

Newsletter, 2014

December



December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Maximus Paddock.....	1
Abby Hutts.....	6
Bill Osborn.....	10
Ty Smaltz.....	14
Mary Phillips.....	15
Earl & Janet Peyton.....	18
Allanah Davis.....	19
Joe Abernathy.....	19
Jim & Billie Hudson.....	23

Merry Christmas to our Christmas babies!

Anita Hutts.....	25
Forrest Gurley.....	25
Teresa Barfield.....	27
Debby Gurley.....	30

This month we all need to pray daily...

1. for the Elders as they look for a new minister,
2. for our congregation as we share our faith with others,
3. for George Faull as he brings us sermons in December,
4. for the next minister that the Lord is preparing for us.

AMEN!

To Contact Us by Phone call: (765) 793-4439

The Church Secretary is in the office
On Monday, Wednesday and Friday
until 1:00 PM.

To contact Karen by cell phone on
Tuesday and Thursday call:

(765) 376-3499

Website: covingtonfcc.com

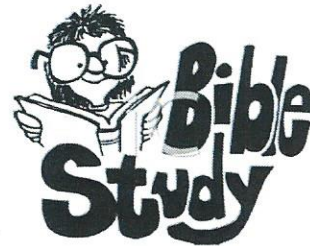
Secretary's e-mail: fccsecy@yahoo.com



**WCEA Men's Fellowship will meet...
Dec 8, 2014** at Sterling Christian Church.
A meal will be served at 5:30 PM and the
meeting starts at 7:PM.

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Our 2014 journey
through the Bible is
almost finished. Let's
take a deep breath
and keep reading as
we breeze through
Jude and finish our year with Revelations.



*Note: To keep it interesting, we will be
following a different reading schedule in
2015.*

Jude, verses 1-13.....	Dec 1
Jude, verses 14-25.....	2
Rev 1:1-8.....	3
Rev 1:9-20.....	4
Rev 2:1-11.....	5
Rev 2:12-29.....	6
Rev 3.....	7
Rev 4.....	8
Rev 5.....	9
Rev	10
Rev 7.....	11
Rev 8.....	12
Rev 9.....	13
Rev 10.....	14
Rev 11:1-10.....	15
Rev 11:11-19.....	16
Rev 12.....	17
Rev 13:1-10.....	18
Rev 13:11-18.....	19
Rev 14.....	20
Rev 15.....	21
Rev 16:1-11.....	22
Rev 16:12-21.....	23
Rev 17.....	24
Rev 18:1-13.....	25
Rev 18:14-24.....	26
Rev 19.....	27
Rev 20.....	28
Rev 21.....	29
Rev 22:1-11.....	30
Rev 22:12-21.....	31

Serving Schedule – Dec. Greeters

Dec 7 Scott & Holly Fletcher
Dec 14 Brian & Donna Catt
Dec 21 Jim & Billie Hudson
Dec 28 Owen & Donna Moudy

Special Music Mary Phillips

Communion Preparation John & Nancy Shambach

Nursery Workers during church:

Dec 7 Tara Woolwine
Dec 14 Susie Woolwine
Dec 21 Chelsea Paddock
Dec 28 Susan Smaltz

Serving Deacons

Dec 7 & 14 Corey Smaltz, Jim Hudson, Guy Phillips, Bob Denhart

Dec 21 & 28 Mark Woolwine, Kevin Martin, Owen Moudy, John Shambach
(Youth serve on any month with a 5th Sunday)

Assisting Deacons

Dec 7 Joe Whitaker, Scott Alkire, Bob Ellis
Dec 14 Mark Switzer, Mark Powell, Brendan Woolwine
Dec 21 Sonny Keller, Jim Hutts
Dec 28 Mike France, Jeff Keller, Mark Lloyd

Extended Sessions

Dec 7 Chet & Stacie Powell
Dec 14 Laura Guerrier
Dec 21 Uriah & Chelsea Paddock
Dec 28 Rhonda Hardy and April Switzer

