

Covington Family News

October 12, 2025

Therefore a man
shall leave his
father and mother
and be joined to his
wife, and they
shall become one
flesh.

Genesis 2:24



*Serving Our Community
for the Glory of God*

SHEPHERDS

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Office hours: M-F, 9AM-2PM

SERVING THIS WEEK 10/12/25 AM Worship Service

Announcements: Brad Evins
Song Leader: Jimmy McMahan
Sermon: Mike Rogers

Presiding Over the Lord's Table:

Head: LeRoy Finto
Chris Huggins, Hadley Mason, Ken Mason, Robert Brownlee,
Craig Robinson, Chris Maness, Nick Maness, Zach Higgins
Opening Prayer: Robert Charnock
Closing Prayer: Alan Otts

Nursery Worker: Leslie Howard
Attendance Card Collectors (10/12)
Levi Teems, Houston Davis, Kyle McCain

Bus Driver (10/12 & 10/15)

Luke McMahan

October Door Greeters:

Main Lobby Entrance: Jimmy & Kathy McMahan
Auditorium Entrance: Brenda & Hadley Mason

PM Worship Service

Song Leader: Jimmy McMahan
Opening Prayer: Craig Robinson
Closing Prayer: Landon Bringle
Sermon: Mike Rogers

Mid-Week Bible Study October 15

Announcements: Brad Evins
Song Leader: Jimmy McMahan
Closing Prayer: Cody Strickland

Sunday Bible Classes	130
Worship AM	175
PM	104
Wednesday Bible Study	150

VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Theresa Terry	Brighton, TN
Lamar Chason	Covington, TN
Cyril & Jamie Roethlisberg	Atoka, TN
Comrell Brownlee	Tulsa, OK
Virginia Crain	Covington, TN
Debbie Beasley	
Noah Scarborough	
Jedidiah, Chasse, Alice & Lucy Phillips	

Covington Church of Christ

1690 Highway 51 South – PO Box 9

Covington, TN 38019

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

Bible Classes 9:00AM

Worship 10:00AM & 5:30PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes 7:00 PM

Mike’s Message

God’s Plan For Marriage

I have said that anything we set out to do requires a plan. This is also true of a marriage. Thankfully, God has presented the perfect plan for a long-lasting, happy marriage in His inspired word. He directed Moses to write, “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh” (Genesis 2:24). Three points are highlighted in this verse regarding God’s plan for marriage. First, God intends for marriage to be the joining together of a male and a female. Anything other than this is contrary to God’s plan. God looked through all creation for a helper “suitable” for man. He found none. Therefore, He caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep and took a rib from his side and fashioned it into a woman (Gen. 2:18-22). God’s plan for the man and woman was to “be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth” (Gen. 1:28a). This reproduction cannot be accomplished with two males, two females, or any animal and a human. It can only be achieved through a male and a female. Furthermore, anything other than uniting a male and female is contrary to nature. The inspired apostle Paul declares, “For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error” (Rom. 1:26-27). Second, Genesis 2:24 says that God’s plan was for a man and a woman to be united. Therefore, He caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep, took a rib from his side, and fashioned it into a woman (Gen 2:18-22) so that the two would become as “one flesh.” Some have argued that this phrase has sexual implications. It may. But God’s main intention is that two separate people become like one. They are united in a marriage designed by God. They are united in the purpose intended by God. When a man and a woman are united in a marriage designed by God and united in fulfilling God’s purpose, they will not be focused on selfish desires but on what is best for the marriage. This is Paul’s inspired instruction as he says, “Wives be subject to your own husbands,” and “husbands love your wives” (Eph. 5:22a, 25a). Finally, God expresses His plan for marriage to be permanent. He says that the man is “to leave father and mother and be (permanently) joined to his wife” (parenthesis added). This permanent bond is also expressed in the phrase “they shall become one flesh” (cf. Matt. 19:6a). Jesus explains God’s plan for the permanent bond between a man and a woman in marriage when He says, “What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate” (Matt. 19:6b).

–Mike Rogers

Prayer List

LaVerne Baxter – cardiac rehab in Brentwood, TN
Ann Huggins – St. Francis Park; cancer treatment
Beverly Keith – Methodist North; cardiac care
Makayla Bishop – blood pressure problems
Donald Ray – relative of Mary Isome-Newman; health problems
Pam Glover – Bonita Roger’s family member; donating a portion of her liver in transplant surgery

Members with ongoing needs: Heath Billings, Larry Coughlan, Kay Gatlin, Pat Gatlin, Kathy McMahan, Judy Merritt, Bonita Rogers, Ginger Sallee, Donna Sonwineski, Ron Teems, Paulette Watkins, Larry Whaley II, Jimmy Willis

Loved ones to remember: Carla Rogers, Lauren Mosley, Anna Kathryn Word, Robbie Renfroe, Addley Hodge, Kathy Townsend, Heather Bowner, Jason Elliott, Stan McDevitt, Randy Rhoads, David South

NURSING HOME

Covington Care: Shirley Laxton, Cynthia Wilson
Ripley Healthcare & Rehab Center: Vicki Mayfield

MILITARY: Tanner Mason, Chris Nowak, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Carolyn Murray and the entire family on the death of Carolyn’s mom, *Mildred Johnson*. Visitation for Ms. Mildred will be Sunday, October 12, from 1:00 – 2:00 with the funeral to follow at 2:00. Services will be at Maley Yarbrough in Covington. We will be hosting the family immediately following the funeral. There will not be a graveside service.

