



The eNewsletter

October 16, 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...

October 19

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Church Picnic

October 20

Ladies' Night Owl Bible Study

October 21

Mothers' Encouragement
Group

October 22

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

October 23

No Ladies' Bible Study

October 24

Youth Fall Retreat

October 25

Youth Fall Retreat

October 26

Youth Fall Retreat
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Children's Teacher Training
Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal
Shepherding Groups Meet

October 27

Ladies' Evening Bible Study

October 29

Reformation Celebration
Sanctuary Choir Practice

October 30

Ladies' Bible Study

November 1

Men's Breakfast
Turn Clocks Back Before Bed

November 2

Daylight Savings Time Ends
Lord's Supper Celebrated
HS SNL

November 3

Ladies' Night Owl Bible Study

Zephaniah didn't know your name, but if by grace thru faith you have embraced Jesus as Savior, Lord and King, he spoke about you.

For thirty-one years, just prior to the Babylonians conquest of Judah, good King Josiah reigned as king. In 2 Kings 23.25, Josiah is described as a man who loved the Lord with all his heart, soul and strength.

During his reign, Judah experienced a period of revival (2 Kings 22-23). The Temple was repaired, Judah's covenant with the Lord renewed and the celebration of Passover once more observed.

But, like many a "revival" in our day, for many, this apparent return to the Lord was only skin deep.

During these days, the word of the Lord was spoken through Zephaniah. In a condensed form, Zephaniah's writings parallel the much longer books of Isaiah, Ezekiel and Jeremiah. Zephaniah speaks words of judgment against Jerusalem, against the nations, and then ends with words of assured hope.

Despite the "revival," the Lord speaks of punishing the men of Jerusalem because of their complacency, evidenced by their inward conclusion that the Lord will do them neither good nor ill (Zephaniah 1.12).

At the same time, the Lord speaks of His judgment against the surrounding nations because they have "taunted and boasted against the people of the Lord of host" (Zephaniah 2.10).

The Lord also acknowledges there are true believers in Judah. He calls upon the humble who keep His commands, to seek the Lord, to seek righteousness, to seek humility (Zephaniah 2.3), so that they might be delivered from the day of the Lord's judgment.

But then, in the closing verse of chapter three, Zephaniah foretells how "at that time" the peoples of the nations will come to "call upon the name of the Lord and to serve Him with one accord." They will be

a people who do justice and who speak the truth.

And, how will this come to be? Because the Lord has delivered the true believers of Jerusalem from judgment. He has saved the lame and the outcast. He has changed their shame into praise. He has restored their fortune.

Zephaniah foresaw our day. The Lord incarnate has restored you. He has taken away your shame. He has saved you, despite your lameness and your status of being outcast.

He has died, risen, ascended, now reigns, and is coming again. Stunningly, in and through you and your brothers and sisters, He has spread throughout all the nations of the world the good news, so that now, peoples from all nations, tribes and tongues call upon the name of the Lord, striving in His strength to serve Him.

And to you, He speaks these words (Zephaniah 3.17): "The Lord God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing."

Meditate on those words. And, this coming Sunday morning, as you sing praises to Him, remember that, in turn, the Lord is singing with a loud voice over you. For you are His. He is yours.

And therefore, the Lord calls to you, "Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!" (Zephaniah 3.14).

The Lord loves you. Always has. Always will. And therefore, nothing present nor things to come can separate you from the love of your Father (Romans 8.38-39), for the Son had died that you might live, and by the Spirit you have become a part of the family of God.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule October 19

Worship

Infants

Esther McEachern
& Gretchen Brown

Creepers

Charity & Jenny Armao

Toddlers

Gerald & Donna Schreiner

Floater

Maggie Middleton

Sunday School

Infants

Alayne Griffin
& Peg May

Creepers

Heather & Grace Morrison
& Vangie Wykoff

Toddlers

Luther & Shirley Allin

October Coordinator:

Teri Akovenko

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

October 22	Chili
October 29	Reformation Celebration
November 5	Chicken & Rice

CLOTHES SWAP TONIGHT!

