



The eNewsletter

April 7, 2016

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...

April 10

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Missions Committee Meeting
Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal
SNL

April 13

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

April 15

Girl's Night Out

April 17

Morning Worship
New Member Recognition
Sunday School
Children's Ministry Dinner
SNL

April 19

Mother's Encouragement
Group

April 20

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Joint Deacon/Session Meeting

April 21

Memorial Hospital Lunch

April 22

Ladies' Friday Morning Bible
Study

April 23

Mission Garage Sale

April 24

Mission Conference Sunday
Sunday School
Shepherding Groups Meet
Vice/Rogers Bridal Shower

April 27

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

April 29

Taters & Tubesteaks

May 1

Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School
Youth Talent Show

May 2

Ladies' Monday Night Bible
Study

Americans typically use about 5,000 words in their speech and about twice that many in their writing. *Webster's Unabridged Dictionary* contains over 315,000 entries. Wow! How very little I know of my own language is apparent with every round of Balderdash or viewing of the National Spelling Bee.

Unabridged is a funny word to find beside the title of a dictionary. The term is used more as a claim of thoroughness than of sovereignty, as if to say, "We are the most complete dictionary," and not, "Herein lies the exhaustive listing of all known English words." The team working toward the task of composing or updating a dictionary knows better than most that a complete and unabridged glossary of terms simply isn't possible. For starters, one single book could not house every word in the English language. It could hardly keep up with the claim; as new words are forever emerging. For example, "ghrelin" (the hunger hormone, regulating the distribution and rate of energy) and "ludology" (the study of video games and game playing ... really!?) are two of the more recent additions to the dictionary. Words also occasionally "die" from lack of use. The world of words is evidently a vast and active place.

In the Scriptures, when God called Moses to go and speak with the people of Israel under slavery in Egypt, Moses was all too aware that he didn't have the words within him for the task. "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue." Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak." (Exodus 4.10-12) But still Moses asked God to send someone else to do it.

Most of us can, in some way, relate to his heartfelt plea. According to several surveys, public speaking is the greatest fear of the vast majority; a phobia ranked even above the fear of death. And speaking for God could certainly complicate the anxiety. Many of the prophets chosen by God to be His voice among the people spoke of the weight of such a task, coupled with the concern of speaking to a world that didn't want to hear. Each time the prophet was reminded similarly: The God who set the world in place with a word will surely put the words in your mouth. Jesus, likewise, instructed the disciples in their ministering, "I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict." (Luke 21.15)

The vast and daunting world of words is met with this thought. God is yet the Giver of words and wisdom. Whether speaking for God or of God - or speaking at all - all wisdom is God's wisdom. So, Paul appropriately asks the people of Ephesus to pray "also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel." (Ephesians 6.19) That the words of our mouths may be pleasing in God's sight is a prayer that leads God's own again and again to his Word. "If you abide in me," said Jesus to the disciples before he went to the cross, "and my words abide in you." (John 15.7) His words are more vast and active than any dictionary. They are wisdom unabridged.

God who speaks and who asks us to speak offers wisdom in person in the Son, the assurance that we are heard by the Father, and the promise of the Spirit to help us with the words. God who set the world in place with words still speaks.

~Pastor Mullinax



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule April 10

Worship

Infants

Jay & Susan Helton

Creepers

Mollee Brown
& Kate Lambeth

Toddlers

Gerald & Donna Schreiner

Floater

Meg Ferrel

Sunday School

Infants

Sandra Nicely
& Bev Roop

Creepers

Sarah & Maggie Wade

Toddlers

Catherine & Grace Pippin

April Coordinator:

Mindy Horton

BRIDAL SHOWER

A bridal shower in honor of Jamie Vice, bride-elect of Luke Rogers, is April 24 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Jamie is registered at Dillard's, Kohls, and Bed, Bath, & Beyond.

MISSIONS YARD SALE

Spring Cleaning for Missions! A parking lot yard sale is scheduled for April 23 to help raise funds for those going on the CPC Mission Trip to Canada. Please keep this in mind as you do your spring cleaning. Be thinking of items you may have that you could donate to this effort. Starting Wednesday, April 20, your donations can be brought to the church. Contact Boo Mullinax for more details.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FINALE

We were able to reschedule the illusionist, Jaden Maxwell, to perform for us on Wednesday, May 11, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. This is our last scheduled Wednesday Night Supper.

GIRLS NIGHT OUT

On Friday, April 15, at 7:00 p.m. the CPC women will have a *Pamper Yourself* GNO. Come enjoy fellowship and relaxation with manicures, pedicures, foot baths, and more! Contact Emily Calloway or Colleen Murphy for more information.

RYM

Reformed Youth Ministries is hosting their High School Summer Conference July 4-8, in Panama City, FL. The cost is \$350. A non-refundable \$100 deposit is due April 20 to secure a spot. The balance is due May 11. Please turn in all money to Danielle Wilkie with the student's name on it and RYM on memo line. For more information, please contact Chris Gregory.

BAND AID BANQUET

The annual VIM Band Aid Banquet is April 11, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Abba's House, featuring the Voices of Lee. We have a few seats left at the CPC table. Please let Gretchen Brown know if you would like to attend.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following change to your CPC church directory.

Dustin & Amy Young

Email (husband) ... hutchyoung@catt.com
Email (wife) amylyoung@yahoo.com

YOUTH TALENT SHOW

All youth and parents are invited to attend our Annual Youth Talent Show on May 1 at 6:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!

TATERS AND TUBESTEAKS

Join us for a night out with the family, Friday, April 29. The hot dog dinner begins at 5:45 p.m. in Coolidge Park. Stay for the Lookouts game at AT&T Park at 7:15 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact the church office.

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, 4 and under eat free. The maximum family donation is \$15.

For the month of April, the following shepherding groups have clean-up duty: D. Grant, M. Lander, M. Walker, K. Brown. We will contact you weekly by email to see if you are available to help.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

April 13	Shepherd's Pie
April 20	Spaghetti and Caesar Salad
April 27	Taco Salad

CHOICES PREGNANCY CENTER

Be a Voice Walk & Run is Saturday, April 9, at 10:00 a.m. at Camp Jordan. Enjoy face painting, inflatables, games, and prizes. All proceeds go directly to the life-changing work of Choices Pregnancy Center. Register at www.choicesPRCnow.org.