



The eNewsletter

July 12, 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...

July 14

Youth Return from Mission:
Camp Macon

July 15

Donahue/Whittier
Bridal Shower
Mantel Baby Shower
Handbell Ensemble
Instrumental Ensemble
No Evening Activities

July 17

WM Summer Bible Studies
Session Meeting

July 18

Mission: Chattanooga
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

July 19

Memorial Hospital Lunch
Swim day

July 20

Chicks 'n Chocolate

July 21

Fosgate/Hatcher Wedding
at Perimeter Church Chapel

July 22

Ker/Epperson
Bridal Shower
Handbell Ensemble
Instrumental Ensemble
No Evening Service

July 24

WM Summer Bible Studies

July 25

Mission: Chattanooga
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

July 29

Shepherding Groups Meet

July 31

WM Summer Bible Studies

August 1

Mission: Chattanooga
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

August 4

Men's Breakfast

August 5

Lord's Supper Celebrated
Handbell Ensemble
Instrumental Ensemble

August 7

WM Summer Bible Studies
WM Council

August 8

Mission: Chattanooga
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Wounded warrior. As much as I love, respect and honor Andrew and Tori, they aren't the focus of my thoughts. You are.

As citizens of God's heavenly kingdom we now live in a fallen world subjected to futility and in bondage to corruption (Romans 8.20-21).

In I Peter 5.8 we are reminded that our adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour.

In Philippians 2.25-30 we learn that Paul's friend Epaphroditus had suffered a sickness that almost took his life. Paul writes God mercifully healed Epaphroditus and spared Paul from experiencing what he describes (v 27) as "sorrow upon sorrow."

"Sorrow upon sorrow." We know that things are not as they should be. Something is terribly wrong. Yes, there are many good things about life. The beauty of creation. Family. Friends. Yet we all experience "sorrow upon sorrow."

Last week, during the strong winds that ripped through Chattanooga, I went outside to close the door to our utility building that had blown open. I did so without concern or fear. As I approached the building, there were two huge bursts of wind. I found myself backing away from the giant oak that sits beside our driveway as it swayed menacingly, with dead limbs and twigs being ripped from its trunk. I could not help but think of all those who experienced the "sorrow upon sorrow" of last year's tornadoes.

Lately, I've found myself at times overcome by the "sorrow upon sorrow" being experienced by close friends and family.

Wounded warriors. Beloved family and friends confronted with death, disease and painful circumstances. Things that should not be in a world that God created good.

I've wept and cried out to God. Like the Psalmist I've asked God if He's paying attention, if He cares, if He can't do something about such terrible wrongs.

Mercifully, I remember that God's Word tells us the truth. This is the way of

life in a fallen world. Even Jesus wept as He stood beside the tomb of His friend Lazarus.

God became a man, sinlessly endured the reality of our sin-scarred world, and then showed us the horror of Satan's intentions, as He suffered the excruciating death of crucifixion experiencing for a moment in time separation from the Father's love.

He overcame, so that in His strength we might overcome. Satan still roars, but his doom is sure. And even now, we live with our LORD's promise that He is weaving together the moments of our life that we might blaze with the light of His glory in a fallen world.

That's why He claims us as His own.

He claimed Abraham, promising to bless him. Abraham, a man just like us, was blessed, despite all his terrible sins and struggles. Even more importantly, the LORD promised to bless others through him.

That's why we are here. We are now the children of Abraham, the true Israel of God, those in and through whom He works to draw others to Himself, as our lives display His glory in the midst of the darkness.

Even now, He is at work in and through us, overcoming in the lives of others the curse and power of sin.

One day all our wounds will be healed. Upon a recreated earth we will walk and run free of sin's stain with Him forevermore.

As wounded warriors, we now cry out to God to glorify Himself in and through the circumstances of our life, to bless others. And with Paul we cry "Maranatha!" — Come quickly, Lord, come quickly — assured that even now the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ will sustain us. (1 Corinthians 16.22-23).

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Page 2

Nursery Schedule

July 15

Worship

Infants

Esther McEachern
& Babs Leach

Creepers

Cathy, Grace
& Kaitlyn Smith

Toddlers

Katherine Fisher
& Mindy Horton

Floater

Scott Beatty

Sunday School

Infants

Jim & Connie Hildebrand

Creepers

Kelly, Madeleine
& Abigail Jennings

Toddlers

Aaron & Michelle Self

P.M.

Summer Schedule
No Evening Service

July Coordinator:

Boo Mullinax

BRIDAL SHOWER

A bridal shower for Ali Donahue, bride-elect of Spencer Whittier is being given Sunday, July 15 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Ali is registered at Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

A bridal shower for Suzanna Ker, bride-elect of Clint Epperson is being given Sunday, July 22 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Perseverers Classroom. Suzanna is registered at Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

BABY SHOWER

A baby shower for Lucy Mantel is being given Sunday, July 15 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Perseverers classroom. Lucy is registered at Babies R Us and Target. Lucy and Eric are expecting a boy.

CHICKS 'N CHOCOLATE

This month CPC women are invited to Nancy Cooper's home Friday, July 20 at 6:30 p.m. for a cookout and swimming! Please RSVP to Mandi Johnson or Leanna Cathey.

WELCOME ALL WOMEN!

Teresa Snow is speaking Sunday, July 29 during Sunday School on *Women Reaching Women in the Market Place*. Teresa Snow, a CPC supported missionary, is serving with Campus Crusade for Christ/Priority Associates in Austin, Texas. Her team's goal is to transform Austin, Texas one life at a time by presenting Christ and developing spiritual leaders in the marketplace. Please plan on attending this special event.

DONATIONS

If you would like to make a donation to the Andrew Smith fund, please designate it on the memo line of the check or on the outside of an envelope. These funds are tax deductible.

MUSICAL NOTES

Choir: Beginning July 15, the choir will be singing in the worship service. Please be in the choir room at 9:00 a.m. to practice. If you would like to join the choir, this is a great time to join as we are all starting afresh with new music. No experience is necessary. Come join the choir on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning July 18.

Handbell Ensemble: CPC Handbell Ensemble resumes Sunday, July 15 at 4:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to develop and enhance music skills while having fun.

Instrumental Ensemble: CPC Instrumental Ensemble resumes Sunday, July 15 at 5:00 p.m. This is a great time to join. For more information on any of these musical notes, contact Jeremy by email at jgaines@covenantchattanooga.org

Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Fosgate

request the honor of your presence

at the marriage of their daughter

Caitlin Leigh

to

Joseph Robert Hatcher

Saturday, the twenty-first of July

two thousand and twelve

at three o'clock in the afternoon

Perimeter Church Chapel

9500 Medlock Bridge Road

Johns Creek, GA 30022

Reception to Follow

CHATTANOOGA AREA FOOD BANK

Our church is participating in a food drive for Chattanooga Area Food Bank. This organization provides food for over 20,000 people every week. Our Mercy Committee works with this ministry regularly. There are barrels located outside Mark Wilson's office for your donation of all types of non-perishable items. At this time, the supply of canned fruit and mixed vegetables is low, but all donations are appreciated.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

There are no Sunday evening activities during the summer months. All regular Sunday evening activities will resume September 9. There is a special meeting August 19 for reports regarding mission trips taken this summer.

MISSION: CHATTANOOGA

Mission: Chattanooga takes place every Wednesday night during the summer from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to participate. Weekly projects include Amani Ya Juu (building renovation), visitation, crafts, sewing, cooking, prayer group, stamp ministry and letter writing to our missionaries. For more information, contact Eric Mullinax.

SWIM DAY

Swim day at the Mays' 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.