

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road
Chattanooga, TN 37421

(423) 899-5377
www.covenantchattanooga.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

(Continued from front page)

If you're interested in obtaining a copy, it is available at the church for a suggested donation of \$15. It is also available on Amazon.com. If you go to this website, type my name in the search engine, and you will find this book for sale. At Amazon.com the price is \$16 plus shipping.

Please understand that whatever "profit" may come from the sale of this book belongs to the church. None of this money will come to me. I'm hoping we sell enough copies to pay for the printing. But if we could sell about 500,000 copies, we might be able to pay off the church's mortgage!

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

August 9

- 9:30** *Infants:* D & G Schreiner
Creepers/Toddlers: L Hobbs, J Hall
Toddlers: H & B Lehmann, E Beatty
- SS** *Infants:* A Eaton, S Nicely
Creepers: J & R Ray
Toddlers: R & P Lyons
- 6 PM** *Combined:* C Wilkie, J Gaines

August 16

- 9:30** *Infants:* E McEachern, S Schreiner
Creepers/Toddlers: M Collison, L Swan
Toddlers: T & M Schreiner, C Gaither
- SS** *Infants:* R & K Swanson
Creepers: L Choquette, B King
Toddlers: L & E Brown
- 6 PM** *Combined:* Martof Family

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Cayce Weekley at 423-843-5008.



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 22, No. 30

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

August 5, 2009

From the Senior Pastor . . .

Back in the mid 90's I preached a series of sermons from 1 Corinthians 13. In 1 Corinthians 12 and 14 Paul discusses spiritual gifts. In between those two chapters, Paul writes about what he calls "the most excellent way," turning our attention to the subject of love, the manifestation and evidence of God's grace at work in our lives.

Those words found in 1 Corinthians 12.31 are the title for my book: "The Most Excellent Way." I've since discovered that there are at least two other books that have this same title, but I don't think that will prove to be a problem.

For this book to become a reality required that the tapes of some fifty sermons be transcribed — that is, for someone to listen to these tapes and then put down on paper what was being said.

Then several years ago, Danielle Wilkie took all of that material and reduced it to fourteen chapters. Sermons are often repetitive, as you remind the congregation of things that were said previously and then press on to the subject for that morning. That means that Danielle took on a sizeable task. It was truly a labor of love, and I will always be grateful for her efforts.

Since then I have rewritten all of these chapters several times.

Ann Walker and others have helped to edit the book, looking for typos and grammatical errors. Linda went through the book "one last time," and discovered eight or nine more things that needed to be changed.

I also gave the book to several close friends so that they could comment upon the exegesis and theological conclusions.

1 Corinthians 13 was the focus of the teaching that JR, Philip and I did at African Bible College in Kampala, Uganda. During those days with my sons, RE Tom Lowe, and Dr. Palmer Robertson (the headmaster of the college), I gained further insights into this text that I then included in my writings.

But while I appreciate the help and input of many, I want it clearly understood that whatever mistakes remain — and I'm confident there are still many — those mistakes are mine.

I'm grateful to the Session, and to you the members of CPC for allowing me time and opportunity to work on this prolonged project. It is amazing how difficult and time consuming it can be. But many have encouraged me, several have assured me of their prayers, and I've had the help of more people than I can remember. And now, finally, by God's grace, and I pray to His glory, the work is done. (Continued on back page)

YOUTH & FAMILY

Parents, this Sunday, August 9, our "Year in Review/The Year Ahead" meeting will follow the evening service. Please make plans to attend.

Middle & High School Youth will resume meeting on Sunday evenings beginning August 16 at 6:00 PM.

Senior High Cookout Friday, August 14, is the date for this outing. We will be at the Hobbs' home from 6:30-9:00 PM.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Covenant Corps

Three teachers and two helpers are needed this fall in our Covenant Corps program on Wednesday evenings beginning August 26. We need a teacher in the 3-5th grade class, 2nd grade class and the 3 & 4 year old class.

Sunday School

A teacher and a helper are needed in the children's Sunday School. If you are interested, contact Mark Wilson.

NURSERY WORKERS

The Mothers Encouragement fellowship group meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 10 AM during the school year at the church. We need paid nursery workers to keep the children of the moms attending. Contact Heather Harris if you are interested at 706-891-8754 or jeh1224@aol.com.

