



Covington Church of the Brethren Weekly News

Friday, December 5, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

Covington Church of the Brethren

- 12/07/2025 All Church Carry-In Meal
& Christmas Party
(following morning worship)
- 12/17/2025 Men's Prayer Breakfast
8:00 a.m. @ Buffalo Jack's
- 12/24/2025 Christmas Eve Candlelight
Communion Service
7:00 p.m.
- 12/29 to 1/2 Cindy on Vacation

January 2026 Calendar

- 01/21/2026 Church Board Meeting
4:30 p.m. - Church Library

A Friendly Request:

If you would like to sing the choir song
"Mary, did you know" on Dec. 21st. We
will have a practice that Sunday morning
promptly at 8:30 a.m.



ANGEL TREE

The Angel tree is adorned with Angels from the last three years. More Angels & Doves are available. If you would like to add an Angel and/or Dove to our trees, please see Kay McKinney. Angels can be added to the tree during the last hymn of any service.

Merry Christmas, Jayne

All Church Christmas Carry-In Dinner

Will be Sunday, December 7th after church in the church lower level (No Sunday School). Beverages and Table Service will be provided. Please bring a dish or two with your favorite food for all. Come and enjoy good food and fellowship. We will have some fun games also. 'Hope to see you there!

The Men's Prayer Breakfast will be held Wednesday, December 17, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. at Buffalo Jack's.

*Brains of older people are slower
because they know "so much" it just
takes a while to recall something from
so much information in there. ❤️*

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General Church Information

“Checking-In” w/ Pastor Mike

Please join us every Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. for our 12-15 minute You Tube video sent via e-mail. Pastor Mike briefly reflects on the many ways scripture shines the light of Christ on our day-to-day living. **To be added to our church e-mail list, please send a message to covingtoncob@gmail.com.**

The “Checking-in” videos can also be watched from the church’s Facebook page @ “Covington Church of the Brethren” Thank you!

Request Form:

Dear Church Family & Visitors:

If you would like us to send out a Prayer Chain Message, a Pet-Friendly Prayer Chain Message, Speak to our Pastor, Need a Pastoral Visit, or would like to receive the Weekly News, “Request Forms” are available at each entrance to the church. Please fill one out and put it in one of the offering boxes at each entrance to the Sanctuary. You can also e-mail: covingtoncob@gmail.com or call/text Cindy @ (937) 448-0100. Thank you!

Church Trustee Notice:

If you have any Repair & Maintenance concerns for the church,
please contact Carolyn Wolfe
Home# (937) 526-4852
Cell# (937) 418-3034

**The Weekly News is
available online:**

<https://www.covingtoncob.org/newsline>

Prayer Requests

Please call/text Cindy @ (937) 448-0100 to ask for prayer requests to be sent. Text or e-mail is also appreciated. Unless it’s an emergency, prayer chain messages (e-mail, text and One-Call) are sent starting at 9 a.m. and not later than 8 p.m. each day.

Prayer Updates would be appreciated.

Livestreaming & Video Update

Please note that we are no longer using our website for livestreaming and videos. It may be a few weeks before we have livestreaming accessible by another method. We thank you for your patience as we change our system.

The website continues to function, and will be used mostly for our news and informational purposes.

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Covington COB Daily/Extended Prayer List *(updates are appreciated)*

Danielle Alexander and her family -Danielle and her National Guard Unit have been called to Washington D.C. for additional security needs. Prayers for their safety would be appreciated. Thank you

Bernice Davis' Florida home was left uninhabitable by Hurricane Milton's flooding and needs to be completely restored. Bernice has also been diagnosed with a cancerous tumor in one lung. She appreciates our prayers for healing from the cancer and for the restoration of her Florida home *(Bernice is back home in Covington, now. Her health has recovered and she is doing well. Repairs to her Florida home are coming along well also.)*

Jay Davis, (Bernice Davis' son) who lives in Piqua, needs our prayers after being in a recent accident.

♥ **Kierra Hinnegan** (grand-daughter of Sylvia Warner) Kierra underwent oral surgery today, December 5th.

Jane & Terry Lavy (Charlene Ingle's sister) and their family - Jane's cancer has spread to her spine and hips. Please continue prayers.

