



Important Dates:

- Nov. 30: Decorate Church for Advent
- Dec. 1: Hanging of the Greens Service @ 10:30
- Dec. 2: Dartball at FCPC
- Dec. 5: Cloverleaf Christmas Dinner
- Dec. 9: Dartball at Ormsby Heights
- Dec. 15: Christmas Cantata "Glory To the Newborn King"
- Dec. 16: Dartball at FCPC
- Dec. 21: Winter Begins
- Dec. 23-Jan 3: JCPS Winter Break
- Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Come and Go Communion
- Dec. 25: Christmas Day

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Merry Christmas!
From the Church Staff
 Rev. Rodney Harris,
 Ethan Harbour, and Steve Skipper

FROM THE PASTOR

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which

translated means, "GOD WITH us." And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife, but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus." - (Matthew 1:18-25)

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, let us be reminded of why He came and what He did for us and the world. So, as the opportunity arises let us not be intimidated by the world in using His title "CHRIST" in referencing this time of year. It is CHRISTmas. The world deserves to be reminded of why it is called CHRISTmas. Pat, Caleb, and I pray that you will be blessed by CHRIST as we celebrate His birth this year. Hope to see you in church this Sunday.

~Rev. Rodney

Christian Education Update by Steve Young, Committee Chair

The theme for our VBS this year was "God's Backyard Bible Camp." Yes, that was 3 months ago but, what was being taught was how we can all serve others, be it family, neighbors, community, the church, or Jesus. Our kids began a new and exciting journey with this Bible Camp. We have continued that theme into the following months through our Wednesday night ministries, which we call our WILD & WACKY WEDNESDAY NIGHT GANG.

So far, our kids have served others by:

- Collecting 5 large boxes of school supplies weighing over 200 lbs. that was shipped to the Cumberland Presbyterian Children's Home in Denton, Texas.
- Creating "Goodie Bags" for our shut-ins, they collected items and prepared 10 "Goodie Bags."
- The most recent project was the collection and preparation of 18 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse. They worked together packing the boxes and are sending a note to the child that will receive the shoebox for Christmas.
- The upcoming project is during the HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS PARTY, which will



2013 Halloween Party

take place on Wednesday, December 18 at 6:00, here at the church. This is where everyone in the church can be involved. The "WWW" Gang would like to invite the entire church, as well as family and friends to attend. All we are asking is for you to bring a NEW unwrapped gift for a child that evening. These gifts will be given to Shively Area Ministries to be distributed to children in families that are having a difficult time this Christmas. Please keep an eye out for more exciting information regarding this HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS PARTY coming real soon.

So, it has been an exciting 4 months so far. We are really looking forward to the New Year and being able to continue to show our children how to serve. They really get excited and enjoy each outreach in which they are involved.

One last thing, WILD & WACKY WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRIES are for everyone! If you are not attending, we would encourage you to do so. We normally meet at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. We have activities for EVERYONE: children, youth, young adults, and adults. Please come and join us, you will be blessed by being here!

Session Update

The regular meeting of the Session was called to order on Saturday, November 16, 2013 by Moderator Rev. Rodney

Harris, with a quorum declared at 9:00 a.m.

Ralph Hawkins gave the opening prayer.

Rev. Rodney Harris shared a devotional from the book *From Creation to Bethlehem* based on Romans 5:12 and Galatians 3:16.

The minutes of the Regular meeting on October 20, 2013 were read and approved.

Elders present: Ralph Hawkins, Delbert Kyle, Michele O'Meara, Carri Roth, Doris Shipp, and Steve Young.

Elder excused: Dick Gregory

Others present: Seminary Intern, Ethan Harbour.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building & Grounds Committee

– Report was given by Doris Shipp with three recommendations.

1. Motion made and approved 2014 budget.
2. Motion made and passed to obtain estimates to install new security at the garage.
3. To review our church custodial work / agreement with Karing Kleeners since we are having some cleaning issues and questions.

Christian Education Committee

– Report was given by Steve Young with no recommendations.

Other notes:

- "Happy Birthday, Jesus" Christmas Party will be

December 18 at 6-8 p.m. (Postponed to December 18). Bring a gift for a child of any ages and Shively Area Ministries will receive them and distribute them.

Finance Committee – Report was given by Ralph Hawkins with one recommendation.

1. A motion was made and approved to take up to \$5,000.00 from the Mutual Funds as need to help with year-end expenses if needed.

Worship, Missions, & Christian Fellowship Committee

– Report was given by Doris Shipp with two recommendations.

1. A motion was made for the approval of the Board's meeting minutes from its November 10, 2013 meeting.
2. A motion was made to approve the Board's 2014 budget.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion made and passed to ask Kathy Kicklighter to come and discuss mutual funds and stocks to the Session in efforts to evaluate the current options.

