



The eNewsletter

August 23, 2012

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

From the Pen of the Senior Associate Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

August 23

Last Swim Day

August 26

Joe & Linda Barnes
50th Wedding Reception
Shepherding Groups Meet

August 29

Wednesday Night Supper
All Wednesday Night
Activities Resume

August 30

Ladies Bible Study

September 2

Lord's Supper Celebrated

September 3

Labor Day
Church Office Closed

September 4

Mother's Encouragement
Group
WM Council Meeting

September 5

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

September 6

Ladies Bible Study

September 8

Men's Breakfast
Communicant Class

September 9

Mission Committee Meeting
Ely/Miller Bridal Shower
Diaconate Meeting
Handbell Ensemble
Instrumental Ensemble
Evening Bible Study
Kids, Inc.
Youth Meeting

September 12

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

September 13

Ladies Bible Study

September 16

Handbell Ensemble
Instrumental Ensemble
Evening Bible Study
Kids, Inc.
Youth Meeting

September 18

Mother's Encouragement
Group

September 19

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

In a recent conversation with CPC supported missionaries, Drs. Sujai & Lavanya Suneetha (Nireekshana), I heard them, once again, speak highly of Drs. Paul and Margaret Brand. As young doctors in training at the leprosy hospital in Karigiri, India, the Suneethas were powerfully influenced by the Brands. So much so, that they sought to pattern their life and witness after these sterling mentors.

Paul Brand was born to missionary parents. He was an orthopedic doctor (and author) who chose his patients among the untouchable of India. Along with his wife, who was also a very capable physician, Paul Brand spent a lifetime working with the marred and useless limbs of leprosy victims, transforming the way in which medicine approaches the painful and often exiled world of the leper. Whereas the disfigurements of leprosy were once treated as irreversible consequences of the disease, Dr. Brand brought new hope to sufferers of leprosy by utilizing the body's capacity to heal. "I have come to realize" he once noted, "that every patient of mine, every new born baby, in every cell of its body, has a basic knowledge of how to survive and how to heal that I shall never know. That knowledge," continued Brand, "is the gift of God, who has made our bodies more perfectly that we could ever have devised." To view a fascinating video biography/documentary of the Brands, visit: www.dod.org/Products/Hearts-for-the-Outcaste--The-Story-of-Drs-Paul-and-Margaret-Brand_DOD1982.aspx.

Author Philip Yancey tells of his experience as a young journalist interviewing this dignified Christian statesman and surgeon. He recalls Brand speaking of his patients with tears as he described their experience with the disease, the experimental surgeries and their long-standing suffering. In the midst of many memorable conversations Yancey recalls the healing presence this physician was to his crippled and weary belief in God. To Yancey, Brand represent-

ed faith and hope in action, in reality, in efficacy. As Dr. Brand restored the image of God in lives maimed by disease, so he formatively planted the image of God in the once doubt-ridden world of a young author. Writes Yancey, "You need meet only one saint to believe, to silence the noisy arguments of the world."

How often God uses a faithful believer to rouse a distracted world. It is the old man with Scripture permeating his words, thoughts and actions that gives us one more reason to inspect stumbling blocks of doubt. It is the godly woman, while selflessly attending to others and singing theology-rich hymns that makes us wonder again at the person of Christ. One of the most effective apologetics of true truth is a life well lived for Jesus. One of the most telling defenses of the Christian worldview is a life transformed and sustained by the presence of God. Such lives are certain reminders that God is real and worthy to be followed. "His salvation is near to those who fear Him," proclaims the psalmist, "that His glory may dwell in our land" (Psalm 85:9).

Oh, that our committed lives might silence the arguments of a noisy world. Oh, that our joyful service to our King and His subjects might be the better defense of our faith. Oh, that captured hearts might, in word and deed, declare the excellencies of His grace.

Thanks be to God for the many ways this summer (including Mission: Chattanooga activities), that CPC folk have exercised their customized, God-given gifts for the benefit of others....and that His glory might be displayed through us to a watching world.

