



# The eNewsletter

September 12, 2013

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421  
423.899.5377 [www.covenantchattanooga.org](http://www.covenantchattanooga.org)

## *From the Pen of the Senior Pastor...*

### *Looking Ahead...*

#### **September 15**

Membership Sunday  
MS D-Groups  
HS Youth Meeting

#### **September 17**

Mothers' Encouragement  
Group  
WM Council

#### **September 18**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Children's Choir  
MS Youth Meeting  
HS D-Groups  
Wednesday Night Activities  
Session Meeting

#### **September 19**

Ladies' Bible Study  
Memorial Hospital Lunch

#### **September 20**

Marriage Matters -  
Couples Retreat

#### **September 21**

Marriage Matters -  
Couples Retreat

#### **September 22**

Marriage Matters -  
Couples Retreat  
MS D-Groups  
HS Youth Meeting

#### **September 25**

Bloodmobile  
Wednesday Night Supper  
Children's Choir  
MS Youth Meeting  
HS D-Groups  
Wednesday Night Activities

#### **September 26**

Ladies' Bible Study

#### **September 28**

Church Work Day  
Communicants Class

#### **September 29**

Shepherding Groups Meet

#### **October 1**

Mothers' Encouragement  
Group  
WM Council

#### **October 2**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Children's Choir  
MS Youth Meeting  
HS D-Groups  
Wednesday Night Activities

#### **October 3**

Ladies' Bible Study

As a citizen I have my political opinions, but I seldom share them publicly. For example, I will not publically address the issue of whether our nation should attack Syria because their political and military leaders have allegedly used poison gas against their own people.

The use of poison gas is a horrible crime. The killing of civilians is an atrocity. We are told that the political and military leaders of Syria are guilty of such crimes and atrocities. If they are, how should we as a nation respond? If we attack the governing forces, are we therefore aiding rebel forces that include some who are reportedly burning churches and killing Syrian Christians.

These are terribly complex issues. As General Sherman said during his march to the sea, "War is hell."

Over the centuries, Christian theologians have attempted to offer some Biblical guidance on how to walk through hell by the formulation of a "Just War Theory." I talked with you about this theory the Sunday evening prior to the beginning of "Desert Storm." Just in case you weren't there or don't remember precisely what we talked about more than twenty years ago, let me share with you these eight points as one possible summary of what this theory teaches.

1) A just war should be waged as a last resort. Every reasonable effort should be made to find a nonviolent option.

2) For a war to be just it must be waged by legitimate authorities (such as our congress).

3) A war is just if waged to redress a "wrong" or injury.

4) A war is just if fought with "right" intentions.

5) A war is just when there is a reasonable chance of success.

6) The ultimate goal of a just war is to reestablish peace.

7) A war is just if waged in a manner that takes into account the extent of the injuries it will cause.

8) A just war will discriminate between combatants and noncombatant. Every effort should be made to avoid killing civilians.

Each of these eight points require further definition. There is clearly a lot of room for "give and take" when one tries to fine tune any of these eight points.

But what is clear is that these eight points were and are formulated by theologians and philosophers who believe in right and wrong, in good and evil. They also understood that we live in an evil world in which it is sometimes necessary to fight. As Paul teaches in Romans 13 God gave the sword to the state to punish those who do evil and to protect those who do what is right.

As a citizen I pray for our political and military leaders. I pray that God will be merciful to us and not treat us as we deserve. I don't know what some of our political or military leaders may believe. But knowing that the law of the Lord is written on the hearts of everyone, I ask the Lord to grant our leaders the discernment needed to make difficult and, at times, terrible decisions.

~Pastor Caines



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule

September 15

#### Worship

##### Infants

Kelly Orthner  
& Esther McEachern

##### Creepers

Heidie, Jenny  
& Charity Armao

##### Toddlers

Scott & Luke Orthner

##### Floater

Meg Orthner

### Sunday School

##### Infants

Amy Wright  
& Vangie Wykoff

##### Creepers

Eunice Martin  
& Anne Wagner

##### Toddlers

Sarah & Maggie Wade

### September Coordinator:

Camille Platt

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Wednesday Night Dinners are served from 5:30 p.m. until 6:40 p.m. The suggested donation for adults is \$4 and \$2.50 for children ages 5 to 11. Children 4 and under eat for free. The maximum family donation is \$15.

