



# The eNewsletter

October 17, 2013

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

### *Looking Ahead...*

**October 18**

Chicks 'n Chocolate

**October 20**

Membership Sunday  
Diaconate Meeting  
MS D-Groups  
HS SNL  
Parent Class

**October 23**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Children's Choir  
MS Rt. 68  
HS D-Groups  
Wednesday Night Activities

**October 24**

Ladies' Bible Study

**October 25**

Youth Fall Retreat

**October 26**

Youth Fall Retreat

**October 27**

Youth Fall Retreat  
Shepherding Groups Meet  
Reformation Service at New  
City Fellowship

**October 30**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Children's Choir  
MS Rt. 68  
HS D-Groups  
Wednesday Night Activities

**October 31**

Ladies' Bible Study

**November 2**

Turn back your clocks!

**November 3**

Lord's Supper Celebrated  
MS D-Groups  
HS SNL  
Parent Class

**November 5**

Mothers' Encouragement  
Group  
WM Council

**November 6**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Children's Choir  
MS Rt. 68  
HS D-Groups  
Wednesday Night Activities

**November 7**

Ladies' Bible Study

**November 9**

Men's Breakfast

As I try to summarize this last trip to Ghana, I have a whole series of snapshots in my mind – memories from that trip. Here are a few of them:

*SNAPSHOT #1: A room filled with over 100 eager pastors and evangelists, dapper in their white shirts and short blue neckties, clapping enthusiastically as the teacher from the U.S. comes to the podium.*

I have the privilege of teaching twice each year at Shiloh Bible Training Centre for Pastors (BTCPC) in Kumasi. The year-long BTCPC program provides many of these leaders with the only Biblical education they will receive before going out to start a church. This first week, I'm teaching Romans with Chris Fowler, a pastor from Athens, GA. I see the stunned expressions on their faces as we teach them about God's free grace in Christ. Many of these students came into the week believing that Christianity was all about keeping the rules so that they can earn God's blessings. The truth that God's blessings cannot be earned but come only by God's grace required them to revamp their entire perspective on the gospel. At times, the tension in the room was palpable as they struggled to grasp "...where sin increased, grace abounded all the more." (Romans 5:20)

*SNAPSHOT #2: Standing behind a flimsy podium in a small, stuffy green classroom teaching 17 men, aged 30 to 60+.*

These are the MINTS students in Kumasi, the majority of whom are pastors, as well as teachers at Shiloh BTCPC. They sit in rough wooden student desks and struggle to stay alert during the hot afternoon sessions. These men are a delight to teach – full of questions despite the three hour sessions. During the two weeks in Kumasi they took four classes of which I taught two: Early Church History and Reformation History. Family is very important to Africans and I introduced them to their forefathers in the faith. They were particularly

interested in applying what they learned to the Ghanaian church. These men directly influence hundreds of other leaders in Ghana, so it's time well spent.

*SNAPSHOT #3: Scattered compounds of round mud huts with thatched roofs, one compound sitting directly at the foot of a tall red-and-white cell phone tower.*

Ghana is a study in contrasts. As Sam Oppong and I drove north toward Tamale during week three, those contrasts became even more evident. Northern Ghana is dryer, flatter, hotter and poorer than the parts of the country I'm familiar with. This was my first trip into the North and I was struck by the differences and by the much more evident presence of Islam. It seemed as if most of the villages had a mosque, but I saw few churches.

*SNAPSHOT #4: A small, dirt-colored, run-down church building huddled inside a cramped muddy compound. Bicycles and motorbikes parked at random; goats, sheep, and chickens wander freely.*

Our first conference in Tamale was small, but encouraging. Of the 20 attending, many were Senior Pastors with responsibility for several churches. God used the teaching on Romans to encourage these brothers and to develop a bond of friendship between us. ELI has been invited to return to hold a conference further north in Bolgatanga and perhaps even to cross the border for a conference in Burkina Faso. Burkina Faso is largely Muslim, as are most of the countries that surround it. A conference there could draw pastors from many of those surrounding countries for Biblical instruction and encouragement.

Thank you for your prayers while I was away. God is using CPC to bless Christ's church in Ghana.

