

# Covington Family News

## July 27, 2025

### It's Not All Summer!

At the time of the hottest, most humid part of the summer months, the ancient Greeks and Romans saw the appearance of the “Dog Star” Sirius, the brightest star in the constellation Canis Major (Large Dog). Thus, they called them the “Dog Days of Summer” and knew that summer’s time was limited and soon it would be cooling off.

It is wonderful that we serve a God that has purposed different times, seasons, and occasions in our lives. It’s not all summer. It’s not all fall or winter. It’s not all good, but it’s also not all bad. His will is that we seek to know Him better no matter what time in our life. How have you purposed in the dog days to deepen your relationship with Him? He is the one that will never change and will always be good (James 1:17)!

Graeber Road church of Christ  
Rosenburg, TX  
Via Bulletin Digest



#### 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  
Terry Wall

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#### SERVING THIS WEEK 7/27/25 AM Worship Service

**Announcements** Brad Evins  
**Song Leader:** Robert Charnock  
**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:** Jerry Gatlin  
**Closing Prayer:** Robert Trimm

**Nursery Worker:** Mandy Billings

**Attendance Card Collectors:** (7/27)  
Jaxton Carter, Nolan Carter, Ethan Matlock

**Bus Driver** (7/27 & 7/30)

Brad Evins

#### **July Door Greeters:**

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

#### PM Worship Service

**Song Leader:** Robert Charnock  
**Opening Prayer:** Jimmy McMahan  
**Closing Prayer:** Ken Bringle Jr.  
**Sermon:** Mike Rogers

#### Mid-Week Bible Study July 30

**Opening Prayer:** Eric Keith  
**Closing Prayer:** Landon Bringle

Sunday Bible Classes	110
Worship AM	196
PM	97
Wednesday Bible Study	131

#### VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Chris Fowler	Covington, TN
Thomas Starck	Covington, TN
Jim & Donna Faughn	Paducah, KY
Jean Bell	Courtland, MS
Cindy Randle	Antioch, TN
Jennifer Ray	Covington, TN
DeMorris & Destiny Carter	Cordova, 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

The Door and Good Shepherd

In the first six verses of John 10, Jesus uses the sheep and the sheepfold to illustrate His protection and care for His disciples. A sheepfold was an enclosure with one opening. To make His point about His own role, Jesus says that a shepherd does not have to sneak into the fold, but he comes in through the door. The sheep are not afraid of the shepherd because they know his voice, and he calls them by name. Yet, the sheep are afraid of a stranger and will not follow him because they do not know his voice.

The disciples understood that many flocks of sheep would converge on a town in the evening and gather at a central location. One man would be hired to watch those flocks through the night. This man would station himself by the door to protect the sheep. The next morning, the shepherds would arrive and the hired keeper (porter) would open the door for the various shepherds. A shepherd would then call his sheep with a special sound that only his sheep would recognize. From among those flocks, one by one the shepherd's own sheep would walk through the door and gather round him. This happened again and again as each shepherd came and called for his sheep. Even though the events discussed in this illustration were common knowledge, the disciples did not understand the relevancy for what Jesus was teaching. So, Jesus explained it to them in verses seven through fifteen.

Verses 7-10 show that Jesus is the only legitimate way into the sheepfold. He declares, "I am the door" (vv.7, 9). As the door, Jesus is explaining that He is the only way to protection, provisions, and abundant life (vv. 9-10). Anyone else who tried to come in was a thief and a robber and the sheep did not hear them (v. 8). The thieves are not concerned with protecting or providing for the sheep. They did not want to make life better for the sheep. They only wanted to "steal and kill and destroy."

In verses 11-15 Jesus explains that He is "the good Shepherd." The good Shepherd is distinguished from the hired hand because He cares for His sheep. No matter what dangers may befall, He will protect His sheep. He is so intent on protection that He will lay down His life for His sheep (vv. 11, 15).

This world is full of thieves and robbers and wolves wanting to snatch the sheep from the Shepherd's care. But if we will realize no one is more concerned for our well-being than Jesus, no one else protects and provides like Jesus, and if we will realize Jesus is the only way to the abundant life (cf. John 14:6), we will hear His voice and follow Him.

