



The eNewsletter

November 12, 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...

November 12

Ladies' Thursday Bible Study

November 15

Missions Conference Sunday
Sunday School
Membership Sunday

November 17

Mother's Encouragement
Group

November 18

Wednesday Night Supper
Parent U
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

November 19

Ladies' Thursday Bible Study
Memorial Hospital Lunch
Ministry

November 20

Ladies' Friday Bible Study

November 21

OCC Packing Day
Thanksgiving Pounding
Delivery Day

November 22

Morning Worship
Sunday School
HS SNL

November 25

Thanksgiving Praise Service

November 26

Church Office Closed -
Thanksgiving

November 27

Church Office Closed -
Thanksgiving

November 29

Morning Worship
Sunday School

December 1

Mother's Encouragement
Group
Women's Council Meeting

December 2

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

December 3

Ladies' Thursday Bible Study

I sometimes think that biblical analogies are like the timeless chicken and egg enigma. When I make an analogy, I connect some sort of abstract principle to a pre-existing reality. If I say, "Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get" (actually that was Forrest Gump's quote)...I am trying to explain something about the surprises in life by pointing to something we all know about - a box of chocolates (some of us being more acquainted with a box of chocolates than others). But when God makes analogies, it becomes more difficult. We have to ask which came first, the analogy or the reality. For instance, did God create the institution of marriage to teach us something about how Christ relates to the church, or did He use marriage to explain that relationship?

Do I learn how I am to relate to my earthly father by looking to the relationship I have with God, or do I learn how to relate to God by looking to the relationship I have with my father? God's Word tells us that God is our Father. That makes us His children. My guess is that in understanding this biblical analogy, we tend to view God in light of our own earthly fathers. The thought of God as our Father is apt to lead us merely into nostalgic remembrances. God, we may think the Bible is telling us, is some celestial catch player, fishing buddy, or story reader. He hugs us when He comes home from work and He fixes our broken

toys. We may attempt to tame God, turning Him into a larger than life daddy figure.

The Bible does teach that God is our Father and there is real comfort there. What we seem to miss in this analogy is that as believers we are God's children. Rather than diminish or demean God by bringing Him to our level, this analogy should fill our hearts and lift us up. WE ARE HIS CHILDREN. Do we believe it? Can we even begin to grasp the importance of that truth? We share an identity with the God of creation! We are of the same family! And I am, in some real way, like Him!

Of course only God is God. False religions teach that humans can become gods. We know that we cannot take on infinity or omnipotence. There is but One who is all that and more, and we are His children.

Only through union with Christ do we become the children of God. Through God's Son, we became His sons and daughters. Remember that. Remember whose children we are, and rejoice. We live beneath His loving paternal gaze and vigilant care. Though now our understanding is dim, one day we will see Him clearly, and we shall, like sons and daughters, be like Him.

~Pastor Mullinax



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule November 15

Worship

Infants

Esther McEachern
& Crystal Middleton

Creepers

Heidie, Jenny,
& Charity Armao

Toddlers

Becky Pearce
& Mollee Brown

Floater

Maggie Middleton

Sunday School

Infants

Bethany Firth
& Peg May

Creepers

Lucy Mantel
& Julia Gracy

Toddlers

Need Volunteers

November Coordinator:

Eva Herberich

MISSIONS CONFERENCE

CPC's Annual Missions Conference is November 11-15. This year's theme is *To Such Belong the Kingdom*. Throughout the week, we'll focus on children's outreach and student ministries. Our keynote speaker is Dr. Herb Ward. Make plans to join us Sunday, November 15, for Morning Worship and an evening presentation at 6:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

It's time to order *Offering Envelopes* for 2016. These envelopes may be used for regular giving or giving to the Nursery Fund Pledges. Please email cpbookkeeping@covenantchattanooga.org and let Carol know if you want weekly, twice a month, monthly or quarterly envelopes. You may also pick up an order form at the Welcome Center. Orders are due by December 1.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL MINISTRY

Our church has the privilege of being a part of a luncheon ministry at Memorial Hospital. Next Thursday, November 19, 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.

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 Welcome Center. Please commit to pray for our missionaries and ministries throughout the month of November - this coincides with CPC's Annual Missions Conference. Particularly, pray for those in restricted-access countries where believers are often persecuted for their faith.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

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, J. Coffey, T. Smith, C. Wilkie. We will contact you weekly by email to see if you are available to help.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

November 18	Chicken 'N Biscuits
December 2	Fettuccine Alfredo
December 9	Roast Beef and Mashed Potatoes

CPC KIDS MINISTRY

Our Covenant Corps catechism reward party at *SuperFly* is coming up on December 9. We would love for the children that have completed the memorization of the necessary catechisms to bring their parents and meet us at SuperFly on **Wednesday, December 9**. We will be jumping from **7:00-8:00pm**. Check with your child's Covenant Corps teacher to see what catechisms they still need to memorize in order to come on our special reward trip. CPC is paying for each of the children that have said the necessary catechisms. All we need you, parents, to do is bring your child! Adults are welcome to jump with their children for only \$5! The last 10 minutes, we will have an award ceremony. We will be giving out awesome medals and giant candy bars to those that have said all their catechisms for the entire semester. Come join us in cheering on our children for all the hard work and time they spent this semester in hiding God's truths in their hearts!

If you are not familiar with *SuperFly* check out their website at <http://www.superfly.me/>. It should be a fun evening for all involved! Thanks for working with your children on memorizing their catechisms.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

November 21 is packing day! Collection boxes are available in the Ladies' Sunday School Class, as well as the Children's Wing. If you want to pack your own box, labels are available at the Welcome Center, to place on your box, marking age and gender. To help with shipping, make checks payable to *Samaritan's Purse* and place in the offering by November 15.

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 Danny Grant's office by November 18. Monetary donations are always welcome (due November 15) and are needed to purchase perishable items (turkey, ham, etc.) on the day of delivery, November 21. If you know someone in need or if you, yourself, could use a hand this year, please contact the church office or an elder.

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. To register, visit www.gratefulgobbler.org.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY CHRISTMAS DINNER

We are looking forward to seeing all CPC ladies and guests for a festive evening on Friday, December 11. The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for girls (8 years and under). Please register on Sunday at the Women's Table in the lobby.