

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

(Continued from front page)

Those who have followed the Lord before us urge us onward. They strengthen our hearts with their stories of faith. And they stir our minds at the thought of God's universal sway, reminding us that He moves in our biographies and beyond them.

Amidst the chronicles of kings and kingdoms in some of the earliest recorded biographies, we are given this promise: "For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him" (2 Chronicles 16:9). Moved by the hearts of the faithful, may we be moved further in faithful service to our King.

Pastor Mullinax

NURSERY SCHEDULE

June 14

9:30 *Infants:* E Herberich, R Pierce
Creepers/Toddlers: W & J Kesler
Toddlers: J & D Herberich

SS *Infants:* J & K Bingham
Creepers: J & K Gaither
Toddlers: M & L Lander

6 PM *Combined:* L Grant & P Henry

June 21

9:30 *Infants:* E McEachern, J Trask
Creepers/Toddlers: K & E Gaither
Toddlers: D Trask, C Weekley

SS *Infants:* S Nicely, D Gaines
Creepers: S & K Close
Toddlers: J & H Wade

6 PM *No PM Service - Fathers' Day*

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Diane Lazor at 423-238-2734.



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 22, No. 22

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

June 10, 2009

From the Senior Associate Pastor...

I'll often look at the Sunday paper to see which biographies have made the New York Times list of bestselling non-fiction. I'm usually in the market for a good biography. Yesterday's, June 7, list contained works on Michael J. Fox and Larry King . . . think I'll pass.

Though historical biographies have changed with time, human interest in the genre is long-standing. The first known biographies were commissioned by ancient rulers to assure records of their accomplishments. The Old Testament scriptures, detailing the lives of patriarchs, prophets, and kings, are also some of the earliest biographies in existence. Throughout the Middle Ages, such histories were largely in the hands of monks; lives of martyrs and church fathers were recorded with the intention of edifying readers for years to come. Over time and with the invention of the printing press, biographies became increasingly influential and widely read, portraying a larger array of lives.

In reading the accounts of men and women in history, we find ourselves transported to various times and places, where we learn things from their stories that are familiar to our own. Actions and thoughts that we ourselves have considered, suddenly appear before us in the life of another. And difficulties we find wearying are given hope in the story of one who overcame much.

Biographies are good and profitable reads. Perhaps that is true because we seem to know instinctively that life is too short to learn only from our own experience.

As Christians we see this value as well. The most direct attempt in Scripture to define faith is done so by the writer of Hebrews (. . . ask Pastor Caines his identity). The eleventh chapter begins, "Now faith is being sure of what you hope for and certain of what you do not see" (11:1). Moving from this definition of faith, the writer of Hebrews immediately expands upon the weighty statement with a list of people who lived "sure of hope" and "certain of the unseen."

From Noah and Abraham to Rahab and saints left unnamed, we find faith moving across the pages of history. This gift of God sparkles in the eyes of the faithful and is the hope by which countless lives were guided. In this brief gathering of biographies, the writer seems to tell us that faith is better understood functionally than philosophically. Our own faith is more fully understood by looking at the lives of the faithful.

At the end of his compelling list, the writer of Hebrews concludes: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (12:1).

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YOUTH & FAMILY

DVDs of our recent Parenting Conference are now available for the cost of \$6. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please see Chris Gregory.

Middle School Trip to the Edge is scheduled for July 4-8 at Covenant College.

Senior High Trip Information concerning the upcoming trip, July 12-18, is posted on the bulletin board outside Chris Gregory's office.

VISITING MISSIONARIES

Two good friends of CPC will visit on upcoming Sundays. Heidi Meiners with ICS in Budapest will be here June 21 and speaking in the Perseverers Sunday School class. Teresa Snow with Campus Crusade in Austin, Texas will be here June 28 and speaking in the Solomon's Porch Sunday School class in Schum Fellowship Hall. You may visit one of these classes and welcome these friends.