It's time to clean out your closets again! Bring items you do not wear, like or that do not fit and swap them for something you can use. There are usually men's, women's, kid's, infant's and maternity clothes, with the occasional household item thrown in. Even if you don't have anything to bring, come "shop". The Clothes Swap is at CPC today, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Wade at 706.937.5951.

CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual All-Church Family Picnic returns to Camp Dixie, on the shores of Chickamauga Lake, this Sunday, October 19, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Join us for a great day of food, fellowship and fun! There are activities for everyone...or just rock on the veranda. Bring your own picnic basket (BYOPB). Drinks, ice, paper goods, dessert, ice cream and sundae fixin's are available throughout the day. Hope to see all of you there!!

Directions to Camp Dixie (2421 Buffalo Lane, Soddy-Daisy, TN): Camp Dixie is located 21.4 miles from the church. Head north on 153 for 8.2 miles and exit onto Hixson Pike. Go 8.9 miles and turn right on Dallas Place Road. After .1 mile, turn right on Old Hixson Pike and go .4 mile. Turn left on Schooner Circle, continuing on Buffalo Lane. Turn left into Camp Dixie.

REFORMATION CELEBRATION

On Wednesday evening, October 29, we'll celebrate our Reformation heritage here on the church grounds with food and lots of fun-filled, informative activities, including: Tyndale's Treats (hotdog supper, "dirt cake" and chili), Bunyan Bounce House, Tetzels Toss, Calvin's Catapult, The Diet of Worms, Pin the Theses and Reformation Rings...just to name a few! Costumes are optional. Be on the lookout for the funny-looking fat friar.

NURSERY EXPANSION PROJECT

Please continue to pray about our Nursery Expansion Project. We hope to have the pledge cards turned in by the end of this month (Friday, October 31). If you would like to make a donation in someone's honor or memory, please note that on your pledge card, whether it is a one-time gift or a pledge over time. We will publish a list of those who are being honored and by whom. There is a box for pledge cards in the church lobby. You may mail your gift/pledge to the church office to the attention of Carol Beatty or email your pledge to cpcbookkeeping@covenantchattanooga.org. Thank you for praying with us about this project.

BUDGET REPORT

Through October 12:	
Budget:	\$1,132,208
Actual:	\$943,143
Shortfalls:	\$189,065

YOUTH INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Parents, there is an informational meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 5, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fredrick Room. Please plan to attend.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following changes in your CPC Membership Directories:

Jason Brown

Email.....jtbtspeedsquare@gmail.com

MISSIONS CONFERENCE

CPC's 20th Annual Missions Conference is November 12-16. This year's theme is *A Heart to Change the World*. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Richard Pratt, founder of Third Millennium Ministries. Beginning with a pot-providence dinner on November 12, there are activities for the entire family. Plan now to attend.

THANKSGIVING POUNDING

It's time to start thinking about this year's Thanksgiving Pounding. If you know someone in need, or if you yourself could use a hand this year, please contact the church office or an elder.

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 last two weeks of October, the following shepherding groups have clean-up duty: J. Gaines, M. Griggs, E. Mullinax, T. Lowe and T. Wright. Please contact your shepherding elder to let him know when you are able to help.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) collects shoe boxes filled with small gifts to deliver to needy children around the world at Christmas time. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share the love of Jesus. Stickers are available to place on the boxes marking age and gender of the child. You can participate several ways:

- * **Fill a shoe box** for a specific gender/age child (2 to 4, 5 to 9, 10 to 14). OCC requests the use of Walmart or Dollar store's plastic boxes which are shoe box sized as they are more durable. If you are able to write a note to include in your box, it would be a great blessing to that child as they have been known to prize things like letters and pictures well into adulthood. Collection point is the Ladies Sunday School classroom across from the coke machine.
 - * **Donate** - empty shoe boxes or items for shoe boxes. Sample items: soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloths, small toys, combs, socks, school supplies, hard candy (no chocolate since it melts), etc.
 - * **Donate money** - OCC requests \$7 for shipping per box. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse, and put OCC on the memo line. Drop it in the offering plate no later than November 17.
 - * **Wrap and stuff boxes** on Saturday, November 22, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Sunday School classroom.
- November 22 is the deadline for boxes and items.*