

OUR STEWARDSHIP	
December 6	December 13
Sunday School: 20	24
Morning Worship: 82	99
Offering: \$4,818.79	\$4,600.00

Christmas Kindness

(by Joyce Meyer)

Christmas is the season of good cheer, but it often becomes a season of stress ... so much shopping, wrapping, cooking, baking, and visiting. Before you know it, people are losing patience, snapping at one another. It's easy to become unkind. I'll never forget something my daughter told me a long time ago. She said that her goal was to learn to love or to treat with kindness, goodness, and mercy every single person she encountered who was unkind or ugly to her. She said, "That's my goal. I want to submit to God in my emotions and the way that I handle myself so that when I'm out in public and someone mistreats me, I respond with kindness." We don't know what's going on in people's lives. Kindness will cause you to slow down and give people some space and some grace. We need to put kindness on our Christmas list.

Remember in Prayer

In Nursing Homes and Homebound

Eva Melton, Vivian Coleman, Billie Taber, Edna Rainwater, Jo Cogswell, Jim & Norma Luton, Jane Karlson

Members

Mary Carpenter; Betty Collins; Helene Morgan; Alex and Jenny Gambrell and family; Raymond & Lucy Wolfenbarger, Pat & Cindy Gerula, Betty Schow; Jo Cogswell, Claire Pace; Marticia Queen

Family and Friends

Prayers and sympathies for the family of Millie Richards on the death of her sister, Catherine Baker; Ken Menefee, son of Jack and Bea Menefee; Elizabeth Phillips Seiber; The James family, relatives of Meg Schreiber; Ron Cacheiro, son-in-law of Joni Gary

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

First Cumberland
Presbyterian Church
127 Lafayette Drive
P.O. Box 4836
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-4836

«Mailing Name»
«Address 1»
«Address 2»
«City», «State» «Zip»

***THE PROMOTER
OF FIRST CUMBERLAND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH***

December 15, 2015

*The purpose Of First
Cumberland Presbyterian Church
is to glorify and worship God, sharing the love and
saving grace of Jesus Christ with all people.*

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 20th

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Message: *What Do You Want for Christmas?*

Scripture Reading: *Luke 2:8-20*

December 24th

Christmas Eve Communion Service

6:00 o'clock

December 27th

First Sunday after Christmas Day

Message: *On the Eighth Day of Christmas*

Scripture Reading: *Luke 2:21-32, 39-40*

January 3rd

Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Message: *Happy New You!*

Scripture Reading: *John 1:1-18*

January 10th

First Sunday after Epiphany

Message: *What if Christ Had Not Come?*

Scripture Reading: *Galatians 4:4-7*

January 17th

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Message: *Get Rid of Your Worries*

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 6:25-34*

January 24th

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Message: *Getting Past Your Past*

Scripture Reading: *Philippians 3:12-14*

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

What in the world do leaping lords, French hens, swimming swans, and a partridge in a pear tree have to do with Christmas? Let she share the following explanation with you.

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that time wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality, which the children could remember.

- The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.
- Two turtledoves were the Old and New Testaments.
- Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.
- The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- The five golden rings recalled the Torah (Law), the first 5 books of the Bible.
- The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.
- Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.
- The eight maids a-milking were the Beatitudes.
- Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.
- The ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Christmas season begins on Christmas Day and continues for twelve days. Many people make an ending of that which is only a beginning. They feel that once the presents are opened and December 25 has passed that Christmas is over. They take down the tree and get rid of all the symbols of the season, when in fact the season and celebration is just beginning. Advent is intended to be a period of preparation followed by a season of joy, marked by such passages of scripture as, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called 'Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace'" (Isaiah 9:6).

The color for the Christmas season is white for joy and purity.

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE

We will have a very special worship service on Christmas Eve at 6:00 o'clock in the evening. It is a service of lessons, carols, candlelight, and communion. We will have scripture readings, congregational singing, special music by our choir, and a violin solo during communion by Ace Edwards' wife, Ruth.

Thank You!