The following shepherding groups have clean-up duty for September 18: M. Fingerle, D. Elwood, M. Wilson, and T. Schreiner. Please contact James Hall (deacon in charge) to let him know you can help.

### MOTHERS ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

The Mothers' Encouragement Group will start on September 17 and meet every first and third Tuesday of each month throughout the school year. Please mark your calendar now to be a part of this wonderful group. Contact Lucy Wykoff with questions.

### YOUTH FALL RETREAT

All Middle School and High School youth, and their parents, are invited to a Fall Retreat, October 25 to 27, at Ponderosa Bible Camp in Mentone, Alabama. We'll leave the church Friday at 6:00 p.m. and return Sunday around noon. The cost is \$55.00 (all inclusive!) and the registration forms are at the Welcome Center. Register by October 9 by turning the form and money in to Chris or Reba Gregory.

### CPC'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Remember to mark your calendars for CPC's 25th Anniversary Celebration. After our morning worship service we will have lunch on the grounds with a remembrance service to follow. This is a special time in our church history and we would like all of our current and former members, visitors, friends and family of the church to join us in celebrating God's mercy and grace to CPC.

### CPC PUZZLES

In honor of our 25th Anniversary, puzzles with a beautiful picture of the church are available outside Mark Wilson's office. We are asking a minimum donation of \$30.00 per puzzle but will welcome larger contributions. All donations will go to the Building Fund to help retire our debt.

### MEMORIAL HOSPITAL MINISTRY

Our church has the privilege of being a part of a luncheon ministry at Memorial Hospital. The third Thursday of each month, we provide lunch to families in the surgery waiting room. If you can contribute sandwiches, chips, snack cakes or fruit this week, please call or email the church office.

### BLOODMOBILE

Make plans to donate to the Bloodmobile! Wednesday, September 25, the Blood Assurance Bloodmobile is stopping at Covenant Presbyterian Church from 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Give the gift of life; one donation can save up to 3 lives. Donors must be 17 years or older and weigh at least 110 pounds.

### GAITHER VOCAL BAND CONCERT

If you would like to join others going to the Gaither Vocal Band Concert on Friday, November 8, at Memorial Auditorium please call Marilyn Swanson at 423.432.7726. Tickets cost \$42.00 each.

### BETHANY CHRISTIAN "CHURCH TEAM" 5K AND FUN RUN

Bethany Christian Services is having their first ever annual 5K and Fun Run on September 21 to benefit pre-adoption education, post adoption counseling and support for adoptive children and families. Bethany invites us to involve our whole congregation by bringing a "team" to compete for the "Fastest Church in Town" award! The race will be "chip timed". Each participant's time will be added together and a time average for your congregation will determine the winner. The more runners, the better your average can be! Registration is at 8:00 a.m. with the race starting at 8:45 a.m. Awards will be given at 9:45 a.m. The Family 1K Run/Walk will begin at 10:15 a.m. For more information or early registration, visit [www.bethany.org/chat5K](http://www.bethany.org/chat5K).

### YOUTH EVENT CALENDAR

Parents, please pick up a Youth Event Calendar at the Welcome Center so you can make plans with your youth for upcoming events.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

- September 18 Spaghetti
- September 25 Chicken and Rice
- October 2 Creamy Sausage Pasta
- October 9 Sweet and Sour Chicken/Egg Rolls
- October 16 Meatball Subs
- October 23 Cowboy Casserole
- October 30 Chili
- November 6 Lasagna
- November 13 Chicken Tetrizzini
- November 20 Meatloaf
- November 27 No Meal-Thanksgiving Service
- December 4 Chicken and Dumplings
- December 11 Pizza