

*****PREPARE COMMUNION*****

December - Brooke and Karsyn Smith

January - STILL NEEDED

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

TODAY - Cindy Burleson * December 22 - Cindy Williams

CHILDREN'S HOME NEEDS

Hamburger Helper * Paper Towels * Trash Bags (13 Gallon)

* Cream of Chicken Soup * Shampoo or Conditioner *

Ibuprofen * **pick up date December 16**

OUR RECORD FOR LAST WEEK

Attendance - 133

Contribution - \$4618

FOOD PANTRY

DECEMBER ITEMS: CANNED VEGETABLES

Canned spaghetti sauce, pork n beans, Vienna sausages. Cash donations also gratefully accepted

Happy Birthday:

December 17 - Joshua Sitzes

December 20 - Kerri Williams

December 22 - Rosemary McCoy



Happy Anniversary:

December 17 - Ronnie and Sonja Mays

Zack and Beckie Tanner

December 18 - Bud and Donna McKuin



Bible Trivia:

What Bible prophet prophesied that men would eat their own flesh?

Last Week's Answer:

Peter caught 153 fish in his net after Jesus had risen from the dead (John 21:11)

The Areas of Service sheet for 2020 is posted on the bulletin board by the water fountain. If you can help prepare communion or host a widow/widowers lunch or birthday dinner, please sign up today. Thanks!

SERVING TODAY

December 15, 2019

Song Leader.....Morris Karnes

Opening Prayer.....Darrin Shipman

LORD'S TABLE

Ron Garner.....Zack Tanner

Marty Howard.....David Howard

Jason Karnes.....Jerry McCoy

Scripture.....Wayne Reams

Prayer.....Jonathan Simmons

Announcements.....David Carson

Dismissal.....Jeff Rodgers

Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....Tim Woods

Prayer.....Jacob Clayton

Scripture.....Joe Watson

Matthew 26: 42-46

Dismissal.....Sam Garner

Wednesday, December 18, 2019

Song Leader.....Joe Watson

Prayer.....Jacob Clayton

Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

December 22, 2019

Song Leader.....Wes Howard

Opening Prayer.....Zack Tanner

LORD'S TABLE

David Carson.....Justin Allen

Tim Flowers.....Jeff McGowan

Jeff Rodgers.....Johnny McGowan

Scripture.....Zachary Tanner

Prayer.....Jon Neely

Announcements.....Ron Garner

Dismissal.....Darrin Shipman

Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....Wayne Reams

Prayer.....Rodney Williams

Scripture.....David Burleson

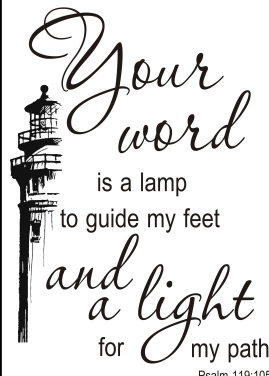
Matthew 26: 47-50

Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

COUNT DECEMBER CONTRIBUTION

Justin Allen.....Mike Duley

Rodney Williams.....David Carson



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

EMAIL:

bemiechurchof-christ@gmail.com

WEBSITE:

www.bemiechurchofchrist.com

TRUE LIGHT

December 15, 2019

Come Home Quickly, Hallelujah!

But while [his son] was still a long way off, his father saw him and... ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him (Luke 15:20).

In just a few hours, he will be coming home. His room is ready, we've made all our plans, and the waiting is nearly done. It's different being on this end of the separation. Before, I had always been the one who had traveled away and then returned home. I remember the joy of being back home after a long trip. I never really thought that much about being on the waiting end, the longing end, for a returning child.

[Jesus said to his closest followers,] *Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you may also be where I am.*" (John 14: 1-3).

Waiting for a child to return home is an impatient wait. It's a time of restless anticipation of the greater joy of reunion. It's not like we haven't seen each other in a long time. It's just that I miss him not being here. I'm happy for him - the friends he has made, the work he has done, and the life he has built. But he has been away from me. Home is not quite the same without him. I'm anxious to have him here to enjoy the holidays - our traditional meal, football, a little shopping and just "buddying" around. Most of all, I am anxious to have him here with me. Our home will seem a lot more like home with him here.

This waiting has given me a new appreciation for a side of heaven I had never imagined. I think now about my waiting Father. He sent his Son. He watched as his Son bore great indignities and death, then he empowered his Son to triumph over the grave. He rejoiced as the Son poured out the Spirit. He has celebrated with the angels as millions have shared in his Son's death and resurrection through faith, repentance, baptism, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Father looks forward, now, to the day he will welcome millions of sons and daughters.

Now, however, the Father waits. He lives in a world of expectation, anticipating the great Feast when all of his children come home to be with him and share in his eternal thanksgiving feast of joy. This day will be the Father's celebration of a family that has come home.

I guess I've sung the words "Lord come quickly, hallelujah!" thousands of times. In all those times, however, I've never thought about how the Father hears it. How he hears our hearts being homesick for a place we've never been before - homesick most of all for him! I know he longs for this coming day of our reunion, too. He yearns for the day that our faith becomes sight, and we can see him face to face in all his glory. He anticipates the day when he will receive us as his fully adopted children to share in his glory.

Unlike us, the Father knows when that day will occur. He doesn't let anyone else know. It's his surprise! The only reason he waits is so that our feast can be bigger, and his banquet hall will be full of even more of his children. Now, however, I imagine how it is hard for him to wait to have me, and to have all of us, home with him.

