

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

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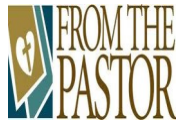
Website: www.first-cumberland.org ~ find us on Facebook at Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

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

Weekly Newsletter

"Loving God, Loving People"

June 30, 2020



As you know, this coming Saturday is the Fourth of July. This holiday commemorates the day in 1776 that thirteen North American colonies jointly declared themselves to be an independent nation, and no longer subject to Great Britain. Between July 4th, when it was approved, and August 2nd, the day most the signatures were added, all 56 delegates to the Second Continental Congress signed the *Declaration of Independence* stating their determination to become a free country. Independence did not come easily for the original thirteen states that made up the newly formed United States of America; only after several difficult years of war with England would it finally be won. The first years of our nation were not free from problems and controversies, as is still true today, but our forefathers were determined to establish a free and democratic system of government, and the aforementioned *Declaration of Independence*, together with our *Constitution* and the *Bill of Rights*, became the foundation for our republic. These three documents, though tossed and battered, have stood the test of time, and on July 4th each year we pause to give thanks for the wisdom and faith and courage of those leaders.

Although it is not a religious holiday like *Christmas* or *Easter*, for many Americans the Fourth of July is a time to reflect on God's goodness to us as a nation. Molded into the Liberty Bell, which proclaimed our independence, are these words of Scripture: "***Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof***" [Leviticus 25:10, KJV]. While we look with gratitude to the past on this coming Saturday, may we also look in faith to the future, and commit it and our lives to God and His will. The ancient words of the psalmist are still true today: "***Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; . . .***" [Psalm 33:12, KJV]. With all the strife going on all around us today—pandemic, economic uncertainty, racial unrest, etcetera—keep this verse in mind and pray continuously that what has been described as "the great experiment with democracy" will continue to work for the betterment of all American citizens.

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Special Guests

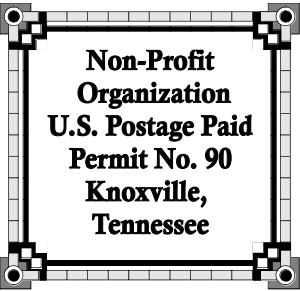
It was great having **Amy, Jesse, Brooks, and Cooper Pritchard**, daughter, son-in-law, and grandsons of Larry and Dianne Fielder, and **Christiana, Waylon, Ethan, Amelia, and Riley Hinkle**, daughter, son-in-law, and grand children of Pastor Mike and Joanna Wilkinson, all worshiping with us last Sunday.

Collection of School Supplies

We will be **collecting school supplies** again this Summer for the children of Appalachia to be distributed through the **Coalition of Appalachian Ministry (CAM)**. The school supplies will be needed whether they are in school or at home. A box will be in the Narthex for these supplies. Thank you so much for your participation in this important ministry.



*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!



Happy Birthday

June 30th - July 6th

30th – Zavien Booker

2nd – Laci Witmer

3rd – Logan Collins



Our Faithfulness for June 28th

Sunday School	0
Worship Service	62
Offering	\$1,275.00
Bible Projects Books	\$30.00

Activities for June 30th - July 6th

Friday: The Church Office will be closed in honor of Independence Day.

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

Michelle Evatt, our church janitor, had surgery on her foot last Friday; she is doing well, but will be out of work for at least two weeks; **Rachel Tunnel**, our former church janitor, will be cleaning the church in her absence. ~ **John Givens**, father of Crissy Collins, has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma (cancer in the bone marrow); he began undergoing chemotherapy on Monday, June 29th. ~ **Steve McCurry** continues to recover from his recent stroke, but is still having considerable trouble with his vision; he is currently undergoing vision therapy. ~ **Andrea Wilson**, daughter of Harry Sherrod, is at MB Anderson Cancer Center, in Houston, Texas, for diagnosis.

Knox County COVOD-19 Update

According to WATE 6, as of Monday, June 29th, Knox County has had 913 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 75 of which have required hospitalization at some point during their illness. Throughout the county, 15 patients are currently hospitalized with COVID-19 and the total number of deaths remains at five. Of the 913 confirmed cases, 642 of the patients have fully recovered (72 hours symptom-free). This means that there are currently 266 active cases in Knox County, up from 114 last week.

Quote of the Week

“A scared world needs a fearless church.”—A.W. Tozer

Worship Service Videos

By Wednesday of each week, a video of our previous Sunday’s Worship Service will be posted on both our website (www.first-cumberland.org) and on YouTube (Open the YouTube app on your device and search for Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church.).



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); Kathy Aceti (daughter of Betty Hammill); Mildred Acuff; Ashley Atkins and unborn baby boy (daughter-in-law and grandson of Susan Edwards); 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); Fred and Joan Cline; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; Pat Cureton (cousin of Jin Gaston); Maxine Curtis; Rue Dougherty; **Michelle Evatt** (church janitor); Mason Fannin (great-nephew of Judy Gwilliams); Grace Flory (mother-in-law of Tom Witmer); Brittany Foust; Judy Gammon; Jin Gaston; Laura Gaston (daughter-in-law of Jin Gaston); John Givens (father of Crissy Collins); Hannah Haddox and unborn baby girl; Alexa Hodge (mother of Gabriella Hodge); Rodney Holloman (friend of Pastor Mike); Jane Hubbard (friend of Pastor Mike); mother of Peyton Hubbard (friend of Amanda Roberts); Van Kemp (relative of Dianne Fielder); Ashleigh Lane (co-worker Susan Edwards); Bob Lawson (friend of Pastor Mike); Sue Anne Lewis (friend of Jewel Stallions); Barbara and Gene McCammon; Steve McCurry; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Shelly Minton (wife of a coworker of Amanda Roberts); 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; Homer and Betty Prince (friends of Rose Wilkinson); David Rech (father of Justin Rech); Christopher Reed (great-nephew of Jin Gaston); Bryce Rhodenbaugh (grandson of a friend of Diane Fielder); Lori Roark (sister of Kim McCurry); Paula Rogers (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Michael Schwartz (friend of Susan Edwards); Carol Seeman; John Smith (coworker of Scott Roberts); **Terrie Smith** (friend of Debbie Neal); John and Donna Snoderly (brother and 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); 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.