Tyler Lambert (grandson of Wayne & Sharon Marshall) Prayers for Tyler's safety would be very much appreciated. He is in the navy and is stationed at Pearl Harbor.



*Red Hearts Indicate
New or Updated Prayer
Messages*

Derek & Shannon McCuistion and family.

Derek started his chemotherapy 10/29 and will be receiving it every other week for a short period of time before progressing to weekly. His health is being watched very carefully. Continued prayers would be very much appreciated. (Shannon is Jerry & Vicki Longendelpher's daughter). Thank you

Larry Minnich & Laura Minnich & Family - (Terry Minnich's brother) has been released from the nursing home. He is home and continuing to recover. Carol & Terry Minnich are thankful for your prayers.

Kay & Charlie Nickel - Kay has been diagnosed with Congestive Heart Failure. She is under doctor's care and is healing at home. Please pray for strength and healing for Kay.

♥ **Angie (Shroyer) Smith**

Praise God... my daughter, Angie, got to come home yesterday. She has been in the hospital and nursing home for the past four months. God and your prayers are what has kept her going. She still has a long ways to go, but she is so much better. Please continue to pray for her. Thank you, Patsy Weyant.

John Smith (son-in-law of Wayne & Sharon Marshall and Angie's husband). John's recent surgery was unsuccessful. More surgery will be needed at a later date. Prayers for healing and hope that he feels better soon would be appreciated. Thank you

Cheyenne (Jordan Wolfe's fiancée) is getting close to finishing her chemo treatments, she has a few more to complete. She is doing fairly well with some side effects. Carolyn & Ed Wolfe, and their family, are thankful for your prayers. Contin-

Continued

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Kathy Perrine (friend of Carolyn Wolfe). Kathy was released from the rehab center yesterday and is currently staying with Melissa and Tim. She and her family are thankful for your prayers. Continued prayers for her strength and healing would be appreciated. To send her a card, please use the following address: Kathy Perrine c/o Melissa McLeod, 1314 Oak Hill Lane Murphy, TX 75094

Norman Wolfe's cardioversion procedure, November 20th, was successful. Virginia & Norman are thankful for your prayers.

Richard and (wife) Lesley (Porter) Young and family. Richard is home now. Continued prayers would be appreciated. (Lesley is the daughter of the late Ray and Dorothy Porter.)

♥ **Sylvia Warner** would appreciate our prayers. She is currently dealing with an upper respiratory illness.

Alex Yantis (nephew of Carol & Terry Minnich) and son of Roz Yantis. Alex is having some personal issues and is in need of our prayers. Thank you

*Stress comes from trying to
make things happen on your own.*

*Peace comes from leaving
everything in God's hands.*



Ongoing Prayer List

Prayer updates would be appreciated

Roberta Brock (Pastor Mike & Belinda's relative)

Christina Clark (Mother of Michelle Alexander's boyfriend Evan Clark)

Caitlin Cain Conner

(daughter of Marc & Aimee Cain and niece of Dan, Bonnie, Lonnie and Stacie)

Linda Dearth (Lea Ann Stevens' sister)

Linda Newman (Carol Minnich's friend)

People of Ukraine

Robin Reck

Brenda & Reverend David Rusk

Mike & Carol Sawyer (Nancy Mack's relatives)

Brooks Smith & Family

Virginia & Norman Wolfe

Sharon Zimmer (Peggy Zimmer's sister-in-law)

People of Israel & Palestine

Southern Ohio District Office encourages us to be in prayer for Bethany Theological Seminary.



Upcoming Birthdays

12/05 Clayton Batdorf
12/08 Pastor Michael Yingst
12/10 Rich McMaken
12/12 Bernice Davis
12/19 Don Stackhouse
12/19 Linda Weikert
12/21 Jim Barhorst
12/22 Denise Boyer
12/22 Kara Milligan
12/23 Ed Ingle
12/24 Merry Unger
12/27 Sharon Root
12/28 Bob Boyer
12/28 Heather Thompson

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A **Christmas Card Tree** is in the church lobby for you to attach your favorite Christmas Card with holiday wishes for your church family and friends. Names from the Christmas Card Tree will be in the Weekly News the week of December 22nd.

