

The Grapevine



**TO THE MEMBERS OF
COVE SPRING
CHURCH:**

**On Sunday
AUGUST 23, 2026**

**Pastoral Candidate
Josh Miller
will be giving his trial
sermon.**

**A SPECIAL BUSINESS
MEETING WILL BE HELD
AFTER THE SERVICE TO
HOLD A VOTE FOR
JOSH MILLER AS
THE SENIOR PASTOR OF
COVE SPRING CHURCH**



PASTOR JOSH MILLER AND HIS FAMILY

Introduction to Pastor Josh Miller

Josh Miller currently lives in Richmond, Texas, with his wife, Stefanie, and their three children: Landon (8), Findlay (4), and Rylee (1).

Originally from Lima, Ohio, Josh is especially grateful for the opportunity to return to his home state and worship with the Cove Spring family.

Josh holds both a Master of Education and a Master of Theological Studies from Houston Christian University. He served four years in the United States Army before spending the past decade as a public school teacher. Along the way, he has enjoyed serving the local church through preaching, teaching, discipleship, and leading men's ministry.

Josh enjoys fishing, reading nerdy theology books, cheering on the Ohio State Buckeyes, and gathering around the dinner table with his family. His favorite Bible verse is Romans 12:1, which reminds him that following Christ means offering every part of life in worship. Josh and his family are looking forward to meeting everyone and worshipping together on August 23rd.



Joys and Concerns

- *Congratulations to Emma (Sutherly) & Payton Pohlmeier on their marriage at Cove Spring Church on July 25
- *Pray for Pastor Greg, Amy & Graham as they start their new chapter at Kenton Alliance Church
- *Tricia McMaken (Judy Hess' niece)
- *Don Hensley – cancer (friend of Lee Shellhaas)
- *Kent – Donna & Nevin's son – in the hospital
- *Donna Owens brother in law – cancer and stroke
- *Lynda Mott – cancer treatment
- *Ellie & baby James
- *Judy Taynor
- *Darrell Miller
- *Judy Hess – doing well
- *Marilyn Rowe's brother Marty
- *Gage Thompson (8th grader), cancer

Please pray for the families who have lost loved ones in the month of July:

- The family of Suzan Suber
- The family of Barb Helm (Donna Elleman's sister)
- The family of Mary Knife
- The family of Brian Fries (Ian Robbin's step-dad)
- The family of Smoke Shoup

HAPPY Anniversary

RJ & Melissa Benham, Gary & Patty Garlough,
Dan & Debbie Danielson, Adam & Amanda Bennett,
Mike & Natalie Rindler, Phil & Cheryl Greenlee,
Bob & Joyce Houshel, Tavis & Molly Shane,
Ron & Holly Patton, Matt & Dorothy Manning

Important Dates

**AUG 3- PULPIT COMMITTEE & FINANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING, 6:30PM**

AUG 10- DEACON BD MTG, 7PM

AUG 16 - CHURCH SERVICE AT THE FAIR

*church service will be held at the Miami County Fair Entertainment Tent at 9:30am featuring Pastor Ray Perryman of Midland, Texas.

**AUG 23- PASTOR JOSH MILLER
TRIAL SERMON AND VOTE**

AUG 23 - BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING
during church service

SEPT 13 - BLESSING OF THE FARMERS
*church service will be held at Lostcreek Memory Barn

SEPT 27- ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY
Celebrating 211 years

Happy Birthday

Sophie Walters, Caleb DeMange, Sam Sutherly,
Amy Reiter, Victor Clevenger, Dale Widener,
James Sutherly, Lillian Gearhardt, Lincoln
Gearhardt, Josh Gearhardt, Judy Hess, Ethan
Paulus, Mike Jess, Jayne Benham, Stephani Duff,
Cheryl Greenlee, Alix Luttrell, Walker Bennett,
Kathleen Bailey, Josie Shane, Joyce Houshel, Liza
Worthington, Gary Garlough, Jackie O'Neal,
Susan Fry



Youth Group
On July 10th, the youth gathered together for a night of cosmic bowling. They had fun bowling, time with friends, and ate lots of pizza. Thank you to everyone who attended!

Vacation Bible School

VBS was a great success this year. The crew members went diving deep into their friendship with God for four days. Through the Gospel of John they learned that Jesus is a friend they can TRUST and is a friend to **EVERYONE.**

A BIG thank you goes out to all the adult and Youth volunteers for helping bring VBS to life for the Cove Spring kids



PLEASE JOIN US

MIAMI COUNTY FAIR SUNDAY SERVICE August 16, 2026 at 9:30 am



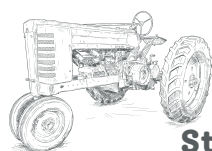
Please join us for our
Sunday worship service at the
Miami County Fair
featuring Pastor Ray Perryman
from Midland, Texas
in the Entertainment Tent.
Admission to the Fair is \$6



Blessing of the Farmers Sunday, September 13 at 9:30 am

at Lostcreek Memory Barn
3360 St. Rt. 589
Casstown, OH 45312

Please join us for our Special
Sunday service which includes a
blessing for the upcoming harvest
season.



Please send any old farming photos for our slide show to Betsy Staley at covespringchurch@gmail.com or give to Betsy at church.



Cove Spring Church Anniversary Sunday September 27 at 9:30am *Celebrating 211 Years!*

Please join us after church for lunch.
Main dish, drinks, plates and cutlery
will be provided.
Please bring a dish to share.

PRAISE BAND

The Praise Band is performing at the Miami County Fair Gospel Fest on Sunday Aug. 16 at 1pm.

**MIAMI CO FAIR**

Cove Spring Church will hold our Sunday Service on August 16 at the Miami County Fair, at 9:30am in the Entertainment Tent. Admission to the Fair is \$6. Our guest Pastor is Pastor Ray Perryman of Midland, Texas.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Barbara Fulton for organizing the Special Music for the summer months.



Thank you to Darin Williams and Barbara Fulton for sharing their talents each and every Sunday on the piano and organ. We appreciate you!

New Church Phone Number 937-315-1647

For the One-Call prayer chain and announcements, please use the new church phone number.

church email:
covespringchurch@gmail.com

For pastoral care, please contact a Deacon Board member or Pastor Don Trumbull

Pastor Don Trumbull
937-418-1088

Deacon Board President:
Josh Gearhardt 937-216-2772

**MIAMI COUNTY FAIR**

Good luck to everyone participating at the Miami Co. Fair!

We want to celebrate your accomplishments!
If you would like to share with the congregation, please send pictures and/or a brief description of accomplishments/involvement from the fair to covespringchurch@gmail.com and we will include them in the September Newsletter.



AUGUST 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 <i>Pulpit Comm. & Finance Comm. meet at 6:30pm</i>	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Deacon Bd. Mtg. 7pm	11	12	13	14 Miami Co. Fair Aug. 14-20	15
16 <i>Church Service at the Fair 9:30am Gospel Fest 1pm</i>	17	18	19	20	21 <i>church reserved WEDDING AUG 22</i>	22
23 IMPORTANT VOTE AFTER CHURCH <i>Back to School Blessing</i>	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	August 23 Your attendance is required to vote on the Pastor				



Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship

Romans 12:1

CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES - JULY 14 2026

Draft for approval

Tom Wallace called the regular Church Business Meeting to order at 7:00pm and opened with the Lord's Prayer.

Nineteen members were present. Minutes were published from the April Business Meeting in the May Newsletter and were also available in each vestibule for review. There were no corrections made to the April meeting minutes and Tom asked for approval of the minutes as distributed. Diana Wilhelm made a motion to accept the April meeting minutes. Debbie Faulder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer: Dan Sutherly reported balances for the quarter and year to date totals. He noted that the bill for the painting was just paid earlier in the day, so the totals listed on balance sheet did not reflect that deduction. Cheryl Jackson made a motion to approve the financial report. Joe Shellhaas seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Finance Committee: Dan Sutherly spoke with Pastor Don Trumbull regarding the salary he would receive while he is our interim pastor and an amount needed to be established. There was discussion about the duties (such as hospital visits, funerals and other needs), mileage reimbursement, continuing education, etc. The average amount that other churches pay interim pastors was discussed. Dan added that we would have the ability to adjust the salary amount at our October Business Meeting if needed. After discussion, Ronda Hershberger made a motion to pay the discussed salary to the interim pastor. Debbie Faulder seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Deacon Board: Josh Gearhardt shared that Ray Perryman will give the sermon at the Miami County Fair on Sunday, August 16. The deacons are still searching for a youth director and will be posting the position outside the church since there was no interest from the church body. They are considering the possibility of dividing those duties in hopes of finding several people to cover all of the responsibilities. There will be 4 deacon positions open at the end of the year, so they are looking for replacements. Pastor Greg has already committed to officiating upcoming weddings that will be held at the church. The deacons are hoping to add a phone line at the church that will be used to send Remind messages and receive voicemails, since Pastor Greg's cell phone number was previously used. The deacons have continued to update a comprehensive pastor handbook that will be a very helpful resource for our new pastor. Brian Bensman has been working to find chairs to replace the old metal chairs in the church basement. The proposed new chairs are sturdy, weigh less and are easily stacked when not in use. After discussion, Betsy Staley made a motion to purchase approximately 90 chairs. Wade Wilhelm seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Security Team: Joe Shellhaas reported that Bill Klepinger is stepping down from his position and they are looking for a replacement. If anyone is interested in joining the security team, please contact Joe for training information. The new AED has been installed and all training has been completed. Cintas is coming to church once a month to check the batteries and leads.

Trustees: R.J. Benham reported that new light fixtures were installed in the lower vestibule.

Flower committee: Darin Williams reported that they are spending \$100 per funeral arrangement. He picked up some display tables that fit nicely around the alter to hold additional flower arrangements, which are stored in the back stairway.

CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES - JULY 14 2026 CONTINUED

Cove Spring Kids: Michelle Robbins reported that they are continuing to meet monthly, but will be taking a break during August. They will resume in September. There continues to be an average of 8-10 kids each month. VBS is off to a great start this week. Its theme is "SCUBA: Diving Into Friendship With God," and the program focuses on the Book of John. Children are playing games, singing music, having Science experiments and enjoying snacks, to draw closer to God and know that He is always the friend we can turn to. The kids will be sharing a song during the church service on July 19th.

Youth Group: Michelle Robbins reported that the youth members decided not to play Pickleball, and instead, they went cosmic bowling with 12 youth in attendance, along with 5 adults. It was great fun with bowling, pizza, and hanging out with friends. Youth group will be meeting back in September to plan out the following year.

Music Committee: Wade Wilhelm reported that the Praise Band will be participating in the Gospel Fest at the Miami County Fair on Sunday, August 16. He shared that Barbara Fulton has worked hard to schedule special music for the church services all summer. The choir will start back up and sing on Anniversary Sunday. Christmas caroling is planned for the first Sunday in December. Preparations are already underway for the Christmas Cantata scheduled for Christmas Eve. Wade Wilhelm made a motion to pay Darin a stipend for his piano accompaniment. Seconded by Josh Gearhardt. Motion carried.

Missions Committee: Dan Sutherly provided a list of charities (both fixed and contingent) to those present at meeting. He added that money may also be used for the Blessing Boxes.

Church Secretary: Betsy Staley reported that the Pulpit Committee received and reviewed over 60 applications to fill the pastor's position. The committee designated their top 4 candidates and invited their top ranked candidate to visit the church. They will be holding a Zoom meeting with him soon. There are currently 2 candidates who are being considered, and there are 2 who are no longer interested. There was discussion about full immersion baptisms vs. baptism by sprinkling, since that topic has come up over the course of the search process. It was shared that there have been full immersion baptisms for church members over the years, which were held in various locations. Betsy also mentioned that Pastor Greg took care of updating the sign in front of the church and there is a need for someone to take over that task.

Blessing Box: Diana Wilhelm reported that a \$700 donation was received to support the Blessing Box mission. The box has been filled 2-3 times each week. Diana is thankful for all of the donations that have been made to help support this mission and our community.

Women's Fellowship: Diana Wilhelm stated that they are taking a break for the summer, but continue working on jeans for the rag-rugs.

Custodian: Josh Gearhardt suggested that the church rental policy be reviewed for next year to include a deposit. He is hoping this change can be published in the 2027 yearbook and implemented next year to offset the extra time it takes to clean the church if it is left in poor condition after weddings, etc.

New Business: None.

A motion was made by Betsy Staley to adjourn the meeting. Joe Shellhaas seconded the motion. The next regular business meeting will be on October 13, 2026. Tom Wallace adjourned the meeting at 7:43pm.

Submitted by: Heather Gilliland