**SERVICE SCHEDULE for April 26, 2020**

**Announcements for the Week** Darryl Griffing

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Darryl Griffing **Prayer-** Darryl Griffing

**Song Leader-** Mark Tally **Song Leader-** Bill McIlvain

**-- Comments –** Buck Phillips **Comments –** Andy Fuller

-- **Assisting –** Phillip Dorn **Communion –** Buck Phillips

**-- Assisting –** Roger German

**-- Assisting –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Assisting –** Scott Lucas

**-- Scripture –** Jared Davis **Scripture –** Josiah Phillips

**Closing Prayer-** Dan Woodward **Closing Prayer-** Connor L

**Wednesday Night – April 22, 2020**

**First Prayer–** TBD

**Song Leader –** TBD

**Invitation –** TBD

**Closing Prayer –** TBD

**April 26 Evening Prayer & Song Service**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **April** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **26** | MacQuilliam | Take the time to police your area before you go. |
| **May 3** | Campbell | Cheerios and other cereals can draw ants. |

**COVID-19 -**

**These are unprecedented times. How do we worship the Lord on His day? In the past week there have been 22 people at the church building. There has been no problem maintaining the Social Distancing regulations. Most of you have been worshiping at home as we have made provisions to worship in a Virtual Environment. The 5:00 service will be as usual. We are hopeful that the shelter in place will be lifted soon.**

**COVID-19 has given us a lot to think & PRAY about. God is still in control and what happens in the next few weeks is still a part of His will. Keep praying!**

**Live connection starting 9AM. CALL (678) 701-5124 Enter PIN: 1234**

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***Schedule of Services***

**Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.**

**Wi-Fi Password: church1234**

**This bulletin is published weekly. Edited by Bill McIlvain.**

**Send any articles for the bulletin to** **Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com**

**Visit us on the web: www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com**



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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

**Deacons: Cliff Davin, Darryl Griffing, Buck Phillips**

**April 26, 2020**

***Notable Women***

1. Who was the mother of the Levitical priesthood?

2. What king of Judah was the husband of Azubah?

3. What Hittite married Esau, causing grief to Isaac & Rebecca?

4. What handmaid of Rachel bore the sons Dan and Naphtali?

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***God Is Our Hiding Place***

**By Edwin Crozier**

Our children love to play hide and seek. We taught them in infancy. We took a blanket, a towel, or even our hands, covered our face. Then we removed it and said, “Peek-a-boo.” We altered the game and covered our child’s face and said, “Where’s baby?” We removed the cover and exclaimed, “There she is.” Our child giggles and laughs but actually doesn’t quite get what is going on. The infant believes that because she couldn’t see us, we couldn’t see her.

Sadly, we often keep that game going in our relationship with God long after we’ve grown up. Psalm 32 portrays this picture. We want blessing, we want happiness, we want to rejoice. The tempter convinces us we can have all these things if we simply pursue his path of the flesh. He leads us to believe, sin can provide happiness, blessing, and joy. Thus, despite knowing what our God says, we chase that blessing and fall.



**By Al Diestelkamp**

Nintendo’s Wii video game system allows those of us who have abandoned most forms of exercise to “pretend” to go bowling in our living rooms, in a virtual reality setting.

Instead of lifting a heavy ball the “bowler” uses a hand-held controller the size of a TV remote and goes through the motions as if bowling a real ball. It can be very satisfying when you end up with a better score than you ever get at the bowling alley.

The idea is that this is better for you than other video games in that you’re at least supposed to get up out of your easy chair to play the game. I was buying into that concept until one of my friends beat me without ever getting out of his chair. It’s beside the point, but I was also beat by a child who wasn’t big enough to lift a real bowling ball.

This convinced me that someone whose only bowling experience was with this video game would surely be disappointed if they ever tried real bowling.

It occurred to me that many churches have developed an appealing alternative to the real gospel of Christ--sort of a virtual gospel (Galatians 1:6-7). With it no heavy lifting of obedience is required. Instead of a Bible, their “controller” is a handy “statement of faith” written by men.

Those who “play Wii church” are entertained, and at the same time impressed with their ability to master what they think is “spirituality.”

After being spoiled by the hype and convenience of “Wii gospel,” those who have never been exposed to the real gospel of Christ as revealed in the New Testament are likely to be disappointed if they ever get around to giving it a hearing.

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***God Is Our Hiding Place***

**Continued…**

Then, as when we stumble upon a curb or walking upstairs, we look around wondering if anyone saw. If they did, we jump, brush off, and try to act as if nothing happened. We may be in pain, but hide the stumble and we cover up the limp.

We do the same with sin. We fall, but try to walk on as if nothing happened. We minimize, justify, excuse, rationalize, and generally consider it was not so bad. We try to continue on with life acting toward others and toward God as if nothing happened.

However, that doesn’t work. We know what we did. We fear others saw. We wonder how God feels. Whether it was by God’s direct action or the natural psycho-somatic response we lose even the remotest feeling of blessing from the sin; God’s hand is upon us. The sin begins to torture and torment us, especially if it gains control of our lives. It feels as if our bones waste away and our strength is dried up with the heat of summer.

The blessing, happiness, and joy we thought our sin would bring is gone. Yet, we crave it. Therefore, we hide our sin. Perhaps if we just tamp it down, hiding it on the inside, we’ll reclaim the blessing. That, however, does nothing. It merely drains us all the more as our lies grow and our need to cover up increases.

At this point, because we are not seeing the Father, we may be tempted to believe He doesn’t see us. But He does. And He’s desperately trying to get us to quit hiding from Him and start hiding in Him. He has seen us stumble and fall. But far from hiding from us because of it, He reaches out to us. He holds the blessing, happiness, and joy we desire. All we have to do is uncover our sin. Confess it to Him. Quit hiding it.

When we quit trying to cover our sin. Psalm 32:1 says God will cover it. He removes it and sets us free to rejoice in Him. That is the blessing. That is why we rejoice. Is God your hiding place?

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Elisheba, wife of Aaron [Exodus 6:23]

2. Asa [1 Kings 22:41-42]

3. Bashemath [Genesis 26:34]

4. Bilhah [Genesis 29:29, 30:3-7, 35:22-25, 37:2]

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