



# The eNewsletter

February 5, 2015

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421  
423.899.5377 [www.covenantchattanooga.org](http://www.covenantchattanooga.org)

## *From the Pen of the Senior Pastor...*

### **Looking Ahead...**

#### **February 6**

Valentine's Dinner

#### **February 8**

Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Missions Committee Meeting  
Diaconate Meeting  
HS SNL

#### **February 9**

Ladies' Evening Bible Study

#### **February 10**

Ladies' Hebrews Bible Study

#### **February 11**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
Wednesday Night Activities

#### **February 12**

Ladies' Bible Study

#### **February 13**

Youth Free Babysitting

#### **February 15**

Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Miller Baby Shower  
Firth Baby Shower  
HS SNL

#### **February 17**

Mothers' Encouragement  
Group

#### **February 18**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Youth Parent Meeting  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
Wednesday Night Activities  
Session Meets

#### **February 19**

Ladies' Morning Bible Study  
Memorial Hospital Lunch  
Ministry

#### **February 22**

Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Shepherding Groups Meet

#### **February 24**

Ladies' Hebrews Bible Study

#### **February 25**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
Wednesday Night Activities

I've known the man since he was fifteen years old. He was a member of the youth group I led when I was the pastor of Bethel Presbyterian Church in Sparta, Illinois. (When you're the solo pastor of a small church, you wear many hats.)

I watched him mature in his faith and fall in love with a young lady who was one of our youth. I had the privilege of officiating at their wedding. And when, in 1980, I accepted a call to help plant a new church in Simpsonville, SC, Scott and Kim Parsons were awaiting the birth of their first child.

Scott worked as a coal miner. He pursued his college degree by taking night classes at a nearby university. He sensed the Lord calling him to be a pastor, attended Covenant Seminary in St. Louis, and upon graduation, pastored churches in Nebraska, Indiana and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Nine years ago, he and Kim and their quickly expanding family accepted a call to serve as pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church in Dalton. It was a delight to have him close by and a member of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery.

Early on during his pastorate, Scott recognized that Dalton had a large Hispanic community. In response, he set before the Session and church a vision for them to be a multi-cultural church, which both the Elders and the members of GPC eagerly embraced. As would be sadly expected, there were some who chose to remove their membership from GPC.

Over the past nine years, GPC has become multi-cultural. Many of their members are Hispanic, one of their assistant pastors is also Hispanic, and a second assistant pastor is an African-American.

You should also know that during this time, Scott and Kim have also adopted four children, one of whom is severely mentally challenged.

Their labors in Dalton have produced much fruit to the glory of God, but now, Scott is leaving GPC. He and Kim have accepted a call to move to Pitcairn, a suburb of Pittsburgh.

Scott will serve as the director of an organization whose goal is to minister to the poor of Pitcairn. At a greatly reduced salary, Scott and Kim are moving into a home in the midst of this community. Their goal is to show Christ to their neighbors through deeds of mercy and the presentation of the Gospel. Part of their efforts are, with the ministry's support, to purchase run-down houses and improve them so they can be sold to the poor of Pitcairn at an affordable price.

The path Scott and Kim believe the Lord would have them walk is not one I could walk. Knowing Scott and Kim, I am confident the Lord has given them the gifts to pursue this new chapter in their lives, and He will give them the strength, wisdom, and patience to glorify Him and prove a blessing to those around them.

I'd ask you to stop right now, as you're reading this week's eNewsletter, and join Linda and me in praying for them.

I've known Scott since he was fifteen. In many ways, I feel like a proud Papa. And, by the way, that child they were awaiting when I left Sparta in 1980 – his name is Wes, and he now serves as the Pastor of Youth and College-age students at GPC. So, the Parsons are leaving, but one Parson will remain in Dalton.

~Pastor Caines



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule February 8

#### Worship

##### Infants

Jeanie Ray & Reita Pierce

##### Creepers

Lyndsey, Ellie,  
& Daisy Bowman

##### Toddlers

Jason & Bret Bowman

##### Floater

Luke Bowman

### Sunday School

##### Infants

Jared & Sarah McCurry

##### Creepers

Amy Maclellan  
& Cayce Weekley

##### Toddlers

Susan Mobley & Craig Miller

### February Coordinator:

Amy Creamer

### BABY SHOWERS

A baby shower in honor of Rachel Miller is on Sunday, February 15, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Rachel is registered at Target and Amazon.

A baby shower in honor of Bethany Firth is on Sunday, February 15, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Bethany is registered at Babies R Us and Amazon.

### THANK YOU

I have searched for the words to say thank you, dear Covenant, for the many expressions of love and continued prayer. They are too many and too few. You have held us close, walked beside us, and are a source of comfort and strength. Thank you. ~Karen Fullam & Family

### YOUTH HAPPENINGS

February's Youth Service Project is coming up soon. They are offering free babysitting at the church on Friday, February 13, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more details, please contact Chris or Tracy.

### MARRIAGE RETREAT

This year's Marriage Retreat is Friday evening, April 17, through Sunday afternoon, April 19, at Oak Haven Resort in Sevierville, TN. Scotty and Darlene Smith are the guest speakers. The cost is \$190 per couple, and a deposit of \$50 is required to secure a registration. Registration ends on February 15. Registration forms are located in the lobby. Space is limited, so reserve your spot soon!

### FCA ROAD TO VICTORY BANQUET

This year's banquet is on Tuesday, February 17, at the Chattanooga Convention Center. Former Alabama and Seattle Seahawks running back, Shaun Alexander, is the featured speaker. For more information on this ministry fundraiser, please contact Jay Fowler at 423.309.4255.

### BUDGET REPORT

A copy of the approved budget for 2015 is available at the Welcome Center.

### MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a member of CPC, please contact the church office by phone or email to set up an appointment.

### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following changes in your CPC Membership Directories:

Aaron Miller

306 N. Salem Avenue, Sumter SC 29150

### TOY DRIVE

Covenant Corps is sponsoring their first ever Toy Drive! New and gently used toys of all sizes and shapes are needed by local ministries supported by CPC. Please have your children go through their toys and pick out some they would like to give to a needy child. They can bring their clean, unbroken toys to the "toy box" located at the end of the Children's Wing hallway. We are collecting toys through February 18. This is a great way to educate our children and open their eyes to the needs of people around them. For more details, please contact Holly Lehmann at [hlehmann@covenantchattanooga.org](mailto:hlehmann@covenantchattanooga.org).

### 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 February, the following shepherding groups have clean-up duty: D. Elwood, T. Horton, T. Schreiner, and M. Wilson. We will contact you weekly by email to see if you are available to help.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

February 11	Lasagna
February 18	Stromboli/Pizza
February 25	Chili
March 4	Chicken & Rice
March 11	Taco Salad
March 18	Spaghetti
March 25	Sloppy Joes
April 1	Holy Week - No Meal
April 8	Enchiladas
April 15	Meatloaf
April 22	Creamy Sausage Pasta (Heidie's Surprise)
April 29	Meatball Subs
May 6	Scalloped Potatoes & Ham
May 13	Grilled Chicken & Fettuccine Alfredo
May 20	Hot Dogs