



# The eNewsletter

November 3, 2016

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421  
423.899.5377 [www.covenantchattanooga.org](http://www.covenantchattanooga.org)

## *From the Pen of the Associate Pastor...*

### **Looking Ahead...**

- November 4**  
Marriage Seminar
- November 5**  
Marriage Seminar  
Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 6**  
Lord's Supper Celebrated  
Sunday School  
Youth Leadership Team
- November 7**  
Ladies Monday Night Job  
Bible Study
- November 8**  
Election Day
- November 9**  
Wednesday Night Supper  
Wednesday Night Activities
- November 10**  
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study
- November 11**  
Talent/No Talent Show
- November 12**  
Ladies' Shopping Adventure
- November 13**  
Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Mission Committee Meeting  
MS/HS GUBA Night
- November 14**  
Ladies' Monday Night Titus  
Bible Study
- November 15**  
Mothers' Encouragement  
Group
- November 16**  
Wednesday Night Supper  
Wednesday Night Activities  
Session Meeting
- November 17**  
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study  
Memorial Hospital Lunch
- November 19**  
OCC Packing Day
- November 20**  
Morning Worship  
OCC Presentation  
Sunday School  
Daconate Meeting

I will be watching the returns of this upcoming election from overseas. I'm leaving Friday for a week in Bolivia, teaching Old Testament Survey to pastors in Cochabamba. The ubiquitous anxiety and the frenetic pace of mud-slinging that characterize this election will almost certainly increase in the next week. It's also likely that new revelations – and new lows in ad hominem attacks – still wait to be revealed. But I'd like to offer some Biblical and historical perspective on the results of this election – whatever they may be.

Proverbs 21.1 teaches us a very familiar principle: "The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will." In other words, God directs the hearts of leaders no matter who they are. This DOES NOT mean that these leaders will always act righteously. It DOES mean that God will glorify Himself through them and bless His people under their administration. Think of Pharaoh promoting Joseph, Daniel prospering under the oppression of Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus allowing God's people to return to the land, Artaxerxes heeding Esther's request for protection, or Darius providing materials for the reconstruction of Jerusalem. None of these leaders were believers, but they were used by God to accomplish His ends.

But since we are so close to Reformation Day, allow me to offer a more recent illustration of this principle that falls within the heritage of our larger *church family*: King Henry VIII.

When Henry was crowned King of England in 1509, there was no indication that he would advance the reformation of the English Church. In fact, Henry seemed determined to respect and reinforce the hold of the Roman Catholic Church on his realm. Henry's marriage to Catherine of Aragon strengthened England's strong connection to Roman Catholic Spain. And when Luther's declaration of justification by faith alone rocked the established church, Henry attacked him, writing a defense of Roman Catholic doctrine that caused the

pope to bestow upon Henry the title, *Defender of the Faith*. Gifted and charismatic, but capricious and a notorious womanizer, Henry's personality and behavior made him an unlikely instrument of God's will. But the Lord used Henry's own character flaws to open the door for the English Reformation.

The story is well-known: Catherine had failed to produce a male heir but the pope would not allow Henry to divorce her. Enamored with Anne Boleyn, Henry could only make her his queen by removing England from papal domination. Naming himself as Supreme Head of the Church of England, Henry gained a new wife and immense wealth (since all church property came under his control) but he also advanced the cause of reformation. You see, Luther's ideas had gained many influential adherents within England and Henry's action emboldened them. With Henry's acquiescence, key educators, bishops, and even the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, began leading England in a more Protestant direction.

In short order all the Roman Catholic monasteries in England were dissolved, the Church of England enjoyed many Protestant - leaning priests and bishops, there was an English Bible in every church, and Henry had appointed a Protestant-led regency council for his young son, Edward. Moreover, Henry appointed Richard Cox and Sir John Cheke – both strong Protestants – as the tutors for his heirs, the future monarchs Edward VI and Elizabeth I. The stage was set for a reformation culminating in the age of the Puritans and continued in the establishment of the United States.

Who could have predicted such an outcome? Why would a king who never deviated from his own Roman Catholic beliefs do such things? Proverbs 21.1

~Pastor Steere



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule November 6

#### Worship

##### Infants

Jay & Susan Helton

##### Creepers

Ian & Julie Touche

##### Toddlers

John & Becky Pearce

##### Floater

Kallie Arbuckle

### Sunday School

##### Infants

Sandy Coffey

##### Creepers

Sue Spalding

##### Toddlers

Josh & Diana Perrel

### November Coordinator:

Judy Foster

### MARRIAGE SEMINAR

If you are registered for the Fall Marriage Seminar, join us in Schum Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow and from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday. Contact Jon or Heather Harris for details at jeh1224@aol.com. Cost is donations only.

### GROWN UPS SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Grown Ups Sunday School Class has begun a study of Colossians with Stan Armes. Their classroom is on the 2nd floor of the Education Wing.

### TALENT/NO TALENT SHOW

Prepare to be dazzled by CPC talent on Friday, November 11, at 7:00 p.m. Desserts will be served and donations taken to assist choir members who are going on a mission trip to Belarus in June 2017. Make plans now not to miss this!

### 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY

Join us to celebrate Don Sullins on November 12, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. No gifts, your presence is the present. RSVP by November 5 to Laura Fosgate at lfogate@gmail.com.

### TURN CLOCKS BACK

Daylight Savings is ending. Don't forget to turn your clocks back on Saturday night. Spring forward, Fall back!

### 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 November, the following Shepherding Groups have clean-up duty: E. Brown, T. Gaither, D. Grant, A. Sanders, T. Schreiner, and T. Smith.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

Nov 9	Chili Pie
Nov 16	Coq Au Vin (Mac 'n Cheese for kids)
Nov 30	Spaghetti and Caesar Salad
Dec 7	Christmas Feast (Roast and Mashed Potatoes)

### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following update to your CPC Membership Directory.

Delane Ogden

Email .....delane.ogden@gmail.com

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) collects shoe boxes filled with small gifts to deliver to needy children around the world at Christmas time. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share the love of Jesus. Labels are available at the Welcome Center to place on the boxes marking age and gender of the child. You can participate several ways:

- \* **Fill a shoe box** for a specific gender/age child. OCC requests the use of Walmart or Dollar store's plastic boxes which are shoe box sized as they are more durable. If you are able to write a note to include in your box, it would be a great blessing to that child as they have been known to prize things like letters and pictures well into adulthood. Collection points are in the Ladies Sunday School classroom across from the coke machine and in the Children's Wing.
- \* **Donate items** for shoe boxes. Sample items: soap, toothbrush, combs, socks, toothpaste, washcloths, small toys, school supplies, hard candy (no chocolate since it melts), bowls, spoons, flip-flops, t-shirts etc.
- \* **Donate money** - for shipping per box (\$7 per box). Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse, and put OCC on the memo line. Drop it in the offering plate no later than November 13.
- \* **Wrap and stuff boxes** on Saturday, November 19, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Perseverers Sunday School classroom.

### THANKSGIVING POUNDING

We are collecting staples and canned goods to help those in need. Please place items in the box outside of Pastor Mullinax's office. If you are going through a hard time this year, or if you know someone who is, please let an Elder or the Church Office know. The Pounding can be a tangible expression of God's love to someone who is struggling. Please contact Joyce Trask at futurejoyce@gmail.com for details.