

Some don't believe anyone should write a story about Jesus for which there is no Scriptural support.

I understand. But the main reason I'd like you to see a copy of this book, is so you can read her testimony which comes at the end of her novel.

She researched extensively the story of Jesus in preparation to write her book. This is the bottom line. Having read far more than I have of the history and the works of historians focused upon the events of this time, she found herself coming to an inescapable conclusion — Jesus Christ rose bodily from the dead and appeared to many.

This is the good news that changes everything. He is risen! He is risen, indeed!

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

April 19

9:30 *Infants:* E McEachern, G Brown
Creepers/Toddlers: M & S Haywood
Toddlers: M Bond, A Griffin

SS *Infants:* D & R Kemp
Creepers: A & B Griffin
Toddlers: J & J McNeely

6 PM *Combined:* Fowler Family

April 26

1st half *Infants:* S & T Helton
Creepers/Toddlers: M & L Hobbs
Toddlers: E Brown, M Arbuckle

2nd half *Infants:* S Nicely, E Cary
Creepers: M & B Mason
Toddlers: P Plucker, J Mauroner

No Evening Service — Shepherding Groups Meet

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Peg May at 423-894-1538.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 22, No. 14

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

April 15, 2009

From the Senior Pastor...

When people of like precious faith gather together, with minds and hearts focused upon their Lord, intent on praising Him and eager to hear His Word; I know I have come into His courts, and He is pleased.

That is frequently my experience on Sunday mornings. But Easter Sunday has become for me one of the highlights of my year.

This past Sunday, God graciously enabled us to offer up to Him our best. And, I believe, He mercifully chose both to encourage and challenge us.

I will not list names. But to those of you who put in lengthy hours of preparation to lead God's people in their celebration of Jesus' resurrection, thank you.

Do you remember the invocation? As we asked God to be with us, we confessed to believe and understand that the passion and resurrection of our Lord is the hinge of all human history.

And it is.

All of the Old Testament anticipates this moment. The Gospels tell us the story. The rest of the New Testament teaches us by example and instruction the meaning and significance of our Lord's life, death, resurrection, ascension, reign and return.

C. S. Lewis is famously quoted as having said that Jesus is either a liar, a lunatic or the Lord.

In our day, we need to add a fourth "L". Jesus is either a liar, a lunatic, a legend, or the Lord.

Clearly, many must believe that the story told in the Gospels is a legendary tale.

How else could anyone know this story, and then choose to walk away from the One Whose claims are so absolute — I am THE way, THE truth, and THE life — and Who by His bodily resurrection and appearances, validated all He did and said?

If Jesus did not rise bodily from the dead, then we are all fools. And obviously, many believe that we are simpletons. Clearly, many must think that we believe a tale told by idiots signifying nothing.

And if Christ be not risen from the dead, they are right. Even the Apostle Paul taught if Christ has not been raised, our preaching and faith is useless (1 Cor 15.13).

I have a book for you to read. I've mentioned it before. I would suggest you get a copy of Anne Rice's *Out of Egypt*. It's a novel about Jesus as an eight-year-old boy.

Some of you will find this suggestion objectionable. Some of you know that Anne

Rice is famous for writing about vampires.

(Continued on back page)

YOUTH & FAMILY

Middle school & high school youth will meet this Sunday following the evening service.

Parenting Conference — “Parenting on Purpose” is scheduled for Saturday, April 25, from 10 AM - 2 PM. This free conference will cover topics on discipline, communication and fueling your child’s passion for Christ. Speakers will be Dr. Caines, Ken Henry and Tony Souder, director of the Chattanooga Youth Network. If you are a parent with a child, age 0-18, this is for you. A lunch will be provided. Look for registration forms in the bulletin this Sunday.

CHURCH WORKDAY

Join us to help with the church workday this Saturday, April 18, from 8 AM until noon. We’ll be raking, mulching, painting, repairing, cleaning, organizing . . . items inside and outside, for all ages and abilities. There will be a nursery for children 3 and under. If you can lead a team or bring tools, please contact Huston Wade or Len Williams for more information. A continental breakfast will be available from 7:45 - 8:15 AM.

NURSERY NEEDS

We need rockers, swings with reclining seats that babies can sleep in, toys appropriate for 6-15 month olds (please no cloth toys), and contoured changing table pads. If you'd like to buy one of the table pads and donate it to the nursery they cost \$22, and we need two. Large items can be donated or loaned. Just put your name on the rockers or swings, and let Heather know they are only on loan.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Starting in June we need a Sunday School teacher and two helpers for the 3-year-old class. You can commit for a year, a semester or just the summer. This is a great opportunity to minister to our children. Please contact Mark Wilson for more information.

