



The eNewsletter

July 17, 2014

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

Looking Ahead...

July 20

Membership Sunday
Morning Worship Service
Sunday School
Teresa Snow –Young Marrieds
Duble Shower
Summer Youth Fellowship

July 21

WM Night Owl Bible Study
Men's Genesis Bible Study

July 22

Youth Six Flags Trip
WM Philippians Study

July 23

Youth Bible Study
Praise Team Practice
Mission: Chattanooga

July 24

Swim Day

July 25

Taters and Tubesteaks II

July 27

Morning Worship Service
Sunday School
Shepherding Groups Meet
Summer Youth Fellowship

July 28

WM Evening Bible Study
Men's Genesis Bible Study

July 29

WM Philippians Study

July 30

Youth Bible Study
Praise Team Practice
Mission: Chattanooga

July 31

Swim Day

August 2

Men's Breakfast

August 3

Morning Worship Service
Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School

August 4

WM Night Owl Bible Study
Men's Genesis Bible Study

August 5

WM Council
WM Philippians Bible Study

Life is a risk. John Piper refers to “the enchantment of security” as a potent myth. The truth is that risk is a reality for all of us—whether living obediently or otherwise—because we don’t know how things will turn out. Our plans for the future always carry the risk of being shattered by countless unknowns. Our declarations of love always carry with it the risk of dismissal. And for the Christian, though risk might be associated with disobedience, who vows to follow after God, with them carries the risk of *obedience*.

In Joshua, which recounts the battles Israel fought after crossing the Jordan, “possession” and “promise” are key words in this notion of risk. The people of Israel were commanded by God to go and take possession of the land God had promised them, to seize what had been given. There is a distinction between the promise itself and the *possessing* of that promise. The land was not just given to them; they were called to fight and lay hold of what was promised. To take possession of the Promised Land required risk, and yet God declared that it *was indeed* given to them. He declares through Joshua, “I gave them [your enemies] into your hands.... It was not by your sword or by your bow” (Joshua 24.11b, 12b).

In pursuit of God’s promise, the Israelites had to proceed courageously; many grew weary and some may have given their lives. The risk was genuine. Each obstacle that blocked the Israelites’ ability to possess what God promised was an illustration that God was among them. Though the risk was certain, over each trial they faced, God declared the promise of risk and the assurance of His presence.

Thankfully, our relationship with God does not hold risks the same way that

our relationships with others pose risks. The risk is not with God; it is with you and me. When the covenant was made with Israel that they would be God’s people and God would be their God, it was not God’s ability to keep the covenant that worried anyone. Standing on the Promised Land in the excitement of victory and the confidence of possession, the Israelites declared that they would faithfully serve and follow God. However, Joshua responded flatly, “You are not able to serve the LORD!” (Joshua 24.19). Our promises to God certainly carry the risk that they will be broken. As the Israelites encountered combat and conflict, risking much in obedience to the LORD, they were repeatedly reminded that the greatest of all possessions is the promise of God Himself. God not only kept His vow but acted on their behalf knowing that they could not.

There is a risk to following God, a risk to *obedience*. As God declared to Joshua, it was declared again by His Son, “I will never leave you or forsake you” (Joshua 1.5b). The Christian is invited to seize God’s promises knowing that he won’t know the outcome of his days, but that God Himself is more certain than anything else. In risk and in uncertainty and disappointment we are assured and instructed by the same words given to Joshua. As he weighed the risk involved in seizing God’s promise, Joshua was told: “Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened; and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1.9). God asks us to boldly follow and then carries us through the risk.

~ Pastor Mullinax



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule July 20

Worship

Infants

Amy & Meg Wooten
& Esther McEachern

Creepers

Heather & Grace Morrison
& Carla Stevenson

Toddlers

Catherine & Grace Pippin

Floater

Maggie Middleton

Sunday School

Infants

Jim & Connie Hildebrand

Creepers

Sarah & Maggie Wade

Toddlers

Jean Mauroner
& Patty Liner

July Coordinator:

Crystal Middleton

SHOWERS

A bridal shower in honor of Jessica Duble, bride-elect of Grant Yentzer, is this Sunday, July 20, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Jessica is registered at Target, Pottery Barn and Bed, Bath & Beyond.

TATERS AND TUBE STEAKS II

Join us for a night out with the family on Friday, July 25. The hot dog 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 per family - the best entertainment value in town! Please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact the church office.

RENT-A-YOUTH

This program helps our students raise the needed funds to attend youth activities. The youth need to raise money throughout the year, so many jobs are needed. To *Rent-a-Youth*, use the request forms at the Welcome Center. If you have questions or a request, email Christine Morrison at rpgchatt@comcast.net.

WE NEED YOU!

It's time to put those baptismal vows into action! There are immediate needs for the Covenant Corps program beginning Wednesday nights this fall. If you are willing to volunteer, please [email](#) Holly Lehmann soon as she is planning for the fall.

Specific needs for the Covenant Corps program on Wednesday nights include:

- ⇒ Helpers in 3-year-old class
- ⇒ Teachers and helpers in 4-year-old class
- ⇒ Teachers/helpers in Kindergarten class
- ⇒ Helpers in combined 1st-2nd grade class

MISSION KIDZ CLUB

Wondering what your school-aged child can do during Mission: Chattanooga? Mission Kidz Club is available for children aged 4-12 and meets in the Perseverers Classroom. The kids have fun learning about our missionaries and other cultures through games, crafts and other activities.

VISITING MISSIONARY

Teresa Snow with Campus Crusade for Christ in Austin, Texas, is the guest speaker in the Young Marrieds Sunday School class this upcoming Sunday.

SWIM DAY

Swim days at the Mays' pool are Thursdays throughout the summer from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. This invitation is open to anyone at CPC. Parents, please remember that you are personally responsible for the supervision of your children and for cleanup.

MISSION: CHATTANOOGA

This summer at CPC, Mission: Chattanooga meets each Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. A nursery is provided for children 3 and under for those participating in Mission: Chattanooga.

On Campus activities: Mission Kidz, Cooking with a Purpose (meets July 23, August 6 & 20), Missions Support (stamp ministry and letter writing), general grounds keeping and prayer group.

Off Campus: Weekly Visitation (at local nursing homes, assisted living facilities, with our shut-ins), Amani Ya Juu Warehouse renovation and other construction/renovations projects as needed.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Six Flags Trip - Tuesday, July 22, all youth and parents are invited to visit Six Flags together. We depart from CPC at 8:30 a.m. returning at 9:00 p.m. Cost for admission is \$25 per person which is due Sunday, July 20. This does not cover the cost of meals or spending money.

Going Deeper - An in-depth Bible study is available in the CPC Youth Suite from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays during July. This Bible study is geared for students intent on growing spiritually.

Youth Summer Fellowship - Each Sunday in July from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. the youth are invited to participate in fun games and activities sponsored by CYAM. This is a great time to build and maintain relationships through activities!

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following changes in your CPC Membership Directories:

Kent & Michelle Brown

Kent-423.605.0653

Michelle-423.605.5774

No landline

Tracy & Amy Wright

Tracy-twright.rms@catoosa.k12.ga.us

Amy-acw1217@gmail.com