



# The eNewsletter

October 4, 2018

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

### Looking Ahead...

#### October 5

Men's Proverbs Study  
PCA Women's Ministry ONE  
Conference

#### October 6

PCA Women's Ministry ONE  
Conference  
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

#### October 12

Men's Proverbs Study

#### October 13

Men's Breakfast  
WM Hiking Kinship

#### October 14

Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Missions Committee Meeting  
Diaconate Meeting

#### October 16

Mother's Encouragement  
Group

#### October 17

Wednesday Night Activities  
Session Meeting

#### October 18

Ladies' Thursday Morning  
Bible Study  
Memorial Hospital Lunch

#### October 19

Men's Proverbs Study

#### October 20

Sunday School Teacher  
Meeting  
WM Cooking Kinship

#### October 21

Morning Worship  
Sunday School  
Church Picnic

It has been a delight living within the pages of Paul's letters to the Thessalonian church. As I said on Sunday, over the past couple of months I have begun to feel that this little congregation of Thessalonica is just down the street from me, as familiar as my own neighborhood. I have felt many times that I know people in that congregation, like Thessalonica is a suburb of Chattanooga. In my mind I have even used interchangeably, "Thessalonian Christians" and "CPC Christians." The city of Thessalonica, the Roman culture of the day, and the nature of new church plants have filled my imagination. Paul tells us that the reputation of this church has spread, to which I want to say, "Yes, I just read about them this morning."

Much (or most) of this apparent escapism is merely a function of spending time in the world of the biblical text. This is one of the delights of sermon preparation! Of course, living as I do with a family (and a dog and a bird) is *real* life that requires *full* attention. It is fair to consider a motto of 17th century Dutch jurist Hugo Grotius: *vitam perdidit operose nihil agendo*, "I lost my life laboriously doing nothing." Many find pastors susceptible to this very thing, motionlessly peering into the pages of a book while the dog needs to be let out, the bird needs food, and the entire family awaits his return to time present. I agree, it looks an awful lot like "doing nothing!"

I have enjoyed my time in 1 and 2 Thessalonians so much that I would like to continue living in this "world" of Paul for a bit longer. This is a little unique because I normally rotate my preaching schedule between the Old and New Testament, sometimes for no reason than to switch from one language to another.

What I would like to do in October is begin a lengthy series of sermons from Romans. Paul wrote this letter nearly a decade after his letters to Thessalonica. Beginning Sunday, October 14, I'd like to lay the groundwork for a study of this monumental book. Paul is not here evangelizing but writing to the believers as a bold reminder (Romans 15.15) of, according to one commentator, the *contours* of the gospel they love. I would recommend that you begin reading Romans. My desire is to progress through Romans much more slowly than I did through 1 and 2 Thessalonians; we'll begin with Romans 1.1-7. I'd also like the freedom to occasionally preach from the Old Testament as Paul directs us (for instance, in Romans 3, 5, 9, 11, 15). In addition to this, we will leave Romans during the Advent season, the Easter season, and at any time our pastors feel the church body needs to hear us address special topics. That said, we'll always return to Romans as our anchor series.

~Pastor Jones



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule October 7

**Front Desk**  
Joanna Watne

### Worship

**Infants**  
Mindy Haywood

**Crawlers**  
Stephen & Clyde Haywood

**Toddlers**  
Lucy & Iris Haywood

### Sunday School

**Infants**  
Selah Cross

**Crawlers**  
Grace & Charlotte Pippin

**Toddlers**  
Jason Collins  
& Kansas Bradley

### CHURCH PICNIC

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

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BONFIRE

The Middle School Youth Group is meeting at the home of Adam and Leanna Cathey (270 Indian Mound Road, Ringgold, GA) on Saturday, October 27 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A hot dog dinner will be provided. Girls, please bring a dessert to share, and, guys, please bring a drink to share.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Men's Ministry invites men of all ages to their monthly Men's Breakfast on Saturday, October 13 at 8:30 a.m. Jerry King is speaking on *The Planting and Watering of God*. Nursery provided for 36 months old and younger.

### 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 October, the CPC Youth are responsible for clean-up duty.

### CHURCH DIRECTORY

A Church Membership Directory was sent via email last week. If you desire a paper copy, please pick one up in the Lobby.

### YOUTH RETREAT

The High School and Middle School Youth Retreat is November 9-11 at Ponderosa Bible Camp. The speakers for the weekend are Pastor Jones, Pastor Bennett, and Jeremiah Hill. Cost is \$65 per person, with a family maximum of \$150. Registration forms are available outside of Jeremiah's office. Registration deadline is Wednesday, October 24. Please return those forms to Jeremiah Hill or Abby Horton.

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

OCC collects shoe boxes filled with small gifts (no liquids, candy, gum, toothpaste, or war toys) to deliver to the needy children around the world at Christmas time. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share the love of Jesus. Please write a note to the child to include with the gifts. Boxes will be packed on Saturday, November 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Perseverers Classroom.

Collection boxes are outside of the Parlor and outside of Pastor Mullinax's office.

### CALENDARS

The October Birthday/Anniversary Calendar is available at the Welcome Center.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

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