

# Covington Family News

## May 25, 2025

### War Memorials



*To our service men and women so strong and brave,  
Fighting for our great country it's freedom to save.  
Our thoughts and prayers are with them each day,  
As they risk their lives struggling in harms way.  
When we think of those lost in days gone by,  
It's so very hard to keep a tear from our eye.  
To their families at home our hearts go out,  
For they truly know what war is all about.  
As we remember the many wars of times past,  
We can only pray that someday freedom will last.  
The many war memorials in our great land,  
Stand to remind us of our troops so grand.  
To the many veterans who are living still,  
We give thanks to you now and always will.  
As you go about your work each day,  
For peace and freedom please stop and pray.  
Always remember we are in God's hand,  
So pray that He will protect our great land.*



#### 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

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*Have a safe and  
Happy Memorial Day!*

#### SERVING THIS WEEK 5/25/25 AM Worship Service

**Announcements** Neil Bringle  
**Song Leader:** Noah Liles  
**Sermon** Mike Rogers

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

Head: Michael Wyatt  
Garrett Howard, Hadley Mason, Caleb Smith, Nick Maness  
Wesley Fowler, Eason Robinson, Myles Benjamin,  
Chris Maness

**Opening Prayer:** Breck Beasley  
**Closing Prayer:** Jon McCain

**Nursery Worker:** Mandy Billings

**Attendance Card Collectors:** (5/25)

Tyler Bringle, Dayton Maness, Beau Glidewell

**May Bus Driver** (5/25)

Grant Edmonds

**May Door Greeters:**

Main Lobby Entrance: Brenda & Hadley Mason  
Auditorium Entrance: Brad & Becky Evins

#### PM Worship Service

**Song Leader:** Noah Liles  
**Opening Prayer:** Jimmy McMahan  
**Closing Prayer:** Reid McMahan  
**Sermon** Jeff Phillips

<b>Sunday Bible Classes</b>	140
<b>Worship AM</b>	215
<b>PM</b>	138
<b>Wednesday Bible Study</b>	140

#### VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Charlotte Hamilton	Edgemont, AR
Austin & Kensleigh Phillips	Alamo, TN
Pam Tankersley	Heber Springs, AR
Thomas McGee	Covington, TN
Jamie Roethlisberg	Atoka, TN
Mark Glidewell	Atoka, TN

**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 Conquers Selfishness

"If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it" (Matt. 16:24-25). People are not born selfish. We are born dependent. Yet, children quickly learn to manipulate this dependence to get what they want. They learn that crying, screaming, or other tantrums produces desired results. A primary responsibility for parents is to train and control the dependence so their children behave with certain basic principles. One of those principles is the habit of sharing and of considering others more than themselves (Phil. 2:2-5). If parents fail at this, the children are much more likely to grow up into self-pleasing, self-serving, manipulative adults. When this happens, we are on a fast track to a destructive society. While serving self may appear to have many benefits, it actually impedes everything essential for developing relationships. It is a major cause of marital anger, permissive parenting, addictive behaviors, infidelity, separation and divorce. Selfishness impedes effective communication, and destroys conviction and commitment within a family. Consequently, rather than having any benefits, selfishness creates significant pain and suffering in the family. Unless we realize the destructiveness of our own selfishness, it will lead husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, siblings, and friends to treat one another as objects and not as God’s gift. Make no mistake selfishness destroys friends, and families not just marriages. The opposite of selfishness is love. One who is selfish does not love himself or anyone else. He can’t, because love and selfishness are mutually exclusive. Jesus taught that love lies at the heart of lasting relationships. He instructed His apostles who were focused on self, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:34-35). He also said, “Love your enemies and pray for them that persecute you” (Matt. 5:44). God gave His own Son to die a cruel death because He loved us (see John 3:16). His example was not selfishness but love. Jesus died for those who rejected Him, abandoned Him, denied Him, betrayed Him, and murdered Him all because of His great love. Jesus loved His Father enough to give up His own will (cf. Jn. 14:31; Matt. 26:39). May we all strive to replace selfishness with self-sacrificing love.

