

The Cumberlander

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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Website: www.first-cumberland.org ~ find us on Facebook at Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Church Staff: Mike Wilkinson, Pastor; Sam & Karen Ware, Music Directors; and Jeannine Rickards, Office Manager

Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

September 29, 2020



On the Church calendar, this coming Sunday, October 4th, is *Worldwide Communion Sunday*. After much thought, due to the ongoing COVID-19 threat, our Session is uncomfortable with us sharing *Communion* in a traditional manner (i.e., either passing the elements or having everyone come to the altar to be served). With that in mind, we will observe the *Lord's Supper* in an unusual way: I will read an appropriate Scripture, bless the bread and the fruit of the vine, and make a few comments as I ask you to "imagine" that we are sharing this sacred meal. Since this will be a first time experience for all of us, I ask you to begin to pray, even now, for this "virtual" observance to be meaningful to us.

Thanks to the abundant generosity of the estate of **Mary Ann Haney**, the outside of the church (soffit, steeple, windows, doors, garbage bin) will soon be repainted. If you walk around the outside of the church and it has paint on it now, it will be pressure-washed and repainted. No one seems to remember the last time the outside of our building was painted, but it has been several years and is therefore, much needed. At our meeting last Sunday night, our Session approved CertaPro Painters to do the work; I am still awaiting confirmation on the start date.

Also at our Session Meeting last Sunday night, our Session approved a request for our Worship Committee to make some upgrades/improvements to the 45-year old sound system in our Sanctuary. This project by Murlin's Music Company will include new streamlined technology speakers, monitors, microphones, and stands. These improvements are designed to improve the hearing of both words and music throughout our Sanctuary. Much of this expense will be covered by two anonymous donors. Once again, the generosity of the folks here at First Cumberland overwhelm me.

From last Sunday's sermon: ". . . ' . . . politics has not only deeply divided our country into red and blue states, it is deeply dividing many denominations and congregations, and even some families.' and the division among His children must break God's heart. My message today was intended to encourage each of us to help bridge that great divide. I am not asking anyone to vote for a particular candidate, nor am I asking anyone to abandon their convictions, but I am asking each of us to understand that Jesus is not a Democrat or a Republican or a Libertarian or a member of any political party, and that no political party has a monopoly on the Christian faith. If we respectfully put our faith to work in our political opinions and love those who disagree with us in spite of our differences, we can begin to bridge the gap and help bring unity, not uniformity, but unity to our nation, to our churches, and to our homes."

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Special Guests

It was great having **Mindy Landry**, daughter of Jewell Kerr; **Michael** and **Sarah Pass**, and Betty Prince, friends of Rose Wilkinson; all worshipping with us last Sunday.

Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry

Due to COVID-19, our ladies' ministry is making adjustments to their annual bake/craft sale they normally have the Sunday before Thanksgiving. This year, it will be a **Craft Sale** only. Instead of being held in our Library, the craft items will be on display on tables in the Narthex. Facemasks, dishrags, Christmas items, and other craft items will be sold; so start planning what you can do to contribute to this **Craft Sale**. One more change; instead of being held the Sunday before Thanksgiving; the sale will take place three weeks earlier than usual on Sunday, November 1st.

New Entrance Protocol

With the temperature dropping, beginning this coming Sunday, October 4th, a door will be propped open in the Narthex and under the portico for you to enter the building. As before, you may leave the building through any door you choose. Remember, hand sanitizer is available at all entrances to our Sanctuary.

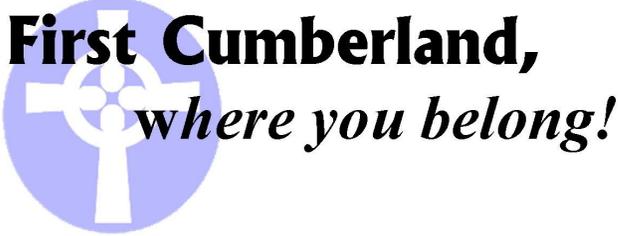
Church Website

Our website (www.first-cumberland.org) now includes a secure "Donate" tab. Once you hit the word "Donate", a green button marked "Give" will appear; it is not necessary to log in or sign up to make a one-time gift; however, if you wish to use this donation method often, you may wish to sign in and create an account for future use. At this time, you can designate your donation to one of three options: 1) Contribution (general church expenses); 2) Music; or 3) Youth. There is a small transaction fee (2.9% plus \$0.30) for all online donations; the giver has the option of covering that fee when making a gift to the church.

*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

September 29th - October 5th

30th - Gracie Hayes
 2nd - Hailey Davis

Our Faithfulness for September 27th

Sunday School.....	0
Worship Service.....	60
Offering.....	\$2,329.00
Building Reimbursement.....	\$800.00
Music Fund.....	\$150.00
Bible Project Book.....	\$20.00

Activities for September 29th - October 5th

Sunday: 10:45 a.m. Worship Service
 All other church activities for the week
 have been canceled until further notice.

