



The eNewsletter

August 13, 2015

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421
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From the Pen of the Senior Associate Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

- August 13**
Last Swim Day
- August 15**
CYAM Work Day
- August 16**
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Membership Sunday
Diaconate Meeting
- August 18**
Session Meeting
- August 19**
Wednesday Night Supper Only
Prayer Group
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- August 20**
Memorial Hospital Lunch
- August 23**
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Back-2-School Bash
- August 26**
Wednesday Night Supper
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday Night Activities
- August 28**
Girl's Night Out
- August 30**
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Pastor Pirschel's Installation
- September 1**
Mother's Encouragement
Group
WM Council
- September 2**
Wednesday Night Supper
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday Night Activities
- September 3**
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study
- September 6**
Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School
HS SNL
- September 7**
Church Office Closed: Labor
Day

I'm often surprised at things I remember with my pea brain! *When I get older, losing my hair, many years from now. Will you still be sending me a valentine, birthday greetings, bottle of wine? If I'd be out to a quarter 'til three would you lock the door? Will you still need me; will you still feed me when I'm sixty-four?* This morning Paul McCartney's lyrics easily come to mind (...it's my 64th birthday).

Just think of numbers you've committed to memory...phone numbers, birthdays, ID numbers, zip codes, debit codes, etc. Among these many numbers are some so indelibly inscribed in your mind that you could not forget the number any more than you could forget the person or thing they represent. The significance moves well beyond the digits—the birth of a child, a loved one's death, or the street number of the house you grew up in.

There are surely moments in our lives when we realize that something is happening of great significance. In 1976, after notifying my parents of our first-born's birth, I remember thinking about the date and how that date was about to be something more. I knew from that day forward it would be difficult (and detrimental) to forget this day on the calendar; it would carry the force of forgetting so much more.

With a similar sense of anticipation, God told the Israelites that they would remember the night of Passover before the night even happened. "This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast." (Exodus 12.14). Moses and Aaron were to instruct Israel to choose a lamb without defect, slaughtering it at twilight. Then they were to place some of the blood on the doorposts of the houses. The Lord would see and pass over those covered by the blood.

The significance of remembering is a theme carried throughout all of Scripture. It is not about static facts or rules or figures, but the mystery of a place, the significance of a person, the marking of lives. Celebrating the

Passover was nonnegotiable. The command to remember was passed down from generation to generation. But they were remembering more than the mere events of Israel's exodus from Egypt; they were remembering God as God showed up and changed them—the faithful hand that moved among them, the mighty acts which exclaim a Father's untiring remembering of his people.

As the disciples sat around the table celebrating their third Passover meal with Jesus, an observance they kept before they could walk, everything probably looked ceremoniously familiar. The smell of lamb filled the upper room; the unleavened bread was prepared and waiting to be broken. Remembering again the acts of God in Egypt, the blood on the doorposts, the lives spared and brought out of slavery, they looked at their teacher as He lifted the bread from the table and gave thanks to God. Then Jesus broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22.19)

I have always wished that Luke would have described a little more of the scene that followed. Were the disciples hushed and confused? Did their years of envisioning the blood-marked doorposts cry out at the Lamb of God before them? They had spent their entire lives remembering the sovereignty of God in the events of the Passover, and then Jesus tells them that there is yet more to see in this day on the calendar. In this broken bread is the reflection of me. On this day, God is engraving across history the promise of Passover: I still remember you. I still seek you.

I imagine from that day forward, the disciples knew it would be difficult to forget that day on the calendar. It is not that different for us today either. Forgetting what was witnessed in the upper room on that Passover carries the force of forgetting so much more.

~Pastor Mullinax



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule August 16

Worship

Infants

Esther McEachern, Heather Morrison & Lucy Cleveland

Creepers

Ava Lehmann
& Paid Worker

Toddlers

Wil Foster
& Paid Worker

Sunday School

Infants

Sandra Nicely
& Bethany Firth

Creepers

John Mark Beatty
& Paid Worker

Toddlers

Ellen Heider
& Paid Worker

August Coordinator:

Gretchen Brown

YOUTH BACK-2-SCHOOL BASH

Your family is invited to our 8th annual Back-2-School Bash on Sunday, August 23, at 6:00 p.m. The evening will start with food, fun, and fellowship, followed by an informational meeting outlining this year's youth events. Parents and youth are invited. Nursery is provided for children 3 and under.

GIRL'S NIGHT OUT

Coming up on Friday, August 28, to see *The War Room*. Details will follow. Please sign up at the Women's Ministry Table beginning this Sunday, August 16.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT KICK-OFF

Look for information in the bulletin on Sunday, August 23, regarding all the opportunities coming up on Wednesday nights this fall. On Wednesday, August 26, there is a short meeting after dinner in Schum Fellowship Hall, presenting room assignments and curriculum for Choir, Children's Ministry, and various Bible Studies. The Women's Ministry will meet longer to discuss their different studies and options.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS ON WORSHIP

Jeremy Gaines, Director of Music Ministries, is beginning a class on the Biblical Foundations of Worship on Sunday, August 30, in the Calvin & Hobbs Sunday School Class in Schum Fellowship Hall. Come and take part in a study about what worship truly is and why it is so important.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL MINISTRY

Our church has the privilege of being a part of a luncheon ministry at Memorial Hospital. Next Thursday, August 20, we'll provide lunch to families in the surgery waiting room. If you are able to contribute sandwiches, chips, snack cakes or fruit this week, please call or email the church office.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following changes in your CPC Membership Directories:

Glen and Rachel Getz

7047 Spirit Echo Way, Ooltewah TN 37363

Carol Beatty

Email (personal).....carol.r.beatty@gmail.com

Jesse and Lenny Pirschel

Maya*, Solomon*, Silas*, Israel*

1717 S. Clayton Ave, Chattanooga TN 37412

Email.....jpirschel@covenantchattanooga.org

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This is a perfect time of year to purchase school supplies for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes as there are many sales right now! This is also a great time of year to buy flip flops, a wonderful item to include, as many children who receive these shoebox gifts have no shoes at all. Of course, you are welcome to buy items for the shoeboxes throughout the year. You are also welcome to bring your items any time and place in one of the **BLACK MARKED BINS** in the Ladies' Sunday School Class (across from the Coke Machine). Covenant Presbyterian sent 184 shoebox gifts last year and, even now, many of those children are learning about Jesus.

INSTALLATION SERVICE

Pastor Pirschel's Installation Service is August 30, at 6:00 p.m. during the Evening Worship Service. A reception will follow in Schum Fellowship Hall.

MOTHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

Mother's Encouragement Group begins meeting September 1 at 10:00 am. All moms available to meet are welcome to come fellowship together and encourage one another. Nursery is provided.

LARGE PRINT MORNING WORSHIP

For those interested, our Morning Worship songs printed in the bulletin will be available in the Narthex in larger print. Please ask a deacon to help you locate them.