The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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(865) 588-8581

Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

February 18, 2015

Website: www.first-cumberland.org



I want thank the members, leaders, and family members of Girl Scout Troop 20959, Cub Scout Pack 20, and Boy Scout Troop 20 for participating in last week's Scout Sunday. The weather put a damper on our attendance, but nonetheless, the spirit and participation were both excellent. In case anyone does not know: Diane Fielder is part of the leadership for Girl Scout Troop 20959, and Dawn and Christy Curtis are

members; and Mike Bachman is part of the leadership for Boy Scout Troop 20.

This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 18th. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. Traditionally, Lent is the forty-day (not including Sundays) period of preparation for our celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday, which is April 5th this year. Followers of Christ often give up something for *Lent*. This giving up, or fasting of, something typically centers around food or drink. Some people give up eating chocolate; others give up drinking sodas. I am not sure of the spiritual significance of such a fast, but I am sure it means something to the practitioner. Nonetheless, this year I would like for us to shift our thinking from simply giving up something to both giving up something and replacing it with something else. For example, we could give up watching a thirty-minute television show each day and replace it with spending thirty minutes reading the Bible and praying. Or we could give up watching a onehour television show and replace it with going to visit one of our homebound members or one living in a nursing home. Or we could give up eating at our favorite restaurant and replace it with donating the money we would have spent on the meal to the FISH Food Pantry to help feed the needy in our community. This list of things we can give up and replace with is as endless as our imagination. Other possibilities include giving up a grudge we are holding against someone and replacing it with forgiveness. Or giving up worrying about tomorrow and replacing it with trusting God. Again, the possibilities are endless. Will you join me this Lenten Season and give up something and replace it with something better? If you do, I can see it having real spiritual significance in your life; it could even lead to the best celebration on *Easter* that you have ever experienced, which is the purpose for observing Lent in the first place.

A couple of weeks ago, in an article in the newsletter, I expressed by appreciation to a group of volunteers help who help us in the office every week. The ladies I mentioned typically volunteer on Mondays. In my haste to complete the newsletter, I forgot to mention a lady who sends out a weekly mailing to our shut-ins every Thursday, so I want to take this opportunity to express a belated thank you and my apologies to **Jewell Kerr**.

At the risk of boring you with yet another story about our three-year-old grandson, I want to share at least one more. I know I have now done so three straight weeks, but I cannot help myself. Last Sunday morning, Rex woke up sick, to sick to go to church. When his mother informed him that he and her were staying home and therefore not going to church, Rex responded empathically, "Please let me go to church! I need to be with Jesus!" To which his mom replied, "Jesus is with us at home, too." Immediately, Rex said, "Are you tricking me? That Guy is everywhere!" I am glad that Jesus is everywhere I am, and that He is everywhere you are. He is Emmanuel—God with us!

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Youth News

Our **Youth** will meet this coming Sunday, February 22nd, following the Worship Service. Lunch will be provided and the meeting will conclude at 2:30 p.m.

Friendship Club

Weather permitting, the next outing for the **Friendship Club** will be Wednesday, February 18th, at 11:00 a.m. They will gather at **Rafferty's Restaurant** (8906 Kingston Pike, near Ebenezer Road) for a Dutch-treat lunch. Everyone reading this announcement is invited to attend this and all monthly outings of the **Friendship Club**. In the event that the weather does not permit the **Friendship Club** to meet as scheduled, they will simply gather together on Wednesday, February 25th, at 11:00 a.m., also at **Rafferty's Restaurant**.

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!

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Happy Birthday



February 22-28

23-Becky Rader 28-Sam Ware



Activities for February 22-28, 2015

Sunday, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service Finance Committee 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. Friendship Club 6:30 p.m. **Choir Practice**

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report February 15, 2015

Sunday School	51
Worship	
Offering	
Building Reimbursement	\$5,942.40



Dick Booher will have kneecap replacement surgery Wednesday, February 18th . . . Hailey Davis placed third in Level 9 at the Excalibur Cup Gymnastics Meet in Virginia Beach, Virginia, last weekend . . . It was good to have Rev. Carlton Harper and his wife, Margaret, back worshiping with us last Sunday . . . Gracie Hayes will be going to Vanderbilt Hospital Wednesday, February 25th. for medical tests . . . Charlie Pipkin (Paul Pipkin's father) is still in Parkwest Hospital . .

Session Meeting

Our Session will meet this coming Sunday evening, February 22nd, in the Keene Room.

Surprise Birthday Party

This announcement does not appear in Jewell Kerr's special edition of The Cumberlander.

Jewell Kerr will celebrate her 80th birthday on Monday, March 9th. In honor of this occasion, her children would like to invite the congregation to a catered luncheon at the church immediately following the Worship Service on Sunday, March 8th. Again, this is supposed to be a surprise, so please do not let Jewell know. Shhhhhh!!!

Delivery Note

Due to the weather and the illness of one of our volunteers, this week's edition of The Cumberland was mailed later than normal. We apologize for any inconvenience this delay may have caused.



Prayer Concerns





Health and Prayer Concerns (alphabetized)

the persecuted Christians around the world; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; 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); LYNNE GARRISON (Lois Witmer's sister); Jack and Jin Gaston; BETTY HAMMILL; GRACIE HAYES; 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); Robyn (friend of Hannah Haddox); Roger (friend of Steve Summers)

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

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 know of any updates, changes, or corrections that need to be made to them.

Just a Thought

"God uses people who fail—cause there aren't any other kind around." —John Maxwell