

First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

McKenzie, Tennessee

NEWSLETTER

December 29, 2004



FROM THE PASTOR

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mary Ann and I extend to you our best wishes for a wonderful prosperous, healthy, safe, and joyful 2005. We have been truly blessed this year. As I look back and see what has happened--where we have come from, and where we are today, I am excited. Our property on Stonewall Street has been sold to Bethel College and hopefully they will be in the facilities by January 31, 2005. The money that is received from the sale of the property will be paid on the principle of the note for our new facility on Highland Drive that we are now enjoying. However, this presents us with a new opportunity to start looking seriously at a new time table to consider the second phase of our building project, the sanctuary. We must look boldly beyond ourselves and plan for the future.

On January 28th and 29th the elders and their spouses are invited to a retreat/planning session at Paris Landing State Park. I plan to present the session with future possibilities for ministries here at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, look at our present ministry style and discuss how to make it better. Hopefully, through some brainstorming, we can come up with a strategy to enhance our vision and mission to the community of faith.

In the next couple of weeks I will be handing out surveys at the beginning of our worship services and asking you to share your feelings and thoughts. It is most important that we have your input. I don't want to hear the words, "No one ever ask me for my opinion". Your opinion and vision for the church counts, greatly. All together we can plan for our future and we know who always holds the future in His hands, so through prayer and God's will we can make a difference.

---Tony

Welcome to our Newest Members

On Christmas Eve, Rev. Janner baptized Kristin Elena Bradberry, infant daughter of Brent and Sarah Bradberry in a very special service. At that time Brent Bradberry transferred his letter of membership from the First Baptist Church of McKenzie to this church. Special aunt and uncle, Todd and Lauren Walker who stood with the parents for baptism also transferred their letters of membership from First United Methodist (Todd) and The Lutheran Church (Lauren). The Bradberrys' address is 25 Sixteenth Fairway, McKenzie and their phone number is 352-0044. The Walkers' address is 150 Paris Street in McKenzie and phone is 352-0011. Todd is a sergeant in the McKenzie National Guard and will be returning to Ft. Sill in Oklahoma to complete training soon. That address is: A,230th EN CO, 891st EN BN, SGT Michael T. Walker, 6322 NW Currie Rd., Fort Sill, OK 73503.

We welcome them as member of First Cumberland and pray for these families during a time of separation.

Olan Mills Church Directory

Several of our church families were unable to get their photographs done on December 21. That was our last scheduled date for photography. Please submit a snapshot of your family to the church office by January 5, so we can include you in our directory if you did not get your photograph taken by Olan Mills. We want to include everyone of our church families. Also if you have snapshots of recent activities and programs taken at the church, Robye Lindsey would like to have snapshots for the activity pages of the directory. Thanks for your help.

New Year's Eve Celebration

Everyone is invited to come enjoy the evening. Bring your favorite finger foods for snacks. And your favorite games for everyone to share in. We'll play games, watch movies, and fellowship together. It will begin at 9 pm. At 11:30 pm, we will have a devotional with time for remembering and time for looking forward to the new year.

*Thank you to Charro Keenan and the Christmas Committee
for all your hard work in decorating, preparing programs, and
organizing the events of this beautiful Advent season!*

*We appreciate the entire congregations' participation
in all the Advent activities.*

*Thanks for donating the gorgeous red and white poinsettias,
giving to the Nehemiah Building Fund, sharing cards,
preparing food for receptions following programs,
and giving of your time and yourself during this holiday season.*

*Thanks to the youth for the Chrismon Service which
began the Advent season and the
Children's Choir for the beautiful carols.*

*Thanks to the Chancel Choir who provided an inspiring
and very moving service of music.*

*Thanks to all who braved the cold and sang
carols at the retirement homes and around town.*

*It takes an abundance of volunteers to keep all the activities
and programs going—you've done an excellent job!*

Thank you

Memorials and Honorariums

Nehemiah Building Fund

In Memory of Willard & Nell Brush

by Clennon & Nellie Dailey

Sanctuary Fund

In Memory of Glen Hilliard

by Curtis "Red" and Alice Summers

In Memory of Billy Perritt

by Curtis "Red" and Alice Summers

In Memory of Donald Hutchison

by Curtis "Red" and Alice Summers

Congratulations!!!

Congratulations to Joy Money who graduated from Bethel College on December 12 with a bachelor's degree!!!

Prayer Vigil

On Monday, January 3, the McKenzie Ministerial Association is sponsoring an All-Day Community Prayer Vigil at the Greater Enon Baptist Church (313 Walnut Ave.) for McKenzie and Carroll County, the state and federal government and the world, also praying for peace in Iraq and the Middle East. Pastors from the McKenzie churches will be take 2-hour shifts to cover all hours of the day. It begins at 6 am and continues until 6 pm. Everyone is welcome to come by anytime between those hours and pray in a crusade to bring the community together and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ.

Calendars for Sale

The youth have 2005 Inspirational Calendars for sale. They are \$5 each. Check with Ben Warren or any of the youth to purchase a calendar.

