



# TRUE LIGHT

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

## TEN THINGS VBS IS NOT

**July 24, 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**

### 1. VBS IS NOT...entertainment.

Throughout the years many VBS programs have made flashy graphics, eye-popping decorations and silly games the focus. And while none of these things in and of themselves are bad, they are definitely not the focus of VBS. VBS is about revealing God to children, not five days of entertainment.

### 2. VBS IS NOT...just a theme.

Every VBS comes with an overarching theme. This helps bring community to each day, teaching, and activity. But the point of a VBS theme is to build a bridge to sharing the Gospel with your kids. It is always important to remember that your VBS theme is a tool to accomplish your ultimate goal which is sharing the Gospel.

### 3. VBS DOES NOT ... hide Scripture.

One way to view VBS is like the spoonful of sugar that helps the medicine of Scripture go down. But Scripture is not something that needs to be hidden. Instead, the truth of God's Word should be the centerpiece of every VBS activity, craft and teaching. The surest way to drain your VBS of life is to hide Scripture behind the spectacle of skits, graphics and decorations. The key is finding a way to teach Scripture in a way that brings God's Word to life in new and exciting ways!

### 4. VBS IS NOT ... a cotton candy event.

Cotton candy looks amazing, but the moment it touches your mouth, it disappears. Instead, VBS should be like a juicy steak where kids are presented with life-changing Biblical truth that they chew on for the whole of VBS week and take with them long after it's over.

### 5. VBS IS NOT ... about you.

With the spectacle that is VBS, it can be easy to focus on those hosting the event rather than those the event is actually for. VBS is not about showing how well we can decorate, organize games or perform skits. VBS is all about reaching children with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

### 6. VBS DOES NOT ... replace parents.

The primary teachers of children are their parents. Too often, children's ministry sees parents as competition rather than partners. The very best VBS program intentionally creates opportunities to connect parents with the content of Vacation Bible School.

### 7. VBS IS NOT ... behavior modification.

It's important that the application of your Vacation Bible School is always Gospel-centered. So rather than teaching kids that they need to try harder and do better, the practical teaching of VBS should always lead children to the forgiveness, redemption and salvation found in Christ alone.

### 8. VBS IS NOT ... a performance.

Vacation Bible School is not a show where leaders pretend to be perfect Christians and encourage kids to become like them. Rather, VBS is a time for leaders to be real and open with their kids. The more leaders share their struggles and God's triumphs, the more kids will be drawn to the Gospel. Never underestimate the power of testimony. The Bible tells us we are overcome *by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of [our] testimony*. Revelation 12:11

### 9. VBS IS NOT ... mechanical.

There are two ways you can look at VBS: 1) It is a big machine that you need to keep running at the expense of personal relationships, or 2) It is an organic time of family and friends that needs to adapt so that relationship building always comes first. Plot Twist: the latter is the ONLY way to look at VBS. If the focus of Vacation Bible School is not growing in our relationship with God and each other, then we've missed the point.

### 10. VBS IS NOT ... a five day lecture.

While teaching is an important part of VBS, so is the reality of what you are teaching. If you are teaching your kids about the joy of the Gospel, then that joy should be evident throughout VBS week. If you are discussing the excitement of following God, then that excitement should permeate every game, craft, and activity. Instead of a theological lecture, VBS should be an interactive and immersive event where the Gospel is taught and experienced.

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**See You Tonight at Vacation Bible School!**



## **BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES**

July 24 - Cathy Provance  
 July 25 - Donna Layton  
 July 27 - Rick Beard  
 Amy Thomason



## **CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS**

Lasagna Noodles \* Sweetened Condensed Milk \* Sugar \* Deodorant (non-aerosol) \* Hair Gel/Mousse \* Salad Dressings (Ranch, French etc)  
 Pick-up date: October 3, 2022

**Attendance for July 17: 97**  
**Contribution for July 17: \$3314**

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Bud McKuin** will have a PET scan to determine if the cancerous mass on his lung has spread \* **Bill Pruitt** will have hernia surgery tomorrow \* **Sonja Mays** is currently in the hospital \* **Jodie Buckner** will have surgery Wednesday to repair a fistula and remove a portion of her lung \* **John David Barnett** is home following a hospital stay for pancreatitis \* **Maura Thomason** waiting on a second opinion from a biopsy \* **Marty Howard** has tests scheduled for August 9 regarding his back pain \* **Jack McGowan** scheduled for hip replacement surgery August 9 \* **Woody Wood**, being treated for lung cancer \* **Janet Wood** at home, waiting for knee replacement surgery \* **Louella Akers** hasn't been doing well

