



The eNewsletter

September 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 Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

September 21

Morning Worship Service
Membership Sunday
Congregational Meeting
TVP Choir Rehearsal
TVP Combined Worship

September 22

Ladies' Evening Bible Study

September 24

Blood Drive
Wednesday Night Supper
Children's Choir
Sanctuary Choir Practice
Wednesday Night Activities

September 25

Ladies' Bible Study

September 26

Marriage & Family Conference

September 27

Marriage & Family Conference

September 28

Morning Worship Service
Sunday School
Shepherding Groups Meet
Coffey Baby Shower
HS SNL

October 1

Wednesday Night Supper
Children's Choir
Sanctuary Choir Practice
Wednesday Night Activities

October 2

Ladies' Bible Study

October 4

Men's Breakfast

October 5

Morning Worship Service
Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School
HS SNL

October 6

Ladies' Evening Bible Study

October 7

Mothers' Encouragement
Group
WM Council

We're expanding our back deck. Or, I should say, Jason, Jimmy and Andrew are enlarging our deck.

Fifteen years ago our youngest son, David (then nineteen), decided we needed a new deck. Furthermore, he announced he would build it. I asked him, "How can you do that?" He answered with confidence, "How hard can it be?" I replied, "For me, it would be impossible."

And, build he did. Of course, I helped - mainly by staying out of the way. Jason, and David's friend, Josh Cook, also gave of their time and strength to construct the deck that we've enjoyed for these many years. John Burk, a friend and contractor, shared his expertise.

Now, having received a gift to finance this project, our deck is being improved, enlarged and screened.

We couldn't have done this by ourselves. We couldn't afford it, and we don't have the necessary aptitude or skills. Which is somewhat strange, since my father built the three houses I lived in as a boy. Even then, I couldn't drive a nail straight. The only way I could help was as a "go-fer."

This past Sunday we focused on the remnant of Jews permitted by Cyrus of Persia to return to their homeland for the expressed purpose of rebuilding the Temple. When the Tabernacle was constructed in the wilderness, God instructed Moses to place two men, Bezalel and Oholiab, in charge. In Exodus 31.3-5, we're told that the Lord had filled them with His Spirit, giving them the ability, intelligence, knowledge and craftsmanship to do the work.

We're not given the names of particular individuals so gifted to oversee the rebuilding of the Temple in post-exilic Jerusalem, but, clearly, there were such gifted craftsmen. And, I'm confident there were people like me to serve as "go-fers."

As we talked about last Sunday, Jesus came as the final and perfect Temple, and by grace through faith in Him we are now the living stones (1 Peter 2.4-5) the Lord is using to expand and enlarge His spiritual Temple.

He "financed" the cost of construction at the price of His shed blood. And to each of us He now gives various talents that, by His Spirit, become spiritual gifts so that, by His strength, we might do those good works He has prepared in advance for us to do.

Scripture teaches that we all are gifted. We're not all given the same gifts. But whatever our talent may be, the Lord is working in and thru us to expand and enlarge His Temple.

We now serve as a visible representation of His presence in the midst of this sin-darkened world. As enabled, equipped and empowered by Him, our character, our actions and our words are to serve as His Light to those around us. Like both the Tabernacle and Solomon's Temple, we are to blaze with His glory, that others might see our good works (Matthew 5.16) and be drawn to Him, our Savior, Lord and King.

That's who you are, the Temple of the Lord. What higher calling could anyone ask in this world?

We'll enjoy the gift of our new deck. May it always remind us of the glorious privilege and responsibility that are ours, to do the work to which the Lord called us - to be used by Him to expand and enlarge His Temple until that day comes when every knee bows and every tongue confesses that Jesus is Lord.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule September 21

Worship

Infants

Kay Gaither & Susan Helton

Creepers

Heather & Grace Morrison
& Carla Stevenson

Toddlers

Josh & Renee Ray

Floater

Matthew Beatty

Sunday School

Infants

Debby Gardner
& Britt Collier

Creepers

Julia Gracy
& Rebekah Gernhard

Toddlers

Larken & Alayna Baker
& Sarah Moore

September Coordinator:

Mindy Horton

THANK YOU

We want to express our heartfelt thanks for your love and encouragement which made our 50th Anniversary Celebration a very memorable occasion.

