



The eNewsletter

March 12, 2015

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 Associate Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

March 13

Pictorial Directory

March 14

Pictorial Directory

March 15

Morning Worship
Sunday School/Children's
Floor Open House
Pictorial Directory
Diaconate Meeting
Youth Talent Show

March 16

Pictorial Directory

March 17

Mothers' Encouragement
Group

March 18

Wednesday Night Supper
Youth Parent Meeting
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Session Meeting

March 19

Ladies' Bible Study
Memorial Hospital Lunch
Ministry

March 21

Ladies' Spring Seminar

March 22

Covenant College Sunday
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Mason/Makarova Bridal
Shower
Beatty Bridal Shower
HS SNL

March 24

Ladies' Hebrews Bible Study

March 25

Wednesday Night Supper
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday Night Activities

March 26

Ladies' Morning Bible Study

March 28

Church Work Day

March 29

Palm Sunday
Morning Worship
Sunday School
HS SNL
Shepherding Groups Meet

I read an opinion editorial piece recently where the author was pointing out that one of the great strengths of American society is the freedom of the individual. I'm sure there's much validity in such a statement, but, to me, one of the great dangers in our contemporary society is that the freedom of the individual has often led to sinful individualism, a lack of community, and an absence of commitment. There seems to be an overriding "right" in which individuals are exclusively committed to themselves. The net result can be seen in the fragmenting of families, communities, and the society of which we are all a part. Sadly, this trend is seen in many aspects of the church of Jesus Christ, too.

Now, I'm not saying there is not a legitimate and necessary aspect of individualism about our spiritual experience. However, what I'm hearing and witnessing more and more is that people today want "spirituality" (and they'll define that in countless ways), but not in the terms of the church of Jesus Christ, not in the terms of the *communion of the saints*.

It is the clear teaching of the Scriptures that one of the fundamental aspects of spiritual life is the communion of saints. We regularly and publicly declare that this is a fundamental truth we hold (cf. Apostles' Creed). May we never lose the richness and requirements of such a phrase because of our familiarity with it!

What are saints? Saints are those believers from all ages who are united to Christ (thus to one another) through saving faith in His atoning death.

What about communion? Perhaps a good way to speak of the word communion is by looking at another word(s)...koine. Koine Greek was the language of the era in which Jesus lived. It was common Greek, the language of the common people, the language of the marketplace. Koine means "common". Koininia, a word that comes from koine, has the meaning of communion, fellowship, partnership, and relationship. It has the root idea of sharing or having some things in common. So when we talk of the communion of the saints, what we're talking about is those people who have been called into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ, in some way sharing in fellowship, partnership, and relationship.

What do we share? Primarily, we share in the amazing graces, the very real suffering, the once and for all death, the powerful resurrection, and the yet to be revealed glory of Jesus Christ. This is the staggering vertical dimension of our being united to the Son. And, secondly (but, not unimportantly), we share in the love of our brothers and sisters in Christ. We participate in each other's gifts and graces. We are concerned for the mutual well-being of each member of the family of faith. This is the comforting and obligatory horizontal dimension of being united to the Son...and to all who belong to Him.

May God help Covenant Presbyterian Church - this community, this fellowship, this family - to not only confess, but demonstrate the **communion of the saints**.

~Pastor Mullinax



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule March 15

Worship

Infants

Esther McEachern
& Sandy Coffey

Creepers

Cathy & Katie Smith

Toddlers

Josh & Teri Akovenko

Floater

Ava Akovenko

Sunday School

Infants

Domekia & Ellie Gaines

Creepers

Emily Elwood
& Tammy Higgins

Toddlers

Jean Mauroner
& Patty Liner

March Coordinator:

Tammy Higgins

BRIDAL SHOWERS

A bridal shower in honor of Kristina Makarova, bride-elect of Matt Mason, is on Sunday, March 22, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Kristina is registered at Amazon and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

A bridal shower in honor of Elizabeth Beatty, bride-elect of Jesse Estes, is on Sunday, March 22, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Elizabeth is registered at Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

CHILDREN'S FLOOR OPEN HOUSE

The Children's Ministry cordially invites everyone to an Open House this Sunday, March 15, during the Sunday School hour. Come see the newly renovated classrooms, along with the beautiful, new Covenantal art gallery, and enjoy some refreshments while you're there. We look forward to seeing all of you.

YOUTH TALENT SHOW

All youth and parents are invited to attend our 2nd Annual Youth Talent Show this Sunday, March 15, at 6:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!

EASTER LILIES

If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter, while honoring or remembering a friend or loved one, you may order an Easter lily for \$15. Order forms are available in the Lobby and need to be turned in to Carol by Monday, March 16. You may pick up your lily following the Easter service.

ADDITIONAL PHOTO APPOINTMENTS

If anyone still needs to book an appointment for church directory photos, two additional days have been added. Appointments are available this Sunday, March 15, from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Monday, March 16, from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. To sign up for either day, please call 1.877.896.9667, ext. 325.

CALVIN AND HOBBS

Beginning Sunday, March 22, the Calvin and Hobbs class is beginning a study on prayer, using the new book by Tim Keller, *Prayer*, as a guide. If you are not currently participating in a Sunday School class, this is a great way to get back into the swing. Come and join us!

INTENTIONAL SERVANTHOOD

The Ladies' Spring Seminar is coming up next Saturday, March 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The focus of the seminar is *Intentional Servanthood: Cultivating the Best of Mary and Martha*. Karin Carpenter of Westminster PCA in Dayton, TN is the featured speaker. Cost is only \$6, and lunch and childcare are provided. Sign-up at the Women's Table in the lobby. For more information, please contact Teri Akovenko at 704.340.2753 or Susan Mobley at 423.285.0143.

EGG HUNT CANDY NEEDED

The CPC Youth Group is hosting their annual Resurrection Egg Hunt and Breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, April 4, at 8:30 a.m. The youth are collecting bags of individually wrapped Easter candy to help defray the cost of hosting the event. A collection box is located outside Mark Wilson's office for your donations. All proceeds from the event go toward helping the youth participate in summer camp or a summer mission trip.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Extra nursery volunteers are needed for Easter Sunday, April 5, during Worship in both Infants and Creepers. A volunteer is also needed for April 12, during Worship in Infants. In addition, monthly coordinators are needed for April through October. If you are able to help out, please contact Heather Harris at 423.503.8651 or jeh1224@aol.com.

HELP US RECYCLE

We have placed blue recycle bins near the regular trash bins around the church facilities. The large bins in the Janitor Closets have separate recycle and trash cans, as well. Please take a moment to help our custodial staff, and dispose of the appropriate trash in the appropriate bins. Thank you.

WEDNESDAY SUPPER

For the month of March, the following Shepherding Groups have clean-up duty: J. Coffey, J. Harris/D. Hobbs, T. Smith, and C. Wilkie. We will contact you weekly by email to see if you are available to help.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

March 18	Spaghetti
March 25	Sloppy Joes
April 1	Holy Week - No Meal
April 8	Pizza