** If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day please swap with someone.*

Please Pray For:

Nursing Homes Mary McConnell, Lois Hansen, Lillian Howard, Mary Green, Shirley Mason, Elizabeth Suiters, Pat Mycroft, Quinten Abernathy

Military Brandon White, Haley Hines Brickles, Ben Wegner, Craig Scrogam, Dalton Hardy, Hal Kolmerten

College Students Katy Mailander, Chelsea Walters, Ryan Whitaker, Rachel Kiger, Kaine Walters, Andy Paeth, Andrew Walters, Austin Haas, Duncan Lape, Jacob Catt, Danielle Perry, Hunter Fletcher, Easten Spoden

Continue to pray for:

Richard Shelby, Susie Keller, Brittany Fletcher, Julie Allen (multiple myeloma), Sandy Ingram (in hospice care)

Surgeries & Hospitalizations

Kale Galloway (stem cell transplant), Candy Hutson (cancer), **Rob Ramey (Back Surgery)** (Denhart's son-in-law), Cheryl DePrez, Caroline Morgan (Jane's sister), Scott Barnes (leukemia), Shelia Walters (back), Elizabeth Hutson (aneurism) **Helen O'Neal** (lung biopsy)

Other Concerns: **Green family** (young son with leukemia), Edna Belle Shelby, Bill Osborn, Nancy Wilson (rare cancer), **Shorty Myers** (tumor), **Cheryl Kinney** (aneurysm), **Jeff Dienhart** (cystic fibrosis), **Deke McBride** (Lymphoma), **DJ Wise** (Donna Perry's nephew), **Bob Denhart** (Colitis), Sandy Whitaker (recovery from surgery), **Ryan Messer** (fell off truck)

Missions:) TCM International and Training Tomorrow's Leaders (Kalbs)

Bible Trivia: This reference to Jesus appeared three times in the first sentence of the book of John.
(This one is so easy, I am not going to give you any hints.) **For the answer read:** John 1:1

Bonus Trivia: Where did Philip begin a successful ministry, doing many miracles, and converting a former sorcerer named Simon? **A. Samaria B. Jerico C. Capernaum D. Philippi**

For the answer read: Acts 8:5-13



DEEPEST CONDOLENCES

We offer our deepest condolences and prayers to the family and friends of **Judy Goodwin**, who passed into eternity in late October.

We send our prayers and condolences to Guy and Mary Phillips at the passing of his Mother, **Dona Phillips**.

Our condolences and prayers also go to Beverley & Floyd White and Mike and Gigi France at the passing of their Uncle, **Carl Butts**.

We send our love and prayers to Rosemary and Richard Klage at the passing on November 24, 2014 of Rosemary's sister, **Fran Matthews**.

Meet The New Members

We welcomed **Chris Abernathy** into our Church family after her baptism on November 7, 2014. We encourage you to add her contact information to your Church Directory.



Chris Abernathy
3052 W Bend Cemetery Rd
Covington, IN 47932
PH: (765) 585-0359

We welcomed **Sarah Beedle** into our Church family as a newly baptized sister in Christ. Sarah was baptized on November 12, 2014. Sarah's contact information is already in the Church Directory.



Welcome to **Max Keller** who was Baptized on October 28, 2014. It is good to have you in the family.



Max Keller
1335 Liberty St.
Covington, IN 47932
Ph:793-7712



Jr. High/Sr. High Youth are having a lock-in on December 31st, starting at 7:00P.M. Additional chaperones are needed and welcomed. Call Nick for details.

Kid's Zone....

Every **Wednesday** evening Kids ranging in age from kindergarten through 5th grade are welcome to come and enjoy games, lessons, snacks, and singing from 4:00P.M. to 5:00P.M.

Don't miss out on the fun! Nick is the man to see if you have additional questions.

