



# TRUE LIGHT

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

**January 31, 2021**

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY

Worship:

8:45 a.m. (masked)

Sunday School 9:50 a.m.

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**

## IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAIN ODDS

**(Don't focus on the building waves or let the pitching boat convince you otherwise)**

*And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But [Jesus] was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm (Mark 4:37-39 ESV).*

Peace. In the face of uncertain odds. Our world is broken. We see it. We taste it. We stand and watch as it implodes, crumbling to dry powder at our feet.

*Has God ever looked away? Has He ever abandoned His Children? The boat shudders under our clinched grip, but Jesus stands tall. His voice slices through the chaos. "Peace! Be still!"*

This is not the safe, trustworthy world where I want to raise my children. I feel like one of the disciples, clinging to the side of the boat as it pitches towards the depths

and then hurls toward another curling wave. The storm has wiped out the sky and the darkness has hungrily consumed the light. The next building wave screams in fury at even the thought of dry land.

Can our children only be raised in a glass greenhouse of perfect conditions?

How could Jesus possibly sleep in this storm? But He awakens. He stands tall, His outstretched arms illuminated by a flash of lightning against the black that strangles us all. He rebukes the wind and says to the sea with authority, *Peace! Be still!!*

In the face of uncertainty and a violent storm raging all around us: Peace!

When our parenting falls flat and we find ourselves among the most broken. When we show our children what repentance looks like, not from the crisp pages of a book but in real sticky life, lived out before their little eyes.

Into the darkness of today, the hate and division, and corruption on all sides set the stage once again. *Peace! Be still!*

He has not abandoned us here. Our little ones are safe in this shuddering boat. Because Jesus is here.

- As Moses' mother chose to trust and nestled that basket between the reeds.
- As Hannah took her miracle boy back to the temple to stay.
- As Abraham laid his promised child on the altar out of obedience.

Has God ever looked away? Has He ever abandoned His children? The boat shudders under our clinched grip, but Jesus stands tall. His voice slices through the chaos. *Peace! Be still!*

The waves fall back and dissolve into the now docile water, just a shimmering, glittering mass. The ripping wind died in its last breath, now all eyes are on Jesus.

Don't focus on the building waves or let the pitching boat convince you otherwise. He has not forsaken us here. In our hearts, in our homes, in our broken world today. He stands tall and reaches toward our deepest moments and biggest fears, and He speaks peace. *Peace! Be still!*

Spoken by the man who faced the fury of all fallen humanity, who would be our sacrificial lamb. Only He could bring it. And He did.

*For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility...His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit (Ephesians 2:14-18).*  
Melissa Troyer, www.heartlight.com

## CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

### BIRTHDAYS

February 3 - John Barnett  
February 4 - Zachary Tanner



### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

February 1 - Jerry and Pam Collier

## CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

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

### PICK UP DATE TOMORROW!

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**  
Cereal \* Crackers \* Canned Spaghetti  
Sauce \* Rice \* Dried Beans  
*Monetary gifts also appreciated*

## IT NEVER RUNS OUT

When I asked a friend who is about to retire what she feared about her next stage of life, she said, "I want to make sure I don't run out of money." The next day as I was talking to my financial counselor he gave me advice on how I might avoid running out of money. Indeed, we all want the security of knowing we'll have the resources we need for the rest of our lives.

No financial plan can provide an absolute guarantee of earthly security. But there is a plan that extends far beyond this life and indefinitely into the future. The apostle Paul describes it like this: *In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade* (1 Peter 1:3-4).

When we place our faith in Jesus to forgive our sins we receive an internal inheritance through God's power. Because of this inheritance, we'll live forever and never run short of what we need.

Planning for retirement is a good idea if we're able to do so. But more important is having an eternal inheritance that never runs out - and that is available only through faith in Jesus Christ.  
Dave Branon

Attendance for January 24: 99  
Contribution for January 24: \$3330

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

**Remember:** \* Pam Claeys was released from the hospital Monday and is doing some better. She is still waiting on test results \* Gloria Moore has been suffering from a painful bout with lupus \* Jerel Jester was diagnosed with AFib and will have an echocardiogram Feb 9 \* Jeanie Robinson's sister-in-law, Brenda Robinson, is off the ventilator at St. Francis Hospital but still having some issues \* Morris Karnes as he undergoes treatments \* Roxanne Carson got good news on her test results \* Sonny Allen is still dealing with pneumonia \* Doris Williams (Lana's mom) was recently hospitalized but is home now

**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 \* Patsy (Hardy) Gregg \* Grant Howard \* Don Jackson \* 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) :

Gina Bogle \* Roxanne Carson \* Sherry Chambers \* Randy Cravens \* Bill Fitzpatrick \* Jo Carolyn Flowers \* Kim Goins \* LeAnn Jacques \* Tommy Jacques \* Pam Jeralds \* Holly Johnson \* Andy Kelley \* Connie Lemmons \* Annette Lumsden \* Ponna Mahan \* Paula Mason \* Betty Nicholson \* 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 \* Eva Latham

### Our Shut Ins

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

### Books of the Bible Word Scramble 2

1. eudtermooy \_\_\_\_\_
2. rcahahezi \_\_\_\_\_
3. nbuesmr \_\_\_\_\_
4. nspailiiph \_\_\_\_\_
5. seiephans \_\_\_\_\_
6. oieplmnh \_\_\_\_\_
7. eihemjra \_\_\_\_\_
8. eugjds \_\_\_\_\_
9. hobaaid \_\_\_\_\_
10. hrtsee \_\_\_\_\_

### In Sympathy:

*Sympathy is extended to Cindy Mays in the loss of her uncle, Ray Mays. Ray passed away January 24.*

The Children's Home van will be here tomorrow to pick up groceries. Let's get the cart filled up and overflowing for them!

## RUN TO ME

During a walk at a local park, my children and I encountered a couple of unleashed dogs. Their owner didn't seem to notice that one of them had begun to intimidate my son. My son tried to shoo the dog away, but the animal only became more intent on bothering him.

Eventually, my son panicked. He bolted several yards into the distance, but the dog pursued him. The chase continued until I yelled, "Run to me!" My son doubled back, calmed down, and the dog finally decided to make mischief somewhere else.

There are moments in our lives when God calls to us and says, "Run to Me!" Something troubling is on our heels. The faster and farther we go, the more closely it pursues us. We can't shake it. We're too afraid to turn and confront the trouble on our own. But the reality is, we aren't on our own. God is there, ready to help and comfort us. All we have to do is turn away from whatever scares us, and move in His direction. His Word says, *The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe* (Proverbs 18:10).

Jennifer Benson Schult

