



TRUE LIGHT

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

February 5, 2023

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
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DEACONS

Wayne Reams
Joe Watson
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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**

HOW WE VIEW PEOPLE (PART 2)

(continued from last week's bulletin)

3. A Problem: Then they took the man who had been born blind to the Pharisees, because it was on the Sabbath that Jesus had made the mud and healed him. The Pharisees asked the man all about it. So he told them, "He put the mud over my eyes and when I washed it away, I could see!" Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he is working on the Sabbath." (John 9:13-16 NLT)

When we view another person as a problem to be solved and put behind us, we forget their human dignity and view them as indistinguishable from the mess they made of our narrow worldview. A great example of this was the resurrection of Lazarus from the dead. Because many people were coming to faith in Jesus because of Lazarus' resurrection from the dead, people who wanted Jesus killed began to call for Lazarus' murder to keep more people from following Jesus. They rejected what they knew to be a miracle simply because it was a problem for their theology!

4. A Biological Product: The Jewish leaders still refused to believe the man had been blind and could now see, so they called in his parents. They asked them, "Is this your son? Was he born blind? If so, how can he now see?" His parents replied, "We know this is our son and that he was born blind, but we don't know how he can see or who healed him. Ask him. He is old enough to speak for himself" (John 9:18-20).

The parents of this man born blind were so afraid of being put out of the synagogue, Temple, and regular fellowship with their friends that they refused to stand up for their son and share his joy and his rejection by the religious leaders. Unfortunately, our world is plagued with biological DNA donors who refuse to be loving mothers and supportive fathers to their children. They are happy to have the status of having a child as long as the child is convenient, but don't ask them to invest, sacrifice, or bear the burden of a child.

If we take some time and reflect on these four false ways that religious people can view others, we can likely find ourselves guilty of one or more of these wrong approaches to people. Most of us regret having mishandled, hurt, or sinned against someone in one of these ways. So, let's repent and notice how Jesus viewed this man that was born blind and align our approach to people with the Lord's!

Someone in whom the work of God needs to be done:

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus. But this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world" (John 9:3-5).

Jesus viewed each person as someone in whom the work of God needed to be done. He also saw his role, as well as our role, to be light to those trapped in darkness (John 8:12; John 9:5; Matthew 5:14-16). God called us to follow Jesus and bless others just as Jesus was a blessing (1 Peter 3:8-9; Matthew 5:5-10; Luke 7:20-23; John 13: 12-17). Peter described our role with these words:

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy (1 Peter 2:9-10).

If we choose to live the JesuShaped life, we must approach each person we meet as Jesus did. A person in whom the work of God needs to be done! And what is that work of God that needs to be done?

Then they asked [Jesus], "What must we do to do the works God requires?" Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent" (John 6:29-30).

Our approach to people must focus on helping them believe God values them and that Jesus came to serve, love, and find life in him (John 3: 16-17; Romans 5:6-11). When we view people this way, we listen, care, empathize, dignify, value, and love them. Why? Because Jesus showed us this way of life and called us to follow him in living it (1 John 4:9-12).
Phil Ware, 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

Tape (Scotch/Masking) * Paper
 Napkins * Paper Plates & Cups *
 Spaghetti O's * Liquid Fabric
 Softener * Ketchup
 Pickup Date April 17, 2023

WILLING TO SERVE

February 5, 2023

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Joe Watson
 Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
 Scripture.....Jason Karnes
 Prayer.....Sam Garner
 Closing Prayer.....Jess Lecroy

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
 Prayer.....David Carson
 Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers
 Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

Wednesday, February 8, 2022

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
 Prayer.....Jerry Burleson
 Dismissal.....Jeff Rodgers

February 12, 2023

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Cameron Traw
 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

Attendance for January 29: 107 *** Contribution for January 20: \$3300

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sonja Mays is in Poplar Bluff hospital and not doing well * **Marty Howard** recovering from back surgery Friday * **Louella Akers'** cancer has spread. Doctors have said there is nothing else they can do. * **Gloria Moore** has been having a lot of lower back pain * **David Carson** will have surgery February 16 * **Sharon Durham** continues to slowly improve * **John David Barnett** continues to improve * **Pat Ingle's** latest scans shows her tumors are shrinking * **Mike Duley** recovering from foot surgery * **Janet Wood** is home recovering from knee replacement surgery * **Fern Botsch** on hospice care * **Mike Napier's** cancer has returned * **Kenny Grubbs** (Pam Collier's father) diagnosed with cancer; it is serious * Jeff Williams (Rodney's brother) had emergency surgery for a torn retina; he is doing well * **Pat Hessling** (Dexter congregation) suffered a massive stroke and is the hospital at St. Louis * Several in the congregation were out last week with COVID and other seasonal illnesses

Continue praying for these members of our church family: David Burleson * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Sonja Mays * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Gloria Moore * 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 * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson *

Looking Ahead

TODAY: First Sunday potluck and early evening service. We will have a meal following morning services with an early, 1 p.m. evening service.

Wednesday night fellowship meal will be hot dogs, soups and chili. Desserts will be needed.

Valentine's Banquet Sunday, February 12, following evening services. Your hosts for the evening will be Cindy Burleson and Amy Thomason. Plan now to attend for an evening of good food, fellowship and fun.

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Ladies Lunch out will be MONDAY, February 13, at 11:30 at La Cascada in Bernie. There's a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

Inspiration 2023 March 10 & 11 at Dexter with guest speaker Lonnie Jones.

Our Spring Gospel Meeting with Bryan McAlister will be March 5-8. Be praying now for a successful meeting, and plan to attend every night.

THE LONELIEST MAN

On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin stepped out of their lunar landing module and became the first humans to walk on the surface of the moon. But we don't often think about the third person on their team, Michael Collins, who was flying the command module for Apollo 11.

After his teammates clambered down the ladder to test the lunar surface, Collins waited alone on the far side of the moon. He was out of touch with Neil, Buzz, and everyone on earth. NASA's mission control commented, "Not since Adam has any human known such solitude as Mike Collins."

There are times when we feel completely alone. Imagine, for instance, how Joseph, Jacob's son, felt when he was taken from Canaan to Egypt after his brothers sold him (Genesis 37:23-28). Then he was thrust into further isolation by being thrown in prison on false charges (39:19-20).

How did Joseph survive in prison in a foreign land with no family anywhere nearby? Listen to this: *While Joseph was there in the prison, the LORD was with him* (vv 20-21). Four times we're reminded of this comforting truth in Genesis 39.

Do you feel isolated or alone from others? Hold on to the truth of God's presence, promised by Jesus Himself, *Surely I am with you always* (Matthew 28:20. With Jesus as your Savior, you're never alone. Dave Branon

