

When you live in a political mindset there's always a battle to fight, a side to defend, and someone to fear. When you live in a Jesus mindset, there's always a stranger to welcome, a neighbor to love, and an enemy to forgive. – Unknown

We are certainly living in interesting times and a difficult season. While there is certainly nothing new under the sun, these times may be new for us. I recently heard someone say that she remembered a time when you could go to a ballgame or even to church and have no clue what someone's political leanings are, but today it seems that one's politics, or their view on politics, is one of the main expressions of how they identify themselves.

Jesus is not much help; the only clue we have about his political leanings was when the Pharisees confronted him about paying taxes. Jesus asked them to show them the coin that would be used to pay the tax, and they showed him a denarius (evidently, Jesus didn't have one), and when he asked them who was on the coin and they said "Caesar," he simply said, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's... and to God what is God's."

But he was clear about what behavior was expected of us: we are to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, to love our enemies, give to the needy, and to pray – humbly, not putting ourselves on display as we do so.

I am sure that my own political leanings and faith in Christ frustrate some. I've been a Democrat, I've been a Republican, and now I find myself more of a political agnostic. I side with Jesus that when it comes to people; we are to love them, unconditionally, just as God loves us - even our enemies. I also side with Jesus when it comes to money and economics; we are to be good stewards of what we have, and to those who have been given much, much is expected. Some in our American political landscape find these things to be politically incompatible.

I certainly don't think people should be like me, nor do I want them to be such. But I can't apologize for wanting people to be like Jesus. I am convinced that the only way we can do that is to live in a Jesus mindset, and to act accordingly. That might take some of the defensiveness and fight out of us and help us to love as Jesus loved. That's what we want to be known for doing, and in this season the world needs us to be like Jesus.

Peace,

Sky⁺

Sky McCracken
Senior Pastor
revdsky@gmail.com

Cathy Adams
Coordinator of Pastoral Care &
Evangelism
Adamscat50@gmail.com

Sandy Burgess
Office Manager
sburgess@covingtonfumc.com

Kit Burrow
Maintenance

Ethan Cedarfield
Director of Youth/Young Adults

Justin Hanson
Organist

Jennifer Lindley
Children's Director
jlindley@covingtonfumc.com

Carole Mathis
Worship Director
cmathis@covingtonfumc.com

Liz Newman
Director of Outreach
lnewman@covingtonfumc.com

FUMC Office Hours:
9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday

*"Leading people to
Christ, Learning to
be Disciples,
Loving through Service."*

It's time for a new Pictorial Church Directory! Our dates of photography are **March 5th, 6th and 7th.**

Just for participating, you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a church directory. You will view your images right away and have the opportunity to purchase additional family portraits for your own memories or to give as gifts.



You will be able to schedule your photography appointment online starting January 25th. If you don't have internet, volunteers will be standing by after church services January 25th and February 1st to assist you in making your appointment.

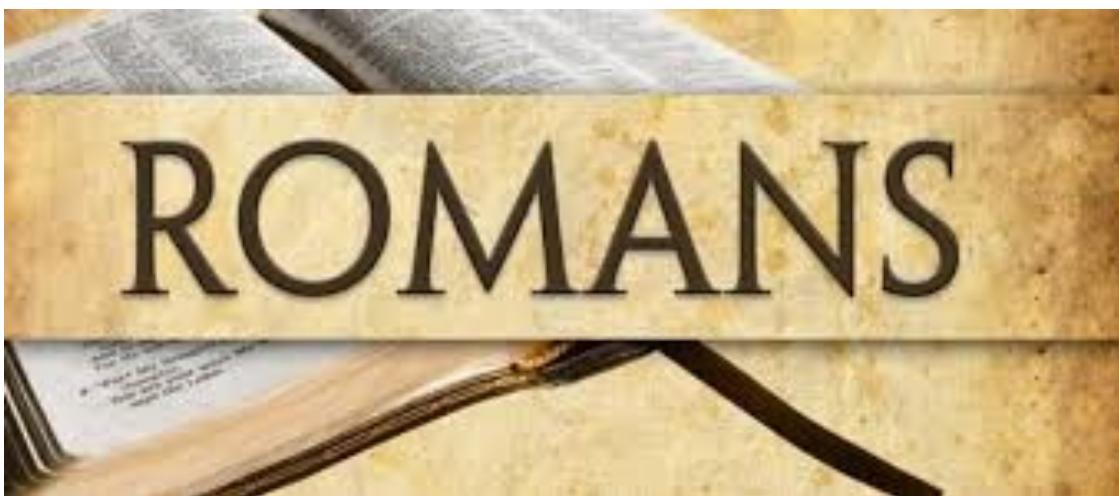
A graphic for a Super Bowl Sweets & Treats Sale. The background is a wooden surface with a football, a remote control, and pistachios. The text on the left reads: "SUPER BOWL", "“SWEETS & TREATS”", "SALE", "SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8", "prior to and following both worship services", and "proceeds to benefit the ministries of the United Women in Faith".