If you do not have a card but would like to put one on the tree extra cards will be laying near the tree for your use.



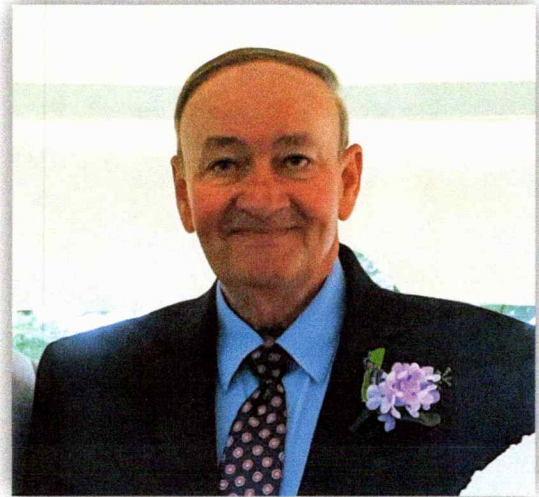
"Pet Friendly Prayer Chain"

Please call:

Office# (937) 473-2415

Cindy's Cell# (937) 448-0100

E-mail covingtoncob@gmail.com



Marion Edward "Ed" Wolfe, Jr.

Our love, prayers and sympathy are expressed to Carolyn Wolfe and family at the death of Ed Wolfe who passed away unexpectedly the morning of December 2nd.

A Funeral Service will be held Monday, December 8th at the Covington Church of the Brethren with Pastor Mike Yingst officiating. Interment Highland Cemetery, Covington with Military Honors provided by the Veterans Elite Tribute Squad. Visitation on Monday at 10:00 AM to 12 Noon when service will begin at the church.

To read his complete obituary, please visit:
<https://www.stockerfraley.com/obituary/Marion-WolfeJr>

New Sign Board Update

We are part way through being able to purchase our new sign board with having donations so far in the amount of \$7,100.00 as of November 30, 2025. The Church Board and Trustees thank you and appreciate your support. Please continue to donate to the church New Sign Board project.

Covington Church of the Brethren

Weekly News



Looking Ahead

As we move into and through Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, we hear many familiar stories from scripture. Throughout the stories of Christ's birth, the angels deliver a consistent message: "Do not fear." In our own time, we might ask: is it even possible to be fearless in a fearful world? When Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the magi are each called into God's redemptive story, they do not deny their fears—they move through them. They ask questions, hold fast to courage, trust in good news, and say, "Here I am, Lord." When we find ourselves in fearful times, can we insist on hope?

December 7 (Second Sunday of Advent)

Matthew 11:1-11

"God is Always at Work"

December 14 (Third Sunday of Advent)

Luke 1:26-39

"We are Called Forward"

December 21 (Fourth Sunday of Advent)

Matthew 1:18-25

"Give Me your Hand"

December 24 (Christmas Eve) 7:00 P.M.

Carols, Candlelight and Communion

Luke 2:1-20

"Proclaim the Good News!"

December 28 (Christmas Sunday)

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

"God Shows us Another Way"

January 4 (Epiphany Sunday)

Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18

"Led by Hope"

Bread Word Search

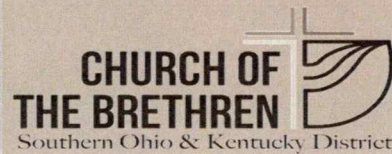
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 BROWN
 BAKE
 BEER
 WHEAT
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 BOULE
 BAGUETTE
 COTTAGE
 BREADSTICK
 GARLIC
 RYE
 WHITE
 CIABATTA
 PITA
 CARROT
 BUN
 BOLANI
 CHALLAH
 DAMPER
 FILONE
 NAAN
 FOCACCIA

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/9188439/>

Working Together . . .
Empowering Disciples

December, 2025



District Clerk needed!

As of December 31, 2025 the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Clerk will be an open position. The role of the clerk as stated in the District bylaws is: *"The clerk shall keep the minutes of District Conference and of Board Meetings, see that all notices are given according to these regulations or as required by law; have custody of the corporate records; keep a register of the post-office addresses of each member; in general perform all the duties incident to the office of secretary; and perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by District Conference."* This position can be filled by either a man or woman. Would you, or someone you know, be able and willing to fill this vital position within District Leadership? Please contact Interim DE, Nick Beam (nbeam@brethren.org) or the Trent Smith, District Board Chair (pastortrent@happycornerchurch.org) for more information.

