

Covington Family News

August 9, 2026



"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as lord,
continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up
in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were
taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

Colossians 2:6-7



*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

MINISTER

Josh Manning
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SERVING THIS WEEK: 8/9/26 AM Worship Service

Announcements (Sunday services): John Combs
Song Leader (Sunday services): Wayne Dalrymple
Opening Prayer: Ken Bringle Jr.
Sermon: Josh Manning
Closing Prayer: Nick Maness

Presiding Over the Lord's Table:

Head: Craig Robinson
Brad Evins, Luke McMahan, David Keith, Jon McCain
Ron Sutton, Hadley Mason, Brandon Hanks, Jeff Phillips

Attendance Card Collectors (8/9)

Davis McMahan, Henry Kinningham, Tyler Bringle

August Door Greeters:

Main Lobby Entrance: Jimmy & Kathy McMahan
Auditorium Entrance: Breck & Stephanie Beasley

Lobby Management (8/9 & 8/12)

Security: Logan Wall

Worship Coordinator: Jeff Coughlan

Welcome Desk/Lobby Service: Rick Stavrum

Nursery Worker: Karen Wall

Bus Driver (8/9 & 8/12)

Brad Evins

Evening Worship Service

Opening Prayer: Robert Charnock
Sermon: Josh Manning
Closing Prayer: Hadley Mason

Mid-Week Service: August 12

Opening Prayer: Cody Strickland
Song Leader: Caleb Smith
Speaker: Doug Burleson
Closing Prayer: Andy Whaley

Attendance

Sunday Bible Class	147
Worship AM	233
PM	126
Wednesday Bible Study	125

VISITORS ARE OUR SPECIAL GUESTS

Megan Becker	Jackson, TN
Dianne Scott & Glinda Hayman	Covington, TN
Alice & Lucy Phillips	Martin, TN
Cyril & Jamie Roethlisberg	Atoka, TN
Keith & Judy Matlock	Centerville, TN

Elder on call for August: Mike Rogers

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

Motivational Message

The book of Hebrews tells us that sin is a deceiver. “But exhort one another every day, while it is called ‘today,’ that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin” (Heb. 3:13). The word “deceit” means “to cause to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid” (Webster’s). The Greek word from which it comes means essentially the same thing and conveys the idea of giving a false impression. Simply put, Satan is a liar and portrays sin in a very flattering light. There are at least four ways in which Satan uses sin to deceive us.

First, sin deceives by minimizing. Sin masks the consequences of sin by trying to present how insignificant it is. Satan tried this with Eve: “You will not die” (Gen. 3:4). Sin tells us that a little sin never hurt anyone. Sin employs such terms as, “It’s only a little white lie.” Sin encourages us to enjoy its pleasures for a little while and then for a little while longer. Before long, we are trapped.

Second, sin deceives by rationalizing. To rationalize is to find an excuse or reason for doing what you want to do even though you know you shouldn’t. Sin uses this method to explain itself away. Some of the rationalization tactics it uses are: “Everybody’s doing it,” and “That’s not that bad.” Satan insists that we change our moral standards to meet the changing times, but God insists, “Woe to them that call evil good, and good evil...” (Isa. 5:20).

Third, sin deceives by glamorizing. Instead of showing you the alcoholic, the drug addict, or the AIDS victim, sin shows you how glamorous it is to drink, use drugs, and live a life of promiscuity. Sin wants us to see only the moment’s pleasure rather than the consequences, whether physical or spiritual. Sin tempted Moses in this way, but Moses chose “rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin” (Heb. 11:25).

Fourth, sin deceives by hypnotizing. I’ve never been hypnotized. I’m told I am not a good candidate for hypnosis because I am too unwilling to put myself in someone else’s control. I’ve seen people hypnotized, though, and found it strangely amusing, yet startling, that one can be lured into such a state that they conform to another’s suggestions. There may be people who are not willing candidates for that type of hypnosis, but all of us are subject to the hypnotic effects of sin. Those who get caught up in sin sometimes find the habit extremely hard to break. Fortunately, God has given us a ready resource to combat the allure to sin – the Christian armor (Eph. 6:10ff).

Beware of the deceitfulness of sin. “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ” (Col. 2:8).

