

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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are children of God, by His mercy, we learn to want what He wants, and He enables us to carry out our deepest desires.

And what you do is not just between you and Jesus. It impact others, for good or for bad.

By God's grace, and to the praise of His holy Name, and for the temporal and eternal good of others, may we shine brightly as stars in the heaven against the backdrop of a darkening sky, offering to others the guidance they need, so that by God' grace, mercy and love their moral intuitions can be informed by biblical truth.

By grace through faith in Jesus Christ as their Creator, Savior and Lord, may they know that they are delivered from sin's curse and power, and by the Holy Spirit be equipped, enabled and empowered to live as His image bearers.

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

September 27

- 9:30 *Infants:* R Pierce, S Coffey
Creepers/Toddlers: D & O Bowers
Toddlers: P & L Jones, J Bowers
- SS *Infants:* Y Cornell, D Lazor
Creepers: A Wagner, C Weekley
Toddlers: D & E Reynolds
- 6 PM *No Evening Service: Shepherding Groups Meet*

October 4

- 9:30 *Infants:* S & C Knecht
Creepers/Toddlers: E & R Sizemore
Toddlers: T, M, & A Horton
- SS *Infants:* J & C Hildebrand
Creepers: S Close
Toddlers: J & J McNeely
- 6 PM *Combined: Fowler Family*

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Julie Kesler at 423-893-7493.



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 22, No. 37

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

September 23, 2009

From the Senior Pastor . . .

For years I have received and, most often, read *The Atlantic* magazine. It is consistently a proponent of left-wing ideologies. I also subscribe to *World* and *First Things*, which are not.

In the October 2008 issue of *The Atlantic*, I was intrigued to read an article entitled "Is Pornography Adultery?" written by Ross Douthat, a senior editor of *The Atlantic*.

Mr. Douthat caught me off guard by his evaluation of our present moment in time: "Nothing in the long history of erotica compares with the way millions of Americans experience porn today, and our moral intuitions are struggling to catch up."

Did you catch that? "Moral intuitions."

Now, from where in the world do we get moral intuitions? Moral intuitions are not physical. Are moral intuitions the consequence of blind evolutionary forces? Well, either they are, or they are a demonstration of the biblical claim that we are created in the image of God and He has written upon our hearts the basic precepts of His holy law.

At any rate, Mr. Douthat is convinced that our moral intuitions "are struggling to catch up" with the tidal wave of technology that threatens to overwhelm us with pornographic materials of various sorts.

Mr. Douthat then took me by surprise by writing: "The most stringent take on this matter

comes, of course, from Jesus of Nazareth: 'I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.'"

Wow! A straight forward quote, without any questions raised about the historicity of Jesus, or whether He actually said what the Gospel of Matthew claims He said.

But, of course, Mr. Douthat believes the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth are subject to questioning: "Even among Christians, this teaching tends to be grouped with the Gospel injunctions about turning the other cheek and giving would-be robbers your possessions — as guidelines for saintliness, useful to Francis of Assisi and the Desert Fathers but less helpful to ordinary sinners trying to figure out what counts as a breach of marital trust."

Of course, he's right. Jesus' teachings are "guidelines for saintliness." But, he's also wrong. For clearly he doesn't appreciate that *all* who have by grace through faith embraced Jesus as Savior and Lord, are saints.

And to these saints is given the challenge and promise of Philippians 2.12-13: "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed . . . continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose."

As followers of Jesus Christ we live our lives knowing that the Lord will send the Holy Spirit to

empower us to do what we want to do. And if we

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MUSIC MINISTRY Sunday Worship

This Sunday our worship will focus on our **LOVING** God. We will sing *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (p. 529) and *Loved with Everlasting Love* (p. 703).

COMMUNICANT'S CLASS

This class, intended to educate young people who are preparing to make a public profession of faith and joining the church, begins September 26 at 10 AM in Pastor Mullinax's office.

CARING BEE

This group, which meets Wednesdays at 7 PM, is making quilts, hats, scarves and booties for the patients at Erlanger Hospital. If you have any material that you would like to donate, place them in the Caring Bee box in the receptionist's office.

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. Doors open from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM.