***Nursery Care
Available every Sunday Morning***



***Join us Wednesday
mornings at 10:00 a.m.
for Bible study!***





January 18 Carson Winberry
January 20 Dianne Stone
January 22 Olivia McCalla
Jim Reece
January 23 Pam Shelley
January 25 Carolynn Scruggs
January 26 Bo Anderson
Patricia Bailey
Georgianne Phelps
January 27 Lauren Enzor
Greg Maury
January 28 Tommy McDow
Phil Richardson
William Wooten

January 29 Ally Naifeh
January 30 Teri Carter
Skip Erwin
Carter Ray
February 1 Chris Turner
February 2 Chris Henderson
Mar Ray
February 4 Angela Clark
February 5 Earl Beckett
Dabney Maxwell
February 6 Brenda Wrather
February 7 Phil Huffman
February 9 Catherine Castleman
Linley Gangaware
Casey Rogers
February 10 Liz Flanagan
February 12 Beth Gardner
Rebecca Harrison
February 13 Opal Brock
Justin Hanson
Kane Ray
Hank Sampson

GIVING & ATTENDANCE

January 4, 2026

In Person 8:30 service:	86
In Person 11:00 service:	78
Sunday School:	58
Facebook Views 8:30 service:	460
Facebook Views 11:00 service:	920
Offering:	\$6,097.00

March to the Manger Offering \$7,950.00

January 11, 2026

In Person 8:30 service:	90
In Person 11:00 service:	99
Sunday School:	74
Facebook Views 8:30 service:	311
Facebook Views 11:00 service:	622
Offering:	\$4,274.00



Physical Concerns

Sue Jones
Claire Marshall
Shirley Mathis
Joe Naifeh
Bettye Shelley

Undergoing Treatment for Cancer

Don Clark	Jennifer Jones Moore
Bettye Davis	Dorothy Newman
Janet Greggs	Terry Newman
Tucker James	Kathy McCool Townsend

Condolences

Family of Donald Brock
Family of Francine Oldham
Family of Barbara Buckley Turner

TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Memory of **Lydia Anderson**

Organ Restoration Fund by Tommy and Denise McDow
Organ Restoration Fund by Brenda Wrather

In Memory of **Yvonne Bryant**

Organ Restoration Fund by Tommy and Denise McDow

In Memory of **Kenneth Coulston**

Organ Restoration Fund by Tommy and Denise McDow

In Memory of **Charles Elam**

Organ Restoration Fund by Tommy and Denise McDow

In Memory of **Roger Ganier**

Organ Restoration Fund by Tommy and Denise McDow

In Memory of **Rosemary Sanders Hanson**

Organ Restoration Fund by Tommy and Denise McDow

In Memory of **Jimmy Overton**

Organ Restoration Fund by Claire Marshall

In Memory of **Mary Whitley**

Organ Restoration Fund by Tommy and Denise McDow



GOD'S PRESENCE WILL
comfort us

IN ALL OUR STORMS.

The Lord is close
to the brokenhearted;
He rescues those
whose spirits are crushed.