Lewis & Anna Reid

BABY SHOWER

A baby shower in honor of Catherine Coffey is Sunday, September 28, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Catherine is registered at Babies "R" Us.

BETHANY CHRISTIAN "CHURCH TEAM" 5K AND FUN RUN

Bethany Christian Services is having their 2nd Annual 5K and Fun Run on Saturday, September 20, at Enterprise South Nature Park. This event benefits pre-adoption education, post adoption counseling and support for adoptive children and families. Bethany invites us to involve our whole congregation by bringing a "team" to compete for the "Fastest Church in Town" award! The race will be "chip timed". Each participant's time will be added together and a time average for your congregation will determine the winner. The more runners, the better your average! Registration is at 8:00 a.m. and the 5K Run/Walk begins at 8:45 a.m. The Family 1K Run/Walk begins at 10:15 a.m. For more information or early registration, please visit www.bethany.org/chatt5K.

COMBINED CHOIR FOR TVP COMBINED WORSHIP

Join with choirs from Covenant College and several churches in Chattanooga to form a mass choir for the special Worship Service. Selections include *O God Beyond All Praising*, arranged by Dan Forrest and *Gather at the River* by Susan LaBarr. The choir rehearses on Sunday, September 21, at 4:45 p.m. to help lead worship during the service.

TVP COMBINED WORSHIP

Sunday evening, September 21, at 6:00 p.m. the churches of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery are meeting together at CPC for a time of worship. The service features Arch Bishop Orombi of Uganda. The offering given during this evening's service is designated to help offset expenses of the Host Committee of the 2015 General Assembly, to be held in Chattanooga in June. Please plan to arrive early for worship, as we are expecting a large number of people to attend, and the sanctuary will fill up quickly.

BLOODMOBILE

We need your blood! CPC will host Blood Assurance's bloodmobile at the church on Wednesday, September 24. Appointment times are every 15 minutes beginning at 3:30 p.m. The last appointment is at 8:30 p.m. All donors will receive an *IBLEED* t-shirt of several college teams. Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. To schedule an appointment, call the church office or sign up at the Welcome Center.

CHICKS 'N CHOCOLATE

There is no Chicks 'n Chocolate for the month of September. Be on the look out for more information about October's activity.

SHOES NEEDED

Men's large shoes and socks, size 11 and up, are currently needed for the homeless (through an organization we work with). Please put donations in the box outside of Mark Wilson's office.

MARRIAGE SEMINAR

Need to strengthen your marriage? Seeking encouragement in your marriage? If so, you don't want to miss *Called to Marriage*, with Dr. Kelly Kapic and his wife, Tabitha, as the speakers. Held in Schum Fellowship Hall, the seminar begins Friday, September 26, at 7:00 p.m. with light desserts, and picks back up Saturday, September 27, at 9:00 a.m. with a light breakfast. Childcare is provided for children, 5th grade and under, by registration only, by September 21. There is no cost for the event, but there will be an opportunity for donations. Look for a registration table in the lobby for the next three Sundays. Contact Pastor Mullinax or Heather Harris for additional information.

HANDBELL ENSEMBLE

The CPC Handbell Ensemble is beginning preparations for Christmas starting Sunday, September 28, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This ensemble will rehearse monthly for longer periods in order to help accommodate those who are unable to commit to a weekly rehearsal. Please let Jeremy know if you are interested.

YES ON 1 RALLY

We have the chance to reverse the Tennessee Supreme court decision on abortion on November 4. Amendment 1 would, once again, allow common-sense abortion regulations to protect women and children, including informed consent, a 24-hour waiting period and more. Morris Hill Baptist is hosting a Yes on 1 rally on Sunday, October 5, at 6:00 p.m. David Fowler, president of the Family Action Council of Tennessee and a former state Senator, will be the main speaker, sharing the legal issues and a Biblical perspective. We encourage you to attend this important event.

WEDNESDAY SUPPER

Wednesday Night Suppers 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, and the maximum family donation is \$15.

For the month of September, the following shepherding groups have clean-up duty: K. Henry, E. Brown, J. Wykoff, J. Hildebrand and A. Sanders. Please contact your shepherding elder to let him know when you are able to help.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

- September 24 Breakfast
- October 1 Taco Salad
- October 8 Chicken Tetrizzini
- October 15 Swedish Meatballs
- October 22 Chili
- October 29 Reformation Celebration
- November 5 Chicken & Rice