

Covington Family News

January 4, 2026



*Serving Our Community
for the Glory of God*

SHEPHERDS

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Andy Whaley 901- 626-2911
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DEACONS

Ken Bringle Jr.
J.J. Brown
Benny Collins
Brad Evins
Brandon Matlock
Jon McCain
Alan Otts
Craig Robinson
David Stewart
Robert Trimm

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www.covingtoncofc.com
Office hours: M-F, 9AM-2PM

SERVING THIS WEEK: 1/4/26 AM Worship Service

Announcements (all services): Craig Robinson
Song Leader (both services): Wayne Dalrymple
Opening Prayer: Andy Whaley
Sermon: Michael Wyatt
Closing Prayer: Robert Trimm

Presiding Over the Lord's Table:

Head: LeRoy Finto
Ken Mason, Chris Maness, Brad Evins, Zach Higgins,
Myles Benjamin, Alan Otts, Luke McMahan, Jon McCain

Attendance Card Collectors (1/4)

Tyler Bringle, Dayton Maness, Beau Glidewell

December Door Greeters:

Main Lobby Entrance: Terry & Karen Wall
Auditorium Entrance: Jimmy & Kathy McMahan

Lobby Management (1/4 & 1/7)

Security: Brandon Matlock

Worship Coordinator: Jeff Coughlan

Welcome Desk/Lobby Service: Ben Evans

Nursery Worker: Teresa Stacks

Bus Driver (1/4 & 1/7)

Brandon Hanks

Evening Worship Service

Song Leader: Wayne Dalrymple
Opening Prayer: Nick Maness
Closing Prayer: Will Thomason
Sermon: Michael Wyatt

Mid-Week Service: January 7

Song Leader: Michael Wyatt
Devotional Thought: Andy Whaley
Closing Prayer: Hadley Mason

Sunday Bible Classes	145
Worship AM	240
PM	134
Wednesday Bible Study	98

VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Austin Phillips family	Alamo, TN
KC Mason family	Murfreesboro, TN
Cade & Aubrey Alston	Walnut, MS
Megan Becker	Jackson, TN

Elder on call for January: Wayne Dalrymple

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

YOU CROWN
THE YEAR WITH
YOUR GOODNESS,
AND YOUR PATHS DRIP
WITH ABUNDANCE.

PSALM 65:11

#HAPPYNEWYEAR



Our congregational theme for 2026 will be “*Make Me a Servant.*” Bible classes, sermons, Summer Series’ lessons, and more will help us all to focus on the idea of servanthood with sacrifice, devotion, and commitment in all aspects of our lives: our homes, our communities, our world, and our church.

With that in mind, over the next several weeks our deacons will be sharing information about their individual areas of work and service in our congregation and sharing with all of us various ways in which we can serve our church through those good works. As you think about your personal plans and goals for the coming year, prayerfully consider how you are actively serving our church family in the works of the congregation. Are there talents you possess that you are not currently using in service to the Lord? Are there areas in which you previously served but you’ve let slip away over time? Are there new areas in which you can strive to grow and develop talents that can be used to serve one another and the family of God here in Covington?

Each week as you read these spotlights on areas of service in the church, pray for these servant men and the works that they lead, and when you see an area of service in which you can take part, please reach out to that deacon to learn how you can assist with their efforts. May each of us strive to grow in our service in the coming year, and may we take seriously the words of the song we regularly sing together:

*Make me a servant, Lord, make me like you;
For you are a servant – make me one too.
Lord, make me a servant, do what you must do
To make me a servant; make me like you.*

Prayer List
Jean Goodwin – Cindy Scott’s mom; in declining health

Members with ongoing needs: Susie Wyatt, John Evans, Delores Whaley, Teresa Stacks, Katie Merritt, Laverne Baxter, David Fulks, Ann Huggins, Heath Billings, Larry Coughlan, Pat Gatlin, Kathy McMahan, Judy Merritt, Bonita Rogers, Donna Sonwineski, Paulette Watkins, Larry Whaley II, Jimmy Willis

Loved ones to remember: Daryll Kidd, Larry Osbourn, Linda Wood, Jenny Garcia, Jason Elliott, Tony Hobbs


NURSING HOME
Covington Care: Shirley Laxton, Cynthia Wilson

MILITARY: Tanner Mason, Chris Nowak, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart

SYMPATHY
Our deepest sympathy goes out to Bill & Pat Gatlin in the death of their son, *Tim Gatlin*.

