

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road
Chattanooga, TN 37421

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

(Continued from front page)

believe the Gospel, are numbered among the people of Abraham, and counted as part of God's covenant community. We are called "the circumcision" (Philippians 3.3). But for us, as Paul teaches in Colossians 2.11-12, the circumcision of Christ is now baptism.

As children of Abraham, the Promised Land is ours; only now it encompasses all the earth. Likewise, circumcision, the sign of God's everlasting covenant with His people, is ours. Only now the waters of baptism include male and female, Jew and Greek.

God's everlasting promises of salvation have been fulfilled in Christ and continue to be fulfilled in and through you and me, and in obedient faith, by His strengthening, we strive in all we do and say to know Him and make Him known.

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

August 7

9:30 *Infants:* J Foster, S Helton
Creepers/Toddlers: C & G & K Smith
Toddlers: A Millard, C Weekly

11:00 *Infants:* J & C Hildebrand
Creepers: M & P Bandy
Toddlers: H & J Wade

August 14

9:30 *Infants:* L Fosgate, K Wenzler
Creepers/Toddlers: E & L Mantel
Toddlers: G & D Schreiner, W Gaither

11:00 *Infants:* P May, B King
Creepers: A Steere, R Bingham
Toddlers: D & A Heisig

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Heather Harris at 706.891.8754.



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 24, No. 23

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

August 3, 2011

From the Senior Pastor....

In Genesis 12, the LORD promised Abraham that all the families of the earth would be blessed through Him. Twenty-five years later, in Genesis 17, God sovereignly established with Abraham an "everlasting" covenant. Furthermore, God promises Abraham "everlasting" possession of Canaan. Finally, in verses 9-10, the LORD equates the sign of circumcision with the covenant He has made with Abraham.

Jesus would be born of the family of Abraham. We know that the covenant promises first made in the Garden and further elucidated* in God's covenant with Abraham find their fulfillment in the perfection of the life, death, resurrection, ascension, reign and promised return of Christ.

But what about God's promise that Canaan would be for Abraham and his offspring an everlasting possession, and that the sign of this everlasting covenant would be circumcision?

The answer to these questions begins with properly identifying the "offspring" of Abraham. Paul tells us in Galatians 3.7 that the children of Abraham are those who exercise the faith in the God of Abraham.

Who is the God of Abraham? He is the LORD God of Old Testament Scriptures.

*elucidated—to clarify or provide understanding

- ♦ The great "I AM" who speaks to Moses from a burning bush.
- ♦ The great "I AM" who thunders from Mt Sinai.
- ♦ The great "I AM" who promises David a Son Who will reign forever over His eternal Kingdom.

In John 8.58, Jesus quietly tells those debating with Him: "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." Jesus is the great "I AM." Immanuel, God with us, God incarnate and God come in human flesh.

Therefore, we are numbered among Abraham's children by faith in Jesus, the great "I AM," the God of Abraham. Paul informs us in Galatians 3.29: "If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise." Furthermore, Paul explains in verses 13-14: "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law . . . so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles."

By grace through faith in Jesus, the blessing of Abraham is ours. This means the everlasting possession of Canaan is ours! The Promised Land was for Old Testament Israel but a foretaste of God's eternal purposes. The borders of the Promised Land have expanded into all the world. Now people from every nation, tongue and tribe

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YOUTH INFORMATION

Coffee Talk: Join Chris and Reba at their home for the last coffee and conversation of the summer! It is from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on August 11. Contact Chris or Reba for more information.

Back to School Bash: Parents, find out what the 2011/2012 youth program has to offer! An informative meeting will be held Sunday, August 14 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. There will be food, fun, games and more. Please don't miss this event!

BRIDAL SHOWER

A bridal shower for Brandi McBrayer, bride-elect of Christian Siler, will be held Sunday, August 21, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Perseverer's Classroom. The couple is registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond and Fischer Evans. Gift cards from IKEA or World Market would also be appreciated since neither of these stores have registries.