(See our website for complete calendar listings)

Among Our People

Bashar Abuhelweh, son-in-law of Tom and Donna Walker, is now symptom free from COVID-19. ~ **MariKate Abuhelweh** daughter of Tom and Donna Walker, tested positive for COVID-19. ~ **Mike Bachman** continues to recover from recent surgery on both knees; he is doing well. ~ **John Givens**, father of Crissy Collins, is still undergoing chemotherapy for multiple myeloma (cancer in the bone marrow). ~ **Hannah Haddox** is scheduled for a C-Section on October 26th. ~ **Carson Hammill**, grandson of Betty Hammill, is now symptom free from COVID-19. ~ **Mindy Landry**, daughter of Jewell Kerr, will be having surgery in October. ~ **Steve McCurry** continues to recover from his stroke; he is struggling ~ Church Office Manager, **Jeannine Rickards** remains self-quarantined; she will be working remotely. ~ **Matthew Rickards**, son of Jeannine Rickards, is now symptom free from COVID-19.

Knox County COVID-19 Update

According to the Knox County Health Department, as of Sunday, September 27th, Knox County has had 9,666 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 360 of which have required hospitalization at some point during their illness. Throughout the county, 41 patients are currently hospitalized with COVID-19 and the total number of deaths has now increased to 81. Of the 9,666 confirmed cases, 8,402 of the patients have fully recovered. There are currently 1,597 active cases in Knox County, down from 1,812 last week. The 1597 active cases reported include 414 probable cases, leaving 1,183 confirmed active cases. As always, this information is given to help you best determine whether it is best for you to venture out to church or elsewhere or to stay at home.

Worship Service Videos

Typically, by Wednesday evening of each week, a video of our previous Sunday's Worship Service will be posted on our website (www.first-cumberland.org), on Facebook, and on YouTube.

Prayer List

In the Hospital

No one connected to First Cumberland is known to be in the hospital at this time.

Prayer Concerns List

MariKate Abuhelweh and unborn baby girl (daughter and granddaughter of Tom and Donna Walker); Mildred Acuff; Mike Bachman; Johnna Beckmann (friend of Harry Sherrod); Pam Bogle (friend of Amanda Roberts); Dick Booher; Eleanor Bradshaw (sister-in-law of Dianne Fielder); Richard Bridges and Family (cousin of Phil Bridges); Shelley Bridges and her sister Brenda (friends of Elaine Winter); Cooper Browning (cousin of Hannah Haddox and Amanda Roberts); Corey Burnette (friend of Amanda Roberts); Ann Caudill (friend of Harry Sherrod); Fred and Joan Cline; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; Maxine Curtis; Rue Dougherty; Mason Fannin (great-nephew of Judy Gwilliams); Grace Flory (mother-in-law of Tom Witmer); Judy Gammon; Ed Gaston (son of Jin Gaston); Jin Gaston; John Givens (father of Crissy Collins); Hannah Haddox and unborn baby girl; Kristi Hawn and unborn baby girl; Helen Hayes (cousin of Jin Gaston); Rodney Holloman (friend of Pastor Mike); Wanda Holmes (friend of Harry Sherrod); Jane Hubbard (friend of Pastor Mike); mother of Peyton Hubbard (friend of Amanda Roberts); Van Kemp (relative of Dianne Fielder); Jewell Kerr; **Mindy Landry** (daughter of Jewell Kerr); Ashleigh Lane (co-worker Susan Edwards); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Holly Lochbaum (friend of Emily DeLozier); Jeanette and Morgan Lounds (daughter and granddaughter of Harry Sherrod); Barbara and Gene McCammon; Steve McCurry; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Vickie Miller (friend of Emily DeLozier); Shelly Minton (wife of a coworker of Amanda Roberts); Alice Montgomery; Mary Montgomery (cousin of Alice Montgomery); Amy Beth Davidson Morgan; Jackie Morris (cousin of Shelia Emory); Pam and Bob Ogden (friends of Fred and Joan Cline); persecuted Christians around the world; Plan of Union between the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America; Jim Place (friend of Jewel Stallions); Homer and Betty Prince (friends of Rose Wilkinson); **Mike Prince** (friend of Rose Wilkinson) Christopher Reed (great-nephew of Jin Gaston); Bryce Rhodenbaugh (grandson of a friend of Diane Fielder); Matthew Rickards (son of Jeannine Rickards); Lori Roark (sister of Kim McCurry); Michael Schwartz (friend of Susan Edwards); Carol Seeman; Terrie Smith (friend of Debbie Neal); Donna Snoderly (sister-in-law of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Donna Stallions (sister-in-law of Jewel Stallions); Millard and Janet Summers (parents of Steve Summers); Margie Thompson (sister-in-law of Shelia Emory); those affected by coronavirus; the racial strife in our nation and the need for justice; Unspoken Requests; Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Lee Wells (mother of a coworker of Susan Edwards); Andrea Wilson (daughter of Harry Sherrod); Tom Witmer

Please keep the Church Office informed of any needed changes to our Prayer Concerns List.