Elder's Retreat - January 28-29

The elders of the Session will be meeting on January 28-29 at Paris Landing State Park for a time of prayer and planning for 2005. So please clear your calendar for these two important days. Plan to spend the night on January 28th, so we can begin early on the 29th and return home around 2:00 pm that afternoon.

WOW

We are planning the new semester of WOW programs. There will be Bible classes for everyone. Also a nursery is provided for the babies. The adults can choose between the continuing study of the Old Testament with Rev. Janner or the study of the Gospels with Rev. Hames. The children (ages 4 - 4th grades) will continue studying "Prime Time with God". Youth classes will also continue their studies.

WOW meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. Elders teams prepare the light meals before classes begin. The new semester begins **January 12**, with pizza for everyone. A donation basket is placed beside the door to help the expenses.

January 19 - Team 5 - Elders Robye Lindsey and Tom Smith with members, A. Boaz; E. & K. Corbin; R. Foster; Hamiltons; Hulls; Janners; L. Kelly; Lockes; John Motherals; Paul Motherals; Perritts; Prossers; B. Scott; L. Smith; Trevathans; Warrens

January 26 - Team 6 - Elders Linda Hearn and Tommy Surber with members, B. Allen; A. Bakers; Baumgardners; Bradberrys; Clarks; Demings; Easleys; E. Forester; Hintons; R. Johnsons; Matlocks; Owens; Perkins; Thomas; J. Walkers; V. Walker; Weatherfords

(Your elders will be calling upon you to help prepare meals.)

Do You *Believe* God or merely believe in Him?

Do you take God at His Word, believing what He has told us, or do you just believe in His existence and the salvation He offers?

Beth Moore came face-to-face with this question well into adulthood. At first, her response to God was "Lord, of course I believe in You, I've believed in You all my life." Over time, the Holy Spirit led her to understand He was saying, "I didn't ask you to believe in Me, I asked you to believe Me."

Beth's study of the issue led her to write *Believing God*, first published as an Internet only study. The groundbreaking Internet study proved so popular that people requested it in a print/video format.

Based on Isaiah 43:10, *Believing God: Experiencing a Fresh Explosion of Faith* explores what it means to believe God. Through studying the lives of Abraham, Moses, and others from Hebrews 11 as examples of persons who believed God, Beth encourages us to deepen our own trust in God and receive a fresh word from Him. Join Beth for 10 life-changing weeks and learn to believe God!

Please prayerfully consider joining us! We will begin this study the later part of January. Specifics will follow in the next newsletter. If you have any questions or comments, contact Debby Aljancic, Linda Kemp or Marge Matlock. Thank you.

Christmas Card

Exchange Trees & Bell

The Christmas Card Trees and Bell are hung in the entryway through the Gathering Area. The names of our church families are listed alphabetically. There are lots of cards in the holders. Please check Sunday to get your Christmas cards. The Christmas Committee will be taking down all the decorations on January 3, so don't wait.

January Events

Glory Be Circle will meet on **Monday, January 3 at 6:30 pm** in the Reception Room at the church. Marcia Webb is program leader and Traci Lunn is hostess.

Circle II will meet on **Tuesday, January 4** at the home of Millie Finley for a potluck meal and meeting. Marlene Kreuter will have the program. Meeting time is 6 pm.

Circle III will meet on **Monday, January 10** at 7:00 pm at the home of Donna and Louise Ward. Toni Prosser will be the program leader.

Acolytes

Michael Keenan - 352-0658
Joshua Keenan - 352-0658
Supervisor - Tom Keenan

Ushers

Larry Ridley, Chairman 352-9325
John Holancin, Co-Chairman 352-9259
T. J. Meek
Brian Taylor
Roger Johnson
Larry Watkins

Nursery Helpers

2- Jill Warren- B 352-5374
Meredith Surber- T 352-3807
Sub: Carol Hill 352-0891
9- Paula Watkins- B 352-5213
Linda Meek- T 352-2344
Sub: Virginia Hames 352-0887
16- Carol Perritt – B 352-6136
Linda Smith- T 352-5369
Sub: Lynda Lankford 352-5110
23- Letha Basford- B 352-5670
Lauren Perritt-T 352-6136
Sub: Audra Henderson 352-8004
30- Rachel Clark-B 352-6136
Debby Aljancic-T 352-9139
Sub: Heather Garrett 352-0767

Sound System

January 2 & 9 - Tom Aljancic
January 16 & 23 - Mark Warren
January 30 - Tim Nanney

Greeters

Jan. 2 (A) Amy Howell 352-7413
(B) Doug & Vicki Long 352-4702
Jan. 9 (A) Craig & Traci Lunn 352-1313
(B) Eddie & Letha Basford 352-5670
Jan. 16 (A) Chris & Missy Blount 352-2822
(B) Tracy & Marcia Webb 352-3550
Jan. 23 (A) Brent & Sarah Bradberry 352-0044
(B) Terry & Suzanne Howell 352-7413
Jan. 30 (A) Tim & Carol Nanney 352-0648
(B) Mark & Sue Thompson 642-6999

Youth News

Dear Youth,

Remember we have the New Year's Eve get together. Bring your friends. After the service, we will have games and movies in the youth room. --Ben

Cleaning Out the Old Building

If there is anything in the old church building on Stonewall Street that you purchased when we had the yard sale about 3 years ago, you need to make arrangements to get it out. Anything left there after December 31, 2004 will be disposed.