**Continue praying for these members of our church family:** David Burleson \* Janie Burleson \* Scott and Judy Flannery \* Sue Flowers \* Patsy (Hardy) Gregg \* 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 \* Chris Daley \* Bill Fitzpatrick \* Jo Carolyn Flowers-Noe (not doing well) \* Kim Goins \* Ronnie Goins \* Patricia Greninger \* Nolan Hollo-well \* LeAnn Jacques \* Tommy Jacques \* Pam Jeralds \* Holly Johnson Kristin Meadows \* Connie Lemmons \* Ponna Mahan \* Linda Morgan \* Paula Mason \* Betty Nicholson \* Keagan Owens \* Nikki Reif \* Tammy Telker \* Bobby Thorn-ton \* Paula Walls

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

Dixie Billingsley \* DeeDee Burch \* Mary Burke \* Jodi Claeys \* Ruth Dauck \* Jerry Grimes \* Katie Hicks \* Grant Howard \* Clyde Jacques \* Lola Johnson \* Beckie King \* Eva Latham \* Nikki Lawrence \* Shug Lee \* Jerry Don McGowan \* Brenda Robinson \* Gene Rowland \* Kevin Steed \* Traci Suiter \* Paige Tanner \* Heather Whitehead \*

### **Our Shut Ins**

Louella Akers \* Fern Botsch \* Travis Cooper \* Sue Flowers \* Don Jackson \* Sonja Mays \* Reba Owens \* Bettie Thurston \* Marty Watson \*

### **Looking Ahead**

Vacation Bible School starts tonight at 6 p.m. and Monday-Wednesday at 6:30. We still need some help with cookies; please check the sign up sheet on the table in the foyer.

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Gospel Meeting at the Caruthersville church of Christ July 31-August 2. The theme is "Making a Difference for our Lord." More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

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First Sunday potluck lunch/1 pm service August 7. Make plans to stay for the potluck.

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Summer Youth Series at Dexter August 8 at 7 p.m.

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Ladies Lunch Out August 9 at Huddle House in Dexter.

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Summer Youth Series hosted by the Bernie Congregation August 15 at 7 p.m. A sign up sheet to help with refreshments will be posted soon.

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Ladies Day at Mountain Home church of Christ September 10. The theme is "Let it Go."

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Ladies Day at Arnold church of Christ September 10. The theme is "Recipe for Life" with guest speaker Julie Orr.

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Children's Homes Homecoming September 24 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Let's get our change for children cans filled up!

## **WILLING TO SERVE**

### **July 24, 2022**

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson  
 Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely  
 Scripture.....Jason Karnes  
 Prayer.....Jeff Rodgers  
 Closing Prayer.....Darrin Shipman

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....VBS N/A  
 Prayer.....VBS N/A  
 Scripture.....VBS N/A  
 Dismissal.....VBS N/A

### **Wednesday, July 27, 2022**

Song Leader.....VBS/NA  
 Prayer.....VBS/NA  
 Dismissal.....VBS/NA

### **July 31, 2022**

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Cameron Traw  
 Opening Prayer.....David Burleson  
 Scripture.....Justin Allen  
 Prayer.....Zack Tanner  
 Closing Prayer.....Jeff Rodgers

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton  
 Prayer.....Wayne Reams  
 Scripture.....David Carson  
 Dismissal.....Rodney Williams

## **TRAVELING LIGHT**

A man named James took an adventurous, 1,250-mile journey down the West Coast of the US - biking from Seattle, Washington, to San Diego, California. A friend of mine met the ambitious biker near the cliffs of Big Sur, 930 miles from his starting point. After learning that someone had recently stolen James' camping gear, my friend offered his blanket and sweater, but James refused. He said that as he traveled south into the warmer climate, he needed to begin shedding items. And the closer he got to his destination, the more tired he became, so he needed to reduce the weight he was carrying.

James' realization was smart. It's a reflection of what the writer of Hebrews is saying, too. As we continue our journey in life, we need to *throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles* (12:1). We need to travel light to press on.

As believers in Jesus, running this race requires *perseverance* (v.1). And one of the ways to ensure we can keep going is to be free of the weight of unforgiveness, pettiness, and other sins that will hinder us.

Without Jesus' help, we can't travel light and run this race well. May we look to the *pioneer and perfecter of faith* so that we won't grow *weary and lose heart* (vv 2-3).

Katara Patton