Psalm 34:18



Poinsettia Tributes

In Memory of:

L.C. and Bernie Bierman by Their Family

Ben and Ruth Billings by Kaye Smith, Chad, Neal and Family

Barbara Blythe by Jammie and Rhonda Castleman

Wayne Broughton by Michelle Broughton

The Calhoun Family by Nancy Simpson and Adam Simpson and Family

Katie Cooley by Glenn and Kyle Maclin

Denise Corrine-Coward by Donna McMullen

Herman and Billie Dornbusch by Van and Pam Shelley

Bryan and Ann Enzor by Waymon and Naomi McDade

Muriel Ann Enzor by David Enzor

Ronald Grott by Jammie and Rhonda Castleman

Brittany Johnson by Thressa and Kristen Solley

James "Sonny" Leem by Nancy Leem

Rickey Lindsey by Glenn and Kyle Maclin

Mildred Harris Peeler by her Grandchildren

Grace Phelps by Keith and Tiny Phelps

Russell and Clara Jane Phelps by Keith and Tiny Phelps

Bill and Lucille Pinner by Chris and Sara Gangaware

Margie Rose by Keith and Tiny Phelps

Uzell Rose by Keith and Tiny Phelps

John Shelley by Bettye Shelley

Mike Shelley by Bettye Shelley

Graydon Simpson by Nancy Simpson and Adam Simpson and Family

Lola and Lyman Smith by Kaye Smith, Chad, Neal and Family

Stephen Smith by Patricia and Johnny Howard

Stephen Smith by Kaye Smith, Chad, Neal and Family

Nancy Stewart by Chris and Sara Gangaware

Our Parents and Grandparents by Tim and Kathy Wallace

Meam and Jack Witherington by Glenn and Kyle Maclin

In Honor of:

Cathy Adams by Bettye Shelley

Marty and Camille Burlison by Tommy, Elizabeth, Drake, Mary Frances, Thomas and Corbin Woodell

Leah, Linley, Mary Hastings and Griff Gangaware by Chris and Sara Gangaware

Ron Goforth by Patricia and Johnny Howard

Justin Hanson by Patricia and Johnny Howard

Carole Mathis and the Church Choir by Patricia and Johnny Howard

Kaye Smith by Patricia and Johnny Howard

United Women in Faith by Bettye and Pam Shelley

Event Calendar

Saturday, January 17:

9:00 AM: Bread of Life Food Pantry, Covington

Sunday, January 18:

8:30 AM: Modern Worship - Christian Life Center

9:45 AM: Sunday School

11:00 AM: Traditional Worship - Sanctuary

2:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

Monday, January 19:

Line Painting in the Christian Life Center - No activities for the week.

Wednesday, January 21:

10:00 AM: Adult Bible Study - New Beginnings room

5:30 PM: Children and Youth Activities - Fellowship Hall/Education Building

Thursday, January 22:

7:00 AM: Men's Prayer Breakfast - Fellowship Hall

Saturday, January 24:

9:00 AM: Bread of Life Food Pantry, Munford

Sunday, January 25:

8:30 AM: Modern Worship - Christian Life Center

9:45 AM: Sunday School

11:00 AM: Traditional Worship - Sanctuary

2:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

Monday, January 26:

10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

6:00 PM: Tipton County Chorus - Christian Life Center

Tuesday, January 27:

9:00 AM: Tipton County Line Dancers - Christian Life Center

4:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

Wednesday, January 28:

10:00 AM: Adult Bible Study - New Beginnings Room

5:30 PM: Children and Youth Activities - Christian Life Center/Education Building

Thursday, January 29:

7:00 AM: Men's Prayer Breakfast - Christian Life Center

10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center



Services can be viewed online at:

<https://www.facebook.com/FUMCCovington/live/>

11 AM Radio Broadcast at WKBL 1250 am

WORSHIP TIMES

Modern Worship

Sundays at 8:30 a.m.
Christian Life Center

Traditional Worship

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
Sanctuary

First United Methodist Church

145 W. Church Avenue
Covington, TN 38019

Phone: 901-476-9694
Fax: 901-476-5352

E-mail: covingtonfumc@covingtonfumc.com

Website: www.covingtonfumc.com

Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/FUMCCovington>
Twitter:
twitter.com/FUMCCovington