--Mike Rogers

## Prayer List

Brad Evins—Recovering from surgery  
Kathy McMahan—Recovering from surgery  
Ken Bringle—Recovering from surgery  
Clint Stacks  
Millie Deem—Mother-in-law of Ron Teems  
Dorothy Morris—Mother of Doresha Morris  
Alan Davis—Recovering from surgery  
Larry Osbourne—Health problems  
Storm victims, earthquake victims, Israel, Our Country, Our Missionaries, LaVerne Baxter, Heath Billings, Neil Bringle, Captain Mike Shipley, Georgia Cook, Steve Cook, Jeff Cooper, Larry Coughlan, Kenneth Coulston, Jason Elliott, Hattie Fields, Malissa Garner, Kay Gatlin, Pat Gatlin, Kyle Hanks, K.C. Haynes, Helen Kennedy, Stan McDevitt, Phyllis McLillie, Judy Merritt, Gigi Miller, Larry Newman, Sophie Nolan, Randy Rhoads, Bonita Rogers, Upton Shelton, Donna Sonwineski, 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, Jeddiah Phillips, Jacob Sampson, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart

### CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate *Eason Robinson* on graduating from Crockett County High School; and to *Garrett Howard* on graduating from Faith Heritage Christian Academy.



### Don’t leave God out of your vacation plans!

### BIBLE READING SCHEDULE MAY 25-31

May 25—Job 11-14  
May 26—Job 15-18  
May 27—Job 19-21  
May 28—Job 22-25  
May 29—Job 26-28  
May 30—Job 29-31  
May 31—Job 32-34

## Calendar of Events

### MAY EVENTS

25— Memorial Day; The church office will be closed  
28—Devotional/Worship in song

***If you would be interested in a Men’s Retreat in the mountains of New Mexico the week of July 13-19, please see Jeff.***

**2025 Vacation Bible School, June 1-4**

**7:00-8:45**

**Theme: Victory in Jesus**

**Register at [www.covingtoncofc.com](http://www.covingtoncofc.com)**



### **Class of 2025 High School Graduates**

Crockett County High School	Eason Robinson
Faith Heritage Christian Academy	Garrett Howard

### **Summer Quarter Bible Classes begin Sunday, June 1**

#### **Sunday**

“A Common Love” (Auditorium)  
Teacher: Various Teachers

“Young Adult” (Classroom 1)  
Teacher: Cody Strickland

“My Brother’s Keeper: A Journey in Love & Accountability”  
(Classroom 2)  
Teacher: Brandon Matlock

#### **Wednesday**

Wednesday Night Summer Series begins Wed., June 11

### **BIRTHDAYS MAY 18-24**



25—John Combs, Clint Stacks, Nick Maness  
27—Mallory Moody  
29—Karla Combs  
**ANNIVERSARIES**  
25—LeRoy & Joyce Finto  
28—Neil & Ashley Bringle  
30—Myles & Lauren Benjamin

## Carpenter’s Apprentice

If someone came up to you and asked you, what is your defining characteristic, the one thing that makes you unique or different from the rest of the world we live in, what would you say? I think I would say, “I am a Christian.” I can only think of three responses to my answer. The petitioner will either agree, disagree or wonder what a Christian is. Regardless of his understanding and knowledge of what a Christian is, there will likely be some follow up questioning and explanations. For instance, how do you define what a Christian is. Webster says, “one who professes belief in the teachings of Jesus Christ.” Let’s face it, that is a pretty broad answer. How many people do you know who profess to believe in the teachings of Jesus? A lot, right? This prompts the follow up question/observation, is profession of belief enough? I think James may be tackling the same line of conversation in James 2:14-26. Clearly, faith and belief are interchangeable here and when I read verse 14, “What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?” I hear it like this, what good is it if you say you believe but your life doesn’t reflect your belief, do you really think that level of belief is going to get you where you want to go? I love coaching and through the years I have asked different athletes the same question, “Do you really think that level of effort is going to get you where you want to go?” I recently heard a coach give out an award to two of his players who showed up to practice! I could not help but think, “*the award my coaches gave me for showing up to practice was letting me keep my jersey and stay on the team!*” My, how times are changing. Are the times changing that way for Christians too? Is there a noticeable difference in the lives of those who profess to be Christians and those who don’t. Paul exhorted, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2). He told the church at Rome, if you profess to be different (and we do), then we must look different we must be different. Not belligerent, not different for the sake of being different, but different in that our lives are intertwined with and a part of His purposes. As our Lord and savior said in the garden, “yet not as I will, but as You will” (Matthew 26:39).

Consider today, does your profession of faith really make you different in the world we live in? If God is most important in your life, is your statement of belief confirmed by your actions and your life?

-jeff