

# Covington Family News

## December 28, 2025



Rejoice  
IN THE  
Lord  
always

PHILIPPIANS 4:4



**SHEPHERDS**  
Wayne Dalrymple 901- 573-3908  
David Keith 901- 430-3940  
Andy Whaley 901- 626-2911  
Mike Rogers 901- 229-4305

**DEACONS**  
Ken Bringle Jr.  
J.J. Brown  
Benny Collins  
Brad Evins  
Brandon Matlock  
Jon McCain  
Alan Otts  
Craig Robinson  
David Stewart  
Robert Trimm

**PULPIT MINISTER**  
Mike Rogers 901-476-9269  
Cell # 901-229-4305  
**E-mail**  
[mrogers@covingtoncofc.com](mailto:mrogers@covingtoncofc.com)

**ASSOCIATE MINISTER**  
Jeff Phillips  
Cell # 901-233-9495  
**E-mail**  
[rjphillips@covingtoncofc.com](mailto:rjphillips@covingtoncofc.com)

**OFFICE**  
901-476-8278  
**E-mail**  
covingtoncofc@gmail.com  
**Website**  
[www.covingtoncofc.com](http://www.covingtoncofc.com)  
Office hours: M-F, 9AM-2PM

### SERVING THIS WEEK 12/28/25 AM Worship Service

**Announcements:** Brad Evins  
**Song Leader:** Beau Phillips  
**Sermon:** Mike Rogers

#### Presiding Over the Lord's Table:

Head: Bill Murray  
John Combs, Chris Huggins, Cody Strickland, Reid McMahan,  
Robert Charnock, Will Thomason, Landon Bringle, Ken Bringle Jr.

**Opening Prayer:** Leroy Finto  
**Closing Prayer:** Donnie Benjamin

**Nursery Worker:** Sydney Trimm  
**Attendance Card Collectors (12/28)**  
Eli Charnock, Noah Charnock, August Charnock

**Bus Driver (12/28 & 12/31)**  
Grant Edmonds

**December Door Greeters:**  
Main Lobby Entrance: Richard & Elaine Shankle  
Auditorium Entrance: Michael & Susie Wyatt

#### Evening Worship Service

**Song Leader:** Beau Phillips  
**Opening Prayer:** Robert Trimm  
**Closing Prayer:** Craig Robinson  
**Sermon:** Jeff Phillips

#### Mid-Week Service in Song December 31

**Announcements:** Brad Evins  
**Opening Prayer:** Michael Wyatt  
**Closing Prayer:** Will Thomason

Sunday Bible Classes	158
Worship AM	236
PM	101
Wednesday Bible Study	158

#### VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Stavrum family	Atoka, TN
Theresa Terry	Brighton, TN
Austin Phillips family	Alamo, TN
Landon Miller family	Bowling Green, KY
Daniel & Kiana Trimm	Brentwood, TN
Kole Hayes	Drummonds, TN
KC & Sami Jo Mason	Murfreesboro, TN

**Elder on call for December: Mike Rogers**

**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

### Our Quest for Joy Philippians 3

The quest for “things” is robbing too many of us of the joy we desire. We want to possess things, but things are possessing us. The only way to have the joy we desire is to have the spiritual mind to look at things from God’s point of view. The letter to the Philippians is really a message for joy in whatever situation we may find ourselves (see Phil. 4:10-13). In this letter, Paul affirms that most people have “minds set on earthly things” (v. 19), and this is what is robbing us of the joy we desire. The person with the spiritual mind looks at the things of this world from heaven’s point of view—and what a difference that makes! This text reveals that spiritually-minded people must have the right priorities (3:1-11), the right goals (3:12-16), and the right example (3:17-21). With these things come joy.

In his focus on the right priorities (3:3-11), Paul says that spiritually-minded people “put no confidence in the flesh” (v. 3). No one has more reason to put confidence in worldly things than Paul (see vv. 4-6). He came to understand that worldly gain was temporary, but spiritual gain was permanent. So, he declared, “Whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord ...” (v. 8). Right priorities produce righteousness that “comes through faith in Christ” (v. 9), and the right attitude toward the death and resurrection of Jesus (vv. 10-11).

The right goals (3:12-16) create dissatisfaction with one's spiritual life (vv. 12-13). Paul declares that he has not yet reached his goal, but he is not giving up (vv. 12-13). None of us should ever allow ourselves to become satisfied with where we are spiritually. We must continue to grow (Heb. 5:11-6:1). We must keep going forward (vv. 13-16). The goal lies ahead, and we must not take our eyes off of it.

