



The eNewsletter

September 20, 2018

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

Looking Ahead...

September 21

Men's Proverbs Study
High School Glow Bowling

September 22

WM Hiking Kinship

September 23

Morning Worship
Sunday School

September 25

WM Swap Kinship

September 26

Wednesday Night Activities

September 28

Men's Proverbs Study

September 30

Morning Worship
Sunday School
Uthlaut Baby Shower

October 1

Ladies' Monday Night
Hebrews Study

October 2

Mother's Encouragement
Group
Women's Council Meeting

October 3

Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

October 4

Ladies' Thursday Morning
Bible Study

October 5

Men's Proverbs Study

October 6

High School Bonfire

October 7

Lord's Supper Celebrated
Sunday School
Instrumental Ensemble

October 8

Ladies' Monday Night
Prophets Study

October 10

Wednesday Night Activities

October 11

Ladies' Thursday Morning
Bible Study

We don't know when she got in, but there she was. We knew her. We'd seen her many times before. But now she was in our kitchen, flitting from one end to the other.

She was a wren. Yearly, she (or one of her ancestors) waits for us to leave open the garage door so she can enter and build a nest. Now, she was in our kitchen.

Last Wednesday evening, after returning from church, I left open the door from the garage into the house because Linda was a few seconds behind me. Apparently, at some point prior to Linda's entrance into the house, and unseen by us, Mrs. Wren preceded her.

We didn't know immediately that she was in the house. I was watching the Cardinals game on TV when Linda asked me to join her in the kitchen. She didn't say why, but she had a bemused look of frustration on her face. When I see that look, I try not to ask questions before responding to her summons.

I joined her in the kitchen, and there was Mrs. Wren perched on the curtain rod. Linda opened the kitchen door, and I spent the next ten minutes wielding a broom attempting to coax Mrs. Wren to return to the great outdoors. But she wasn't interested. Instead, she finally decided to flee the kitchen and enjoy the greater expanses of our home.

Unable to locate her, we went to bed. The next morning I couldn't find her. But then Linda heard her in the dining room. So she opened the door from the dining room to the screened-in deck. Finally, Mrs. Wren decided to explore

the deck. Linda quickly closed the house door, opened the deck's two doors, and Mrs. Wren bid us adieu.

Mrs. Wren's presence in our house, our efforts to get her to depart, and our eventual relief to see her gone provoked me to think about the sin that "so easily besets us." Often, we're not immediately sure when a particular sin first enters our lives. But eventually, we realize it's because we've left the door open.

As people who love the Lord, the recognition of a particular sin in our life should become disturbing and disrupting to our desire to please our King. So what do we do? Yes, we pray, confessing and repenting of our sin, asking the Lord to remove it from us.

But that's not all we do. We don't just pray and then wait to see if we are relieved of an unwanted intruder – just as Linda and I didn't simply pray and ask for the Lord to remove Mrs. Wren from our home. We get out the broom and strive to rid ourselves of sin's disturbing and disrupting presence. At times, our attempts seem futile. We may even forget about Mrs. Wren for a while.

But eventually, we again hear its chirping and once more take whatever steps we can to free ourselves from its presence. And, by God's enabling grace, we eventually see it fly from us (1 Corinthians 10.13).

And then, as Linda and I have tried to remember to do since that Wednesday evening, we don't leave the door to our house open.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule September 23

Front Desk
Sherry Baierl

Worship

Infants
Anna Reid

Crawlers
Betta & Josh Cook

Toddlers
Luther & Shirley Allin

Sunday School

Infants
Dusty & Rachel Kemp

Crawlers
Lori Rogers
& Anna Steere

Toddlers
John & Becky Pearce

BABY SHOWER

A baby shower in honor of Maria Utlaut is Sunday, September 30 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Maria is having a boy and is registered at Amazon and Walmart.

CLOTHES SWAP

The CPC Clothes Swap is today from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Wade or Amy Wooten.

HIGH SCHOOL GLOW BOWLING

High School Youth, join your friends for a fun evening of Glow Bowling. Meet at SpareTime on Friday, September 21 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wear neon colors and glowsticks will be provided. Cost is \$12.

CHURCH PICNIC

Mark your calendars! The annual Church Picnic is Sunday, October 21 at Heritage Park, beginning at 12:30. BYOPB (Bring Your Own Picnic Basket). Drinks, ice, and dessert will be provided. Activities for everyone! Bring a picnic blanket and/or some chairs.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE

The *Honoring the Sacrifice Foundation* is hosting their annual Golf Tournament on Monday, October 15 at Black Creek. Please check out their website for more information and registration details.

MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a member of CPC, please contact the Church Office to set up an appointment.

NURSERY NEED

The Nursery has an immediate need for paid workers during Thursday Morning Bible Studies. If this is something you or someone you know would be interested in, please contact Crystal Middleton at cpcnursery@covenantchattanooga.org.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please make the following update to your CPC Membership Directory:

Stan & Donna Armes
1306 Timber Lane
Sterling IL 61081

Dale & Nancy Knutson
1819 Sedgfield Drive
Ooltewah TN 37363

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

Wednesday Night Suppers are from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 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 September, the following Shepherding Groups have clean-up duty: J. Coffey, J. Hildebrand, T. Lowe, M. Walker, and M. Lander.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

Sept 26	Butter Chicken
Oct 3	Baked Potato Bar
Oct 10	Chicken Enchiladas
Oct 17	Lasagna
Oct 24	Chicken Divan
Oct 31	Pigs in a Blanket
Nov 7	Chili
Nov 14	Chicken Bacon Ranch Pasta
Nov 21	Thanksgiving - no meal
Nov 28	Soup and Bread
Dec 5	Chicken Pot Pie
Dec 12	Beef Burgundy