2. Motion made and passed to remove two (2) church pews on each side in the center to make the sanctuary more accessible for those with disabilities.

3. Motion made and passed to approve Rev. Rodney Harris' vacation request:

Sunday, November 24 (Ethan to fill pulpit). Weekdays: November 25-27, December 17 – 20, 23, 26-28, 30, & 31.

4. Motion made and passed to approve Christmas Gifts to the church staff.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

ALTAR ELDERS for December will be Delbert Kyle & Michele O'Meara and our January Elders of the Month will be Ralph Hawkins & Doris Shipp.

After sharing prayer requests and needs, motion was made and approved to adjourn. The meeting closed with a prayer by Delbert Kyle, Steve Young, and Rev. Rodney Harris gathered around the church altar.

Next regularly scheduled meeting will be January 19.

Correspondences & Notes of Interest

Thank you so much to Rev. Harris and the whole congregation for allowing our little Girl Scout Troop to meet in your church. You are an important part of our efforts to be good role models to a great group of girls! Your generosity is a great blessing to each of us. Thank you very much!

Lisa Taylor, Troop Leader, Troop 1493

Dear Wild & Wacky Kids,
Nolen and I want to thank you for our wonderful shut-in bag. We sure enjoyed going through all the goodies! I have never seen so many things in one bag and all for us. What a special treat, it took all day to go through it. How wonderful of you to think of us and make

us feel so special! May the Lord bless you all as you serve him in this special way.

Thanks again. Love, Maydie and Nolen Allen

Dear FCPC,

The family of Pat Davis Hikes wants to thank First Cumberland Presbyterian Church for all the prayers, cards, and meal. A special thanks to Rev. Rodney for his visits to the Eastern Star Home and the service at the time of our bereavement. And thanks to all our friends for your support and your visits to the funeral home.

Thank You, Rodger, Vicki, Jeff, and family

SPECIAL THANKS to Leonard Shipp (Building & Grounds Chair) and to those who came to the recent Work Days at the church: Ron Caster, Rodger Davis, Delbert Kyle, Ralph Hawkins, Leonard Shipp, and Rev. Rodney. Much was accomplished. The tile floors in the hallways, kitchen, and fellowship hall were swept, mopped, and buffed out. They look great! The fence rows along the south side of the parking lot were cleared, a tree was cut back off the fence row, the entry way carpet was trimmed and reinstalled, the two freezers and a refrigerator were defrosted and cleaned out, the front and side hedges were trimmed, and the broken nursery window was replaced, Other work done included cleaning out the refrigerator/freezer room, furnace room, and the janitor's closet, changing the filters for the two furnaces and sanctuary unit along with greasing the motors and pulleys. Ethan Harbour cleaned off the stage, the areas in front of the sanctuary, and put away a sizeable number of chairs from the fellowship hall. Sean and Michele O'Meara replaced an electrical switch as well as some other electrical work. There are still some jobs that need to be done. Please look over the list on the bulletin board in the hallway. Thanks again to all who helped!

SPECIAL THANKS to Ron Caster, Delbert Kyle, Ralph Hawkins, Dick Gregory, Leonard Shipp, Caleb Harris, and Rev. Rodney for cutting and

weed eating our church lawn this year! You all did a fabulous job and we really appreciate the many hours of labor given to the church.

★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★

Pat, Caleb, and I want to thank you, our church family, for the thoughtful Gift Basket you gave our family for **PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH**. It contained cards, restaurant vouchers, hot chocolate mix, ear buds, books, movies, The Story, mints, 2014 calendar, a pocketknife, cardinal gloves, cap, and poncho, a clock display, a cd/dvd storage case, and monetary gifts. Special thanks to Carol Hawkins who made the presentation. We appreciate and love each of you. God bless you for your meaningful gifts.
~Rev. Rodney

SPECIAL THANKS to Carol Hawkins for helping the church recognize our living veterans in November. Those veterans are:

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Ron Caster | Lonnie Clarke | Ralph Hawkins |
| Delbert Kyle | John Lee | Steve Murray |
| Russ Phillips | Richard Roth | Bob Rose |
| Garvin Scott | Bob Spivey | Scott Taylor |
| John Williams | Mike Zimmerman | |

SPECIAL THANKS to Carol Underwood who has served as our church secretary for nearly five years.

Our warmest Christian sympathy is extended to the Dana and Stefen Ragsdale and the rest of the family of Bill Ragsdale who passed away October 31.

With Sympathy



39 Shoeboxes were collected this year (up from 34 from last year)! Special thanks to everyone who contributed for this wonderful Christmas outreach ministry.

