



# TRUE LIGHT

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

September 17, 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**

## SAUL'S HORSE (AND OTHER THINGS NOT FOUND IN THE BIBLE)

Those who are somewhat familiar with the Bible have heard sermons and lessons about the encounter that a man who then was known as Saul had with Jesus. The events are recorded in the ninth chapter of Acts.

As you may remember, Saul (later known as Paul) was on his way to Damascus when a very bright light appeared. Some preachers (I suppose in an attempt to add some drama to the Biblical account) have informed their listeners that the light was so bright that it knocked Saul off of his horse and onto the ground. While the text says that Saul did indeed fall to the ground, there is no mention of a horse (Acts 9:3-4).

All of that has caused me to think of other things that many people think or assume are in the Bible, but which are found nowhere in it. Some of those things may be of minor consequence. Others may have eternal consequences.

Some of the things I'm thinking about are:

- **Adam and Eve eating an apple.** Nowhere does the Bible inform the reader about what the "forbidden fruit" was.
- **The number of the wise men who visited Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.** Apparently, the assumption is that, since there were three gifts, there were three men. According to something I've read, at one time the accepted number of wise men was twelve. The truth is that the Bible tells us the number of gifts, but not the number of men.
- **There is a great probability that what is known by many as "the nativity scene" never happened.** The Bible does not say that the shepherds and wise men were visiting Mary, Joseph, and Jesus at the same time - or even in the same place. Instead, the record indicates that some time elapsed between the visit of the shepherds and that of the wise men. There are also indications that, by the time the wise men arrive, the family was in a house, not a stable. You may want to take a look at Matthew's account where the word "house" is used and where we find these words about Herod's reaction to being deceived by the wise men: *he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained by the wise men* (Matt. 2:16). Does that not indicate that some time had elapsed since the birth of Jesus?
- **"The sinner's prayer" and/or "asking Jesus into your heart."** Instead of either or both of these which are found nowhere in the Bible, the answer given to those people on the Day of Pentecost who asked the apostles what to do once they had been convicted of their guilt, was, *Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness/remission of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Ghost* (Acts 2:38).
- **As accepted, traditional, and often elaborate as they may be, there is nothing in the New Testament about honoring or remembering Jesus with special, seasonal religious observances.** Instead, His instruction as recorded by the apostle Paul was *do this in remembrance of Me* (1 Cor. 11: 24-25). Those who are familiar with The New Testament will remember that these instructions were not about celebrating the Lord's birth or even His resurrection, but were, instead, about the Lord's supper... (v 20) which was/is intended to *proclaim the Lord's death until He comes* (v 26). It may also be remembered by those familiar with this passage that it is found in a long discussion about what Christians were/are instructed to do *when you come together - when you come together as a church - on the first day of every week* (1 Cor. 11:17, 18; 16:2, ESV).

I will not take up more space or more of the time of those who have chosen to read this, but there are many other examples of things that people honestly *think* are in the Bible, but which are not. As suggested earlier, some may be of little consequence while others may determine where we will spend eternity.

Years ago The Statler Brothers recorded a song entitled "The Regular Saturday Setback Card Game." The "setting" of the song involves a bunch of "good old boys" sitting around, playing cards, and swapping stories. This line is about one of those men, "uncle Clyde" - *"You can lead a horse to water" is in the Bible, he would say.*

Well, like a lot of other things that people may think are there, that statement is not in God's Word. Hopefully, "uncle Clyde" was better at playing cards than he was at quoting the Bible.

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## **BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES**

September 19 - Pat Cooper  
Rodney Williams  
September 20 - Katie Mayberry  
September 23 - Curtis & Vickie McClard (A)



## **CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS**

Brown Sugar \* Brownie Mix \* Butter Flavored Shortening \* Canned Chicken \* Cheddar Cheese Soup \* Vienna Sausage  
Pick Up Date November 6

## **WILLING TO SERVE**

### **September 17, 2023**

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Dylan Seabaugh  
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely  
Scripture.....Jason Karnes  
Prayer.....Sam Garner  
Closing Prayer.....Jess Lecroy

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Ron Garner  
Prayer.....David Burleson  
Scripture.....Justin Allen  
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

### **Wednesday, September 20, 2023**

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton  
Prayer.....Ron Garner  
Dismissal.....Sam Garner

### **September 24, 2023**

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams  
Opening Prayer.....David Carson  
Scripture.....Ron Garner  
Prayer.....Zack Tanner  
Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

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

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I guess that wouldn't have really mattered, though. According to the song, the men spent so much time arguing and telling stories that they never got around to playing cards. On top of that, again according to the song, "uncle Clyde's" Bible was still in the box when he died.

