

Covington Family News

August 10, 2025

BEING AN ENCOURAGER

We have all known what it is to be discouraged. And we all know people who are in great need of encouragement because they are battling hopelessness and despair. They desperately need the gift of encouragement—someone to give them courage, hope, confidence, and comfort.

Being an encourager doesn't come naturally for most of us, but, for a believer, it's not an option. Thirty-two times in the New Testament we are reminded of things we are to do for "one another." One of these commands is to encourage one another (Heb. 3:13). When we encourage others, we are reflecting the heart of God. Who is "the God of encouragement" (Rom. 15:5).

There isn't a "right way" to encourage someone but here are a few suggestions to help us get started.

1. Pray for God to make you an encourager.
2. Be intentional. Open your eyes to those around you who might need a dose of encouragement.
3. Write a note or text message to someone. Be specific in what you say.
4. Get started: Who can you encourage right now? Who has blessed you recently that you can thank? What verse can you share with them?

Encouragement can give us the will to carry on. It can prevent burning out.

Encouragement helps us experience abundant life.

via Alamo Church of Christ

Bobby Rawson



*Serving Our Community
for the Glory of God*

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

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 8/10/25 AM Worship Service

Announcements Ken Bringle Jr.
Song Leader: John Combs
Sermon Mike Rogers

Presiding Over the Lord's Table:

Head: Hadley Mason
Garrett Howard, Jon McCain, Craig Robinson, Robert Brownlee, Donnie Benjamin, Ken Mason, Myles Benjamin, Gordon Cartwright

Opening Prayer: John Evans
Closing Prayer: Donnie Benjamin

Nursery Worker: Leslie Howard

Attendance Card Collectors: (8/10)

Eli Charnock, Noah Charnock, August Charnock

Bus Driver (8/10 & 8/13)

Brandon Hanks

August Door Greeters:

Main Lobby Entrance: Alan & Debbie Otts
Auditorium Entrance: Brad & Becky Evins

PM Worship Service

Song Leader: John Combs
Opening Prayer: Michael Wyatt
Closing Prayer: Will Thomason
Sermon: Mike Rogers

Mid-Week Bible Study August 13

Song Leader: John Combs
Opening Prayer: David Keith
Closing Prayer: Alan Otts
Speaker: Tim Alsup

MEMORIALS FOR JULY

Donations to Covington church of Christ have been given in memory of *Amber Kramer, Melvin Wall, and Kathy Billings.*

Sunday Bible Classes	134
Worship AM	205
PM	115
Wednesday Bible Study	112

VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Evangline Word	Memphis, TN
Luke Scott	Michie, TN
Wendy Yarbrow	Millington, TN
Mollie Yarbrow	Millington, TN
Chris Fowler	Covington, TN
Cyril & Jamie Roethlisberg	
Austin & Kensleigh Phillips	

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

Sermon Request: Life After Death

In the past few weeks, I have had two requests for a sermon to explain what the Bible teaches about life after death. I did a detailed study on this topic several years ago and found some aspects of the traditional view lacking. Therefore, in the lesson on Sunday we will begin with our present life and fill in the blanks as what happens until we reach eternity.

One thing we must all agree on is that no one will get out of this life alive. The Hebrews writer confirms that “It is appointed unto man once to die” (Heb. 9:27a). After a person dies, he is buried. Solomon confirms this saying, “All go to the same place. All are from the dust, and to dust all return” (Eccl. 3:20).

When one dies the soul goes into the hadean realm. The hadean realm is made up of the entire underworld. It includes Paradise also called the third heaven (2 Cor. 12:2-4) and Abraham’s bosom (Luke 16:22), and Tartarus (2 Peter 2:4). The righteous dead go to Paradise (Luke 23:43), and the unrighteous go to Tartarus (2 Peter 2:4). One thing is certain about the Hadean realm is that the righteous are at peace, but the unrighteous are in torment (Luke 16:24). There is no “soul sleeping” in the Hadean realm. Also, there is a “great chasm” that no one can cross between Paradise and Tartarus (Luke 16:26).

On judgement day Christ will bring the righteous souls of those who have died with Him and then the bodies of the righteous will be raised and changed and will meet Jesus in the air (see 1 Thess. 4:15-17). The wicked will also be raised and meet the Lord at judgment (John 5:28-29). Everyone stands before the Lord in judgement (2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12). The righteous will pass into eternal life, and the wicked into eternal punishment (Matt. 25:46).

This is where I have added some detail that is often overlooked in the traditional view. A “new heavens and a new earth” will have been created for the righteous (2 Peter 3:13). The wicked will have no home they will simply be cast into the lake of fire to suffer eternally (Rev. 20:14).

As we taught last Sunday night, Hell is real and it is eternal. No one will pass through Hell into annihilation, or a better life. Once a person dies his eternal destiny is set. He will never be able to escape the torment of eternal agony. Yet, as long as there is life in our bodies, we can change our eternal destinies if we believe and confess that Jesus is the Son of God, repent of our sins, and have our sins washed away in baptism. Then live for Jesus. Do everything to be pleasing to God (Col. 3:17; Rom. 12:2). When we do this, we are promised a “crown of life” (Rev. 2:10).

