



# The eNewsletter

March 1, 2018

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...*

#### **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 Morning  
Bible Study  
Ladies' Monday Night Luke  
Bible Study

#### **March 6**

Mother's Encouragement  
Group  
WM Council Meeting

#### **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  
Daylight Savings -  
Turn Clocks Forward

#### **March 11**

Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Youth Praise Team Rehearsal  
PM Worship Service  
Middle School Youth Group  
High School Youth Group

#### **March 12**

Ladies' Monday Morning  
Bible Study  
Ladies' Monday Night Faith  
Bible Study

#### **March 14**

Wednesday Night Activities

#### **March 15**

Ladies' Thursday Morning  
Bible Study  
Memorial Hospital Lunch

*This is an older article from Pastor Caines. It is being used with his permission. Appropriate updates have been supplied.*

Almost every Sunday, members of our extended family gather around our dinner table for a meal. Obviously we gather because we are hungry, but hunger is not the bottom line. We gather because we are family. As a family, we share stories, observations, ideas, and concerns. Together we laugh, reflect, weep, and pray. We enjoy being with each other and, thankfully, acknowledge God's blessings upon us as a family.

We are family not simply because of blood, but more importantly because of the Blood. God has graciously claimed us for Himself and chosen to bless us by giving us each other. Therefore, we attempt to find those means by which to glorify Him in all we do, say, think, or feel. When we fall terribly short of that goal, we lovingly confront one another and wonderfully encourage each other to do what is pleasing in His sight. Such moments are not always immediately enjoyable or comfortable. But in the end, they have always helped to keep our eyes focused on Him by whose blood we have been cleansed from every transgression.

**On Wednesday evening, March 28 and Thursday evening, March 29,** we will gather as the family of God to eat a meal. We will celebrate a Seder (Sa-der) service commemorating the exodus of the Jews from Egypt. This was the meal eaten together by Jewish families the first night of Passover. This wasn't a meal they ate simply because they were hungry. They ate this meal to remember the blood by which they had been saved and safely delivered out of the land of slavery. Likewise, we will gather not simply because we are hungry - though we do anticipate a delicious meal - but because of the Blood.

In Egypt the Jews killed a lamb and then used its blood to paint the doorframes of their houses. When the death angel saw that blood, he passed over that house, sparing the life of the firstborn of that particular household.

When John first saw Jesus, he called Him the Lamb of God.

In I Corinthians 5.7 Paul tells us that "Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed." Interestingly, Paul then calls upon us "to keep the Festival." Now while it isn't a direct command to do what we will do on these evenings, it is a reminder of how important it is for us to remember what took place in Egypt; the significance of the events of that night; how they anticipated the events that would occur at Calvary; and the great salvation that is ours because of the Blood.

It will be a family meal. Our focus will be on remembering what God has done. Hopefully God will use our time of celebration to encourage us in our faith and "to spur (us)...toward love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10.24).

Most of us who gather will not be related. But all those who gather, in love with Jesus, will be fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, members of the Family of God. And the reason we will all be members of the same family is because of the Blood - that Blood symbolized by the blood shed in Egypt; that Blood was poured out by Christ on Calvary's cross; that Blood has paid the God-appointed penalty for our sins; that Blood cleanses us from all unrighteousness; that Blood makes us once and for all time members of the family of God."

This year's Seders will be in the more intimate, familiar, and convenient setting of our *home*. Schum Fellowship Hall will be the venue. Back-to-back evenings are needed to accommodate all. We hope you'll invite others. There's no charge, though you'll have an opportunity to contribute toward the costs. Registration is required in order to properly and adequately prepare for these special evenings. You may register by completing the form in this Sunday's bulletin, by email at [cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org](mailto:cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org), or call the church office at 899-5377.

~Pastor Caines



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule March 4

**Front Desk**  
Tammy Bacon

### Worship

**Infants**  
Beth Griggs  
& Volunteer Needed

**Crawlers**  
Duncan & Patrick Joyner

**Toddlers**  
Stacy Collins  
& Maggie Middleton

### Sunday School

**Infants**  
Bethany Firth  
& Corinne Novak

**Crawlers**  
Boo Mullinax  
& Kansas Bradley

**Toddlers**  
Jerry & Brenda King

### 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 is 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 TODAY. 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.

### EASTER LILIES

If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter, while honoring or remembering a friend or loved one, you may order an Easter lily for \$17.50. Order forms are available in the Lobby and need to be turned in to Carol by Wednesday, March 14. You may pick up your lily following the Easter service.

### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following change to your CPC church directory.

Jeremy & Domekia Gaines  
89 Southwood Circle  
Ringgold GA 30736

### SEDER DINNER

CPC is celebrating a Seder Dinner in Schum Fellowship Hall. To accommodate expected, in-house attendance, this year's Seder is being served both Wednesday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m. and Maundy Thursday, March 29 at 6:30 p.m. Registration forms are available in the Lobby and will be available in Sunday's bulletin.

### 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

March 7	Chicken and Biscuits
March 14	Mexican Lasagna
March 21	Fettuccine Alfredo
March 28	French Dip Sandwiches