Robert Lambert, via Bulletin Digest

Prayer List

Bill Murray – procedure & PT scheduled
Judy McCool – moved to rehab; NO VISITORS please
Ken McCool – hospitalized
Kacie Billings – Genie Renfroe’s daughter; health problems

Members with ongoing needs: Joyce Scott, Andrew Evans, Hope Collins, Pat Gatlin, Larry Coughlan, Katie Merritt, Judy Merritt, Donna Sonwineski, Paulette Watkins, Larry Whaley II, Jimmy Willis

Loved ones to remember: Linda Kimbrough, Millie Deems, Marcia Bargery, Mike Utley, Ellyana Bowden, Heather Bowmer, Linda Simpson, Barbara Pool, Scott Lindley, Jason Elliott

NURSING HOME
Covington Care: Shirley Laxton, Cynthia Wilson

MILITARY
Noah Liles, Tanner Mason, Chris Nowak, Parker Speight, Isaac Stewart

Area-Wide Gospel Meeting
“Give Me the Bible”
September 14-17, 7:00
Brighton Middle School

Men’s Breakfast –
Wednesdays @5:30AM

Calendar of Events

AUGUST
9 – Bridal Shower for Chloe Coughlan; 2:00
10 – Monday Night for the Master, groups 1&2
12 – Summer Series w/Doug Burleson; 7:00
14-20 – PTP Sevierville
15- WKYC Open House; noon
15 – Birthday Party @Magnolia Creek; 2:00
16 – Devo @Covington Care; 3:00
19 – Summer Series w/Tim Alsup; 7:00
21&22 – Men’s Conference @Quince Church of Christ
24 – Monday Night for the Master, groups 3&4
25 – Tuesday Ladies’ Bible Class resumes
27 – Apologetics Press Benefit Dinner; 6:00
30 – Fifth Sunday Worship/Fellowship Schedule

YOUTH
Aug. 9 – Devo
Aug. 10 – First day of school



LOOKING AHEAD
September 11-13 – Transform Women’s Conference
September 14-17 – Area Wide Gospel Meeting
speakers & topics are posted on the church website
October 2&3 – Leadership Retreat
October 17&18 – Friends and Family Weekend

We are currently collecting school supplies for Charger Academy. Please bring your donations to the building by August 9. For a complete list of what is needed, pick up a list in the foyer.

WEDDING SHOWER
 Ladies – you are invited to a bridal shower honoring our bride-to-be, *Chloe Coughlan*. The shower will be held here at the building on Sunday, August 9 at 2:00PM. The couple is registered at Something Special, Dillards, and Amazon.

 **BIRTHDAYS: August 9 – 15**
8/10 – Tricia Speight
8/11 – Charles Wolfe
8/12 – Leann Maness
8/13 – David Higgins, Heather Keith
8/14 – Leslie Howard

Carpenter’s Apprentice

In I Samuel 15, Saul makes an executive decision to spare the life of Agag, king of the Amalekites, as well as some of the choicest stock in the land. This decision came despite the instructions given by Samuel from God in 15:3, “Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.” There are those who may find this a bit extreme, but before you pass judgement on the Almighty, consider a few things. First, God is God and we are man. Read Isaiah 55:8-9. Second, the Amalekites were the army who harassed the Israelites when they left Egypt. The ferocious battle was the one found in Exodus 17:8ff where Israel prevailed when Moses’ hands were raised and lost ground if they fell, so Aaron and Hur propped him on a rock and held up his hands until the sun set. God was not happy with the Amalekites and swore he would wipe them out one day. Deuteronomy 25:17-19 reminds us why. The Amalekites began their fight in the rear of the Israelite caravan, picking on the weak and weary. God’s command to annihilate the Amalekites had foundation, but really, the purpose here is to highlight Samuel’s response to Saul’s disobedience. Samuel says to Saul in I Samuel 15:17, “When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the Lord anoint you king over Israel?” Think about this for a moment. We first meet Saul in I Samuel 9:1-2. His father, Kish, is described in the ESV as a man of wealth. The KJV says a man of power, and the NASB says a man of valor. Regardless of which version you read, Saul did not come from an unknown family, and one might even suggest he was born with the proverbial “silver spoon” in his mouth. Additionally, we are told he was better looking than the other men of Israel and head and shoulders taller too. He was no slacker either! I Samuel 14:47-48 says he fought Israel’s enemies and “wherever he turned he inflicted punishment. He acted valiantly” defeating enemies and delivering Israel. He had it all. The total package - at least on the outside; on the inside it is clear he had low self-esteem. Esteem derives from the Latin *aestimare* - to appraise, value, rate, weigh, estimate. Self-esteem is the cognitive, and, above all, emotional appraisal of our own worth. Our self-esteem is the matrix through which we think, feel, and act. It reflects, and in large part determines, our relation to ourselves, to others, and to the world” (*Psychology Today*, November 20, 2014). Clearly, self-esteem doesn’t come from “having it all” - good looks, good clothes, and social acceptance. As parents, if this is the direction we are pushing our children, we are pushing them to be conformed rather than transformed (Romans 12:1-2) and undoubtedly, we are missing something important.