--Mike Rogers

## Prayer List



LaVerne Baxter  
Michael Wyatt  
Tim Scott  
Steve Cook

Kathy Billings—Stepmother of Heath Billings; recently moved to hospice care

Also remember Israel, Our Country, Our Missionaries, Flood Victims, Heath Billings, Heather Bowner, Captain Mike Shipley, Georgia Cook, Jeff Cooper, Larry Coughlan, Kenneth Coulston, Alan 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, Chris Nowak, Michael J. Pena, Jedidiah Phillips, Jacob Sampson, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart



*Live a life filled with love,  
following the example of Christ.*

*Ephesians 5:2a*



**Theme For 2025: A Common Love**

## Calendar of Events

### JULY EVENTS

28 – Monday Night for the Master, Groups 3 & 4  
30 - Devotional/Worship in song

### AUGUST EVENTS

4 – Monday Night for the Master, Group 1  
6 – Summer Series; Speaker: Tim Wooldridge  
11 – Monday Night for the Master, Group 2  
13 – Summer Series; Speaker: Tim Alsup

**Polishing the Pulpit**  
**Sevierville, TN--August 15-21**

### JULY YOUTH EVENTS



24 – Ignite!

25- Water Day @Day Camp!!! *Everyone is invited to join the campers on Friday from 12:00-3:00 for water slides and water games. Wear your dark colored t-shirts and shorts, bring a towel and sunscreen, and get ready to get wet!*

July 26-August 2: VBS Mission in Beloit, KS

### BIRTHDAYS JULY 27-AUGUST 2



30—Ann Huggins, Debra Brownlee  
31—Lesa Hall

### AUGUST

2—Paulette Pennington, Caleb Smith

### ANNIVERSARIES

27—Jeff & Jan Hanks

### AUGUST

1—Clint & Teresa Stacks

### BIBLE READING SCHEDULE JULY 27-AUGUST 2

July 27—Ecclesiastes 1-3  
July 28—Eccl. 4-6  
July 29—Eccl. 7-9  
July 30—Eccl. 10-12  
July 31—Song of Solomon 1-3  
August 1—Song of Sol. 4-6  
August 2—Song of Sol. 7-8

## Carpenter's Apprentice

Day Camp is in full swing and although it is pretty warm, sunscreen, water and plenty of fun keep our attention off the heat. Furthermore, no one has had to spend any time in the whiney circle! You may be aware, rule #3 in the youth group is "No Whining." I have conceded one exception to this rule, at Day Camp only. There is a four-foot circle that was inadvertently painted in the parking lot and has been designated and decorated, "The Whiney Circle." If you are unfamiliar with Day Camp, campers are in K-5<sup>th</sup> grade and the counselors are the middle and high schoolers, so nearly the whole youth group is there! We play lots of games, mostly as teams and they are usually modified from the classics like kick ball. Often the games are silly but always, they have a point. Sometimes, like today, the point is awesome and totally unexpected. Today we played a relay game. It involved rolling a lemon, without lifting it, down one of the parking space lines and back using only a tongue depressor (aka, fat popsicle stick). Because of the difficulty, we quickly evolved into two tongue depressors. If the lemon came off the line, you had to start over. There were many different strategies attempted and I was impressed with the creativity and persistence under pressure. Then Noah C. stepped to the line for his turn. He'd made a V with his depressors and slid them down and behind the lemon. He then proceeded to walk very quickly from one end of the line to the other. When he finished, pretty much everyone had stopped to watch the ease with which he accomplished the task. The silence that had overcome us ceased as everyone tried their best to remember and emulate his method. His team came from last to win the relay by following his example. As we debriefed in the shade, I called Noah up and gave honor where honor was due. I asked everyone if any of them had thought of his method. Several, and then most, claimed they had thought of doing what he did and the lesson hit me. I asked them, "So most of you thought about doing the right thing, but you didn't do it because you didn't think it would work?" The older kids got it. The younger ones needed more, but a seed was planted. I then asked how many copied Noah's technique after they saw it in action. They unanimously admitted following his lead. I told them, "Now I hope you see the importance of doing the right thing. There may be others that need to see it successfully done in order to follow." I want our children to be the ones who know the right things to do and then do them! It will only happen if we both tell them and show them. "Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to