

The Cumberland

Knoxville First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Inc.

Address: 6900 Nubbin Ridge Drive; Knoxville, TN 37919 ~ Phone: (865) 588-8581 ~ Email: FirstCPC@KFCPC.comcastbiz.net

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"

July 20, 2021



Welcome new members! At the close of last Sunday's Worship Service, **Doug and Mary Wegman** officially joined First Cumberland. The Wegmans have been faithfully worshipping with us for more than a year and attending Sunday School once it resumed last month; Doug has been singing in our Choir for a few months now. They join via *Transfer of Membership Letter* from Fellowship Church Knoxville. Their contact information is as follows: 9016 Candlewood Drive; Knoxville, Tennessee 37923; 865-363-6915 (Doug); and 865-3636815 (Mary). Together, they own and operate a home healthcare company called Care Around the Block.

On a sadder note, last Sunday was **Ann Bachman's** last day as an active member and leader here at First Cumberland, as she is moving to Florida to be closer to her family. While I understand her decision to relocate, I will miss her tremendously and I am sure that you will, as well. Ann served on the Session that called me to be the pastor here. At that time, she pledged her support to me and Joanna and not once in the following ninety-four months did she fail to live up to her pledge. Up until last Sunday, Ann was again serving on our Session and was teaching a children's Sunday School class. As much as I miss her already, I am sure that the kids in her class miss her even more. Effective July 23rd, her address will be: 364 Seloy Drive; St. Augustine, Florida 32084.

I am convinced that God is working in and through this congregation; I hope you sense that as well. I am further convinced that the unity we enjoy as a body of believers is the key to God working in our midst. That was what I wanted to convey in my sermon last Sunday, from which I now quote: "In the seventeenth chapter of the Gospel of **John**, on the last night of His life, Jesus prayed for the unity of His disciples, both present and future, which includes you and I. With death breathing down His neck, Jesus prayed, not for His followers' success, nor for our safety, nor for our happiness; instead, Jesus prayed for our unity so that we could fulfill His purpose. Of all the lessons we can draw from Jesus' prayer do not miss the most important and that is that unity matters to God. . . . Interestingly, nowhere in Scripture are we told to build unity; instead, we are instructed simply to keep or protect unity. So the question becomes, "How do we do that?" Does keeping unity mean that we compromise our convictions? No, but it does mean that we look long and hard at the attitudes we carry. Unity does not begin in examining others, but in examining self. Unity begins, not in demanding that others change, but in admitting that we are not perfect ourselves. Unity grows as we learn to accept the differences among us and as a result develop the ability to truly forgive one another. Unity continues as we humbly serve those who are different from ourselves. God's favors those who take the message of Jesus Christ to a divided world; that is our purpose; let us continue to be unified in it and thus fully know the power of unity."

Learning the unforced rhythms of grace,

Pastor Mike

Special Guests

It was great having **John Gorghis**, friend of Nick McGill, and **Rev. Jim and Geneva Searcy** all worshipping with us again last Sunday. In addition, we had two additional visitors who left right before the Worship Service was over resulting in Pastor Mike being unable to get their names.

Women of Joy Conference

Emily DeLozier and Joanna Wilkinson invite all the women of the church and your female friends to the **Women of Joy Conference**, October 8th-10th, in Pigeon Forge. Cost for the conference is now \$119.00 per person or \$109.00 each for groups of 10 or more. Cost of lodging will vary depending on preference of two or four roommates. If interested or for more information contact Emily (865-256-5403) or Joanna (205-533-2002).

School Supplies Collection

We are collecting school supplies for the **Coalition of Appalachian Ministries (CAM)** through the end of August. There is a box in the Narthex to put the supplies in. Thanks for your support in helping the children get ready for school. CAM distributes these supplies in several southeastern/Appalachian states.

