

# Covington Family News

## April 6, 2025

### A New Attitude

1. Give people more than they expect—cheerfully (Philemon 1:21).
2. Don't believe all you hear, spend all you have, or sleep all you want.
3. Smile when answering the phone. Callers can hear it in your voice.
4. Remember that great love and great achievements involve great risk.
5. When you say, "I'm sorry," look at the person in the eye.
6. Be engaged at least six months before you get married.
7. Believe in love at first sight.
8. Spend some time alone (Matthew 14:23).
9. When you say, "I love you," mean it (1 Peter 1:22).
10. Never laugh at a dream. People without dreams don't have much.
11. Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship (Proverbs 27:10).
12. Talk slowly but think quickly (James 1:19).
13. Don't judge people by their relatives (Matthew 7:1).
14. Marry a man/woman you love to talk to (1 Peter 3:7).
15. Do an anonymous kindness each day (Ephesians 4:32).
16. When you lose, don't lose the lesson (James 1:1-3).
17. When you make a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.
18. In disagreements, fight fairly. No name calling, threats, or bringing up ancient history.
19. Remember the three R's: Respect for self; Respect for others; and Responsibility for all your actions.
20. When someone asks you a question you don't want to answer, smile and ask, "Why do you want to know?"
21. Love deeply and passionately. You might get hurt but it's the only way to live life completely.

via North Marshall Messenger

Author Unknown



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### SERVING THIS WEEK 4/6/25 AM Worship Service

**Announcements** Ken Bringle Jr.  
**Song Leader:** Ken Bringle Jr.  
**Sermon** Mike Rogers

### Presiding Over the Lord's Table:

Head: LeRoy Finto  
Donnie Benjamin, Zach Higgins, Ken Mason Landon  
Bringle, Craig Robinson, Myles Benjamin, Brad Evins,  
Gordon Cartwright

**Opening Prayer:** Andy Whaley  
**Closing Prayer:** Brad Evins

**Nursery Worker:** Elaine Shankle

**Attendance Card Collectors:** 4/6)

Eli Charnock, Noah Charnock, August Charnock

### April Door Greeters:

Main Lobby Entrance: Alan & Debbie Otts  
Auditorium Entrance: Michael & Susie Wyatt

### PM Worship Service

**Song Leader:** Ken Bringle Jr.  
**Opening Prayer:** Jeff Phillips  
**Closing Prayer:** Eason Robinson  
**Mission Report** Daniel Dalton

<b>Sunday Bible Classes</b>	142
<b>Worship AM</b>	211
<b>PM</b>	124
<b>Wednesday Bible Study</b>	100

### VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Cathy, Chris, Lizzy, Alyssa Dunn	Brighton, TN
Tara Carmack	Drummonds, TN
Chelsea Johnson	Covington, TN
Bradley, Braden, & Brylee Love	Covington, TN
Winona Robinson	Brownsville, TN
Autumn, Colt, & Cash Beyer	

**Covington Church of Christ**  
1690 Highway 51 South – PO Box 9  
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### *Schedule of Services*

#### SUNDAY

Bible Classes 9:00AM  
Worship 10:00AM & 5:30PM

#### WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes 7:00 PM

## Mike’s Message

### The Parable of The Dragnet

#### Matthew 13:47-50

Jesus continues His teaching about the kingdom of heaven saying it is like a dragnet. The “kingdom of Heaven” is used in three different ways in scripture, but all are based on one who allows God to rule his life. This chapter is filled with parables about the “kingdom of heaven.” The first one, the parable of the soils, does not mention the “kingdom of heaven” per se. It does mention the “word of the kingdom” in the explanation (13:18-23). This parable reflects on the hearts upon which the “word of the kingdom” is sown. The roadside is the one who hears but does not understand and accept the word. The rocky soil is the one who hears but does not get nourishment because there is no real commitment. The thorny soil is the one who allows the troubles, cares, and concerns of the world to choke out the commitment to the word of the kingdom. The fourth soil is the good heart who understands the value of the word of the kingdom and maintains a commitment to it.

The parable of the dragnet (13:47-50) reflects a large net, with weights on the bottom and floats on the top. As it was thrown into the water the weights would cause the bottom of the net to sink, while the floats would keep the top on the surface. As the net was drawn in fish of all kinds were caught in the net. The net was then drawn to land and the good fish were separated from the bad. The good fish, the ones worth eating, were put in baskets and taken to the market. But the bad fish, the ones that could not be sold, were thrown away. Jesus uses this parable to show that not everyone who accepts the word of the kingdom is approved by God. Just like the rocky soil that received the word, but did not nurture it with study, worship, prayer, fellowship and application; or the thorny soil that received the word but allowed the cares of the world to choke out commitment. Jesus declares, “Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord will enter the kingdom of heaven (will be approved by God) but he that does the will of My Father who is in heaven” (Matt. 7:21 parenthesis mine). Then, at judgment, they are surprised when the Lord rejects them (see Matt. 7:22-23).

Those who actually understand the word of the kingdom and commit to it, will allow God to rule their lives and will be saved. Those who may think they are in the church, but do not commit to it and allow God to rule their lives will be cast “into the furnace of fire” (13:50).

So, the real question is not are you in the kingdom, but is God ruling your life—what you think, what you listen to, what you look at, where you go, and what you do?