BAPTISM
Praise God and welcome our new brother in Christ, *Thomas Starck* to the family at Covington! Thomas was baptized for the forgiveness of sins this past Sunday, December 28.

NEW MEMBERS
Welcome to *Rick, Mindy & Ricky Stavrum*! The Stavrums placed membership with our congregation this past Sunday. Please meet this family and make them feel at home in our church family.

NEW ARRIVAL
 Congratulations to Tracy & Tricia Speight on the birth of a grandson, *Hudson Wayne Speight*! Hudson was born to Parker and Daisy on December 27th, weighing in at 7lb 13oz and is 20½ inches long. Welcome to the world, Hudson!

BIBLE READING
Bible reading schedules for 2026 are available in the foyer. Both traditional and chronological plans are available. Pick one up and read through your Bible in the coming year!




Calendar of Events

JANUARY
5 – Monday Night for the Master, group 1
11 – Last day to sign up for fellowship groups
11 – Bible Bowl Challenge @12:30
11 – Secret Sister Reveal Party after PM service
12 – Monday Night for the Master, group 2
17 – Birthday Party @Magnolia Creek; 2:00
18 – Devotional @Covington Care; 3:00
23 – Banquet for Mike & Bonita
26 – Monday Night for the Master, groups 3&4

YOUTH
11 – Devo (5th - 12th grades)

If you would like to host a devo in your home in 2026, please see Jeff to pick your date.



BIRTHDAYS: JANUARY 4-10
 1/4 – Levi Teems, Parker Moody
1/6 – Debra Blackburn
12/30 – Larry Coughlan

The Crosswinds Church of Christ in Three Way, TN is hosting a *Praise & Harmony Weekend* led by Keith Lancaster of Acappella Ministries! Songfest Service is Saturday, January 10 from 2:00-4:00. Pre-registration is requested. See the card in the foyer for more information about this great time of praise and fellowship.

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Mark your calendars for January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00  
for a banquet honoring Mike & Bonita  
in thankfulness for their many years of service to  
the Covington Church!

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Carpenter’s Apprentice

Four different species of sparrows showed up on my Merlin Bird ID app over several different recordings Monday. I sat in the hunting box watching the sparrows as they foraged in the vines, briars and small trees around our hide. Later in the day, I watched as they flew from the cover of the thicket out into the tall grass in front of me expanding their search for food. What I heard didn’t register until I saw and heard the wing beats of every bird in the grass patch coming back toward the thicket. I’d heard a warning call. I was surprised at the number of birds filling the grass patch and almost startled at the noise their tiny wings made as they fled the patch in unison. Realizing what I’d witnessed, I scanned the field for a bobcat or fox and the air for a bird of prey- maybe a falcon - but saw nothing. After several minutes, the danger apparently gone, the birds began returning to the patch. At first one by one, then, two or three at a time until things seemed to return to normal. I never did see what caused the alarm call or the bird that made it, but what I remember is that every bird from every species in the grass recognized the call and immediately flew to the safety of the thicket. Not one of them paused to look around and verify. Not one of them questioned the accuracy or genuineness of the call. It didn’t appear anyone accused him of a false report or even got upset. I didn’t hear massive bird squabbling in the bushes. In fact, there was an almost eerie silence as they waited for what I assumed was the “all clear.” The whole event reminded me of a verse I’d read just that morning in Proverbs 22:3, “The prudent sees the evil and hides himself, but the naive go on, and are punished for it.”

We live in a time where the world seems to challenge every authority. Granted, some of the people talking need to be challenged! But maybe as we consider the sources, mistrust is the wrong default setting. Proverbs 12:15 says, “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man is he who listens to counsel.” The Bible tells us to watch out for one another in many verses - from bearing one another’s burdens in Galatians 6:2 and watching out for the interests of others in Philippians 2:4 to the words of the prophet in Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, “Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion.” So, what happens to the one who refuses to be lifted?