



# The eNewsletter

May 4, 2017

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 Pastor Emeritus...*

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

- May 4**  
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study
- May 5**  
Taters and Tubesteaks
- May 7**  
Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Women's Ministry Kick-Off
- May 8**  
Ladies' Monday Night  
Bible Study - Titus
- May 10**  
Last Wednesday Night Supper  
Youth Leadership Team  
Last Wednesday Night  
Activities  
Covenant Corps End of the  
Year Party
- May 13**  
Ladies' Tea  
Youth Car Wash
- May 14**  
Morning Worship  
Sunday School
- May 16**  
Mothers' Encouragement  
Group
- May 17**  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
Search Committee Meeting  
Prayer Group  
Session
- May 18**  
Memorial Hospital Lunch
- May 20**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Party
- May 21**  
Morning Worship  
Teacher Recognition Sunday  
Sunday School  
Waldecker Bridal Shower  
Gray Baby Shower  
Diaconate Meeting
- May 24**  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
Search Committee Meeting  
Prayer Group
- May 27**  
Women's Ministry Hiking  
Kinship Group

When I was a boy Johnny Horton sang several songs based on historical events. I loved them. I can still sing most of the words to *The Battle of New Orleans*.

Johnny also sang a song about the sinking of the Bismark, a Nazi battleship. Johnny's song, sung to a throbbing melody, begins with these lines:

"In May of nineteen forty-one the war had just begun...The Germans had the biggest ship that had the biggest guns...The Bismarck was the fastest ship that ever sailed the seas...On her deck were guns as big as steers and shells as big as trees."

I must admit, while I understand the line "shells as big as trees," I've never been able to get a handle on what is meant by describing the Bismark's guns being "as big as steers."

The Bismark poised a genuine threat to shipping in the Atlantic. Early in May 1941, following the Bismark's sinking of the British battleship the Hood, Churchill ordered the British Navy to find and sink the Bismark.

Late in May of 1941 she was spotted by British planes, which attacked her with torpedoes. One torpedo destroyed the Bismark's rudder. Now, unable to maneuver, the Bismark was attacked by British warships, severely damaged, and sunk by her own sailors so she wouldn't fall into British hands.

Without a rudder, no matter how powerful, the Bismark was helpless.

By God's enabling grace, CPC has become a strong church. And, despite not having a Senior Pastor, she is not rudderless.

The Session continues to provide the leadership we need to move forward. For example, they've moved ahead by hiring the Rev. Jake Bennett to take up the duties of Pastor of Discipleship, which should prove to be of profound significance to us as a church.

Pastors Mullinax and Steere provide CPC with strong pastoral leadership. Jeremy, as Director of Music Ministries, prepares services of worship which are pleasing and honoring to our Lord. And our staff provides strong oversight.

The Lord has also blessed us with pastors, both on staff and within our congregation, to preach God's unchanging truths with power and passion.

Most importantly, the Lord and His revealed Word continues to direct our steps and to guide our leadership.

Now, under the leadership of Ruling Elder Griggs, a Search Committee has begun the process of helping us discern who the Lord would have to be our next Senior Pastor.

Clearly, we face some struggles. For example, our giving is lacking significantly behind budget, and does not yet match last year's giving to date. But overall, the Lord is empowering us to meet whatever challenges we face.

Now, beginning this Sunday, Dr. Herb Ward, Professor of Bible at Covenant College, will provide us with a sustained presence in the pulpit for the next four months. Herb filled the pulpit two years ago, and many expressed to me their deep appreciation from his ability to set before us the message of God's revealed Truth.

Without a rudder, the mighty Bismark sunk to the bottom of the sea. But we are not rudderless. The Lord continues to steer us through the many godly leaders He has raised up to govern and shepherd us. To God be the glory for what He has done in raising up CPC, and in continuing to guide us even at a time when challenging winds test our faith in His plans and purposes for us.

~Pastor Caines



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule May 7

#### Worship

##### Infants

Judy Foster  
& Crystal Middleton

##### Crawlers

Holly & Ava Lehmann

##### Toddlers

Brian & Liam Lehmann

##### Floaters

Maggie Middleton

### Sunday School

##### Infants

Diane Lazor  
& Alayne Griffin

##### Crawlers

Sue Spalding  
& Catherine Coffey

##### Toddlers

Craig & Susan Miller

### May Coordinator:

Judy Foster

### TATERS AND TUBESTEAKS

Join us for a night out with the family, Friday, May 5. The hot dog dinner begins at 5:45 p.m. in Coolidge Park. Stay for the Lookouts game at AT&T Park at 7:15 p.m. The cost remains \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Due to the increase of ticket prices, we need a more accurate headcount than previous years. Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

### CAR WASH

The youth are hosting a car wash on Saturday, May 13, at noon, at Auto Zone on East Brainerd Road. The car wash itself is free, but you can make a pledge to sponsor a youth. Also, please help by planning to get your car washed!

### LADIES' TEA

Ladies, you are invited to the Ladies' Tea on Saturday, May 13, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. the cost is \$10 for an adult and \$7 for children 12 and under. A nursery is available for those who request it at the time of registration. Registration forms are at the Women's Ministry table in the Lobby. Sign up by Sunday, May 7.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

May 10 is our last Wednesday Night Supper until the fall. Dinner on May 10 is Fettuccine Alfredo with Caesar Salad. Supper is 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 family maximum is \$15.

### COVENANT CORPS PARTY

Covenant Corps Children, ages 3 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, you are invited to enjoy inflatables and ice cream on Wednesday, May 10, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This party will be our last class until fall and will reward the kids for their hard work in the catechism memorization throughout the year.

### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following update to your CPC Membership Directory.

Jonathan & Kansas Bradley  
2801 Rio Grande Road  
Chattanooga TN 37421

### COMPASSION SUNDAY

Our church is participating in Compassion Sunday on Mother's Day, May 14. This is part of a national event, sponsored by Compassion International, that helps us grow in our understanding of God's special love for the poor. Please begin praying now about sponsoring one or more of these children in need. Sponsorship packets will be available Wednesday, May 10 through Sunday, May 14. Please contact Bev Fowler with questions or stop by the table in the Lobby.

### GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Sunday, May 28, is Graduate Recognition Day at CPC. Please let us know if you are graduating or have a graduate in your family. We are recognizing graduates from high school, college, trade school, masters, or doctorate programs. Please email the church office with the name of the graduate, the degree earned, name of school, and date of graduation.

### MUSIC CAMP

Music Camp is June 5-9. Kids from Kindergarten through entering the 6th grade are invited to join us for a week of music, drama, crafts, Bible, and fun! Cost is \$30. Please register on our church website or fill out a form in the Lobby.

To volunteer to help with Music Camp, please use separate registration forms found outside Jeremy Gaines' office.

### CALENDARS

The May Birthday/Anniversary calendar is available at the Welcome Center.