**SERVICE SCHEDULE for February 12, 2023**

**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** – Darryl Griffing McIlvain

**-- Assisting –** Dean Shacklock **Communion** – Phillip Dorn

**-- Assisting** – Brandon Esque

**-- Assisting –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Assisting –** Phillip Dorn

**-- Scripture –** Ernesto Almazan **Scripture** – Josiah Phillips

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

**Wednesday Night – February 15, 2023**

**First Prayer–** Phillip Dorn

**Song Leader** – Buck Phillips

**Invitation –** Eli Hickey

**Closing Prayer –** Andy Fuller

**February 26 Evening Service –** Curran LaChappelle

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **February** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **12** | LaChappelle | Please Be Considerate |
| **19** | Davis | Clean the area around your seat |

**Memory Verse – Romans 6:23**

**For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Good Thoughts –**

**Outward attacks and troubles rather fix than unsettle the Christian, as tempests from without only serve to root the oak faster; while an inward canker will gradually rot and decay it. - Hannah More**

**We build too many walls and not enough bridges. - Isaac Newton**

**Adversity is the diamond dust heaven polishes its jewels with.**

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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** **Bill@wmaxx.net**

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



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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**February 12, 2****023**

***The Runners***

1. What boy ran into the Philistine camp to confront their best warrior?

2. What servant of the prophet Elisha ran to meet the woman of Shunem?

3. What short man ran to see Jesus but could not see because of his height?

4. Who ran to meet the Lord in the plains of Mamre?

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***God’s Forgiveness***

**By David Maxson**

***But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. [1 Timothy 1:16]***

How many of us, having committed a sin for which we are particularly ashamed, have delayed confession because of the extra burden of guilt we feel? We fully intend to confess our sin to God, but only after we've "proven" our worth by not sinning over a period of time.

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***God’s Forgiveness***

**Continued**

We must be careful that we don't equate God's forgiveness with human forgiveness. To the fleshly way of thinking, forgiveness is something that must be earned. To God's way of thinking, forgiveness is a gift.

When God forgives it is free and complete. He releases us from the debt we owe Him, and He never brings it up again. When we forgive each other it is conditional and partial. We may say, "I forgive you," with our lips, but in our hearts what we're really saying is, "I forgive you, but I will never trust you again." That's not forgiveness from the heart (Matthew 18:35). That's probation.

God wants to forgive you... whatever you've done and however long you've persisted in doing it. Don't let your fleshly mind distort what God's grace is. Grace is a gift. It is free. It is completely undeserved.

But God not only wants to forgive you, He also wants to transform you! And the only way that can happen is if you bring the weight of guilt you're carrying right now to Him. Don't try to do this on your own. You'll never be good enough. You'll never be worthy. You'll never be truly free. Let God free you from both the guilt and the power of sin.

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***The Best Things In Life Are Free***

**By Jim Jonas**

Who says that nothing in this world is free? True, most of the things in this life advertised as free have costs hidden in the fine print. But the greatest blessings that can be enjoyed in this world are truly free.

**The Thoughts of God**

If you want to know what Dr. Adkins thinks about losing weight, or what Bill O’Reilly thinks about the state of the world, they’ll be glad to tell you – for the price of their best-selling book.

But the greatest thoughts of the greatest mind – the Creator Himself – are free: “***Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God” (1 Corinthians 2:12).*** God has revealed the most crucial information about the most important issues concerning the human being: our true identity, purpose, destiny. And to think what NASA spends to send a probe to a dead planet in search of mankind’s origin!

While the information from God is free, it doesn’t come to us automatically. We must acquire it via reading, research, or discussion, but what rich discoveries are there for the taking!

**Speaking to God**

If I want to communicate with family or friends who are not in my immediate presence, technology enables me to do that … for a price. And forget about picking up the phone and dialing President Obama. Forget the President, just try getting a human being at the phone company. But think of it: God has given me free access to Him anytime. And there’s no busy signal: ***“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us” (1 John 5:14).***

**The Gift of Salvation** The calving of glaciers in Alaska, the emerald waters of Tahiti, the Mediterranean cradle of Christianity – all can be yours through Princess Cruises for the low, low price of … (double occupancy, of course). So, compared to these exotic ports of call, how much do you think it would cost to live in heaven forever? ***“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord … Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!” (Romans 6:23; 2 Corinthians 9:15).***

So, where does the line form? What, no line you say?! Amazing, isn’t it? The latest fad brings frenzied spending, but when it comes to the spiritual riches freely offered by God there are plenty of supplies. May we learn to value the things that really matter, and may we fulfill God’s joy in giving by accepting that which He freely offers.

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**Answers from page 1**

1. David [1 Samuel 17:48-49]

2. Gehazi [2 Kings 4:25-26]

3. Zacchaeus [Luke 19:4]

4. Abraham [Genesis 18:1-2]

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