



The eNewsletter

September 15, 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...

September 17

Breakfast with R.V. Brown

September 18

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Diaconate Meeting
Instrumental Ensemble
Rehearsal
Youth Leadership Team

September 21

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

September 22

Ladies' Thursday Bible Study

September 25

Morning Worship
Sunday School

September 28

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Covenant Corps OCC
Presentation

September 29

Ladies' Thursday Bible Study

October 1

Men's Breakfast

October 2

Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School
MS/HS GUBA Night

October 3

Ladies' Monday Night Job
Bible Study

October 4

Mothers' Encouragement
Group
Women's Council Meeting

October 5

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

October 6

Ladies' Thursday Bible Study

October 9

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Missions Committee Meeting
HS Youth Fire Pit Fun at
Horton's

I think I was about twelve years old. Normally, I slept straight through the night until Mom would wake me for school. But not this night.

It was about two in the morning. I woke to find my bedroom illuminated by an eerie glow. I stumbled out of bed and stared out my window. The sky was shimmering with light. I had never seen anything like it.

My immediate thought was that Jesus had returned and I had been left behind – which would make a good title for a series of novels! I was profoundly troubled.

My parents bedroom was next to mine. So I went to their door and slowly opened it. Their bed was empty. My mind began to race. I knew I had been taught that when Jesus came again, those who believed in Him would be taken while those who didn't would be left behind to endure seven years of *great tribulation*.

I had confessed my sin and asked Jesus into my heart more times than I could count. But at that moment I faced the desperate idea that maybe my prayers had not been sincere enough, or that for more reasons than I cared to think about, the Lord had justly found me not worthy to be His child.

I went to my sister's bedroom. She was still there. That gave me a little encouragement. But she was still so young I couldn't be confident she had prayed *the sinner's prayer*.

Shaken, I stumbled down the hall, through the family room, into the kitchen, and out the side door, leading to our drive way. It was there I found my parents. Boy, was I glad to see them. They were standing in the driveway, looking at the dancing light filling the sky from one horizon to the next.

My Dad saw me. "Son, come look at one of the wonders of God's creation. They're called the Northern Lights."

That was the first and only time I ever saw the aurora borealis.

Jesus is coming again. At age twelve, because of my seriously skewed theology, the idea scared me. But no longer. I long for His return. When He returns, it will be once and for all. No third return at the end of a great tribulation. No fourth return at the end of a thousand year reign upon a earth still inhabited by sinners. He will come again, once and for all time. And at His return He will judge the living and the dead. And at that judgment, I will be judged to be more than simply not guilty. I will be judged to be sinless, righteous, and perfectly holy. That will not be because of who I am or what I have done, but because of Who He is and what He has done for me. He died to pay the penalty for my rebellion. He rose physically from the dead, assuring me of victory over sin, death, and the grave. And by His grace through His gift of faith, I know that He is my Creator, Savior, Lord, and King. And I know I will live with Him forevermore upon a new earth, free of sin and its consequences.

How I long for that day. If He first calls me out of this world, I will join the heavenly host. Together we will return with Him and our bodies will be resurrected and renewed as His body was raised and renewed. What a day that will be.

"Therefore, my beloved brothers [and sisters], be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." (I Corinthians 15:58).



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule September 18

Worship

Infants

Esther McEachern
& Crystal Middleton

Creepers

Kristin, Abby,
& Josh Sotelo

Toddlers

Gerald & Donna Schreiner

Floater

Maggie Middleton

Sunday School

Infants

Lynda Brown
& Susan Gunter

Creepers

Bethany Firth
& Kate Lambeth

Toddlers

Ernie Brown
& Patty Liner

September Coordinator:

Becky Pearce

BREAKFAST WITH R.V.

The Men's Breakfast on Saturday, September 17, is open to all Men, Women, and Youth of CPC. The Men's Ministry is excited to announce that R.V. Brown is the speaker, a High School sports coach and founder of Outreach to America's Youth. R.V. is speaking on *Spiritual Battles in my life and what the Lord taught me*. Nursery provided.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDIES

Weekly Studies:

- Wednesday Evenings: *Idols of the Heart* by Elyse Fitzpatrick. Study led by Mandi Johnson and Donna Armes, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Parlor
- Thursday Mornings: A study on *Genesis*, led by Bev Mealor, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Nursery provided.

Monthly Studies:

- First Monday Night of the month: *Job: Lessons in Comfort*. Study led by Diane Lazor and Babs Leach. Meets from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Location varies.
- Second Monday Night of the month: *Titus: Passing on the Truth, Equipping the Body*. Study led by Rachel Kemp and Becky Pearce. Meets from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the home of Becky Pearce.

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 September, the following Shepherding Groups have clean-up duty: K. Henry, T. Horton, B. Higgins, T. Lowe, and M. Walker.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

- Sept 21 Taco Salad
- Sept 28 Creamy Penne Pasta
- October 5 Breakfast
- October 12 Baked Sandwiches and Fries
- October 19 Chicken Tikka Marsala

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following update to your CPC Membership Directory.

Randy & Eunice Martin
5665 Arapaho Road #2625
Dallas, TX 75248

Sherre Stuckey

Email..... Sherre3@gmail.com

PASTOR'S CLASS

Pastor Pirschel is teaching the Pastor's Class on Sundays during the Sunday School hour. A special invitation is extended each week to those newer to CPC. However, all are welcome! The subject matter is the biblical foundations for our church's faith and practice.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GATHERING

CPC Ladies, you are invited to gather to pray together at the home of Susan Miller (1735 S Clayton Avenue, East Ridge, TN) on Friday, September 23, at 6:30 p.m.

BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERVICES

Bethany's Annual Banquet is Tuesday, October 4, at Calvary Chapel. For more details visit www.bethany.org/chattanooga.

AUTUMN GOLF FELLOWSHIP

Join your CPC family members at Fields Ferry Golf Club, in Calhoun, Georgia, on Friday, October 14. Shot-gun start at 1:30 p.m. Cost: \$40. Limited space, so registration required. Contact Tony DeMarco or Eric Mullinax for details.

YOUTH IN OCTOBER

CPC Youth - mark your calendars!

- October 2 - HS/MS GUBA meeting
- October 9 - HS Bonfire at Horton's
- October 16 - MS Bonfire at Cathey's
- October 23, 29 - HS/MS Fall Retreat