Church Website

Our website (www.first-cumberland.org) includes a secure "Donate" tab. Donations can now be designated to one of four options: 1) Contribution (general church expenses); 2) Music; 3) Youth; or 4) Memorial. 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.*



First Cumberland, *where you belong!*



Happy Birthday

June 20th – July 26th
25th – Amy Huether



Our Faithfulness for July 18th

Sunday School.....	35
Worship Service.....	71
Offering.....	\$3,725.00
Building Reimbursements.....	\$600.00
Music Fund.....	\$150.00

July 20th – 26th

- Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. Friendship Club
- Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:45 a.m. Worship Service
- 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting

(See our website for complete calendar listings)

Among Our People

John Givens, father of Crissy Collins, is still undergoing chemotherapy for multiple myeloma; he is doing okay. ~ **Steve McCurry** continues to struggle with the lasting effects of a stroke. ~ **Alice Montgomery** remains in NHC Fort Sanders for physical therapy; once again, she hopes to go back to the assisted living facility sometime this week. ~ **Maggie Rickards**, daughter of Jeannine Rickards, received a good report from her medical tests last week. ~ It was great having **Sherrie Shetterly** back worshipping with us for the first time in a long time.

Friendship Club

The **Friendship Club** will gather for a Dutch-treat lunch this Wednesday, July 21st, at **The Chop House** (9700 Kingston Pike, in Franklin Square), at 11:00 a.m. These social gatherings are for anyone who wishes to attend; feel free to invite someone to join you.

Friendship Club, P.M. Edition

The **Friendship Club, P.M. Edition** will gather for a Dutch-treat dinner Thursday, August 5th, at the **Black Horse Pub & Brewery**, in Alcoa (441 North Hall Road), at 6:30 p.m. These social gatherings are for anyone who wishes to attend; feel free to invite someone to join you. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board near the Church Office.

Session Meeting

Our **Session** will meet this coming Sunday, July 25th, at 6:00 p.m., in the Keene Room.

Thoughts to Ponder

“God is in control, but He doesn’t expect you to lean on a shovel and pray for a hole.”

“Learn to deal with people for who they are, not what you want them to be. Life gets a lot easier when you stop expecting apple juice from oranges.”



Prayer List

In the Hospital

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

Prayer Concerns List

Anna Barrett (newborn niece of Taylor Rakes); Pam Bogle (friend of Amanda Roberts); Becky Bonds (friend of Dianne Fielder); Dick Booher; Eleanor Bradshaw (sister-in-law of Dianne Fielder); Joan Broughton (aunt of Kim Halbert); Cooper Browning (cousin of Hannah Haddox and Amanda Roberts); Corey Burnette (friend of Amanda Roberts); Fred and Joan Cline; Cumberland Presbyterian missionaries; Jimmie Lynn DeLozier, mother of Tom DeLozier; Rue Dougherty; Ely Driver (friend of Dianne Fielder); Mason Fannin (great-nephew of Judy Gwilliams); Charles Farley (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Dianne Fielder; Grace Flory (mother-in-law of Tom Witmer); Judy Gammon; John Givens (father of Crissy Collins); Helen Hayes (cousin of Jin Gaston); Rodney Holloman (pastor-friend of Pastor Mike); Whitley Johnson (friend of Amanda Roberts); Kimberly Jones (friend of Amanda Roberts); Joe and Van Kemp (relatives of Dianne Fielder); Andrea Knight (friend of Dianne Fielder); Ashleigh Lane (co-worker Susan Edwards); Bob Lawson (pastor-friend of Pastor Mike); Barbara and Gene McCammon; Steve McCurry; Ruth McNabb (mother of Tammy Eblen); Vickie Miller (friend of Emily DeLozier); Alice Montgomery; Amy Beth Davidson Morgan; Jackie Morris (cousin of Shelia Emory); persecuted Christians around the world; Sara Paul (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Anna Faye Presley (friend of Rose Wilkinson); Christopher Reed (great-nephew of Jin Gaston); Maggie Rickards (daughter of Jeannine Rickards); Lori Roark (sister of Kim McCurry); Michael Schwartz (friend of Susan Edwards); Carol Seeman; **Paul Sharp**, brother of a co-worker of Phil Bridges; Harry Sherrod; Donna Snoderly (sister-in-law of Betty Hammill); John Snoderly, Jr. (nephew of Betty Hammill); Sydney Snoderly (great-niece of Betty Hammill); Millard and Janet Summers (parents of Steve Summers); Margie Thompson (sister-in-law of Shelia Emory); the racial strife in our nation and the need for justice; those affected by coronavirus; Unspoken Requests; Carl Ware (father of Sam Ware); Lee Wells (mother of a co-worker 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.

*“I call upon you, O LORD;
come quickly to me;
give ear to my voice when I call to you.
Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,
and the lifting up of my hands
as an evening sacrifice.”*
[Psalm 141:1-2, NRSV]