

Sugar Grove

Cumberland Presbyterian Church

WORSHIP GOD IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

CHOIR *LET'S JUST PRAISE THE LORD (CHORUS TWICE)*

(CONGREGATION JOIN IN)

ACOLYTES PRESENT THE "LIGHT"

WORSHIP HIM . . .

*WITH OUR PRAISE

THE SOLID ROCK

HYMN 215

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Men and women, old and young, together:

Praise God and exalt the Author of Life.

Praise God in the highest heavens.

Praise God, all dwellers on the earth.

*Prayer of Adoration

(Congregation may be seated)

Prayer of Confession (READ IN UNISON)

Heavenly Father, we have wandered away to pursue our own agenda. We have laid aside your expectation that we will forbear one another and forgive.

We harbor grudges against people. There are some we neglect and some we disdain. We have viewed them neither as your beloved nor as our sisters and brothers.

The peace of Christ does not rule in our hearts. Your truth is not what flows from our lips or finds expression in our actions. O God, turn us

around, that what we do may be a genuine expression of your love, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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DECEMBER 27, 2009

DECLARATION OF PARDON

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9 NIV

WITH A HYMN

HE IS ABLE TO DELIVER THEE

HYMN 336

SPECIAL MUSIC

SHARING WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

WITH HIS TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

WITH PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THROUGH PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE ALTAR FOR ANY OF YOUR PRAYER CONCERNS.

LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)

MESSAGE

MS. DONNA DAVENPORT

BY RESPONDING TO THE WORD:

*BY SINGING A HYMN

NEAR TO THE HEART OF GOD

HYMN 366

ALTAR CALL: YOU ARE INVITED TO THE ALTAR

*BY RECEIVING THE BLESSING

THAT'S THE NAME I LOVE (VERSE 1)

HYMN 270

AS ACOLYTES TAKE THE "LIGHT" INTO THE WORLD

*STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AKA MINISTRY IN ACTION

Choir Practice will be held today at 5:15PM.

We welcome Ms. Donna Davenport as our speaker this morning. Donna is a licentiate under the care of Covenant Presbytery. She is a student at Memphis Theological Seminary and hopes to finish in the summer of next year. Donna preaches at the Benton Cumberland Presbyterian Church on the first and third Sundays.

No Wednesday Gathering this week.

Sugar Beats for January are at Information Station.

Nursery workers needed! Sign-up for this ministry.

Reading Through the Bible—Have you ever wanted to read the entire bible? In 2010, you are invited to read through the bible as a church. You will receive the monthly readings on a card. You will be blessed as you systematically read the inspired word of God.

The Twelve Days of Christmas is probably the most misunderstood part of the church year among Christians who are not part of liturgical church traditions. Contrary to much popular belief, these are not the twelve days *before* Christmas, but in most of the Western Church are the twelve days from Christmas until the beginning of Epiphany (January 6th; the 12 days count from December 25th until January 5th). In some traditions, the first day of Christmas begins on the evening of December 25th with the following day considered the First Day of Christmas (December 26th). In these traditions, the twelve days begin December 26 and include Epiphany on January 6.

The origin and counting of the Twelve Days is complicated, and is related to differences in calendars, church traditions, and ways to observe this holy day in various cultures. In the Western church, Epiphany is usually celebrated as the time the Wise Men or Magi arrived to present gifts to the young Jesus (Matt. 2:1-12). Traditionally there were three Magi, probably from the fact of three gifts, even though the biblical

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Additional Prayer Concerns

are in the Sugar Beat

Please use the Prayer request cards

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narrative never says how many Magi came. In some cultures, especially Hispanic and Latin American culture, January 6th is observed as Three Kings Day, or simply the Day of the Kings (Span: *la Fiesta de Reyes, el Dia de los Tres Reyes*, or *el Dia de los Reyes Magos*; Dutch: *Driekonin-gendag*). Even though December 25th is celebrated as Christmas in these cultures, January 6th is often the day for giving gifts. In some places it is traditional to give Christmas gifts for each of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Since Eastern Orthodox traditions use a different religious calendar, they celebrate Christmas on January 7th and observe Epiphany or Theophany on January 19th.

<http://www.crivoice.org/cy12days.html>

In traditional Christian churches Christmas, as well as Easter, is celebrated as a period of time, a season of the church year, rather than just a day. The Season of the Church Year associated with Christmas actually begins with the first Sunday of Advent, four Sundays before Christmas Day. Advent is marked by expectation and anticipation in preparing to celebrate the coming of Jesus. Christmas begins with Christmas Day December 25 and lasts for Twelve Days until Epiphany, January 6, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Nativity. The one or two Sundays between Christmas Day and Epiphany are sometimes called **Christmastide**. For many Protestant church traditions, the season of Epiphany extends from January 6th until Ash Wednesday, which begins the season of Lent leading to Easter. Depending on the timing of Easter, this longer period of Epiphany includes from four to nine Sundays. Other traditions, especially the Roman Catholic tradition, observe Epiphany as a single day, with the Sundays following Epiphany counted as Ordinary Time. In some western traditions, the last Sunday of Epiphany is celebrated as Transfiguration Sunday.

<http://www.crivoice.org/cyepiph.html>

Welcome to the Celebration

We are glad you are celebrating with us. It is our hope that you will experience the presence of Almighty God. May He inspire you to continue on your journey of faith. Allow God to richly bless you today as you participate in the service.

++++Nursery +++++

A nursery is provided for children age 3 and under for your convenience. It is located in the fellowship hall through the south doors of the narthex. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.

Pianist—Jayne Ann Head Digital Piano—Joy Wesmoland

Audio/Video—Shaun Wesmoland

Gary Carlton, Pastor

Church 965-4435, Home 965-4358, Cell 615-618-4448

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Session

Class of 2009

*David Travis 965-5160 Shaun Wesmoland 965-2831

Class of 2010

Becky McKinzie 965-0037 Micheal Travis 812-454-6437

Class of 2011

Devin Brewer 965-5620 Terry Coleman 270-667-7300
Billy Joe Crider 965-9676

*Elder of the month