



The eNewsletter

January 23, 2014

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421
423.899.5377 www.covenantchattanooga.org

From the Pen of the Senior Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

- January 25**
Youth/Parent Snow Tubing
- January 26**
Morning Worship Service
Kemp Baby Shower
Gernhard Baby Shower
Shepherding Groups Meet
- January 29**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- January 30**
Ladies' Bible Study
- January 31**
Men's Conference
- February 1**
Men's Conference
- February 2**
Lord's Supper Celebrated
Youth Super Bowl Party
- February 4**
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
WM Council Meeting
- February 5**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activity
- February 6**
Ladies' Bible Study
- February 7**
Valentine's Dinner
- February 9**
Morning Worship Service
Mission Committee Meeting
Diaconate Meeting
MS D-Groups
HS SNL
- February 10**
Ladies' Evening Bible Study
- February 12**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- February 13**
Ladies' Bible Study
- February 14**
Forever 39ers Lee Concert
- February 15**
Prison Training Meeting

Charles Dickens' novel *A Tale of Two Cities* begins with this description of late eighteenth century Europe: "It was the best of times. It was the worst of times." He could have been speaking about our world of the twenty-first century.

But, I must admit, I like living in the twenty-first century. I'm not one who longs for the "good old days."

We had plumbing problems a couple of weeks ago. They've been resolved but do you know, that for two days, we were reduced to one (heated, indoor) bathroom. Can you imagine!

Several weeks ago our dishwasher died and for almost two weeks we had to wash dishes – brace yourself – by hand.

In the "good old days" my grandmother had at least three people who worked for her. A cook, a housekeeper and a yard man.

Of course, the truth is, we have far more "servants" than Granny ever had.

Three weeks ago, in the space of five days, we drove to Asheville, picked up Linda's mother and drove to Scranton, PA, for Grandpa J's funeral. Then, Linda and I drove back to Chattanooga. A couple of days later, Grandma J made the trip from Scranton to Chattanooga in just a few hours by airplane, despite a weather delay.

I like the 21st century. It is in many ways "the best of times."

But it is also a time of madness. In Psalm 135 our Lord is contrasted to the worthless idols served by those who deny Him. In verse eighteen the Psalmist comments that those who serve worthless idols become like them.

In part, it's because a denial of the one true God leaves people without a foundation upon which to build a house that can survive the fiercest storm. Our culture attempts to build upon a foundation that assumes that we can determine for our-

selves, without any "outside" help, right from wrong, good from evil.

I would list for you the sinful ideas and behavior that are now an accepted part of our culture's thinking and practices, if they weren't all too familiar to you.

Who says they are sinful? The One by Whom and for Whom we were made. The Lord of heaven and earth.

Remember, by grace through faith in Jesus as Savior, Lord and King, you are His treasured possession, a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation living in the midst of the nations of this world.

Which means that to you is given the glorious task and responsibility to live as an image bearer of Him. Be assured that He will work in and through you to build His church, accomplishing more than you can imagine.

God still sits upon His throne and, throughout church history, has often chosen some of the world's darkest hours to turn on the light.

In Isaiah 62.6-7, the prophet calls upon us "who put the Lord to remembrance, [to] take no rest, [to] give him no rest, until he establishes Jerusalem [of which you are a citizen] and makes it a praise in the earth."

It is the best of times. It is the worst of times.

But the Lord still reigns and teaches us in Proverbs 24.19-20 to "fret not... because of evildoers... for the evil man has no future; the lamp of the wicked will be put out."

In Isaiah 60, He calls upon us to arise, to shine, "for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you... And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule

January 26

Worship

Infants

Lewis & Anna Reid

Creepers

Eric & Lucy Mantel

Toddlers

Volunteers Needed

Floater

Volunteer Needed

Sunday School

Infants

Amy Wright & Nicole May

Creepers

Anna Steere & Rachel Miller

Toddlers

Jean Mauroner
& Patty Liner

January Coordinator:

Judy Foster

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

- January 29
Tater Tot Casserole
- February 5
Breakfast
- February 12
Taco Salad
- February 19
Chicken Tetrazzini
- February 26
Cowboy Casserole
- March 5
Enchiladas/Spanish Rice
- March 12
Baked Ziti

BABY SHOWERS

There is a baby shower for Rheya Kemp, daughter of Dusty and Rachel Kemp, this Sunday, January 26, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Rachel is registered at Target and Babies R Us.