WOMEN’S MINISTRY Fellowship Group

Mothers Encouragement Fellowship will meet Tuesday, April 21, at 10 AM in the parlor.

Ladies Tea

Registration for the Ladies Tea, May 9, begins this Sunday.

BABY SHOWER

A drop-in baby shower will be given in honor of Laurie (Elwood) Ritzema this Sunday from 4:00 - 5:30 PM in the Perseverers classroom. She and Tim are expecting a boy. They are registered at Target and Babies R Us.

GRADUATES

If you or someone in your family is graduating or has graduated since last May from high school or college, please contact the church office as soon as possible. We would like to have the names of each so we can properly recognize them. Thank you.

MUSIC MINISTRY Sunday Worship

This Sunday our worship focuses on our **GRACIOUS** God. Two of the hymns we will sing are *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (p. 457) and *Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord* (p. 465).

MUSIC CAMP

Music Camp is scheduled for June 8-12. Early pre-paid registration is \$20 per child. The deadline is April 30. After that date the cost is \$25 per child. Registration forms are available on the church website, www.covenantchattanooga.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

APRIL - CLEAN UP:

Shepherding Groups responsible: Kent Brown, Dee Hobbs, Jeff Gaither, Danny Grant and Mark Wilson

MAY - CLEAN UP:

Shepherding Groups responsible: Ernie Brown, Greg Duble, Clint Wilkie

For Your Information...

VIM BANQUET

The Volunteers in Medicine 2nd Annual Band-Aid Banquet is Monday, April 27, at the Brainerd BX. Doors open at 5:30. Dinner is served at 6 PM. Live music will be provided and sportscaster Randy Smith is the featured speaker. Volunteers in Medicine provides health care to low income, uninsured citizens of Hamilton Co. at no cost to the patient. Local physicians and other support personnel volunteer their time to provide services. VIM is a nonprofit ministry and depends totally on the financial support of individuals, churches and businesses. VIM accepts no government support. During this time of financial crisis we have seen a significant increase in the number of folks needing help. Please consider taking a place at the table sponsored by CPC. You can look forward to a lovely evening with fellow church members while you learn more about VIM and consider giving of your time or money. Contact Polly Henry at 718-8047 or pollyhenry@gmail.com to reserve your place at the table no later than Monday, April 20.

SPRING GOLF

Elevate your game . . . to 2300 feet! This CPC golf outing is planned for Friday afternoon, May 1, at the Canyon Ridge Club, located atop Lookout Mountain. Space is limited. Registration is required. Please only one guest per CPC member. The cost is \$40. See Pastor Mullinax for details and to reserve your place.

RUN FOR THE BORDER

Interested in a short-term mission trip this summer along the border of Texas and Mexico? CPC is putting together a group to travel to El Paso to work with our supported missionaries, Jeff and Heather Vaughn. The Vaughns minister with BEAMM (Border Evangelism and Mercy Ministries) in El Paso and Juarez. Trip dates are June 19 through June 28. See Pastor Mullinax for a fact sheet.

CONVERSATIONAL DINNERS

Conversational dinners are an opportunity for fellowship open to every adult of CPC (no children, please). The dinners meet once every two months and each person or couple takes a turn at hosting a group of 8 adults. The groups are scrambled after each meeting.

If you are interested in being involved or if you wish to be taken off the rotation, contact Boo Mullinax as soon as possible at 855-8851.

The duties of the host or hostess involve contacting each member of your assigned group with date, location and dish assignment.

If any guests in your group are unable to attend, feel free to invite someone else—maybe a new member or visitor at CPC.

As a guest always notify your hostess if you are unable to attend or happen to be running late.

Conversational dinners are a great way to connect with those who are outside your circle of friends.

SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

If you would like to come out and cheer on CPC’s softball team, check out the dates & times below. All games are played at the Ridgedale Baptist Church ball fields.

04/20	6:15 & 7:15
04/27	6:15 & 7:15
05/04	6:15 & 7:15
05/11	8:15 & 9:15
05/18	6:15 & 7:15
06/01	6:15 & 7:15

BUDGET REPORT

Year-to-Date as of 3/31/09	
General Budget Giving	\$218,681
Budget Requirement	<u>282,813</u>
Shortfall	(64,132)