



# TRUE LIGHT

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

February 21, 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

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**

## OVERCOMING THE GREATER PANDEMIC : FINDER AND MENDER

Have you ever thought about what Jesus' job title on a job application might have been if he were not the Son of God? Based on Jesus' ministry and mission, we might opt for a description like, "Finder of the Lost, Mender of the Broken." After all, in the story of Zacchaeus, Jesus described his mission this way: *For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost* (Luke 19:10 NRSV). On another occasion, Jesus defined his ministry in these words: *Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance* (Luke 5:31-31).

Many of us have been reluctant to admit when we were broken or felt lost. In a dog-eat-dog world and a "Don't let them see you sweat" culture, we never wanted to appear weak or vulnerable. Yet this last year of battling Covid-19 has pretty much shattered our façade of invincibility.

We know we are vulnerable. Many of us have seen some of our most vital friends humbled by a tiny virus. Our world is broken and lost. The virus is only one piece of a shattered reality we experience in our fractured, divided, prejudiced, fearful, hate-filled and vulnerable world.

Let's not delude ourselves. While we hope the vaccine rollout is speedy enough to help us turn the tide, we are unsure. Will it mutate too quickly to vaccinate our way out of the pandemic? Will my loved ones be protected? What about our economic vulnerability? When will things return to normal? Or, will they ever return to normal?

Remember, God's people have been in lost places before our time. They made it safely through their wilderness to better times and better places. Can we? How do we navigate times like these when we feel lost and vulnerable? How do we find our way forward? Where do we muster the strength to face our challenges, navigate our uncertain roads ahead, and embrace our future with courage and confidence?

God's people have been this way before. For the God who is I AM, there is no need for panic, a GPS, or a map, to find our way out of our lostness. We may feel like we face unprecedented times and unique challenges, but God and his people have been here before and found their way home.

God sent Jesus to us so we could know that he is the "Finder of Who is Lost, Mender of Who is Broken." No chapter in Scripture quite compares with the audacity of God's self-revelation in Luke 15. Jesus used three metaphors to represent God's love for us:

- A shepherd with a lost sheep.
- A woman with a lost coin.
- A father with a lost son - actually, two lost sons.

Each of these images that Jesus gives us of God is daring and startling. We tend to gravitate to the shepherd or the father. But today, let's focus on the woman turning her house upside down, looking for her lost coin. This desperate woman is a powerful image of God, and helpful for us caught in a world that feels crazy, and life appears lost and broken.

The story of a lowly peasant woman grubbing around on her dirt floor in her windowless, low-doored, small box-of-a-house doesn't immediately grab us - at least not many male teachers and preachers. This powerful image of God being a woman on her hands and knees desperately searching her dark, small dirt-floored house to find the valuable coin is shocking. This image of God stooping so low, to be so insignificant doing what is so beneath deity should awaken our hearts.

There isn't a higher and lower caste for God, only lost people he longs to find. God wants each person to be found. The Father longs to make each lost soul his child. No floor is too dirty and no corner too dark for the King of glory. He will stoop, kneel and crawl, hands-in-the-dirt, wherever necessary to find his lost ones. So, God chose one of society's lowest valued, most overlooked, and least appreciated people to represent him. He chose the most mundane and lowly of actions to portray his searching love. God decided to picture himself as a poor woman searching the darkness and dirt for something precious. Why?

God's love and our need! God's love and our lostness! God's love and our brokenness!

Our hope in God is that sure - as real as the dirt on the floor of a first-century shack. Look closely and notice an unknown and seemingly unimportant woman in the darkened corner of a mud house. The house has no windows and only a low door. She is covered in dust, nearly lost in the shadows, and has dirt under her fingernails. She holds up a dirty coin and has a big grin on her face. Then, with great joy, she cries out at the top of her lungs so all her neighbors can hear: "Found you!"