MISSION TRIP - EL PASO

Our CPC mission team will leave for their trip to El Paso Texas to minister alongside missionaries Jeff & Heather Vaughn. Team members are Jason Coffey, Michael Coffey, Meredith Hobbs, Mark Miller, Eric Mullinax, Curtis Owens, David Owens, and Anna Steere. Please pray for their safety and that their labor would be fruitful.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

If you are not currently one of our nursery volunteers and are interested in serving this way, please contact Heather Harris in the next two weeks. A new nursery schedule will be compiled in the next few weeks. Contact Heather at jeh1224@aol.com or 706.891.8754.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Summer Bible Study

A weekly Bible study is meeting this summer at Brenda Mason's home on Tuesday mornings at 10 AM. You may contact Brenda at bren854@comcast.net if you need more information. The study is from Ecclesiastes and focuses on being a woman of contentment.

BRIDAL TEA

A drop-in bridal tea/shower will be given for Donna Thurman this Saturday, June 13, from 10 AM until noon in the courtyard. Donna is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Sunday Worship

This Sunday our worship focuses on our *INFINITE* God. We will sing *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (p. 92).

SUNDAY EVENING

This Sunday evening, June 14, join us for our 6 PM service when our Music Campers will present the musical, *Parablelooza*. They have worked hard on the music, and the evening program promises to be a treat!

DEACONS' MEETING

The June deacons' meeting has been canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for July 12.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The session will meet with anyone desiring membership this Sunday afternoon, June 14. Call the church office (899.5377) to schedule a time.

For Your Information...

FATHERS' DAY

There will be no evening service on June 21 for Fathers' Day.

SWIM DAY

Swim day at the May's pool is each Thursday from 11 AM until 4 PM during the summer. The invitation is open to anyone at CPC. *Parents, please remember that you are responsible for your children.*

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Mission: Chattanooga is happening each Wednesday at 6:30 PM throughout the summer. Everyone is welcome. Each Wednesday projects include: home repair, grounds keeping, visitation, childcare, kids Bible clubs, prayer group and clerical support for a missions organization. If you would like more information, contact Pastor Mullinax.

COOKING WITH A PURPOSE

This *Mission: Chattanooga* group prepares different types of food to be frozen to give to those within and outside the church community who are in need. This group meets every other Wednesday evening. The dates are June 10, 24, July 8, 22, Aug. 5 & 19.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

A nurse is available between worship and Sunday school each Sunday in the receptionist's office to check blood pressure.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to work as a receptionist in the church office for four hours a month. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer, contact Mark Wilson.

FISHING TRIP

Gentlemen, this Fathers' Day weekend spend time with your kids; kids, spend time with your dad. The Men's Ministry is sponsoring a father/child fishing trip to "the Best Place," a getaway spot in Rising Fawn, GA owned by Fred Bonninger. The trip is June 20, 8 AM-1 PM. Look for the directions in this Sunday's bulletin or see Will Kesler.

Arrive anytime after 8AM, and feel free to leave whenever your schedule requires. We will serve hot dogs and lemonade around 11:30, and try to get everyone out of there by 1 PM. Please let Will Kesler (wfkessler@gps.edu / 893-7493) know if you are coming and how many children you are bringing.

Bring: lawn chairs, sunscreen, your own rods, reels and bait, and a camera to take pictures of "the big catch." (It is catch and release with perhaps a special dispensation for any trophy size!)

LOOKING AHEAD AT CPC

June 13	Bridal Tea—Donna Thurman
June 14	Music Camp Program PM
June 21	Fathers' Day - No PM Service
June 27	Wedding Reception - Tabitha Higgins Wedding - Donna Thurman
July 3	Office Closed
July 5	Lord's Supper - No PM Service
July 11	Ironman's Breakfast
July 12	Deacons Meeting

BUDGET REPORT

Year-to-Date as of 5/31/09

General Budget Giving \$408,433

Budget Requirement 478,606

Shortfall (70,173)