

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road
Chattanooga, TN 37421

(423) 899-5377
www.covenantchattanooga.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

(Continued from front page)

further the work of His church and the extension of His Kingdom.

The world is a scary place. But by being continuously in communication with our Lord, confident that God still sits upon His throne, assured of His love, and knowing that He hears our prayers, we find the supernatural ability to be joyful always, giving thanks in all the circumstances of our life.

And speaking about one's circumstances — always remember that Paul instructed Timothy to pray for his governing officials (including Nero!) so that "we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness" (1 Tim 2.2).

Pray for your nation and its leaders. Pray without ceasing. Pray for the prosperity of our people, for the sake of God's glory and the spread of His Gospel. And pray that God would bless us with the gift of being allowed to live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

November 8

- 9:30** *Infants:* S Forrester, G Brown
Creepers/Toddlers: L & M Hobbs
Toddlers: S Gaither, L Caldwell, L Rogers
- SS** *Infants:* A Eaton, B Parker
Creepers: M & M Ferrel
Toddlers: R & P Lyons
- 6 PM** *Combined:* C Wilkie & A Gaines

November 15

- 9:30** *Infants:* E McEachern, S Schreiner
Creepers/Toddlers: D, O, & MA Tawzer
Toddlers: T & M Schreiner, E Reynolds
- SS** *Infants:* A & J West
Creepers: D & J Gaines
Toddlers: M Arbuckle, S Spalding
- 6 PM** *Combined:* Martof Family

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Laura Spotts at 423.892.6475.



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 22, No. 43

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

November 4, 2009

From the Senior Pastor . . .

Are you praying for our nation and its leadership? In 1 Thessalonians 5.17, we are instructed to pray without ceasing.

Pray without ceasing for our nation and its leadership? Is that even possible? How can we pray without ceasing for our nation when we have so many other things to pray about?

In fact, how can we pray without ceasing, no matter how long our list of praises, thanksgiving and petitions may be?

Clearly, Paul is addressing our attitudes.

In 1 Thessalonians 5.17, he calls upon the members of the church at Thessalonica to be joyful always.

In verse eighteen, he tells them to give thanks in all circumstances. And then, at the end of verse eighteen, he reminds them that being joyful always, praying without ceasing, and giving thanks in all circumstances is God's will for those who by grace through faith are in Christ Jesus.

It's all a matter of perspective ("the understanding of the relative importance of things"). We either believe and know that the triune God still sits upon His throne . . . or we don't.

If we don't, the world is a scary place. If we do, the world is still a scary place, but we know the Lord is holding our world in His Hands, and is working all things together to accomplish His good and perfect purposes.

In the sixth century B.C., the children of Judah found themselves exiled in Babylon. Through the

prophet Jeremiah, the Lord speaks to them, telling them to "build house and settle down, [to] plant gardens and eat what they produce, [to] marry and have sons and daughters, [to] increase in numbers, and [to] seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which [I] have carried [you]" (Jer 29.5-7).

He then instructs them to "pray for [the nation in which they live], because if it prospers, [they] too will prosper" (29.7).

In verse eleven, He gives them this word of encouragement: "I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." And then, stunningly, in verse nineteen He reminds them that these are His plans for them despite the fact that in the past they have chosen not to listen to Him.

While direct parallels cannot be drawn between Judah's situation in Babylon and our circumstances, these biblical principles remain rock-solid:

- God still sits upon His throne, and He is disciplining us;
- God disciplines those He loves
- Nothing can ever separate us from His love
- We are to pray for our nation, asking God to prosper her, for if she prospers, we will prosper.

That's tricky — praying for your nation to prosper so you might prosper. It's not self-interest that motivates such prayers. It's the glory of God.

The prosperity of His people is one means God uses to testify to His greatness. And it is one means He uses to (Continued on back page)

MUSIC MINISTRY Sunday Worship

This Sunday our worship will focus on our *UNCHANGING* God. We will sing *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* (p. 30 TH).

GRATITUDE

On behalf of Joan and our grandsons, we wish to express our sincere thanks to each of you, for your prayers, compassion and acts of kindness. Even though Coleman lost his long struggle with cancer, we saw Christ truly glorified, as his faith was an encouragement to many. We are indeed grateful to our Covenant family for your love.

Gordon & June Fleming

YOUTH & FAMILY Points to Ponder

- Youth are meeting this Sunday evening at 6 PM with Pastor Caines speaking.
- Service Project: November 21, 9AM—1 PM. The girls will be restocking the mercy ministry freezer while the guys serve our widows by doing yard work. Guys, please bring gloves, rakes and other equipment.
- Turkey Bowl II (Youth vs. Adults Flag Football) is on November 28 from 10:30 AM—12:30 PM.

ARISE! CRY OUT!