2026 Men's Retreat

January 16-18, 2026

Theme: "One Step Beyond the Point of No Return"

Registration Deadline January 5, 2026

This retreat is a spiritual weekend for all men regardless of church affiliation. Men 16 years of age and older are invited to enjoy a weekend of fellowship, scripture teachings, worship and fun. You are invited to attend all or part of the retreat. For your convenience, the retreat committee has created 3 different options, each with their own payment scale. Register online, or download brochure with more information, including how to register by mail on the district website or inquire in your church office.

Camp Sugarwood Updates

Winter Blast is coming; It is time to Register!

Enjoy time with friends playing games, swimming, sledding (if there's snow!), and deepening your faith. \$25 per person.

Elementary Winter Blast: January 9-10 at Cricket Holler, K-5 grades with accompanying adult.

Jr and Sr High Winter Blast: January 16-17 at Cricket Holler, 6th-12th grades.

Winter Quilting and Crafting Day Camp

February 5, 6, and 7 at Happy Corner CoB 9am-4pm

Quilters and Crafters bring projects to work on in the company of others.

Devotions daily, fellowship, and lunch.

Campers can attend any or all days. Cost \$25 per day.

Registration forms and flyers with more information for each of these events can be found on the district website.

Southern Ohio/Kentucky Disaster Ministries Updates

Appreciation Dinner – The annual BDM Appreciation Dinner was recently held at Troy Church of the Brethren. Eighteen first-time volunteers were recognized for participating in a rebuilding trip during 2025. There were two first-time workers recognized for serving with Children's Disaster Services. Mike Hemmelgarn from Oakland COB received the Sledgehammer Award, given to an outstanding rebuilding volunteer. He is a semi-retired contractor and has served on 34 rebuilding trips. Jo Ellen Zerkle from Greenville COB received the Service Award for sewing hundreds of school bags for Church World Service school kits. She also hosts Sewing Bees when they are held in Greenville. Appreciation was expressed to attendees for the many ways they support BDM including Children's Disaster Services, Church World Service kit assemblies, fund-raising, donations, and prayer. Together we rejoice in the ministry accomplished in 2025 and look ahead to 2026.

Volunteers Needed Jan. 11-17 – Come serve with BDM in Letcher County, KY, as we build homes for flood survivors. Houses are being built on higher ground properties to ensure that homeowners don't have to deal with flooding again. Construction leaders are ready to teach, so both skilled and unskilled workers are welcome. Transportation is provided and expenses are covered. Invite a friend and join the crew! Call/text Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com. For a flyer with all the 2026 trip dates [Click here](#).

CDS Training – There will be a Children's Disaster Services (CDS) training on Friday and Saturday, February 20-21, 2026 at Oakland Church of the Brethren. This is for those who are 18 years or older, have a heart for children, and may be interested in becoming Children's Disaster Services volunteers. Learn more about CDS at www.brethren.org/cds. Use the following link to register for the training: <http://www.brethren.org/cds/training/>. Contact Toni Custer (937- 423-1841), our CDS Area Coordinator, if you have questions.

BDM Meeting – There will not be a monthly BDM meeting in December. Plan to come to the next meeting which will be on Thursday, January 8, 2026 at Mill Ridge Village Community Center. Fellowship Time is at 6:30 PM, and the meeting is at 7:00 PM. Hear from volunteers who served at the Brethren Service Center and from those on the October and November rebuilding trips to Kentucky. We'll review the ministry accomplished in 2025 and look ahead to 2026 opportunities.

For more information on what is happening in Southern Ohio as well as more details on these events contact your church office, email the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District (sodcob@brethren.org) or visit our website: www.sodcob.org. In addition to this publication, we also email a monthly newsletter. To request a newsletter simply email your request to the same email address. If you would like to add your event to either the website, this publication, or the monthly newsletter please email your information to sodcob@brethren.org **before the 15th of the month**.