Christmas Program on December 21st at 6:30 P.M.



The kids will be rehearsing on Wednesdays at 4:PM during the time scheduled for *Kids' Zone*.

DON'T MISS ...

CHRISTMAS AT THE ROCK

ON **December 5, 2014** WE CAN ENJOY A GREAT EVENING AT HANGING ROCK CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY, WHICH INCLUDES DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT.

Tickets: \$15.00 per person, or \$25.00 per couple. You can RSVP online at the camp web site, or fill out a slip in the envelope on the South bulletin board, here in the sanctuary.



THE CHRISTIAN LIFE



If Only We Knew

THERE'S a story of a young man named Danny Simpson. At the age of twenty-four, he robbed a bank in Ottawa, Canada, at gunpoint. He robbed the bank of \$6,000. Shortly after, he was captured.

The real tragedy of this true story is that the weapon he used to rob the bank with was a 1918 45-caliber semiautomatic Colt worth \$100,000. Danny Simpson robbed a bank for \$6,000 with a weapon worth \$100,000. Danny's problem was that he didn't know what he had in his hand. If he had known, he probably wouldn't have chosen to be a thief. What he had in his possession would have given him so much more.

If Christians only knew what we have in our hand, we wouldn't rob God of His tithes or offerings. We'd realize that He could give us so much more. If we have God in our hands, we don't have need of being thieves.

Eph. 3:20 - Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,

Survival

Human beings can live for forty days without food, four days without water, four minutes without air, and all eternity in hell without Jesus. BUT we cannot live for four seconds without hope.

Our Reflection

A Christian should be a striking likeness of Jesus Christ. We have read the life of Christ, beautifully and eloquently written, but the best life of Christ is His living biography, written out in the words and actions of His people.

- Spurgeon

One Good Day

By Joseph J. Mazella



I had one good day today. It started out with a morning walk with my dogs under the starlight before dawn. It was so beautiful. Looking up I thanked God for the stars, the Earth, and my life. After the walk it was time for a warm breakfast followed by some exercises and prayer. Then I headed out to the office. The sun was out and glistened off the melting snow. The sight made me smile and since I was alone with nobody else's ears to offend I sang along with the CD playing in my car with a loud voice and a happy heart.

My good day was just beginning, however. I helped it along by giving a cheerful greeting to everyone I met. I shared smiles and was happy to have them returned. I offered a helping hand to one friend and a pat on the back to another. Later at the store I opened the door for a lady with her arms full of packages. I bought a few boxes of pancake mix to put in the food drive collection bin. I told a tired cashier what a good job she was doing and watched her whole face light up.

When I got home I gave my daughter a hug, kissed my oldest son on the head, and laughed

and played with my youngest son before doing some work on the computer. Then I answered letters trying to share a little good humor, a kind word, a bit of inspiration, and a loving thought or two with my friends around the world. Later in the evening I spent some quiet time reading a good book, petting my dogs on the head, and scratching my old grey cat under her chin. Finally I ended the day the way I started it: walking my dogs under the starlight, and thanking God for this world, my life, and the chance to live for one more good day.

Perhaps the key to having a great life is to live it one good day at a time. Perhaps the key to being happy in this world is to love all we today and let God take care of our tomorrow. May all of your today's be good ones.

Pass It On

By Joseph J. Mazella



Growing up in my Grand-ma's house as a boy was an experience that would shape me for the rest of my life. We were poor in everything but spirit, yet I learned so much about life there. My Mom, Dad, Nana, two brothers, and I were crowded into a home made from two old shanty cars and several built on rooms. I always knew what my next set of clothes would look like because I had seen my older brother wearing them the year before. I always knew what we were going to be eating in the Winter, because I had weeded it in the garden during the Summer. Still, I never felt poor. No king ever ate as good as we did on Sundays after church when Nana cooked her homemade meatballs, spaghetti, and freshly baked bread.

