



The eNewsletter

June 30, 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...

July 3

Morning Worship
Sunday School

July 4

Church Office Closed -
Fourth of July

July 5

Ladies' Summer Bible Study
Women's Council Meeting
Men's Summer Bible Study

July 6

Mission: Chattanooga

July 7

Swim Day

July 8

Mother's Encouragement
Group: Swimming

July 9

HS Youth Pool Party at
Middleton's

July 10

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Missions Committee Meeting

July 12

Ladies' Summer Bible Study
Youth Coolidge Park Fun
Men's Summer Bible Study

July 13

Mission: Chattanooga

July 14

Swim Day

July 15

Taters and Tubesteaks

July 17

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Membership Sunday
Daconate Meeting

July 19

Ladies' Summer Bible Study
Men's Summer Bible Study
Session Meeting

July 20

Mission: Chattanooga

July 21

Swim Day
Memorial Hospital Lunch
Youth Skate Night

In my opinion, last week's meeting of more than 1200 commissioners to the 44th General Assembly of the PCA in Mobile, Alabama will long be remembered for two significant actions.

On Thursday afternoon, after three hours of debate, the GA voted by a 2 to 1 margin to appoint a committee to study the role of women in the ministry of the church. It seemed to me that most of those who voted against the appointment of this study committee did so because they believe Scripture and our constitution already clearly address this issue. Furthermore, some in the minority seemed to think that the appointment of such a study committee demonstrated that the denomination was *caving in* to the pressures of the feminist agenda. They appeared to believe that by appointing such a study committee the PCA was in danger of beginning a slide down the *slippery slope* that will inevitably lead to the ordination of women as Deacons and Elders.

While I understand the concerns of the minority, I voted in favor of the appointment of this study committee. I am confident the study committee will provide our churches with *pious advice* about the roles women can properly fill in the overall ministry of the church short of ordination to church office. I am hopeful the committee will address the question of whether a woman may do what any unordained man can do in a Worship Service, in SS, and in service to the church and its people. I am confident that this study committee will provide us with helpful guidelines in dealing with this issue, just as previous study committees have assisted the church in dealing with the issue of *Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage* and of acceptable understandings of the *days of creation* in Genesis 1.

The second issue, supported by nearly 90% of the commissioners, was a

statement of corporate repentance on the part of the PCA for its sinful failures in the past (and present) in the area of race relations. Here, in part, is the statement of your GA: "Therefore be it resolved, that the 44th GA of the PCA does recognize, confess, condemn, and repent of corporate and historical sins, including those committed during the Civil Rights era, and continuing racial sins of ourselves and our fathers such as the segregation of worshipers by race; the exclusion of persons from Church membership on the basis of race; the exclusion of churches, or elders, from membership in the Presbyteries on the basis of race; the teaching that the Bible sanctions racial segregation and discourages interracial marriage; the participation in and defense of white supremacist organizations; and the failure to live out the gospel imperative that 'love does no wrong to a neighbor' (Romans 13.10)."

The GA appointed a committee to assist our churches in "the gospel task of racial reconciliation, [by] diligently seeking effective courses of action to further that goal, with humility, sincerity and zeal, for the glory of God and the furtherance of the Gospel." Clearly, it is our God-given task to find ways to become a more ethnically diverse denomination as we strive to become a church which resembles the church in Revelations 7.9 whose members come from "all tribes and peoples and languages."

While many other issues were discussed and reports received, these two steps taken by your GA will make the 44th GA one long remembered in the history of our denomination. Once more, I was proud to be part of the church where Godly wisdom is gained from the gathering together of many Godly counselors (Proverbs 11.14, 15.22, 20.18, 24.6).

~ Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule July 3

Worship

Infants

Brenda King
& Crystal Middleton

Creepers

John & Becky Pearce

Toddlers

Jerry King & Wil Foster

Floater

Maggie Middleton

Sunday School

Infants

Lisa Grant
& Anna Yonkofski

Creepers

Karen & Madison Crago

Toddlers

Catherine Coffey
& Patty Liner

June Coordinator:

Tara Rimondi

FOURTH OF JULY

The church office is closed, Monday, July 4. There will be no eNewsletter sent on Thursday, July 7.

HIGH SCHOOL POOL PARTY

High School Youth are invited to the Middleton's home for a Pool Party on Saturday, July 9, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

PASTOR'S CLASS

Pastor Mullinax will lead the Pastor's Class through August. With summer vacation absences and planned visits with other Sunday School Classes, Pastor Pirschel will not resume leadership of this class until September.

BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY CALENDARS

The July birthday/anniversary calendar is available for pick up at the Welcome Center.

PLASTIC BAG COLLECTION

Thank you for supporting our collection of bags, but we no longer need any donations.

TATERS AND TUBE STEAKS

Mark your calendars! Friday, July 15, is our next *Taters and Tubesteaks* dinner at Coolidge Park with a Lookouts Game to follow.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES

The Pictorial Directories are labeled and available for pick up in the Welcome Center, for those families that had their picture taken. If you did not have your picture taken but would like access to the directory, there are online directories available. For more information, contact Gretchen Brown at cpcadministrator@covenantchattanooga.org.

AMERICAN HEROES DINNER

The Honoring the Sacrifice Foundation invites you to attend the 3rd Annual American Heroes Dinner on July 15 at 7:00 p.m. at The Chattanooga Convention Center. Lt. Col. Allen B. West (U.S. Army Ret.) is the speaker and those attacked on July 16, 2015, will be honored and remembered. If interested, tickets are available at www.honoringthesacrifice.org.

NEW MEMBERS

Please make the following additions to your CPC church directory.

Ani & Kai May

Ani is the 10-year old daughter and Kai is the 8-year old son of Frank and Nicole May.

Randy & Cheryl Lawry

305 Champagne Cir, Ringgold GA 30736
Cell (husband)..... 832.654.4056
Cell (wife)..... 832.723.6171
Email (husband)..... ralawry@aol.com
Email (wife)..... cslawry@aol.com

Ellen Donovan

1804 Skyline Dr, Chattanooga TN 37421
Cell..... 970.310.0673
Email..... elcodon@aol.com

Mark & Joanna Watne

Jack*, Finn*
6445 Harbor Master Dr, Hixson, TN 37343
Cell (husband)..... 423.208.8608
Cell (wife)..... 423.667.7347
Email (husband)..... jediknightmdw@gmail.com
Email (wife)..... thewatnes@gmail.com

Jason & Stacy Collins

Christopher*, Lydia*
4210 Belvoir Dr, Chattanooga TN 37412
Cell (husband)..... 601.983.8146
Cell (wife)..... 662.372.0259
Email (husband)..... jacollins5@gmail.com
Email (wife)..... sem218@gmail.com

SWIM DAY

Swim Day at the May's pool is on Thursdays, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This invitation is open to anyone at CPC. Parents, please remember that you are personally responsible for the supervision of your children and for cleanup.

MISSION: CHATTANOOGA

The CPC Summer Mission: Chattanooga projects have begun. Each Wednesday activities will be on-campus and off-campus from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. A list of activities will be sent each week via the CPC Info emails.