



The eNewsletter

April 24, 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...

- April 25**
Taters and Tubesteaks
- April 26**
Mission Yard Sale
- April 27**
Morning Worship Service
Sunday School
Shepherding Groups Meet
HS Junior/Senior Study
of WCF
MS D-Groups
HS SNL
- April 30**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- May 3**
WM Ladies Tea
- May 4**
Morning Worship Service
Sunday School
MS D-Groups
HS SNL
- May 6**
Election Day
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
WM Council
- May 7**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- May 10**
Men's Breakfast
Prison Mentor Ministry
Training for Women
- May 11**
Mother's Day
Morning Worship Service
Sunday School
- May 12**
Ladies' Evening Bible Study
- May 14**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- May 15**
Memorial Hospital Lunch
Ministry

Linda and I are not directly related to Ed and Kay Brown, but we do have a tender bond. We are grandparents of grandsons born in Uganda and adopted by our children, who live on Lookout Mountain and are members of PCA churches. Both grandsons were given biblical names by the orphanage where they once lived. Their grandson is Daniel and ours is Peter. Daniel and Peter, just prior to their adoptions, lived together for a few weeks in the same foster home in Kampala.

The adoption of Peter took longer than nine months. Our son, David, and his wife, Mary (Smartt), began the adoption proceedings in December of 2012. They traveled to Uganda last December to take the initial legal steps. Mary spent the month of March alone in Uganda walking through all the final steps to gain custody of Peter. Three weeks ago Peter and Mary arrived "home," greeted by a large contingent of family and friends. It was a wonderful, memorable moment in the family histories of the Caineses and Smartts.

David and Mary have wisely allowed Peter time to get adjusted to his new home and siblings. Last Friday, Linda, her mother, my mother and I visited Peter in his new home. Peter's siblings—Miles, Eleanor, Townes and Louisa—proudly gathered around to lovingly support their brother as he met Grandma and Grandpa, Granny and "J" (Linda's mother).

Understandably, Peter shyly clung to his mother. It took a while for him to become comfortable with all these strange people "invading" his home. (Just wait till he meets his eighteen cousins!)

After David showed me some of the changes they had made in sleeping arrangements, I wandered over to their piano and began to play a little "rag-time" piece that I had learned more than fifty years ago. Peter came into the room to see what all the "noise" was about.

He was fascinated by this big black box that could produce music (of a sort). So I asked him if he wanted to sit on grandpa's lap. He willingly jumped into my arms. I began to play with one hand a series of chords over and over again. I even tried a few hymns, but what Peter enjoyed the most, was stand-

ing beside me as I played (with two hands) some "rag-time."

I hope I never forget his smile at that moment. After I played the same piece several times, he leaned backward toward me and allowed me to kiss him.

In love David and Mary have adopted this little one. What his life was like for the first eighteen months, I don't want to know, but I give thanks to our Lord that Peter is now their son.

If I may be so bold, now he is my grandson. He didn't know me, he wasn't sure about this guy with bulging eyes, but the lure of music brought him to the place that he willingly lifted his face to mine and received a kiss from me.

I know that kiss. The Lord played for me the sweet melody of His Gospel, drew me to Himself and prompted me to turn my face toward Him and be kissed as a son by my Father. For in love He predestined me to be adopted as His child (Ephesians 1.4-5).

As I've told you many times: good theology leads to good thinking which leads to good living. In that light, allow me to paraphrase for you the 12th chapter of our Confession of Faith:

By grace through faith in Jesus we are partakers of the grace of adoption...and enjoy the liberties and privileges of the children of God. We are given His Name and the right to call Him, Father. As our Father, He is tender toward us, protects us, provides for us, and disciplines us. He promises to love us always and declares us His heirs both now and forever.

