The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

July 4, 2012



FREEDOM IN CHRIST!

America is 236 years-old this week (July 4). Our quest for human freedom was inspired by God and pursued by men and women of the Christian faith. America began as the noblest experiment ever undertaken for national, civic, economic and personal liberty!

But what we don't often realize is the greatest invitation to freedom ever given came in a dusty little synagogue in Nazareth over 2,000 years ago:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, for He has appointed Me to preach Good News to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the downtrodden will be freed from their oppressors, that the time of the Lord's favor has come!" (Luke 4:18-19)

Jesus Christ read these words from the prophet Isaiah and then declared, "Today, this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing! (4:21) Only the Messiah, the Son of the living God, could make these claims and have the authority to make them come true!

To be saved by Jesus Christ is to be set free in three life-changing ways. It is to be set free (1) from sin and guilt; to be set free (2) from self-centeredness; and to be set free (3) to pursue what God called us to be!

One of the greatest examples of the faith of our founding fathers and mothers comes from a testimony found in some personal papers dated April 21-23, 1752:

"O most gracious God, in Jesus Christ, my merciful and loving Father, I acknowledge and confess my guilt in the weak and imperfect performance of the duties of this day. I have called on Thee for pardon and forgiveness of my sins, but so coldly and carelessly that my prayers are become my sin, and they stand in need of pardon.

I have sinned against heaven and before Thee in thought, word, and deed. I have contemned Thy majesty and holy laws. I have likewise sinned by omitting what I ought to have done and committing what I ought not. I have rebelled against the light, despising Thy mercies and judgment, and broken my vows and promise. I have neglected the better things. My iniquities are multiplied and my sins are very great.

I confess them, O Lord, with shame and sorrow, detestation and loathing and desire to be vile in my own eyes as I have rendered myself vile in Thine. I humbly beseech Thee to be merciful to me in the free pardon of my sins for the sake of Thy dear Son and only Savior Jesus Christ who came to call not the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Thou gavest Thy Son to die for me." (from an authentic 24-page handwritten manuscript by President George Washington)



COMMUNION SUNDAY

Our Lord invites you to His table this Sunday, July 8, 10:45 a.m. Elders, please meet in the sanctuary for preparations by 10:30 a.m.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL July 22-26

Nightly Schedule

6:00-6:15 P.M. Opening Assembly in the Chapel for Everyone

6:15-8:15 P.M. For Adults: Church and Culture—The Battle Is On!

(A Look at Issues Facing the Body of Christ, led by Kevin Wood)

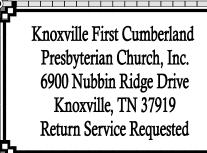


6:15-8:15 P.M. For Children & Youth: Adventures on Promise Island (Nursery Available!)

8:15-8:30 P.M. Closing Assembly in the Chapel for Everyone

*A special nightly offering will be taken for Coalition of Appalachian Ministries!

Bring Your Friends and Sign Up Now! Call 588-8581









Happy Birthday



July 12-Jim Curtis 12-Jack Gaston 14-Carol Long



Activities for July 8-14, 2012

Sun., 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service Weds., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice (See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for July 1, 2012

Sunday School	41
Worship	69
Offering	\$6,307.75
Capital Improvements Fund	

Cumberlander Digital Edition

We are requesting that you who receive the Cumberlander by mail consider receiving it by email. Please advise the office by email or phone if we can add you to the digital copy list and remove you from the US mail list.

CHARITY SALE-NEW DATES

The dates for our Annual Charity Sale have been changed to August 3 and 4. We are happy to announce that Smoky Mountain Harmony will be joining us in running the sale. Please begin to bring your items that you want to donate to the church for us to sell. Left over yard sale items. Moving? Not enough room?

Bring your extras here. Estate sale items. No item will be turned away.

We will need lots of help, sorting, arranging, pricing,



working the sale. Please contact the office if you want to help or call Maxine Curtis or Chris Chasteen (SMH).

We are now accepting items. Call office to arrange a delivery time.

BEAUTIFUL WHITE KITTENS STILL AVAILABLE!

Nancy and I have five beautiful white kittens available for adoption to a loving home! They have been fixed, tested, vaccinated, and litter-trained. Come by and check them out. They are ready to go home with you! Please call for an appointment (228-0710).

CAMPERS

First Church was represented at Presbyterial church camps this summer by Chrissy Curtis, Jordan Hill (Junior Camp) and Dawn Curtis (Middle School Camp). From available reports, a great time was had by all!

WEST CIRCLE

Will meet on Tuesday, July 10th at 11 o'clock in the Keene Room. Please bring a sandwich – dessert will be provided. We invite all the ladies of the church to join us.

Prayer Concerns In the Hospital

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns



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

FRIENDSHIP CLUB NEWS

The Friendship Club will stop meeting on the fourth Wednesday of the month for the summer. No meetings will be held in June, July and August. Meetings will resume in September on the 26th at noon in the gym. This in no way effects the normally second Wednesday of the month lunch meetings. They will continue through the summer. The next lunch meeting is on July 18 at Calhoun's on the River. Sign up sheet on bulletin board outside of the office.

The Friendship Club invites everyone to join us Wednesday, July 18, 11:00 a.m. for our monthly fellowship luncheon at Calhoun's on the River, 400 Neyland Drive (673-3355). Bring a guest and help us plan future outings! See you there!

SESSION MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Session will be held Tuesday, July 17, 7:00 p.m. in the Keene Room. Session packets will be available in the narthex on Sunday, July 15.