~Pastor Steere



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule

October 20

#### Worship

##### Infants

Esther McEachern  
& Susan Helton

##### Creepers

Kenyon & Marcy Wilson

##### Toddlers

Josh & Renee Ray

##### Floater

Colleen Murphy

### Sunday School

##### Infants

Diane Lazor  
& Sandra Nicely

##### Creepers

Sandy Coffey  
& Allison Millard

##### Toddlers

Jason & Jennifer McNeeley

### October Coordinator:

Teri Akovenko

### RENT-A-YOUTH

*Rent-A-Youth* helps our students raise the needed funds to attend youth activities. The youth need to raise money throughout the year, so more jobs are needed. At this time, the youth are working on raising money for the Fall Retreat. If you would like to *Rent-a-Youth*, request forms are outside of Chris' office or at the welcome center. Have questions or a request? Please email Christine Morrison at [rpgchatt@comcast.net](mailto:rpgchatt@comcast.net).

### THANKSGIVING POUNDING

It's time again for our annual collection of nonperishable food items to share with those in need. Please bring your donations of canned goods and staples and place them in the box outside Mark Wilson's office by November 20. Monetary donations are always welcome and are needed to purchase perishable items (turkey, ham, etc.) on the day of delivery. If you know someone in need or if you yourself could use a hand this year, please contact the church office or an elder.

### TVP REFORMATION SERVICE

Sunday evening, October 27, at 6:00 p.m. the churches of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery are meeting together at New City Fellowship for a time of worship. A combined choir will practice at 4:30 p.m. in order to help lead worship during the service. Please plan to join us for this wonderful evening of worship.

### NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES

The new Membership Directories are almost ready to be printed. If you have recently moved, changed phone or email service and have not notified the office, please contact Susan immediately.

### DVD ORDERS

You may fill out an order form for a DVD of *Covenant Beginnings* and *What Makes Covenant Covenant* at the Welcome Center. Cost is \$3.

### CHANGES TO THE DIRECTORY

Please be sure to make the following changes in your CPC Church Directory:

- Josh and Teri Akovenko.....no landline
- Josh .....704.451.1331 (cell)
- Teri.....704.340.2753 (cell)
- Ingrid Guyton ..... no landline, 423.414.1383 (cell)
- Jeremy and Emily Fitzsimmons
- Joshua, Natalie\*, Autumn\*, Maggie\*, Emma\* Zion\*, Katie\*, Eva\*
- 314 West 2nd Street, Jasper, TN 37347
- Jeremy .....423.580.6409 (cell)
- Emily.....423.619.9086 (cell)
- ..... jeremyandem@gmail.com

### BIBLE IN THE SCHOOLS

There is still time to donate to *Bible in the Schools*. Pledge cards are available at the Welcome Center if you are interested in praying, giving or supporting the *Bible in the Schools* program.

### 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 October 9: K. Henry, E. Brown, J. Hildebrand, D. Hobbs and A. Sanders. Please contact Jonathan Calloway (deacon in charge) to let him know you can help.

### CHICKS 'N CHOCOLATE

On Friday, October 18, at 6:30 p.m. the women of CPC are invited to Diane Lazor's home for a movie night. Bring a sweet or salty treat to share and be ready to enjoy the movie "Amazing Grace". RSVP to Leanna Cathey ([leannacathey@gmail.com](mailto:leannacathey@gmail.com)) if you are able to attend.

### PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Remember our college students as you pray. Here are a few of the many we have:

- |                 |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Kelly Close     | UTC                       |
| Emily Elwood    | Lee University            |
| Bobby Fugatt    | UTC                       |
| Ellen Gaither   | GA College and University |
| Alyssa Griffin  | Berry College             |
| Bethany Griffin | Vanderbilt                |

### MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY

If you are interested in becoming a member of CPC, please call or email the church office for an appointment. Elders meet every month on the third Sunday by appointment only with prospective new members.

### SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SPEAKER

Reverend Kurt Schimke is an ordained PCA minister from the Rocky Mountain Presbytery. He and his family now minister at African Bible University in Kampala, Uganda, where Rev. Schimke is ABU-U's dean and faculty member. CPC has been a supporter of ABU-Uganda since its inception. He will be speaking in Schum Fellowship Hall October 27. All are welcomed.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

- October 23 Cowboy Casserole
- October 30 Chili
- November 6 Lasagna
- November 13 Chicken Tetrazzini
- November 20 Meatloaf
- November 27 No Meal-Thanksgiving Service
- December 4 Chicken and Dumplings
- December 11 Pizza