HAITI

This fall's mission trip to Haiti has been postponed. Due to some providential hurdles, the missions committee has deemed it best that we delay CPC's team until the spring. Tentatively, March 2010 is the target date. Look for particulars in the upcoming months and prayerfully consider participating.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY PresWIC Fall Retreat

Last chance!! Ladies, if you are interested in attending this year's PresWIC Fall Retreat at Fall Creek Falls, October 16 - 17, you must register this Sunday! Your payment is due when you register. Look for Sherry Baiertl in the lobby following morning worship.

Fall Seminar

Mark your calendars for the Women's Ministry Fall Seminar, September 19, at CPC.

If you have any questions regarding the retreat or seminar, contact Sherry Baiertl at 423-580-4376 or sbaiertl@bellsouth.net.

MUSIC MINISTRY Sunday Worship

This Sunday our worship focuses on our HOLY God. We will sing *Holy, Holy, Holy!* (p. 100).

Children's Choirs

God's Kids (3 year olds thru kindergarten) and Covenant's Call (elementary age) will resume meeting on Sunday evenings beginning August 16 during the worship service. We will meet on the second floor of the office wing near the refreshment area and begin work on the music for our Christmas program.

COLLEGE MINISTRY

If you are interested in supporting one of our college students as a prayer partner, please contact Brenda Mason at bren854@comcast.net.

SECOND ANNUAL FALL/CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Fall/Christmas market on September 26 is a great opportunity for CPC members to display and sell their crafts and creations. Cost to reserve a booth before September 1 is \$20 and after is \$25. Last day to sign up is September 13. Space is limited. Contact Amy Wooten with questions or to register.

For Your Information...

GOOD READ

When Helping Hurts, How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor . . . and Yourself this commended book is written by Brian Fikkert & Steve Corbett, both of Covenant College's Chalmers Center.

Churches and individual Christians typically have faulty assumptions about the causes of poverty, resulting in the use of strategies that do considerable harm to poor people and themselves. *When Helping Hurts* provides foundational concepts, clearly articulated general principles and relevant applications. The result is an effective and holistic ministry to the poor, not an abbreviated version of the Gospel.

A situation is assessed for whether relief, rehabilitation, or development is the best response to a situation. Efforts are characterized by an "asset based" approach rather than a "needs based" approach. Short-term mission efforts are addressed. The economic development strategies that are appropriate for North American and international contexts are presented, including microenterprise development.

Audience: The book was written for those engaged in ministry with the poor, including pastors, missionaries, deacon boards and lay leaders, home and foreign missions committees, mercy ministry teams, and donors. It is appropriate for an individual or for a group such as a Sunday school class, small group, or ministry team.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The session will meet with anyone desiring membership on Sunday afternoon, August 16. Call the church office (899.5377) to schedule a time.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Author Nate Larkin of *Samson and the Pirate Monks* will be the speaker at the October 10 Ironman's Breakfast. A seminar for the men will follow the meal. The next day he will speak during Sunday school to both men and women in Schum Fellowship Hall.

DEACONS' MEETING

The deacons will meet this Sunday, August 9, at 4:30 PM

SURVEY

STAND is a commended visioning effort for the Chattanooga region, planned and driven by community members from every walk of life. STAND is trying to collect 25,000 surveys [four questions submitted anonymously] about what people think about Chattanooga and how to improve it. Please consider "investing" your perspective. Questions? Find answers at ChattanoogaStand.com or contact Stand HQ (423-648-6499).

LOOKING AHEAD AT CPC

Aug. 9	Deacons' Meeting
Aug. 16	Youth & Children's Choirs Resume
Aug. 25	Session
Aug. 26	Wed. Night Suppers Resume
Aug. 30	Shepherding Groups Meet
Sept. 7	Labor Day - Office Closed
Sept. 12	Ironman's Breakfast
Sept. 19	WM Fall Seminar
Sept. 20	Men's & Women's Separate Services PM
Sept. 26	2nd Annual Fall/Christmas Market
Oct. 11	Church Picnic
Oct. 16-17	PresWIC Fall Retreat
Nov. 13-15	CPC Missions Conference
Dec. 6	Adult Choir Christmas Program
Dec. 13	Children's Choirs Christmas Program

