

Covington Family News

February 16, 2025

Celebrating “Love” Within the Family

Valentine’s Day. Chocolate candy. Flowers. Trying to pick out a better gift than last year. It certainly can be tough, and it can prove very frustrating. Last year I heard from a couple that said they had decided not to participate in Valentine’s Day at all. They said they would just do something else another time during the year. Just skip that holiday. A boycott if you will. Well, I’m not going to boycott Valentine’s Day. I really love it. And I think I have figured out why this is true. It is because of my parents. Yes, they had a great impact on me during this time of the year. Sure, I like the candy, and the affection, and the kind words that other people tend to distribute more liberally during these few days in February. But the thing I remember most was how my parents acted during these few days in the month of February. My dad would come in the house in the evening with a big smile on his face. He might bring my mom a little chocolate or a card, or a flower of some kind. Mom would say something like, “well, you shouldn’t have.” But of course he knew he should have, and he did. She looked forward to being noticed in this special way, and he enjoyed being able to see the happy look on her face. To me, that is love demonstrated. Families, be aware of this: Children need to see this kind of love between mom and dad. It makes them feel good. It makes kids happy when their parents love and care for each other. And sons learn an important lesson from a dad that will take the time once in a while just to say to his wife, “You are still my favorite girl.” To let her know she is the one that he picked. Do you have to do that on Valentine’s Day? No, you can do it anytime. Skip Valentine’s Day if you wish. But, don’t forget to appreciate your spouse and show them love on a regular basis. Let your children see you do that. Let them hear the two of you sharing sweet words with each other. Allow them to know that their parents love what they have together, and that you are both very happy. It helps them learn important skills for their own marriages, and gives them something to look forward to one day. It also helps to keep your marriage strong, and produces an even tighter bond to your spouse. Love you spouse. Example love for your kids. They are learning from you every day.

By the way, thanks Mom and Dad.

Joe Brumfield
Germantown church of Christ

via Family Talk



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.
Neil Bringle
J.J. Brown
Benny Collins
Brad Evins
Brandon Matlock
Alan Otts
Craig Robinson
David Stewart
Robert Trimm
Terry Wall
Jon McCain

PULPIT MINISTER

Mike Rogers 901-476-9269
Cell # 901-229-4305

E-mail

mrogers@covingtoncofc.com

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Jeff Phillips
Cell # 901-233-9495

E-mail

rjphillips@covingtoncofc.com

OFFICE

901-476-8278

E-mail

covingtoncofc@gmail.com

Website

www.covingtoncofc.com

SERVING THIS WEEK 2/16/25 AM Worship Service

<i>Announcements</i>	Neil Bringle
<i>Song Leader:</i>	Ken Bringle Jr.
<i>Sermon</i>	Mike Rogers

Presiding Over the Lord’s Table:

Head: Michael Wyatt

Brad Evins, Landon Bringle, Craig Robinson, Nick Maness,
Ken Mason, Zach Higgins, Myles Benjamin, Donnie Benjamin

<i>Opening Prayer:</i>	Robert Charnock
<i>Closing Prayer:</i>	Robert Brownlee

Nursery Worker: Teri Robinson

February Food Committee Leader: Leslie Howard

Attendance Card Collectors: (2/16)

Levi Teems, Houston Davis, Kyle McCain

February Bus Driver (2/16 & 2/19)

Brandon Hanks

February Door Greeters:

Main Lobby Entrance: Brenda & Hadly Mason

Auditorium Entrance: Brad & Becky Evins

PM Worship Service

<i>Song Leader:</i>	Ken Bringle Jr.
<i>Opening Prayer:</i>	Hadley Mason
<i>Closing Prayer:</i>	Landon Bringle
<i>Sermon</i>	Mike Rogers

PROOF OF OUR LOVE

Sunday Bible Classes	140
Worship AM	220
PM	116
Wednesday Bible Study	134

VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Marcia Murray	Covington, TN
Chris Leonard	Covington, TN
Kaitlyn McCain & Kynlee Gross	Atoka, TN
Joseph Gaines	
Cathy, Alyssa, Chris Dunn, Lizzy Dunn	
Michelle Barnes	

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

Love For God

Recently I got a card from a seven-year-old boy that caused me to pause and think. The statement on the card was, “I don’t understand how to love God.” My immediate response was, “How can I explain this to a seven-year-old?” Then I realized that this may be a more common question than we might think. I began to think about what love is, how we show love, and why we love. I still wonder if I can explain this so a seven-year-old can comprehend it, but I am going to try, and in so doing, I hope this will benefit the rest of us. What is love? While psychologists are not in complete agreement on what love is, I think most of them agree that love is some type of an emotion, a feeling. It may be more complex than laughing, crying, or even outbursts of anger, but it is non-the-less an emotion we feel. We may not always be able to know why we feel it, but we know it is inside of us. There is also a social sense to love in that it is a selfless behavior. It is something you do or say to give someone else pleasure without expecting anything in return. For example, if you love your mom, you might bring her flowers you picked from the yard, or draw a picture of the two of you together. If you love your dad, you may just sit in his lap and eat popcorn, or follow him around to try and be a helper. You may even say sweet things to them. It all comes from a love you have for your parents. You may not really know why you do or say these things, but it is love. This leads to the second question, “How do we express love for God?” In some ways, we express our love for God in the same way we express our love for our parents. You may not realize it, but you bring flowers to your mom because you know it pleases her. We show love by doing what makes someone else feel good. Jesus said, “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments” (John 14:15). We show our love for God by doing what pleases Him. Jesus expressed His love for His Father by doing what He wanted Him to do. He said, “so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me” (John 14:31). So, in the same way that we do what pleases mom and dad because we love them, we do what pleases God because we love Him. The last question is, “Why do we express love for God?” John writes, “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins” (1 John 4:10). We express our love for God because He has expressed His love for us. It is similar to the love our parents have shown us. They feed us when we are hungry, they care for us when we are sick, they protect us from danger. All because they love us. So, we love God for the same reasons. He first loved us!

