

(Continued from front page)

that is rightfully His, as He disciplines, protects, and cares for His people, whom He is recreating in His image.

So, knowing that He is in control, am I worried? Sure. I'm still a son of Adam. Am I confident? Yes. Because I am a child of God's. Am I at peace? By God's grace.

Let's pray that God will use our circumstances to turn the hearts and minds of a generation to Him. And whatever the future brings, I pray that we will be found resting in the assurance of His promise that all the things of this world we will ever need He will provide for us, if we are striving daily to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matt 6.33).

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

March 1

- 9:30** *Infants:* R Pierce, L Rogers
Creepers/Toddlers: D, O, & MA Tawzer
Toddlers: K Fisher, M Horton, L Rogers
- SS** *Infants:* B & K Smith
Creepers: T Higgins, L Caldwell
Toddlers: J & M Logterman, J Gracy
- 6 PM** *Combined:* B Mullinax, J Gaines

March 8

- 9:30** *Infants:* R Getz, J Trask
Creepers/Toddlers: H & C Armao
Toddlers: D & A Heisig, D Trask
- SS** *Infants:* J & K Bingham
Creepers: J & K Gaither
Toddlers: D & T Holland, D Thurman
- 6 PM** *Combined:* E & M Rahm

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Tammy Higgins at 706-820-0491.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road
Chattanooga, TN 37421

(423) 899-5377
www.covenantchattanooga.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 22, No. 8

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

February 25, 2009

From the Senior Pastor...

Yesterday the DOW dropped to its lowest point since 1997. What in the world is going on? And how is this going to impact our future as individuals ... families ... a congregation ... a denomination ... the church ... a nation ... a world?

I'm confident I know, though I'm not at all clear on the details.

Seven hundred years before the birth of Christ, God said through the prophet Isaiah, "I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the Lord, do all these things" (45.7).

God is speaking to a future Persian king named Cyrus. Cyrus will not rule over Persia for another 150 years.

During the intervening years, the Lord will use Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon to punish His covenant people. He will carry off into exile the citizens of Judah for some seventy years.

But then, God will raise up the Persians, to overthrow the Babylonians. The ruler of Persia, will be Cyrus. And it is Cyrus who will issue a decree allowing the people of Judah to return to their homeland to rebuild the Temple.

What does all of this have to do with

us? Everything.

It reminds us that Yahweh is not simply the God of Judah, but is, in fact, the Ruler of heaven and earth. The Babylonians do His bidding. The Persians do His bidding. He uses them to both punish and bless His people.

God says in Isaiah 45.21-22, "There is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me. Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth, for I am God and there is no other."

And then He tells us at the end of verse twenty-three: "Before me every knee will bow, by me every tongue will swear." In Philippians 2 Paul writes about Jesus, the One who is "in very nature God" (v 6). In Philippians 2.10-11, Paul quotes Isaiah 45.21-22, applying Yahweh's words to God the Son: "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

I have no idea about the details of what lies ahead, but I am confident that God is working all things together to gain for Himself all the glory, honor and praise

(Continued on back page)

YOUTH & FAMILY

Middle school & high school youth

will meet this Sunday following the evening service.

Looking Ahead — Mark March 20-21 as the date for the Girls Lock-in / Guys Lock-out. More details at a later date.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Sunday Worship

This Sunday, March 1, our worship focuses on our *GOOD* God. Two of the hymns we will sing are *Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul* (p. 57) and *Like A River Glorious* (p. 699).

If you would like to hear these hymns and use the words in preparation for worship, the website www.cyberhymnal.org may be helpful.

Upcoming Concerts

On Sunday, March 15, an all-men's group, *Brethren*, will present a concert for our evening service. Todd Gaither is a member of this group. Please make plans to attend and invite others.

Palm Sunday, April 5, Chattanooga Christian School's Select Ensemble will present a concert during the evening service.

COMMUNION / DIACONATE OFFERING

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated during the morning worship service this Sunday. Please prepare your hearts.

This is also a time when a special diaconate fund offering is received. The funds supply the financial resources for the ministry of mercy conducted by our deacons, primarily assisting CPC family members who are in need.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Fellowship Groups

- The East Brainerd Fellowship group 1 will meet Monday, March 2, at 7 PM at Janet Wade's home.
- The Mothers Encouragement Fellowship will meet Tuesday, March 3, at 10 AM at the church. Childcare is provided.

WM Spring Seminar

Ladies, make plans now to attend the Spring Seminar scheduled for Saturday, March 28. Our speaker, Dee Brestin, has authored several study guides. Her topic is "The God of All Comfort." Please plan to invite a neighbor or coworker. Register this Sunday in the lobby. The deadline for registering is February 28. The cost is \$20, and seating is limited.

IRONMAN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Ironman's Breakfast Saturday, March 7, at 8:30 AM. The speaker is Jim Hildebrand and his topic is "Be Intentional". Join us for a great time of fellowship, food, discussion, and prayer.

FCA BANQUET

The 2009 Fellowship of Christian Athletes "**Road-to-Victory**" Banquet will be held at the Chattanooga Trade Center on Monday, March 2, at 7 PM. Contact Pastor Mullinax if you'd like to be a part of the evening. This is a fundraising event, and you'll be asked to consider monetarily supporting the ministry.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:

- * **Audrey Griggs** — Auburn (upper class)
 - * **Lindsey Gardner** — MTSU (upper class)
 - * **Holly Schreiner** — Covenant College (freshman)
-