Dear Friends,
Thank you so much for the HUGE donation of food and the generous check for our Thanksgiving Baskets. We think our Thanksgiving Basket program is one of our most important ministries and we are glad you think so, too. We appreciate your on going support. God bless you, everyone.

Sincerely, Judy Joy
Grace Lutheran Church

Loaves & Fishes Offering

Thank you from the Missions Ministry for your support of the Loaves and Fishes Offering. A total of \$598.00 was donated of which \$448.50 (75%) will be sent to the denomination to support Cumberland Presbyterian Hot Lunch Program in Guatemala, and \$149.50 (25%) will be sent to ADFAC to meet local community needs.

**KIDS BIBLE TRAVEL CLUB
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Kid's Bible Travel Club will meet on Sunday, December 20, at 2:00 p.m. We are having a party! So, even if you haven't been attending, we would love to see you and your friends at our Christmas Party. We will have fun, games, and Christmas treats. Our travel will take us to the stable in Bethlehem where we will peek in and celebrate the birth of Jesus. We hope that you can come and join in the celebration.

**Save the Dates
Our Next Two Sunday Dinners**

- January 17th, Matthew and Heather Wallace will speak about their Mission work.
- February 21st, Youth from Mt. Carmel Cumberland Presbyterian Church will perform their "Backlight Ministry".

Please mark these dates on your calendars. We hope everyone will make an effort to attend these events.

[Verse 12] On the 12th day of Christmas my true love sent to me 12 drummers drumming 11 pipers piping 10 lords a-leaping Nine ladies dancing Eight maids a-milking Seven swans a-swimming Six geese a-laying Five golden rings Four calling birds Three french hens Two turtle doves, and A partridge in a pear tree. More on Genius. About "The Twelve Days of Christmas". "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is an English Christmas carol that enumerates each day by the gifts given on each of the twelve days of Christmas. Frederic Austin was known to popularize the arrangement of the song we know today in 1909. On the Twelfth day of Christmas my true love sent to me Twelve Drummers Drumming, Eleven Pipers Piping, Ten Lords a-Leaping, Nine Ladies Dancing, Eight Maids a-Milking, Seven Swans a-Swimming, Six Geese a-Laying, Five Golden Rings! Four Calling Birds, Three French Hens, Two Turtle Doves and a Partridge in a Pear Tree. [Repeat the final verse with great fanfare!]: and a Partridge in a Pear Tree! Enjoy our selection of Christmas Carols, and Christmas Stories, Books, and Poems. On the sixth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me Six geese a-laying, Five golden rings, Four calling birds, Three French hens, Two turtle doves, And a partridge in a pear tree. On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love sent to me Seven swans a-swimming, Six geese a-laying, Five golden rings, Four calling birds, Three French hens, Two turtle doves, And a partridge in a pear tree. On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me Twelve drummers drumming, Eleven pipers piping, Ten lords a-leaping, Nine ladies dancing, Eight maids a-milking, Seven swans a-swimming, Six geese a-laying, Five golden rings, Four calling birds, Three French hens, Two turtle doves, And a partridge in a pear tree!

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" is a traditional and lengthy English Christmas carol. The song is based on the premise that the singer receives one gift per day from his or her "true love" over the 12 days immediately following Christmas Day. Each verse repeats all of the previous gifts listed; thus, one could say that the singer receives 364 gifts total -- or one a day until next Christmas, when the process begins all over again. The Muppets have recorded five versions of the song, each lasting well [Verse 12] On the 12th day of Christmas my true love sent to me 12 drummers drumming 11 pipers piping 10 lords a-leaping Nine ladies dancing Eight maids a-milking Seven swans a-swimming Six geese a-laying Five golden rings Four calling birds Three french hens Two turtle doves, and A partridge in a pear tree. More on Genius. About "The Twelve Days of Christmas". "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is an English Christmas carol that enumerates each day by the gifts given on each of the twelve days of Christmas. Frederic Austin was known to popularize the arrangement of the song we know today in 1909.