



TRUE LIGHT

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

LEARNING ABOUT LIFE IN THE MIDDLE OF DEATH

February 6, 2022

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Sunday School :

9:30 a.m.

Worship:

10:15 a.m.

5:00 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**

[We are] at Black Rifle Coffee, Beyond Black is in the cup, silence is on the playlist, and God is in the room showing us how.

Nowadays, people tend to dress down for funerals; it was different last century. Back then, you wore not only your best suit and tie, preferably it would be black, and you dressed up.

And, when I was a kid, my whole family went to funerals, except for my brother and sister, they were too little (3 and 4), so they stayed with Grandma. Now, in the name of innocence or because of adult discomfort, we sanitize the whole death experience. An entire generation of children has grown up, never coming face to face with death, never going to funerals, and never talking about the sanctity of life.

"Do you remember the first time you were in the same room with a dead body?" I asked Bill. "I never have, ever. That would creep me out," Bill responded.

"Let me tell you about a visitation I worked. It was well attended. Lots of family and friends were telling stories, shedding tears, enjoying outbursts of laughter - and plenty of silence. Sometimes people don't know what to do at a visitation, so they just sit in silence. This group knew exactly what they wanted."

"After a short time, one of the visitors left, but she told me she would be back in a bit. About twenty minutes later, in she walked, this time with her son accompanying her. He appeared to be around 8 or 9. I welcomed him at the door, 'Hi there, young man.'"

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"Hi," he replied through his mask. "As they walked toward our visitation room, she pointed out the memorial book. He stopped, stretched up to reach the high table, and printed his first and last name at the end of the list of names. She bent down again and whispered, and they continued into the room."

"I watched the boy walk up to the husband of the deceased and give him a fist bump. They talked a bit, and then the boy and his mom walked over to the casket. He just stared for a moment, then reached up, kissed the forehead, and touched the hand of the woman in the casket."

Bill was in a tizzy. "He touched her? Ewwww!"

I continued describing the situation: "After a short time there, the boy and his mom walked in my direction. As they passed, I said, 'thank you for coming, little man,' He smiled. And I whispered to his mom, 'Thank you for bringing him. You are teaching the sanctity of life tonight. Thank you!' I could sense her smile even through the mask."

"That is what I get to see, Bill, multi-generations learning about life and death, grief and loss. Every day is a lesson about life in the middle of death."

Isn't that what we all need right now - finding life in the middle of death? Oh, Abba, we need that now!

Ron Rose, www.heartlight.com

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

February 9 - Bill Pruitt
Luke Worley
February 10 - Alexis Smith
Ron Garner
February 11 - Ronnie Moore



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Chocolate Chips * Instant Potatoes *
Mushrooms * Powdered Sugar * Snack
Crackers * Rotel
Pick-up date: March 14, 2022

FOOD PANTRY

Currently operating on an "as needed/
as available" basis. Monetary donations
are always appreciated.

Attendance for January 30: 80

Contribution for January 30: \$3931

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Remember: Trish Baldwin is in room 3103 at St Francis for rehab, following hip surgery due to a fall. Visits are welcome * **David Carson** will undergo esophageal surgery in late February or early March * **Cindy Williams** struggling with vertigo * **Ellie Graham**, student of Nicole Garner, is doing better * **Carolyn Buckley**, Robin Mays' mother, is on a ventilator at Cape * **Pam Claeys** continues to decline but still appreciates visits and meals once or twice a week

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 * 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 * Gunner Townsend * Marty Watson * Sharlette Watson * Woody Wood

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Chastity Beard * Cathy Bennett * Gina Bogle * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Bill Fitzpatrick * Jo Carolyn Flowers-Noe (not doing well) * Kim Goins * Ronnie Goins * Patricia Greninger * Neal Halford * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jerald * Holly Johnson * Connie Lemmons * Ponna Mahan * Linda Morgan * 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 * Katie Hicks * Lem Hubbard * Dana Jo Jackson * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Nikki Lawrence * Shug Lee * Jerry Don McGowan * Linda Morgan * Baby Owen * Brenda Robinson * Gene Rowland * Beth Schwendemann and family * 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 * Sonja Mays * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Joy Watson

Looking Ahead

Wednesday Fellowship Meal will be soups, chili and hot dogs. Desserts will be needed.

Ladies Lunch Out Tuesday at 11:30 at La Cascada in Bernie. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you would like to attend.

Valentine's Day Social next Sunday, February 13, following evening services. Please plan to stay and fellowship with us.

Challenge Youth Conference February 25-27 in Pigeon Forge.

Inspiration 2022 March 11 and 12 at the Dexter church of Christ with guest speaker Joe Wells.

Make plans now to attend our Gospel Meeting with Jim Faughn March 13-16.

Ignite Youth Rally at Jackson (rescheduled) March 26 and 27. The theme is "Your Purpose 2022" with speaker Spencer Furby. Cost is \$12 and includes a t shirt. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

WILLING TO SERVE

February 6, 2022

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson
Opening Prayer.....Ron Garner
Scripture.....Jason Karnes
Prayer.....Jonathan Simmons
Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Wayne Reams
Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....Sam Garner
Dismissal.....Mike Duley

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Song Leader.....Wayne Reams
Prayer.....Jacob Clayton
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

February 13, 2022

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Cameron Traw
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Wayne Reams

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Darrin Shipman
Scripture.....Justin Allen
Dismissal.....Joe Watson

A Humble Posture

"Keep your hands behind your back. You'll be fine." That's the loving admonition Jan's husband always gave before she went off to speak to a group. When she found herself trying to impress people or seeking to control a situation, she'd adopt this posture because it put her in a teachable, listening frame of mind. She used it to remind herself to love those before her and to be humble and available to the Holy Spirit.

Jan's understanding of humility is rooted in King David's observation that everything comes from God. David said to God, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing" (Psalm 16:2). He learned to trust God and seek His counsel: "Even at night my heart instructs me" (v 7). He knew that with God next to him, he'd not be shaken (v 8). He didn't need to puff himself up because he trusted in the mighty God who loved him.

As we look to God each day, asking Him to help us when we feel frustrated or to give us words to speak when we feel tongue-tied, we'll see Him at work in our lives. We'll "partner with God" as Jan says; and we'll realize that if we've done well, it's because God has helped us flourish.

We can look at others with love, our hands clasped behind our backs in a posture of humility to remind us that everything we have comes from God.

Amy Boucher Pye

In Sympathy: Sympathy is extended to the family of Dana Jo Jackson, who passed away January 29. Dana's funeral was held February 2 at Mathis Funeral Home in Dexter.