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,
We want to thank everyone who came to help with chain sawing and debris removal in the weeks after the tornado. We were overwhelmed at the task before us, yet it was such an encouragement to see God's faithfulness through your efforts. Thank you all for the many kindnesses you've shown us!
Sincerely, Drew & Angela Heisig

KINGDOM SEEKERS CLASS

The Kingdom Seekers class began a new study July 31. Kent Brown is teaching a series on 1 Samuel. It is not too late to join this class if you are interested.

MUSICAL NOTES

Choir Begins Again: Looking for a way to minister in the body? Come join the choir on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. This is a great time to join as we are all starting fresh with new music. No experience is necessary. Fun guaranteed.

Handbell Ensemble: CPC's Handbell Ensemble resumes Sunday, August 7 at 4:30 p.m. this is a great opportunity to develop and enhance music skills while having lots of fun. For more information, see Jeremy.

Instrumental Ensemble: CPC's Instrumental Ensemble resumes Sunday, August 7 at 5:15 p.m. This is open to all with at least one year experience on a band instrument.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the cards, notes, and expressions of sympathy. They were a source of encouragement to me during this time. I feel very blessed to have such a caring church family.
Susan Helton

LOOKING AHEAD



Aug. 7	Lord's Supper Celebrated
Aug. 7	Handbell Ensemble Resumes
Aug. 7	Instrumental Ensemble Resumes
Aug. 13	Men's Breakfast
Aug. 14	Diaconate Meeting
Aug. 14	Youth/Parents Back to School Bash
Aug. 16	Session
Aug. 18	Memorial Hospital Lunch
Aug. 21	McBrayer Bridal Shower
Aug. 24	First Wed. Night Meal
Aug. 28	Shepherding Groups Meet
Aug. 31	All Wed. Night Activities Resume
Sept. 1	Ladies Bible Study Resumes
Sept. 5	Labor Day - Office Closed
Sept. 6	Mother's Encouragement Group
Sept. 6	WM Council

GUEST SPEAKER

Sunday, August 7, Teresa Snow will be speaking in Solomon's Porch Sunday School class. All who are interested should meet in Schum Fellowship Hall.

CHANGES TO THE DIRECTORY

Please make these changes in your directory:

Randy Martin: rsmartin61@gmail.com

Eunice Martin: eunicer24@gmail.com

Tracy Horton:

thorton.hhs@catoosa.k12.ga.us

Rhonda Sherrell: 423.693.9814

SWIM DAY

Swim day at the May's pool is each Thursday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The invitation is open to anyone at CPC. Parents, please remember that you are responsible for the supervision of your children and for clean up.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Mission: Chattanooga is happening each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. through August 17. Everyone is welcome. 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.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Fall Seminar is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, September 23 - 24. Ladies, please mark your calendars with these important dates.

MEALS FOR MOMS

If you would like to provide a meal for one of the new moms in our church family, please call Gretchen Brown at 706.891.5968 or email at JTBGCB@aol.com. This is a practical way to show the love of Christ to these mothers and their families.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Men's Breakfast Saturday, August 13, at 8:30 a.m. Jay Spalding will be speaking on *We Are Not in the Garden Anymore, Pilgrim*. Join us for a great time of fellowship, food, discussion, and prayer.

Looking Ahead:

On September 17, BB Bell will speak on current issues during the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

On October 1, David Denmark, Executive Director of the McClellan Foundation will speak on the spread of Christianity around the world, with an emphasis on the Middle East, India and China.

CPC PRAYER CALENDAR

This devotional/prayer tool has been updated. It covers all CPC members, family concerns, ministries, missionaries, personal growth in grace and the world in a one-month cycle. You may pick up a copy of the *CPC Prayer Calendar* in the lobby.

MISPLACED BIBLES

If you have mislaid your Bible, check the bottom shelf of the book shelf next to the Coke machine.

