



The eNewsletter

February 22, 2018

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421
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From the Pen of the Search Committee Chairman...

Looking Ahead...

February 23

Women's Ministry Retreat

February 24

Women's Ministry Retreat

February 25

Women's Ministry Retreat

February 25

Morning Worship
Sunday School

February 26

Ladies' Monday Morning
Bible Study

February 28

Wednesday Night Activities

March 1

Ladies' Thursday Bible Study

March 3

Men's Breakfast
Women's Ministry Teacher
Training

March 4

Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School
Instrumental Ensemble
Rehearsal
Youth Praise Team Rehearsal

March 5

Ladies' Monday Night Luke
Bible Study

March 6

Mother's Encouragement
Group

March 7

Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

March 8

Ladies' Thursday Morning
Bible Study

March 9

High School Lock-In

March 10

Children's Ministry Teacher
Training

March 11

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Missions Committee Meeting
Youth Praise Team Rehearsal
PM Worship Service
Youth Group

Phillips Brooks was a famous and gifted Boston minister of the late 19th century. After his death, two impressive memorial statues were commissioned in his honor. They can be seen there today. One reads, "Phillips Brooks // Preacher of the Word of God // Lover of Mankind." The other reads, "A Man Full of Faith and of the Holy Ghost." Today, Phillips Brooks is remembered especially for his poem "O Little Town of Bethlehem." But among ministers, he is also known for an influential series of lectures he delivered on the subject of preaching. His definition of preaching is quoted far and wide. Brooks says that *preaching is the communication of truth through personality.*

Truth communicated through personality - it is an idea that extends beyond the pulpit. God communicated his very word to us through the personalities of the prophets and apostles. Paul's letters are full of Paul's personality, which is rather different from Peter's or John's. Luke's gospel is so different from Mark's, at least in part because the personality of the writer was different. The scriptures are God's truth, but it is truth communicated through real personalities. It is what the doctrine of the *incarnation teaches us - God became real, human flesh. God's son became a real human being with a real human personality, and God's oracles are given in real human speech which is no less filled with personality.*

Our next minister will be a real human being with a real personality. Whatever the Lord intends to teach us in the coming years, whatever ways he intends to shape us by the hand of our next minister, it will be accomplished through a real and specific personality.

The fact that our next minister will have a personality may be an obvious truth, but it does not leave the Search Committee

without some practical challenges. What is *your personality?* What are the personalities that you are easily attracted to? What other personalities are there in the pews around you? What kind of personality are they attracted to?

There are those who love the study of personalities. My sister is one. My wife is another. They love to discuss Myers Briggs or the Enneagram. For my part, I'm constitutionally distrustful of personality tests - that's *my personality!* But I have learned something important in my short time working with the Search Committee. *I have come to see how the Lord loves and values the multivarious personalities he has created. I have come to see how many different personalities there are in our body. And I have gained a renewed awe for how the Lord has bound us together in love by his Spirit. When we minister to one another, serve and love one another, encourage and admonish one another, it is God himself working through us - yes, God's truth communicated through personality.*

The members of the Search Committee are working well and ought to be commended. We are focused on four candidates in particular. We are enthusiastic about what we see. As a reminder, here is the process: 1) The Search Committee does the glorious grunt work of sorting through candidates. Our job is to bring a candidate to the Pulpit Committee. 2) The Pulpit Committee will consider any candidates we bring to it. It is their job to bring a candidate to the congregation. 3) The congregation then chooses whether or not they will call the man to be their Pastor. 4) The Presbytery then examines the candidate. Such a layered process should give us great confidence that our next minister will not be a GOON!

~Elder John Wykoff



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule February 25

Front Desk

Emily Calloway

Worship

Infants

Justin Martin
& Volunteer Needed

Crawlers

Jon & Elijah Harris

Toddlers

Jonah & Isaiah Harris

Sunday School

Infants

John Pearce
& Debby Gardner

Crawlers

Yuvonne Cornell
& Volunteer Needed

Toddlers

Sylvia Mills
& Volunteer Needed

WOMEN'S MINISTRY RETREAT

Please pray for our CPC ladies as sixty-six of them leave tomorrow to attend their *From Fear to Faith* Retreat.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Then Men's Ministry invites men of all ages to their monthly Men's Breakfast on Saturday, March 3, at 8:30 a.m. Howard VanderGriend is speaking on *There I was at Ten Thousand Feet...* Nursery provided.

HIGH SCHOOL LOCK-IN

High School Youth, you are invited to a Lock-In on March 9 at High Point Climbing Gym. Cost is \$20. Please turn in your registration form, a High Point waiver, and payment to reserve a spot. Contact Abby Horton for more details.

PM WORSHIP SERVICE

Please plan to join us on Sunday, March 11 for our first monthly Sunday Evening Service. These services will be the second Sunday of each month with a time of praise and worship from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall, followed by break-out discussion groups with various Elders from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. On March 11, Adam Sanders and Dan Steere will be leading a group discussion in the Frederick Room on Family Worship and Jeremy Gaines will be leading a group discussion in the Perseverers Classroom on Singing in Worship. Nursery is provided for children up to age three.

CALENDARS

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

NURSERY VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

CPC members, if you are willing to help fill spots on the volunteer calendar, please let Crystal Middleton know as soon as possible. There are multiple spots to fill. Contact Crystal at cpcnursery@covenantchattanooga.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

If you are currently involved in our Children's Ministry during Sunday School or during Covenant Kids on Wednesday nights, please join us on Saturday, March 10, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall for some fun, creative tips for teaching children by age levels. If you are interested in being a part of the Children's Ministry Team, we would love for you to join us for a fun morning of delicious food, fellowship, and great training.

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.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

February 28	Baked Potato Bar
March 7	Chicken and Biscuits
March 14	Mexican Lasagna
March 21	Fettuccine Alfredo
March 28	French Dip Sandwiches with Oven Fries

LOST AND FOUND

Please be sure to check out the CPC Lost and Found area, located in the stairwell across from the Parlor, for misplaced items. All left behind items will be donated mid-March.