



# The eNewsletter

March 14, 2019

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 our Executive Pastor...*

### **Looking Ahead...**

#### **March 15**

Men's Proverbs Bible Study

#### **March 17**

Morning Worship  
Sunday School

#### **March 19**

Mothers' Encouragement  
Group

#### **March 20**

Wednesday Night Activities  
Communicants Class  
Session Meeting

#### **March 21**

Memorial Hospital Lunch

#### **March 22**

Men's Proverbs Bible Study  
Middle School Bowling

#### **March 24**

Morning Worship  
Sunday School

#### **March 27**

Wednesday Night Activities  
Communicants Class

#### **March 29**

Men's Proverbs Bible Study

#### **March 31**

Morning Worship  
Sunday School

#### **April 1**

Ladies' PM Bible Study:  
Hebrews

#### **April 2**

Mothers' Encouragement  
Group  
WM Council Meeting

#### **April 3**

Wednesday Night Activities  
Communicants Class  
Session Meeting

#### **April 5**

Men's Proverbs Bible Study  
Middle School Game Night

#### **April 6**

Men's Breakfast

*"...This is my Son, my Chosen One, listen to him!"* Luke 9.35

My parents still love sharing my first experience in Sunday School as a child. As a barely-talking toddler, my first Sunday School lesson was on Daniel in the lion's den. Leaving their first child in Sunday School seemed like a daunting task for my mother, so afterward, she was quick to pry as many details from me as she could. She was able to discern the lesson was about Daniel. Knowing the story herself, she tried to coax answers out of me. When she reviewed the part of Daniel spending the night with the lions, she inquisitively asked, "And what did the lions do?". My response was, "They said, 'thank you Jesus, Amen, yum, yum, yum'".

Sometimes the best teachers are foiled by inattentive listeners. Listening is a discipline of sorts. It is difficult and requires intention and practice. There are many places in Scripture where God specifically commands His people to listen (Isaiah 46.3,12; 51.1,7) or promises judgment when they do not listen (Isaiah 66.4; Zephaniah 3.2). Scripture also correlates listening and obedience (2 Kings 18.12). In order for us to learn and grow in Christ we must first listen.

The value of listening is often dismissed in our world. Sound bites and abbreviated bumper stickers teach us that all we need is a cursory glance to form the right opinion. It is not surprising that we struggle with this. Our world inundates us with persistent, ever-changing information

at the tips of our fingers, from recipes to ethical questions on movies. We live with an information overload, which encourages us to be a mile wide and an inch deep. Listening to nuance, observing subtleties, and slowing down to inquisitively pursue a road that may appear to lead nowhere is discouraged. Yet, the Lord calls us to listen.

Recently, I started reading *Knowing God and Ourselves: Reading Calvin's Institutes Devotionally* by David Calhoun. Dr. Calhoun was a professor of history at Covenant Theological Seminary for several years, and taught a class on Calvin's Institutes for many of those years. In his chapter over-viewing the introduction to the Institutes, Dr. Calhoun remarks on the impact Calvin had on the world. He describes the uniqueness of Calvin was found in his description of doctrines that seem incompatible - God's goodness and the evil in the world, God's work of salvation and man's misery, and prayer and predestination. How was Calvin able to write on these issues with such diametrically opposed topics? Because Calvin's primary desire was not to solve the mysteries of the universe. He simply sought to listen well to the Word of God.

May we also learn to slow down and spend time listening to the Lord.

~Pastor Bennett



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule

March 17

#### Front Desk

Sandy VanderGriend

#### Worship

##### Infants

Esther McEachern

##### Crawlers

Justin Martin

##### Toddlers

Margaret Middleton &  
Patrick Joyner

#### Sunday School

##### Infants

Dusty & Rachel Kemp

##### Crawlers

Julia Gracy

##### Toddlers

Luther & Shirley Allin

### MOTHERS' ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

The Mothers' Encouragement Group meets the first and third Tuesday of each month throughout the school year. Be sure to mark your calendar for the upcoming meeting on Tuesday, March 19, at 10:00 a.m. For more information, please contact Connie Hildebrand at [childebrand56@gmail.com](mailto:childebrand56@gmail.com).

### MEMORIAL HOSPITAL LUNCH

Our church has the privilege of being a part of a luncheon ministry at Memorial Hospital. Next Thursday, March 21, we'll provide lunch to families in the surgery waiting room. If you are able to contribute sandwiches, chips, snack cakes, or fruit, please call or email the church office.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BOWLING

Calling all Middle Schoolers! Bowling Night is Friday, March 22, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. We will meet at Spare Time Entertainment for some awesome bowling fun! Cost is only \$10. Please contact Jeremiah Hill or Abby Horton at [cpcyouth@covenantchattanooga.org](mailto:cpcyouth@covenantchattanooga.org) for more information.

### PRAYER CALENDAR

The updated Prayer Calendars are now available at the Welcome Center.

### PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Remember our college students in your prayers. Many of them are in the midst of their semester and will be making summer plans soon.

### DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following update to your CPC Membership Directory.

Stan Armes

779.245.1006

### YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS

~Middle School Summer Camp, The Edge, registration is OPEN! It's located at Covenant College June 17 - June 21. Cost is \$295. DEADLINE to REGISTER is MARCH 27!

~High School Summer Camp, Generate, registration is OPEN! It's located at Covenant College July 15 - July 19. Cost is \$350. Please return registration forms to Abby Horton or Jeremiah Hill.

### BUDGET REPORT

A copy of the approved budget for 2019 is available at the Welcome Center.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

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

For the month of March, the Covenant Presbyterian Youth are responsible for clean-up duty.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

March 27	Beef Shepherd's Pie
April 3	Honey Mustard Chicken
April 10	Stromboli
April 17	Easter Week - No Meal
April 24	Grilled Chicken w/ Sesame Noodles
May 1	Taco Salad