

(Continued from front page)

I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please (Isaiah 46:9b-10).

Once we finally reach the end, we will see how masterfully every step in human history has led to that moment, how the end has been building since the beginning. God's story will be revealed in all of its glorious purposefulness, and we will have no desire for an alternative ending, once we see what He has in store.

Pastor Mullinax

## PRAYER EMAILS

Pastor Mullinax will send the "prayer mails" from now on. If you have any prayer requests to be shared, please send them to Pastor Mullinax at [emullinax@covenantchattanooga.org](mailto:emullinax@covenantchattanooga.org). Mark Wilson will still handle most CPC info mails.

## NURSERY SCHEDULE

### Feb. 24

- 9:30 *Infants:* B Vandergriff, L Swan  
*Creepers/Toddlers:* A Creamer, E Brown  
*Toddlers:* P & L Spotts
- SS *Infants:* D Crawford, F Lowe  
*Creepers:* J & K Gaither  
*Toddlers:* A & J West
- 6 PM *No Evening Service:* Shepherding Groups Meet

### Mar. 2

- 9:30 *Infants:* Edyne Vatt, G Brown  
*Creepers/Toddlers:* Emily Vatt, S Evans  
*Toddlers:* H & B Lehmann
  - SS *Infants:* C & J Hildebrand  
*Creepers:* L & J Bowman  
*Toddlers:* Y & T Owens
  - 6 PM *Combined:* K & P Henry
- Please note:** If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Tammy Higgins at 706-820-0491.



# THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 21, No. 7

Covenant  
Presbyterian Church

February 20, 2008

## From the Associate Pastor...

Have you noticed that filmmakers have recently begun to release more than one ending to a particular movie? Apparently, offering alternative endings is a way to boost sales when the movies are released on DVD.

I'm not a fan of this new approach. I'm usually muttering out loud, "So, which one really happened?" or "Did it end happily ever after, or did they all die?"

It is not that I have trouble distinguishing truth from fiction; I know that none of the endings really happened. Rather, I can't help believing that the end of a story is the most important clue to its meaning.

Imagine a murder mystery with multiple endings in which different characters are discovered to be the culprit. This would make all of the hints preceding the murderer's disclosure meaningless.

Or imagine a great romance with different endings; one version ends with the hero and heroine marrying each other; another version ends with the hero marrying someone else. The sense of satisfaction--that these two were destined to be together, that all of the conflict and obstacles of the plot could not stand in the way of the inevitable--would dissolve.

What really lies behind my frustration with multiple endings is my belief that the best

writers have an end in mind from the beginning. They have the privileged vantage of being able to see how the story ends, and it is their responsibility to tell the story in a way that prepares the audience for the conclusion.

This doesn't mean that they give the ending away; some of the very best stories have surprise endings. But even with a major plot twist, great stories leave their audience nodding their heads, realizing that the story couldn't have ended any other way.

This is the sort of story that God is weaving through human history. From our vantage point, we can already see that He is a master of foreshadowing. He has given us some idea of how the story will end . . . get a copy of Pastor Caines' sermon CD from this past Sunday morning if you were not there. We know that it won't just taper off, but that there will be a final climax in which evil is soundly defeated, the saints are ushered into the very presence of their Lord and all is set right. But we can't see exactly how in the midst of the [His] story we will get to that point.

God, on the other hand, knows exactly how this great drama of history will end and all points leading there. He reminds us of this: I am God, and there is no other; I am God and there is none like me. (Continued on back page)

## COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road Chattanooga, TN 37421 (423) 899-5377  
[www.covenantchattanooga.org](http://www.covenantchattanooga.org)

Dr. J Render Caines, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Eric Mullinax, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Zack Carden, Assistant Pastor of Family & Youth Ministry  
Jeremy Gaines, Director of Music Ministries  
Mark Wilson, Dir. of Christian Education & Administration

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## FAMILY & YOUTH MINISTRY

**No Youth Fellowship** this Sunday evening due to shepherding groups meeting.

**High School Retreat** Your registration forms for the retreat need to be turned in this week. Place them in the envelope on the youth bulletin board beside Pastor Carden's office.

**Chaperones!** We are looking for a few men and women to be chaperones for the High School Retreat. *We especially need folks who would be interested in helping out in the kitchen.* February 29th-March 2nd are the dates. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Carden.

## SHEPHERDING GROUPS

Our shepherding groups meet this Sunday, February 24, at various locations and times. If you are not assigned to a shepherding group and would like to participate, call the church office at 899-5377. There will be no Sunday evening service this week.

## TEAM REYNOSA MEETING

If you are interested in participating in our mission trip this summer to Reynosa, Mexico, see Pastor Mullinax. The next team meeting for anyone interested is Sunday, March 2, at 7:15 PM in the Visitor Classroom.

