

## COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37421

(423) 899-5377

www.covenantchattanooga.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*(Continued from front page)*

Now, don't misunderstand me. I believe in spanking. Scripture teaches us to physically discipline our children. Discipline should not be an angry reflex. It shouldn't be abusive. And it should not be designed to humiliate or shame our children.

As a father of six, I'm not proud of how I have responded on occasion to misbehavior on the part of one or more of our children.

Likewise, I'm not proud of how often I stand in the pulpit and say things I later regret.

So, if I offended you by what I said, I'm sorry. Forgive me. I'd like to promise you it will never happen again, but I'm not sure that's a promise I can keep.

But of this I am certain: I am grateful to the Lord for children who are willing to speak the truth to me in love.

Pastor Caines

### NURSERY SCHEDULE

#### August 21

- 9:30** *Infants:* E McEachern, S Knecht  
*Creepers/Toddlers:* D & E Reynolds  
*Toddlers:* M & A Sanders, E Beatty
- S.S.** *Infants:* A West, L Crawford  
*Creepers:* C, H, & G Morrison, R Bingham  
*Toddlers:* J & L Bowman
- 6 PM** *Combined:* Elwood Family

#### August 28

- 9:30** *Infants:* E Herberich, K Orthner  
*Creepers/Toddlers:* H, C & J Armao  
*Toddlers:* S, L, & M Orthner
- S.S.** *Infants:* P May, S Nicely  
*Creepers:* T & W Higgins, R Bingham  
*Toddlers:* S Allin, J Hall
- 6 PM** *No Evening Service - Shepherding Groups Meet*

**Please note:** If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Leanna Cathey at 706.935.8633.



# THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 24, No. 24

Covenant  
Presbyterian Church

August 17, 2011

#### From the Senior Pastor....

Sunday evening I was getting ready for bed when my oldest daughter knocked on our bedroom door and asked if she could talk with me. Something I had said in the sermon Sunday morning was troubling her. Being my daughter, she knew what I meant. Her concern was for those who might not have understood what I was saying.

I had stated that if my twelve year old child had answered me the way Jesus answered Mary when she found Him in the Temple, having searched frantically for Him for three days, I would have slapped Him.

Heather was concerned that my remark - which was "off the cuff" - may have been offensive to some of you.

I haven't heard from any of you, but if what I said offended you, I apologize. I didn't slap my children in the face. And I certainly don't advocate slapping children in the face. But I do advocate punishing children physically, because that is clearly the model set before us in Scripture.

I also can't deny that nearly every time I read the story told at the end of Luke 2, I find myself shocked and deeply disturbed, as a parent, to hear Jesus' response to His mother's question: "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

My problem with Jesus' response is that He is twelve years old, and I at one time or an

other have had six different twelve year olds for whom I was immediately responsible. I also wrestle with the same problem Joseph and Mary faced. They didn't understand what Jesus was saying to them. My first response to this story is almost always to think, "That's no way for a twelve year old to talk." Initially, I'm almost always bothered by how unconcerned Jesus seems to be for His parents who have been anxiously looking for Him.

Of course, what I'm missing, what Joseph and Mary were missing, is that Jesus isn't just any twelve year old. His response reflects His understanding of Who He is, and that His first responsibility is to His Father.

In Mark 3, when Jesus responds to those reporting to Him about His mother and brothers waiting to speak with Him, "Whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother," we find that easier to understand, for after all in Mark 3 Jesus is a thirty year old man.

But clearly, even at the age of twelve, He not only knew Who He was, but understood that His parents should have known Who He was and that they would find Him doing His Father's will.

That's hard to accept coming from a twelve year old. Which is why I said what I did about slapping Him. That doesn't excuse or justify what I said. It was an "off the cuff" remark. I opened my mouth and inserted my foot.

*(Continued on back page)*

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Wednesday Night Activities will begin with a Fellowship Dinner on August 24. All other activities will resume on August 31. Dinner begins at 5:45 p.m. and is served until 6:40 p.m. The suggested donation for adults is \$4, for children ages 5 to 11 is \$2.50, and children under 4 eat for free. The maximum family donation is \$15.

On August 31, starting at 7 p.m. Covenant Corp, Sanctuary Choir, Bible Studies for all ages and Prayer Groups will meet in various locations. More information will be posted as it becomes available.

## NEW BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Mullinax will be teaching from 1 & 2 Peter starting Wednesday, August 31. This class will meet in the Visitor's Classroom on Wednesday evenings for everyone interested. Pastor Mullinax will also teach the Ladies Bible Study Thursday mornings from 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. Childcare will be provided both times.

## THANK YOU

*We are truly overwhelmed by the love and support we have received from you, our church family, since the death of our son Ricky. God has used you to help carry and sustain us over these past few weeks. We treasure every card, phone call, and kind word that we have received from you.*  
*Richard, Jean, Alex and Cliff Mawroner*

## WEDNESDAY MEAL MENU

Aug 24	Fettuccine Alfredo/Grilled Chicken
Aug 31	Taco Salad
Sept 7	Meatloaf
Sept 14	Fried Rice & Egg Rolls
Sept 21	Spaghetti
Sept 28	Hot Dogs, Pasta Salad, Fruit Salad
Oct 5	Chicken & Dumpling
Oct 12	Heidie's Surprise
Oct 19	Pot Roast
Oct 26	BBQ
Nov 2	Chili
Nov 9	Mission Conference
Nov 16	Chicken - n - Rice
Nov 23	Thanksgiving - No Meal
Nov 30	Lasagna
Dec 7	Soup & Salad
Dec 14	Taco Salad

## BABY SHOWER

A baby shower for Anna Yonkofski and baby Lillian will be held on Sunday, September 11 in the Parlor from 4 until 5:30 p.m. Please help us welcome our newest member.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Aug. 21	McBryar Bridal Shower
Aug. 21	Sunday PM Service - Mission Report
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
Sept. 10	Men's Breakfast
Sept. 11	Yonkofski Baby Shower
Sept. 11	Kids, Inc. Resumes
Sept. 11	Revelation Study Begins
Sept. 15	Memorial Hospital Lunch

## CHANGES TO THE DIRECTORY

Please make these changes in your directory:

### Email/Phone Numbers:

Stephen Haywood: 423.310.3198

Steve Bradford: caddy@catt.com

### New Address:

Steve and Tammy Bradford

23 Grandview Point

Ringgold, GA 30736

## SWIM DAY

The final swim day at the May's pool is Thursday, August 25 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.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Amazing Grace 360 Conference: The theme for the WIC Women's Conference in Atlanta, October 7-9 is a glorious look at the grace of God in our lives. If this conference is anything like the previous WIC conferences, you will not want to miss it! Spots are still available for this conference at the discounted rate of \$145. Lodging and food are extra. A number of hotel rooms have been reserved by CPC. You can reserve your spot with a non-refundable deposit of \$25. For more information, call Emily Calloway at 423.432.1743 or Tammy Higgins at 706.820.0491. 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 her at JTBGCB@aol.com. This is a practical way to show the love of Christ to these mothers and their families.

## BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

A nurse is available between worship and Sunday School each Sunday in the office next to Pastor Mullinax to check blood pressure.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Men's Breakfast Saturday, September 17, at 8:30 a.m. BB Bell will speak on *9-11 Then and Now; the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*, discussing current issues during the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Join us for a great time of fellowship, food, discussion, and prayer.

## SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

Sunday Evening services resume August 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the Schum Fellowship Hall. The CPC Mission Teams will be reporting.

## BRIDAL SHOWER

A bridal shower for Brandi McBryar, 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.