2014 WINTER YOUTH RETREAT

January 17-19, 2014

Held at Camp Crescendo

\$25.00 per person

(Middle School – High School students)



\$100.00 was collected for our denominational offering *Helping Hands (Loaves and Fishes)*, which will go to the Guatemala Mission for continual efforts of building a medical clinic and providing food for the residents of Guatemala City, Guatemala and to Shively Area Ministries.

COME AND GO COMMUNION will be on Wednesday, December 24, from 4 PM to 6 PM. Everyone is welcome.

December Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Ushers

BIRTHDAYS

- Dec. 1 Chris Peniston
- Dec. 4 Frances Heil
- Dec. 7 Scott Taylor
- Dec. 10 Elizabeth Heiskell
- Dec. 11 Caleb Harris
- Dec. 11 Brenda Hatcher
- Dec. 11 Garvin Scott
- Dec. 14 Scott Bush
- Dec. 15 Bill Heil
- Dec. 16 Wanda Caster
- Dec. 19 Tony Heiskell
- Dec. 19 Stefen Ragsdale
- Dec. 26 Maydie Allen
- Dec. 26 Rev. Rodney Harris
- Dec. 27 Caleb O'Meara

ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 30-Bill & Frances Heil (2000)

Attention: We would like to put your anniversary date beside your name each month, but we need your assistance. Please call the church office and provide your anniversary date.

USHERS

December 1
Janet Turner, Susie Dittmeier
Michele & Caleb O'Meara

December 8
Ralph & Carol Hawkins
Bob & Jean Spivey

December 15
Leonard & Doris Shipp
Caleb O'Meara & Sammy Kyle

December 22
Loretta Woolf, Brenda Hatcher
Stacy & Sammy Kyle

December 29
Steve & Wanda Young
Christian & Caleb O'Meara

Scenes of the Sanctuary 'Wearing' Its Greens



December 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Hanging of the Greens Service (refreshments following)	2 6:30 Dartball - FCPC	3	4 6:00 Meal 6:30 Programming 7:30 Cantata Practice	5 6:00 Cloverleaf Christmas Dinner	6	7
8 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Choir Practice	9 6:30 Dartball - Ormsby Heights	10	11 6:00 Advent Fellowship 7:30 Cantata Practice	12	13	14 6:30 Christmas Dinner at Cardinal Hall of Fame Café
15 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Christmas Cantata Service	16 6:30 Dartball - FCPC	17	18 6-8 Happy Birthday Jesus Christmas Party	19	20	21
22 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	23 No Dartball	24 Christmas Eve 4:00 - 6:00 Come & Go Communion	25 Christmas Day No Programming	26	27	28
29 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	30 No Dartball	31 New Year's Eve	January 1, 2014 New Year's Day No Programming			



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Link to our
Facebook Page
(use your QR
scanner app on
your smartphone or
tablet)

Our Prayer Concerns

CHURCH FAMILY

Nolen Allen; Dick Gregory; Rev. Rodney Harris; Dana Ragsdale; Ann Rose; Bob Rose;

RELATIVES & FRIENDS

Jim Allamon (Surgery: Dec 21); Connor Anderson; Wayne Arnold (cancer); Phil Bafferg; Carl Blacklock (skin cancer); Karen Blake; Theresa Cook; Karen Cox; Susan Coxhead; Inetta Craig; George Dunn (cancer surgery); Kathryn Franklin; Nickey Gibbs; Kristina Gregory; Steve Gregory; Elmer Habicht; Richard Hancock; Mildred Hiser; Dawn Hourigan; Barbara Jenkins; Angela Kaelin; Nettie Kemp; Mary McGuire; A.J. Miller; Sherry Myers; Steve Robinson; Carol Sanders; Carol Sisson (cancer); Carole Young; Ron Young; Michael Zimmerman

MILITARY

Kyle Johnson; Kyle Lindsey; Matthew White

SHUT-INS

Eloise Becker; Jewell Day; Connie Petty; Dawny Porter; John Williams

PRAYER LIST

If someone you know is ill, recovering from an illness, having surgery, struggling for life, etc., and needs prayer or attention, please call the Church Office. If someone you know is on the prayer list who is doing better, please call so we can correct and/or update the list.

Other Updates

Contact Information

We are in the process of updating our Telephone Directory for 2014. Please check your contact information in the preliminary 2014 Telephone Directory located on the information table of the narthex.

New Newsletter Format

Please let us know what you think of the new look of the newsletter and any difficulties you might have encountered while opening it, reading it, printing it, etc. Comments can be sent via email to the church at firstcumberland@att.net. Thanks!

New Addresses

Dick Gregory
Frazier Rehab Rm. #1011
220 Abraham Flexner Way
Louisville, KY 40202

John Williams
520 Woodlake Dr.
Mt. Washington, KY 40047