



The eNewsletter

September 20, 2012

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

From the Pen of the Senior Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

September 21

Middle School Retreat
Chicks 'n Chocolate

September 23

Handbell Ensemble
Instrumental Ensemble
Evening Bible Study
Kids, Inc.

September 26

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

September 27

Ladies Bible Study

September 29

Birthday Celebration:
Mary Caines

September 30

Shepherding Groups

October 2

Mother's Encouragement
Group
WM Council

October 3

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting

October 4

Ladies Bible Study

October 5

Habitat for Humanity:
Mutubwa's Home

October 6

Men's Breakfast
Habitat for Humanity:
Mutubwa's Home
Haynes Wedding Shower

October 7

Lord's Supper Celebrated
Handbell Ensemble
Instrumental Ensemble
Evening Bible Study
Kids, Inc.
Youth Meeting

October 10

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

October 11

Ladies Bible Study

October 12

PresWic Fall Retreat
High School Father/Son
Wilderness Adventure

"Birds do it, bees do it, even educated fleas do it; let's do it, let's fall in love."

Despite the attempt to define "it" as "falling in love," we all (wink, wink) know what he's talking about. But in truth, while birds, bees and fleas have sex, they don't fall in love.

But we do. God created us in His image. We have the God-given capacity to love. Because God first loved us, we love Him in return, and show to others a love that is patient and kind, that does not envy or boast, that is not arrogant or rude, that does not insist on having its own way, that is not irritable or resentful, that does not rejoice at wrong doings but with the truth; a love that bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Such love never ends.

We were also created male and female. God created us with the ability to lovingly and faithfully commit ourselves to another. One expression of that love will be the sexual union of a husband and wife in which each is eager to please the other and, in doing so, experiences one of life's greatest pleasures.

As God chooses to bless such unions, children are brought into this world that they might be raised in the training and instruction of the Lord, maturing into adults eager to honor their Creator by living lives that bless others.

We are not simply animals. We alone were created in God's image. We are not dogs seeking to have sex

with whatever other dog we find willing. The world around us, and far too often the church, bears ample evidence of the consequences that result from ignoring God's Word. Fornication, adultery, and homosexuality lead to a brokenness. The only ones who fail to recognize this fact are almost always those whose consciences are so seared they are beyond sensing right and wrong.

But, then we sing our "cute" little ditty in justification for our chosen behavior: "Birds do it, bees do it, even *educated* fleas do it." That might be a viable argument if we were nothing more than animals existing at the highest end of an evolutionary scale.

But we're not. We're image bearers of God. And all God wants for us is what is best. Read the *Song of Solomon*. God delights in the expressions of sexual love between a husband and wife. But outside bonds of the covenant of marriage, our abuse of this wonderful gift saddens God.

If you're not married and struggling with those sexual urges that are common to almost everyone, let me assure you that you can remain faithful to the Lord. Once upon a time, I was seventeen. I know it's not easy. But God promises to give us the strength to do what pleases Him. Doing what pleases the Lord honors Him and blesses others. And those who honor Him and seek to bless others, He honors and blesses in ways far greater than anything we can ask or imagine.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

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Nursery Schedule September 23

Worship

Infants

Rachel Getz
& Becky Pearce

Creepers

Josh & Terri Akovenko

Toddlers

Tony & Tabitha Croucher

Floater

Scott Beatty

Sunday School

Infants

Jim & Connie Hildebrand

Creepers

Kelly, Madeleine
& Abigail Jennings

Toddlers

Patty, Alexis & Kristen Liner

P.M.

Combined

Martof Family

September Coordinator:

Cayce Weekley

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT

If you have registered to attend the Middle School Retreat, meet in the church parking lot at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 21. Parents-the middle school students should be back around noon on Sunday, September 23. If you have any questions, please call Chris Gregory at 334.796.7424 or email him at cgregory@covenantchattanooga.org.

HIGH SCHOOL FATHER/SON WILDERNESS ADVENTURE

All high school boys and their fathers are invited to a wilderness adventure on the Appalachian Trail October 12 to 14. The cost is \$90 with deposit of \$45 due September 30. Please fill out the registration form and give it to Chris Gregory to reserve your spot.

CHICKS 'N CHOCOLATE

CPC women are meeting this month at Abuelos restaurant near the mall on Friday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Mandi Johnson by today, September 20.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. and is served until 6:40 p.m. The suggested donation for adults is \$4 and \$2.50 for children ages 5 to 11. Children under 4 eat for free. The maximum family donation is \$15.

The following shepherding groups have clean-up duty for the month of September: G. Duple and J. Harris, J. Gaines, D. Elwood and D. Grant. Please contact your shepherding elder to let him know when you can help.

THANK YOU

We want to let everyone know that Lisa and I really appreciated the prayers, visits and cards we received following the loss of Lisa's mom. The body of Christ at Covenant Presbyterian Church reflected the love of Christ during this time.

Danny and Lisa Grant

Dear Covenant Church Folks,

Joe and I want to thank you so much for our little 50th wedding anniversary celebration. It was wonderful to be able to worship with you in the morning and celebrate with you in the afternoon.

God has been very gracious to us these past 50 years, and it does not seem possible that we have been married that long. It is so good to be able to look back and see God's hand leading us. We know He will continue to do so.

May He bless you all richly,
Joe and Linda Barnes

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

September 26	Grilled Chicken & Fettuccini
October 3	Cowboy Casserole
October 10	BBQ
October 17	Chicken Tetrazzini
October 24	Chicken & Dumplings
November 14	Chicken & Rice

*Render and Linda Caines
and
Candy and Gordon Meiners*

*Invite you to join them
in celebrating their mother's
90th birthday.
On September 29th 2012,
a celebration honoring*

Mary Caines

*will be held in
Schum Fellowship Hall
Covenant Presbyterian Church
8451 East Brainerd Road
Chattanooga, TN*

*Please drop in any
time between
2:00 and 4:00 pm to
wish her a
happy birthday.*

No gifts please.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT TO THE MUTUBWAS

Our good friends, the Mutubwas, are building a house! Your help is welcomed at the work site in the East Lake area. All skill levels accepted (must be 16 or older) and all tools will be provided at the site. Just show up ready to work!

Our church is scheduled to help Friday, October 5, 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 6, 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please sign up by either calling the church office (423.899.5377), emailing the church office (cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org) or signing the clipboard on the bulletin board in the lobby. You may want to sign up for more than one shift too...double the blessing!

Note: You will need to sign a waiver form available at church when you sign up.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Remember our college students as you pray. Here are a few of the many we have:

Josh Adams	University of Tennessee
Alex Bowers	Chattanooga State
Julia Bowers	University of Tennessee
Davis Brown	Ole Miss