

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Kevin Wood ~ Pastor

Website: www.first-cumberland.org

Our Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

December 16, 2009

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW ELDERS!

Last Sunday First Church elected new elders Jim Curtis, Allison Davis, and Dianne Fielder to three-year terms beginning in January, 2010. They will need our encouragement and support as they answer God's call to "share with the minister the pastoral oversight of the congregation." Remember them often in your prayers!



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS, 2009

Sunday, December 20

10:45 a.m. Choral Cantata, "Hope Has Hands!"

(Following the cantata you are invited to deliver poinsettias and goodie bags to shut-ins, hospitalized, and homebounds. Addresses and contact information will be available for the 25 people whom we want to remember during this Advent/Christmas season. Thank you in advance for your help!)

Thursday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Christmas-eve Candlelight Communion Service

The Lord Himself invites you to His table.

Come as you are, with family and friends

and be prepared to receive the

bread and the cup,

the riches and mercies of

our Lord Jesus Christ!

CHRISTMAS PLAY AND PARTY OUTSTANDING!

Every year we have the privilege of seeing the birth of the Christ-child through children's eyes. What a joy to watch them during the annual children's Christmas play last Sunday evening in the gym. "Christmas Animals" was one of those inspired interpretations of the story with our little ones adding their own nuances and ad-libs. Special thanks to co-directors Amanda Roberts and Julie Rech, all the leaders, parents, and grandparents, everyone who sewed a costume, printed a program or made some finger foods, and especially our children who made the story come alive in an unforgettable way!

UPWARD BASKETBALL PRACTICES THIS WEEK

Our third annual Upward Basketball season begins this week with practices scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. The season begins Saturday, January 9, 11:00 a.m. For information or to volunteer your help, call director Steve Summers (922-3999 or 548-9698).

PIONEER CLUB ICE SKATING PARTY!

All Pioneer Clubs kids and their friends are invited to an Ice Skating Party at the Ice Chalet Saturday, January 9, 2:00 p.m. Make a list of your friends and bring them all to this winter blast!

The winter-spring session of Pioneer Clubs will begin Sunday, January 24, 2010!

BECOMING CHRISTIANS AND CHURCH MEMBERS

Several children in our church have recently explored what it means to receive Christ and become a member of the church. First, they have to recognize they are sinners in need of a Savior. Then they have to turn from their sins and ask Jesus Christ to be their Savior and Lord. Then they stand up publically to say they want to follow Him and be part of the family of God called the Church. Next they acknowledge their baptism as a sign of God's mercy and grace. Finally, they promise to be faithful to Jesus Christ and His Church by answering "yes" to the questions of the covenant.

May we all pray for these children and others who are thinking and praying about such life-changing and life-affirming decisions! The church family is ready to welcome you when you are ready! Come as He leads you!

CHRISTMAS CARD POST OFFICE

There's still time to bring your Christmas cards to the church office and have the Pioneer Club kids deliver them this Sunday, December 20. The proceeds all go to support this wonderful children's ministry! Merry Christmas, church family!!!

THANK YOU!

One way we show our gratitude for the birth of the Savior is to give gifts to others. Thank you for the overwhelming response to our "Angel Tree" ministry to needy families. Thank you also for your response to other giving opportunities surrounding this holy season. God bless you for your generosity!

~Pastor Kevin

BENEVOLENCE OPPORTUNITIES

Our church has participated in several different projects over the years that we are planning to do again this year. We want to get started earlier this year, so you may choose how you personally want to participate. If you give cash, you need to budget, and if you plan to give items, shopping early will give you the opportunity to look for bargains. **FRIENDS OF LAKESHORE** due Dec 20. **MITTEN TREE (CAM)** will be delivered in January. **FCPC ANGEL TREE** will include needs from our church community and KARM. The requests will start appearing as early as 11/29 and continue to 12/25 to meet the needs of children who do not qualify for other programs as their situation changed in December. When attending church on Sundays, check the bulletin boards and library for details. If you cannot attend church, you may participate by sending money to Dianne Fielder who will do the shopping for you for the project you choose. Remember Advent is a great time to extend your celebration of Christmas beyond just one day of observance!