-Mike Rogers

Prayer List

Bear Phillips—Children’s LeBonheur, neonatal unit
Elaine Watkins—Recovering from a heart cath., no block-ages
Rita Benjamin—Waiting on test results
Bobby White—Not feeling well
LaVerne Baxter—Recovering from a heart procedure
Joseph Little – Friend of the Mason family
Larry Newman

Carolyn Whaley in the death of her brother, *Lonnie Bryant*;
Anita Wilson in the death of her grandson, Also remember Israel, Our Country, Our Missionaries, Flood Victims, LaVerne Baxter, Heath Billings, Heather Bowner, Captain Mike Shipley, Georgia Cook, Steve Cook, Jeff Cooper, Larry Coughlan, Kenneth Coulston, Alan Davis, Jason Elliott, Malissa Garner, Kay Gatlin, Pat Gatlin, K.C. Haynes, Helen Kennedy, Kathy McMahan, Stan McDevitt, Phyllis McLillie, Judy Merritt, Gigi Miller, Dorothy Morris, Sophie Nolan, Larry Osbourne, Randy Rhoads, Bonita Rogers, Tim Scott, Upton Shelton, Donna Sonwineski, David South, Clint Stacks, Paulette Watkins, Larry Whaley II, Michael Wyatt

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

NEW ARRIVAL



Congratulations to Beau & Hannah Phillips on the birth of a son, *Bear Walton Phillips* born Friday, August 1. *Bear* weighed 3 lbs. Jeff & Jennifer Phillips are the proud new grandparents, Jerry & Kay Gatlin proud new great grandparents, Austin Phillips & Jedidiah Phillips proud new uncles!

DIAPER SHOWER



In lieu of a baby boy shower, a table has been set up in the foyer for diapers/wipes honoring *John & Hannah Moody*.

Calendar of Events

AUGUST EVENTS

6 - Summer Series; Speaker: Tim Wooldridge

11 –Monday Night for the Master, Group 2

13 – Summer Series; Speaker: Tim Alsup

16 – Birthday Party at Magnolia Creek Nursing Home

17 - Devotional at Covington Care, 3PM

18 - Monday Night for the Master, Group 3

20 - Summer Series; Speaker: Jermal Blanchard

25 - Monday Night for the Master, Group 4

27 –Devotional/Worship in song

***If you are a part of or want to be a part of the Security Team Ministry, please attend a meeting Sunday, August 10 following the AM Worship Service in Classroom 2.**

***Sunday, August 10 following the AM Worship Service, everyone is invited to a Potluck Meal honoring Noah, Emma, & Laken Liles who are moving to KY.**

***Ladies Bible Class will resume, Tuesday, August 12**

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

***Elders, Deacons, & Minister’s Retreat, September 5 & 6 at Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park**

AUGUST YOUTH EVENTS



24 – Middle/High School Devo

30 – CIA Beach Day

BIRTHDAYS -AUGUST 10-16



10—Tricia Speight

11—Charles Wolfe

12—Leann Maness

13—Heather Keith, David Higgins

14—Leslie Howard

16—Chesley Hoffman, Kyle McCain

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE AUGUST 10-16

August 10 – Isaiah 22-24

August 11 – Isaiah 25-27

August 12 – Isaiah 28-30

August 13 – Isaiah 31-33

August 14 – Isaiah 34-36

August 15 – Isaiah 37-39

August 16 – Isaiah 40-42

Carpenter’s Apprentice

One of the most epic scenes in the Bible occurs on the plain of Dura during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. He’d made a massive golden statue and commanded all to bow in worship to it. Everyone did except for three exiled Israelites, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. A familiar story to most, I often forget the implications of their confrontation with an angry king who’d once held their trust. We remember they said, “our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king” (Daniel 3:17). An honorable, valiant and enviable statement, it was not the most powerful, jaw dropping comment of the day. That statement came next, “But if not” we still will not be bowing down to worship this image you have set up (Daniel 3:18). In other words, we know, without a doubt, our God can do this, but if for reasons beyond our ability to comprehend and understand, we will not go back on our commitment to “have no other gods,” our promise to obey and serve only him. God is our God and we will bow down to and trust only in Him.

In recent years, I saw in a movie a couple who tried desperately to have a baby. After years of fervent prayer and trying everything short of adoption, it appeared the answer to their prayers was going to be no. There was a moment in the movie where the husband stood in an orchard and read Psalm 18:1-3, “I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised.” The implication was clear as his wife joined him and he asked, “Will you love Him even if He says no?”

I suppose there are moments in life when we are faced with ultimately the same question, “Is my love for God conditional?” It is certainly easiest to love and obey when life has no challenges, disappointments or heartaches. James however writes, “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials” (James 1:2). “But if God really loved me ...” we challenge and Isaiah writes, “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts” (Isaiah 55:8-9). I ask the same question now the Lord asked Satan at the beginning of Job, “Have you considered Job?” We know the whole story and yet we are never given a reason why. We know he remained faithful through some pretty horrific storms of life when he had done everything “right.” How will you choose, conditional or unconditional? -jeff