



# TRUE LIGHT

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

**August 22, 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  
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

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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**

## CANCELING TRUTH

To say that the world is in a state of turmoil would be an understatement. Just here in the United States alone, we've witnessed our streets erupting in violence and political battles taking on a new and frightening combative tone. That's saying a lot since our culture and politics have always had the tendency to be divisive.

But something is different, and most of us can sense it. A couple of years ago, a new term began to trend in social media that perfectly describes what is taking place in America. I'd never heard of it until sometime last year when one of my cohorts came to me and said, "Hey, Phil, you've been canceled."

"Canceled?" I asked. "What in the world is that?" I really had no idea what he was talking about.

It turns out that the term Cancel Culture has come to mean the practice of publicly humiliating folks you disagree with. The purpose of cancellation is to cost someone their job, admission to college, or otherwise harm them financially or professionally. Usually, this is done using social media where the damage is multiplied over the internet.

If someone is going to publicly humiliate other people though, shouldn't there be some standard of truth that they can appeal to in order to do that? Surely, they would have to be able to point to a behavior and say, "See that! See what she did! She's wrong, so she deserves to be publicly shamed."

A good example of cancel culture is what took place during March Madness of this year. Oral Roberts University defeated the University of Florida to earn a spot in the Sweet Sixteen. Usually, the media loves an underdog, but not this time. Within hours, the media hound dogs began to attack ORU for their belief in Biblical marriage and their view on same sex relationships. USA Today ran a headline that read, "Oral Roberts University isn't the feel-good March Madness story we need." The article went on to explain that ORU's "bigoted LGBTQ+ policies can't and shouldn't be ignored." Quite a few people were calling for ORU to be booted from the tournament.

I don't want to discuss LGBTQ+ theory, but I do want to point out one fact that should be clear to everyone. If you're going to boot someone from the NCAA basketball tournament, cost them their job, or ruin their career, shouldn't you be able to point to something and say, "See that law there? See that code? That's how we know what truth is. That's why we canceled that person!"

I suppose that USA Today thinks they did just that. They would probably argue that ORU's core principles violated a morality that almost any reasonable person in 2021 would agree on. But should that be the standard? 2021 morality? Does morality and the truth it is based on change over time? The answer is, YES! It does change when man is in charge of defining truth. And that's the problem we face in the Cancel Culture era. Truth keeps shifting depending on how man defines it.

Unfortunately, this is what happens when a society removes God from public life. Without God, how would we know what to correct? What would we base the correction on? The latest trends of popular opinion? Just pull truth out of thin air? In my opinion, it should be obvious - that's pretty shaky ground. No, unless a being far greater than man reveals truth to us, we can't really have truth - at least not objective truth (truth that is the same all of the time). I would just encourage you to take a quick look at humanity's track record when it kicks God to the curb and instead relies on its own intellect to determine what truth is.

Pol Pot, Hitler, Stalin, and the abortion advocates in the United States. All of them rejected the idea that there is a holy, righteous, eternal, all-powerful and loving God who has already given mankind a clear and unchanging moral code. Instead, they constructed their own morality based on their own understanding. And what was the outcome of tossing God out? The answer is that millions died. Just those movements alone are responsible for the deaths of close to 100 million people.

"So, what's your alternative, Phil?" I'm glad you asked.

When Jesus said that he is the way and the truth and the life in *John 14:6*, he changed the game plan by giving us a new definition of truth. According to Jesus, truth isn't just an idea or a concept. Once Jesus appeared on the scene, we don't need to look in dictionaries for the definition, we simply look to Him.

This matters because the only way we can find real life is to embrace the Almighty as our Father. But in order to find him, I must admit the truth (that God has revealed to me) about myself - that I am a rank sinner and that I deserve condemnation. I also must admit the truth about the Father and Son - He is infinitely holy, majestic, and loving. I must admit that I had a death sentence hanging over my head that the Almighty paid for at His own expense.

**Does morality and the truth it is based on change over time? The answer is, YES! It does change when man is in charge of defining truth. And that's the problem we face in the Cancel Culture era. Truth keeps shifting depending on how man defines it.**

**Continued on back**

**BIRTHDAYS**

August 24 - Donna McKuin  
August 25 - Justin Beaird  
                  Bettie Thurston  
August 26 - Pat Ingle  
August 27 - Charlie Garner  
                  Karen McGowan



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

August 26 - Leon and Jane Smith

**CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS**

Olives \* BBQ Sauce \* Bleach \* Coun-  
try Gravy Mix \* Tortilla Chips \*  
Brown Gravy Mix  
PICK UP DATE NOVEMBER 29

**FOOD PANTRY**

Currently operating on an "as needed" basis.  
Monetary contributions always welcome.