Moms In Touch International is hosting a historic prayer event, inviting Christian women from around the world Arise! Cry Out! for the generations. The event is scheduled for November 14 from 9 AM for 1 PM at 100 Tremont Street in Chattanooga. Register at www.MomsInTouch.org.

HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed in the nursery for the Missions Conference on Friday from 6:30-8:30 PM and Saturday from 8:30-10:30 AM. Help is also needed for the Thanksgiving service on November 25 and for the WM Christmas Dinner (guys only) on December 10 from 6:00-9:00 PM. See Heather Harris if you are able to help.

2nd Annual AMERICAN/JAPANESE THANKSGIVING



This is an outreach effort to Japanese families who have re-located to the Chattanooga area. We are looking for people who would like to share a special Thanksgiving like no other! Help is needed in the following areas: setting up on Wednesday night, serving and fellowshiping with the Japanese families, and clean-up. The celebration is on Thanksgiving Day from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. All family members are welcome! If you are interested, please contact Carol Beatty.

THANKSGIVING POUNDING 2009

It is time to begin our annual collection of non-perishable food items to share with those in need. Sign-up sheets are in the lobby and adult Sunday School classes and a collection box is outside of Mark Wilson's office. If you know of anyone in need, please contact the church office. As a church body, we are abundantly blessed. May God use us to bless others in His name.



NEAR...AND FAR Missions Conference November 13-15

This year's theme will be NEAR...and FAR (Ephesians 2.13). Joining us for the conference is Aaron Messner (Chaplain, Covenant College), Jean Sharpe (Partners in Asian Missions), Lee Leadbetter (RUF-International, UTK), Ruth Caines (MTW-S. Africa), Sam Oppong (ELI Coordinator for Ghana), Charlie & Amie Brown (Wycliffe PNG), Jay Fowler (FCA East TN) and Lucy Wycoff (Sage Center, North GA). Look for more information to come!

KINGDOM SEEKERS

Beginning November 8, this Sunday School class will start a series on the topic of marriage. This class will be facilitated by Jon Harris and will be using John Piper's *This Momentary Marriage* as it's primary reference.

For Your Information...

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:

- *Scott Toombs — GA Tech*
- *Carter Whittier — Lee University*
- *Brittne Canada — Northwestern Tech*

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) project collects shoe boxes filled with small gifts to deliver to needy children around the world at Christmastime. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share the love of Jesus. **Brochures about OCC will be in the bulletin and the lobby this Sunday.** These include stickers to be placed on the boxes marking age and sex of the child. You can participate several ways:

- ♦ **fill a shoe box** for a specific sex/age child (2-4, 5-9, 10-14). Collection point is the Ladies SS classroom across from the Coke Machine.
- ♦ **donate items** for shoe boxes and empty shoe boxes. Sample items: soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloths, small toys, combs, socks, school supplies, hard candy (no chocolate - it melts), etc.
- ♦ **donate money** - OCC requests \$7 for shipping per box. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse, and put OCC on memo line. Drop in offering plate no later than November 15.
- ♦ **wrap and stuff boxes** on Saturday, Nov. 21, 9 AM - 12:30 PM in the Perseverer's SS classroom. *November 21 is the deadline.*

MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Men's Breakfast, Saturday, November 7th, at 8:30 AM. Lee Atchley & Rick Meador will speak on Discipleship through Coaching. Join us for a great time of fellowship, food, discussion, and prayer.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Please note that the Men's Breakfast for December has been changed from December 5 to December 12. General B.B. Bell will be speaking on "My Journey across the Big River."

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLEAN-UP

The following Shepherding groups have clean-up duty for the month of November: J. Gaither, K. Brown and Grant. Please contact your Shepherding Elder to let him know when you can help.

CLOTHES SWAP

Amy Wooten will host a clothing exchange at her home on November 5th at 7 PM. Bring any clothes that you, your husband, or your kids have outgrown and we'll swap them for clothes that fit! Any clothes left after the 'swapping' is over will be donated to charity. For more information, contact Amy Wooten or Sarah Wade.



LOOKING AHEAD AT CPC

Nov. 7	Monthly Men's Breakfast
Nov. 13-15	CPC Missions Conference
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 26-27	Thanksgiving— Office Closed
Nov. 28	Turkey Bowl II
Dec. 5	Adult Christmas Choir Rehearsal
Dec. 6	Adult Choir Christmas Program
Dec. 10	WM Christmas Dinner
Dec. 12	Monthly Men's Breakfast
Dec. 13	Children's Choirs Christmas Program
Dec. 24	Lessons & Carols
Dec. 25	Christmas— Office Closed
Jan. 1	New Year's Day- Office Closed
Jan. 2	Monthly Men's Breakfast
Jan. 22-24	Youth Winter Retreat
Jan. 29-30	Men's Retreat
Apr. 1	Seder Dinner at The Colonnade