

Covington Family News

July 13, 2025

Do Trials Make Us Patient?

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him” (James 1:2-5).

The hardships of life build patience in us. But that growth depends on us. Christians respond in different ways to the troubles of life. Some fall away when they face tribulation and persecution (Matt. 13:21). Others endure the trial, but they don’t learn as much as they should. They don’t get rid of attitude problems or work on their weaknesses. They drift back into the same careless patterns in their spiritual life. Why does this happen?

James said it’s not enough just to make it through the crisis. He said these trials will bring patience—but, you must let patience have its perfect work. Let the effects of the trial sink in. Meditate on what you have learned. Don’t rush back to your earthly routine. Don’t go back to being lazy about your prayer life and Bible reading. Decide to do better. Commit to loving God more. Allow the fire of tribulation to mold you thoroughly into the complete Christian you need to be. Examine your heart, your speech, and your actions. Let this bad experience be a stepping stone to maturity, not an inconvenient interruption to your plans. Let the trial change you completely, not just in one or two ways in general. All of this takes something Christians in this age are unwilling to give: time.

And what if you aren’t as wise as you need to be? What if that is what we lack as we face troubles? James said to ask God for wisdom and He will give it if we believe. It’s easy to pray when we’re in pain. But many times we are so glad when it’s over we just want to relax and enjoy. There is a place for that. But we must not forget that the Lord has been merciful. It seems that I remember a story about nine men who failed to see that (Luke 17:11-19).

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West End Church of Christ
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SERVING THIS WEEK 7/13/25 AM Worship Service

Announcements Brad Evins
Song Leader: Wayne Dalrymple
Sermon Mike Rogers

Presiding Over the Lord’s Table:

Head: LeRoy Finto
Chris Huggins, Hadley Mason, Garrett Howard, Eason Robinson, Wesley Fowler, Chris Maness, Nick Maness, Caleb Smith

Opening Prayer: Robert Charnock
Closing Prayer: Alan Otts

Nursery Worker: Brandy Brown

Attendance Card Collectors: (7/13)
Eli Charnock, Noah Charnock, August Charnock

July Bus Driver (7/13 & 7/16)
Robert Charnock

July Door Greeters:
Main Lobby Entrance: Alan & Debbie Otts
Auditorium Entrance: Brenda & Hadley Mason

PM Worship Service

Song Leader: Wayne Dalrymple
Opening Prayer: Craig Robinson
Closing Prayer: Landon Bringle
Sermon: Mike Rogers

Sunday Bible Classes	125
Worship AM	188
PM	95
Wednesday Bible Study	130

VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Debbie Beasley	Covington, TN
Thomas Starck	Atoka, TN
Michael Whaley family	

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
When Saying I’m Sorry Really Matters
Text: Psalm 51

The superscription presents this Psalm as written after David’s sin with Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11-12): One evening, King David got out of bed and walked to the roof. Gazing out over the city, he saw a beautiful woman bathing. He inquired about her and learned that she was Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite; and that he was away at war. David sent for her to come to his bedroom. He later learned she was going to have his baby. In an attempt to cover his sin, David had Uriah brought in from the battlefield to report on the war. After the conversation, David suggested that Uriah go home and spend the night with his wife. Uriah did not but rather slept on the King’s porch because going home to his wife during a time of war would have been an act of disloyalty to his fellow soldiers. Since Uriah couldn’t be persuaded to compromise, David sent him back to battle with a letter to deliver to the commanding officer. Uriah didn’t know it, but he was delivering his own death warrant. The letter instructed to put Uriah on the front lines and withdraw the other troops so Uriah would be sure to die. Uriah was killed and David married Bathsheba. No one in Israel knew the story behind the story, but the Bible says, “The thing David had done was evil in the sight of the Lord” (2 Samuel 11:27). The Lord sent a prophet named Nathan to confront David with his sin. He told of two men one was rich and the other poor. The rich man had guests, and he took the poor man’s lamb to feed his guests. David was outraged and declared that the man who did this thing should die. Nathan responded, David “you are the man” (2 Sam 12:7). David cried to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord” (2 Sam. 12:13a). Because of this sin David was punished by God. The ultimate punishment would be that the child born to David and Bathsheba would become sick and die. It is likely that it is during this time of the child’s sickness and David’s remorse that he prayed what he later wrote and is recorded as the 51st Psalm. David presents three things necessary to be truly sorry when we sin. First, one must admit his sin (vv. 1-3). Second, one must admit he has hurt God with his sin (v. 4). Third, we must know who to turn to when we sin (vv. 6-17). Considering David and these three points, saying “I’m sorry” only matters when we admit our sin, when we accept that God is hurt more than anyone by our sin, and when we turn to God for forgiveness. Words are worthless without a “broken and contrite heart” (cf. Ps. 51:17; 1 John 3:18).

