



# The eNewsletter

March 21, 2013

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421  
423.899.5377 [www.covenantchattanooga.org](http://www.covenantchattanooga.org)

## *From the Pen of the Senior Pastor...*

### *Looking Ahead...*

**March 24**

Palm Sunday  
Shepherding Groups Meet

**March 27**

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

**April 7**

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

**April 10**

Wednesday Night Supper  
Wednesday Night Activities

**April 11**

Ladies' Bible Study

**April 13**

Church Work Day

**April 14**

Mission Committee Meeting  
Instrumental Ensemble  
Evening Bible Study  
Youth Group  
Kids, Inc.

**April 16**

Mothers' Encouragement  
Group

Knowledge is power. Joseph had that power. He knew who they were and what they had done. They had no idea that Egypt's grain czar was their brother.

Jealous and hateful of this brother so obviously favored by their father, they sold him into slavery. They thought him long dead. Few survived as slaves for twenty-two years.

The Egyptians, during seven years of abundant harvest, had by supernatural means anticipated these years of famine. Everyone now came to Egypt to buy grain, including Jacob's ten oldest sons.

Before the dispenser of life the brothers bow. No longer a long haired bearded youth of seventeen, he was now a clean faced man of nearly forty years of age. They don't recognize him. But he knows immediately who they are.

Knowledge is power. Joseph knew he had been sinned against by these ignorant men bowing before him.

He knew he wasn't without sin. He had been a spoiled brat. While his brothers tended their father's flocks, he stayed at home sashaying around the house in his expensive, well-tailored clothes. When they were all together, he eagerly told about his dreams in which the entire family bowed before him. They didn't like him, were jealous of him and, when given the opportunity, thought of killing him. They chose instead to turn a nice profit by selling him to a band of traders.

Knowledge is power. Knowing what they had done, Joseph could now do with them whatever he chose.

As he spoke harshly to them, they confessed to each other in their native tongue their guilt concerning what they had done years before to their younger brother. They didn't know Joseph understood every word they said. So he chose a plan of action to demonstrate if their words came from changed hearts.

It's a long, twisting story. But it's a story of reconciliation. Knowledge is power. That power was Joseph's. It included the knowledge that God uses even sin to accomplish His good purposes.

Eventually this dysfunctional family was reconciled because Joseph chose to use his God-given knowledge wisely. He chose to use his knowledge of human nature and of God to accomplish good. He chose to forgive.

That's the way reconciliation happens. Knowing that we are all sinful people to whom God has shown mercy and forgiveness, Joseph responds to those who had sinned against him. He demonstrates a genuine sorrow for what they had done, by choosing to be merciful and forgiving.

I've sinned against others. I've often regretted and confessed harsh words, insensitivity, and foolish decisions. And many, knowing my sin and loving the Lord, have shown me mercy and forgiveness.

So what about you? Do you acknowledge your sins? Have you known God's mercy and forgiveness? What knowledge do you possess of how others who have sinned against you? Possessing that knowledge, do you find yourself wanting to see them suffer or are you willing to be merciful and forgiving?

Knowledge is power. That power can be used to torment others or it can be used to show mercy and forgiveness. Reconciliation is a powerful good. By God's grace, He has reconciled you to Himself. By God's grace, you possess the knowledge, ability, and supernatural power to reconcile others to yourself.

Knowledge is power. Supernatural power.

~Pastor Caines



## What's Happening?

### Nursery Schedule

March 24

#### Worship

##### Infants

Jessica Greer  
& Elizabeth Beatty

##### Creepers

Cathy, Grace & Katie Smith

##### Toddlers

Gerald & Donna Schreiner

##### Floater

Colleen Murphy

### Sunday School

##### Infants

Need Volunteer  
& Brenda King

##### Creepers

Anna Steere  
& Rachel Miller

##### Toddlers

Jeannie Hall  
& Need Volunteer

#### P.M.

No Evening Service-  
Shepherding Groups Meet

### 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? 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, request forms are outside of Chris' office or at the Welcome Center. Got questions or a request? Email Christine Morrison at [rpgchatt@comcast.net](mailto:rpgchatt@comcast.net).

### CLOTHING SWAP

It's time to clean out your closets again! Bring items you do not wear, like, or that do not fit and swap them for something you can use. There are usually men's, women's, kid's, infant's and maternity clothes with the occasional household item thrown in. Even if you don't have anything to bring, come "shop". It will be Thursday, April 4, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the home of Amy Wooten. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Wade at 706.937.5951.

### BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

The monthly birthday and anniversary calendar is available at the Welcome Center.

### CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Susan Mobley...1923 Close Road, East Ridge, TN 37412

### THANK YOU

Dear Covenant Family,  
How very blessed we are to be part of this Covenant family! Thank you so much for the cards, calls, meals, visits and PRAYERS during my recent surgery and continuing recovery. You have been so kind and generous to me, Bill and Wil. I am doing well - Praise the Lord! I am now walking with a cane, am getting ever-improving range-of-motion numbers in physical therapy, and gaining strength every day. I can now straighten my knee to a "2" with "0" being a leg that is completely straight at the knee joint. It hasn't been that straight in 15 years! Wow! And the bending of the knee is continuing to improve as well. I am so blessed and thankful. Your prayers and support are truly amazing and such a testimony to those around me. I love you, dear family!

God bless you, Judy (and Bill and Wil)

### 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.

### BREAKFAST & EGG HUNT FOR MISSIONS

Our annual breakfast and egg hunt is Saturday, March 30. This event raises money for the youth summer mission trip. A full breakfast is served from 9:00 until 10:15 a.m. A story explaining the reason we celebrate Easter will begin at 10:15 a.m. followed by the egg hunt at 10:30 a.m. for children, ages 2 through the fifth grade. Bring a basket only, the eggs are provided.

### EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 31, our Easter Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. will be an extended time of worship and celebration of our Lord's resurrection. There will be no Sunday School or Evening Service.

### PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Remember to pray for our college students as they finish the year and face exams.

### WALK FOR OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS

First Presbyterian Church will be hosting a *Walk for Ovarian Cancer Awareness* April 6 at 10:00 a.m. The route will take participants through the UTC campus and along the beautiful Chattanooga Riverfront. The event will start and end at First Presbyterian Church. Goody bags will be given to participants. Following the event, attendees can participate in various activities including inflatables for the kids, face painting, entertainment and a BBQ lunch. Please register at [www.active.com/running/chatanooga-tn/a-smile-to-remember---walk-for-ovarian-cancer-awareness-2013](http://www.active.com/running/chatanooga-tn/a-smile-to-remember---walk-for-ovarian-cancer-awareness-2013) by [Thursday April 4](#). For the 1 mile fund walk or the 5K run, cost ranges from \$15 for ages 6-12 to \$20 for ages 13 and older.

### HELPING WITHOUT HURTING

The *Helping Without Hurting* Seminar is coming to Chattanooga Saturday, April 13. Be prepared to reconsider how you help the poor and be encouraged in how your church or ministry can practically move forward in empowering those whom you help. Find more information at [www.chalmers.org/hwh/seminars/schedule](http://www.chalmers.org/hwh/seminars/schedule).