



The eNewsletter

March 14, 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 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 24**
Palm Sunday
Shepherding Groups Meet
- March 27**
Sanctuary Choir Practice
No Wednesday Night Supper
No Wednesday Evening
Activities
- March 28**
No Ladies' Bible Study
Maundy Thursday Service
- March 29**
Good Friday
-Church Office Closed
- March 30**
Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast
- March 31**
Easter Service
No Sunday School
No Evening Activities
- April 2**
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
WM Council Meeting
- April 3**
Wednesday Night Supper
Wednesday Night Activities
- April 4**
Ladies' Bible Study
Cloth Swap
- April 6**
Men's Breakfast

In October we will celebrate Covenant Presbyterian Church's 25th anniversary. Between now and then I'll occasionally use this weekly slot to "remember" those early days.

CPC began as a glint in Uncle Hank's eye. I was the senior pastor of East Ridge Presbyterian Church and the stated clerk of the Tennessee Valley Presbytery. Hank Schum was employed by TVP to help start new churches. Hank would eventually become CPC's first associate pastor. Our fellowship hall is named in honor of Hank and his wife, Ruby.

In the late summer of 1987, Hank came to my office at East Ridge PC and asked if we could go for a ride out East Brainerd Road. As we drove out the two-lane highway from I-75 to Ooltewah-Ringgold Road, Hank informed me that many thought East Brainerd would soon become one of the fastest growing areas in Hamilton County. He believed that the TVP should plant a new PCA church somewhere on East Brainerd Road.

I thought it was all quite interesting, but I was not particularly enthusiastic about the idea. I knew how much work was involved in starting a new church, having been organizing pastor of Davenport Road Presbyterian Church in Simpsonville, South Carolina.

A few weeks later, Hank returned to my office. He brought Ruling Elder Bob Frederick with him. Bob was the stated clerk of the East Ridge Session. We took the same drive, Hank repeated the same speech, I had basically the same response. Bob was intrigued.

Bob encouraged me to suggest to the East Ridge Session that we offer to assist the TVP in planting a new church

in the East Brainerd community. The Session voted unanimously to do so.

We checked with Brainerd Hills PC, located west of I-75 on East Brainerd Road. They approved of the idea.

But then a strange thing happened: the more the session of East Ridge PC prayed about assisting the TVP in beginning a new work in East Brainerd, the more obvious it became that in God's providence we were His answer to our prayers. For example, when we looked at the membership role of East Ridge PC, we realized some thirty families of East Ridge PC had East Brainerd zip codes.

So the Session debated and unanimously approved the challenge of having East Ridge PC lead the effort of planting a new PCA congregation in East Brainerd. At the winter stated meeting of the TVP, in January 1988, East Ridge PC asked the TVP for permission to do so.

The presbytery approved. When the congregation of East Ridge PC was asked whether they would support such an idea, 95% of the members, present and voting, voiced their support.

The initial plan was for East Ridge PC to be one church in two locations. Ruling Elder Ken Henry, on staff at East Ridge PC, procured the use of Westview Elementary School for morning and evening worship. On the third Sunday of April 1988, Covenant Presbyterian Church met for the first time. The second Sunday in June 1988, the TVP formally recognized CPC as a PCA congregation. CPC's charter roll lists some 100 names.

And that's, in part, how it all began. To God be the glory for the great things He has done.

~Pastor Caines



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule

March 17

Worship

Infants

Esther McEachern
& Susan Helton

Creepers

Josh & Diana Perrel

Toddlers

Kristin Sotelo
& Cayce Weekley

Floater

Scott Beatty

Sunday School

Infants

Marty & Nancy Cooper

Creepers

Julia Gracy
& Allison Millard

Toddlers

Yvonne Owens
& Jean Mauroner

P.M.

Combined

The Martof Family

March Coordinator:

Tammy Higgins

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

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.

BREAKAWAY CONFERENCE

This year the Breakaway Conference will be held in Hilton Head, SC, from June 10 to 14 and cost \$300. For those High School students interested in attending, registrations with a deposit of \$50 must be turned in to Chris Gregory by the April 28 deadline. If you have any questions, contact Chris Gregory.

RENT-A-YOUTH

Do you need help around the house? Do you have yard work that needs to be done or in need of a babysitter(s)? Our youth are kicking off the "RENT-A-YOUTH" Fundraiser. This event helps our students raise money for upcoming Summer Mission Trips or Summer Camps. If you would like to Rent-a-Youth(s), request forms are outside of Chris' office or at the Welcome Center. Got questions or a request? Email Christine Morrison at rpgchatt@comcast.net.

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.

CHICKS 'N CHOCOLATE

This month, CPC women are meeting at Diane Lazor's home for a movie night on Friday, March 15. Join us at 7:00 p.m. with a snack to share and the movie, *Cranford*, will start at 7:30p.m. Please RSVP to Leanna Cathey or Diane Lazor if you plan to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS?

Email Carol or Susan before Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. with all information you would like in the eNewsletter. The email address is: cpcoffice@covenantchattanooga.org.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The Session will meet with anyone desiring membership on Sunday, March 17. Call or email the church office to schedule a time.

SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 17

Pastor Caines is preaching at West Hills PC Installation Service this Sunday evening, March 17, so there is no Revelation Bible Study. Pastor Mullinax is leading the Bible Study that evening.

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.

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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

Micah Schreiner	Covenant College
Daniel Stevenson	Mississippi State
Daniel Trask	UTC
Jason Marrs	Chattanooga State
Emily Vatt	East Tennessee State

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL MINISTRY

Our church has the privilege of being a part of a luncheon ministry at Memorial Hospital. The third Thursday of each month we provide lunch to families in the surgery waiting room. If you can contribute sandwiches, chips, snack cakes or fruit this week, please call or email the church office.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday evening, March 28, we will observe Maundy Thursday. Maundy originates from the Latin word "mandatum" meaning a command or mandate referring to Christ's command given the night before His crucifixion that His disciples should love one another (John 13.34). That night as they celebrated Passover, the disciples were told by Jesus that the bread of Passover would now represent His body, and the cup, His blood. Thursday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. we will celebrate our Lord's Supper and participate in a tenebrae service denoting the growing "darkness" that would encompass the next two days before His glorious resurrection.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

March 20	Meatball Subs & French Fries
March 27	No Meal-Maundy Thursday
April 3	Chicken Parmesan