–Mike Rogers

Prayer List



Brandon Matlock
Michael Wyatt—Recovering from surgery
Tim Scott—Health problems
LaVerne Baxter
Kathy Billings—Stepmother of Heath Billings
Flood victims, Israel, Our Country, Our Missionaries, Heath Billings, Heather Bowner, Captain Mike Shipley, Georgia Cook, Steve Cook, Jeff Cooper, Larry Coughlan, Kenneth Coulston, Alan Davis, Megan Davis, Jason Elliott, Malissa Garner, Kay Gatlin, Pat Gatlin, Kyle Hanks, K.C. Haynes, Helen Kennedy, Kathy McMahan, Stan McDevitt, Phyllis McLillie, Judy Merritt, Gigi Miller, Dorothy Morris, Larry Newman, Sophie Nolan, Larry Osbourne, Randy Rhoads, Bonita Rogers, Upton Shelton, Donna Sonwineski, David South, Clint Stacks, 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, Brad Evins, Dayana Fendley, Tanner Mason, Richie Newbill, Chris Nowak, Michael J. Pena, Jedidiah Phillips, Jacob Sampson, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart

SYMPATHY
We extend our deepest sympathy to Debra Brownlee in the death of her relative.

You ought to say, If the Lord wills, we shall live and also do this or that. But as it is you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin (James 4:15-17).

Theme For 2025:
A Common Love

Calendar of Events

JULY EVENTS

9 – Summer Series; Speaker: Daniel Dalton
14 – Monday Night for the Master, Groups 1 & 2
16 – Summer Series; Speaker: Jim Faughn
19 – Birthday Party at Magnolia Creek Nursing Home
20 – Devotional at Covington Care, 3PM
28 – Monday Night for the Master, Groups 3 & 4
30 - Devotional/Worship in song

Polishing the Pulpit
Branson, MO--July 16-21
Sevierville, TN--August 15-21

JULY YOUTH EVENTS



6-11 – Big Reedy Camp
17 – Ignite!
20 – Middle/High School Devo
21-25 – Day Camp

BIRTHDAYS JULY 13-19



13—Craig Clay
14—Beau Phillips
15—Shirley Weir
18—Jimmy McMahan
19—Lilly Fowler
ANNIVERSARIES
13—J.J. & Brandy Brown
16—James & Myra Ellis
17—Justin & Elizabeth Harrell

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE JULY 13-19

July 13—Ps. 139-141
July 14—Ps. 142-144
July 15 —Ps. 143-147
July 16—Ps. 148-150
July 17 —Proverbs 1-3
July 18 —Prov. 4-6
July 19 —Prov. 7-9

Carpenter’s Apprentice

In 1946, to raise awareness and morale, Admiral Chester Nimitz, Chief of Naval Operations, formed the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, known originally as the Blue Lancers. The “Blues” flew their first show in Jacksonville, Florida in June of 1946. A month later, however, one of the pilots saw an ad in the New Yorker magazine for the Blue Angel night club and at a show in Omaha, Nebraska, in July of 1946, they were first called the Blue Angels. This morning, I was privileged for the umpteenth time to watch the Angels fly one of their pre-show practices. Their shows bring back many memories for me and always - always make me cry. As I watch them fly incredibly close together, I am reminded of many things from Beau’s first sighting of the Angels at the age of two to taking Sophia, Olivia and Levi to their first air show. I also think of the sound they make. I think the “sneak pass” is my favorite part of the show because when you hear the jet engine, the plane is already passed you by. I can only imagine a platoon of pinned down troops who are anxiously awaiting the called for air support that will give them life, and how glorious that sound must be when it finally arrives. On the flip side, the same sound is not one of hope and salvation but the dawning of realization, finality and doom. I cannot help but think of the day Jesus comes back. “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1 Corinthians 15:52). What a day that will be for those who have obeyed the Gospel, endured to the end and anxiously awaited the crown of righteousness promised and the words of our Lord, “Enter in my good and faithful servant.” As amazing as the Blues are to me, I also cannot help but notice, nearly every time I see them fly, the number of people who just do not seem to care. I am sure if you mentioned the planes to them you would get an array of responses from, “Yes, they are incredible,” to “they are too loud and annoying.” This too reminds me of judgement day. While many know it is coming, they are just too caught up in daily living and life to care enough to stop and marvel at God’s power, love and righteousness. “When the trumpet of the Lord shall come and time shall be no more, and the morning breaks eternal bright and fair; when the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore and the role is called up yonder;” will the sound of the trumpet be one of salvation or one of condemnation for you?

-jeff