



The eNewsletter

January 31, 2019

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

Looking Ahead...

- February 1**
Men's Proverbs Bible Study
- February 3**
Lord's Supper
Mission Focus Sunday School
- February 5**
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
- February 6**
Wednesday Night Activities
Communicant Class begins
Session Shepherding Meeting
- February 7**
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study
- February 8**
Men's Proverbs Bible Study
Valentine Dinner
- February 10**
Morning Worship
Sunday School
Missions Committee Meeting
- February 11**
Ladies' PM Bible Studies:
Hebrews Study
Prophets Study
- February 12**
WM Council Meeting
- February 13**
Wednesday Night Activities
Communicant Class
- February 14**
Ladies' Thursday Bible Study
- February 15**
Men's Proverbs Bible Study
Middle School Superfly Party
- February 17**
Morning Worship
Sunday School
- February 19**
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
Craft Kinship Group
- February 20**
Wednesday Night Activities
Communicant Class

Summary of the Men's Retreat

I want to restate my thankfulness to the wives and moms who helped CPC husbands and fathers attend the Men's Retreat. I was honored to be asked to lead, and our time together was very refreshing. It was a privilege to have the opportunity to speak about Christian joy. This is one of my favorite topics, and I led our men through some 140 Hebrew words and 70 Greek words used in the Bible to describe joy, which we defined as "an internal sense of gladness, happiness, contentment, looking for expression and duration."

As you know, the various ministry committees of CPC prayerfully, selflessly, and graciously lead our church. Our ministry Committees are not *instruments* of the elders but, rather, men and women who involve themselves in the church body, care for the church body, seek God's will for the church body, give their time and skills to the church body, to...*minister* to the church body. Our ministry committees are spiritual resources for ministry leadership (Eph. 4.12, but also 1 Cor. 12.7 and 1 Pet. 4.10).

The Men's Ministry Committee and our wonderful facilitators worked hard to create a comfortable setting in which we could talk about joy in our lives. I am also pleased that our men received a copy of Dr. David Murray's book, *The Happy Christian* (2015). The retreat was so enriching to me, personally, and I would encourage you to ask others about it. Be sure to thank our Men's Ministry Committee and facilitators, as they did an amazing job.

Soldiers Emeritus

I have never pastored an historical church like Covenant before. Even though we're not as historic as other PCA churches in Chattanooga, I still find it to be a humbling privilege to be part of a church with such a glowing past. Our church was planted by Dr. Caines and others from East Ridge PCA in 1988. Our denomination wasn't even established until 1973 when 260 Presbyterian congregations formed the PCA.

Though younger than many other PCA churches, a church of 30 years could not have been sustained without the work of men who have devoted numerous years of service as elders and deacons. Our denomination encourages us to give special honor to those men who have served the office of elder or deacon for many years. When these men retire, we acknowledge their service to the body by retiring them as elder or deacon *emeritus*. The label, "emeritus," evokes the image of a soldier who has served faithfully over a long period of time, completing more than their share of service.

We want to encourage you to thank elders Tom Lowe, Mark Lander, and Tim Owens, now recognized as Elder Emeritus, as well as, deacons Bill Pierce, Len Williams, and Joe Fisher, now recognized as Deacon Emeritus. An emeritus officer is welcome to attend all officer meetings and participate in discussions, without voting on matters. Take time to honor them as you thank God for their years of ministry.

~Pastor Jones



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule February 3

Front Desk
Sherry Baiertl

Worship

Infants
Betty Varnell

Crawlers
Cami Calloway

Toddlers
Patrick Joyner
Daegan Brown

Sunday School

Infants
Selah Cross

Crawlers
Laura Fosgate

Toddlers
Thomas & Sarah Blackburn

MARRIAGE MAINTENANCE

There are still several spots available for the Marriage Maintenance Community Groups that meet every other Saturday evening through the spring. The next meeting will be on February 2. Please contact Jon Harris at jeh1224@aol.com for more details.

MISSION-FOCUSED SUNDAY

Rev. Benji Slaton, TVP church-planter for the new PCA church in Ooltewah, will speak Sunday, February 3, in Schum Fellowship Hall, during the Sunday School hour. Mark Casson, director of Metanoia Prison Ministries (PCA's prison ministries partner), will speak in the Perseverer's Classroom. All adult Sunday School classes will be combined into these two classes.

COMMUNICANTS CLASS

Fourth through sixth graders are invited to come to a communicants class Wednesday evenings beginning February 6. The class is from 6:30-7:00 p.m. Pastor Jake Bennett will be teaching this class. Parents, come to the first meeting for more information.

VALENTINE DINNER

As a reminder, to everyone who has registered, the Valentine Dinner is Friday, February 8, at 6:30 p.m. The theme is *Swing, Swing, Swing!* A cake auction is also taking place, and all proceeds are going to fund choir mission efforts in Belarus. Due to lack of need, nursery will not be available during this event. Registration is closed.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUPERFLY EVENT

Take notice of a date change for the Middle School Superfly Event. It will be on February 15 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. We will meet at Superfly Chattanooga for a time of fun and fellowship! Cost is \$10. Please contact Jeremiah Hill if financial assistance is needed.

SUMMER YOUTH CAMP EVENTS

Parents, please mark your calendar for our Youth Summer Camp destinations and dates this year.

Middle School (*the Edge*): June 17-21

High School (*Generate*): July 15-19

Registration information will be available soon. If you have questions, please contact Jeremiah Hill or Abby Horton.

EMERITUS OFFICERS

Please note a few changes to officer status that have been authorized by the elders of the church. Elders Tom Lowe, Mark Lander, and Tim Owens are now recognized as Elder Emeritus. Deacons Bill Pierce, Len Williams, and Joe Fisher are recognized as Deacon Emeritus. We are grateful to God that He has used these men to promote the Christ-centered life and health of Covenant Presbyterian Church through the years.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Please join us on Wednesday evenings for our fellowship meal. Cost is \$4 per adult, \$2.50 per child and a max of \$15 per family. This week's entrée is Chili Pie. Please remember to supervise your children until the children's wing opens at 6:50 p.m.

For the month of February, the following Shepherding Groups are responsible for clean-up duty: J. Coffey, J. Hildebrand, M. Lander, T. Lowe, and M. Walker.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

February 6	Chili Pie
February 13	Coq Au Vin
February 20	Spaghetti and Caesar Salad
February 27	Butter Chicken
March 6	Biscuit Chicken Pot Pie
March 13	Jambalaya Pasta