COLLECTING BOOKS

Jaivel Snelling, and her parents, Rev. & Mrs. Jairo Rodriguez thank you for books you donated for the Colegio Americano, a Cumberland Presbyterian School in Columbia, South America. Jaivel's mother is the principal of Colegio Americano. A missionary will be taking the books to South America toward the end of January. At the Colegio Americano, they teach Spanish in their school but the principal would like for the children to develop the English language also. If you have Children's story books printed in English you'd like to donate, you may contact Jaivel at 731-967-5348.

The box is in the entryway of the gathering area. School books are not needed as they are taught with Spanish books which they have.

Thank You

We would like to thank all of you for your words of support, cards, calls, visits, and most of all your prayers during our recent loss. It is wonderful to have so many caring people, such as you, in our community. Your encouragement and kindness will never be forgotten. May God bless you all.

Sincerely, The Family of June Ownby

To the Church Family,

Thank you to everyone for the Christmas staff gifts you gave to us this year. All of us appreciate your generosity. We are fortunate to be a part of such a wonderful church family. Your gifts are appreciated.

The Church Staff

Thank you for all your cards, the fruit baskets, your calls and visits during the holidays. We appreciate you thinking of us. William & Evora Bryant

January Birthdays

- 1 - Jo Pinson
- 5 - Lauren Perritt
- 6 - Jonathan Lankford
Lorey Basford
Kirk Nienaber
- 7 - Kelly Hudson
- 10 - Johnna Toombs
Jennifer Lankford Cole
- 11 - Linda Hearn
- 12 - Robye Lindsey
- 13 - Jonathan Lollar
- 16 - Douglas Pate
Kate Hames
Gracie Blount
- 17 - Byron Pate
- 18 - Janet Baumgardner
Sarah Bradberry
Levi Hamilton
- 19 - Jeanie Reeves
- 20 - Melanie Tunning
- 21 - Nathan Nanney
- 22 - Melissa Smith
- 23 - Bianca Tunning

Birthdays Continued

- 25 - Ben Warren
- 26 - Joel Washburn
- 27 - Joe Walker, Jr.
Bridget Bradberry
- 28 - Mark Smith
- 31 - Lute Foster
Cynthia Nienaber

Anniversary

- 3 - Eric & Kristi Corbin

(Please call the office to tell us your birthday and anniversary dates. Thanks for your help!)

2005 Offering Envelopes

The 2005 Offering Envelopes are on a table at the back of the Family Life Center. If you prefer to use envelopes and we do not have any there for you, please call the church office and we will be offering envelopes for you.

Remember in your Prayers

Lil True; Laddie Lollar; Dawn Ervin; Louise Ward; Brian Taylor; Suzanne Howell and family at the death of her step-father, Joe Brodgan; McKenzie National Guard Unit - Todd Walker, Karl Tunning, Stephen Brown - (A 230th EN CO, 891 EN BN 6322 NW Currie Rd. Ft. Sill, OK 73503); Jerry Hearn (Joe's brother); Thomas Clark; Douglas Pate; Wayne David Bryant (James Hamilton's brother-in-law); Peggy Hall; sympathy to the family of Queenie Hollowell; Joyce Lovelace; Robert Lankford (friend of Christopher Hinton); Paul Olson's brother, Phil; the family of Billy Perritt; Paul Newmon; Charlie Maeburn (Tom Keenan's uncle); June Nanney (Tim's grandmother); Nellie Dailey; Jane Pate; Evelyn Buck; Pam Bush; Ethel Sands; Wayne Tubbs; Edwin Basford; Gail Higdon; Mary Margaret Williams; William and Evora Bryant; Elizabeth Barlow; Shelba McCasklin; Faye Headden; Betty Smith; Raydell Bartmess (Charro Keenan's grandmother); West Tennessee presbytery's ministerial candidates; our military, our church; the Session, our nation's leaders, missionaries and denominational institutions; Tomorrow's Hope Pregnancy Center

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Rev. Dr. R. Tony Janner, Pastor Phone-352-9566 Cell 225-8055
Church Office -(731) 352-2440; Information Line - (731) 352-7838; Fax- (731) 352-3101; E-Mail: church@mckenziecpc.org
Walter Waddle-Choir Director; Zia McKennie-Organist; Ben Warren, Youth/Assistant to the pastor; June Perritt, Secretary
Office Hours - Monday-Friday - 8am-4pm
Sunday School - 9:45 am; Sunday Worship - 10:45 am
Sunday Evening - Children's Choir and Youth Fellowship
Prayer and Bible Study Groups - Sundays and Wednesdays
School of Discovery-Tuesday/Thursday 8:00am-11:00 am
WOW - Worship on Wednesday 5:30 pm-Classes for all ages; Praise Choir
"A Family of Faith with Open Minds and Loving Hearts"