YOUTH & FAMILY Points to Ponder

- October 30-November 1 is the Fall Retreat at Camp Vesper Point for both Middle & High School.
- Youth and their families are invited to attend the UTC vs. Wofford football game on September 26. Admission is \$5. Sign up outside of Chris' office.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:

- * *Heather Adams* — UTC
- * *Chris Elwood* — Covenant College
- * *Kelley Close* — UTC (freshman)



RUN FOR THE BORDER...DOS

Like the marines, we're looking for a few good men with carpentry/handyman skill sets to join a CPC Men's Mission team to El Paso, Texas on December 5-12. This construction team will follow-up on work done this summer by our June team. See Jason Coffey or Eric Mullinax for more information.

NURSERY

Volunteers are needed for the nursery for the following dates: October 4– SS hour, October 18– Worship hour, October 25– Worship hour, and November 15– SS hour. Please contact Heather Harris if you are able to help.

CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual church picnic is scheduled for October 11th following Sunday AM services. BYOPB (bring your own picnic basket). Beverages, ice cream & desserts will be provided. Join us from 1-5 PM for an afternoon of fun and fellowship at Camp Dixie. No evening services that day.

Directions: Camp Dixie is located 21.4 miles from the church. Head north on 153 for 8.2 miles and exit onto Hixson Pike. Go 8.9 miles and turn right on Dallas Place Road. After .1 miles turn right on Old Hixson Pike and go .4 miles and turn left on Schooner Circle and continue on Buffalo Lane and turn left into Camp Dixie.

MISSIONS CONFERENCE



CPC's annual Missions Conference is November 13-15. Some of the missionaries that are attending are Jean Sharpe (Partners in Asian Mission), Lee Leadbetter (RUF International UTK) and Aaron Messner (Covenant College Chaplin).

For Your Information...

NEW MEMBERS

Listed below are the names of those who joined CPC this month. Add their names and addresses to your membership directory. Check out their snapshots on the New Member Bulletin Board outside the Visitors Classroom. Help make these new folks feel welcome at CPC when you see them!

Todd & Shannon Leamon
Gracie & Jake
5989 Tallant Road
McDonald, TN 37353

Todd is a Civil Engineer with Hamilton County, while Shannon is a Professional Engineer with a private practice. Both children attend CCS.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLEAN-UP

The following Shepherding groups have clean-up duty for the month of September: Wilkie, Ferrel, Mullinax, Owens/Cary and Schreiner. Please contact your Shepherding Elder to let him know when you can help.

STAMPS SUPPORT MISSIONS

Did you know that stamps from letters can be used as revenue for missions? Please place your saved foreign and domestic stamps, in good condition, in the collection container beside the door of Pastor Mullinax's office. These stamps are sent to a Christian retirement community in Florida for processing. The money from the sale of these stamps is then used to fund new Spanish language curriculum for Sunday schools in Latin America.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Helpers, not teachers, are needed in Covenant Corps on Wednesday nights and in Sunday School. See Mark Wilson for more information.

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.

CPC PRAYER CALENDAR

This devotional/prayer tool 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.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR REMINDER

Parents, if you have not already paid for your child's listening CD for the Christmas Musical, the cost is \$8. An envelope is on Jeremy's bulletin board for checks.

LOOKING AHEAD AT CPC



Sept. 26	2nd Annual Fall/Christmas Market
Sept. 26	Communicant's Class Begins
Sept. 26	Youth trip to UTC game
Sept. 27	Shepherding Groups Meet
Oct. 10	Monthly Men's Breakfast with Nate Larkin
Oct. 11	Church Picnic at Camp Dixie
Oct. 16-17	PresWIC Fall Retreat
Oct. 18	Knecht Baby Shower
Oct. 18	Allison Forrester Bridal Shower
Oct. 25	Presbytery Wide Reformation Service
Oct. 30	Youth Retreat
Nov. 7	Monthly Men's Breakfast
Nov. 13-15	CPC Missions Conference
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 26-27	Thanksgiving— Office Closed
Dec. 6	Adult Choir Christmas Program
Dec. 10	WM Christmas Dinner
Dec. 13	Children's Choirs Christmas Program
Dec. 24	Lessons & Carols
Dec. 25	Christmas— Office Closed