



The eNewsletter

September 29, 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...

- 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 Bonfire
at the Horton's
- October 10**
Ladies' Monday Night Titus
Bible Study
- October 12**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- October 13**
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study
- October 14**
CPC Autumn Golf Fellowship
- October 16**
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Instrumental Ensemble
Rehearsal
MS Youth Bonfire
at the Cathey's
- October 18**
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
- October 19**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

"Marcia, Marcia, Marcia!" Fans of the Brady Bunch, a club to which I unashamedly belong, will immediately recognize this famous line that burst out of the mouth of an exasperated Jan as she bemoaned how often she has to endure others praising her seemingly perfect older sister. From Jan's perspective, it is all she hears, "Marcia, Marcia, Marcia". In our evangelical world you may experience something similar. Surf the web, browse the bookshelves, or attend an evangelical conference and you might feel this way about the word "gospel". Gospel, gospel, gospel! It has become quite the buzzword in our circles. Whether it be gospel coalitions, gospel-powered parenting, gospel justice, gospel-centered churches, or gospel-shaped communities, no matter what the topic under discussion in Christian conversation the word "gospel" will likely be attached to it by hyphen.

It is not just used on our book covers or our marketing materials, it is being used to talk about how we face issues. We are told by some that the gospel, if understood rightly, would have us vote for this or that candidate, to march for or against this or that social ill, to use this or that parenting method, and even to eat this or that food. In fact, this week online there was an argument about whether the gospel would require us to lovingly embrace someone wearing a *Make America Great Again* hat, even if we disagreed with some of the implications of the message, or if the gospel would require us to burn the hat. Even for the casual reader, it seems the gospel is being asked to do a lot of heavy lifting.

But what exactly is the gospel, and what would be the outcome if we understood

it rightly? Most of us know that the gospel means *good news*. But good news for whom and what is the news about? If it is the message of salvation, what are we being saved from and what are we being saved unto? How extensive is the gospel? What all is included in its message?

For some, this may sound elementary, and in one sense it is elementary. The gospel is what teaches us the way of salvation. The gospel opens to us the door to the Christian life. It is what we believe to begin our journey. But is that the whole of why it is needful? Is the *good news* concerning Jesus Christ something that we start our walk with God believing and then from there move to other, deeper matters? Or does the gospel also have a primary shaping function throughout our Christian journey? If it does, how exactly does that work? How can repeatedly hearing a report about Jesus shape and sanctify us?

Questions like these, and others, are what I hope to address and answer in the next eight weeks leading up to advent as we begin a sermon series on the subject of the gospel. It is my goal to teach on what the gospel is (and isn't), what the gospel does, and why it is necessary as the central focus of our life as individuals and as a church. My prayer is that, by the end of these eight weeks, we would have a clearer understanding of the message, its meaning, and its impact on our Christian walk. I look forward to growing together in our knowledge of and hope in this good news.

~Pastor Pirschel



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule October 2

Worship

Infants

Sally Forrester
& Sandi Schreiner

Creepers

Allison Colberg
& Grace Pippin

Toddlers

Catherine
& Charlotte Pippin

Floater

Jonmark Beatty

Sunday School

Infants

Diane Lazor
& Domekia Gaines

Creepers

Dory George

Toddlers

Emily & Cami Calloway

**October Coordinator:
VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Ministry invites men of all ages to the October Men's Breakfast this Saturday, October 1, at 8:30 a.m. Jon Arbuckle is speaking on *Making Choices in the Buffet of Life*. Nursery provided.

GUBA

High School and Middle School Youth and their families are invited to the first GUBA meeting on Sunday, October 2, at 6:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Ken Henry will be teaching. Bring a dessert to share!

WINGS TO SOAR

Covenant Corps and Youth are invited to a *Birds of Prey* presentation on Wednesday, October 5, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall.

AUTUMN GOLF FELLOWSHIP

Join your CPC family 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.

MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars! The Marriage Conference will be November 4 and 5, in Schum Fellowship Hall. Details to follow.

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 October, the following Shepherding Groups have clean-up duty: D. Elwood, J. Gaines, D. Hobbs, J. Harris, J. Wykoff.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

September 28	Creamy Penne Pasta
October 5	Breakfast
October 12	Baked Sandwiches and Fries
October 19	Chicken Tikka Marsala

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Remember our college students as you pray.

Christine Armao	Lee University
David Armao.....	UT
Breezy Atkinson.....	Dalton State
Josh Baierl.....	MTSU
Scott Beatty.....	Lee University
Olivia Bowers.....	Tennessee Tech
Davis Brown	Ole Miss
Katie Brown	UT
Aaron Crawford	UTC
Brandon Cross	Covenant College
Elizabeth Estes	Dalton State
Morgan Ferrel	UTC
Kelsey Fowler	Lee University
Ali Fugatt.....	UTC
Jonah Gaines.....	Dalton State
Wesley Gaither	Chatt State
Eric Griggs	Georgia Tech
Elyssa Gunter.....	Covenant College
Andrew Helton	UT
Sam Hobbs.....	UTC
Abby Horton.....	Covenant College
Michael Horton.....	Samford
Aaron Lazor	UTC
Alexis Liner	UGA
Kristin Liner	Georgia State
Jason Marrs	UTC
Emilia Marrs	UTC
Luke Orthner	Samford
Meg Orthner.....	UTC
Maya Pirschel.....	Covenant College
Eli Rogers	Chatt State
Gracie Smith	Covenant College
Katie Smith	Covenant College
Abbie Stokes.....	Georgia Southern

CALENDARS

The October Birthday/Anniversary Calendar is available at the Welcome Center.

MINISTRY NEED

There is a need for women volunteers at The Next Door facility (TND) on Moccasin Bend. This is a parallel women's mentoring ministry to our men's mentoring ministry at Walker State Prison. TND is a women's transition facility which houses 45 female prisoners who are finishing out their sentences in the State of Tennessee. While they are still incarcerated, they are allowed to find employment in the community. There is a shortage of women mentors. If interested, please contact Pastor Mullinax.