



# TRUE LIGHT

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

**August 9, 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  
573-293-5594

### DEACONS

Wayne Reams  
Joe Watson  
Rodney Williams  
Tim Woods

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Bernie church of Christ

*"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**

## THROUGH EVERY STORM!

"Life can turn on a dime!"

That's an old expression we use for the fickleness of life. This phrase lies at the heart of some of our deepest fears. We can do everything correctly. We can be "minding our business" and doing what we should be doing. We can have "set aside something for a rainy day." But in an instant, everything can change.

*Then Jesus got into the boat and started across the lake with his disciples. Suddenly, a fierce storm struck the lake, with waves breaking into the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!"*

*Jesus responded, "Why are you [panicked with fear]? You have so little faith!" Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm.*

*The disciples were amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked. "Even the winds and waves obey him!" (Matthew 8:23-27)*

Disaster strikes. Unfairness intervenes. Health disappears. A job vanishes. Finances evaporate. The terror of our life-storm engulfs us.

Storms for followers of Jesus, however, are not new. Storms don't mean that Jesus has forgotten us or that he doesn't hear our prayers or won't keep his promises. Storms are part of life whether we are followers of Jesus, or not. They go with breathing and inhabiting our broken planet. Sometimes life-storms can be even more prevalent in the life of a disciple. So, Jesus prepared his disciples to face the storms of life through the storms they confronted on the Sea of Galilee.

For the first followers of Jesus, storms were a part of living near the Sea of Galilee. The topography, terrain, and lack of elevation made for a sometimes toxic mix of weather-producing circumstances. Storms erupted with little warning.

The fishermen in Jesus' group were very aware of the dangers. They made their livelihood in a world of fickle fish and even more unpredictable weather. What the other disciples knew, however, was that when these experienced Sea of Galilee fishermen were afraid, it was time for the landlubbers to be afraid!

The four gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John - tell the story of Jesus and those first disciples. Several times in the story, the disciples forgot the mighty power of their Lord. In their storms, they chose fear over faith. Terror engulfed them more than the winds and waves did. In each of those situations, Jesus assured them of his presence, rebuked them for their lack of faith, and challenged them to choose faith over fear. He also calmed their storms by bringing peace and calm to the winds and waves on the Sea of Galilee.

The Lord longs to speak peace and calm into our storms. Through the disciples' misadventures, he comes to us and challenges us to ask ourselves: what in my life am I trying to control, but can't, so I find myself losing faith to feelings of panic and dread? How can I hand over my fear to Jesus, and choose faith in him and his presence?

The storms on the Sea of Galilee were terrifying to the experienced fishermen in Jesus' group. However, those storms were a part of the Lord's preparation for them to trust him in even fiercer storms - storms like his Passion where they abandoned him, their persecution as they lived as witnesses for his great work, and their martyrdom for their faith. As they followed Jesus, however, their storms, their failures, their fears were gradually replaced by their faith in the servant Messiah.

*What in my life am I trying to control, but can't, so I find myself losing faith to feelings of panic and dread? How can I hand over my fear to Jesus, and choose faith in him and his presence?*

Jesus does not want us to go through life in fear, but to trust that he will never abandon us in our storms. Yes, the Lord works all things out for his followers' ultimate good, but that deliverance might look a lot like his own (Romans 8:28-29).

**Continued on back**

## CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

### BIRTHDAYS

August 9 - Anna Williams  
August 11 - Clayton Flowers  
August 12 - Ida Roberts  
Jessica Young  
August 13 - Rita Clayton  
Karen Forkum  
August 15 - Hannah Compton  
Sonja Mays  
Reba Owens



## CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

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

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:

Aug 12 - Larry & Kendra Summers  
Aug 14 - Marty & Phyllis Howard

## FROM THE HEART

Standing at the lunch counter of a local eatery, I made the mistake of asking about the daily special. "There will be no more specials," I was told. Plus, I received a lecture on just how fickle John Q Public really is. "We'd make egg salad," the waiter said, "and they would ask for ham and cheese. We'd slice roast beef and they would want chili cheese dogs. We just couldn't please 'em!" I timidly ordered a chicken salad on whole wheat and took a seat.

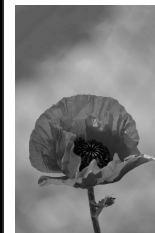
While waiting I couldn't help but recall the children of Israel's wilderness wanderings. No matter what God did for them, regardless of the gift or blessing, they always found reasons to grumble. If given bread, they cried out for meat. If given meat, they cried for vegetables. They wanted light at night, shade at noontime, water from a desert rock - nothing seemed to satisfy. God himself couldn't please 'em!

And then I thought about the goodness of God in my own life. How many blessings do I have? It would be impossible to count them. Daily the Father shows his life for me in a thousand ways, for "every good and perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17). But, in all this, am I pleased? Or do I grumble about not having what I want just when I want it?

Lunch turned out to be quite a bargain that day, despite the lack of a "special." I paid for chicken salad on whole wheat but also received - at no charge - a lesson on contentment.

*I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances (Philippians 4:11).*

Keith Cain, The Proclaimer



The brilliant poppy flaunts  
her head  
Amidst the ripening grain,  
And adds her voice to  
swell the song  
That August's here again.

--Helen Winslow

**Attendance for August 2: 91**  
**Contribution for August 2: \$3816**

### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

**Remember:** **Sonny Ingle** was admitted to the hospital Friday and will have a cancerous polyp removed tomorrow \* **Pam Claeys** has been ill and will be undergoing a series of tests in the following weeks \* **Bob Garner** (Ron's dad) had hip surgery Monday and elbow surgery Friday, following a recent fall \* **Gideon Guntert** (Thomason's grandson) fell out of a tree Thursday and had to have some stitches and a permanent tooth pulled \* **Sharlette Watson** will have her final treatment this week \* **Helen McGowan** as she continues with dialysis treatment

**Continue praying for these members of our church family:** Louella Akers \* John David Barnett \* David Burlison \* Pam Claeys \* Isaiah Collier \* 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 \* Leon 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):

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

### **Continued from front:**

But after those first followers lived through storm after storm, they eventually came to trust that the storms and trials they faced were not worth comparing to the glory they would experience with Christ (Romans 8:18).

Those men who once covered in fear on a boat on the Sea of Galilee went on to triumph over their fear. By faith, they decided that if Jesus could face trials victoriously, they could, too. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, they changed the world. They knew that if their Lord could defeat death, they would join him in his victory. These disciples came to believe that despite their storms, they would share in the glory that greeted Jesus on his return to the Father (Colossians 4:1-3).

Jesus wants us to invite him into our storms so he can speak peace to our panic and hope to our dread. Will we allow him to draw near and lead us through?

James Nored and Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

**Our summer series speaker this week will be Matt Drake.**