**SERVICE SCHEDULE for August 7 2022**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Buck Phillips **Prayer-** Buck Phillips

**Song Leader-** Roger German **Song Leader**- Curran LaChappelle

**-- Comments** – Andy Fuller **Comments** – Jason LaChapelle

**-- Assisting –** Dean Shacklock **Communion** – Ron Bailey

**-- Assisting** – John MacQuilliam

**-- Assisting –** Brandon Esque

**-- Assisting –** Phillip Dorn

**-- Scripture –** Mark Tally **Scripture** – Josiah Phillips

**Closing Prayer-** Ben Wofford **Closing Prayer**- Dan Woodward

**Wednesday Night – August 10, 2022**

**First Prayer–** Roger German

**Song Leader** – Eli Hickey

**Invitation –** Andy Fuller

**Closing Prayer** **–** Ron Bailey

**August 21 Evening Service –** Buck Phillips

**August 28 Evening Song & Scripture Service**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **August** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **7** | Dorn | Please Be Considerate |
| **14** | Bailey | Clean the area around your seat |

**Good Thoughts**

**Friendship is a living thing that needs to be nourished by kindness, understanding, sympathy, and love.**

**Gossip is a torpedo that has sunk many friendships.**

**Flattery looks like friendship, just as a wolf looks like a dog.**

**Nowadays, we never allow ourselves the convenience of being temporarily unavailable, even to strangers. With telephone and texting, people subject themselves to being instantly accessible to everyone at all times, and it is the person who refuses to be on call, rather than the importunate caller, who is considered rude. ― Judith Martin**

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***Schedule of Services***

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

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

**Send any articles for the bulletin to** [**Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com**](mailto:Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com)

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



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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**August 7, 2****022**

***What Church ---?***

1. What church was told by John to buy white clothing to hide its nakedness?

2. At what church did the Egyptian-born Apollos first serve?

3. From what Asian church was Paul driven out by unbelieving Jews?

4. What church did Timothy grow up in?

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***My “To Do” List***

***O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch. [Psalm 5:3]***

Lists are good. They give us focus. They help give us direction and a sense of purpose. It's good to compile "to do" lists, but there's a better way to start each day. Why not begin by asking, "How can I glorify God today?"

That may not seem like much, but meditating on that simple thought will change us. When we begin the day that way we're no longer just going to the store, we're looking for a way to honor God at the store. We're not just punching a time card at work, we're serving the Lord Christ.

Ordinary, routine tasks take on new meaning when we put God in the middle of them. We're doing much more than just checking off a to do list then. We're putting a smile on our Father's face.

*Lord, help us to begin our day with you in mind. We pray your name is glorified in all we do this day.*

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***Mistaken Identity***

**By Jim Jonas**

I received an amusing letter last week from Minot State University. It began, “Dear alumni of MSU ...”. Hmm. My memory is not what it used to be, but for the life of me I don’t remember ever crossing the border of North Dakota much less graduating from its state university.

The letter conferred upon me a degree in Physical Education in 1986. I distinctly remember graduating from the University of South Florida in 1979 with a degree in Criminal Justice.

The letter did admit, “With alumni moving around the country, changing careers, and getting married, it is difficult to keep our files up-to-date.” *No kidding.*

Obviously, this was a case of mistaken identity. We humans lose track of each other – where our ancestors came from; old friends who move away; brethren who abandon the Lord and return to the world. Some observations:

**1) God never loses track of those loyal to Him.** Nahum speaks of the wrath of God upon His enemies: ***“God is jealous, and the LORD avenges and is furious. The LORD will take vengeance on His adversaries, and He reserves wrath for His enemies ...” (Nahum 1:1-6)***. However, the prophet goes on to say, ***“The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him” (1:7).*** Paul says, ***“the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: ‘The Lord knows those who are His ...” (2 Timothy 2:19)***. We are but an infinitesimal speck upon a planet which orbits a nondescript star in a galaxy of billions of other stars amid an endless universe of billions of galaxies. *Yet God knows us!* He tracks our every step, follows every career change, knows our every thought. God mails out no data-update forms.

**2) Those loyal to God need to keep in touch with His people.** The real Jim Jonas who graduated from MSU has people who are looking for him, but he has not made his whereabouts known. Some erect barriers between themselves and others and then get their feelings hurt when people don’t seem to notice them. While each should ***“look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others” (Philippians 2:4),*** this is a two-way street. We must work to cultivate relationships of mutual concern. Those whose involvement with the local church is marginal shouldn’t be surprised when others fail to flock to them in their time of need. They may not know of it or may be responding to cues of disinterest.

***Offering Our Children To Idols***

**By Dan Richardson**

Before Israel entered Canaan, God warned of the abominable practice of offering their children to the idol Molech. This involved causing them to pass through fire – to become a human sacrifice (Leviticus 18:21; cf. Jeremiah 32:35). The very thought that parents could do this to their children shocks us.

But scripture points out that there is something far worse than physical death (Revelation 20:14-15). And, while we are too “cultured” to conceive of hurting our children physically, many today are guilty of offering their children to “gods” that will affect them eternally.

Many parents offer their children to the god of materialism when they rear them in an atmosphere where money is shown to be the most important thing in life (Matthew 6:19-34); 1 Timothy 6:9-10). They come to view life merely as an opportunity to lay up treasures on the earth, with no time for God.

Also, children are sacrificed to the god of pleasure. This begins as children grow up observing, and eventually adopting, their parent’s infatuation for sports, hobbies, etc. The problem isn’t in justifying the need for some recreation in our lives (which is healthy), but in allowing recreational pursuits to consume us. Many parents influence their children toward the pleasure “god” with a fanatical zeal, leaving scarce little time for spiritual training. It isn’t surprising that, while many children are trained to possess great knowledge or skill in athletics, they know little about God and his word.

The precedent is set to allow ball games, golf, fishing, hunting, etc., to come first and God second (if at all). These children become offerings to the “god” of fun and frolic. ***“Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but nurture them in the chastening and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4).*** Life is too short and hell too horrible for parents to sacrifice their children to the world. The abominations of Molech are not that far removed from us today.

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Laodicea [Revelation 2:14]

2. Ephesus [Acts 18:24-28]

3. Iconium [Acts 14:5]

4. Lystra [Acts 16:1]

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