

(Continued from front page)

Malachi is also our twentieth grandchild, my mother's twenty-second great-grandchild, and Mom and Pa Jackson's fortieth great-grandchild.

My mother-in-law is the sixth child of eleven children born to Linda's Grandma and Grandpa Cross. Malachi is approximately their 305th descendant. Now that's what I call being fruitful and multiplying.

I also like to point out that at this moment more than one-tenth of the Cross clan are Caineses, while more than one-fourth are Jacksons. I share that information with you just in case anyone was asking.

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Mar. 23 –Easter

1st Half: *Infants:* J Ray, R Getz
Creepers/Toddlers: M & D Tawzer
Toddlers: J & D Bowers

2nd Half: *Infants:* J & B Parker
Creepers: T & A Horton
Toddlers: T & M Horton

No Sunday School or Evening Service

Mar. 30

9:30 *Infants:* S Coffey, J Nelson
Creepers/Toddlers: M & C Stevenson
Toddlers: E Reynolds, J Hall

SS *Infants:* D Lazor, S Choi
Creepers: J Gracy, E Elwood
Toddlers: E Brown, M Haywood

6 PM **Shepherding Sunday - No PM service**

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Mary Slade at 706-937-9298.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road Chattanooga, TN 37421 (423) 899-5377

www.covenantchattanooga.org

Dr. J Render Caines, Senior Pastor

Rev. Eric Mullinax, Associate Pastor

Rev. Zack Carden, Assistant Pastor

Jeremy Gaines, Director of Music Ministries

Mark Wilson, Dir. of Christian Education & Administration

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 21, No. 11

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

March 19, 2008

From the Senior Pastor . . .

Our English word "passion" comes from the Latin word for suffering. This is why we call the eight days between Palm Sunday and Easter the week of our Lord's passion.

I know some of you have seen Mel Gibson's movie, *The Passion of the Christ*. I know for many its graphic display of the brutal torture and horrible death suffered by our Lord is too gruesome to watch. I can't recommend that you see this movie. But those who have know the powerful visceral impact it has upon the viewer.

But physical pain was not the greatest cause of our Lord's suffering.

Tim Keller points out in his new book, *The Reason for God*, that there have been others who have suffered physically more than Jesus suffered. There have been others who endured torture and deaths far more horrible than what Jesus endured.

The *passion* of our Lord was not simply physical. As He prays in the garden, He wrestled with the horrible reality that He soon must drink from the cup of God's wrath. What troubles Jesus most deeply is knowing that as He drinks from this cup He will find Himself cut off from the Father.

And when that moment comes, it will provoke from Him these horrible words: "My God, my God, why have you forsake me?"

He who had no sin became sin for us. As the Bearer of our sin, He finds Himself forsaken by the Father, as He dies the death of the damned.

What an unthinkable moment. What an unimaginable horror. God the Father turns His back upon the God the Son. For some theologians, this is what we are speaking of when we confess to believe that He descended into hell, for whatever else hell may be, it is most certainly separation from God.

But then, as He dies, this is His cry: "It is finished."

The penalty has been paid. By grace through faith we are forgiven, pardoned, redeemed, and justified. We were once separated from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel, foreigners to the covenant, without hope and without God. But now, we are God's dearly beloved, recipients of a sure and certain hope, members of the covenant community, citizens of Israel, for by His blood Christ has purchased us for Himself, and nothing will ever separate us from His love.



Around 2:30 Monday afternoon, Malachi Edward Harris was born. He weighed in at eight pounds and six ounces and was twenty-one and a half inches long. As I write this article we haven't yet been to the hospital to see him, but we'll be leaving soon.

How special it is that he was born while Linda's parents were visiting with us. Malachi is Jon and Heather's fifth son. In baseball lingo they are five for five.

(Continued on back page)

FAMILY & YOUTH MINISTRY

No Youth Activities this Sunday evening.

Sign up to Feed the Youth on Sunday Evenings:

A new sign-up sheet is posted on the lobby bulletin board. You may sign up for a slot through the end of summer. If you would like more information, contact Susan Helton at 855-4433 or 718-8633.

