



The eNewsletter

February 28, 2013

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

Looking Ahead...

- March 2**
Men's Conference
- March 3**
Lord's Supper Celebrated
Instrumental Ensemble
Evening Bible Study
Youth Group
Kids, Inc.
- March 5**
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
- March 6**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- March 7**
Ladies' Bible Study
- March 8-9**
D2S Youth Conference
- March 9**
Turn Clocks Forward Before
Heading to Bed
- March 10**
Mission Committee Meeting
Instrumental Ensemble
Evening Bible Study
Youth Group
Kids, Inc.
- March 13**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- March 14**
Ladies' Bible Study
- March 15**
Chicks 'N Chocolate
- March 17**
Membership Sunday
Deacon Meeting
Instrumental Ensemble
Evening Bible Study
Youth Group
Kids, Inc.
- March 19**
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
- March 20**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
Session Meeting
- March 21**
Ladies' Bible Study
Memorial Hospital Lunch
- March 23**
Church Work Day
- March 24**
Palm Sunday

This morning, idling to the west of the railroad crossing at Graysville sat two diesel engines, back to back, and a long line of cars.

I love trains. Growing up in New Jersey I enjoyed taking the train to Philly, Washington, DC and New York City. One time I even rode the train from Trenton (New Jersey, not Georgia) to Chattanooga, accompanied by a cute little blond.

This morning, before reaching the railroad crossing, nine geese rose from the field to my left. They were fabulous. They flew in perfect formation - rising, diving, swirling to the right, then back to the left; gliding, flapping their wings, honking. It was wonderful. The Rockettes would have envied their choreography.

As I stared at the diesel engines, I thought about the geese.

What a staggering chain of evolutionary events has brought those geese to the point where they can fly in formation, moving together as one, changing direction instantly, rising and falling in the sky in perfect harmony, without any apparent means of communication.

And then, what about those diesel engines? It's staggering to realize that in our evolutionary development as homo sapiens we've moved beyond mere instinct and are now able to plan and build intricate machines that facilitate our lives.

Right? No. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

I'm not a scientist, but I enjoy reading science. I'm grateful for the writings of those scientists who struggle to harmonize the revealed truth of Scripture and various scientific theories.

But I am grieved by Christians who talk derisively about men and women

whose hearts have not been changed and who, therefore, do not, for now, see through the spectacles of Scripture the world in which they live.

But I have to confess that at times I am extremely frustrated by those who seem to be willfully blind.

For example: almost anyone would look at a diesel engine and conclude immediately that what they were looking at was the product of human reasoning, planning and construction. I can't imagine anyone arguing that a diesel engine was the result of a series of blind events.

But many of those same individuals can watch the flight of geese and be comfortable with the idea that these birds and their antics are simply the consequence of a series of chance events that have brought us to this moment in the evolutionary development of geese. That's stunning to me.

Those geese and the antics are far more complex than that diesel engine sitting at the Graysville crossing. The simpler of the two, almost everyone would conclude was the result of planning. But the more complex of the two, we are told, is the product of blind chance. I just don't get it.

I have the greatest respect for science and what they have accomplished in my few short years here on earth. This morning, I am especially grateful for the medical science that has preserved the life of River and Bryce.

But even more, I'm grateful to know the Source of the thoughts, skills, insights, planning and abilities that Monday morning preserved the life of our covenant children. He is the One who guided the flight of nine geese, and gave the abilities to plan, build, and construct the mighty engines sitting at the Graysville crossing.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule

March 3

Worship

Infants

Gretchen & Mollee Brown
& Sally Forrester

Creepers

Adam & Millie Sanders

Toddlers

Josh & Teri Akovenko

Floater

Anna Harnsberger

Sunday School

Infants

Diana Bowers & Edyne Vatt

Creepers

Sue Spalding
& Alayne Griffin

Toddlers

Patty, Alexis & Kristin Liner

P.M.

Combined

Polly Henry & Linda Caines

March Coordinator:

Tammy Higgins

MEN'S CONFERENCE

The Men's Ministry Conference is at CPC, this Saturday, March 2, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and it includes breakfast. Reverend Joe Novenson, pastor of Lookout Mountain PC, is speaking on "Braveheart - Dying For A Cause." The cost is \$10 if you have it; if not, don't worry about it. We hope you will make every effort to be with us. We look forward to seeing you there.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

DARE2SHARE: EVANGELISM TRAINING

On March 8 and 9, the Dare-2-Share Youth Evangelism Conference will be held at the Chattanooga Convention Center. Our youth will attend the conference Friday evening and all day Saturday. The cost is \$69.00. Please see Chris Gregory for more information.

THE EDGE CONFERENCE

This year *The Edge Conference* will be held at Covenant College on June 17 to 21 and cost \$275. For those Middle School youth interested in attending, registrations with a deposit of \$50 must be turned in to Chris Gregory by the April 28 deadline. Many of the High School students still point to this conference as a pivotal moment in their walk with Christ. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to give Chris a call.

MTW NEEDS

Mission to the World (MTW) has several immediate personnel needs listed below:

There is a need for two girls and one guy for the Scotland Intern Team and two girls and one guy for the Czech Republic Intern Team. Neither of these teams can go unless they fill these positions. For more information visit http://www.mtw.org/Pages/INT_Europe.aspx.

There is a need for doctors or nurse practitioners for a medical mission trip to North Africa and a medical mission trip to Haiti. Due to family reasons, the doctors originally scheduled had to cancel, and if MTW does not fill these positions, they will have to cancel both of these trips. For more information visit: http://www.mtw.org/Pages/MED_Main.aspx.

STEPS4STEPS 5K WALK

The Steps4Steps 5K Walk is Saturday, March 9, at 10:00 a.m. at the Tennessee Riverpark. The proceeds will benefit the Team Andrew Smith Project of building a home for Andrew and Tori Smith. Registration is \$25 per person. Registrations and donations can be made at the event or online at www.steps4steps.com. Make checks payable to Steps2Hope - Team Andrew.

EASTER LILIES

If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter while honoring or remembering a friend or loved one, you may order an Easter lily. Order forms are available at the Welcome Center and need to be turned in to Carol by March 17. You may pick up your lily following the Easter service.

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 4 and under eat for free. The maximum family donation is \$15.

The following shepherding groups have clean-up duty for the month of March: D. Elwood, T. Schreiner, M. Fingerle, B. Higgins, M. Wilson. Please contact your shepherding elder to let him know when you can help.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you enjoy meeting and talking to people, please consider volunteering at the Welcome Center between Worship Service and Sunday School. A smiling face and a little bit of knowledge about our church is all that is needed! Please call or email the church office if you are interested.

MISSIONARY SPEAKER

On Wednesday evening, March 13, we have the honor of hearing from John and Kathy Lesondak. They will share about their ministry in Slovakia. Please join us in Schum Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Justin Martin	Calvin College
Cara Martof	Berry College
Jamie Martof	Berry College
Amy Morris	Covenant College

CHANGE TO MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Tracy Horton	thorton.HHS@catoosa.k12.ga.us
Jared & Sarah McCurry	mccurry@catt.com
Jenny Petersen	Jenny.m.petersen@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

March 6	Chicken Casserole
March 13	Breakfast
March 20	Meatball Subs & French Fries
March 27	No Meal-Maundy Thursday
April 3	Chicken Parmesan
April 10	Barbecue
April 17	Enchiladas with Spanish Rice
April 24	Baked Ziti
May 1	Taco Salad
May 8	Chicken & Rice
May 15	Cowboy Casserole
May 22	Hot Dogs and the Fixings