



TRUE LIGHT

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

December 18, 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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"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalm 118:24

**We Welcome You
To All Of Our
Services**

PREPARING TO WORSHIP ON CHRISTMAS

If I am correct, 2022 marks the third time since I began preaching that Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. It is interesting to watch on those days to see how families - especially those with young children - handle this situation.

(By the way, this article is assuming your congregation will still have services Christmas Day. To cancel or move services off of the Lord's Day just for a holiday is wrong and sad, and you need to find a congregation that will be meeting on that Sunday with which to worship.)

What are some things to keep in mind and some tips for making a Christmas Sunday as wonderful as possible? Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- **GO TO WORSHIP.**

That needs to lead off. Too many families decide to skip that Sunday or, with modern technology, watch online because it is more convenient. Don't do that! Going to worship - no matter what else might be going on - is a command, but it is also a privilege that is higher than any other. There is almost no greater time to teach small children than when Christmas falls on a Sunday.

- **DO "SANTA" EARLY AND OTHER GIFTS LATER.**

If you think about it, this is a way to help spread out the gift-opening experience instead of it all being over by 9 a.m.! Let the kids get up early for their Santa gifts, but then tell them they will open their other gifts in the afternoon because we are going to worship God.

- **UTILIZE YOUR CROCK-POT (OR SIMILAR METHODS OF COOKING).**

Getting the Christmas dinner done is also a challenge, but there are ways to put some of the things in the oven or crock-pot so that they are ready when you are. (And, when you think about it, it takes what feels like forever to cook a turkey anyway, so it's perfect for putting in the oven, going to worship, and coming back to it!)

- **COMMUNICATE YOUR PLAN EARLY.**

This will likely be different in some ways than a usual Christmas. Talk it up with your kids, and do so for several days ahead of time. That way, they are ready, but also excited for how the day will unfold.

And, when the day is done ... don't forget to snuggle down for a long winter's nap!

Adam Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post



Don't forget Christmas Dinner will be served in the Fellowship Room next Sunday for anyone who would like to attend. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to join us. If you can help by bringing a dish, it would be appreciated.

And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will called me blessed. For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name" (Luke 1:46-49).

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

December 20 - Keri Williams
December 22 - Rosemary McCoy
Cameron & Reeda Traw (A)
December 23 - Alexis Northern
Stan & Millie Dauck (A)

*belated birthday wishes to Nick Harris, who celebrated on December 15.

CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Sugar * Ravioli * Toothbrushes * Snack Size
Ziploc Bags * Tea Bags (Decaf) *
Corn Chips
Pick-up date: January 16, 2023

Attendance for December 11: 82
Contribution for Dec. 11: \$5685

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Janet Wood is home recovering from knee replacement surgery * **Don Jackson** is back at Cypress Point following additional surgery on his knee * **Sharon Durham** scheduled for back surgery December 29 * **John David Barnett** is home and is now able to have solid food * **Pat Ingle** as she continues with her chemo treatments * **Marty Howard** met with his surgeon and continues to have back pain * **Judy Duly** has had the flu this past week * **Reba Owens** recovering from toe amputation *

Continue praying for these members of our church family: David Burleson * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Don Jackson * Sonja Mays * Curtis McClard * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Gloria Moore * Reba Owens * Ida Roberts * Waynetta Rodgers * Jane Smith * Leon Smith * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Sharlette Watson * Woody Wood

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Melinda Akers * Chastity Beaird * Cathy Bennett * Gina Bogle * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Chris Daley * Bill Fitzpatrick * Jo Carolyn Flowers-Noe * Ronnie Goins * Patricia Greninger * Nolan Hollowell * 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 Thornton * 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 * Tim Lecroy * Shug Lee * Jerry Don McGowan * Mary Provance * Brenda Robinson * 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

Today: David Gibson will be our morning speaker. He will be talking about his work in Romania and the Ukraine.

Today: Appreciation meal hosted by Stan and Millie after morning worship, followed by an early 1 p.m. evening service. Please plan to stay as they say "thank you" for 35 years.

Our Fellowship Meal this week will be hot dogs, chili and soups. Desserts will be needed. We will not have a fellowship meal December 28 due to the holidays.

Katie Paige Williams will be getting married December 22. If you would like to contribute towards a gift for her wedding, please see Reeda Traw by today.

Christmas Day we will ONLY have one meeting time: morning worship service at 10:15 a.m.

Christmas Dinner will be served in the fellowship room following our worship service December 25. If you plan on attending, there is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer.

Teens or young adults interested in a holiday event (lunch and movie or bowling) on December 27 or 29 should let Amy know ASAP and one will be planned.

New Year's Eve get-together at 6 p.m. December 31. Bring games and finger foods and we will plan to wrap up early due to New Year's Day falling on Sunday.

Friends and Family Day 2023 will be January 8 with Gordon Hogan.



WILLING TO SERVE

December 18, 2022

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Dylan Seabaugh
Opening Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson
Prayer.....Wayne Reams
Scripture.....David Burleson
Dismissal.....Rodney Williams

Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Prayer.....David Burleson
Dismissal.....Cameron Traw

December 25, 2022

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
Scripture.....Jason Karnes
Prayer.....Sam Garner
Closing Prayer.....Jerry Burleson

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

VIRTUAL PRESENCE

As the novel coronavirus marched across the globe, health experts advised increased physical distance between people as a means to slow the spread. Many countries asked their citizens to self-quarantine or shelter in place. Organizations sent employees home to work remotely if they could, while others suffered a financially debilitating loss of employment. Like others, I participated in church and small-group meetings through digital platforms. As a world, we practiced new forms of togetherness despite being physically disconnected.

It isn't just the internet that lets us maintain a sense of connection. We connect to one another as members of the body of Christ through the Spirit. Paul expressed this notion centuries ago in his letter to the Colossians. Though he hadn't personally founded their church, he cared deeply for them and their faith. And even though Paul couldn't be with them in person, he reminded them that he was *present with [them] in spirit* (Colossians 2:5).

We can't always be with those we love for financial, health, or other practical reasons, and technology can help fill that gap. Yet any form of virtual connection pales in comparison to the *togetherness* we can experience as fellow members of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27). In such moments, we can, like Paul, rejoice in one another's firmness of faith and, through prayer, encourage each other to fully *know the mystery of God, namely, Christ* (Colossians 2:2).
Kirsten Holmberg