

PRAYER CONCERNS - MEMBERS

Dean Binnie has been diagnosed with myelofibrosis, a rare cancer.
Judy Norman is going through more cardiac testing.
Gerald Poulin will be receiving radiation treatments.
Janis Poulin is out of the hospital and recovering at home.
Thomas Qualls is having tests run.
Kimberly Williams was diagnosed with multiple myeloma.

PRAYER CONCERNS - FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Larry Collins, the father of Brian Collins, passed away on February 22nd.
No funeral arrangements have been made.
Charles Dunn, father of Maria Williams, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's.
Danny Graham, work associate of Sid Thurmer, was diagnosed with cancer.
Jeff Lucas, Betty Hitchcock's nephew, passed away on February 21st.
Bob Minch, Betty Hitchcock's brother, who lives in SC, has dementia.
John Olson, Ollie Nolan's 97 year old uncle, passed away February 22nd.
Sue Pommenville, sister of Amy Butcher, was diagnosed with liver cancer.
Lois Richardson, Wendy Hohman's mother, is home and is bedridden.
Brenda Shelton, her 100 year old mother passed away on February 28th.
John Stevens, friend of Maria and Mason Williams, passed away.
Wayne Williams, Theresa McKenrick's great niece's son, born prematurely.

UPCOMING SERMONS

March 8, 2026

Third Sunday in Lent

Choir: *Lenten Mediation*

Children's Time: *Patricia Pace*

Sermon: *A Word about Worry*

Scripture: *Psalms 121, Matthew 6:25-34*

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sermon: *Defining Moments: Temptation*

Scripture: *Matthew 4:1-11*

Our Faithfulness

February 22nd:

Sunday School: 31

Worship: 87

Offering: \$6,115.91

March 1st:

Sunday School: 24

Worship: 74

Offering: \$5,230.00

THE SESSION

Class of 2026

Pam Leckey

Thom Smith

Sidney Thurmer

Class of 2027

Margaret Harper

Theresa McKenrick

Barry Shelton

Class of 2028

Mike Bradshaw

Ann Gentry

Hal Hughes

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

«AddressBlock»



The Promoter

First Cumberland Presbyterian Church
127 Lafayette Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4836
(865) 483-8433 | www.1stpc.org
Rev. Dr. Larry Blakeburn, Pastor

March 2, 2026

WELCOME, NATALIE GIBSON!

Hi, I'm Natalie, and I'm delighted to be the new Church Secretary!

My professional journey has blended client-focused service, financial experience, and tech-savvy problem solving — all qualities I'm grateful to now bring to the daily rhythms of church life. I also bring experience in administration, operations, marketing, and office management, along with nearly ten years of being a Realtor. I'm a proud mom of two daughters, and when I'm not working, you'll usually find me in the garden, tending to my apiary or hiking with my girls. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to support the mission of First Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge.



SUNDAY FUNDAY

We would like to welcome all children of the church to our Sunday FunDay event on **Sunday, March 8th**. Please join us from **1:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.** for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and creativity!

CHILDREN'S EASTER PROGRAM

The children of the church will perform a special play on Sunday, **March 22nd**, at **9:45 a.m.** and a light brunch will follow. We hope you will join us to support our children and enjoy a joyful morning of entertainment and fellowship as the children present *The Three Trees*.

CUMBERLAND YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES OFFERING—MARCH 22ND

On Sunday, **March 22nd**, a special offering will be taken to help support the Cumberland Youth and Family Resource Center, located in Denton TX. The Center is a facility where multiple needs can be met in one setting for kids who have experienced trauma. These include:

Shelter Services, Treatment and Counseling, Supervised Independent Living Services, and a Family Residential Program.



The offering will help maintain these programs, the overall cost of daily living expenses and campus upkeep. Thank you for your help in changing the lives of children in crisis!

