



The eNewsletter

February 4, 2016

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

Looking Ahead...

February 5
Valentine Dinner

February 7
Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School
Handbell Ensemble
Rogers Baby Shower
Youth Super Bowl Party

February 10
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

February 11
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study

February 13
Youth Babysitting Service
Project

February 14
Morning Worship
Sunday School

February 16
Mother's Encouragement
Group

February 17
Wednesday Night Supper
Parent U
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

February 18
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study
Memorial Hospital Lunch

February 19
Ladies' Friday Morning Bible
Study

February 21
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Membership Sunday
Handbell Ensemble
SNL

February 24
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

February 25
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study

February 26
Girls Night Out

February 28
Morning Worship
Sunday School
SNL

The Lord has been good to us! He has taken us through a time of transition, and we have experienced none of the negative consequences that statistically might have been expected. The Lord has blessed us financially, and our attendance has remained strong. Furthermore, the Word of God is faithfully preached and taught, and we continue to be a people united in our love for the Lord and one another.

For Linda and me, our time of transition has gone well. My dear wife has learned to endure (and I believe enjoy) the fact that I'm around most of the time. By God's grace, I am able to use most mornings keeping up my scholarship, reading Scripture, theology, commentaries, biographies, and works of history. My afternoons are given to various tasks – including long naps. Presently, I have the delightful privilege of teaching one of my grandsons Bible, American history, and English literature since he is unable to attend CCS this semester for medical reasons.

During my mornings, one of my most frequent prayers is giving thanks to the Lord for sending Pastor Pirschel and his family to us. I am enthusiastically supportive of his leadership and of the Session's guidance of our congregation.

As I think about the past seventy years, I find myself reflecting upon the way the Lord has used the past three generations.

In my analysis (for whatever it is worth), my father's generation was used to establish firmly our commitment to the Scripture as being the inspired, infallible, and inerrant Word of God.

I believe that my generation, building upon the previous generation's efforts, has had the great privilege of helping the church embrace once more reformed and covenant theology.

When we came to East Ridge PC, there had begun, under Pastor John Wood, a recognition of the doctrines of grace - the fundamental teachings of reformed theology. It was my privilege to build upon that foundation and to introduce to ERPC the all-encompassing Biblical pattern of God's covenant of redemption.

Our focus upon reformed and covenant theology was well received by most, but not by all. We lost some members who were uncomfortable with my preaching and teaching.

Now I believe that Pastor Pirschel's generation (which obviously includes my children, two of whom are PCA pastors) has the opportunity of applying our reformed and covenant understanding of Scripture to our life as a church, including our corporate worship.

I realize that some are challenged by a few of the changes that have been made. But I encourage you to know that the changes that have taken place in our worship have been made out of a genuine desire on the part of our Pastor and Session to see that our corporate worship is Biblical, honoring to the Lord, and reflects our reformed and covenant understanding of Scripture.

Therefore, I encourage you to rejoice before the Lord as you prayerfully anticipate the Lord's blessing upon us as we continue to strive as a church to walk (and worship) in the way of the Lord.

The Sundays Linda and I are not with you are usually Sundays I am filling other pulpits. But on the Sundays we are with you, we want you to know how eagerly we look forward to our times of corporate worship.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule February 7

Worship

Infants

Jay Helton
& Gretchen Brown

Creepers

Tammy Knotts
& Mollee Brown

Toddlers

Wil Foster
& Tavis Brown

Floater

Capps Brown

Sunday School

Infants

Lynda Brown
& Karen Fullam

Creepers

Eric & Lucy Mantel

Toddlers

Ernie Brown
& Jennifer McNeely

February Coordinator:

Peg May

BABY SHOWER

A baby shower in honor of Joy Rogers is on Sunday, February 7, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Joy is registered at Target and Babies R Us.

YOUTH SUPER BOWL PARTY

All High School and Middle School youth are invited to Chris and Reba Gregory's home, 137 Angela Circle, Rossville, GA, for a Super Bowl Party, February 7, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

VALENTINE DINNER

The 4th Annual Valentine Dinner and Cake Auction, benefitting the 2017 choir mission trip to Belarus, will be held Friday, February 5, at 6:30 p.m. Please be sure to register, as few spots are still open. Nursery registration required (ages 3 and under). Please contact Jeremy Gaines to register or if you have any questions, jgaines@covenantchattanooga.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

For the month of February, the Young Marrieds Sunday School class is joining the Calvin & Hobbs Sunday School class for a discussion on *The Gospel and Sexuality*. Dr. Kevin Eames, a psychology professor from Covenant College, will be leading the discussions. This topic will cover a variety of cultural issues such as marriage, homosexuality, gender identity, living together before marriage, gender roles, and more. Due to the mature subject matter, parents can determine if they want their children to attend or not.

MEALS FOR MOMS

Meals for Moms is our ministry to new CPC moms and their families. If you would like more information about taking a meal to our new mothers, please contact Rebekah Gernhard at atkinson.bekah@gmail.com.

SABBATICAL

A long-planned sabbatical for Pastor Mullinax is taking place in February. Exemptions from regular duties throughout the month have been granted, so that he'll be able to spend time in study, prayer, reading, and relaxation. Please pray for Eric and Boo as they enjoy this short sabbatical.

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Please remember to pray for our college students as they are just starting a new semester and are studying hard.

FREE BABYSITTING

The CPC Youth are offering free babysitting at the church on Saturday, February 13, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please be sure to sign up at Chris' office or on the table near the Welcome Center. For more details please contact Chris Gregory.

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. The maximum family donation is \$15.

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

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

February 10	Breakfast
February 17	Baked Chicken and Cheesy Grits
February 24	Pork Enchiladas

LOST AND FOUND

The bookcase next to the coke machine is filling up with Bibles and other items left behind at church. Be sure to check it out if you are missing something.