



The eNewsletter

October 25, 2012

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421
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From the Pen of the Senior Associate Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

October 26

Men Visit National Infantry Museum, Ft. Benning

October 27

Youth Costume Party

October 28

Joint Reformation Service

October 31

Reformation Celebration
Sanctuary Choir Practice

November 1

Ladies Bible Study

November 3

Men's Breakfast
Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 4

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

Youth Group Meeting

November 6

Election Day-Time to Vote
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
WM Council

November 7

Missions Conference Dinner
Sanctuary Choir Practice
Session Meeting

November 9

Mission Conference Breakfast
with West African Pastors

November 10

Missions Conference
Youth Rake and Bake

November 11

Mission Conference Concludes
Oates/Smith Bridal Shower
Diaconate Meeting
Handbell Ensemble
Instrumental Ensemble
Concert of Prayer for
the Nations
Kids, Inc.

November 14

Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities

November 15

Ladies Bible Study
Memorial Hospital Lunch

November 16

HS Mother/Daughter Retreat
No Talent, Talent Show

November 17

Operation Christmas Child

This Sunday evening, October 28, at 6:00 p.m., we'll host friends from area PCA churches for a joint worship service celebrating the Protestant Reformation. A combined choir will sing and you may join this group if you'd like by rehearsing with them in the sanctuary beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Jerram Barrs will preach. An offering will be received for the ongoing work of the Reformed University (RUF) ministries at schools within the Tennessee Valley Presbytery. It should be a wonderful evening. Please make every effort to join us for this special event.

Join us again on Wednesday evening (5:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.), October 31, for another time of celebrating our reformational heritage. Most post-supper activities will take place on the church grounds, including the Bunyan Bounce Castle, Luther's Laps, Tetzel's Toss, Hus Hang-ups, The Diet of Worms, Pin the Theses, Knox Knock-Down, Reformation Rings, and Wycliffe Wing-It. Costumes are optional, but the funny-looking, fat friar will be me!

Reformation celebrations? Reformation services? What is the Reformation that we hear so much about, especially in "reformed" churches? The Reformation was the end result of a series of events whose initial purpose was to reform the medieval Roman Catholic church from within. It finally became a movement of separation from this same church. The doctrine of justification by faith alone was recovered by the reformers, and the Bible (rather than the Bible and tradition) was given its rightful place of authority in the life of the believer. The Bible was made available in the language of the common person.

Many events were working together to set the stage for the Reformation—all under the sovereign authority of God. The Renaissance brought a rebirth of learning and the emergence of classical humanism. This included the desire to look to the past for instruction and an interest in the original languages of the Scriptures. Political, economic, and social changes were giving rise to a new group of people, the middle class. As the middle class became more educated and read the Bible in the common tongue, discrepancies became

blatantly obvious between what the Roman Catholic church taught and what the Scriptures said. The result was a favorable climate to the ideas promoted by these "reformers."

There are many important places and names of "reformers" to remember concerning the Reformation. The Waldensians in France, John Wycliffe in England, John Hus in Bohemia, Jerome Savonarola in Italy, and Erasmus in the Netherlands were some of the forerunners who set the stage for the pivotal Reformation events in Germany. Other famous men who followed the Reformation in Germany included Ulrich Zwingli in Switzerland, John Calvin in Geneva, John Knox in Scotland, and Thomas Cramner in England.

The spark that really set the Reformation movement ablaze was on October 31, 1517, when a young Augustinian monk, Martin Luther, posted his now famous 95 theses/arguments on the church door of the Wittenburg (Germany) Castle. The timing and place of Luther's posting is significant. The castle church held one of the largest collections of supposed relics outside of Rome (pieces of bones from saints, locks of hairs from martyrs, a piece of the true cross, a twig from Moses' burning bush, bread from the Last Supper, a veil sprinkled with the blood of Christ), all venerated and held in holy awe. The relics were kept in special reliquaries and ornamented with gold, silver and precious stones. They were specially exhibited on All Saints (Hallows) Day, November 1. The church taught that paying a special fee and viewing the relics would shorten a soul's stay in purgatory, this was one teaching Luther challenged in his 95 theses. Luther promoted the free, gratuitous remission of sin—not by relics, papal pardons, or indulgences—but by faith in Jesus Christ.

The next day, November 1, All Saints Day, the multitudes flocked to the church, read Luther's charges, and the Reformation was born in earnest.

We continue the Reformation and continue in the Reformed faith, as we ever seek to "reform" our beliefs and lives by the Word of God. I hope you can be with us and others of like precious faith for these events.

~Pastor Mullinax



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule

October 28

Worship

Infants

Josh & Diana Perrel

Creepers

Heidie, Christine
& Jenny Armao

Toddlers

Adam & Millie Sanders

Floater

Wes Gaither

Sunday School

Infants

Russ & Bev Roop

Creepers

Susan Close
& Eunice Martin

Toddlers

Huston & Janet Wade

P.M.

