

### Our Hearts, Our Mission, Our Treasure

In our church brochure that is available to folks on Sunday mornings, we highlight the Great Commission: *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.* That's what our job is in our community, and we know that there are countless opportunities to do that as a church. Related to that is the Great Commandment: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.*

When our Church Council had our pastoral onboarding, I got to hear how our church is doing those things in so many ways for our city. If our church ceased to exist, there would be a huge void left behind. Making disciples and loving our neighbors as ourselves shows in huge ways:

**Methodist Preparatory School.** We provide a nurturing Christian environment to help educate young children, along with an after-school program for children K-5<sup>th</sup> grade. In the most formative years of a child's life, we may be the first opportunity for a child to learn about the love and claim of God upon their life. What a witness, and what a mission!

**Bread of Life Food Pantry.** For fifteen years we have helped people who are challenged by food insecurity – a problem which is becoming more challenging each day. This is not social work – it is Kingdom work and an extension of the Great Commandment and Commission. Jesus was clear to those of us who are blessed: when people are hungry you give them something to eat, when they are thirsty you give me something to drink, when they are strangers you invite them in. Again, what a witness, and what a mission!

**Operation Round Up/Samaritan Office.** Most every day we work with residents who struggle to make ends meet and can't pay their utility bills. Truth be told, all of us would be one-two paychecks from being in that situation. By the grace and generosity of others we help people – and help them from a church building - making no apology for doing it in Christ's name.

We named it in our onboarding process: these things make up the DNA of Covington First UMC! We are always reaching out into our community and are a traditional yet flexible congregation. We are a generational and legacy church made up of long-term members and families yet welcoming and always making room for new folks too!

As the last few years have proven, we are a resilient but proven church – willing to be in the storm yet able to provide shelter for those who are hurting and meeting people where they are on their journey with God and life. I am happy to serve such a church. I hope you are happy to be members of it!

Sky+

Sky McCracken  
Senior Pastor

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

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



## Gold Watch Worthy

While the Methodist Church is not in the habit of giving out gold watches in recognition of loyalty, faithfulness and hard work, we would most definitely bestow the gift upon Mr. Elton D. Bryant if we were! After decades of faithful service Mr. Elton Bryant is retiring from his position as usher with Covington First United Methodist Church.

Elton is a life-long member of the United Methodist Church, beginning his faith journey at Hebron Methodist Church in the Solo community. At a young age Elton's father made the decision for the family to attend church "in town", which didn't sit well with the children as they were going to have to "dress up better" than they were used to. But for Covington First United Methodist Church, that decision was a blessing!

Elton Bryant formally joined the church January 14, 1953 and has been a faithful member and servant ever since. He began his service to the church when he was 17 years of age, when his father, Mr. Ermon Bryant, instructed his son to "Come with me. You're going to help take up the offering." Not knowing what to do or how to do it, he was given very wise direction..."Just don't drop the plate." That was 68 years ago, and to this day, Elton will tell you he has never seen anyone drop the plate.

Elton has served this church in many capacities, he was elected President of the Church Youth Fellowship, he has served on the Board of Trustees, the Administrative Board, he has taught the Jr. High Sunday School and the Men's Bible Class. Elton has been a fixture in this church, as he has been in the community, for many, many years. His warm greeting and firm handshake have always been a welcoming force in our sanctuary for church members and guests. We are grateful for his service, dedication, and faithfulness. We are blessed beyond measure to have Mr. Elton Bryant as a member of our church. Thank you Elton, for taking such good care of us all these years. Enjoy your retirement and we'll see you Sunday!



*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen." 1 Peter 4:10-11*



"Our Youth spent the last week of July serving Tipton County during Serve Tipton. They were given the opportunity to serve through various activities including community trash pickup, providing drinks to the Brighton High School football team, prayer walking, repainting Cobb Parr Park, as well as serving in the Tipton Community Garden, the Bread of Life Food Pantry, and the Methodist Preparatory School. It was a hot and tiring week, but we are so proud of our students and adult volunteers for selflessly sharing the love of Christ! Thank you to our students and adult volunteers!"



JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL

*Ladies*  
Fellowship  
Faith & Fun  
Gathering

**UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**  
MONDAY, AUGUST 11  
at 12:00 NOON  
LIBERTY HALL  
204 East Liberty Ave  
Covington, TN

Salads, Drinks & Dessert  
will be served  
Door Prizes

**WE NEED YOUR  
TREASURES!**



United Women in Faith are currently collecting gently used items to include in their upcoming rummage sale. Please bring items you would like to donate to the church by noon, September 12. Proceeds from the sale will go to help fund the many ministries the group supports. Contact Kathy Wallace, Martha McDaniel or the church office for more information.





