



Covington Church of the Brethren Weekly News

Friday, January 03, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS



Covington Church of the Brethren Event Calendar

- 01/15/2025 Men's Prayer Breakfast**
8:00 a.m. Buffalo Jack's
- 01/15/2025 Trustees Meeting**
4:30 p.m. Church Library
- Church Board Meeting**
5:00 p.m. Church Library
- 02/07/2025 Senior's Alive Event**
11:00 a.m. Church Lower Level
- 02/14/2025 Valentine's Day**
- 03/09/2025 Daylight Savings Time Begins**



Upcoming Birthdays

- 01/05 Danielle Alexander
01/08 Dean Snider
01/09 Ben Lavy
01/10 Ron Hyden
01/13 Charlene Ingle
01/14 Elijah Gibson
01/14 Martha Nevin
01/23 Jadyn Holsinger
01/25 Susan Ault

Happy New Year 2025
(food for thought)

Listen.

*Drop all the negative energies of the past.
Make your peace with the people who left,
the relationships that did not work,
the dreams that were shattered,
and all the mini heartbreaks.*

Make a new start.

Drop the heavy baggage.

Clear the slate.

*It can be a fresh start,
a new beginning.*

*And I believe in you and your fight.
You can make this year your year.*

*And I pray to God that you get all the luck,
blessings, love, and success
that you truly deserve.*

*I pray that smiles stays on your lips,
that joy keeps beating in your heart,
and that fire keeps burning in your belly.*

I know dates are just dates.

Nothing changes with numbers.

*But life can change at any moment,
and that moment for you can be
this new year.*

So Let's try.

Let's win, Let's be epic.

-Rahul Kanshik

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Please 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 a.m. and not later than 8 p.m. each day.

We are thankful for everyone's thoughts and prayers for church family and friends.



Ongoing Prayer List

Prayer updates would be appreciated

Danielle Alexander (*Esther, Brenda & Michelle*)
Roberta Brock (*Pastor Mike & Belinda's relative*)
Ted & Rhonda Brumbaugh
Linda Dearth (*Lea Ann Stevens' sister*)
Curt and Monica (Batdorf) Goubeaux
Larry Minnich
Mark Must (*Ron Hyden's stepson*)
Linda Newman (*Carol Minnich's friend*)
People of Ukraine
Robin Reck
Brenda & Reverend David Rusk
Mike & Carol Sawyer (*Nancy Mack's relatives*)
Angie (Shroyer) Smith (*Patsy Weyant's daughter*)
Brooks Smith & Family
Eve Welborn and Family
Virginia & Norman Wolfe
Sheron Zimmer (*Peggy Zimmer's sister-in-law*)
People of Israel & Palestine

A Prayer Concern Message from the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Church of the Brethren

Friends,

We are asking that you please remember the Cathy Lutz family in your prayers as Cathy passed away December 27, 2024. Cathy was married to Larry Lutz who is currently the pastor of the Piqua Church of the Brethren.

The family will be receiving friends from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, January 11, 2025 at Vandalia United Methodist Church, 200 S. Dixie Drive, Vandalia. Funeral services will follow at 1 p.m. with Rev. Kenneth Oren officiating. Interment will be at Poplar Hill Cemetery.

Bethany Center *Helping Those In Need!*

The Bethany Center would very much appreciate your help in providing:

***Non-perishable Foods** for those who in need .

Currently needed most:
Creamy Peanut Butter

***Sheets and blankets are also in short supply.**

Our Witness Commission has collection boxes at entrances to our church building for food, as well as sheet & blanket donations that will taken to Bethany periodically.

Bethany also accepts clothing donations throughout the year. If you would like to also donate clothes, please drop them off at the their service location: 339 South Street, Piqua, OH 45356.

For more information, please contact Dean Nevin at (937) 615-6650 or Esther Fields (937) 216-3293.

Bethany supports all Miami County residents (*including Covington*)

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

Dave & Linda Berrett -

Dave's surgery (12/18/2024) went well. They found the problem and repaired it. On to healing now. Thanks to all for your prayers, love, and support. - God bless, Linda & Dave Berrett

Christina Clark (mother of Michelle Alexander's boyfriend, Evan Clark). Christina recently underwent emergency surgery for internal bleeding, a broken rib and injury to her spleen following a serious car accident. She is recovering at home.

