



TRUE LIGHT

Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. ~ Psalm 119:105

July 26, 2020

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Worship:
9 a.m. (masked)
10:30 a.m. (masks optional)

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00PM

MINISTER

Stan Dauck
573-293-5620

ELDERS

David Burleson
573-820-0329
David Carson
573-276-5567
Stan Dauck
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DEACONS

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"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118:24

**We Welcome You
To All Of Our
Services**

A NEW HEART

Jesus isn't calling us to keep a list of do's and don'ts; he is challenging us to obey the Father from our hearts, in love.

Little by little, blow by blow, daily grind after daily grind, we let our circumstances rub the shine off our lives. Too quickly, we become impatient, angry and cynical. We harden our hearts to protect us from pain and end up isolating ourselves from people and emotions that should touch us and move us to risk loving others with compassion. We choose for joy to become little more than a distant memory as the hard realities of life surround us. Where can we go to find a new heart, fresh hope, and a different way to look at life?

Paul said it this way: *So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!* (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Paul wanted us to know that a new heart and the Spirit of God can bring fresh hope and a whole new way of living - living a life like Jesus!

OK, but how do I keep my heart new, my hope fresh, and my re-born perspective on life vibrant?

Jesus promised us that if we would allow him to be our teacher, our rabbi, that we could become like him (Luke 6:40).

Paul promised us that if we would pursue Jesus, then the Holy Spirit would transform us a little more each day to become like him (2 Corinthians 3:18). You see, our goal as followers of Jesus is NOT to keep a list of rules - to do the right things and avoid the wrong things. Instead, each of us should yearn to have our heart, mind, and will, shaped into a heart, mind, and will like Jesus.

Jesus demonstrated how we should live. His life reveals how his heart cared for people. The Lord's words show how his mind was rooted in the ways of God. Jesus' ministry displays how he made his will pliable to the purposes of God.

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit
within me (Psalm 51:10 NRSV)*

When Jesus saw that it was time for him to talk to his disciples about the principals that guided his life, he shared his teachings in the "Sermon on the Mount." Far from being a list of do's and don'ts for his followers, Jesus' teaching spoke about the heart that must guide our actions.

The Lord focused on our wills being re-tuned to the heart of God, always guided by love. He shared how we should re-center our minds on bringing the reign of God's grace (the Kingdom of God) into our broken world. He wanted our hearts, minds, and wills to be an example of what happens when our Father's will is done on earth as he designed it in heaven.

Jesus taught us that each of us should center our new heart in loving devotion to God and on loving relationships toward others. Our loving devotion to God then re-orientes our hearts, minds, and wills to the ways of God. Our loving relationships with others re-molds our attitudes, words, and behaviors toward the people around us to treat them as Jesus did.

We're not legalistically checking off good things in our behaviors or feeling proud of the bad things that we don't do. Instead, our hearts, minds, and wills dive into more profound truths than the surface symptoms of our hearts. Instead, we are hungry to treat people as Jesus did. We yearn for God's sacrificial love demonstrated toward us to also be displayed by us toward others. Love is the power for the new heart the Holy Spirit creates in us and supplies to us (Romans 5:5).

Can a hardened heart, a cynical mind, and worn-out will become new?

In Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit, they can. And they can, in you! Pursue Jesus. Ask the Holy Spirit to conform your ways to his. And trust that God will answer your prayer with his loving grace. So, let's pray this old prayer together: *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me* (Psalm 51:10 NRSV).

James Nored and Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS

July 27 - Rick Beard
Amy Thomason
July 31 - Brenda Mason
August 2 - Matt Mayberry

**Belated wishes to Walker Boyt, who celebrated July 19. Happy birthday, Walker!



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Olives * BBQ Sauce * Bleach *
Country Gravy Mix * Tortilla Chips *
Brown Gravy Mix

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Cereal * canned pasta sauce * canned
fruits and vegetables * canned protein
(monetary contributions are
always appreciated)

