



The eNewsletter

November 9, 2017

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

Looking Ahead...

November 10
Youth Retreat

November 11
Youth Retreat

November 12
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Youth Retreat
Missions Committee Meeting
Turnbull/Schreiner Bridal Shower
Daconate Meeting

November 13
Ladies' Monday Night Peter/Jude Bible Study
Ladies' Monday Night Luke Bible Study

November 15
Ladies' Wednesday Morning Bible Study
Wednesday Night Dinner
Wednesday Night Activities Session Meeting

November 16
Ladies' Thursday Morning Bible Study
Memorial Hospital Lunch Ministry

November 18
Thanksgiving Pounding
Operation Christmas Child Packing Day

November 19
Morning Worship
Sunday School

November 22
Thanksgiving Praise Service

November 23
Church Office Closed - Thanksgiving

November 24
Church Office Closed - Thanksgiving

November 26
Morning Worship
Sunday School

November 28
Mother's Encouragement Group
Craft Kinship
Swap Kinship

As you know, CPC has participated in Operation Christmas Child by sending shoeboxes for many years. We have read many stories of these precious children and how the shoeboxes, love, and prayers have impacted them. Many children have come to know Jesus, often joined by their parents and families.

Jeffrey Zongizia, an OCC Coordinator, writes: *We had an Operation Christmas Child shoebox distribution in a community in Papua New Guinea's capital city. A little girl attended the event hoping to receive school supplies in her shoebox. She comes from a poor family and her parents cannot afford to buy her pens, pencils, or notebooks. The young girl had prayed and asked God for these items.*

When she opened the box, she saw everything she had prayed for. She was in tears. "I really wanted these educational things for school," she said. "My parents don't have any money."

We shared the Gospel during the distribution and she was again moved to tears. We invited her to attend The Greatest Journey discipleship classes, and during this time she received Jesus Christ as her personal Savior. Her parents started coming to church and they also received Jesus.

Ivan, a pastor in Belarus, writes: *We had many opportunities for fellowship and sharing the Gospel during our OCC shoebox gift distribution this year. After the distribution we visited in the homes of some of the children who received shoeboxes. We went to a poor home where the father recently passed away. The family welcomed us warmly.*

While we were having tea, the 7-year-old girl opened her box and took out the gifts

one at a time, thanking us. The grandmother said that the children never received such gifts.

One 14-year-old was very happy, rejoicing over every gift, and thrilled to receive a pencil in his box. He had never received a gift.

Another family told us that their two children enjoy their gifts every day, and then return them to a special hiding place.

Refugees from Ukraine also came and received shoebox gifts. War has forced these families to leave their homes. Parents found joy through the gifts their children received.

Children in another family told us that they prayed they would receive a Christmas gift, and they are now thanking God for the gift boxes they received at the church.

All the children are grateful - and so are we! Thank you, everyone who sends these wonderful gifts. They have blessed many families and our church as well.

Operation Christmas Child is an incredible ministry to participate in with your family. Since 1993, more than 135 million gift-filled shoeboxes have been delivered to 150 countries.

You can pack your own boxes (no liquids, candy, gum, toothpaste, or war toys), provide money for shipping (\$9 per box), come to the packing party on November 18 or pray for these little ones. Also, we encourage you to write a note, with a picture and a return address - you never know who you will hear back from!

~Gretchen Brown



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule November 12

Front Desk
Anna Steere

Worship

Infants
Lucy Mantel
& Mandi Johnson

Crawlers
Camille Ambrose
& Brandi Siler

Toddlers
Eric Mantel
& Drew Johnson

Sunday School

Infants
Peg May
& Ann Walker

Crawlers
Lois Crenshaw
& Sophia Cross

Toddlers
Pete Johnson
& Sharon Brauer

BRIDAL SHOWER

A bridal shower in honor of Hannah Turnbull (bride-elect of Micah Schreiner) is on Sunday, November 12 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Hannah is registered at Target and Amazon.

YOUTH RETREAT

The High School and Middle School Youth Retreat is this weekend. All registered Youth need to be in the church parking at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, November 10.

COVENANT KIDS

All kids ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to join together in Schum Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, November 15, at 7:00 p.m. Agape Puppets are set to perform for us! It will be a fun evening!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

November 18 is packing day! Please come to the Perseverers Classroom between 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to help pack boxes to be shipped around the world. This is a wonderful opportunity to share the love of Jesus.

THANKSGIVING POUNDING

Delivery day is November 18! Please bring your donations by Sunday, November 12. If you have any questions, or would like to help pack boxes or deliver, please contact Joyce Trask at futurejoyce@gmail.com.

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, J. Brown (formerly T. Schreiner), T. Gaither, D. Grant, and A. Sanders.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

Nov 15	Butter Chicken
Nov 29	Soup and Bread
Dec 6	Spaghetti

WOMEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT

The CPC Women's Ministry Retreat is February 23-25 at the Oak Haven Resort. Bev Mealor is leading a study *From Fear to Faith: Allowing God's Word to Transform Your Life*. Registration forms are at the WM table in the Lobby. Registration deadline is December 10. Cost is \$85 for a 2-person room or \$140 for 1-person room (\$50 deposit due with registration). Contact Dory George or Catherine Coffey for more details. Contact Heather Harris or Becky Pearce for available scholarships.

HUGS FOR SOLDIERS

Hugs for Soldiers sends out care packages and greeting cards to service members all around the world. There is a table set up outside of Pastor Bennett's office with cards ready to be filled out. Take a minute to write a Christmas greeting to a soldier! Prayers, encouraging words, and thankfulness for their service. The cards will be sent out the end of November. Please contact Edyne Vatt with any questions at 423.504.3127.

GRATEFUL GOBBLER

Annually, people from all walks of life gather together for the 5k Grateful Gobbler Walk, Run, Stroll held on Thanksgiving Day at 8:00 a.m., beginning and ending at Coolidge Park. Proceeds from the walk will benefit the Maclellan Shelter for Families, an emergency homeless shelter located on site at the Community Kitchen. To register, please visit www.gratefulgobbler.org.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL MINISTRY

Our church has the privilege of being a part of a luncheon ministry at Memorial Hospital. Next Thursday, November 16, we'll provide lunch to families in the surgery waiting room. If you are able to contribute sandwiches, chips, snack cakes, or fruit, please call or email the Church Office.

OFFICE CLOSED

The church office is closed the following days for Thanksgiving:
Thursday, November 23 - Closed
Friday, November 24 - Closed
Please note: no eNewsletter next week.