



The eNewsletter

November 13, 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...

November 14

Missions Conference
Shepherding Groups

November 15

Missions Conference
Shepherding Groups

November 16

Missions Conference
Martof Bridal Shower

November 17

Ladies' Night Owl Bible Study

November 18

Mothers' Encouragement
Group

November 19

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

November 20

Ladies' Bible Study
Memorial Hospital Lunch

November 21

Chicks 'n Chocolate

November 22

Youth Service Project
Operation Christmas Child
Box Packing Party

November 23

Morning Worship
Sunday School
HS SNL

November 24

Ladies' Evening Bible Study

November 26

Thanksgiving Praise Service

November 27

Thanksgiving-Office Closed

November 28

Thanksgiving-Office Closed

November 30

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Shepherding Groups Meet

December 1

Ladies' Night Owl Bible Study

The hundred-yard dash, as far as I'm aware, is no longer run. Now it's a hundred meters, which is approximately 110 yards. But, in my day (some fifty years ago) I ran in many hundred-yard dashes.

One of the most important parts of a hundred-yard dash is the start. How the runner comes off the "blocks" makes a significant difference in where he finishes the race.

Mr. Richter was my track coach. He attempted to teach me how to set up my blocks, how to lean forward without losing my balance and how to pump my arms when the starting gun sounded. It made a difference of some two-tenths in my time, which is a lot when you're running a race of only a hundred yards.

Over and over again we'd get into our blocks, set our hands, lean forward and then pump with our arms when the gun went off. I loved running dashes, and I was able to consistently finish in one of the first three positions, which awarded my team with valuable points.

There were two reasons I frequently finished in one of the three top positions. The first was the speed with which God had blessed me. The second was my eagerness to listen to Mr. Richter and perfect, to the best of my ability, the skill of getting a good start.

The apostle Paul compares your life as a Christian to the running of a race (1 Corinthians 9.24-26; Philippians 3.12-14; 2 Timothy 4.7).

In Paul's day, the winner of a race received a gold-gilded wreath. In sharp contrast to these perishable wreaths, Paul teaches that you run to win an imperishable wreath. But that imperishable wreath is not awarded simply to those who finish first. It's awarded to all who finish the race.

That race in which you participate is the living of life. And, if you run the race for the glory of the Lord and for the good of others, to you will be awarded the imperishable wreath of the unimaginable and eternal blessings of your King.

You must run the race. But, you don't run it on your own.

It's the Holy Spirit Who gets you into the starting blocks. It's the Holy Spirit Who enables you to start the race, by unveiling your eyes to see "the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, Who is the image of God" (2 Corinthians 4.4). And, it's the Holy Spirit Who gives you the strength to run, not a hundred-yard dash, but the marathon of a life well-lived to the glory of God and for the blessing of others.

If, by grace through faith, Jesus is your Savior, Lord and King you will run. You may falter, you may grow weary, you may know times of discouragement and disappointment, but you will not only run the race, you will finish the course. And, by God's saving and enabling grace, you will hear your King say to you, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule November 16

Worship

Infants

Esther McEachern
& Judy Foster

Creepers

Lyndsey, Ellie
& Daisy Bowman

Toddlers

Jason & Bret Bowman

Floater

Luke Bowman

Sunday School

Infants

Jared & Sarah McCurry

Creepers

Cayce Weekly
& Amy Maclellan

Toddlers

Susan Mobley
& Craig Miller

November Coordinator:

Martha Krabbendam

BRIDAL SHOWER

A bridal shower in honor of Cara Martof, bride-elect of Luke Chandler, is Sunday, November 16, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Cara is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond.

MISSIONS CONFERENCE

CPC's 20th Annual Missions Conference is happening this week. This year's theme is *A Heart to Change the World*. A Missions Brunch, with Dr. Richard Pratt, is this Saturday, November 15, at 9:30 a.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Dr. Pratt, the founder of Third Millennium Ministries, is also the guest speaker during Sunday worship. Throughout the weekend, we'll hear of God's work in distant lands, from massive international cities to the remotest hamlets and how we can partner in the extension of His kingdom. We'll also hear of the Lord's work here in our land and among us.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL MINISTRY

Our Memorial Hospital Lunch Ministry is next Thursday, November 20. If you can contribute sandwiches, chips, snack cakes or fruit, please call or email the church office.

THANKSGIVING POUNDING

It's time again for our annual collection of nonperishable food items to share with those in need. Please bring your donations of canned goods and staples and place them in the box outside Mark Wilson's office by November 19. Monetary donations are always welcome, and are needed to purchase perishable items (turkey, ham, etc.) on the day of delivery, November 22. If you know someone in need or if you, yourself, could use a hand this year, please contact the church office or an elder.

YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT

All youth are invited to take part in a service project Saturday, November 22, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Youth girls are meeting at the church to bake cookies for our shut-ins and nursing home residents. They are leaving the church around 11:00 a.m. to visit some of the nursing homes and deliver the baked treats. Youth guys are doing yard work and raking leaves for some of our widows and shut-ins. Please bring a pair of gloves and a rake. For more information, contact Chris Gregory. Hope you all can join us!

GRATEFUL GOBBLER

People from all walks of life will gather together for the three-mile Grateful Gobbler Walk held on Thanksgiving Day at 8:00 a.m., beginning and ending at Coolidge Park. Proceeds from the event are distributed to groups such as the Chattanooga Area Food Bank and the Chattanooga Homeless Coalition to help the needy in our community. For more information or to register, visit www.gratefulgobbler.org.

BUDGET REPORT

Through November 9:	
Budget:	\$1,242,667
Actual:	\$1,046,293
Shortfalls:	\$196,374

ADVENT CALENDAR

The Advent Calendars for the families with children (through 5th grade) are available for pickup at the Welcome Center.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following changes in your CPC Membership Directories:

Jonathan Bradley

Phone.....423.967.0764

Nicole Lewin

Phone.....253.267.9279

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 (see Judy Foster). There are donation boxes for items in the Ladies' Sunday School Classes. Please drop your items by any time. Please pray for the precious children who will receive these boxes, that they will come to know the Lord as their Savior! **November 22 is the deadline for boxes and other items.**

OFFERING ENVELOPES

It's time to order *Offering Envelopes* for 2015. These envelopes may be used for regular giving or giving to the Nursery Expansion Fund Pledges. Please email cpcbookkeeping@covenantchattanooga.org and let Carol know if you want weekly, twice a week, monthly or quarterly envelopes. You may also pick up an order form at the Welcome Center. Orders are due to Carol by December 15.

30 DAYS OF PRAYER

Mission to the World (MTW), the PCA's foreign mission arm, has produced a *30 Days of Prayer for World Missions* calendar. This helpful prayer tool is available at the church's welcome center. Please commit to pray for our missionaries and ministries throughout the month of November. Particularly, pray for those in restricted-access countries where believers are often persecuted for their faith.

OFFICE CLOSED

The church office is closed the following days:
Thursday, November 27 - Thanksgiving
Friday, November 28 - Thanksgiving

CHICKS 'N CHOCOLATE

Women of CPC, please join us for the next Chicks 'n Chocolate event. Game Night is on Friday, November 21, at 7:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. For more information, please contact Joan Denkinger. Hope to see you there!

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 November, the following shepherding groups have clean-up duty: J. Harris, D. Hobbs, T. Smith and C. Wilkie. Please contact your shepherding elder to let him know when you are able to help.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

November 19 BBQ