Attendance for July 19: 113
Contribution for July 19: \$4732

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

"...I was sick and you visited me..." Matthew 25:36

Remember: Sonja Mays was readmitted to the hospital Sunday afternoon and is not doing well * **Sonny Ingle** is waiting on test results to determine if a colon polyp is cancerous * **Janet Wood's** knee replacement surgery has been postponed * **Helen McGowan** as she continues with dialysis treatment

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * John David Barnett * David Burleson * Pam Claeys * Billie Cooper * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Grant Howard * Jackson Howard * Morris Karnes * Sonja Mays * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Kevin Mickey * Reba Owens * Ida Roberts * Gayle Rodgers * Waynetta Rodgers * Elwood Rush * Jane Smith * Kevin Steed * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Joy Watson * Marty Watson * Sharlette Watson

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Kristi Altman * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Bill Fitzpatrick * Kim Goins * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Andy Kelley * Connie Lemmons * Annette Lumsden * Phil McKuin * Ponna Mahan * Paula Mason * Betty Nicholson * * Deanna Rogers * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

Megan Brenna * DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Nikki Lawrence * Alvin Miller * Tom Provance * Gene Rowland * Traci Suiter * Paige Tanner *

Our Shut Ins

Lois McKuin * Marty Watson * Joy Watson * Elwood Rush * Sue Flowers * Travis Cooper * Shirley Johnson * Fern Botsch

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

My absolute favorite movie of all time would have to be *The Wizard of Oz*. I can remember as a child watching this movie every time it came on television. I would get my father's 6-inch screen, portable, black and white "tv box" complete with rabbit ears, and sit on the floor of my room with chin in hands and watch excitedly. However, I never really understood the implication of this movie until I was much older.

Dorothy, the main character, was caught up inside a tornado. After the 'twister' subsided, she found herself stuck in another world. The remainder of the movie is centered on her trying to get back home. On her journey she learns many life lessons; how to treat others kindly, how to be content with such things as she has, and the importance of friends. The most important lesson she learns on her journey is that "there's no place like home."

Paul states in Ephesians 2:19, "Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God."

We always need to be mindful of the fact that when we become children of God, He adds us to His household. When we become His child, we begin our journey home. We are no longer at home in this world; our home will one day be found in heaven with Him.

No matter what happens in this life, always strive to live so that heaven will be your home, and hold fast the promise God makes to us for the life yet to come. That promise? "There's no place like home!"
Chris Moran, reprinted from Mars Hill Messenger 11/25/12

LEARNING TO MAKE ALLOWANCES

I got out a couple of days ago and mowed my grass and bagged the leaves that the recent winds had strewn across my yard. As I drove my mower across the back lawn I had to drive over a couple of pretty good size bare spots and dust flew everywhere. When it did, I grinned a little and thought to myself, "Yeah, you have changed a little over the years."

You see, the reason for those bare spots is not because grass will not grow there, but rather because it has been killed by my kids parking their vehicles in those spots. Now I have to be honest and say that there was a time when that would have made me a little crazy. However, since my kids have come into the world I have learned to make quite a few allowances - not only in the yard, but in the house and in the car and in the...

...one day his mother yelled out the window to them, "You're killing the grass!" His dad quickly answered, "We ain't raisin' grass, we're raisin' boys!"



Why have I given in? Maybe I can answer that best with the words of baseball great, Harmon Killebrew. When he was inducted into the Hall of Fame he gave a speech in which he included memories from his childhood. He told how his dad would often play ball with him and other neighborhood kids in their yard. He said that one day his mother yelled out the window to him, "You're killing the grass!" His dad quickly answered, "We ain't raisin' grass, we're raisin' boys!"

That's it! I am a parent, which means I have responsibilities that are far more important than maintaining a good stand of grass. Sometimes I have even let it go when it needs cutting, because one of the kids had a ball game or a recital or one of a thousand other things in which they have been involved. I knew it would be there for another time, but the opportunity to be a supportive parent might not. Looking back, I was right on both counts.

I am sure that someday the grass will fill in again, the house will be more easily kept clean, and there will be fewer stains on the car seats. But make no mistake, I am a richer person for making some allowances in my life (Psalm 127:3-5).

Stan Dean, Killen church of Christ

Our Summer Series speaker this week will be Chase Almond.