--Mike Rogers

## Prayer List

Phillip Scrip—Recovering from surgery

Oscar Williams

Margie Crews

Helen Kennedy

Laura Craft—Recovering from surgery

Steve Cook

Jan, Dakota & Lady Dianne Phillips & family in the loss of their loved one, *Anna Phillips*. Also remember storm victims, earthquake victims, Israel, Our Country, Our Missionaries, LaVerne Baxter, Heath Billings, Neil Bringle, Captain Mike Shipley, Georgia Cook, Jeff Cooper, 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, Victoria Orman, Alan Otts, Randy Rhoads, Bonita Rogers, Donna Sonwineski, Anthony Stacks, David South, Melvin Wall, Paulette Watkins, Larry Whaley II

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

**Ripley Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center:** Vicki Mayfield

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

### **WEDDING SHOWER**



All ladies are invited to a wedding shower honoring *Kiana Mitchell & Daniel Trimm*, Sunday, April 13, 2PM in the foyer. The couple is registered at Amazon, Target, & Something Special.

### **BIRTHDAYS APRIL 6-12**



8—Denise Cartwright

9—Sherri Spann

10—Abby Smith

11—Elizabeth Harrell

12—Bonita Rogers

### **BIBLE READING SCHEDULE APRIL 6-12**

April 6—11 Sam. 23-1 Kings 1

April 7—1 Kin. 2-4

April 8—1 Kin. 5-7

April 9—1 Kin. 8-10

April 10—1 Kin. 11-13

April 11—1 Kin. 14-16

April 12—1 Kin. 17-19

## Calendar of Events

### **APRIL EVENTS**

7—Monday Night for the Master, group 1

8, 15, 22, 29—Ladies Bible Class, 10AM

**Saturday, April 12 we will have a workday here at the building, 8:00-5:00. Breakfast will be served at 7:00. Please let Craig Robinson or David Stewart know if you plan to attend. *Lads to Leaders is just around the corner. How can you be involved? By baking your best cookies, brownies, and treats! Not a baker? No problem! We also need chips, Debbie cakes, bottled water, and capri sun drinks! Not time to go to the store? We can do it for you! Please give any donations to Brad or Becky Evins. All contributions need to be at the building by Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.***

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**There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for Birth-6<sup>th</sup> grade, Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup> immediately following the morning service. We will meet at Cobb Parr Park where the kids can play and hunt eggs. Please bring a sack lunch and a dozen pre-filled eggs.**

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### **Covington Church of Christ**

#### **Mental Health**

#### **Weekend Seminar**

#### **Biblical & Practical**

#### **Help for Those Who Hurt**

#### **May 3-4**

#### **With**

#### **Neil Richey, PhD. LPC**

### **Saturday**

6:00PM Embracing Calm: Coping with Stress & Anxiety

7:00PM Being There: Supporting Loved Ones in Times of Crisis

8:00PM Finding the Light: A Journey Through Depression

### **Sunday**

9:00AM Mind Over Matter: Strategies for Rewiring an Anxious Mind

10:00AM Releasing the Weight: Navigating Guilt in Mental Health

12:30PM Together We Thrive: Building a Supportive Community

Luncheon on Sunday

Everyone is invited!

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### **AREA EVENT**

April 4, 5, 6—"Finding Hidden Treasure" Seminar at Gilt Edge church of Christ – 7PM & 8PM Friday; Speaker: Mike Rogers, 7PM & 8PM Saturday; Speaker: Luke Gurchiek, 11AM, Lunch & 2PM Sunday; Speaker: John Somerville. *Friday night is Covington night. Please make plans to attend!*

## Carpenter’s Apprentice

The end of the week looks like it will be pretty wet if you can trust the weatherman. I am reminded of the old proverb; April showers bring May flowers. While there is a much deeper meaning to the saying than just, it rains in April, I just can’t stop thinking about my gutters. When functioning properly, gutters are a great benefit to the home helping to divert water away from the foundation reducing both mold and potential insect infestations. The problem is, they have to be kept free of those things that clog the downspouts. If gutters are not maintained, they cannot perform the tasks they were designed to do and may even cause more damage to the home. Many inventions from covers to tools have been developed to make this job easier and some covers even claim to eliminate the need for maintenance forever! That’s right, install our product and get the benefits of gutters without the hassle of maintenance! But, before it starts raining and before you are in the middle of cleaning them out, think about it. What do you own that absolutely requires no maintenance or upkeep? I googled it, for the average consumer, there is not much we can get, certainly for our homes, that doesn’t require upkeep and maintenance in some way. As long as water can flow freely through the gutter system, it will perform as it should. I can make a strong case for our lives being the same way. We were created for a purpose (Ephesians 2:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13) and as long as we keep the “water” flowing, life is better, particularly when we are talking about the water mentioned by Jesus in John 4:14 and Revelation 22:1 and 17. I am not suggesting a trouble-free life for believers, God never promises a perfect and prosperous life to his followers. Jesus said, “for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous” (Matthew 5:45). While the context of this statement is about loving those who persecute you, the implication is there will be rainy days! Benefits of Christianity do not come from the elimination of the storms of life, but the ability to get through them with our salvation intact. Just like on an earthly home where problems arise when the flow of water is impeded by clogged gutters, there are times when our spiritual home and well being are adversely affected because the free flow of the “water of life” is blocked by sin. We need to keep our spiritual gutters clean and well maintained. We must stay in His word (2 Timothy 2:14-26). We must be constantly prayerful for ourselves and one another (Ephesians 6:18; Romans 12:12). We must live strongly and rightly in His word; encourage and be encouraged (Colossians 3:12-17; Ephesians 5:15-20). We must look forward focusing on the future and the promise (Proverbs 4:25-27; Philippians 3:13-14). We must keep our gutters clean.

-jeff