--Mike Rogers

Prayer List



Bonnie Glass—Methodist Germantown, recovering from surgery
Sandy Newman—Hospice
Neil Bringle—Methodist Germantown
Phillip Scrip—Health problems
Vicki Mayfield—Covington Care
John Evans
Jeff Cooper
Victoria Orman

Israel, Plane Crash Victims, Wildfire Victims, Our Country, Our Missionaries, LaVerne Baxter, Ken Bringle Sr., Debra Brownlee’s granddaughter, Gloria Brownlee, Robert Brownlee, Captain Mike Shipley, Larry Coughlan, Kenneth Coulston, Jason Elliott, Hattie Fields, Malissa Garner, Jackie Gatlin, Kay Gatlin, Pat Gatlin, Kyle Hanks, K.C. Haynes, Coy Hendrix, Stan McDevitt, Phyllis McLillie, Judy Merritt, Kathy McMahan, Gigi Miller, Robin Montgomery, Larry Newman, Sophie Nolan, Alan Otts, Randy Rhoads, Bonita Rogers, Donna Sonwineski, Anthony Stacks, David South, John Oliver Wall, Melvin Wall, Paulette Watkins, Fran Westmoreland, Delores Whaley, Larry Whaley II, Betty White, Susie Wyatt

NURSING HOME: Shirley Laxton, Cynthia Wilson

MILITARY: Killian Bridgeman, Logan Bridgeman, Major Creel, Bradley Evins, Dayana Fendley, Danny Fields, Tanner Mason, Richie Newbill, Chris Nowak, Michael J. Pena, Jedidiah Phillips, Jackson Robinson, Jacob Sampson, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart

SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Jimmy Willis in the death of his brother, *Bill Willis*.

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”
1 John 2:15

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE FEBRUARY 16-22

February 16—Numbers 23-25

February 17—Num. 26-28

February 18—Num. 29-31

February 19—Num. 32-34

February 20—Num. 35-Deut. 1

February 21—Deuteronomy 2-4

February 22—Deut. 5-7

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY EVENTS

15—Birthday Party at Magnolia Creek Nursing Home

16—Devotional at Covington Care, 3:00

17—Monday Night for the Master, group 3

18, 25— Ladies Bible Class, 10AM

24— Monday Night for the Master, group 4

26—Devotional/Worship in song

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



March 2-5—Gospel Meeting; Speaker: Todd Clippard

April 17-20—Lads to Leaders

June 1-4—VBS

June 11—Wednesday Night Summer Series begins

Spring Quarter Bible Classes begin Sunday, March 9

Sunday

“*The Tree of Life*” (Auditorium)

Teacher: LeRoy Finto

“*Men’s Teaching Class*” (Classroom 1)

Teacher: John Combs

“*The Epistles of John*” (Classroom 2)

Teacher: David Keith

“*Matthew*” (Classroom 3)

Teacher: Neil Bringle

Wednesday

“*Heart of Worship*” (Auditorium)

Teacher: Robert Charnock

“*Ephesians*” (Classroom 1)

Teacher: Hadley Mason

“*Often Misunderstood Verses*” (Classroom 2)

Teacher: Wayne Dalrymple

FEBRUARY YOUTH EVENTS



17—No School

21—LOCK-IN & LOOK UP

BIRTHDAYS FEBRUARY 16-22



18—Andrea Newman

22—Heath Billings

The Carpenter's Apprentice

I remember the day my dad came home from a men’s meeting at church and posed an innocent question. I was watching Saturday morning wrestling on a green vinyl couch that sat against the wall just to the left of the door off the carport as you walked in the house. He said something along the lines of, “Son, they are going to put a baseball team together at church, you think you might want to play?” I am pretty sure I said yes and I am equally sure neither of us knew the significance and long-term effects of my casual response. I think I was five years old but to be truthful, it was several years before I actually played in a game. I did practice a lot. For the next eighteen years, baseball was my life. Well, maybe not all of those 18 years, but for sure the last ten of it. Despite being a Christian, baseball came first (an honest but not proud admission). I remember my last collegiate at bat. It was against the Wonderboys of Arkansas Tech in Russellville, Arkansas. I hit the ball 400 feet to centerfield. It landed in the glove of their centerfielder who was standing right in front of the sign that read 405 feet. It was nothing but a long fly ball. Thinking back on my time on the diamond, my last at bat sums up my career. At the crack of the bat fans rose to their feet; it might be, it could be ... nope he’s out; a perfect illustration of James 4:14, “What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.” I have many fond memories, a couple pretty good highlights and many great life lessons; the greatest of which revolves around the fact that I am reminiscing events from thirty-three years ago. Talk about laying up treasures where moth and rust destroy! I put on my old cleats for an alumni game several years ago and as I ran out to my position during batting practice the soles fell off! heard it a thousand times, “Can’t avoid death ...” However we were not created in the likeness of God so that we might die, but we were created so that we might **live**. Maybe we ought to spend more time preparing for eternity than how to pay for college or fund retirement.

-jeff

