



The eNewsletter

August 4, 2016

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

Looking Ahead...

- August 5**
Mother's Encouragement
Group: Swimming
- August 6**
Men's Breakfast
- August 7**
Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School
Instrumental Ensemble
Rehearsal
Youth Pool Party
- August 9**
Ladies' Summer Bible Study
Men's Summer Bible Study
- August 10**
Mission: Chattanooga
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- August 11**
Last Swim Day
- August 14**
Morning Worship
Sunday School
- August 16**
Session Meeting
- August 17**
Mission: Chattanooga
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- August 18**
Memorial Hospital Lunch
- August 19**
Officer's Leadership Training
- August 20**
Officer's Leadership Training
- August 21**
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Instrumental Ensemble
Rehearsal
Youth Fall Kick-Off
- August 24**
Wednesday Night Supper
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- August 26**
Mother's Encouragement
Group: Imagination Station
Playdate
- August 28**
Morning Worship
Sunday School

The end of summer is fast approaching. Though I have long been out of school, and I no longer get several months off, I still cannot help but getting the same strange knot in my stomach that I did as a boy watching the summer days fade away. As a child it was the end of freedom and the resumption of perceived drudgery. As I grew a little older, it was trading in the unknown adventures of summer for the known realities of the ordinary routine. Now, while I still feel a bit of the childlike sadness at the end of summer, a part of me looks forward to the predictable regiment. For some, that likely sounds like proof of me beginning to show my age and that is likely part of it. But also, I have come to delight in the routine and ordinary because of the good work these friends do on behalf of our humanity.

Without routine, without ordinary time, life would become an amorphous and somewhat unmanageable reality. The ordinary prepares and shapes us. So, for instance, during the summer months our family, at times, loses some of its daily routines. During non-summer days, the family dinner table typically includes all the household members living under our roof. But in the summer it seems that someone is either missing or we all are doing something that takes away from this practice. While this is somewhat to be expected due to the nature of the season, it is also something that, if

left unchecked, would prove problematic. For it is at the family table that conversations take place, relationships are strengthened, manners are taught, and enforced, and, if things are well in the world, laughter reverberates. Also, for us, it is where we join in family worship and reading. When the family dinner is inconsistent, these become more inconsistent as well.

This is one of the reasons why the ordinary is good and why routine is healthy. Vacation is a delightful gift from God. Time away from the cares of normal life is good for the soul. But so is the ordinary. It is through the daily practices of life that we are shaped into who God wants us to be. Through years of sitting with a cup of coffee and an open Bible, through countless days of prayer, through family worship, and through Lord's Day worship we are being slowly transformed by our Savior. And if we have drifted from these spiritual disciplines, if we have allowed our life to become shapeless with regard to these and other good things, we can use the end of summer and the start of a new season to mark a place of new beginning. We can embrace the dreaded same old same old as God's invitation to, once again, chart our course down the well-worn paths of these good practices. As we get back into the routine, may we seek to make these means of growth part of that routine.

~Pastor Pirschel



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule August 7

Worship

Infants

Jeanie Ray
& Reita Pierce

Creepers

Heidie, Charity,
& Jenny Armao

Toddlers

Lenny & Solomon Pirschel

Floater

Emma Newman

Sunday School

Infants

Selah & Sophia Cross

Creepers

Frank & Nicole May

Toddlers

William Higgins
& Brandon Cross

August Coordinator:

Gretchen Brown

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Ministry invites men of all ages to their monthly Men's Breakfast on Saturday, August 6, at 8:30 a.m. Coach Mark Mariakis, the head football coach at CCS, is sharing his captivating and inspirational story, *Lead or Get Out of the Way*. Nursery provided.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The new Membership Directories have been printed. Please pick up your copy at the table in front of the Church Office.

MISSION: CHATTANOOGA

The CPC Summer Mission: Chattanooga projects are each Wednesday night. 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.

YOUTH POOL PARTY

High School and Middle School Youth are invited to a Pool Party at the May's pool on Sunday, August 7, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Due to space, only the Youth and their parents are invited this time.

YOUTH FALL KICK-OFF

Mark your calendars for the Youth Fall Kick-Off on Sunday, August 21, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall.

COLLEGE MINISTRY

As your college kids prepare for their fall semester, please send their name, school, and mailing address to the church office. If they are living at home, please make sure we have that information also. Send information to cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org.

ANNOUNCEMENT BULLETIN BOARD

Please note the bulletin board outside of the Perseverers Classroom has job opportunities listed, along with various CPC members and the services they provide.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following update to your CPC Membership Directory.

Betty Quillin

NHC Health Care Facility
2403 Battlefield Parkway #407
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30736

COVENANT CORPS

Teachers and helpers are needed for the 4 year old and kindergarten Covenant Corps classes starting Wednesday, August 31. We have a lot of fun while learning the truths from God's word and would love for you to come help with our Covenant kids. Please contact Holly Lehmann for more details at cpckidsministry@covenantchattanooga.org.

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 responsible for the supervision and cleanup of your children. The last Swim Day is August 11.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This is a perfect time of year to purchase school supplies for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Also a great time to buy flip flops, a wonderful item to include. Check out our Shoebox Stories bulletin board just past the Nursery. Read a first-hand account of the eternal impact of a gift delivered in Jesus' Name.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Men's Breakfast on September 17 is open to all Men and Women of CPC, as well as youth and children. The Men's Ministry would like to invite everyone to come hear R.V. Brown, a High School sports coach and founder of Outreach to America's Youth. Nursery provided. More details to come.