



TRUE LIGHT

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

LIFE AMONG THE OUTCASTS

June 13, 2021

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Sunday School :

9:30 a.m.

Worship:

10:15 a.m.

6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00PM

MINISTER

Stan Dauck
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ELDERS

David Burleson
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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**

I read a book over a recent holiday break that I am requiring of students in one of my classes. It says several things most of us desperately need to hear.

In the book, "Sanctuary of Outcasts," you can find the true story of a man jailed in a minimum-security prison that shared a property with the last leper colony in the United States. Elderly, disfigured, long isolated from the larger culture, many without family and most without acceptance - the National Health Service was allowing the patients to remain there until they died. Thus a group of marginalized souls and "outcasts" nurtured each other in the face of the outside world's rejection.

The book tells how Neil White - at first scared of the disease and determined to avoid its victims - underwent a time of reflection, soul-searching, and spiritual insight. "Finally, in a sanctuary for outcasts, I understood the truth," he writes. "Surrounded by men and women who could not hide their disfigurement, I could see my own."

White and an 80-year-old African American woman named Ella - a wheelchair-bound double amputee because of her diseases - became friends. He summarizes the lesson he learned from the Roman Catholic Priest, Father Reynolds, who ministered to the little church inside the compound of patients and criminals: "Pride," he said, "was an excessive belief in our own abilities. Lost in our own pride," he explained, "we are unable to recognize grace."

As White prepared to go back to the outside world, the thought came to him that he needed a church there like the one prisoners and lepers had shared:

Not just any church. A place like the church at Carville. Where the parishioners were broken and chipped and cracked. A place to go when I needed help. A place to ask Forgiveness. A sacred place where people were not consumed with image or money. I didn't know if a church like this existed, but if it did I would go."

Now that Mr. White is free, I hope he remembered the lessons he learned in jail. And I hope he found that church he was hoping to find - a church that can love and accept, hold accountable and nurture, give the Holy Spirit time to redeem and transform. That is the sort of church everybody needs to find.

For the many who think their lives don't count and that they are nobodies, Jesus put the church in the world to say, "You matter to the God who knows your name - and he sent us to find you. Welcome to our sanctuary for the outcasts."

Remember Jesus, the first to make a sanctuary of outcasts, as he healed the leper in Mark 1. Notice that Jesus heals the leper with a word of command, but not until he touches the man and shares his state of being an outcast! *So he traveled throughout the region of Galilee, preaching in the synagogues and casting out demons. A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. "If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean," he said. Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be healed!" Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed. (Mark 1:40-42 NLT).*

Rubel Shelly's, "FAX of life," via www.heartlight.com

Pride is an excessive belief in our own abilities. Lost in our own pride, we are unable to recognize grace.



CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS

June 14 - Jason Shelton
 June 16 - Judy Flannery
 June 17 - Jacie McGowan
 June 18 - Owen Flowers
 Karen Martin



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

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

PICK UP DATE AUGUST 16

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 13 - Scott & Judy Flannery
 June 17 - David & Cindy Burleson
 Mike & Judy Duley

Attendance for June 6: 103
Contribution for June 6: \$4961

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

Remember: **DeeDee Burch** had eye surgery Thursday and everything went well * **Kathy Caudle** has been having a lot of hip pain and will be seeing a surgeon in the near future * **Pam Claey's** is in St. Louis receiving treatment for a serious, non-healing wound * **Mike Duley** will be having a CT scan on his foot to determine if further surgery will be necessary * **Woody Wood** will be having some tests next month * **Don Jackson** recently fell and injured his back

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * Kristi Altman * John David Barnett * David Burleson * Janie Burleson * Pam Claey's * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Grant Howard * Don Jackson * 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 * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Sharlette Watson

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Cathy Bennett * Gina Bogle * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cra-
 vens * Bill Fitzpatrick * Jo Carolyn Flowers * Kim Goins * Ronnie Goins * LeAnn
 Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Holly Johnson * Connie Lemmons *
 Ponna Mahan * Paula Mason * Betty Nicholson * Keagan Owens * Tammy Telker
 * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Jodi Claey's * Jerry Grimes * 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

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

Looking Ahead

Today is CRC day. A special box is in the foyer for donations to Crowley's Ridge Col-
 lege

The Matthews church of Chrst will be holding a Gospel meeting beginning today and
 running through June 16. Guest speaker is Travis Quertermous. More information is
 posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

Our Summer Series Speaker this week will be Brian Mitchell. There is a list of our
 upcoming speakers on the table in the foyer

Session 3 of BYC will be July 11-16. There are some applications for camp on the
 table in the foyer; you may also register online at www.bootheelyouthcamp.com

A bridal shower for Kalee Howard will be held July 18 at 1:30 in the fellowship room.
 Kalee and Owen are registered at Amazon and Target. Wal-Mart gift cards also ap-
 preciated!

Vacation Bible School is tentatively scheduled for July 18-22. Note this is one week
 earlier than generally scheduled. We will need lots of help (and cookies!) Please
 make plans to be a part of VBS this year.

June 13, 2021

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson
 Opening PrayerRon Garner
 Scripture.....Jonathan Simmons
 Prayer.....Jon Neely
 Dismissal Prayer.....Darrin Shipman

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Wayne Reams
 Prayer.....Jerry Burleson
 Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers
 Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Opening Prayer.....Justin Allen
 Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
 Closing Prayer.....Jerry Burleson

June 20, 2021

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Wes Howard
 Opening Prayer.....Tim Woods
 Scripture.....Ron Garner
 Prayer.....Wayne Reams
 Closing Prayer.....Jonathon Simmons

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Donnie Ray Brown
 Prayer.....David Carson
 Scripture.....Sam Garner
 Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

SHIFT INTO NEUTRAL

The man ahead of me at the carwash was on a mission. He purposefully strode to the back of his pickup and removed the hitch, so it wouldn't snag the high-powered rolling brushes. He paid the attendant then pulled onto the automated track - where he left his truck in drive. The attendant shouted after him, "Neutral! Neutral!" but the man's windows were up and he couldn't hear. He zipped through the car wash in four seconds flat. His truck barely got wet.

Elijah was on a mission, too. He was busy serving God in big ways. He had just defeated the prophets of Baal in a supernatural showdown, which left him drained (see 1 Kings 18:16-39). He needed time in neutral. God brought Elijah to Mount Horeb, where he had appeared to Moses long before. Once again God shook the mountain. Bt He wasn't in the rock-shattering wind, earthquake, or raging fire. Instead, God came to Elijah in a gentle whisper. *When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out to meet God* (1 Kings 19:13).

You and I are on a mission. We put our lives in drive to accomplish big things for our Savior. But if we never shift down to neutral, we can zip through life and miss the outpouring of His Spirit. God whispers, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). Neutral! Neutral!

Mike Wittmer