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Presbyterian Church, Inc.
6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive
Knoxville, TN 37919
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Happy Birthday

December

22-Tammy Eblen
23-Laura Paschke
24-Rachel Searcy

Activities for December 20–26, 2009

Sun.,	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service—Choral Cantata
Thurs.,	5:00 p.m.	Candlelight Communion Service
Fri.,		Office Closed—Birthday of the Christ Child

(See web site for complete calendar listings)

Stewardship Report for December 13, 2009

Sunday School.....	57
Worship.....	101
Offering.....	\$1,535.00
Capital Improvements Fund	\$10.00
Memorial/Building Fund.....	\$150.00
Expenses paid last week	\$2,182.80

REBECCAS CIRCLE
Mark your Calendar!!

We will meet at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 19, for our Christmas Brunch at the Holiday Inn, Cedar Bluff. Remember to bring a wrapped present for our entertainment.

Angel Tree

Here's how it works:

1. Pick an angel from the bulletin board across from the library.
2. Write your name and phone number on the sign up sheet beside the number of the angel you took.
3. Purchase the item that is written on the angel.
4. Wrap the item.
5. Place the angel on the OUTSIDE of the package.
6. Put the package in the church office no later than Friday December 18.

Call **Dianne Fielder** if you have any questions.

Thank You

I want to thank all of you for the many cards, emails, FaceBook posts and personal hugs and comments of comfort over the death of my Dad. My entire family especially appreciated the many prayer sent Heavenward for Dad and our family. We have felt the presence of the Lord in this time and I can not express in words eloquent enough to let you all know how much we love you all and consider everyone to be in our family, not in human bloodline, but in the bloodline of our Lord Jesus Christ. God Bless you all!
The Witmer and Davis Families

Prayer Concerns
In the Hospital

Ian Miller (nephew of Lisa Deal’s coworker), St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, brain cancer
Lea Acuff, Brakebill

Evelyn Crowell, Ft. Sanders to Shannondale (re-hab)
Edna Fleenor, home from St. Mary’s
Ethel Bankert, York Hospital, PA (Tom’s mother)
Jack Gaston, Ft. Sanders Regional

On-going Health and Prayer Concerns

Taylor Ford; CP Missionaries; Mary Jane & Gordon Blaylock; Ileana Grace Hayes; Bill Hammill; Reba Smith; Mildred Stone; Edna Fleenor; Friscilla McCoy; Margaret Lindsay; Mary Cregger; Jonathan Migas; Bonnie Holbert; Otis Clinton Shelby; Elena Zimmerman; Gladys Stone; Lea & Mildred Acuff; A. R. Wood; Maxine McGuire; Fred Johnson; Millie Jones; Marlene Ritchey; Marjorie Thompson; Ada Ladd; Nancy Anthony; Bud & Betty Hickman; Irene Marshall; Stephen Park; Pam Wisner; Bob Moore (father of friend of Allison Davis); Caleb Michael Bundon; Gene Murr (co-worker of Nick Deal); Judy Lawson, (Lisa Deal’s aunt); Bill Keene; Jackie Turbbeyville (Jim Curtis’s niece); the Banvelos family (friends of the Deal’s); Hannah Davis; Tina Zandi (Fielder’s next door neighbor); J. David Hester; Jimmy Thompson (Sheila Emory’s brother); Rev. Don Alexander (cancer); Lindsay Bridges; Irene Marshall (Maxine McGuire’s friend); Ethel Bankert (Tom Witmer’s mother); Jackie (Patty Fitzgerald’s sister); Jack Gaston; Lisa and Nick Deal; Christina Foote; Claudia Pharaoh; Austin Johnson; the family of Russell Witmer (Tom Witmer’s dad); Onnie Bailes and Carl Overstreet (friends of Cliff Parrott).

Please keep the Church office informed of any needed changes, additions or deletions to our Prayer Concerns list.

Needed...

...a small refrigerator.

If you have one or know of anyone who has these to give away, please call the church office.

If you are in need of something or have something you would like to give away, please let the office know and we will advertise the need to have and to give away in the Cumberlander.

For over **40 years** our congregation has participated in the collection of Christmas gifts for patients at Lakeshore. Yes there are still residents there. Please check the list of needed items posted on the CPWM bulletin board: toiletries, games, clothing. There are limitations, so buy only the specified things. Please place them in the box in the library by this Sunday December 20. For more information, please contact **Dianne Fielder**.

Thanks to the ...
...Cornerstone Sunday School Class for making Goodie Bags for shut-ins. Thanks to all!!!!