

# The Cumberland

## Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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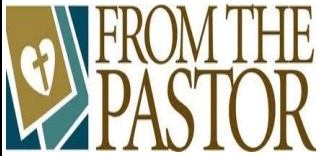
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

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

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

January 21, 2015



In light of our ongoing sermon series, *Stressbusters*, based on **Psalm 23** and its proclamation that the Lord is our Shepherd, I thought I would share a little insight into what it means for us to be compared to sheep. Sheep are timid, fearful creatures. Because of their internal makeup, it is almost impossible for them to lie down to rest unless they are free from all fear. On top of that, an entire flock of sheep can go stampeding off because a rabbit jumped out of a bush. How like sheep we are. We can be afraid of so many things—afraid of losing our health . . . afraid of losing our wealth . . . afraid of losing our loved ones. Sometimes it seems that we can be afraid of life itself. Certainly there are a lot of frightening things out there in our world today—violent crime . . . terrorist attacks . . . the economy . . . illness . . . etcetera. In the face of such fear, hear the Good News: Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, will both protect His sheep and stand as our representative before the throne of God. As followers of Christ, we can have confidence, boldness, and authority in the face of our fears, not because of who we are, but because of whose we are. As our Shepherd, Jesus is our strength. That is just one reason why we never want to stray from His side; instead, we want to stay as close to our Shepherd as possible.

Eight of our **Youth** and seven adults attended all or part of **Convocation** in Gatlinburg last weekend. They were joined by approximately six-hundred-and-sixty other Cumberland Presbyterian teenagers and chaperones from around the Southeast. I want to thank you for your generosity in helping our **Youth** raise the money for this trip; they had a great time and learned a lot about sin's deception.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

*Pastor Mike*

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

Congratulations to both **Chris** and **Justin Curtis** on receiving the *Sacrament of Baptism* during last Sunday's Worship Service. Both **Chris** and **Justin** made *Professions of Faith* several months ago. Following their baptism, both **Chris** and **Justin** officially joined First Cumberland. To God be the glory!

### **Friendship Club**

The next outing for the **Friendship Club** is this Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 11:00 a.m. We will gather at **Bravo Cucina Italiana** (Bearden Hill location) for a Dutch-treat lunch. Everyone reading this announcement is invited to attend this and all monthly outings of the **Friendship Club**.

### **Denomination Day Celebration**

The Heritage Committee of the Presbytery of East Tennessee will be hosting the **2015 Denomination Day Celebration** this coming Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, at 3:30 p.m. This celebration will be at the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge (127 Lafayette). This year's celebration marks the 205<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination (our birthdate is actually February 4<sup>th</sup>). The service will feature the book *The Effects of the Civil War on the Cumberland Presbyterian Churches in the Presbytery of East Tennessee*. After the service, a meal will be provided for a donation. Please make reservations for the meal by contacting the Oak Ridge Church at (865) 483-8433.

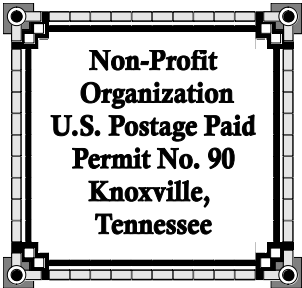
### **Middle/High Sunday School Class**

Beginning on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, Pastor Mike will be teaching our **Middle/High School Sunday School Class** about the Cumberland Presbyterian *Confession of Faith*. This study will take place every-other-Sunday, with Phil Bridges teaching the class on the alternating Sundays. This study will be four or five lessons long, and will help our young people know more about our denomination and what we believe as Cumberland Presbyterians.


### **Sing-a-Long**

Sunday afternoon, February 8<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m., the Union Cumberland Presbyterian Church (Farragut) will be hosting a multi-choir **Sing-a-Long**, as the choirs from several churches will be singing. Then at 6:00 p.m., the ladies of the Union Church will be serving dinner.

