



TRUE LIGHT

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

May 2, 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
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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**

BLESSED GRACIOUS SERVANT

Blessed! Pronounce it "bless-ed" and not "blest." The blessed are people whom God recognizes as precious. People who are living with the character and compassion of Jesus. People following the Lord's example. In the Lord's eyes, these people are the greatest. God will exalt these precious people and crown them with glory (Phil. 2:5-11). These people are God's blessed ones!

Jesus said it on his last night with his closest followers: *I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them* (John 13:15-17).

In anticipation of his betrayal, abandonment, conviction, ridicule, and crucifixion, Jesus focused on his followers and their needs: *It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end* (John 13:1).

He washed their feet. He demonstrated in unmistakable actions the role of a sacrificial and loving servant.

- When he could have been worried about his impending ordeal, he prepared his disciples for their confusion and loss.
- When he could have been asking to be comforted, he promised his followers the Comforter, who would come in his place.
- When he could have demanded to be treated like royalty, Israel's King, and God's Son, he made himself nothing and offered himself as an example of loving and sacrificial service.

Then, he commanded his followers - he commanded us - to do the same. Now look carefully and notice that with his command, the Lord also gave this promise: *Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.*

Sometimes we look God's greatest blessings in the face and miss them!

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Several years ago, while in Europe for two weeks, I saw some of these blessed ones. They were spouses with loved ones facing some of life's greatest difficulties - a husband with Alzheimer's, a wife with ALS, a husband who is dealing with quadriplegia, and a wife with muscular dystrophy. Rather than abandoning their spouses, these blessed ones were enjoying a vacation of a lifetime with them in some of Europe's most sought-after destinations.

Of course, their part of the "vacation" was more like two weeks of loving work and demanding service. They made a special effort so their precious ones could have a once-in-a-lifetime trip that they could enjoy together while there was still time. These blessed ones did little things that might go unnoticed, but for their precious loved ones, their actions made the trip enjoyable and memorable.

- A wife covering her husband's missteps socially as he grappled with confusion.
- A husband bathing, dressing, and putting makeup on his wife so she would look great for their events and meals and pushing her wheelchair, so she had access.
- A wife making sure her husband had all he needed to enjoy his time with their kids even though he was confined to a wheelchair
- A husband who always descended the steps first, walked slowly, offered his arm on rugged terrain to his hobbling wife - a brash and raw man who was gentle and tender with her despite rugged personality.

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CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS

May 2 - Celia McGowan
Annabelle Shelton
May 5 - Avery Neely
May 6 - Ken Durham
Bonnie Howard
May 8 - Jerel Jester



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

May 6 - Jeff and Karen McGowan

CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Velveeta Cheese * Disinfectant Spray
(i.e. Lysol) * Light Bulbs * Nuts * Toilet
Tissue * Spaghetti Sauce

PICK UP DATE AUGUST 16

FOOD PANTRY

We are currently operating on an individual,
"as needed" basis. Monetary contributions
are very much appreciated.

Continued from front

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We take many of our blessings for granted. I am convinced one of the greatest blessings we miss are these blessed ones - these everyday heroes of love, caregiving, and service. Their service is as exhausting as their loved ones' needs are unrelenting. As life's harshest of realities steals away the person they love, they choose to invest, serve, and share the best moments with their loved ones while they still can. Like Jesus, they know the time is short, and they want to love their precious ones to the very end (John 13:1).

Blessed! So what do we do with these blessed ones? We notice them and thank God for them. We affirm them and thank them personally for their examples of service. We take their spouse to lunch or the movie or on drives or fishing or... We do this so they can have a few hours of their own to rest, run other errands, or do something fun with friends. We point our children and grandchildren to them and remind them that these are the real heroes - not the selfish *prima donnas* of fame and fortune that come with being a movie star, pop star, or athlete.

We DON'T ask what we can do to help. Instead, we actually DO something to help them. What we do doesn't have to be something elaborate. It could be as simple as...

- Getting them a Starbucks card.
- Having their loved one and them over for a special night.
- Mowing their yard.
- Getting their car's oil changed.
- Washing their car or laundry.
- Paying for a housekeeper.
- Buying and delivering their groceries.
- Bringing them a meal and sharing it with them while watching a movie together.
- Buying a ticket for an out-of-town family member to come for a visit.

Be creative, and you and a couple of friends could brainstorm a long list of simple, caring acts. The main thing is to DO something and not just ask what needs to be done.

We DON'T feel sorry for them or pity them, but instead, we pray for the Lord to sustain and comfort them through the Holy Spirit, and then we send them notes of encouragement, letting them know we have prayed. We DON'T ignore them or drop them from our group of our regular circle of relationships, but include them even when they can't participate, getting creative to find ways so they can be involved with their loved ones.

In other words, we find ways to value, affirm, and support these blessed ones and their loved ones whom they live to serve. Why? Because they need us to be for them who they are for those they love. In the process, as we learn to help them serve, guess what we discover?

We are blessed, too.

Blessed!

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

Attendance for April 25: 127
Contribution for April 25: \$4548

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

Remember: Pam Claeys is in serious condition at Dexter Hospital with congestive heart failure, pneumonia, UTI, and a fractured hip * Mike Duley will see his doctor Thursday for further treatment options, including additional surgery on his foot * Judy Duly has a viral infection * Judy Flannery has been having issues with UTI and kidney stones and will be having a procedure Monday

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * Kristi Altman * John David Barnett * David Burleson * Janie Burleson * Pam Claeys * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Grant Howard * Don Jackson * Morris Karnes * Luke Ethan Mason * 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) :

Cathy Bennett * 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 * Keagan Owens * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Jerry Grimes * Lem Hubbard * Dana Jo Jackson * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Nikki Lawrence * Jerry Don McGowan * Paul Maddox * Janie Mouser * Brenda Robinson * Gene Rowland * Kevin Steed * Traci Suiter * Paige Tanner * Heather Whitehead * Eva Latham

Our Shut Ins

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

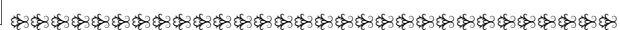
NAME THAT BOOK!

In which book of the Bible can you find the following verse:
And I will give you a new heart,
and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

(answer next week)

"Ask," He said, "and you shall receive."
Sorting my values, I began to perceive.
"Give me Your Son. Let Him shine through me."
I asked, and lo, I began to receive...
More than I'd ever dared to believe -
Treasures unmeasured, blessings undreamed,
All I'd asked or hoped to achieve.
"Ask," He said, "and you shall receive."

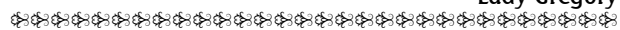
Marilyn Morgan Helleberg



The world's favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May.
Edwin Way Teale

The month of May is the pleasant time; its face is beautiful; the blackbird sings his full song, the living wood is his holding, the cuckoos are singing and ever singing; there is a welcome before the brightness of summer.

Lady Gregory



Attention 2021 seniors/parents: It's time to start compiling pictures for our senior appreciation day, scheduled for May 23. Please submit 30 to 50 photos via hard copy or flash drive/email to the church by May 14. Thank you!