Vanessa Clark (Ron Hyden's sister). Vanessa's surgery to put a plate and pins in her wrist was successful. Ron Hyden and family are thankful for your prayers.

Caitlin Cain Conner - "Caitlin Conner (daughter of Marc & Aimee Cain, niece of Dan, Bonnie, Lonnie and Stacie) had her baby, Lincoln, on September 18th and he is doing great. He is healthy and gaining weight from being a few weeks early.

Message from Caitlin:

"I started my immunotherapy treatments. I am having some side effects and an allergic reaction but they think it will get better the further out from delivery I get. I will restart chemotherapy in two weeks. I'll have 6 more chemotherapy infusions than just a year of immunotherapy infusions."

Caitlin and the entire family are thankful for all your prayers.

Tom & Sue Fellers' (friends of Carol Minnich) are both hospitalized following a recent serious car accident.

Terry Finfrock - "Terry needs prayers of support as she struggles through health issues." Thank you

Jane & Terry Lavy/ Dan & Tawni Batdorf

Jane Lavy is undergoing a new chemo treatment. She is also dealing with severe knee pain that cannot be properly dealt with while she is receiving chemo. Dan Batdorf is recovering from recent heart surgery. Thank you

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.

Becky Mullen's father was recently hospitalized and is now at Piqua Manor for rehab so that he can gain his strength to return home.

Ralph Mutzner & Family - Ralph has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. He has decided to not treat the cancer since it is at an advanced stage. Ralph needs prayers for strength and comfort, as well as for a quality of life that allows Ralph to live as fully as possible and be with us for as long as possible. Ralph greatly appreciates his church family's prayers. Thank you. God bless

Rylon Mutzner, (14-year-old great-grandson of Ralph Mutzner) of Piqua, Ohio. He is home from the hospital and is recovering at home. Ralph Mutzner and family are thankful for your prayers.

Phyllis & Duane Rapp - Phyllis' kidney stones procedure (12/17) was successful and she did well. Duane & Phyllis are thankful for your thoughts and prayers for the procedure, and would appreciate prayers for healing.

Continued

♥ *Red Hearts Indicates New or Updated Prayer Messages*

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♥ **Angie Smith** (Patsy Weyant's daughter) is doing better and was released from the hospital (12/31) to come home after recently being transferred to Kettering Hospital, Dayton. She was being treated for Congestive Heart Failure and a partially collapsed lung. Patsy, Angie and family are thankful for your prayers and would appreciate continued prayers for Angie's health issues.

♥ **Nancy & Jim Thompson** - Nancy has been sick with COV-ID (12/27) and is feeling some better. Prayers for healing and recovery would be very appreciated. Thank you.

Southern Ohio District Office encourages us to be in prayer this week for Lower Miami Church of the Brethren.



"Pet Friendly Prayer Chain"

Please call:

Office# (937) 473-2415

Cindy's Cell# (937) 448-0100

E-mail covingtoncob@gmail.com



My dear friends,

Now that it's the beginning of a new year, keep pushing through the tough times and never give up on your dreams.

Keep believing in yourself and your abilities.

Keep praying for strength, guidance, and blessings. You can overcome any obstacle and achieve great things.

Remember, faith precedes the miracle.

Happy New Year!

You're love, Merrill

A Note of Thanks!

Want to thank all Santa's helpers for taking down the Christmas decorations. Rich McMaken, Pat Lentz, Kay McKinney, Jerry Longendelpher, Vicki Longendelpher, Carol Minnich, Alyssa Anderson, Bonnie Seitz, and Sherry Lavy.

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

Covington Church of the Brethren

Weekly News

Looking Ahead

Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. As the calendar year comes to a close, a new church year begins. Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving; and yet, the world as we know it spins on. In many ways, pregnant Mary was surrounded by endings—large and small, personal and political. But Mary proclaimed hope in a God who was and is making all things new. Christ's birth offered a beautiful new beginning for shepherds and Magi alike—all the while, King Herod tried to bring Christ's story to an end. When we ourselves navigate seasons filled with endings and beginnings, we need reminders. We need words that can feel like steady ground, like a path for our feet to find as we step forward. This year's Advent series is filled with blessings, with the words we need to hear again and again as we begin a new season. The theme for our Advent/Christmas-/Epiphany journey is "Words for The Beginning."