We also give our condolences to Kozy Strickland and Kenzie Hobbs in the death of their grandmother, *Nyoka Maxwell*. Visitation for Ms. Nyoka will be tomorrow, 10/9, from 12:00 – 2:00, with the funeral to follow at 2:00 at the Covington Funeral Home.

NEW ARRIVAL



Congratulations to *Robert & PJ Charnock* on the birth of a baby boy, *Simon Asher*! Asher was born in the wee hours of October 7, weighing 9lb 3oz and was 21½ inches long.

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER EVENTS

13 – Monday Night for the Master, Groups 1&2
18 – Birthday Party @Magnolia Creek Nursing Home
18 – Family Movie Night @Phillips’ home
19 – Devotional @Covington Care; 3:00
19 – Lads To Leaders registration forms due
20 – Monday Night for the Master, Group 3
25 – Ladies’ Day @Henderson Church of Christ
27 – Monday Night for the Master, Group 4
29 – Singing Night

LOOKING AHEAD

November 1 – Fall Festival @ the home of Zach & Claudia Glidewell
November 2 – Friends & Family Day
November 8 – Young adult game night @ the home of David & Heather Keith; babysitting provided by the youth group!
November 15 – Family Devo @Wall’s home

YOUTH EVENTS

October 12 – Devo @Joyce Whaley’s home
October 25 – Devo/Haunted Trail & Corn Maze
November 8 – Service Night
November 30 – Singing Devo @McMahan’s home



BIRTHDAYS: – OCTOBER 12-18

10/13 – Grant Edmonds, Zach Kidd, Aaron Speight
10/15 – Ron Chaney, Hadley Mason
10/16 – Cloma Fowler

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE: OCTOBER 12-18

October 12 – Jonah 3-4
October 13 – Micah 1-3
October 14 – Micah 4-7
October 15 – Nahum 1-3
October 16 – Habakkuk 1-3
October 17 – Zephaniah 1-3
October 18 – Haggai 1-Zechariah 1

Carpenter’s Apprentice

I have always found Judas Iscariot to be an interesting individual. For a guy known mostly as the one who betrayed Jesus, the Bible gives us clues as to another side of the man. Luke’s first mention of Judas is in Luke 6:16 where he is mentioned as number 12 of the 12 apostles. He is mentioned last in Matthew and Mark and maybe there is significance in that, but still - he was top twelve. Luke 6:12 tells us Jesus prayed all night before calling his disciples together and choosing the 12. It is easy to believe Judas was different from the other 11, more so than the normal differences that occur among 12 men. Such a belief is convenient. It fits nicely with a narrative we’ve come to accept. Judas, the one who would betray him, was just a bad apple from the beginning. I don’t believe it. Sure, he had “demons”. The Bible says he held the purse and used to skim off the top a portion for himself (John 12:6). James 1:13-15 says, “Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then, when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.” It is pretty clear money and wealth were the “root of all evil” for Judas and money tempted him. He struggled enough that he stole from the twelve! But was he always like that? Well, it certainly wasn’t God who “made him that way.” The passage beginning in Luke 6:12 further proves my point and indicates Judas’ weakness didn’t always define him. First of all, Jesus prayed about his choice. Secondly, verse 13 indicates there were more than just 12 disciples. Among those, Judas was top 12 and there is no history of or indication of disgruntlement among them. When James and John’s mother came to ask preferment in the new kingdom, the others became indignant (Matthew 20:24). If Judas had not been deserving, most likely there would have been indicators. Finally, Luke tells us Judas “became a traitor” (Luke 6:16). Make no mistake, there was always going to be a betrayal. If not by Judas, then someone else, but woe to the man by whom the betrayal came (Mark 14:21). The point is, Judas lost the battle Paul writes about in Ephesians 6:12! Maybe you have heard of the Native American elder who told his grandson a story of two wolves fighting inside every man. One wolf represents evil (anger, greed and fear), the other good (kindness, peace and love). The grandson asked who wins and the wise man replied, “The one you feed.” Even though he walked with Jesus every day, Judas succumbed to the great Deceiver because he fed his own desire (lust) and was carried away in the deception. What are you feeding and what will you become?

-jeff