



The eNewsletter

April 4, 2019

A publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church, 8451 East Brainerd Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421
423.899.5377 www.covenantchattanooga.org

From the Pen of our Senior Pastor...

Looking Ahead...

- April 5**
Men's Proverbs Bible Study
Middle School Game Night
- April 6**
Men's Breakfast
- April 7**
Lord's Supper
Diaconate Meeting
- April 10**
Wednesday Night Activities
Communicants Class
- April 12**
Men's Proverbs Bible Study
High School Game Night
- April 13**
TVP Spring Meeting
Cooking Kinship Group
- April 14**
Palm Sunday
Morning Worship
Sunday School
- April 15**
Ladies' PM Bible Study:
Prophets
- April 16**
Mothers' Encouragement
Group
- April 17**
No Wednesday Night
Activities
Session Meeting
- April 18**
Memorial Hospital Lunch
Maundy Thursday
- April 19**
Good Friday - Church Office
Closed
Men's Proverbs Bible Study
- April 21**
Easter Sunday
Morning Worship
- April 24**
Wednesday Night Activities
Communicants Class
- April 26**
Men's Proverbs Bible Study
Taters and Tubesteaks

Imitation

If something is an imitation, it isn't as valuable, right? The off-white, naugahyde handbag with LV splashed on the side will never impress. The Rolex with a jerky second hand, well, don't even try. Surimi paste, though made with real Alaskan Pollock, will never be real crab. A Waterman pen is not negotiable; you must have something thrilling with which to record your boredom (to quote an advertisement from the Waterman Pen Company). If it's an imitation, it belongs in the trash receptacle at the end of the driveway, right?

Not so fast. You see, the value of imitation was assumed in the Classical World. For instance, Democritus wrote that imitating the web-making skill of the spider could be counted on to improve weaving techniques. Hippocrates taught that the motor functions of the human body could teach builders how to build lifting machines. Very few disagreed with the insistence of Heraclitus that all good artists, whether they be musicians or painters or writers, were actually imitating the world around them. To imitate was to proclaim the worth of the physical world, and to imitate well was the very measurement of skill.

The word for imitation in classical Greek, *mimeomai*, is where we get the word, *mimesis*. Did you know that the writers of the Bible use this word? Twice, Paul warns the Thessalonians to imitate not just his own behavior, but also the behavior of Silas and Timothy (2 Thes. 3.7, 9). Paul is chiefly speaking about imitating a work ethic, but the writer of Hebrews encourages Christians to evaluate the "way of life" of their leaders and to imitate what they see (Heb. 13.7).

In October of last year, I asked for prayer for our pastors along these lines, that you would pray their lives would be worthy of imitating. Our pastors know John's warning about the danger of imitating "whoever

does evil" (3 John 11). We need the operation of grace in our hearts and minds so the work of our hands bring glory to Jesus, giving His children worthy examples of good. Thank you for those prayers.

These past few months have left an impression on me of another kind of imitation, the kind of imitation that happens among our staff. Paul tells the Philippians, "join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us." (Phil. 3.17) There is an imitation that happens... together. Paul attaches the prefix for together (*syn*) to *mimeomai*. Brothers and sisters are fellow-imitators! We have the glorious opportunity to participate in the life and work of the church, watching how our brothers and sisters walk before the Lord, and imitating them. What a precious testimony of God's care for believers.

What I have come to appreciate at CPC is that I have an opportunity for fellow-imitation alongside other employees. That may sound strange, but while one benefit of teamwork is the combined effort of diverse skills, another benefit is the multiple opportunities to imitate colleagues as God has gifted them. It may be that I am unable to perform a particular ministry as well as another member of our staff. It may be that an area of my Christian walk will always be inferior to another's strength. However, there is such a delight in imitating that which is good in another believer's life! Jesus has structured His church in such a way that rather than groveling over our weakness, rather than consigning ourselves to sluggish inactivity, we can cheer the sanctification of others, finding them worthy of imitation. We can then imitate, becoming a church full of imitators of what God calls, "good."

~Pastor Jones



What's Happening?

Nursery Schedule April 7

Front Desk
John Pearce

Worship

Infants
Amy Wooten

Crawlers
Charlotte Pippin

Toddlers
Kallie Arbuckle &
Land Wooten

Sunday School

Infants
Lisa Grant

Crawlers
Eva Herberich

Toddlers
Catherine Coffey

YOUTH GAME NIGHTS

~Come enjoy an evening of fellowship, food, and games. Middle School Game Night is tomorrow, April 5, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Youth Suite. Pizza will be served. Guys bring drinks, and girls bring dessert.

~High School Game Night has been rescheduled to Friday, April 12, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Youth Suite. Girls bring a sweet snack, and guys bring a salty snack.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Pastor Caines is speaking on "The Church and the Same Sex Culture" at the Men's Breakfast this Saturday, April 6, at 8:30 a.m. Due to the sensitive nature of the topic, the breakfast will be open to men only, and fathers should decide if their sons are at an appropriate age to attend. We invite the men of the church to join us as we learn more about the issues and positions the PCA is wrestling with and trying to understand.

YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS

We're so excited about the response to our summer camp offerings! Edge and Generate registration is now closed! If you would like to be placed on the waitlist, please contact Abby or Jeremiah at ahorton@covenantchattanooga.org.

TATERS AND TUBESTEAKS

Join us for a night out with the family on Friday, April 26. The dogs and bratwurst dinner begins at 5:45p.m. in Coolidge Park. Stay for the Lookouts vs. Biloxi Shuckers game at AT&T Park at 7:15 p.m. The cost remains \$5 per person, with a family max of \$15. Due to the increase of ticket prices, we need a more accurate headcount than previous years. Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact the Church Office.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Please make the following update to your CPC Membership Directory.

Kim Collins
138-36 Hoover Avenue, #2
Briarwood, NY 11435

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Make plans to join us on Wednesday evenings for our fellowship meal. Cost is \$4 per adult and \$2.50 per child, with a family max of \$15. This week's entrée is Stromboli. Parents, remember to supervise your children until the children's wing opens at 6:50 p.m.

For the month of April, the following Shepherding Groups are responsible for clean-up duty: K. Henry, D. Hobbs, T. Smith, H. VanderGriend, M. Wilson, and J. Wykoff.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENU

April 17	Easter Week - No Meal
April 24	Grilled Chicken w/ Sesame Noodles
May 1	Taco Salad
May 8	Hot Dogs

EASTER LILIES

If you would like to help decorate the Sanctuary for Easter, while honoring or remembering a loved one or friend, you may order an Easter Lily for \$17.50. Order forms are located at the Welcome Center, along with a lockbox for money, and are due by Wednesday, April 10. You may pick up your lily following the Easter Service. If you have any questions, contact Carol Beatty at 423.899.5377.

SAVE THE DATE

Ladies, you are invited to the Ladies' Tea on Saturday, May 11. More details to follow. Hope to see you all there!