



TRUE LIGHT

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

May 28, 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
573-293-5594

DEACONS

Wayne Reams
Rodney Williams

OFFICE: 573-293-5620
Bernie Church of Christ
P.O. Box 366
Bernie, MO 63822

EMAIL:
berniechurchofchrist
@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.berniechurchofchrist.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
Bernie church of Christ

*"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**

MEMORY AND MORE

The Centurion stood sheepishly before the governor, Pontius Pilate. He had not asked for this duty. His century of men were elite troopers of Rome stationed in Caesarea. Caesarea was near the coast, beautiful, felt more like home, and was far away from this dangerous and harsh place called Jerusalem.

With rumors about the Nazarene named Jesus floating in the air, King Herod had asked for a stronger Roman military presence during the Passover feast. When the Jewish Ruling Council had sent Jesus to Pilate and screamed for his execution, Pilate had sent the Centurion along with his men to keep the peace and oversee the execution. His job was to keep the peace and confirm to Pilate that the Nazarene was dead.

Watching over the death detail was beneath his station. The Centurion was a professional soldier, not an executioner and prison house lackey. When order to carry out Pilate's sentence on the Nazarene, he had expected the worst. Reality proved him right.

Ranting and raving, insults and cruel jokes, with three men dying the slow death of crucifixion were expected. Earthquakes, darkness at midday, and the eerie sense of something much bigger happening had set the Centurion on edge. The look in the Nazarene's eye, however, was what tugged at his heart. Jesus had said, *Father forgive them, they don't know what they are doing*. Then the Nazarene looked right at him.



As the death detail cast lots for his clothes, as the religious powerbrokers hurled their insults, as the other two criminals cursed and screamed at the crowd, the Nazarene had prayed for their forgiveness -- his forgiveness! Then this dying Jesus had looked at one of his friends and told him to take care of his mother. He then looked to the heavens, and seemed to give his spirit up to some unknown deity - this God whom he called Father. In that moment, this battle-hardened, best of Rome's fighting machine heroes, surprised himself. *Surely this was the Son of God*, he heard himself say.

Now that Jesus' death was confirmed, Pilate was sending him back to Golgotha. He in his silver burnished armor, a rich man named Joseph in his fancy clothes, along with a man in all of the religious garb he had seen earlier. Only these two men were allowed to take down the body of the Nazarene from the cross and bury it. The Centurion and his men were to accompany them. The was *to ensure that nothing happened with the body*, Pilate and the High Priest had emphasized.

So here he was again, the Centurion at the foot of a foul smelling, blood-stained, instrument of torture to take down a mutilated body. Somehow, he still felt drawn to this Nazarene. In a weird way, he even felt connected to the rich guy and the religious man even though their lives were worlds apart.

Could it get any stranger -- this death detail that must now oversee the burial of an executed Nazarene to be placed in a borrowed tomb? Somehow, the Centurion knew this story wasn't over. Even when his men rolled the stone across the door to the tomb and sealed it shut, he knew he hadn't heard the end of the Nazarene.

Little did the Centurion know that the strange pull of faith on his heart would be challenged and enlivened with what was about to happen over the next few days. *Surely this Jesus is the Son of God*, he heard his heart say again and again. In the coming weeks, many would come to agree with him.

Is that exactly how the story happened? I'm not sure. That how I put it together in my imagination after looking at the different accounts of Jesus' crucifixion focusing on the role of the Roman Centurion - see the account from the Gospel of Mark. But for me, there is a bigger issue for you and me.

Continued on back

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

June 1 - David & Loretta Carson (A)
Tim & Kim Flowers (A)
June 2 - Glen Burch
Joe Watson
June 4 - Julie Garner
Lara Simmons

CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Velveeta Cheese * Nuts * Disinfectant Spray (i.e. Lysol) * Bathroom Tissue Paper * Light Bulbs * Spaghetti Sauce

Pick up date: July 24, 2023

WILLING TO SERVE

May 28, 2023

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Cameron Traw
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, May 31, 2023

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Jerry Burleson
Dismissal.....Mike Duley

June 4, 2023

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Opening Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....BJ Thomason
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....David Carson
Prayer.....Wayne Reams
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers
Dismissal.....Rodney Williams

Continued from front:

On this Memorial Day Weekend, let's remember that soldiers in Jesus' day recognized something powerful and commanding about Him - like the Roman Centurion who confesses Jesus as the Son of God. In fact, in the early years of the Jesus movement, we meet three Centurions who all demonstrate some level of faith in Jesus.

- The Centurion with the sick servant who recognizes Jesus' authority (Luke 7:1-10).
- The Centurion at the Cross who confesses Jesus as the Son of God (Mark 15: 37-47).
- The Centurion named Cornelius who becomes the first Gentile disciple recognized by the church leaders in Jerusalem (Acts 10:1-48; Acts 11:1-18).

On this Memorial Day Weekend as folks remember the sacrifices of those who paid the ultimate price for their loyalty to USA and its ideals, let's remember Jesus. Let's remember what those Centurions saw in Jesus in their day:

- That we can receive the Lord's help with appreciation and confidence, knowing He has the ultimate authority to bless our lives (Luke 7: 5-10).
- That we can trust that Jesus is the Son of God who has died on the Cross to share God's life with us (Mark 15:37-39).
- That no matter how good our life may appear (Acts 10:22-23), Jesus calls each of us to receive the Holy Spirit and be baptized based on our faith (Acts 10: 34-48, Acts 11:15-18).

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

Attendance for May 21: 96

Contribution for May 21: \$2967

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Janie Burleson struggling with some health issues, including reduced kidney function * **Jerel Jester** scheduled for a PET scan June 6, and surgery June 7 to remove a melanoma on his neck * Alyson Mickey's son, **Jett**, will have his adenoids removed and ear tubes June 2 * **Jodie Buckner** was recently hospitalized with a kidney infection but is doing better * **Darlene McGowan** recovering slowly from a fall * **Louella Akers** is not doing well * **Janet Wood** is home recovering from knee replacement surgery * **Karen Forkum and Gloria Moore** struggling with many health issues * **Marty Howard** having some knee pain as the result of a fall * **Travis Cooper** is not doing well *

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * David Burleson * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Ida Roberts * Waynetta Rodgers * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Woody Wood

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Melinda Akers * Chastity Beaird * Cathy Bennett * Gina Bogle * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Barbara Denson * Bill Fitzpatrick * Ronnie Goins * Patricia Greninger * Nolan Hollowell * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Holly Johnson * Kristin Meadows * Connie Lemmons * Ponna Mahan * Linda Morgan * Paula Mason * Mike Napier * Betty Nicholson * Keagan Owens * Nikki Reif * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

Dixie Billingsley * DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * 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 * Travis Cooper * Sue Flowers * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson

Looking Ahead

First Sunday potluck and early evening service will be June 4. We encourage everyone to stay for the potluck and the 1 p.m. evening service following.

Our Summer Speaker Series begins June 7. Our first speaker will be Kason Lawrence from the congregation at Piggott. There is a list of speakers on the table in the foyer.

CRC Day at Crowley's Ridge College is June 11. We will have a donation box in the foyer for contributions to their scholarship fund for Bible majors.

Ladies Lunch Out June 13 at the Airways Café in Dexter. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

In Sympathy:

Sympathy is extended to Donna Layton and Jeff Martin in the loss of their mother, Shirley Martin, who passed away Tuesday. Her funeral was held yesterday in Sikeston.

Honor to the Soldier, and Sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor also to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field, and serves, as best he can, the same cause - honor to him, less only, than to him, who braves, for the common good, the storms of heaven and the storms of battle.
Abraham Lincoln