



# TRUE LIGHT

December 24, 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

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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**

## SOME LAST MINUTE (AND INEXPENSIVE) GIFT IDEAS

I admire people who seem to have a knack for buying very appropriate gifts and for giving them at the very best time. Unfortunately, I've never been one of those people.

Some people seem to love this time of the year and derive a lot of pleasure from being able to pull their buying and giving skills "into overdrive." People like me, on the other hand, have more of a fondness for holidays and other occasions when giving and receiving of gifts is not a part of the equation.

Since a lot of gift giving and receiving is [tomorrow], I thought that I would compile a very short list of last-minute ideas for people who, like me, are terrible at thinking of appropriate and meaningful gifts. As an added benefit, they are also very inexpensive. In fact, some of them cost nothing except maybe a little time.

So, here's my list. You can probably add many more things to it, but here's a least a starter list:

- A smile
- A kind word
- A phone call (**not** a text - let somebody actually **hear** your voice)
- If (unlike me) you're "tech savvy" enough, maybe even Facetime
- Even better - an actual **visit** during which you can "do life" together
- A handwritten note. Somehow these seem more meaningful than other and "more efficient" methods of communicating (even if, like me, your poor penmanship makes it look like you write in "the unknown tongue").
- Running an errand for somebody who is no longer able to do that for himself or herself.
- Inviting a person or some people who are not actually members of your physical family to one of your holiday meals - or regular meals for that matter.
- Providing a ride to the grocery store, bank, etc. for somebody who is either temporarily or permanently unable to drive themselves (be a free Uber driver).
- Instead of (or along with) being a free Uber driver, what about adopting the Doordash model and taking meals to people for free?
- What about going even one step further and taking somebody a cake, pie, some cookies, or even a complete **home-cooked** meal?

When I started this, I thought I would have four or five ideas. As you can see, my list grew beyond those numbers. It could even be longer, but, since I said that I would provide a short list, I'll stop with these.

Maybe your list will be even longer. I hope so.

Jim Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post

## CHRISTMAS IS FOR KIDS

One Christmas my husband put an assortment of beauty products in my stocking. I tried one of the facial masks, and was about to wash it off when my eight-year-old son, Callum, walked in. I explained to him that it was a present from his dad and it would make me beautiful. He patiently waited by my side as I rinsed and patted my face dry. "Well, what do you think," I asked? "Oh Mom, it didn't work!" Callum replied. --Lynn Thibodeau \*\*\* When my niece was a student, her class of six-year-olds sang "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" at a Christmas concert. The line, "God and sinners reconciled," was a tricky one for this age group. One little boy, with a voice that completely drowned out the rest of the choir, happily belted out, "God and sinners dressed in style." -- Jessie Robertson \*\*\* The nativity play was going as planned and Joseph and Mary were going from house to house knocking on the doors and asking if there was any room for them. As they continued to get "no room" answers, a little voice called out from the back, "You should've booked!" bringing the house down. \*\*\* A boy wanted to be Joseph in the nativity pageant. He was cast at the landlord and objected loudly, to no avail. When the pageant was presented, Mary and Joseph knocked on the door and asked if he had a room for them. The boy smiled and said, "Yes, sure! Lots of room. Come on in!"

## BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

December 28 - Kylie Allen  
December 30 - Paul & Beth Gresham (A)



Attendance for December 17: 98

## CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Hamburger Helper \* Paper Towels  
\* 13-Gallon Trash Bags \* Cream of  
Chicken Soup \* Shampoo or  
Conditioner \* Vanilla Wafers  
Pick up Date: February 19

Contribution for December 17: \$4672

## WILLING TO SERVE December 24, 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.....n/a  
Prayer.....n/a  
Scripture.....n/a  
Dismissal.....n/a

## Wednesday, December 27, 2023

Song Leader.....Derek Mays  
Prayer.....Jerry McCoy  
Dismissal.....Mike Duley

## December 31, 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.....Rodney Williams  
Scripture.....Jeff Rodgers  
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

## THE PRINCE OF PEACE

When John's cold turned into pneumonia, he ended up in the hospital. At the same time, his mother was being treated for cancer a few floors above him, and he felt overwhelmed with worries about her and about his own health.

Then, on Christmas Eve, when the radio played the carol, "O Holy Night," John was flooded with a deep sense of God's peace. He listened to the words about it being the night of the dear Savior's birth: "A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!" In that moment, his worries about himself and his mother vanished.

This "dear Savior" born to us, Jesus, is the "Prince of Peace," as Isaiah prophesied (Isaiah 9:6). Jesus fulfilled this prophecy when He came to earth as a baby, bringing light and salvation to *those living in the land of the shadow of death* (Matthew 4:16; see Isaiah 9:2). He embodies and gives peace to those He loves, even when they face hardship and death.

There in the hospital, John experienced the peace that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7) as he pondered the birth of Jesus. This encounter with God strengthened his faith and sense of gratitude as he lay in that sterile room away from his family at Christmas.

May we, too, receive God's gift of peace and hope.  
Amy Boucher Pye

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**Roxanne Carson** was not able to start chemo Monday as planned \* **Bill Pruitt** has been sick for a few weeks now \* **Faye Dockins** has been sick with the flu and inner ear issues, but is hoping to be at services today \* **Judy Duley** hasn't been feeling well \* **Helen Robinson** (Jeanie Robinson's mother in law) recently fell at the nursing home \* **Becky Johnson** (Janie Burleson's sister) is a little better \* **Larry Summers** as he continues cancer treatments \* **Rodney Britt** as he continues treatments \* **Joe Vincent** (Amy Townsend Vincent's husband) undergoing treatments for sinus cancer \* **Sue Flowers** remains on hospice care and has not been feeling well \* **Maura Thomason** will be having an MRI on her back/hips January 22 \*

**Continue praying for these members of our church family:** David Burleson \* David Carson \* 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 \* Mike Napier \* Betty Nicholson \* Keagan Owens \* Bill Peck \* Nikki Reif \* Bobby Thornton \* Mindy Tomah \* Alan Woodward

## 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 \* Brenda Robinson \* Kevin Steed \* Traci Suiter \* Heather Whitehead \*

## Our Shut Ins

Sue Flowers \* Bettie Thurston \* Marty Watson

## Looking Ahead

TODAY: We will not have evening worship service. Johnny Hester will be our guest speaker.

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Christmas Dinner in the fellowship room has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

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There will not be a fellowship meal this week due to the holidays.

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December 31: New Year's Eve get together following evening worship in the fellowship room. Bring snacks or finger foods and games to play.

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January 4-7: Truth Conference with guest speaker Aaron Gallagher at Arnold. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

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January 7: Friends and Family Day 2024 with guest speaker Kason Lawrence! We will have a potluck following morning services and a light meal following evening services. Make plans to attend both services.

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January 9 - Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at Dexter BBQ in Dexter.

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January 20-21 - "Ignite Your Light" youth event at Jackson church of Christ with keynote speaker Spencer Furby. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

## Rejoice!

Our sister Patsy Hardy came forward last Sunday asking for prayers and to be restored to the church.

*I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent (Luke 15:7 NIV).*

## PLANNING FOR 2024:

If you would like to use the fellowship room in 2024 and know the date, please let us know ASAP so we can get it on our calendar.