Finally, Paul insists that we follow the right example (3:17-21). Paul is concerned that some Christians are allowing “earthly things” to keep them from pressing forward toward the prize of the upward call of God and the joy this creates. Paul calls these people “enemies of the cross.” He says, “Their end is destruction.” Paul adamantly states, “Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us” (v. 17). The example that Paul follows is Christ (see 1 Cor. 11:1). May we all set our minds on spiritual things and find the lasting joy that only God provides.

-Mike Rogers

## Prayer List

Susie Wyatt – home recovering  
Richard Fowler – Wesley Fowler’s dad; Regional One-  
with health problems  
Terry Clay – Craig Clay’s dad; fell and broke a hip  
John Evans – recovering from surgery

*Members with ongoing needs:* Delores Whaley, Teresa Stacks, Katie Merritt, Laverne Baxter, David Fulks, Ann Huggins, Heath Billings, Larry Coughlan, Pat Gatlin, Kathy McMahan, Judy Merritt, Bonita Rogers, Donna Sonwineski, Paulette Watkins, Larry Whaley II, Jimmy Willis

*Loved ones to remember:* Linda Wood, Jenny Garcia, Jason Elliott, Tony Hobbs

**NURSING HOME**  
Covington Care: Shirley Laxton, Cynthia Wilson

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

**SYMPATHY**  
Our deepest sympathy goes out to PJ Charnock and family in the death of her grandmother, *Mary Hawkes*.



2026 Fellowship Groups are forming now!

Please join in and get to know your  
brothers and sisters better in the coming year.



**2026 THEME:**  
***Make Me a Servant***

## Calendar of Events

### DECEMBER

23 – Tuesday Night service  
31 – Wednesday Night Service in Song; New Year’s Eve Fellowship

### JANUARY

5 – Monday Night for the Master, group 1  
12 – Monday Night for the Master, group 2

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### YOUTH

If you would like to host a youth  
devo in your home in 2026,  
please see Jeff to pick your  
date.



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### BIRTHDAYS: DECEMBER 28-JANUARY 3

 12/28 – Cammy Evans, Justin Harrell  
12/29 – David Keith  
12/30 – Larry Coughlan

### ANNIVERSARIES: DEC 28-JAN 3

12/28 – Jeff & Jennifer Phillips



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Everyone is invited to stay after the evening service on Wednesday, December 31 for a New Year’s Eve night of fellowship! Please bring games and snacks of all kinds, and stay to ring in the new year together.



### BIBLE READING SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 28-31

December 28 – Revelation 11-13  
December 29 – Revelation 14-16  
December 30 – Revelation 17-19  
December 31 – Revelation 20-22

## Carpenter's Apprentice

I love watching the sun come up in the morning, and the first day of Christmas break is usually the day I take my office to the field and watch the sun both rise and set. Last night, I was checking an app to make sure I knew what time sunrise would happen this morning and discovered they had changed the format slightly. Instead of just listing the time of sunrise, there was a time given for dawn followed by the time for the actual sunrise. Interestingly, dawn is the morning phase of twilight. Dusk would be the evening counterpart. Twilight is actually divided into three parts and begins when the sun is 18 degrees below the horizon. This position is known as astronomical twilight. As the earth continues to rotate, nautical twilight begins when the sun’s position is 12 degrees below the horizon and, finally, civil twilight occurs when the sun is 6 degrees below the horizon. The process reverses itself in the evening when the sun sets. In the morning, as the sun approaches the horizon, the world begins to wake up as more and more light becomes visible. The unknown dark masses lurking on the edge of the forest reveal themselves to be nothing more than varied clumps of vegetation until full light unveils the deception of darkness. I learned today, while weather and cloud cover can affect the timing of our ability to see clearly, since the terms are defined by the degrees of the sun below the horizon, what I see is sometimes different from the actual truth.

While the actual length of the twilight phases is determined by latitude and time of year, the predictability and stability of this cycle day in and day out points directly to the existence of God. Just as it says in Romans 1:19, “For since the creation of the world, His invisible attributes, His eternal power, and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made.” The randomness and unpredictability of big bangs and evolution cannot begin to explain the order and magnificence of the world we live in. So, the next time you have the opportunity to enjoy a sunrise or sunset, remember the words of Job, “But now ask the beasts, and let them teach you; and the birds of the heavens, and let them tell you; or speak to the earth, and let it teach you; and let the fish of the sea declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? In whose hand is the life of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind” (Job 12:7-10). Take a moment to rejoice and be thankful for a God whose ways and thoughts are much higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8-9), whose plan is far better than we could ever devise (John 14:1-3) and be refreshed, renewed and resolute in living righteously for His name’s sake!

-jeff