



TRUE LIGHT

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

December 20, 2020

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Worship:

8:45 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

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

EMAIL:
berniechurchofchrist@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.berniechurchofchrist.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
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**

MAKE EVERY DAY LIKE CHRISTMAS

And may the Lord make your love grow and overflow to each other and to everyone else, just as our love overflows toward you (1 Thessalonians 3:12 NLT).

We received the first snow of the season today. It wasn't even an inch of snowfall, yet it turned the mountains into a beautiful, crystal-white paradise. I enjoyed being outside and feeling the cold, brisk air blowing the flakes around. Our Saint Bernard, Buddy, was a delight to watch as he literally jumped for joy in the snow as my daughter walked him. My heart warmed as I thought of the Christmas season to come with all of its gifts of peace, goodwill, kindness, laughter, joy and love. I wished that every day could be Christmas Day. Then I remembered that each day **can** be like Christmas Day if we choose to make it so.

After all, God's love for us isn't just limited to one day a year. God's love is with us every day. It never wavers. It never fades. His love for us is joyous and eternal just as the life He promises us is joyous and eternal. Why should our love be any different? Why should our greatest gifts of goodness, kindness, and joy just be limited to one day a year?

Charles Dickens in *A Christmas Carol* calls Christmas, "A good time: a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time: the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely."

I hope that one day as everyone in this world learns to better choose and share love and joy that these feelings will not be limited to one time of the year. As everyone in this world learns to grow in oneness with God, I pray that the Christmas Spirit will last all throughout the year. As everyone in this world learns to live as God intended for us to live, each day can become more like Christmas Day.

May all of you have a Merry Christmas. May your hearts be full of love and good cheer. May your souls sing with joy and oneness with God. And may you always, with every choice you make, do your best to make every day more like Christmas Day.

Joseph Mazella, www.heartlight.com



CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS

December 20 - Keri Williams
December 22 - Rosemary McCoy
December 23 - Alexis Northern
December 24 - Michal Woods



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

December 23 - Stan and Millie Dauck

CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Dry Spaghetti * Chili Mixes *
Large Freezer Bags * Microwave
Popcorn * Kidney Beans * Ranch style
beans

Pick Up Date February 1

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Cereal * Crackers * Canned Spaghetti
Sauce * Rice * Dried Beans
Monetary gifts also appreciated

RED BOOTS AND CHRISTMAS

I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you. This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love and self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:5-7).

Thirty years ago, on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, a sewer line collapsed down the line from us and flooded eight houses on our street. One of those houses was our house. While we had the least damage - over \$18,000 to fix and clean - I lost a New Testament given to me by grandparents the Christmas of 1959. I had just turned five years old. My grandfather, Gordon Phillips, had written a simple dedication to me, along with the occasion for the gift, in the front of that New Testament.

My grandfather passed from this life to Jesus less than a year later. So, when the sewer flood ruined this New Testament, I lost my only handwritten record from Daddy Gordon. The emotions I felt as a boy not quite six years old, losing his beloved grandfather, came flooding back to me. His death was fresh to me again; only this time, I was an adult dealing with grief through the memories of a little boy who adored his Daddy Gordon.

Later, when I stumbled onto a picture of me with my Daddy Gordon from an earlier Christmas, my heart skipped a beat. I was in Daddy Gordon's lap, and he was putting on my new red cowboy boots he and Mama Faye had gotten me for Christmas. The loving, comfortable joy captured in that picture still touches my heart. The writing on the picture reads, "Christmas! A time for red boots and memories."

This picture brought back much more to me than that long-ago Christmas of red boots. Even though I was less than six years old when Daddy Gordon passed from this life, I still remember many things - the many times that he took me fishing in the Gulf of Mexico, the big toy boat he made for my younger brother and me, his prayers at meals, his wrapping a rope around his waist and pulling me behind him on a tricycle as he mowed, the inscription in the New Testament, along with the emotions and other-world memories of that awful day he died.

Most of all, my Christmas picture of Daddy Gordon, me, and my red boots reminded me of the power of legacy. My Daddy Gordon was a church leader, work leader, husband, father, and grandfather who loved Jesus. He passed that love and faith on to his daughter - my mother - and me. Yes, he left this earth before I was six, but his legacy of love and faith lives on through my son and daughter and now lives long beyond my passing in the hearts of my children and grandchildren.

We live for our grandchildren to pass on their faith to their friends and family - or at least we should (2 Timothy 2:1-2). Leaving a legacy of faith requires intentional effort and the investment of our hearts in future generations. Social distancing has made that more difficult this year, but love and faith find a way. So, I hope you will join me in doing more than just "Amazoning" some stuff to be delivered to your children and grandchildren this Christmas. Let's prayerfully give the gifts of love and faith as a legacy for those we love along with any of our Amazon-delivered gifts. After all, Christmas is a time for red boots, memories, and leaving a legacy of faith and love.

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

Attendance for December 13: 80
Contribution for December 13: \$4278

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

Remember: * **Loretta Carson** at home recovering from COVID * **Elwood Rush** recovering from a recent fall * **Sonny Allen** has been in the hospital with pneumonia but is doing better * **Morris Karnes** as he begins his treatments * **Pam Claeys** was unable to have her treatment last week due to insurance issues * all our members still recovering from the after-effects of COVID * 15-year-old Bernie teen, **Kagean Owens**, who has been diagnosed with leukemia

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

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Bill Fitzpatrick * Kim Goins * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Andy Kelley * Connie Lemmons * Annette Lumsden * Ponna Mahan * Paula Mason * Betty Nicholson * Angie Smith * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Lem Hubbard * Dana Jo Jackson * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Nikki Lawrence * Jerry Don McGowan * Gene Rowland * Kevin Steed * Traci Suiter * Paige Tanner * Heather Whitehead

Our Shut Ins

Fern Botsch * Pam Claeys * Travis Cooper * Sue Flowers * Shirley Johnson * Elwood Rush * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Joy Watson

In Sympathy:

Sympathy is extended to Beth Williams in the recent loss of her uncle, Mike Clippard, who passed away December 8 from complications of COVID. His funeral was December 11 in Dexter.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Don Eubanks, who passed away December 14 from complications related to COVID. Don was the minister at Bernie for a time in the 1970s. Arrangements were not known at press time.

Sympathy is extended to Ishmael and the family of Angie Smith, who passed away December 15 following a heart attack. Arrangements were not known at press time.