There is a baby shower for Charlotte Gernhard, daughter of David and Bekah Gernhard this Sunday, January 26, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Perseverers classroom. Bekah is registered at Target and Babies R Us.

2ND ANNUAL VALENTINE DINNER

Friday evening, February 7, the choir will hold their 2nd Annual Valentine Dinner at the church. A four course dinner will be served along with entertainment and a cake auction. Cost? Free of charge! Seats are limited so reserve now by signing up at the table in the lobby or emailing Jeremy at jgaines@covenantchattanooga.org. 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 years. See Jeremy for any details.

YOUTH: LOOKING AHEAD

The Parent Group meets each week in the Frederick Room starts at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Tracy Horton will lead this group as it discusses the following topics: social media, teenagers and stress, gender differences, peer pressure, cyber-bubble, obsessions, motivating boys and media. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Parent/Youth Snow Tubing: If you or your students registered for the Parent/Youth Snow Tubing trip, be at CPC no later than 8:30 a.m. on January 25. Students should bring warm clothes and the balance of \$10 along with money for lunch. We will arrive back at CPC no later than 4:00 p.m. Saturday evening. If you have questions, call Chris Gregory at 423.718.6800.

The Youth Super Bowl Party is Sunday, February 2, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the home of Dee and Lisa Hobbs. Please bring a salty or sweet treat to share. The game will go long, so feel free to pick up your child at any time.

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. 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.

LOST AND FOUND

The bookcase and stairwell next to the coke machine have filled up with precious items left behind at church. Please be sure to check these two locations for any item you may have misplaced!

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Alex Bowers
Elizabeth Beatty
Davis Brown
Kelly Close

Chattanooga State
University of N. Georgia
Ole Miss
UTC

MEN'S CONFERENCE

The Men's Ministry Conference is at CPC on Friday, January 31, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, February 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will be no dinner Friday night but breakfast will be served Saturday morning around 8:30 a.m. Reverend Philip Caines, pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church, is speaking on *Tools of the Trade: Men and the Means of Grace*. The conference will be in Schum Fellowship Hall with a recommended cost of \$10.00 per person recommended but not required.

PCA WIC LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE

The Annual PCA WIC Leadership Training Conference will be held February 20-22, 2014 at the Holiday Inn and Suites, Atlanta Airport. This year's focus is *Leading with Truth*. If you are interested in attending or need more information, please go to the following website: <http://www.pcanet.org/womens-leadership-training-conference-announced-for-2014>.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The updated CPC Membership Directory is available in the lobby. If you are a regular attender and would like a directory, please call the church office (423.899.5377) or email cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org.

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, T. Schreiner, B. Higgins, M. Wilson, and M. Fingerle. Please contact Brian Lehmann (deacon in charge) to let him know you can help.

A PRAYING LIFE SEMINAR

A Praying Life Seminar with Paul Miller will be in Chattanooga February 7-8, 2014, hosted by First Presbyterian Church. The cost is \$15.00 per person or \$25 per couple. The cost includes materials and continental breakfast. Childcare will be provided for infants through 5th grade. Please call the church office at (423) 267-1206 to reserve a space for childcare. Go to SeeJesus.net for information and registration.

PRISON MENTOR MINISTRY TRAINING

The next Prison Mentor Ministry Training to serve at Walker State Prison in nearby Rock Spring, GA (the first and only Faith and Character Based Prison in Georgia) will be here at CPC on February 15. The orientation and training session are for adult men from our area churches and will take place Saturday, February 15, 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. For details, contact Alan Bonderud (423-903-3700 or arbondrud@gmail.com) or Eric Mullinax (423-899-5377 or emullinax@covenantchattanooga.org.)

BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

The February birthday and anniversary calendar is now available at the Welcome Center.