

## COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Ruth is home for the last time this will be her home. I knew she was coming, but I had no idea she'd arrived on Friday evening.

Likewise, we knew she had given her heart to Africa. But we had no idea she'd be giving her heart to a South African.

Friday evening, I couldn't have been happier. As we look forward to April 16, Linda and I couldn't be happier. All we ask is that you join us in our celebration of God's gift of love — of God's love for us, of our love for Him, and of Gary's and Ruth's love for one another.

Pastor Caines

### NURSERY SCHEDULE

#### March 6

**9:30** *Infants:* K Wenzler, K Orthner  
*Creepers/Toddlers:* D & E Reynolds  
*Toddlers:* S & L & M Orthner

**SS** *Infants:* S Nicely, K Swanson  
*Creepers:* A Creamer, R Bingham  
*Toddlers:* S Allin, J Pearce

**6 PM** *Combined:* L Grant, B Mullinax

#### March 13

**9:30** *Infants:* B Griggs, S Forrester  
*Creepers/Toddlers:* H & C & J Armao  
*Toddlers:* D & T Holland, E Griggs

**SS** *Infants:* J & K Bingham  
*Creepers:* M Horton, A Steere  
*Toddlers:* M & L Lander

**6 PM** *Combined:* Fowler Family

**Please note:** If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Judy Foster at 423.645.1086.



# THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 24, No. 8

Covenant  
Presbyterian Church

March 2, 2011

## From the Senior Pastor. . .

Friday evening. Just after ten.

I had changed into my pj's and was in bed watching a basketball game, relaxing in preparation to fall asleep.

The door to our bedroom was halfway open. I heard a knock, looked up and saw Gretchen standing in the hallway just outside our door.

Like many in the family, Gretchen is a frequent visitor at our house. But she seldom drops in at such a late hour.

Hearing the knock, looking up and finding her standing there, my father (as well as grandfather) gear kicked in. I started up out of bed, preparing myself for whatever was wrong.

Linda had entered the bedroom just a few moments earlier and disappeared into our bathroom. From the hallway, Gretchen looked me in the eye and in a most serious tone said, "Dad, I have something I need to show you."

That didn't help to calm me. My mind continued to race. And it wasn't figures of sugar plums dancing in my head.

As I sprang from the bed, I could see out of the corner of my eye Linda exiting our bathroom. Gretchen turned to look down the hallway, motioned with her hand, and suddenly standing in the doorway was Ruth.

For a brief moment I couldn't put the pieces together. It was Friday evening. Sunday afternoon Linda and I were to drive to the airport in Atlanta to pick Ruth up. I had already

informed our elder that we wouldn't be at shepherding on Sunday evening.

It wasn't Sunday. We hadn't driven to Atlanta. But here stood Ruth.

Apparently I was the only one, besides my mother, who didn't know that she would be arriving in Atlanta on Friday evening. Jason, Gretchen and their five children had driven to Atlanta to pick her up. And now she was standing at my bedroom door.

As Linda came out of our bathroom, she had her camera, snapping pictures left and right. I'm sure she'd love to share them with you.

And then suddenly, our bedroom was crowded. Ruth, Gretchen, Jason, Heather, Jon, me and Lizzie (the dog). Everyone, but me, with knowing smiles on their face. My smile was one of delight and puzzlement. I don't know how many of you knew that Ruth was coming home on Friday, but I didn't have the slightest idea.

Ruth's eleven months in South Africa have ended. She'd already taken steps to apply to MTW to return for four years. However, during the past few months, she has met and fallen in love with a young man named Gary Isaacs, a graduate of the Bible Institute and a Reformed Baptist candidate for the ministry. Gary will arrive the end of March. Ruth and Gary will be married April 16 (you're all invited). The first of May, they will return to Cape Town, South Africa.

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## MUSIC NOTES

SUNDAY WORSHIP



This Sunday, March 6, our worship will focus on our Sovereign God and will sing *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*, (p. 165 TH).