Even though we had so little I can still remember Dad, Mom, and Nana giving so much. We were always sharing with others. Everyone who visited us could expect a plate of

spaghetti, or a mason jar of canned vegetables, or a flower pot full of fresh blossoms to be given to them. I can still remember the sparkle in Mom and Nana's eyes whenever they passed something on to others. We never felt richer or more blessed than when we shared what God had given us. I learned early on that the greatest joy comes from giving rather than getting. Giving fills your heart with love. Giving fills your soul with God. Giving brings your spirit closer to Heaven.

Don't be afraid to pass on your blessings, riches, gifts, and talents to others. That is why God gave them to you in the first place. Share everything you have. If you have a beautiful smile then pass it on. If you have a lovely laugh then pass it on. If you have a few extra dollars then pass them on. If you give great hugs then pass them on. If you have a special talent then share it with others. If you have a heart full of love then give it to the everyone. No life is ever truly lived until it becomes a gift in itself, so make your whole life a gift to the world.

WHEN *Life* GETS
TOO HARD TO STAND,
Kneel

For I know the
Plans
I have for you,
DECLARES THE LORD
Plans for
Hope and a Future.
Jer. 29:11

Share The Memories

Those of us who grew up going to Church regularly with Dad, Mom and maybe a few siblings most likely remember more than one preacher at the pulpit. At my home Church in Indianapolis, we had to go through the process of saying tearful good-bys and hopeful hellos like clockwork, every six years. We had a large, old, stately church building, and an older congregation with just a few kids to whom the torch would pass. Most of our preachers came directly from seminary, and were willing to accept what we could afford to pay them, at least until they had enough experience to move to a bigger congregation. We learned from each preacher we had, loved them all, and hated to see them leave.

Most of the core members of our congregation had joined the Church when they were newlyweds. As the years went by, children were born and all of those core families gradually moved out to the ever-growing suburbs. Even with the added commute created by the migration to the suburbs, we all remained faithful and continued to worship at our home Church in town every Sunday.

The only problem with this scenario was that as the majority of the members were moving to the suburbs, the neighborhood where the Church was located deteriorated drastically. To make matters worse, the members living in the suburbs no longer had any connection with the people living in the Church neighborhood. So as the years went by, the children of those faithful core members grew up and moved away to start families of their own, myself included.

Every Christmas Eve, many of us would come back for the wonderful Christmas Eve service, and marvel at how old everyone else had become in the interim year. And of course, the parents who had joined the Church as newlyweds decades ago slowly began dying, leaving huge holes in the Church family. The congregation became smaller and smaller until they were forced to blend their congregation with a sister Church a few blocks away, in a better neighborhood, with a smaller building to maintain.

The long-term lesson that the faithful few learned was that a Church is collectively a living, breathing being, and without new growth to keep the congregation moving forward...it won't. It will die.

With all of my ramblings of my home Church many miles away in Indianapolis, *you may be wondering what any of this has to do with memories at First Church of Christ in Covington, Indiana.*

We are once again going through a transition period. It happens on a regular basis at most Churches throughout the country. It is always painful, and a little scary, as we wonder how it will all work out when the dust settles. We will survive if we keep our focus on Christ, and make an effort to cling together as a congregation, if we give each other encouragement, and lift up our Church to the Lord for His wisdom, guidance, and peace in this stressful time. But we also need the fellowship of our brothers and sisters in Christ to keep us strongtogether.

So, I challenge everyone to make a commitment to come EVERY SUNDAY to worship our Lord, and support each other. There is strength in numbers. The Lord will bless us for our efforts, and we will be a stronger Church family through our transition.

May God bless our congregation, as we seek His will, and may we grow in wisdom as we move forward. Let's be here each Sunday to encourage each other and work to increase the Church for our Lord! In doing so, we will continue to make meaningful memories... together.

Your grateful secretary
and sister in Christ,

Karen



"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