Continued on inside

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

December 16: Children's Home Grocery Run. Let's get the cart filled up.
December 16: Ladies Ornament Exchange at 6 p.m. in the fellowship room. Bring a dish or finger foods to share and a wrapped ornament valued at \$10 or less. Invite a friend!
Wednesday Fellowship Meal: Smoked turkey, ham, and the fixins'. Desserts will be needed.

Looking Ahead

Christmas Dinner December 25 at noon in the fellowship room. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer. Everyone is invited

Congregational Singing December 26 at 7 p.m., in lieu of a December 25 Bible Study

Fifth Sunday early evening service and potluck December 29. We will have a meal following morning service, followed by a 1 p.m. evening service. Make plans to stay for the potluck.

New Year's Eve get together in the fellowship room December 31, beginning at 7 p.m. Bring snacks and games and help us ring in 2020!

Friends and Family Day with Brent Newton January 5. We will have a special youth emphasis night with a light meal following evening services. Everyone is encouraged to attend, and invite a friend

IGNITE! Youth Rally January 18 and 19 at Jackson church of Christ with guest speaker Patrick Adam. The cost is \$10 and includes two meals and a t shirt. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Challenge Youth Conference February 28-March 1 at Pigeon Forge. The theme is "Power: Word, Spirit, Cross, God"

Area Wide Singing March 8 at 2 p.m. at Fruitland church of Christ

Inspiration 2020 March 13 and 14 at Dexter church of Christ with guest speaker Lonnie Jones. The theme is "Connected"

Continued from front:

Until that day, every time I wait for my children to come home, I will remember that I have a waiting Father, too. This Father is happy for me - the friends I have made, the work I have done, and the life I have built. After all, these gifts have come from him, and because of his work in my life.

I know my heavenly Father is looking forward to having me home to enjoy the celebration with him and his other children. I know my big Brother, Jesus, has prepared a room for me in the Father's house. I believe this day of going home, the day of our most fabulous thanksgiving, will come. Most of all, I now realize that the Father is even more excited about that day than I am. I can also imagine that as he hears me sing, "Lord, come quickly, hallelujah!" he sings back to me, "Child, I long to see you home!"

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.org

Questions Regarding Kidney Donation for Helen McGowan

Who can donate? First, you must be willing to donate.

*A living donor may be a family member, friend, or someone you know.

*Have a blood type that is compatible with the recipient's blood type, though it does not have to be an exact match. Helen's blood type is A positive.

*Not have any major physical or mental illnesses.

*If a woman, not be pregnant.

*Usually be between the ages of 18 and 65.

*Be fully healthy.

The kidney transplant wait list is usually 3 to 5 years. If you are interested in becoming a potential donor, you MUST call the transplant office at 314-362-5635 option 4 OR 800-633-9906 option 4 and let them know you are interested in being a donor for Helen McGowan.

Lifting up in Prayer...

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Bertha Skidgell was admitted to Dexter Hospital early Monday morning in serious condition, but is doing much better and was discharged Friday * **Don Jackson** has been dealing with an infection in his stomach * **OPaula Mason** (Millie's sister) will be having surgery tomorrow for breast cancer * **Sheila Dell** (Judy Snyder's neighbor) has a mass on her brain behind her left ear * **Alvin Miller** (Judy Duley's father) continues to decline mentally and is being moved to a nursing home in Matthews * **Curtis McClard** continues to improve * **Alan Edmonds**, Bernie resident, has had a recurrence of cancer * **Helen McGowan** has made the kidney transplant list. She needs prayers that a kidney can be found soon *

CONTINUING PRAYERS

(congregational)

Louella Akers * John David Barnett * David Burleson * Jerry Burleson * Pam Claeys * Billie Cooper * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Grant Howard * Curtis McClard * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Reba Owens * Ida Roberts * Gayle Rodgers * Waynetta Rodgers * Elwood Rush * Jane Smith * David Terrill * Max Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Joy Watson * Marty Watson * Woody Wood * Darrell Zimmerman * Pansy Zimmerman *

...Pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much..... James 5:16.

Prayer is a special blessing. Help us keep our prayer list up to date by letting Amy know of any prayer requests or updates you would like to have in the bulletin



CONTINUING PRAYERS (non congregational) Cancer

Kristi Altman
Roxanne Carson
Sherry Chambers
Dale Eaton
Bill Fitzpatrick
Peggy Hampton
LeAnn Jacques
Tommy Jacques
Pam Jeralds
Andy Kelley
Connie Lemmons
Annette Lumsden
Phil McKuIn
Ponna Mahan
Paula Mason
Betty Nicholson
Donnie Rawlings
Gerald Robertson
Deanna Rogers
Bobby Thornton

Other Health Issues

Megan Brenna
DeeDee Burch (auto accident)
Mary Burke (poor health)
Renee Goodman (serious health issues)
Clyde Jacques
Lola Johnson (kidney)
Beckie King (MS)
Nikki Lawrence (migraines)
Sonja Mays (poor health)
Alvin Miller (poor health)
Tom Provance
Gene Rowland
Traci Suiter (poor health)
Paige Tanner (congestive heart failure)

OUR SHUT INS

Central Garden:	Lois McKuIn #218 Marty Watson #107	Ridgeview Living:	Shirley Johnson #225 Bertha Skidgell #218 Max Terrill #207 Isaac Wheeler #201
Cypress Point:	Joy Watson #8		
Winchester Place:	Elwood Rush, #6		
Winchester Nursing Home:	Sue Flowers #208 Travis Cooper, #205	Crowley Ridge Nursing:	Fern Botsch, #103

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