## YOUTH & FAMILY

Middle school and high school youth are invited to hear Dan Steere's report from Africa this Sunday, March 6 in the Schum Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Next week, Dr. Caines will be our guest speaker, so join us Sunday, March 13 in the youth suite.

## CPC WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Ladies, the Spring Seminar is almost here; it's on March 18-19, 2011. We are planning a Tasters Dinner for Friday evening--a time of genuine relaxation and fellowship. Bring a dish and its recipe to share.

Saturday's seminar will focus on the theme of "Women in His Story." Come and be encouraged that God is actively engaged in each of our lives. He knows us intimately and is working in us for His glory and our good.

Special Speaker: Lynda Brown

Focus Ministry: CPC's Nursery

Registration and Payment deadline: Sunday, March 13, 2011

Cost: Friday--no cost; Saturday--\$6, \$3 for those 12 and under

Time: Friday--6:30 p.m.; Saturday--10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. by pre-registration only.



## MEN'S MINISTRY

All men of the church, all ages, are invited to the Ironmen's Breakfast this Saturday, March 5, at 8:30 a.m. Pastor Caines is speaking on the topic "Dead Man Walking and the Sovereignty of God".

## 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!

### Catherine Grant

3725 Carl White Place  
Chattanooga, TN 37410

Catherine is a graduate of Covenant College who has been attending CPC for the past year. She is very active in CYAM and is from Rock Hill, South Carolina.

### Thomas and Jennifer Covington

7947 Long Drive  
Chattanooga, TN 37421

Thomas lived here as a teenager. After studies at Covenant Seminary in St. Louis, Thomas and Jennifer ministered in post-Katrina New Orleans. They moved here last summer with their two children, Foster and Rachel.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS?

Email Carol or Susan by 10:00 a.m. by Tuesday with all information. E-Mail address: [cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org](mailto:cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org).

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLEAN-UP

The following shepherding groups have clean-up duty for the month of March: Griggs, Lander, Owens, Smith, and Grant. Please contact your shepherding elder to let him know you can help.



## CLOTHING SWAP

It's time to clean out your closets again! Bring items you do not wear, like or that do not fit, and swap them for something you can use. There are usually men's, women's, kid's, infant's and maternity clothes with the occasional household item thrown in. Even if you don't have anything to bring, come "shop." It will be Thursday, March 24, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Amy Wooten. If you want to donate items and don't plan to come, please email Amy at the address given below. Any items left will be donated to missions. Email Amy at [mattwootenfam@comcast.net](mailto:mattwootenfam@comcast.net) for directions.

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The Session will meet with anyone desiring membership Sunday, March 20. Call the church office (899.5377) to schedule a time.

### PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:

\*Cliff Mauroner      \*Jacob Rogers  
\*Emily Morris      \*Ruth Stevenson

## ADDRESS CHANGES

Please make the following change to your membership directory:

### Rhys & Bonnie Gaillard

221 Shadow Creek Lane  
Highlands, NC 28741  
Home Phone: 828.526.8299

### Mark & Linda Lander:

[marklander@gmail.com](mailto:marklander@gmail.com)



## LOOKING AHEAD AT CPC

Mar 5	Men's Breakfast
Mar 15	Mothers' Encouragement Group
Mar 17	Memorial Hospital Lunch
Mar 18,19	CPC WM Spring Seminar
Mar 24	Clothing Swap
Apr 2	Men's Breakfast
Apr 3	Caines/Isaacs Shower Reception
Apr 5	Mothers' Encouragement Group
Apr 8-10	CYAM Spring Retreat
Apr 9	Church Work Day
Apr 16	Caines/Isaacs Wedding
Apr 17	Shepherding Groups
Apr 19	Mothers' Encouragement Group
Apr 19	Colors of Grace Concert
Apr 21	Memorial Hospital
Apr 21	Maundy Thursday Service
Apr 23	Easter Egg Hunt
Apr 24	Easter Sunday-no SS or PM service