*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

**January 25-31**  
25-Ann Gallaher  
28-Kevin Wood  
30-Kim Halbert



Activities for January 25-31, 2015		
Sunday,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service
	3:30 p.m.	Denomination Day
	6:00 p.m.	Session Meeting
Wednesday,	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
(See web site for complete calendar listings)		

Stewardship Report January 18, 2015	
Sunday School.....	44
Worship.....	68
Youth Convocation.....	8
Offering .....	\$1686.00

*Among Our People*

It was good having Melanie Hester Kuhnenn worship with us last Sunday; Melanie has been in town from Minneapolis, Minnesota for a few days and will be returning home this coming Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. . . Also this coming Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, Becky Rader will move from NHC Fort Sanders, where she has been recovering from two strokes, to Echo Ridge Independent Retirement Community (8458 Gleason Drive); Becky plans to be back at church beginning on Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. . . Larry and Dianne Fielder have returned home from their trip to Charlottesville, Virginia, to visit family . . . Charlie Pipkin (Paul Pipkin’s father) is now at Ben Atchley Veterans’ Home; Charlie’s celebrated both his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary last week . . . Dick Booher is now receiving outpatient rehab following his knee replacement . . . Hailey Davis competed in the Ozone Gymnastics Invitational at the Knoxville Convention Center last Saturday; Hailey’s Level 9 team finished third . . .

**Session Meeting**

This month’s **Session Meeting** will be this coming Sunday evening, January 25<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m., in the Keene Room.

**Just a Thought**

“When you are in the final days of your life, what will you want? Will you hug the college degree in the walnut frame? Will you ask to be carried to the garage so you can sit in your car? Will you find comfort in rereading your financial statement? Of course not. What will matter then will be people. If relationships will matter most then, shouldn’t they matter most now?” —Max Lucado



## Prayer Concerns

In the Hospital  
Becky Rader ~ NHC Fort Sanders

**Health and Prayer Concerns** (alphabetized)

the persecuted Christians around the world; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; **FAMILY OF JACK ACUFF** (brother of a friend of Pastor Mike who passed away last Sunday); Roy Acuff (brother of a friend of Pastor Mike); Mildred Acuff; Janie Beeler (Greg Beeler’s wife); Preston Beeler (Greg Beeler’s cousin); Charlotte Bird; Gordon Blaylock; Dick Booher; Kim Boyatt (friend of Susan Edwards); Peggy Bradshaw (Dianne Fielder’s mother); Mary Cregger; B.F. and Mary Helen Daniel; Allison, Hailey, Connor, and Hannah Davis; Nora Derreberry (Maxine Curtis’s mother); Jim and Cookie Dyer; Edna Fleenor; Grace Flory (Lois Witmer’s mother); Jack and Jin Gaston; Curt Hammill (Betty Hammill’s son); Ruth Heifner (friend of Pastor Mike); Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); Bobbie Himes (Jin Gaston’s sister); Debbie Holloway; Kim Holloway (friend of Lisa Hayes); Becky Ingle (coworker of Amanda Roberts); Kim Jones (friend of Amanda and Scott Roberts); Sherri Kramer (friend of Joy Taylor); Ada Ladd; Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Maxine McGuire; Mary McJunkins (Mary Wegman’s mother); Catherine McKinney; Ruth McNabb (Tammy Eblen’s mother); Bob Metts; Brian Migas; Jonathan Migas; Mary Anne Moncier (Dianne Fielder’s aunt); Dewaine Moncier, Jr. (Dianne Fielder’s cousin); Alice Montgomery; Carl Overstreet (friend of Cliff Parrott); Cliff Parrott; Tom Parrott (Cliff Parrott’s son); Charlie Pipkin (Paul Pipkin’s father); David Poore (coworker of Phil Bridges); Anna Faye Presley (niece of Catherine McKinney); Nicolae Racile (father of a friend of Joy Taylor); Becky Rader; Rebecca Rech (Justin Rech’s mother); Marlene Ritchey; Bryan Rogers (Bonnie Bridges’ son); Carol Seeman; Gladys Stone; Sydney Snoderly (Betty Hammill’s great niece); Jack Walker; **MARIKATE WALKER**; Carl Ware (Sam Ware’s father); Joni Warner (friend of Jewell Kerr’s sons); the Whaley family (friends of Kathy Byers); Tom Williams (friend of Cliff Parrott); Robyn (friend of Hannah Haddox)

*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)*



**Lay Ministry Corner**

In this new year, contemplate if your holiness is a high enough priority to you. If not, pray for God to change your mindset. God doesn’t need our prayers, we are the ones that need to pray!

—Donna Walker

**Prayer List Updates**

We are now CAPITALIZING and **bolding** the names of people the very first time they appear on our Prayer List in both the newsletters and the bulletins. Please regularly read these lists and let the Church Office now of any updates, changes, or corrections that need to be made to them.