Credit: The theme, scripture sequence and artistic images are created by "A Sanctified Art," a group of pastors and artists who believe that in order to bring our whole selves to God in worship, we must allow the scriptures to come to life."

Jan. 05 - Epiphany Sunday

Matthew 2:1-12 | Isaiah 43:16-21

"The Road isn't Straight"

General Word Search

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

- PUZZLE
- PASSENGER
- ASTRONAUT
- NORMAL
- EXAMPLE
- POLAR
- MINUS
- NECTAR
- SHAMPOO
- SUMMER
- BUBBLE
- TRAVEL
- FARMER
- ACTOR
- GALLON
- CUDDLE
- SUPPER
- ARROW
- BRUSH
- CANVAS
- DRUM
- NYLON
- EVENLY
- BEAVER

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/7906327/>

Working Together . . .
Empowering Disciples

January, 2025



More information on Disaster Ministry and Camp Sugarwood and other announcements, including complete schedules, registration forms, etc can be found on the district website: www.sodcob.org.

Camp Sugarwood Updates

Winter Blast Registrations Being Accepted.

Registration for the two weekends of Winter Blast opened on December 1. Please send in your registrations as soon as possible.

Junior Winter Blast for those in Kindergarten through 5th grade with an accompanying adult is January 10, 6:00pm, after dinner through January 11 at 4:00pm

Senior Winter Blast for 6th grade through 12th grade is January 17, 6:00pm, after dinner through January 18 at 4:00pm

Winter Blast is held at Cricket Holler 6444 Frederick Pike Dayton, OH 45414 and is \$25/person. Bring your friends. Registration forms and more information are available on the district website.

Quilting and Crafting Day Retreat

February 6, 7, and 8

9am-4pm each day

Happy Corner Church of the Brethren

7037 Union Rd, Clayton, OH 45315

At this day camp, quilters and Crafters will bring projects they are currently working on or projects with which they need help or encouragement. Campers can attend any or all days. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Cost \$20 per day. For info and registration form please visit the district website. Registrations are being accepted.

Registration is opening soon for Church of the Brethren FaithX service trips

Details about FaithX trip options for all ages can be found at www.brethren.org/faithx, and the registration form will be available on this site starting on Wednesday, January 8th at 7:00pm Eastern.

Disaster Ministry Updates

2024 Data – Support to S. Ohio/KY BDM was given in many forms: as a rebuilding volunteer, CDS volunteer, sewing school bags, assembling CWS kits, helping with fundraisers, financial contributions, and prayer. All are greatly appreciated as together we bring hope and share God's love with disaster survivors.

Rebuilding -14 trips with 115 volunteers to Dawson Springs, KY and Letcher County, KY at a cost of \$4,500

Children's Disaster Services (CDS) – 8 volunteers served on 4 deployments in Ohio, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Florida

Church World Service (CWS) - 564 Cleanup Buckets, 1,344 Hygiene Kits, and 3,139 School Kits were assembled for \$46,200. At nine Sewing Bees, 119 participants sewed bags for school kits or prepped items for CWS buckets/kits. 270 volunteers worked at the Kit/Bucket Assemblies.

Thank you to all the dedicated supporters of S. Ohio/KY BDM!

Rebuilding Trips – Join a rebuilding crew in 2025! S. Ohio/KY BDM has a rebuilding trip scheduled for most months. We will be working in Letcher County, KY with flood recovery from 2022. We'll be raising and repairing damaged homes and building new homes on higher ground properties. There's room for two more volunteers on the Jan. 12-18 crew. A flyer with trip dates is available on the district website, or ask in your church office. Transportation, housing, food, tools, and leadership are provided. Call/text Helen Wolf at 937-902-3475 or SouthernOhioBDM@gmail.com to join a crew.

Sewing Bee/CWS Prep – In 2025 Sewing Bees will be held February through October on the fourth Saturday of the month at 9:00 AM. They will alternate between Greenville COB and Eaton Community Church. Volunteers will sew school bags for Church World Service (CWS) school kits. Non-sewers will prep items for school kits and cleanup buckets. A flyer with the 2025 schedule is available on the district website.

*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**.*