



The eNewsletter

June 21, 2012

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church 8451 East Brainerd Rd. Chattanooga, TN 37421
www.covenantchattanooga.org

From the Pen of the Senior Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

June 23

MS Youth Leave for
The Edge Conference

June 24

Lesondak/Wykoff
Bridal Shower
Shepherding Sunday

June 25

Couples Class

June 26

WM Summer Bible Studies

June 27

Mission: Chattanooga
MS Youth Return from
The Edge Conference

July 28

Swim Day

July 1

Lord's Supper Celebrated
Chambers/Spalding
Bridal Shower
Crawford/Johnson
Wedding Shower
No Evening Service

July 2

HS Youth Leave for RYM
Couples Class

July 3

WM Summer Bible Studies

July 4

Office Closed for
Independence Day
No Evening Activities

July 5

Swim Day

July 6

HS Youth Return from RYM

July 7

Men's Breakfast

July 8

Mission Committee Meeting
Deacons Meeting
Youth Leave for Mission:
Camp Macon
No Evening Activities

July 9

Couples Class

July 10

WM Summer Bible Studies

July 11

Mission: Chattanooga

July 12

Swim Day

Next week I plan to write the third installment of *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*. But this week I'm eager to share with you the events of the past few days.

On Tuesday (June 12) Linda and I drove to Asheville to visit her parents who live with Linda's sister, Carol, and her husband Joel.

Wednesday morning I flew from Asheville to Washington, DC. Just before the plane landed, the pilot informed us that we were carrying the body of a Lt. Col. shot down over Vietnam in 1966. When the plane landed no one attempted to exit the plane until the body of the Lt. Col. had been removed by a military escort to the waiting hearse. Of course, the reason I had flown to Washington was to visit with our own wounded warrior and his wife, Andrew and Tori Smith.

Being at Walter Reed was gripping. Having been cleared by a military guard, as I made the long walk from the gate to Andrew and Tori's apartment I saw more men with missing legs and arms than I've seen in a lifetime. Allow me to describe for you one couple: the wife was jogging behind a stroller containing a three year old, while her husband, both legs missing, followed in a wheelchair with a one year old strapped to his waist. They were laughing and appeared to be having a great time.

My time with Andrew and Tori was great. Their unshaken faith in the Lord and His purposes touched me deeply. Instead of words of bitterness or repeatedly asking the question "Why?" they displayed just a firm and yet simple determination to meet the new challenge of each day. Confident of the Lord's good and perfect purposes, they are eager to discover how the Lord would use them to further the work of His Kingdom.

They gratefully shared with me some of your cards, letters and notes. Assured of your prayers, they have been able to rest confidently and quietly in His love. They proudly showed me Andrew's purple heart and citation. And I enjoyed seeing that Andrew was assembling a model of *Old Ironside*, something I had once done several decades ago.

We talked about many things, toured the hospital, had supper, returned to their apartment, and then prayed together. I don't know what my visit did for them, but by the time I left I felt uplifted and blessed to have been in the presence of such a mature, strong and dedicated couple, obviously in love with each other, but most importantly, with their Lord.

I returned to Asheville Thursday evening. Linda had stayed with her parents on Wednesday evening so Joel and Carol could attend a Sessional function. Thursday evening, Linda and I stayed with her mom and dad, while Joel and Carol met with the board of World magazine.

Linda's father is not well. He has lost a lot of weight and strength, but his spirit seems good. Thursday evening I read to him from Isaiah 65. When I finished, he commented, "It will all be better soon." That evening we all stood around his bed and sang *Amazing Grace*. Dad mouthed all the words and when we finished spoke a quiet, "Amen."

Friday evening Linda and I returned home. Saturday morning I got some work done, and then we attended Dani's wedding.

