



# The eNewsletter

September 19, 2013

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421  
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## *From the Pen of the Senior Pastor...*

### *Looking Ahead...*

#### **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  
Communicant 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

#### **October 4**

CPC's 25th Anniversary  
Golf Outing

#### **October 5**

CPC's 25th Anniversary  
Men's Breakfast

#### **October 6**

CPC's 25th Anniversary  
Celebration  
Lord's Supper Celebrated

#### **October 9**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Children's Choir  
Wednesday Night Activities

Monday, I sat on the third floor of the County Courthouse from 8:30 a.m. until almost 5:00 p.m. I was there to support a dear friend. Her case was the next to last to be arbitrated by the judge's clerk.

The day began with everyone sitting in the courtroom waiting for the judge to arrive. No one was late. A few sat on the edge of their seat, head bowed, hand folded, staring at the floor. It was deadly quiet. No one was smiling.

A clerk announced the judge's arrival. She entered from a side room. Everyone stood and remained standing until she gave permission to be seated. After the clerk read a long list of names to determine who was present or absent, we left the courtroom and found seats in the outer area.

Even though the walls needed to be painted, it was an impressive outer room. On one side were doors to the Chancery Court, on another the doors to the Civil Court we had just exited, and on a third wall the offices of the Clerk and Master. The fourth wall was dominated by two elevators, two rest rooms, and the door to an office area that could be entered only by using a pass card. In the middle of the room was a circular opening that allowed you to see and hear what was taking place on the floors below and above.

People talked in quiet whispers. Now and then someone would stalk through our floor, or the one just below us, speaking in a loud, angry voice which caught everyone's attention. Court officials would come and go carrying legal folders and talking among themselves or with a client.

My emotions were mixed. I felt both safe and apprehensive. That day's decisions wouldn't be about me, but they would impact one I dearly love.

The law. A sense of seriousness, finality. The only people I saw smile were one or two janitorial employees. No one got up and left. Everyone waited their turn to hear the law's judgment concerning their cases.

As I sat there carrying on a conversation with my friend, that waxed and waned throughout the day, I thought about the day of final reckoning.

In 1 John 4 the apostle writes about God's love for His people. John writes in verse 9: "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him." Therefore, John writes in verse 17, "We have confidence for the day of judgment." For, as he writes in verse 18, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment."

I deserve to be punished. Far too often I deliberately choose to say, do or think thoughts that pointedly disregard my King's commands concerning how I should live.

But God has graciously gifted me with faith in Jesus as Creator, Savior, Lord and King. Therefore, on that day, I will be awed but not fearful. Yes, I deserve to be punished. But this is why we call it good news – Jesus took my punishment upon Himself, died and then won for me victory over sin, death and the grave.

Because He first loved me, I love Him. He dies and rose again on my behalf. And therefore on that day I will not plead guilty or innocent but, instead, boldly testify that "I am a sinner, saved by grace because of Jesus' incarnation, life, death, resurrection and reign."

I don't know how I will react to the condemnation of those who refused to bow the knee to the King of kings and Lord of lords. But I know that I will enter Zion with singing, laughing and smiling, accompanied with you, I pray.

~Pastor Caines



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule

September 22

#### Worship

##### Infants

Diana Bowers & Judy Foster

##### Creepers

Stephen & Mindy Haywood

##### Toddlers

Nathan & Olivia Bowers

##### Floater

Julia Bowers

### Sunday School

##### Infants

Lynda Brown  
& Peggy Bandy

##### Creepers

Tammy & William Higgins  
& Amy Creamer

##### Toddlers

John & Becky Pearce

##### September Coordinator:

Camille Platt

### CPC'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Remember to mark your calendars on October 6 for CPC's 25th Anniversary Celebration. The *25th Anniversary Worship Service* is at 9:30 a.m. with no Sunday School. *Dinner on the Grounds* follows the worship service. Fried chicken, smoked chicken, barbecue pork, salad and drinks will be provided. Families with the last name beginning with A to M are asked to bring family-sized side dishes (vegetables, casseroles, fruit, etc.) and families with the last name beginning with N to Z are asked to bring family-sized desserts. Around 1:15 p.m. *Remembering CPC: 25 Years* will be held in the sanctuary. Dr. Rob Rayburn will be our special speaker during both services. 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 25TH ANNIVERSARY GOLF OUTING

If you are interested in attending the Golf Outing celebrating CPC's 25th Anniversary on October 4 at Nob North, please contact Pastor Mullinax. Tee times begin at 1:04 p.m. Registration is necessary, so sign up early!

### 25TH ANNIVERSARY MEN'S BREAKFAST

October's Men's Breakfast will also be apart of the 25th Anniversary Celebration. Dr. Rayburn is speaking on *Leaders, Lovers, and Limpers*. Make plans to join the CPC Men on Saturday, October 5, at 8:30 a.m. for a great breakfast, a wonderful time of fellowship and a very special speaker: Dr. Robert Rayburn.



### 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.

### COMMUNICANT CLASS

A Communicant class for young people preparing to make a public profession of faith and join the church begins Saturday, September 28, at 10:00 a.m. in the Visitors Classroom. The course will be guided primarily at home by parents of the prospective communicants with only a couple of corporate meetings led by Pastor Mullinax. The coursework is geared for ages 10 and up. The cost of materials is \$10. See Pastor Mullinax for introductory information.

### FREE BOOKS

The church library is being re-organized and many individual and sets of books are being given away free! Please stop by the tables outside the library now and pick up many books.

### 25TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL SPEAKER

Our special speaker for the 25th Anniversary Celebration weekend is Dr. Robert Rayburn. Dr. Rayburn and his wife, Florence, are special people to many in our congregation and to our presbytery.

Dr. Rayburn has been the senior pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church in Tacoma, Washington, since 1978. He was entering Covenant College as a freshman when Pastor Caines was a senior. They have served together on the Covenant College board for nearly 25 years.

Dr. Rayburn is the father of Vangie Wykoff, the grandfather of Bryonie, Peter and Magdalene, and the uncle of Moriah Bond. Dr. Rayburn's father was the founder and first president of Covenant College from 1955-1965.

Dr. Rayburn is speaking during the worship service, men's breakfast and the remembrance service after lunch.

### 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.

### CHURCH WORK DAY

There will be a church work day on September 28 to prepare the church for our 25th Anniversary Celebration. Please join us from 8:30 a.m. until noon to help make our facility and grounds look good. There will be a continental breakfast available at 8:00 a.m.

### 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.

### 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 25: J. Harris/G. Duble, T. Smith, and C. Wilkie. Please contact Jonathan Calloway (deacon in charge) to let him know you can help.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

- 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