**WILLING TO SERVE**

**August 22, 2021**

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Wes Howard  
Opening Prayer.....Wayne Reams  
Scripture.....Justin Allen  
Prayer.....Sam Garner  
Closing Prayer.....Rodney Williams

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....David Carson  
Prayer.....Darrin Shipman  
Scripture.....Jacob Clayton  
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

**Wednesday, August 25**

Song Leader.....Wayne Reams  
Prayer.....Ron Garner  
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

**August 29, 2021**

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson  
Opening Prayer.....Jess Lacroy  
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers  
Prayer.....Darrin Shipman  
Closing Prayer.....Jonathan Simmons

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams  
Prayer.....David Carson  
Scripture.....Sam Garner  
Dismissal.....Justin Allen

**Continued from front**

When I came to Christ, I relinquished my ad-  
diction to the lies and false notions of truth  
that Satan had enticed me to embrace. I began  
to filter my thoughts through the person of  
Jesus instead of relying on my own under-  
standing. Now, if my thoughts are out of line  
with the Word of Christ, I realize that my  
thoughts must be abandoned in favor of what  
the man of Truth tells me is real.

In my opinion, America and the rest of the  
world will continue to experience chaos and  
turmoil until it finds in its heart to embrace  
Jesus as the embodiment of truth. I pray that  
we turn from our self-reliance and run after  
the one who said to the Father, "They word is  
truth..." There's not a doubt in my mind that I  
can trust whatever He tells me to be true. One  
thing is for sure, no one can cancel a person  
when he follows Jesus as the way, the truth  
and the life.

Phil Robertson, One Kingdom Newsletter

*Congratulations and best  
wishes always to Kalee How-  
ard and Owen  
Foster, who were  
married Yester-  
day.*



**Attendance for August 15: 115**  
**Contribution for August 15: \$3598**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

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

**Remember: Pam Claeys**, diagnosed with state 4 endometrial cancer. Pam has de-  
cided not to undergo treatment \* **David and LaRhonda Billingsley** at home with  
COVID. LaRhonda is some better but David is still struggling \* **Donna and Larry  
Layton**, at home with COVID \* **Jeff and Karen Martin**, and family members, bat-  
tling COVID. Jeff and his dad remain hospitalized \* **Charlie Lyles**, Jay Lyles' fa-  
ther, on a ventilator with COVID and not doing well

**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  
\* Morris Karnes \* Sonja Mays \* Curtis McClard \* Darlene McGowan \* Helen  
McGowan \* Jeff McGowan \* Kevin Mickey \* Reba Owens \* Ida Roberts \* Gayle  
Rodgers \* Waynetta Rodgers \* Jane Smith \* Leon Smith \* David Terrill \* Bettie  
Thurston \* Marty Watson \* Sharlette Watson

**Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :**

Chastity Beaird \* Cathy Bennett \* Gina Bogle \* Roxanne Carson \* Sherry Cham-  
bers \* Randy Cravens \* Bill Fitzpatrick \* Jo Carolyn Flowers \* Kim Goins \*  
Ronnie Goins \* LeAnn Jacques \* Tommy Jacques \* Mike James \* Pam Jeralds \*  
Holly Johnson \* Connie Lemmons \* Ponna Mahan \* Paula Mason \* Jenny Mullins \*  
Betty Nicholson \* Keagan Owens \* Tammy Telker \* Bobby Thornton \* Paula  
Walls

**Other health issues (non-congregational):**

Mark Beaird \* DeeDee Burch \* Mary Burke \* Jodi Claeys \* Jerry Grimes \* TJ Hes-  
ter \* Lem Hubbard \* Dana Jo Jackson \* Clyde Jacques \* Lola Johnson \* Beckie  
King \* Nikki Lawrence \* Shug Lee \* 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 Claeys \* Travis Cooper \* Sue Flowers \* Don  
Jackson \* Shirley Johnson \* Sonja Mays \* Bettie Thurston \* Marty Watson \* Joy  
Watson

**Looking Ahead**

Our Summer Series Speaker this week will be Jeremy Pierce, who will be our last  
guest speaker for the summer.

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Ladies Day September 11 at the Mountain Home church of Christ. More information is  
posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

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Ladies Day September 11 at the Arnold church of Christ. More information is posted on  
the bulletin board by the nursery

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Spiritual Growth Seminar with Joe Wells September 12-15 at Green Forest church of  
Christ. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery

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Ladies Lunch Out September 14 at 11:30 at Dexter BBQ

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Crossroads Youth Rally October 23-24 at Shady Acres with keynote speaker Lonnie  
Jones

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Gospel Meeting October 24-28 at Bernie with guest speaker Brian McAllister.

If you can help with providing some simple meals for Pam Claeys, there is a calendar on the table in  
the foyer. It is not necessary to have a meal provided every day, or to prepare a lot. Thank You!