Sunday morning, I participated in the installation of Dr. Brian Cosby as pastor of Wayside Presbyterian Church. Gary and Diane Cosby are Brian's father and step-mother. Brian's mother, Mary, was my college classmate. Brian is also the grandson of Hank and Ruby Schum. If you have the opportunity, go on the Wayside PC website and listen to the sermon preached by Dr. Gordon Reed, one of the founders of the PCA. Dr. Reed is now 87 years old. His sermon was one of the finest I've ever heard.

It's been a full, remarkable week. It's been our privilege to serve Linda's parents, for me to visit with Andrew and Tori, and for us to be part of Brian's installation. Having shared with you the last two weeks of the *ugly* and the *bad*, next week I'll tell you some more *good* news.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule

June 24

Worship

Infants

Amy Wooten & Rachel Getz

Creepers

Dawn & Emilia Reynolds

Toddlers

Tony & Tabitha Croucher

Floater

Katherine Gaither

Sunday School

Infants

Becky Pearce & Kay Gaither

Creepers

Sue Spalding
& Reese Bingham

Toddlers

Adam & Leanna Cathey

P.M.

Shepherding Groups
No Evening Service

June Coordinator:

Leanna Cathey

BRIDAL SHOWERS

A bridal shower for Alanna Lesondak, bride-elect of Charles Wykoff, is being given this Sunday, June 24 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Class. Alanna is registered at Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

A bridal shower for Rebecca Chambers, bride-elect of Stephen Spalding, is being given Sunday, July 1 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Class. Rebecca is registered at Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

WEDDING SHOWER

A wedding shower for Ronnie and Diana (Crawford) Johnson is next Sunday, July 1, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. In lieu of gifts, a money tree will be set up for the new couple.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed in the nursery the following Sundays, please notify Heather Harris if you are available.

July 15: Infant room during Sunday School
July 22: Toddler room during Sunday School

SWIM DAY

Swim day at the May's pool continues throughout the summer on Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 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.

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 outside 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. These stamps are being sorted and prepared to mail to Florida during Mission: Chattanooga, so please remember to bring them in as soon as possible!

MISPLACED BIBLES

If you have misplaced your Bible, check the bookcase next to the Coke machine. We have a **large number** of unclaimed Bibles. Unclaimed Bibles will be donated soon.

MISSION: CHATTANOOGA

This summer CPC Mission: Chattanooga will meet each Wednesday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. There are a variety of activities to join each week.

On Campus activities: Knitting/Crocheting, Crafts to Care, Cooking with a Purpose (meets every other week), Missions Support (stamp ministry & letter writing) and a Prayer Group.

Off Campus: Visitation (at local nursing homes, assisted living facilities, with our shut-ins) and Warehouse Renovation for the Amani Ya Juu ministry (420 S. Willow St. in Highland Park area). We are meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the warehouse.

SOLES FOR SOULS CAMPAIGN

We are collecting shoes to help the Homeless Health Foot Clinic in Chattanooga. Please bring used (in good condition) or new gym shoes, sandals, or any kind of shoe that fit young and old. Foot supplies such as socks, bleach, foot powder, triple antibiotic ointment, Band-Aids, nail files, and bottles of shampoo are also being collected. You may also make donations to purchase these items. There are two collection boxes outside Mark Wilson's office. Contact Sherry Baierl if you have any questions at 423-580-4376.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

Starting July 1, there will be no Sunday evening activities for the summer months. All regular Sunday evening activities will resume September 9. There will be a special meeting August 19 for reports regarding Mission Trips taken this summer.

COUPLES CLASS

Jon Harris is leading a relationship education group for couples called *The Hold Me Tight Program*. This class is based on the book by Dr. Sue Johnson and is meeting at CPC for 7 weeks starting June 25. CPC members receive the discounted price of \$155. Contact Jon at 423-756-2894 x2438 or JonEHarrisLPC@gmail.com for more information.

THE EDGE CONFERENCE

This year's Middle School Edge Conference is June 23-27! We are SO excited to have your student(s) participating with us! Our activity day will be Tuesday, June 26 where we'll be heading down to Whitewater Atlanta. We will meet this Saturday, June 23, at 2:30 p.m. at CPC.