Peter is David and Mary's adopted son. That's wonderful, but even more amazing is the biblical truth that we are now the adopted children of God.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule April 27

Worship

Infants

Amy & Meg Wooten

Creepers

Carla Stevenson
& Lisa Hobbs

Toddlers

Eric & Lucy Mantel

Floater

Tavis Brown

Sunday School

Infants

Diane Lazor
& Vangie Wykoff

Creepers

Eunice Martin
& Britt Collier

Toddlers

Jean Mauroner
& Patty Liner

April Coordinator:

Boo Mullinax

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

- April 30 Taco Salad
- May 7 Grilled Chicken
Fettuccini
- May 14 Cowboy Casserole
- May 21 Hot Dogs

TATERS AND TUBESTEAKS

Join us for a night out with the family tomorrow, April 25. The tubesteak dinner begins at 5:45 p.m. in Coolidge Park. Stay for the Lookouts game at AT&T Park at 7:15 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person or \$15 max per family - the best entertainment value in town! Please sign up at the welcome center or email/call the church office.

REYNOSA YARD SALE

A huge yard sale to raise funds for the mission trip to Reynosa, Mexico in June is this Saturday, April 26, at Covenant Presbyterian Church. Please keep this in mind as you do your spring cleaning. Be thinking of items you may have that you could donate to this effort. We are especially looking for tools, exercise equipment, baby clothes & baby items, sports equipment and furniture-no adult clothing please. Bring your items to the church and place them in the Perseverers Classroom. Contact Boo Mullinax to make arrangements for transportation of larger items.

YOUTH

THE EDGE:

All deposits for *The Edge* conference are due this Sunday, April 27. Please contact Chris Gregory or Sam Hobbs for more information.

CAR WASH FUNDRAISER:

The youth are hosting a car wash Saturday, May 17, at the Cornerstone Bank on Gunbarrel Road. The car wash starts at 12:30 p.m. All money received helps pay for summer trips. Those teens wishing to participate in this fundraiser need to pick up a pledge sheet from outside Chris Gregory's office and start getting donations. The car wash itself is free. Please plan to help our youth by getting your car washed!

RENT-A-YOUTH:

Do you need help around the house? Do you have yard work that needs to be done, or are you in need of a babysitter? Our youth are kicking off the *Rent-A-Youth* Fundraiser. This event helps our students raise money for upcoming summer mission trips or summer camps. 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? Email Christine Morrison at rpghatt@comcast.net.

MUSIC CAMP JUNE 23-27

Music Camp 2014 is right around the corner! Kids from Kindergarten through entering the 6th grade are invited to come and join us for a week of music, drama, crafts, Bible and all-out fun! Registration begins this week on our church website (something new) where you can fill out, submit and pay for your child's registration. Cost for the week-long camp is \$25. See Jeremy Gaines for more details.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Remember our college students in your prayers. Many of them are finishing their spring semester and are preparing for exams and planning their summer activities.

LADIES TEA

You are invited to CPC's Annual Ladies Tea on Saturday, May 3, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost for an adult is \$7 and children under 12 are \$3. A nursery for those 5 and under is available for those who sign up. Registration forms are available at the Women's Ministry table in the lobby. Please register by this Sunday, April 27. If you have questions, please contact Catherine Coffey or Joan Denkinger.

CHANGES/CORRECTIONS TO THE DIRECTORY

Please be sure to make the following changes in your [CPC Church Directory](#):

- Ernie Brown..... 423.718.6982
- Lynda Brown..... 423.883.3499
- Ann & Winston McCarty..... anwmccarty@epbfi.com
- Diana Perrel..... dianaperrel@gmail.com

Temporary Address while at Boot Camp:

Ben Black
RCT. Black, Benjamin R.
Platoon 2040, 2nd BN E CO
P.O. Box 16255
Parris Island, SC 29905-6255

PRISON MENTOR MINISTRY TRAINING FOR WOMEN

The next training for women in our area churches to participate in the Prison Mentor Ministry at The Next Door is Saturday morning, May 10, at CPC. The Next Door is a pre-release facility near Moccasin Bend run by the State of Tennessee.

For details contact Alan Bonderud at 423-903-3700 or arbondrud@gmail.com.

PRISON MENTOR MINISTRY TRAINING FOR MEN

The next training for men in our area churches to participate in the Prison Mentor Ministry at Walker State prison is Saturday morning, May 17, at CPC. Walker State Prison in Rock Spring, GA is the only faith and character based prison in Georgia.

For details contact Alan Bonderud at 423-903-3700 or arbondrud@gmail.com.

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 May: J. Gaines, M. Griggs, T. Lowe, E. Mullinax and T. Wright. Please contact Steve Leach (deacon in charge) to let him know you can help.