SESSION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 10, 2026

1. **Devotion and Opening Prayer:** Pam Leckey
2. **Present:** Pastor Blakeburn, Mike Bradshaw, Ann Gentry, Margaret Harper, Hal Hughes, Pam Leckey, Barry Shelton, Thom Smith, Sid Thurman, and Mitzi Griffin (session clerk).
3. **Pastor's Report:** Report was accepted by motion.
 - Prayer Concerns were discussed.
 - Average attendance for Worship in January was 97; Sunday School was 24.
 - Offering for January was \$26,898.95 (this reflects giving received for 3 Sundays as we had to cancel service on January 26, 2026, due to ice).
4. **Administrative Ministry:** Written report was received.
 - Update on search for Church Secretary was presented.
5. **Christian Education:** Report was received and recommendations approved by motion.
 - Approval to provide the Lenten Devotional, "The Easter Code" by O.S. Hawkins
 - Pastor Larry to lead a 4-week video Bible Study, "The Case for Easter" by Lee Strobel. This study will be on Wednesday evenings April 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.
6. **Communications and Marketing:** Report was received and recommendations approved by motion.
 - Family Kite Festival will be on Saturday April 25, 2026, 1-4pm.
7. **Mission Ministry:** Report was accepted by motion.
 - Received list of Current Local Projects for 2026 as well as Denominational Projects.
8. **Properties Ministry:** Report was accepted by motion.
 - Report on Bookshelves/New Church Library. Appreciation to Hal Hughes for the beautiful bookshelves
 - Emphasis on asking congregation to report items needing repair. Also, suggestions for new items.
9. **Stewardship Ministry:** Report was received and recommendations approved by motion.
 - a. If CPA cannot be located in a reasonable amount of time, the ministry requests that an internal audit be done as customary and the outside audit be moved to 2027.
 - b. Recommend \$40,000.00 be moved from the Unreserved Funds to the Memphis Investments Account.
 - Addressed the following items:
 - Recognized the savings to the church on the new copier led by Amy Butcher.
 - Investigating a new phone service.
 - Ensure line items are correct before starting work on any increases or decreases that are needed.
 - Ensure hire dates and 3-month evaluations are observed and any salary updates are handled.
 - Have all Ministries to turn in 2027 budget request by August 26th.
 - Budget check in April to determine the balances and assure the individual ministries are on track with spending allowances.
10. **Other Business:**
 - 2025 Annual Report has been completed and submitted to East Tennessee Presbytery
 - 2026 Report to Tennessee Secretary of State for Nonprofit Corporation status was updated and filed as required by the State.
11. **Closing Prayer:** Rev. Larry Blakeburn

BIRTHDAYS

3/06	Jon Keck	3/11	June Black
3/07	Crystal Huskey	3/15	Mike Magill
3/08	Tina Silva		Thomas Qualls
3/09	Barbara Urbaniak		

HAPPY
Birthday!



Spring Forward!

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH.
DON'T BE LATE—TIME IS HOPPING AHEAD AN HOUR!

WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY

Pastor Blakeburn will lead a 4 week video Bible Study on **Wednesdays April 8, 15, 22, and 29**. The video study, *The Case for Easter* by Lee Strobel, is a compelling, evidence-based study that examines the historical events surrounding Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Drawing on expert testimony and historical sources, Strobel explores whether Jesus truly claimed to be the Son of God, whether He actually died on the cross, and how the empty tomb and eyewitness accounts support the truth of the resurrection. **There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.** **The deadline to sign up is March 22nd.** We hope to see you there!

JOURNEY STUDY GROUP

The Journey Study Group is being led by Margaret Harper in a study of Romans. They are reading the book *Be Right - How to Be Right With God, Yourself and Others* by Warren W. Wiersbe.

This class meets in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Sunday, March 8: *Father Abraham* (Romans 3:21-4:25)

Sunday, March 15: *Live Like a King!* (Romans 5)

WORD BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Carlton Harper is leading the Word Bible Study Group a study following the Spring Study Book *Being the Best for Christ: The Book of 1 Corinthians*.

Sunday, March 8: *Cooperation in Ministry* (1 Corinthians 2:6-3:23)

Sunday, March 15: *Servants of Christ* (1 Corinthians 4:1-21)

YOUNG ADULT CLASS

Maria and Mason Williams are leading the class in a study of Max Lucado's book *Make Every Day Count*. They will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Room until the Library is ready.