A humorous song about some fictitious men can serve as a serious reminder. We would all be well-advised to spend the time and make the effort to see what God actually does say in His Word. Much, much more than winning an argument or knowing the answer to a trivia question could be at stake!

It was the Lord who said, *The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day* (John 12:48).

Adam Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post

### **In Sympathy:**

*Sympathy is extended to our brother Stan Dauck in the loss of his father, Gene, who passed away September 12. A memorial service for Gene was held Friday in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas. Sympathy is extended to the family of our sister Louella Akers, who passed away September 12. A memorial service for Louella was held Saturday in Malden.*

**Attendance for September 10: 99**

**Contribution for September 10: \$4469**

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Mindy Pruitt** hasn't been feeling well \* **David Terrill** continuing to have some heart related issues \* **Sue Flowers** is on hospice care but is feeling some better \* **David Burleson** has finished treatments \* **Louella Layton** is not doing well \* **Mindy Tomah** (Cindy Williams' niece) diagnosed with a brain tumor but is doing better \* **Journey Rose** (Donna McKuini's great-granddaughter) home and doing better \* **Brynlee Douglas** (Mike and Judy Duley's great granddaughter) will see an orthopedic pediatrician Wednesday for a soft tissue mass in her knee \*

**Continue praying for these members of our church family:** David Carson \* Travis Cooper \* Mike Duley \* Scott and Judy Flannery \* Karen Forkum \* Patsy (Hardy) Gregg \* Darlene McGowan \* Helen McGowan \* Jeff McGowan \* Donna McKuini \* Gloria Moore \* Ida Roberts \* Waynetta Rodgers \* David Terrill \* Bettie Thurston \* Marty Watson \* Woody Wood

## **Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :**

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

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

Dixie Billingsley \* DeeDee Burch \* Mary Burke \* Shirley Grimes \* Katie Hicks \* Grant Howard \* Clyde Jacques \* Lola Johnson \* Beckie King \* Eva Latham \* Nikki Lawrence \* Louella Layton \* Tim Lecroy \* Shug Lee \* Jerry Don McGowan \* Brenda Robinson \* Kevin Steed \* Traci Suiter \* Heather Whitehead \*

## **Our Shut Ins**

Travis Cooper \* Sue Flowers \* Bettie Thurston \* Marty Watson

## **Looking Ahead**

Today through Sept. 20 - Spiritual Growth Seminar with guest speaker Keith Parker at Green Forest church of Christ. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

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Today through Sept. 20 - Gospel Meeting with guest speaker Spencer Furby at Highland Drive church of Christ.

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September 19 - Ladies' supper and devotional at 6 p.m. at the home of Amy Thomason. You will need your Bible and something to write with. If you would like to ride the van, please be at the church building by 5:30.

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Wednesday night fellowship meal will be taco salad. Desserts will be needed.

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September 22-24: Meeting and Ladies Day at Arnold church of Christ. The theme is "Overcoming the Trials of Life" with guest speakers Melvin and Jania Otey. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

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September 24 - Austin Holiman will be our guest speaker

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September 30 - Children's Homes Homecoming and Open house from 11-3. There is a poster on the bulletin board with more information. There are several empty cans on the table in the foyer if you need one. Let's get our Change for Children cans filled up.

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October 1 - First Sunday potluck and early evening service.

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October 22-25: Our Gospel meeting with Spencer Furby. Be praying now for a successful meeting and that many lives will be changed.

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November 4: Ladies Day at Dexter. The theme is "A Feast for the Soul." More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery