

**\*\*\*PREPARE COMMUNION\*\*\***

December - Jacob Clayton  
January - STILL NEEDED

**NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

TODAY - Cindy Burleson \* December 16 - Cindy Williams

**CHILDREN'S HOME NEEDS**

Toilet paper \* Toothpaste \* Dishwashing detergent \* Disinfectant cleaner (non-aerosol) \* Cereal \* Marshmallows (pick-up date is TOMORROW)

**OUR RECORD FOR LAST WEEK**

Attendance 126  
Contribution \$3816

**FOOD PANTRY**

**DECEMBER ITEMS: CANNED SPAGHETTI SAUCE**

Vienna Sausages, tomato sauce and canned tomatoes of any kind. Cash donations also gratefully accepted

**Happy Birthday:**

December 9 - Sharlette Watson  
December 10 - Lana Shipman  
December 13 - Daniel Moore



**Bible Trivia:**

Who in the Bible is considered the father of all musicians?

**Last Week's Answer:**

King Solomon is credited in speaking three thousand proverbs (1 Kings 4: 30,32)

The "Areas of Services" schedule for 2019 is available and posted on the bulletin board by the water fountain. Take a minute to check it out and see where you can help out in the coming year. Also, please check the master copy of the 2018 calendar located on the table in the foyer to make sure all of your family's names are on their correct birthdays and anniversaries. Please make additions, changes or revisions as needed. Thank you.

**SERVING TODAY**

**December 9, 2018**

**Song Leader**.....Tim Woods  
**Opening Prayer**.....Jerry Burleson

**LORD'S TABLE**

David Carson.....Zack Tanner  
Jonathon Simmons.....Jacob Clayton  
Alex Garner.....Sam Garner  
**Scripture**.....Rodney Williams  
**Prayer**.....Jon Neely  
**Announcements**.....Wayne Reams  
**Dismissal**.....David Burleson

**Sunday Evening**

**Song Leader**.....Ronnie Mays  
**Prayer**.....Justin Allen  
**Scripture**.....Jacob Clayton  
Matthew 23: 23-26

**Dismissal**.....Sam Garner  
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**Wednesday, December 12, 2018**

**Song Leader**.....Morris Karnes  
**Prayer**.....David Carson  
**Dismissal**.....Jacob Clayton  
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**December 15, 2018**

**Song Leader**.....Morris Karnes  
**Opening Prayer**.....Tim Woods

**LORD'S TABLE**

Ron Garner.....David Burleson  
Wes Howard.....David Howard  
Jeff McGowan.....Ronnie Mays  
**Scripture**.....Jerry Burleson  
**Prayer**.....Justin Allen  
**Announcements**.....Rodney Williams  
**Dismissal**.....Bud McKuin

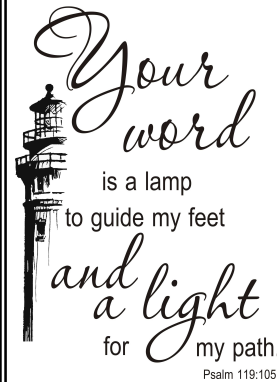
**Sunday Evening**

**Song Leader**.....Joe Watson  
**Prayer**.....Darrin Shipman  
**Scripture**.....Wayne Reams  
Matthew 23: 27-28

**Dismissal**.....Jerry McCoy  
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**COUNT DECEMBER CONTRIBUTION**

Jacob Clayton.....Wayne Reams  
Joe Watson.....Justin Allen



**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**SUNDAY**

Bible Study...9:30AM  
Worship.....10:15AM  
Worship.....5:00PM

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study.....7:00PM

**MINISTER**

Stan Dauck  
573-293-5620

**ELDERS**

David Burleson  
573-820-0329  
David Carson  
573-276-5567  
Stan Dauck  
573-293-5594

**DEACONS**

Wayne Reams  
Joe Watson  
Rodney Williams  
Tim Woods

**OFFICE: 573-293-5620**  
**Bernie Church of Christ**  
**P.O. Box 366**  
**Bernie, MO 63822**

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www.berniechurchofchrist.com

# TRUE LIGHT

December 9, 2018

**On Tiptoes With Angels**

Christmas, like the coming of Jesus, is about waiting. Waiting for: School to be out for the holidays \* presents to be wrapped \* stockings to be hung \* food to be prepared \* family to arrive \* the day to come \* traditions to be fulfilled \* presents to be opened \* fun to be had.

As a young boy, I was terrible at waiting. And that was especially true around Christmas. Despite the opportunity to mark up the Sears catalog indicating the gifts I hoped to receive, I didn't like to wait. Once, I didn't wait!

That awful Christmas, I got up in the middle of the night and snuck into the den where the tree was lighted. Under the colored lights, I took my sharp pocket knife and cut through the tape on one of my presents. I couldn't wait! I "had" to peek and see what the gift was. This present was the largest, most odd-shaped gift under the tree. I had no idea what it was. So, I opened it!

Once I did, I was immediately wracked with guilt. Instantly, disappointment flooded my greedy little heart because it wasn't that something I had asked to receive.

*"Angels stood on tiptoe longing to look over the horizon of history to see when the long-awaited Messiah was going to come!" --Dr. Neil Lightfoot*

Then, to my distress, I suddenly realized I had to find some clear tape in the middle of our dark house, not wake my parents, and seal back the wrapping paper on the gift I had opened. I also decided NOT to open any more presents. My furtive exploits had only led to profound disappointment. When Christmas Eve finally came and we opened our presents, I got to relive my whole debacle because I had to fake surprise at my gift and lie about how glad I was to get it.

Waiting was the primary backdrop for the coming of Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of God. God's people had waited centuries for the promised Messiah. A thousand years passed between the reign of King David and the coming of the Son of David, Christ our Lord. Hundreds of years of subjugation and suffering haunted God's people of Israel while people prayed for the Messiah to come.

Even the hosts of heaven waited. Quoting from Scripture, "Even angels long to look into these things," (1 Peter 1:12), my beloved professor, Dr. Neil Lightfoot, used to say: "Angels stood on tiptoe longing to look over the horizon of history to see when the long-awaited Messiah was going to come!" If the angels stood on tiptoe, then a host of seekers longed for the coming of the Messiah to Israel. When we open the first two chapters of both Matthew and Luke, we see real people, precious people, joining the angels on tiptoe, waiting! A favorite of mine of these people in waiting is Simeon, a devout man who had waited a long time for the birth of Christ.

**Continued on inside**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Today:** Singing at Ridgeview Living in Malden at 2 p.m.

**December 10:** Children's Home Grocery Run. Let's get the cart filled up

**December 11:** Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at Hickory Log in Dexter. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend

**Wednesday Fellowship Meal:** Fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and rolls. Desserts will be needed.

**December 13:** Ladies Holiday Brunch at 10 a.m. at the home of Amy Thomason. Bring a dish to share and a wrapped \$10 gift (optional). Bring a can or two of non-perishable food for our food pantry for a chance to win a door prize

**December 16:** Fellowship Meal honoring Stan and Millie following evening worship

**Looking Ahead**

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**Ladies Annual Ornament Exchange** Monday, December 17, in the fellowship room at 6 p.m. Please bring finger foods or desserts to share and a wrapped ornament valued at \$10 or less.

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**Christmas Dinner** in the fellowship room at noon December 25. Make plans to join us!

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**Fifth Sunday potluck/early evening service** December 30. We will have a potluck meal at noon, followed by a 1 p.m. evening service.

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**New Year's Eve Get-Together** December 31 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Room. Bring games and finger foods

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**Friends and Family Day** with Willie Franklin January 6.

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**Challenge Youth Conference** February 21-24 in Pigeon Forge, TN

**Continued from front.** At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel! (Luke 2:25-32 NLT)

In our instant everything world that is always connected and always on, waiting is harder now than when I was a child. But, dear sister and brother, we are in the time of waiting. We wait between Jesus' first coming and his final coming. We live between the already and the not yet, longing for our heavenly country and our eternal home with Jesus in a new heaven and a new earth. We wait between the loss of those we love and our reunion at Jesus' feet where every tear will be dried and death, sorrow, and separation are no more.

So this season of short waiting is good if we will open our heart to the anticipation of our Lord's coming again to us ... fresh ... new ... and precious. While most of us realize Jesus likely wasn't born this time of year and that Christmas day is not his real birthday, it can be his re-birth in our hearts if we will join Simeon, and the others like him, who joined the angels on tiptoe, waiting for Jesus.

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

*Lifting up in Prayer...*

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Mike Duley had knee surgery Wednesday and is doing well \* Gene Rowland (Bonnie Howard's dad) suffered a stroke Monday and is in the hospital in Columbia. He was moved to a regular room Friday and is feeling a little better \* Anna Williams is home how and receiving therapy at home \* Pansy Zimmerman hasn't been doing well \* Michal Woods had a heart procedure Sunday and is doing well \* Stan Dauck has an appointment Dec. 18 regarding stem cell treatment for his back \* Mary Barnett has been sick but is feeling better \* Woody Wood has been having some trouble with his feet \* David Burleson had a PSA test Friday \* Bettie Thurston got a good report from the doctor. She has also been moved to room 12 at Cypress Point \* Vickie McClard has not been feeling well

**CONTINUING PRAYERS (congregational)**

Louella Akers \* John David Barnett \* Mary Burke \* David Burleson \* Jerry Burleson \* Pam Claeys \* Billie Cooper \* Mike Duley \* Scott and Judy Flannery \* Sue Flowers \* Grant Howard \* Jeff Martin \* Sonja Mays \* Jeff McGowan \* Ida Roberts \* Gayle Rodgers \* Elwood Rush \* Max Snyder \* David Terrill \* Max Terrill \* Bettie Thurston \* Joy Watson \* Marty Watson \* Cindy Williams \* Darrell Zimmerman \* Pansy Zimmerman \*

**CONTINUING PRAYERS (non congregational)**

**Cancer**

Ryder Boles  
Roxanne Carson  
Debbie Chrisman  
Bill Fitzpatrick  
Kevin Flowers  
Tommy Jacques  
Connie Lemmons  
Annette Lumsden  
Phil McKuIn  
Betty Nicholson  
Jessica Payne  
Donnie Rawlings  
Deanna Rogers  
Norman Swafford  
Diane Wilder

**Other Health Issues**

Beaver Blocker (Alzheimer's)  
Roy Greer (COPD)  
Hannah Guntert (higher risk pregnancy)  
Clyde Jacques  
Tommy Jacques  
Beckie King (MS)  
Alvin Miller (poor health)  
Tom Provance  
Traci Suiter (poor health)  
Geraldine Tomah (poor health)

**OUR SHUT INS**

<b>Central Garden:</b> Fern Botsch #309 Mary Burke #303 Lois McKuIn #117	<b>Ridgeview Living/Malden:</b> Shirley Johnson Bertha Skidgell #201 Max Terrill #207 Isaac Wheeler
<b>Cypress Point:</b> Bettie Thurston #12 Joy Watson # 11	<b>Winchester Place:</b> Travis Cooper, #7
<b>Gideon Care Ctr.</b> Sue Flowers, #102	

**AT HOME:** Pam Claeys, Scott & Judy Flannery, Gayle Rodgers, Elwood Rush