

(Continued from front page)

Fifth, wait quietly upon Him. He's there. Things are not out of control. In truth, all things are under His control. Things may not be as you would want, but they are what He has chosen for you at this moment in time. And only with the passing of time will you understand the answers to your questions.

This I know. He loves you with a love that will never let you go. And all things will work together to accomplish His good purposes for you. And His number one purpose, is to recreate you into an image bearer of Jesus – the Jesus Who prayed in the Garden, "Not my will, but Yours be done."

My car is still dirty. That doesn't really matter. The circumstances you face are infinitely more significant. They do matter. They matter terribly. God knows. He cares. And in His time, He will accomplish more than you could ever ask or imagine. Pastor Caines

No Newsletter next week due to Thanksgiving.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

November 23

- 9:30** *Infants:* S Schreiner, L Swan
Creepers/Toddlers: A Creamer, A Wagner
Toddlers: T & M Schreiner
- SS** *Infants:* T Bacon
Creepers: R & B Roop
Toddlers: J & A West
- 6 PM** *Combined:* B & E Mullinax, A Gaines

November 30

- 9:30** *Infants:* L & A Reid
Creepers/Toddlers: D, O & MA Tawzer
Toddlers: J Hall, L Hobbs, E Brown
- SS** *Infants:* L Brown, J Wilson
Creepers: C & D Platt
Toddlers: J & M Logterman
- 6 PM** No Evening Service

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Mindy Horton 706-375-5828.



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 21, No. 46

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

Nov. 19, 2008

From the Senior Pastor . . .

I had one of those moments this morning. It was of no real consequence, and yet it made me stop and think – and pray, for many of you.

After dropping my mother off at the dentist near East Ridge Presbyterian, I headed back toward I-75 on Ringgold Road to go to Erlanger East to see my doctor. Having 45 minutes to kill I decided to go back to the car wash in East Ridge near the tunnel. Since I was almost at I-75 I decided to get on, head north, go west on I-24 and get off at the 4th Street exit, go through the ER tunnel and end up at the car wash. (Please, I'm not looking for someone to suggest to me a better route.)

But when I got to the tunnel, it was closed for repairs. It was too late to weave my way up over the ridge, so I went back to 4th Street, got on I-24 and drove to Erlanger East.

There was a time in my life when this would have frustrated me. But not this time. Instead, it provoked me to pray for many of you – many who are facing circumstances far more significant and challenging than a closed tunnel.

For some of you, it's like you're driving around in circles attempting to reach your desired location where you hope to see matters of terrible importance resolved and set right. And time and again, as you near your desired location, you encounter a road block. So you turn around and head in yet another direction, experiencing deep frustration, paralyzing fear, and

overwhelming exhaustion. It seems as if time is running out. You find yourself asking, "What in the world is going on? Is Anyone One paying attention? Does Anyone care?"

Many of you know, theoretically, that God is working in and through your circumstances to accomplish His good purposes. More than simply paying attention, He is directing your steps, and cares deeply about you and the challenges you face.

But despite what you know, it doesn't alleviate your frustrations and fears. At least not immediately.

So, what are you to do? First, tell God about your fears and frustrations. Cry out to Him. Tell Him what He already knows. Talk to your Father. Tell Him how overwhelmed you are by the circumstances of your life.

Second, trust in His sovereign purposes. Like the Psalmist, remember how He has cared for you. Remember the things He has done for you. Remember how He has worked in the past to accomplish in your life things which are of good and eternal value. And then rest in His love, confident that He cares for you.

Third, ask Him for wisdom. Ask Him for strength. Ask Him for the faith you need. Like me, you believe, but you need help with your unbelief.

Fourth, follow boldly whatever path is open to you. Do what you can. Do what you know is good and pleasing to Him.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

(Continued on back page)

YOUTH & FAMILY

Fall Youth Retreat The fall retreat is at Camp Vesper Point, this weekend, November 21-23. Please pray for the all the youth and adults who will be participating.

No youth meetings this Sunday evening.

NURSERY NEED

A nursery coordinator is needed for December. Contact Heather Harris at 706.937.2603.

THANKSGIVING POUNDING

The deadline for bringing your food items to donate for the Thanksgiving Pounding is Sunday, November 23. Thank you.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

All donations and shoe boxes must be turned in by this Saturday morning, November 22. If you would like to help wrap and stuff, come to the Ladies SS classroom Saturday morning from 9-12:30. Your help is welcome.

HOPE FOR THE INNER CITY'S "CHRISTMAS STORE"

The Christmas Store offers hope to low-income families in our community by offering brand new toys, books and winter clothing at well below retail prices. The purpose is to empower low-income parents by providing an affordable option to purchase gifts for their children. It also recognizes the dignity of low-income parents and their role as providers for their children.

The store is stocked with donated new items and those purchased through charitable contributions. You can donate new toys, electronics, gift cards, books, winter clothing, coats, gloves shoes, socks, etc.

Bring your donations to the labeled box in the office hallway. Please consider helping those less fortunate than ourselves this Christmas season.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Christmas Dinner

The Ladies Christmas Dinner is Friday, December 12, at 6:30 PM. Hot beverages will be served between 6-6:30 PM in the lobby. The cost is \$8, and you may register in the lobby on Sunday. This year we will collect items for Widows Harvest. Suggested items: toiletries, bath powder, lotions, hand sanitizers, no-slip house socks, gloves, shawls/scarves, handkerchiefs, scented candles, spiced/scented soaps, small chocolates, hard candies, pretty stationery, etc.

SHOWER

In honor of the Dan & Susan Steere's future daughter-in-law, Kinsey Bolinger, a shower will be given December 7, from 4-5:30 PM in the parlor. Kinsey & Scott are registered at Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Sunday Worship

This Sunday, November 23, our worship focuses on our **GOOD** God. One of the hymns we will sing is *Now Thank We All Our God* (pg. 98).

THANK YOU

Our family is grateful to everyone for their prayers, condolences and support during the passing of my dad. A special thanks to Mark Wilson for his exceptional help with the memorial service.

Bob Cary

FOR MEN ONLY

The Samson Society is a place where guys share honestly about the stresses and sins that weigh them down. So often we run to food, exercise, or inappropriate behaviors rather than to the Lord. If you need a safe and confidential place to talk about these areas of your life, please join us at the church on Mondays at 7 PM for our Samson Society meetings. Call Reid Swanson if you have any questions. 423-280-5911
