

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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world; against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

And therefore, we are urged in Ephesians six, to put on daily the full armor of God so that we can stand our ground on the day of evil. A belt of truth. A breastplate of righteousness. Feet fitted and ready to carry into all the world the good news of the Gospel. A shield of faith, a helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

And again, Paul writes in Ephesians chapter 6, verse 18, "Pray[ing] in the Spirit on all occasions with prayers and requests . . . for all the saints."

I'm grateful for those who have served in our armed forces. And I am grateful for those with whom I serve as soldiers of the cross of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

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

November 22

9:30 *Infants:* D & G Schreiner
Creepers/Toddlers: C, G & K Smith
Toddlers: K & D Lambeth, D Gardner

SS *Infants:* K & R Swanson
Creepers: L & E Brown
Toddlers: A Wagner, E Martin

6 PM *Combined:* Elwood 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. 44

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

November 10, 2009

From the Senior Pastor . . .

I'm not sure what day of the week that you receive this newsletter. For Linda and myself, it's usually Thursday. But there have been occasions when it did not arrive until the first of the next week.

Normally, the newsletter is printed Wednesday morning and mailed that afternoon.

This means that this week's newsletter should have been printed and mailed on the eleventh day of November, Veteran's Day (but of course the post office is closed on Veteran's Day). So this newsletter is being printed and mailed a day early.

At that eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918, the first World War officially ended. And therefore it has been decreed that November eleventh will be the day when we honor those who served, fought and died to protect and preserve our freedoms.

Both my Dad and Father-in-law served in the Pacific during the second World War. My Uncle Render died as a sailor during WWII. My mother's Uncle Buddy is buried in France, where he died during the first World War.

Having never served, I was humbled by the number of individuals who stood during Morning Worship so that the congregation could express their thanks for those who faithfully fulfilled their duties as soldiers, sailors and airmen.

They are the ones who wield the sword that God has given to those in authority, that it might serve as an agent of wrath against wrongdoers. And they are the ones God has used you to bless us as a nation with the privilege of living "peaceful and quiet." (1 Tim 2.2).

Of course, Paul says that God blesses us with peaceful and quiet lives so we might be free to live godly and holy lives.

In fact, Paul teaches in verse 3 of 1 Timothy chapter 2 that praying for those in authority, while striving to live godly and holy lives, is one means God uses to bring others to a knowledge of the truth.

In this same chapter, those he has called to prayer, he instructs to free themselves of anger and disputation, and to adorn their lives with good deeds.

And in 2 Timothy chapter 2, verse 3, Paul challenges his son in the faith to "endure hardship *with us* like a good soldier of Christ Jesus." I'm fairly confident at this point in my life I'm never going to serve the armed forces of my country. But by God's grace, I pray I will always be mindful of my calling to serve as a warrior for the cross of Jesus Christ.

As followers of our King, our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, the authorities, the powers of this dark

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MUSIC MINISTRY Sunday Worship

This Sunday our worship will focus on our *PATIENT* God. We will sing *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* (p. 77 TH).

YOUTH & FAMILY Points to Ponder

- 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.

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 6-9 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 relocated 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 AM until 2 PM. All family members are welcome! If you are interested, please contact Carol Beatty by November 13.

EVERGREEN

The WM Christmas Dinner is December 10. Cost is \$8 for ladies and \$4 for young ladies. Deadline to register is November 29. Our ministry focus this year is the Sage Center (formerly A+). We will be collecting money for the Sage Center to put towards the purchase of an ultrasound machine.

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.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

This year's Sanctuary Choir Christmas concert, *When Love Came Down*, will be presented Sunday, December 6, at 6 PM.



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

This year's theme is NEAR...and FAR (Ephesians 2.13). Friday evening is the International Dinner with Ruth Caines, Lee Leadbetter, and Jean Sharpe speaking. Saturday morning is a light breakfast with a time of praying through the nations. Sunday morning Rev. Aaron Messner will preach. Various missionaries will be in Sunday School classes. Sunday Evening will bring Rev. Messner back to the pulpit and Sam Oppong will share with us about his work in Africa.

HELPER NEEDED

A helper, preferably male, is needed in the Kindergarten class beginning in January. See Mark Wilson for more information.

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.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The session will meet with anyone desiring membership this Sunday afternoon, November 15. Call the church office (899.5377) to schedule a time.

For Your Information...

BUDGET REALITIES:

We need to average just over \$43,000 a week to finish the year in the black. This is somewhat more than the \$40,500 we needed to average during the final seven weeks of 2008.

I also want those of you new to CPC to know that this is not an unusual pattern for us:

- In 2005 we needed \$255,183 and received \$256,391.
- In 2006 we needed \$240,287 and received \$263,315.
- In 2007 we needed \$266,000 and received \$327,000.
- In 2008 we needed \$307,000 and received \$324,000.
- This year we need \$318,000. What we will receive is as of yet known only by God.

By God's grace we've never failed to make budget.

Of course this year is a little different for many of us. Furthermore, I am confident that many of you give faithfully. But, as I may, I encourage all of you to consider what additional gift(s) you can give to help us once more, by God's grace, and to the praise of His glorious name, finish the year in the black.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) project collects shoe boxes filled with small gifts to deliver to needy children around the world at Christmas-time. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to share the love of Jesus. **Brochures about OCC will be in the lobby this Sunday.** These include

stickers to be placed on the boxes marking age and gender of the child to which the box should be delivered. 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.*

SERMONS ON THE WEB

If you would like access recent sermons in MP3 format, use the following web address: <http://www.covenantchattanooga.org/sermons.aspx>.

LOOKING AHEAD AT CPC



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