Estimated Giving Card in an envelope and give it to a friend or family member to turn it for you or you can mail it to the Church Office.

As I have written repeatedly this month, we cannot formulate a responsible budget without every family turning in an Estimated Giving Card. **First Corinthians 1:9** tells us that "*God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.*" [New Century Version] The question I still have for you is: **"Do you believe, I mean truly believe, that God is faithful?"**

As I wrote in the initial stewardship letter, thank you for the gifts you have given to the Lord through First Church this past year, and indeed for the entire time you have been a part of this church family. Your generosity and faithfulness is greatly appreciated by me and valued by God. **God is faithful!**

God's Grace,

*Pastor Mike*

### Our Building Note

First the good news: As of last Sunday, \$19,828 of the \$25,728 needed has been given. Now the challenge: We still need to raise \$5,900 by this coming Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, so that we can refinance our debt (building note for major repairs taken out in 2008) in December and significantly lower the interest rate and length of the loan on the remaining balance of \$150,000. Raising \$5,900 in one week is a large task, but it is not a task we cannot accomplish; in fact, considerably more than that was given toward our goal on a single day less than two weeks ago. Together, we can do this!

### Children's Message

If you would like to join the list of volunteers to help with the *Children's Message* on Sunday mornings please let a *Worship Committee* member (Sam Ware, Karen Ware, Julie Rech, Shelia Emory, Lois Witmer, Dianne Pipkin, Tammy Eblen, or Brent Witmer) know of your interest. A rotating schedule, which will include Pastor Mike, will be developed. Thank you in advance for responding to this very important ministry of our Church.

### Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at the close of our morning worship service, we will hold a **Congregational Meeting** to elect the *Elder Class of 2016*. At that time, our Session will nominate Jim Curtis, James O'Neal, and Amanda Roberts for the three open positions (Ann Bachman, Sam Ware, and Tom Witmer will be rotating off the *Session*). Additional nominations can be made from the floor providing the person nominated both meets our constitutional requirements and has agreed to be nominated.

### Paideia Academy

Paideia Academy will celebrate its tenth anniversary by returning to our church where classes were held for its first two years. The school will hold its Thanksgiving Feast here on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. Dressed in pilgrim and Indian costumes, the students will present a musical program at 10:00 a.m., followed by a potluck lunch at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is invited. Paideia Academy would like to express its thanks to our congregation for playing a foundational role in the school's early days. Our members are invited to attend the festivities.

*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.*

Knoxville First Cumberland  
Presbyterian Church, Inc.  
6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37919  
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit  
Organization  
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Knoxville,  
Tennessee



Happy Birthday

November  
28-Mary Cregger

Activities for November 24-30, 2013

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

4:00 p.m. Handbell Practice

Tues., Paideia Academy 10 Year Celebration

6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Thurs., THANKSGIVING DAY

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report November 17, 2013

Sunday School.....45

Worship.....81

Offering .....\$3,849.00

Payment on Church Note.....\$493.00

Building Fund.....\$5.00

Choir Room Sound System.....\$200.00

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Here are two events which will give us opportunities to help the less fortunate in our area.

1 – CAM MITTEN TREE. We will collecting gloves, mittens, scarves, hats and socks for children and adults in the Appalachian Mountains. We will have two Christmas trees in the Narthex to put these items on. The trees will be up by Dec.1. We have been assisting these people in this very worthwhile project for many years.

2 – SERENE MANOR NURSING HOME. We will be buying Christmas presents for 5 residents living there who have no family. We will have a Christmas Angel tree in the Library for this project. The tree will be up by Dec 1, and we hope to have the requests on the tree by then also. This is our first year for this project.

Thank you in advance for helping in this way.

WELCOMING TEA FOR JOANNA WILKINSON

Will be held on Sunday, December 15, 2013 in the Keene Room from 2 to 4 pm. We invite all the ladies of the church and community to come and meet our new pastor's wife.

BAKE AND CRAFT SALE

Will be held on Sunday, Nov. 24, in the Library beginning at 9am. Ladies, bring your baked and craft items to the Library, and plan to stay and shop. This has always been CPWM's biggest fund raiser of the year. Thank you in advance for your support in this annual sale. We invite all the ladies of the church to participate - to bake, make crafts and to shop. All proceeds will go to the Building Note.

Prayer Concerns  
In the Hospital

John Smith, Park West Hospital

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

CP Missionaries; Mary Jane & Gordon Blaylock; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Mary Cregger; Mildred Acuff; Maxine McGuire; Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Bud & Betty Hickman; Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Jonathan Migas; Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder's mother); Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis's mother); Marlene Ritchey; Brian Migas; Mary McJunkins, (Mary Wegman's mother); Eric Nelson, (friend of the Witmer clan); Donna Wingard, (Mildred Acuff's daughter); Debbie & David Triese, (Margaret Migas's sister and husband); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Judy Gammon; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Richard Himes (Jin Gaston's brother-in-law); Debbie Holloway; Mildred Gragg (friend of Mary Cregger); Kim and her family, (friends of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Rebecca Rech, mother of Justin Rech; Jack Gaston; J. David Hester; Marie Jobson, (friend of the Witmer's); Grace Flory (Lois Witmer's mother); Suzan Smith, (Jewell Kerr's daughter); Jewell Kerr and family; Cliff Parrott; Janet Simcox (lung cancer); Scott Robert's Uncle; the Whaley family, (friends of Kathy Hammill's); Pattie Derreberry, (Maxine Curtis' sister); John Smith.

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

As the leader of Girl Scout Cadets and Senior Girl Scouts, who meet in the basement of your church; we would like to thank each and every member for the help and efforts over the years for our troop. We appreciate the use of the hall for our programs, for your constant help in collecting soda cans, and for the use of the outside fire pit. You have shown the true love of Christ for children in big and small ways, and none of it has gone un-noticed. Every year our troop tries to do a 'project' for the community or to show support for scouting in general, and this year we have decided to participate in the Knoxville Christmas Parade on December 6th. This year promises to be our biggest ever with almost 250 Girl Scouts signed up to participate from the Knoxville area. Our troop (25959) would like to encourage everyone to come out and cheer us on. Bring your ear muffs, gloves, cameras and hot chocolate and enjoy the parade. If you cannot make it to the parade, be sure to watch it on the TV.

If you are interested in helping with the parade, we are still in need of trailers and trucks to pull them for the scouts to sit on. If you have a trailer you can loan or if you want to help in any other capacity, please feel free to contact me through the church (Tom/Dianne Fielder).

Once again we would thank you from the bottom of our hearts, for allowing us over the last years to meet at your church.

Cheryl~Ann  
Aka Brown Owl