

Covington Church of the Brethren

Weekly News

Saturday, December 20, 2025



Candlelight Christmas

Covington Church of the Brethren will hold a Candlelight Christmas Eve and Communion Service on December 24th at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for this beautiful service!



Upcoming Birthdays

- 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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Covington Church of the Brethren

12/24/2025 Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
7:00 p.m.

12/29 to 1/2 Cindy on Vacation

2026 January Calendar

01/21/2026 Men's Prayer Breakfast
8:00 a.m. @ Buffalo Jack's
01/21/2026 Church Board Meeting
4:30 p.m.
Church Library

2026 February Calendar

02/06/2026 Seniors Alive! Event
11:00 a.m.
Church Lower Level

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.



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General Church Information /And More

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!

"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!

The Weekly News is available online:

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

Church Trustee Notice:

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

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.

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 \$7,300.00 as of December 7th. The Church Board and Trustees thank you and appreciate your support. Please continue to donate to the church New Sign Board project.

Offering Envelopes

2026 Envelope Boxes are in the Hospitality Room in alphabetical order for pick up. If you are in need of envelopes please contact Cindy Miller at cell# (937) 448-0100. Please note that some envelope numbers will be changing to improve efficiency and eliminate the need for buying envelope boxes that are not being used.

Bethany Center "Food of the Month" "Canned Fruit"

The food of the month donations are appreciated to cover some of their most needed food items for families who have less. *(Donation boxes are available at our church entrances.)*

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From the Church Board's November Meeting:

*Sherry Lavy's letter of resignation dated Nov 2nd was accepted by the Board. Resignation is effective Dec 31, 2025; Sherry has agreed to serve as Board Clerk.

Appreciation was extended to Sherry for agreeing to serve as Clerk for the 2026 year.

Appreciation was extended to Bonnie Seitz for her many years serving as Board Clerk.

*Results of the November 9th Election were accepted by the Board. Appreciation was expressed to the Nominating Committee and especially Phyllis Rapp who has served in this capacity for many years.

*Church donated 14 dozen dinner rolls for the Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

*The Board agreed to have the attendance tablets in the pews on Sunday mornings beginning the first Sunday in January. The tablets were used pre-Covid; it is felt they are beneficial for Pastor Mike to see any needs requested by those attending. It will also be beneficial for the Deacons and Pastor Mike to have the names and addresses of any visitors to welcome them and follow up with correspondence again welcoming them to our Church.

*Board agreed the Weekly Newsletter will be published monthly beginning January 2026. One call, text, and e-mail will be used for the prayer chain. Continue to call 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 9:00 a.m. and not later than 8:00 p.m. each day.

The Daily/Extended Prayer List will be in the Monthly Newsletter; however, updates are requested. If an update is not given to Cindy within three months of the original request, the name(s) will be moved to the Ongoing Prayer List. We all know the importance of prayer - the peace, the comfort, the concern and the love for one another is so important to all those in need. It is also important to give an update to all those answering our prayer requests. Remember when you send a prayer request, YOUR concern becomes OUR concern. It is important to give all those answering your request an update - WE CARE too!

*Cindy's Office Hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Church Board does not meet in December. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 21st at 4:30 p.m. in the Church Library.

Hope this information has been useful and helpful to you. If you have any questions, concerns and/or ideas, please contact a Church Board member so they may present it at the next Church Board meeting.

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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

Tom Burkett (acquaintance of Pat Lentz) of Houston, Ohio is recovering from a massive heart attack.

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.

♥ **Dollie Hurley** (Sylvia Warner's sister). She has been diagnosed with double pneumonia. Dollie lives in Tucson, Arizona. Thank you.

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.

Dave & Pat Lentz -Dave was released from UVMC 12/13 after being hospitalized this week to be observed for health conditions that concerned his doctor.

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 and family, are thankful for your prayers.

*Red Hearts Indicate
New or Updated Prayer
Messages* 

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.

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



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

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

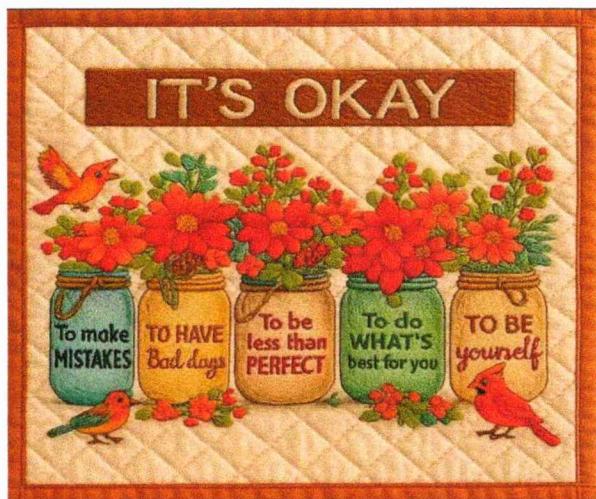
Virginia & Norman Wolfe

Richard & Leslie (Porter) Young

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

People of Israel & Palestine

Southern Ohio District Office encourages us to be in prayer for Brethren Disaster Ministry. ❤



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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 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"



HOMEMADE RUG

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

ACCENT
BACKING
BASICS
BURLAP
CANVAS
CLIP
CLOTH
COLOR
CRAFT
CUTTER
DESIGN
DYES
EASY
FABRIC
FRAME
GIFT
HOOPS
KITS
LOOP
MATERIAL
PATTERN
PILE
PRETTY
PUNCH
SHAPE
TEXTURE
TRADITIONAL
WOOL
YARN

S T P L Y S P A L R U B B
H Y U A O A P D Y E S M A
A T N N V O R O R S A T C
P T C O T E W N O T A N K
E E H I T E I U E H G E I
S R P T H L X R C I L C N
C P U I W F I T S L O C G
I C R D L A A E U J I A T
S A C A L E D B C R J P F
A N L R N E M A R F E S A
B V O T C O L O R I T Z R
P A T T E R N K D I C P C
M S H C T F I G K P O O L

The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.