It's then that you realize that God is that lowly woman, you are her coin, and the party of heaven is about to begin!  
Phil Ware and James Nored, www.heartlight.com

## CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

### BIRTHDAYS

February 24 - Linda Jones  
Wayne Reams  
February 25 - Tayler Schwent  
Kendra Summers  
February 26 - Henry Howard  
February 27 - Titus Dauck  
Beverly Pruitt



## CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Cleaning Supplies (non-aerosol) \* Furniture Polish \* Grape Juice (bottled) \* Small Freezer Bags \* Spaghetti Sauce \* Taco/Burrito Mixes  
PICK-UP DATE APRIL 26

## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

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

**Attendance for February 14: 77**  
**Contribution for February 14: \$3755**

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

**Remember:** Pauline Allen remains at Poplar Bluff with COVID and continues to improve \* Sonny Allen was taken to the ER Friday. No additional information was available at press time \* Pam Claeys is still waiting on test results and has begun in-home therapy \* Bob Burch, (Loretta Carson's brother) is improving \* Morris Karnes has finished his treatments \* Sara Jo Walker (Trish Baldwin's cousin) was taken off a ventilator Friday \* Please continue to remember Trish's friend, Kathleen Woolf and family, after her teenage grandson committed suicide last week \*

**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 \* 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 \* Ronnie Goins \* LeAnn Jacques \* Tommy Jacques \* Pam Jeralds \* Holly Johnson \* Andy Kelley \* Connie Lemmons \* Annette Lumsden \* Ponna Mahan \* Paula Mason \* Betty Nicholson \* Charles Powell \* 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 \* Paul Maddox \* Brenda Robinson \* 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

## A Note of Thanks:

Thank you for your donation of the green beans you provided for emergency meals for our clients.

God bless you  
Waynetta Rodgers & Staff  
The Lunch Box

## BIBLE PEOPLE PAIRS PART 2

Try to untangle well-known Bible pairs of people in this unusual word game. Two names have been woven together in each line. Can you separate them? You do not need to change the order of any of the letters. Example: JOMASERPHY - Joseph & Mary

9. MOAASREONS \_\_\_\_\_
10. PARIQUISCILLALA \_\_\_\_\_
11. MAMARRTYHA \_\_\_\_\_
12. SANAPAPNHIIRAAS \_\_\_\_\_
13. ISISHAMAAECL \_\_\_\_\_
14. RACLEHEALH \_\_\_\_\_
15. CJOASLHEUBA \_\_\_\_\_

## ONE WAY MISSIONARIES

Yesterday, a friend of mine told me about "One-way Missionaries." In the early 1900s, there was a group of missionaries who, when they were about to embark on a mission to a foreign land, would not pack a suitcase as most people would. Instead, they took a coffin, which they packed with their belongings, along with a one-way ticket. By so doing, they demonstrated their intention to die sooner or later in the new land they were adopting.

A good example of this sort of commitment and intentionality was a missionary named Peter Milne. Milne selected as his mission a tribe of headhunters in the New Hebrides islands, in the South Pacific, off Australia's coast. Every other missionary that attempted sharing Jesus with this group had been killed. Milne had no guarantee that would not be true for himself, as well.

Still, he was not deterred, so off he went with his coffin. He spent more than 50 years in the islands, witnessing to the tribesmen about Jesus Christ. When he died of natural causes, the tribe buried him in a grave noted with this tombstone: "When he came, there was no light. When he left, there was no darkness."

These one-way missionaries understood the full implication of Jesus' call to *take up your cross and follow me*. This was and is a call to give up fear, comfort, certainty, and security to follow in the way that the cross leads.

This principle remains true.

*Then he called the crowd to him long with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels (Mark 8:34-38).*

Bruce Logue, www.heartlight.com

## Inspiration 2021

March 12-13

## Dexter church of Christ

"Living and Defending the Faith"  
With guest speaker  
Eric Lyons from Apologetics Press

The youth rally is geared for youth ages 5th through 12th grade. There is no cost to attend **NOTE:** All youth younger than 18 who are attending **MUST** have a waiver signed by a parent. There are some copies of the waiver on the table in the foyer. There is more information posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.