August 10 Jeffrey Nix  
Carter Todd  
Carolyn Turner  
August 12 Amy David  
Kyle Witherington  
August 14 Lee Delashmit  
August 16 April Katrosh  
Laura Richardson  
August 17 Addy Ray  
August 18 Beverly Smith  
Alison Timberlake

August 19 Henry Glass, Jr.  
August 20 Hogan Gangaware  
Chelsea Griffin  
Atticus Racine  
August 22 Mattie Byrd  
August 23 Rob Hendren  
August 24 Wally Burdette  
Owen Shipley  
August 26 Rylee Ford  
August 27 Christie Caldwell  
Matthew Hughes  
August 28 Gage Stone  
August 29 Evelyn Chapman  
Rick David  
Tate David

## ***GIVING & ATTENDANCE***

### **July 28, 2025**

In Person 8:30 service:	70
In Person 11:00 service:	110
Sunday School:	52
Facebook Views 8:30 service:	395
Facebook Views 11:00 service:	-
Offering:	\$5,906.00

### **August 3, 2025**

In Person 8:30 service:	77
In Person 11:00 service:	97
Sunday School:	61
Facebook Views 8:30 service:	256
Facebook Views 11:00 service:	399
Offering:	\$5,511.00



### **Physical Concerns**

Faye Beckett  
Gail Ganier  
Cali Garcia  
Beth Lakey  
Sophie Nolan  
Shirley Young

### **Undergoing Treatment for Cancer**

Lydia Anderson	Rickey Lindsey
Kenneth Coulston	Jennifer Jones Moore
Janet Greggs	Johnny Nichols
Robert Hurt	Ellen Sherrill
Tucker James	

### **Condolences**

For those who have lost loved ones.

## TRIBUTES & MEMORIALS

In Honor of **Patricia Anderson**

Operating Fund by Russ and Patricia Bailey

In Memory of **Yvonne Bryant**

Organ Renovation Fund by Ronnie, Mary Jane and Ashleigh Dacus

In Memory of **Roger Ganiem**

Education Building Renovation Fund by Davis and Jan Luxton; Matt and Wendy Davison

Education Building Renovation Fund by Lynn Tyson

In Memory of **Rosemary Sanders Hanson**

Education Building Renovation Fund by Don and Ellen Clark

Organ Renovation Fund by Wayne and Gail Douglas

Organ Renovation Fund by Keith and Brenda Elzie

Organ Renovation Fund by Skip and Kendy Erwin

Organ Renovation Fund by Milton and Sharon Southall

Organ Renovation Fund by Betty Stanton

Organ Renovation Fund by Tim and Kathy Wallace

In Honor of **Nan Lindsey**

Education Building Renovation Fund by Don and Ellen Clark

In Memory of **Barbra Racy**

Chimes Maintenance Fund by Shirley Bready

Organ Renovation Fund by Keith and Brenda Elzie

United Women in Faith Chrismons by Beverly Smith

Organ Renovation Fund by Ted and Carolyn Turner

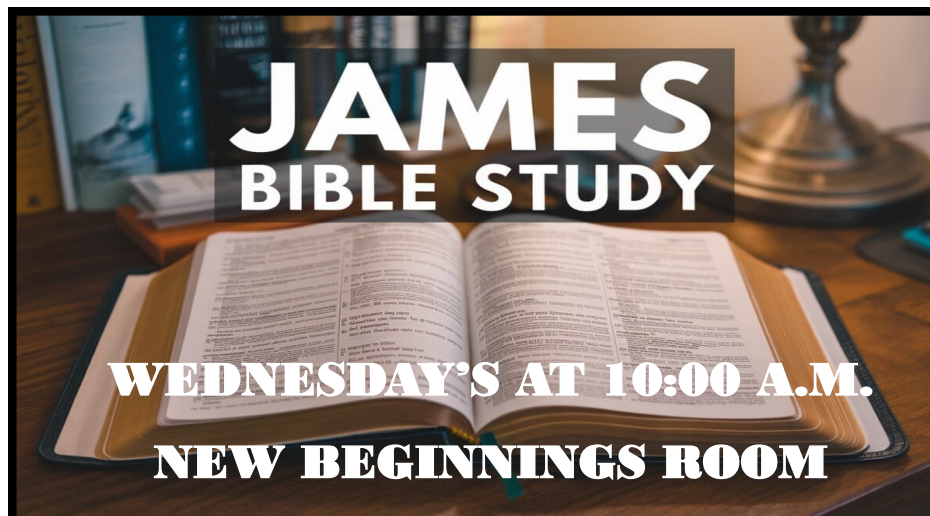
Education Building Renovation Fund by Tim and Kathy Wallace

In Memory of **Delynda Rhodes**

Organ Renovation Fund by Keith and Brenda Elzie

In Memory of **Bennie Roe**

Organ Renovation Fund by Keith and Brenda Elzie



## **Event Calendar**

### **Sunday, August 10:**

- 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, August 11:**

- 10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

### **Tuesday, August 12:**

- 9:00 AM: Tipton County Line Dancers - Christian Life Center
- 4:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

### **Wednesday, August 13:**

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

### **Thursday, August 14:**

- 7:00 AM: Men's Prayer Breakfast - Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

### **Saturday, August 16:**

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

### **Sunday, August 17:**

- 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, August 18:**

- 10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

### **Tuesday, August 19:**

- 9:00 AM: Tipton County Line Dancers - Christian Life Center
- 4:00 PM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

### **Wednesday, August 20:**

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

### **Thursday, August 21:**

- 7:00 AM: Men's Prayer Breakfast - Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 AM: Pickleball - Christian Life Center

### **Saturday, August 23:**

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



## WORSHIP TIMES

**Modern Worship**  
Sundays at 8:30 a.m.  
Christian Life Center

**Traditional Worship**  
Sundays at 11:00 a.m.  
Sanctuary



### ***Services can be viewed online at:***

<https://www.facebook.com/FUMCCovington/live/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/@CovingtonFUMC/streams>

*11 AM Radio Broadcast at WKBL 1250 am*



## **First United Methodist Church**

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