



# The eNewsletter

May 17, 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 Elder John Wykoff...

### Looking Ahead...

- May 18**  
Maurer Memorial Service
- May 19**  
Touche Baby Shower  
Caines 50th Wedding  
Anniversary Celebration
- May 20**  
Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Instrumental Ensemble  
Rehearsal  
Youth Group
- May 23**  
Prayer Group
- May 27**  
Morning Worship  
Graduate Reception  
Sunday School Promotion  
Sunday School  
Youth Family Picnic
- May 28**  
Office Closed - Memorial Day
- May 30**  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
Prayer Group
- June 3**  
Lord's Supper Celebrated  
Sunday School  
Diaconate Meeting
- June 4**  
Music Camp
- June 5**  
Music Camp
- June 6**  
Music Camp
- June 7**  
Music Camp
- June 8**  
Music Camp
- June 9**  
Men's Breakfast
- June 10**  
Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Missions Committee Meeting  
Music Camp Performance
- June 12**  
General Assembly begins

A new season is breaking for Covenant Presbyterian Church. Can you feel the sun coming out? Have you noticed the signs of summer?

There is a delightful song in old English from around the year 1250 called "The Cuckoo Song" or "*Sumer is icumen in.*" When the blue-sky days of summer come, I can hardly step outside without the first line bubbling out of me: "*Sumer is icumen in, Lhude sing cuccu...*" which means "Summer has arrived // Sing loudly, Cuckoo!" If you've never heard the song, by all means look it up on youtube (for the best recording, search for "sumer is icumen in, Hilliard Ensemble"). Here is a little more of the text: "*The seed is growing // And the meadow is blooming // and the wood is coming into leaf now // Sing, cuckoo! // The ewe is bleating after her lamb // The cow is lowing after her calf // The bullock is prancing // The billy-goat farting // Sing merrily, cuckoo!*"

It is a skip rope kind of song that appeals to the inner child. It is a school's out kind of song that makes us leave cares behind and notice the signs of renewal and continuance. It is an all's well kind of song that tells us that the sun has paid his winter debt and has returned to purchase new life from the ground. In other words, it is a song for a good mood on a sunny summer day.

School kids and teachers have their reason to sing for the summer. You've heard the joke: What are the three best reasons to become a teacher? June, July and August. But for us teachers, the delight of summer is not merely the change of pace or the "time off" (a typically misunderstood part of a teacher's year). The joy of summer is the fact that one academic effort has closed, and a fresh one will begin. No matter how well or poorly the year went, whether you were the best teacher you've ever been or the worst, whether you accomplished all

of your goals or none of them - no matter what, the semester ends and a new one begins. That is the cycle of academic life, and as a teacher I relish it. *Sumer is icumen in!*

The cycle of things can either bore us or delight us. Recall Chesterton's unforgettable remark that "God is strong enough to exult in monotony...It may be that He has the eternal appetite of infancy; for we have sinned and grown old, and our Father is younger than we." There is something divinely youthful about rejoicing in the return of summer. Yet there is also something divinely mature about sensing the large rhythms of life. A child lives moment to moment. He hardly knows whether it is morning or evening. As he matures, he senses the rhythm of the day, then the week. By adolescence he can measure the year. By adulthood he can feel life's cadence in ever larger beats. And to the Ancient of Days, "a thousand ages in his sight are as an evening gone."

Covenant Presbyterian Church is at the brim of a new season in its life. Thirty years are past. Thirty more are coming. Can you sense the long rhythm? Have you begun to feel what is happening? We are nearly free of our building debt. A full new pastoral staff is now hired. Young learners are becoming seasoned leaders. Children who were born to the congregation are now becoming deacons and elders. Yesterday's nursery is today's congregation. There is a buzz about the future. There are refreshed prayers and renewed commitments. There is a giddy expectation about what God will do now. The pieces are assembled. The platform is ready. Stirrings of an awakening. *Sumer is icumen in!*

~John Wykoff



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule May 20

**Front Desk**  
Kim Collins

### Worship

**Infants**  
Volunteers Needed

**Crawlers**  
Carla Stevenson

**Toddlers**  
Volunteers Needed

### Sunday School

**Infants**  
Volunteers Needed

**Crawlers**  
Jonathan & Kansas Bradley

**Toddlers**  
Lindsey & Elijah Gutierrez

### BABY SHOWER

A baby shower in honor of Julie Touche is on Saturday, May 19 at 11:00 am at the home of Becky Pearce (2413 Ranch Hills Road, Chattanooga TN). Julie is having a baby girl and is registered at Target.

### MAURER MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service for Eric Maurer, husband of Mary Maurer, is Friday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m. A visitation with the family will be in Schum Fellowship Hall prior to the service at 1:00 p.m.

### MUSIC CAMP

Music Camp is June 4-8. Kids from kindergarten through entering the 6th grade are invited to join us for a week of music, drama, crafts, Bible, and fun! This year's musical is *What's Up, Zak!* Cost is \$30. Please register on our church website or fill out a form in the Lobby.

### GRADUATE RECOGNITION

Sunday, May 27, 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.

### YOUTH FAMILY PICNIC

All youth and their families are invited to an end-of-the-year family picnic at Heritage Park on Sunday, May 27, at 6:00 p.m. Drinks are provided. Bring a picnic and a few lawn chairs for your family.

### ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

A 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration in honor of Render and Linda Caines is Saturday, May 19, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. This is a drop-in reception.

### CAR WASH SPONSORS

Thanks to all the youth that participated in the Car Wash Fund Raiser last Saturday. For those that sponsored a CPC Youth, please turn your money in by Sunday, May 20.

### GROWN UPS SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Grown Ups Sunday School Class will be moving their class location on Sunday, May 27. Their new location is above the Office Wing in Room O-207.

### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following updates to your CPC Membership Directory:

Mack & Sarah Ann Lonas  
Cell (husband) ..... 423.718.4294  
Cell (wife)..... 423.400.7204

### NURSERY VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

CPC members willing to volunteer to serve in the Nursery, please select a few dates at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/MKTTY>. If you need help signing up or want to be added to the schedule rotation, please contact Crystal at [cpcnursery@covenantchattanooga.org](mailto:cpcnursery@covenantchattanooga.org).

### SWIM DAY

Swim Day at the May's pool begins Thursday, June 14, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This invitation is open to anyone at CPC. Parents, please remember that you are personally responsible for the supervision of your children and cleanup.

### PRAYER CALENDAR

The updated Prayer Calendar is available for pickup at the Welcome Center.

### DIRECTORY CHANGE

Please keep us informed of any address, phone, or email changes for the CPC Directory. Email changes to [cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org](mailto:cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org).

### MEMORIAL DAY

The Church Office is closed on Monday, May 28. No eNewsletter will be sent on May 31.

### FRI-YAY FUNDAYS

The Mother's Encouragement Group is meeting at the home of Beth Griggs for family swim nights the first and third Friday of June, July, and August from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Bring your own picnic dinner and join the fun!

### PESEVERERS SUNDAY SCHOOL

On June 3, the Perseverers Class will begin a chronological overview of the Old Testament. OT books, and even events presented within the books, are not always in chronological order. That creates difficulties in understanding the ebb and flow of God's work in and for His people. Questions raised in Scripture will serve as sign posts along the way (eg. "Did God actually say?" Genesis 3). Prophetic passages throughout the long preparation for the coming of Christ will be emphasized. Join them for good fellowship and a detailed study of the Old Testament.