~Pastor Mullinax



What's Happening?

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Nursery Schedule

August 26

Worship

Infants

Lewis & Anna Reid

Creepers

Derek & Tiffany Holland

Toddlers

Mike & Jennifer Schleger

Floater

Jonah Gaines

Sunday School

Infants

Domekia & Ellie Gaines
& Reese Bingham

Creepers

Anna Byrd & Christine,
Heather & Grace Morrison

Toddlers

Jason & Jennifer McNeeley

P.M.

Summer Schedule
No Evening Service

August Coordinator:

Peg May

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Joe and Linda Barnes are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary with a drop-in reception, August 26 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Schum Fellowship Hall. Please join the Barnes in celebrating this milestone with lots of hugs but no gifts.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL RETREAT

All middle school students are invited to a Fall Retreat, September 21-23, at Ponderosa Bible Camp in Mentone, Alabama. The youth will leave the church Friday at 6:00 p.m. and return Sunday around noon. The cost is \$40 and the registration forms are outside Chris's office. Register by September 16 by turning the form in to Chris or Reba Gregory.

SAVE THE DATE

Christians around Chattanooga continue to look for answers to the city's ongoing upswing of gang violence. On Friday and Saturday, September 7-8, Dr. John M. Perkins will be the keynote speaker at Hope for the Inner City's Urban Outreach Conference. This year's conference will be specifically centered on training and equipping church leaders and members who want to see an end to gang violence. Friday's sessions are from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday's are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All sessions will be at 1800 Roanoke Avenue. Tickets are available at 423.698.3178. Learn more at Hope4theInnecity.org/urbanconference.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

There are no Sunday evening activities during the summer months. All regular Sunday evening activities will resume September 9.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Children's Ministry needs a couple of helpers, not teachers, this fall. Kids, Inc. meets Sunday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Covenant Corps Wednesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are available to help on either night, please contact Holly Lehmann or Mark Wilson.

COMMUNICANT'S CLASS

A Communicant's class for young people in preparation for making a public profession of faith and joining the church begins Saturday, September 8, at 10 a.m. in the Visitors Classroom. The course will be guided primarily at home by parents of the prospective communicants with only a couple of corporate meetings led by Pastor Mullinax. The coursework is geared for ages 10 and up. Materials cost is \$10. See Pastor Mullinax for introductory information.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Dinner begins at 5:45 p.m. and is served until 6:40 p.m. The suggested donation for adults is \$4, for children ages 5 to 11 is \$2.50, and children under 4 eat for free. The maximum family donation is \$15.

On August 29, starting at 7 p.m., Covenant Corp, Sanctuary Choir, Bible Studies for all ages and Prayer Groups will meet in various locations.

The following shepherding groups have clean-up duty for the month of August: Griggs and K. Brown. Please contact your shepherding elder to let him know you can help.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

August 29	Heidie's Surprise
September 5	Meatloaf
September 12	Spaghetti
September 19	Breakfast
September 26	Grilled chicken & Fettuccini
October 3	Cowboy Casserole
October 10	BBQ
October 17	Chicken Tetrazzini
October 24	Chicken & Dumplings
November 14	Chicken & Rice
November 28	Chili
December 5	Lasagna
December 12	Baked Potato Bar

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A men's bible study is being offered Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Office Wing. Jon Harris and Mike Walker will be teaching from *Praying with the Psalms* by Tim Keller. If you are interested in this study please join Jon and Mike for the first class on August 29.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Last year during the school year, CPC began partnering with East Ridge Presbyterian Church and Young Life to reach unchurched middle school children. If you are wanting to reach and love these children in anyway there is a dinner and informational meeting for prospective volunteers Monday, August 27, at 6:00 p.m. If you are interested in being a leader, driver, prayer partner, sound tech, musician, or playing games with the children, please contact Cara Childers at childers.cara@gmail.com.