Joint Reformation Service

October Coordinator:

Camille Platt

JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE

Sunday evening, October 28, at 6:00 p.m. the churches of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery are meeting together at Covenant Presbyterian Church for a time of worship. Dr. Jerram Barrs, Professor of Christian Studies and Contemporary Culture and Resident Scholar of the Francis A. Schaeffer Institute at Covenant Seminary will be preaching. A combined choir will practice at 5:00 p.m. in order to help lead worship during the service. An offering will be received for the support of our five RUF pastors ministering at Carson Newman, Covenant College, University of Tennessee-Knoxville and University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. Please plan to join us for this wonderful evening of worship.

REFORMATION CELEBRATION

This is a great evening for everyone filled with fun, fellowship, food and instruction. Join us Wednesday evening, October 31, for "reformation" supper and activities.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) 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. Included are stickers to be placed on the boxes marking age and sex of the child. You can participate several ways:

- * **Fill a shoe box** for a specific sex/age child (2 to 4, 5 to 9, 10 to 14). OCC requests the use of Walmart or Dollar store's plastic boxes which are shoe box sized as they are more durable. If you are able to write a note to include in your box, it would be a great blessing to that child as they have been known to prize things like letters and pictures well into adulthood. Collection point is the Ladies Sunday School classroom across from the coke machine.
- * **Donate** - empty shoe boxes or items for shoe boxes. Sample items: soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloths, small toys, combs, socks, school supplies, hard candy (no chocolate since it melts), etc.
- * **Donate money** - OCC requests \$7 for shipping per box. Make checks payable to Samaritan's Purse, and put OCC on the memo line. Drop it in the offering plate no later than November 11.
- * **Wrap and stuff boxes** on Saturday, November 17, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Perseverers Sunday School classroom.

November 17 is the deadline for boxes and items.

SPECIAL EVENT

Eric Metaxas, noted Christian author and Breakpoint commentator, will be speaking in Chattanooga, Thursday, November 15. The dinner-event is at the Chattanooga Convention Center from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. A table for eight has been purchased. If you would like to reserve your place, please contact Pastor Mullinax. This is a fundraiser for AMG International ministry. You will be asked to contribute to AMG's work.

MISSIONS CONFERENCE

Save the dates and look for more details about CPC's 18th annual missions conference, November 7 to 11. Christ's atoning sacrifice for a world of people from every tongue, race and nation will be our focus (*Not For Ours Only* ... 1 John 2.2).

THANK YOU

I want to thank all of you who made my 90th birthday a wonderful occasion and a blessed memory. Your expressions of love and care for me are deeply appreciated.
Mary McCutchen Caines

Thank you for all the words of comfort, prayers and cards you have blessed my family with since my father's passing. They have been a wonderful encouragement to my family.
Paul Beatty

26.2 FOR ANDREW

Rachel Kemp is going to run her first marathon Saturday, November 10, at 7:30 a.m. She would like to use this opportunity to raise money for Andrew and Tori's new home. If you would like to make a pledge per mile that she runs, find the sign-up sheet and collection box on the table outside Mark Wilson's office. Let's show Rachel, Andrew and Tori our support during this exciting time in their lives.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

All Middle School and High School Youth are invited to a youth costume party on Saturday, October 27, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at CPC. Please come and enjoy a good time. If you are able to provide a snack or sweet treat, please contact Reba Gregory. Remember to choose costumes that are modest and not too scary.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Drew Lazor	UTC
Abby Lyons	UTC
Justin Martin	Calvin College
Cara Martof	Berry College

LOVE THE LITTLE ONES

Two volunteers are still needed for November 25. Monthly Coordinators are needed for November through May. Volunteers are also needed to fill positions on holiday weekends. If you are willing to help any of these times and/or fill any of these positions, please notify Heather Harris.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are encouraged to attend the Men's Breakfast Saturday, November 3, at 8:30 a.m. Gerald, Tom and Andrew Schreiner are speaking on "In Three Generations...God." A special invitation is extended to all the High School young men who will receive a FREE breakfast! Plan on joining us for a great time of fellowship, food, discussion and prayer.

THANKSGIVING POUNDING

It's time again for our annual collection of nonperishable food items to share with those in need. Please bring your donations of canned goods and staples and place them in the box outside Mark Wilson's office by November 17. Monetary donations are always welcome and are needed to purchase perishable items (turkey, ham, etc.) on the day of delivery. If you know someone in need or if you yourself could use a hand this year, please contact the church office or an elder. Following 1 John 3. 17-18, may God lead us to share generously and cheerfully according to the abundance with which He has blessed us.