

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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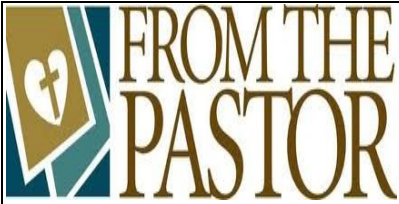
Rev. Mike Wilkinson ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

April 30, 2014



I want to share with you a statement by **Dr. Shelton Smith**, who is the current President and Editor of *The Sword of the Lord*, which is a fundamentalist, independent, Baptist biweekly newsletter published in Middle Tennessee. While **Dr. Smith** and I would differ on many theological issues, his statement that I want to share with you calls our attention is something very significant that I want us to all ponder. He wrote, *"The difference between mediocrity and excellence is midnight oil, elbow grease, and the power of God."* First and foremost, for great things to happen at First Church requires a move of God and not just human effort. Referring to the Church at Corinth, the Apostle Paul wrote, *"I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow."* [First Corinthians 3:6, NLT] While human effort is not required to accomplish the will of God, notice that the move of God in Corinth coincided with the planting and watering by the followers of Christ. This is still the general pattern today. The *New Testament* makes it abundantly clear that when it came to the work of the Church, the Apostle Paul both burned the "midnight oil" and applied the "elbow grease". In other words, he put in the type of hard work that was needed to see the Kingdom of God press forward. For years now, I have dreamed of playing the piano with excellence, but as of yet, I have been unwilling to invest in lessons or put in the hard work of practice. Oh, I can beat out a tune or two, but my playing is mediocre at best. Likewise, way too many of us, myself included, dream of good things here at First Church, but fail to put in the type of hard work that moves us from mediocrity to excellence. I believe with all my heart that God desires to bless First Church with both spiritual and numerical growth, the question is: Are we willing to burn some "midnight oil" [plant] and apply enough "elbow grease" [water] to see God make it grow? I cannot wait to see God's plans for First Church unfold; but as I wait, I commit myself anew to burning the "midnight oil" and applying some "elbow grease"—will you join me in this commitment?

Grace,

Pastor Mike

West Circle

The **West Circle** of our **Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry** will meet on Tuesday, May 6th, at 11:00 a.m., in the Keene Room. Ladies, please bring a sandwich lunch; drinks and dessert will be provided. All the ladies of the church are both invited and encouraged to attend this meeting.

Friendship Club

The **Friendship Club** will gather at **First Watch, The Daytime Café**, at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 14th, for a Dutch-treat lunch. This is the second Wednesday of the month instead of the traditional third Wednesday. The restaurant is located in Turkey Creek, at 11682 Parkside Drive (near to Campbell Station Road). Everyone reading this article is invited to go on this outing.

Confession of Faith

The **Friendship Sunday School Class** will begin a new study of what Cumberland Presbyterians believe as found in our *Confession of Faith*. **Dr. J. David Hester** will lead us into a better understanding of our beliefs. This study will begin on Sunday, May 18th. The **Friendship Class** meets in the classroom across from the Library. Everyone who is interested in this subject is invited to attend; you will need to bring your **Bible** and the **Cumberland Presbyterian Confession of Faith**. If you do not have a copy of the *Confession*, see **Dr. Hester** or **Pastor Mike** and they will give you a copy.

Vacation Bible School

This year's **Vacation Bible School** will be June 8th-11th. The theme of this year's VBS is *Arrowhead Island*. Each night will begin with a light dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by class time from 6:00-8:00 p.m. In addition to classes for children, we will have both youth and adult classes with a special speaker each night.

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

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 90
Knoxville,
Tennessee

Happy Birthday

May

6-Joshua Rech
7-John Golliher



Activities for May 4-10, 2014

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

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

12:15 p.m. Building & Grounds

Tues., 11:00 p.m. West Circle

Wed., 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report April 27, 2014

Sunday School.....38

Worship.....76

Offering\$3,535.00

Music Fund\$50.00

Among Our People

Tom and Lois Witmer traveled to Concord, NC to watch their granddaughter, Hailey Davis compete in the Level 8 Region 8 Regional Gymnastics Championship. She placed 9th All Around and had the top All Around score for the TN State Team. The TN team finished 4th out of 8 teams.

OUR ??TH ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Our annual Garage Sale date has been set for July 25 and 26. Maxine Curtis is again heading this effort up. She is asking that you begin to save up the items that you would like to donate to the church to sell. We will begin taking items as soon as our schools that use the building break for their summer vacations.

If you have any questions about this event or would like to volunteer to help please call Maxine or the office.

Soles4Souls

The Women's Ministry's drive to support the Soles4Souls Ministry begins this week! Please bring in your new; lightly used; or used shoes and place them in one of the boxes either in the gym or church office. Your donation may be used to help a child to attend school, to support disaster relief, or to provide African craft artists with raw materials to work and provide for their families. The Soles4Souls organization wants ANY old pair of shoes to recycle and repurpose the old shoes. If you have any questions, please email Donna Walker at thetwwalkers@att.net.

Prayer Concerns
In the Hospital
Health and Prayer Concerns



CP Missionaries; Mary Jane and Gordon Blaylock; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Howard Eblen; Mary Cregger; Gladys Stone; Mildred Acuff; Maxine McGuire; Ada Ladd; Carol Seeman; Bud and Betty Hickman (friends of Mary Ann Haney); 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); Donna Wingard (Mildred Acuff's daughter); Debbie and David Triese (Margaret Migas's sister and husband); Carl Ware; Allison, Hailey, Connor and Hannah Davis; Janie Beeler (Greg Beeler's wife); Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); 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; Marie Jobson (friend of the Witmer's); Grace Flory (Lois Witmer's mother); Cliff Parrott; Dale Craddo (Scott Robert's uncle); Tom Williams (friend of Cliff Parrott); Dick Booher; Lynne Garrison (Lois Witmer's sister); 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

Summer Church Camp News

The schedule for church camps has been announced:

Middle School Sunday June 1st—6th
Cost is \$150

High School Sunday June 8th—13th
Cost is \$150

Junior Sunday June 15th-19th
Cost is \$130

Save \$10 on all camps by registering by May 24.

Contact Jim Curtis or Pastor Mike for more information and registration forms. Registration forms are also in the Church Office.



YOUTH POOL PARTY

The youth group will have a pool party at Dianne Pipkin's house on Sunday May 18th, from 3-6 pm. An email will be going out with additional information and directions. If you have any questions please feel free to call or email Stephanie Saults!

