



# TRUE LIGHT

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

**October 15, 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***

## WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER MY PRAYERS?

Every year various national polls indicate that almost 90 percent of US residents pray. Most come to the great Giver looking for gifts. After all, Jesus did say, *The Father will give you whatever you ask in my name* (John 15:16 NIV). So why doesn't it work all the time?

I have prayed asking for my team to win, for my car to make it to the next exit before running out of gas, for the perfect job, for God to heal my dying friend, and for funds for this ministry. And, nothing. At times, I have ended up feeling more distant than ever and disconnected from the invisible God. Sadly, I had missed the point. God wants more for us, not more requests from us.

When we are young it's easy to talk to parents about what we want. "Mom, why can't I watch this program," or "I want pizza for dinner." "Dad, I want to stay up later, just one more hour..." When we get to teen years, we talk to almost everyone but our parents. Then, as adults we check in briefly on family days. Now, after our parents are gone, we long to sit and talk about life, dreams, decisions, and struggles. We wish for time, just to talk.

## God wants more for us, not more requests from us.

That's what prayer is: it's talking to God about life. Do you talk to Him about your discoveries, your surprises, your dreams, your embarrassments, questions, and joys? Do you confess your weaknesses, your failures, your mess-ups? Do you ask Him to help you forget and forgive? Do you long to have an inside track, to see what He's up to? To share His secrets?

Do you talk back to Him, vent your frustrations, and struggle with the whys and why nots? When you finally understand how things are working together for good, do you share that with Him? Do you ask for courage to do what you already know you need to do? Do you pray for open eyes to see what God sees, to feel what He feels, to hear what He hears?

Do you ask Him to put people in your path who need to see an authentic believer? Do you ask for assignments, for opportunities to make Him proud? Do you thank Him for the adventures and discoveries and wonders along the way? Do you stop long enough for Him to write grace and peace on your heart?

God wants you to grow up, to learn how to be respectable and mature. He wants you to learn to make wise decisions. So, He doesn't jump at every request. He can open doors no man can shut and He can close doors no man can open, so should we just sit around waiting for doors to open? Or should we kick some of the doors open? Some of the great adventures of life are poised and positioned behind doors we have to kick open. In fact, the kicking of the doors is part of what makes it a God thing. Trust me, if God wants the door closed, you will not be able to kick it open.

I have learned: When I ask God about a problem, or an opportunity, or a difficulty, or a healing, or a rescue, and I don't get an obvious answer, I make a choice to move ahead - to do something. Waiting on the Lord doesn't mean hanging around the house doing nothing. This waiting gig is more about God changing me into His image, than me waiting to get an answer.

And if God wants you to tackle what's behind door number 2, He will blow it open. It will be unmistakable. That's the kind of thing He loves to do.

Reread this post and make a list of the things you need to talk to God about. Then, open up your soul and tell HIM you love Him. Just hang with Him for awhile. Talk about your day. And, next time you pray, don't forget to take action. Don't sit around waiting for God to act. Be responsible, unwrap your Holy Spirit-lead-intuition and instinct and let God use the experience to find the new you.

Ron Rose, [www.heartlight.com](http://www.heartlight.com)

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing* (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17).

## **BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES**

October 15 - Beth Gresham  
October 17 - Darrin Shipman  
October 19 - Sam Howard  
October 20 - Alyson Mickey  
                  Marcus Suiter  
October 22 - Robin Mays



**Attendance for October 8: 87**

## **CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS**

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



**Contribution for October 8: \$5032**

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**David Carson** still not feeling well following a bout with COVID \* **Wayne Reams** home and continuing to improve \* **Rodney Britt** has an appointment at Mayo Clinic October 24 \* **Sue Flowers** remains on hospice care \* **Gene Rowland** (Bonnie Howard's father) has had another brain bleed \* **Alan Woodward**, Jon Neely's brother-in-law, will have a bone marrow transplant this month for leukemia treatment \* **Linda Morgan** has been placed on hospice care \* **Ruth Dauck** struggling following her shoulder replacement surgery

**Continue praying for these members of our church family:** David Burleson \* David Carson \* Travis Cooper \* Mike Duley \* Scott and Judy Flannery \* Karen Forkum \* Patsy (Hardy) Gregg \* Darlene McGowan \* Helen McGowan \* Jeff McGowan \* Donna McKuin \* 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 \* Ashley Smith \* Tammy Telker \* Bobby Thornton \* Mindy Tomah \*

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

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

## **Our Shut Ins**

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

## **Looking Ahead**

Tuesday: Ladies Lunch Out at Main Street Café in Bernie at 11:30. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.  
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Wednesday night fellowship meal will be fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and rolls. Desserts will be needed.  
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October 20 & 21: Mens' Retreat at Bootheel Youth Camp with guest speaker Joe Wells. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.  
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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." Pre-registration is requested. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.  
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November 6: Children's Home Grocery Pick Up.



Congratulations to Houston and Avery Caroline Neely, who made the decision to put on Christ in baptism last Sunday afternoon. Welcome to the family, Avery and Houston!

## **WILLING TO SERVE**

### **October 15, 2023**

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams  
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, October 18, 2023**

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton  
Prayer.....David Carson  
Dismissal.....Jeff Rodgers

### **October 22, 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.....TBA  
Prayer.....Rodney Williams  
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers  
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

## **BABY BOY**

For more than a year, his legal name was "Baby Boy."

Discovered by a security guard who heard his cries, Baby Boy had been abandoned - hours old and wrapped only in a bag - in a hospital parking lot.

Soon after his discovery, Social Services called the people who would one day become his forever family. The couple took him in and called him Grayson (not his real name). Finally, the adoption was complete, and Grayson's name became official. Today, you can meet a delightful child who mispronounces his *r's* as he earnestly engages you in conversation. You'd never guess he'd once been found abandoned in a bag.

Late in his life, Moses reviewed God's character and what He'd done for the people of Israel. *The Lord set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, Moses told them (Deuteronomy 10:15). This love had a broad scope. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing, Moses said (v 18). He is the one you praise, he is your God (v 21).*

Whether it's through adoption or simply through love and service, we're called to reflect God's love. That loving couple became the hands and feet God used to extend His love to someone who might have gone unnoticed and unclaimed. We can serve as His hands and feet, too.

Tim Gustafson