



The eNewsletter

January 9, 2014

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...

January 11
Men's Breakfast

January 12
Morning Worship Service
Mission Committee Meeting
Diaconate Meeting
Installation Service

January 13
Ladies' Evening Bible Study

January 15
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

January 16
Ladies' Bible Study
Memorial Hospital Lunch

January 18
WM Council Brunch

January 19
Morning Worship Service
MS D-Groups
HS SNL

January 21
Mothers' Encouragement
Group

January 22
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

January 23
Ladies' Bible Study

January 25
Youth/Parent Snow Tubing

January 26
Morning Worship Service
Kemp Baby Shower
Gernhard Baby Shower
MS D-Groups
HS SNL

January 29
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

January 30
Ladies' Bible Study

January 31
Men's Conference

February 1
Men's Conference

On December 21 my father-in-law lay down to take a nap and when he woke he found himself where he wanted to be.

Months ago we asked him where he wanted to be. We offered him three possibilities: in Moscow, PA, Asheville, NC or Chattanooga, TN. He lifted his head, his blue eyes twinkled, a smile mischievously appeared, and he answered our question with one word: "Heaven."

I've read a few books about heaven. Some are better than others, but I doubt any author has the ability to describe what my father-in-law has experienced these past few days.

I have trouble trying to describe the majesty of the Milky Way to someone who's never seen the night sky on a moonless night in the Boundary Waters of northeast Minnesota.

I'm sure my father-in-law would be far more challenged to explain the glory he's witnessed the last two "weeks."

We miss him. There's an empty seat at the table. There's coming a time, in the not too distant future, when we'll all be together again.

One day the Lord will return. It may be soon. It may not be for thousands of years. The Scripture is quite clear about the fact that no one knows.

On that day, all the dead will rise and stand before their Creator. It will be an awesome moment. From what I read in Scripture, I have to think it will be frightening but God's grace and His gift to us of faith in Jesus as Savior, Lord and King means we need not fear. We'll be wrapped in the pure white

robes of His sinless righteousness, which He supplied for us in exchange for our sinful rags. He paid the penalty for our rebellion on Calvary's cross and then assured for us life abundant and eternal by His victory over death and the grave.

Having told Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life," Jesus asked her, "Do you believe this?" My father-in-law believed with all his heart, soul, strength and mind, and that's why I know he is now with His Lord.

Scripture doesn't tell us much about the "in between" time – the time we spend with the Lord following our deaths and prior to His return. Furthermore Scripture reveals to us a great mystery – that one day when the Lord returns, our souls will be rejoined to our resurrected bodies and we will begin to live forevermore upon a recreated earth free of sin and its consequences. Just try to imagine what that will be like.

On another important note: Once more, as a new year begins, we humbly pause to give thanks to our Lord for the manner in which He has worked in and through us to provide not simply for our material needs as a congregation but by supplying us with more than we might have dared asked.

Giving to the general fund *exceeded* budget by approximately \$120,000. All monies given by you to CPC totaled 1.6 million dollars. To God be the glory for the great things He has done.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule

January 12

Worship

Infants

Sherry & Rachel Baierl
& Emily Calloway

Creepers

Carla Stevenson
& Lisa Hobbs

Toddlers

Josh & Renee Ray

Floater

Isaiah Harris

Sunday School

Infants

Brenda King
& Diane Lazor

Creepers

Sarah, Alayna
& Larken Moore

Toddlers

Jason & Crystal Middleton

January Coordinator:

Judy Foster

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICE

Deacons, elders and Women's Ministry officers are being installed during the evening service this Sunday.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

This Saturday, January 11, the Men's Ministry of CPC would like to invite men of all ages for the monthly men's breakfast. This is a great opportunity for you to bring a neighbor or someone who needs discipling. Pastor Caines is speaking on *Finishing Well with Strength and Courage*. The breakfast is from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

SPECIAL SUNDAY SCHOOL SPEAKER

Rob Griffith (Third Millennium Ministries) will be at CPC and speaking during the Sunday School hour this Sunday, January 12. Third Mill's goal is to provide Christian education to pastors and church leaders around the world that lack sufficient training for ministry. Third Mill is meeting their need by publishing and globally distributing a free digital multimedia seminary curriculum in English, Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Russian and Spanish. The curriculum is designed to be used in support of existing schools, as well as by groups and individuals. It consists of three central elements: graphic-driven videos, printed instruction and internet resources. This ministry is doing exciting and innovative things all over the world. Join us Sunday in Schum Fellowship Hall.

2ND ANNUAL VALENTINE DINNER

Friday evening, February 7th, the choir will hold their 2nd Annual Valentine Dinner at the church. A four course dinner will be served, and entertainment and a cake auction will also be thrown in. Cost? Free of charge! Reservations are required and sign-ups will begin this Sunday. Donations will be accepted in order to help fund a choir mission trip to Belarus in 2017. It is our hope to send 20 or more to Belarus, so we will be raising funds over the next several of years. See Jeremy for any details.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

If you are not involved in a women's Bible study, you are invited to join us Thursday mornings, 10:00 a.m., in the library with teacher Bev Mealor as we continue to study and apply the rich truths in the Gospel of John. We will start back January 9 looking at chapter 14 and Jesus' words: *"I am the way, the truth, and the life."* Join us this winter for warm fellowship as we study God's Word together.

GOD BLESS YOU!

It's that time of year again! The cold and flu bug is among us. Parents, please use discretion when placing your child in the nursery or a class. If they have a bad cough or have a very runny nose, please keep them with you.

READ-THRU-THE BIBLE THIS YEAR

Take the opportunity this year to read through the scripture in one year individually or with your family. The material to aid you is available at the Welcome Center.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. and is served 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 the month of January: D. Elwood/M. Wilson, T. Schreiner, B. Higgins. Please contact Brian Lehmann (deacon in charge) to let him know you can help.

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.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Will Musto
Chandler Peppers
Gracie Smith
Daniel Stevenson

UTC
Lee University
Covenant College
Mississippi State

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

January 15	Chicken Casserole
January 22	Soup & Salad
January 29	Tater Tot Casserole
February 5	Breakfast
February 12	Taco Salad
February 19	Chicken Tetrizzini
February 26	Cowboy Casserole
March 5	Enchiladas/Spanish Rice
March 12	Baked Ziti
March 19	Chicken & Rice
March 26	Meatball Subs
April 2	Heidie's Surprise
April 9	Meatloaf
April 16	No Meal - Seder Dinner
April 23	Sweet & Sour Chicken
April 30	Taco Salad
May 7	Grilled Chicken/Fettuccini
May 14	Lasagna
May 21	Hot Dogs