## CYAM FELLOWSHIP

CYAM (College and Young Adult Ministry) is having a Chili Lunch on Sunday, March 9, directly following Sunday School in the fellowship hall. If you are in this age group, we want to see you at the lunch! If you know someone that is a college student and/or a young adult, please pass this information along to them. Lunch is provided, and all you need to bring is yourself! During the Sunday School hour, CYAM meets on the second level of the new addition, above the fellowship hall.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### Love Your Kitchen Month

The renovated kitchen has been up and running now for quite some time but there are items that are much needed and desired. Here is what you can do: The WM has registered under "Covenant Presbyterian" at Target for the needed items. Purchase a gift for the CPC kitchen and bring your gift to the decorated table across from Schum Fellowship Hall during the month of February.

The grand opening of these gifts is Wednesday, March 5, during the women's night together after supper. We thought this would be a great way to have a shower without taking away time from our already overscheduled lives.

## BRIDAL SHOWER

A shower will be given in honor of Wendy Rohr, bride-elect of Jeff Henry, on Sunday, March 2, from 3:30 - 5:30 PM in Schum Fellowship Hall. Wendy is registered at Macy's, Dillard's and Bed, Bath & Beyond.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

### Sunday Worship

This Sunday, February 24, we will focus through worship on our **OMNISCIENT** God. Two of the hymns we will sing are "To God Be the Glory" and "My Faith Looks Up to Thee."

## SEDER DINNER

The Passover Seder Service is Palm Sunday, March 16, at 6 PM. Because of limited space and all the preparation that goes into the dinner/service, registration is required. Look for reservation forms in this Sunday's bulletin, February 24 and also March 2.

## CPC SOFTBALL

If you would like more information about the men's softball team, contact Josh Ray at 423.227.4876. The season begins in April.

# For Your Information...

## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

A new membership directory will be available the first of March. If you have changes since the last directory, call the church office ASAP or email [awalker@covenantchattanooga.org](mailto:awalker@covenantchattanooga.org).

## LIGONIER CONFERENCE

On March 13-15, 2008, Ligonier Ministries will hold its 21st annual national conference, "Evangelism According to Jesus," in Orlando, Fla. During three days of worship, fellowship, encouragement, study, and prayer, the different aspects of the Gospel will be explained on how they must impact our evangelism. Respected speakers include Sinclair Ferguson, Steven J. Lawson, John MacArthur, C.J. Mahaney, R.C. Sproul Jr., and Joni Eareckson Tada. To register or for more information, visit [www.evangelismaccordingtojesus.info](http://www.evangelismaccordingtojesus.info) or call 1 800-435-4343.

## QUEST OPEN HOUSE

Covenant College offers the opportunity to earn the Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management degree in Chattanooga for adults who are interested in completing their undergraduate degrees. Want to learn more? Quest will host a series of open houses this week at their downtown Chattanooga location. Monday's (Feb. 25) open house will take place from 5 - 7 pm. Light Hors D'oeuvres will be served. Tuesday's and Wednesday's open houses (February 26 & 27) will meet from 11 am to 1 pm and will feature a pizza lunch. RSVP: 265.7784 or 1.800.960.5020.

## **PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:**

- \* **Michael Slade** — UGA (upper class)
- \* **Laura Spalding** — UGA (upper class)
- \* **Abby Lyons** — Samford University (freshman)

## NEW MEMBERS

Listed below are the names of those who joined CPC this month. Check out their snapshots on the New Member Bulletin Board outside the Visitors Classroom. Help make these new folks feel welcome at CPC when you see them!

Jonathan & Emily Calloway  
Carey, Camille  
705 Carden Avenue  
Rossville, GA 30741  
706.858.5991

Jonathan is a computer technician with Mohawk Industries. Emily is a stay-at-home mom homeschooling their first grader son, Carey, and taking care of 3 year old Camille.

Derek & Tiffany Holland  
Drew  
9223 Magic Mountain Drive  
Chattanooga, TN 37421  
423.432.9754

The Hollands moved to Chattanooga from Nashville last summer. Derek is a physician specializing in oncology, and Tiffany is a stay-at-home mom. Their son is one year old.

## LOOKING AHEAD AT CPC

Feb. 23	Michael Card Concert	
Feb. 24	Shepherding	
Feb. 29	High School Retreat	
Mar. 2	Lord's Supper	
	Bridal Shower for Wendy Rohr / (Jeff Henry)	
Mar. 16	Seder Service	
Mar. 19	No Wed. Activities	
Mar. 20	Maundy Thursday Service	
Mar. 21	Office Closed	
Mar. 22	Breakfast & Egg Hunt	
Mar. 23	Easter	
	No SS or PM Service	
Mar. 30	Shepherding	
June 21-28	Mission Trip to Reynosa, Mexico	