BREAKFAST & EGG HUNT

Everyone is invited this Saturday, March 22, to a full breakfast from 9 - 10:15 AM at the church. Donations for the breakfast will help offset the cost of our family-friendly mission trip to Reynosa Mexico this summer. The egg hunt at 10:30, for children age 2 through the fifth grade, will feature different age-appropriate areas for "hunting." You do not need to bring any eggs. Prior to the egg hunt we will have a story explaining the reason we celebrate Easter.

Volunteers!! Your help is needed with the Easter Egg Hunt. If you can help out at the Hunt on Saturday, March 22, contact Zack or email him at zcarden@covenantchattanooga.org.

EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

This Sunday, March 23, our morning service at 9:30 AM will be an extended time of worship and celebration of our Lord's resurrection.

There will be no Sunday school or evening service.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Spring Seminar

This year's spring seminar is scheduled for Saturday, April 25. Kathy Stair, our guest speaker, will discuss Biblical hospitality and real ways for overcoming our own hesitations and misconceptions about hospitality. Make plans now to attend.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Sunday Worship

This Sunday, March 23, we will focus through worship on our *LIVING* God. Two of the hymns we will sing are "Crown Him with Many Crowns" and "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today."

OFFICE MEMOS

The church office will be closed this Friday, March 21, for Good Friday.

If you have not picked up your copy of the new membership directory, those are available in the lobby. Regular attenders may obtain a directory by calling the church office.



IRONMAN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Ironman's Breakfast Saturday, April 12, at 8:30 AM. Speaker John Herberich's topic is "Closer than a Brother." Join us for a great time of food, discussion, fellowship and prayer.

CHURCH WORKDAY

Join us for spring cleaning Saturday, April 26. We could use your help with several projects around the church - inside & outside. Some will be minor cleaning items requiring no prior experience, and some will involve specific skills and tools. More details to follow!

For Your Information...

NEW MEMBERS

Listed below are the names of those who joined CPC this month. Add their names and addresses to your membership directory. 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!

Rod & Marilyn Swanson
29 Hunting Ridge Circle
Rock Spring, GA 30739
(706) 375-3750

marodswan@earthlink.net

Rod & Marilyn are the parents of CPC member Reid Swanson. They have recently moved to the Chattanooga area from San Antonio.

Sam & Pam Plücker
Nathaniel
8339 Harvest Oak Lane
Chattanooga TN 37421
(423) 502-2394

psplucker@gmail.com

Sam & Pam have recently moved to the Chattanooga area from Bristol, TN. Sam is in medical residency at Erlanger. Pam is a stay-at-home mom.

Pete & Mandi Johnson
Drew, Logan, Peyton
8510 Brander Mill Lane
Chattanooga TN 37421
(423) 426-5206

mandi@peteandmandi.com

Pete & Mandi are Covenant College graduates. Pete is an attorney, and Mandi is a stay-at-home mom. They are expecting their fourth child any day.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:

- * **Scott Steere** — **Chatt. State (upper class)**
- * **Chris Elwood** — **Covenant College (upper class)**
- * **Brittne Canada** — **Anderson University (freshman)**

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP SUPPERS

Remember: if you plan to attend the Wednesday supper, you need to register by noon on Monday. You may email the church at wednightmeals@covenantchattanooga.org. If you plan to attend every Wednesday, you may fill out the permanent registration form in the lobby.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please keep us current on any email changes that you have. Email is an important tool we use to keep the CPC family informed. Call us (899-5377), or email those changes to awalker@covenantchattanooga.org. Thank you!

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.

LOOKING AHEAD AT CPC

- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Mar. 21 | Office Closed - Good Friday |
| Mar. 22 | Breakfast & Egg Hunt |
| Mar. 23 | Easter |
| | No SS or PM Service |
| Mar. 30 | Shepherding |
| Apr. 6 | Lord's Supper |
| | Baby Shower for Kate Lambeth |
| Apr. 11 | WM Hobby Night |
| Apr. 12 | Ironman's Breakfast |
| Apr. 13 | Deacons Meeting |
| Apr. 19 | WM Seminar |
| Apr. 26 | Church Workday |
| Apr. 27 | Shepherding |
| May 3 | Ironman's Breakfast |
| May 10 | Mother / Daughter Tea |
| May 26 | Office Closed - Memorial Day |
| June 9-13 | Music Camp |
| June 15 | Music Camp Program PM |
| June 21-28 | Mission Trip to Reynosa, Mexico |

