



TRUE LIGHT

February 11, 2024

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**

GOD PUT HIS SIGNATURE ON YOU!

The LORD's message came to me: "Before I made you in my mother's womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I chose you for a special work. I chose you to be..." (Jeremiah 1:4-5 ERV).

Like Jeremiah, who first heard this word from the LORD, our first instinct is to say, "But Lord GOD, I don't know..." We tend to look at those great people in the Bible that God called into service as something special - something we tend to think we are not. We often call them "biblical characters"! But as an old friend used to say, "There's no such thing as biblical characters, just a bunch of characters running around when the Bible got written down."

The problem with us, just like everyone God called into service during the time "when the Bible got written down," is that we know ourselves. We tend to see our flaws, our failures, and our inconsistencies. "How could God ever really use someone like me?" we ask ourselves. Of course, the bottom line truth is this: we are the only kind of folks God has ever had available to use!

So before we dismiss the call of the LORD in our lives - before we explain away God's purpose for us - when we were still in the womb because we think, "I am no Jeremiah!" - let's think together for a few minutes about one incredibly humbling and empowering truth. We are God's masterpiece: an original work of the Master's hands, lovingly created and fashioned to be a one-of-a-kind person who lives to bring him praise for the incredible work of his hands.

Don't believe me? Do you still have your doubts? Well, go back and read that incredible passage that talks about us being saved by grace (Ephesians 2:1-9), and then notice how it ends:

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago (Ephesians 2:10 NLT).

Even more amazing is that God has put his SIGNature on you and marked you as his own work, according to his great purpose for you! Let me share briefly what I mean with you. The S in God's SIGNature on you is what I call your Strengths. You may call them talents. It's the DNA your heavenly Father gave you when he formed you in your mother's womb. You came into the world with these strengths programmed into who you are. Just like Jeremiah, God knew you and had a plan for you before you were even formed in the womb of the woman who carried you or held you in her arms! Notice the words David wrote for all of us to say in our worship of God:

You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous - how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment laid out before a single day had passed (Psalm 139:13-16 NLT).

Yes, a big part of who you are and what God wants you to do for him and the Kingdom was built into your DNA! I hope you can say with the words of the Psalm, "Your workmanship is marvelous!" and know that you realize that you are God's workmanship!

The I in SIGNature is what I call Interests. As we grow and experience life, especially after giving our life to Jesus, God is at work in those experiences to fashion and bless us. Most of us know the incredible promise found in a Scripture that is many people's favorite Bible verse:

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them (Romans 8:28 NLT).

In other words, we are more than our DNA! When God re-creates by his grace, he makes us spiritually new (2 Corinthians 5:17) and gives us new interests and things to do for him (Ephesians 2:10). Every step we take from that moment on, God is involved in our lives. The Holy Spirit is alive and living in us, working to form Christ in us (2 Corinthians 3:18). Every situation, circumstance, and experience is filtered through God's grace and is used to shape us for our good and God's glory.

Along the way, we develop new interests and abilities because of our experiences and God's providential work in those experiences. We find certain aspects of our character and faith strengthened. We realize that new doors of potential ministry are opened to us because God has used our experiences to prepare us to share his grace with others (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). New areas of interest and ability are discovered. Other areas of interest and ability, either buried or forgotten, are uncovered.

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BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

February 11 - Ronnie Moore
 February 14 - Helen McGowan
 Jeff McGowan
 February 17 - Derek Mays
 February 18 - Bill & Beverly Pruitt (A)



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



WILLING TO SERVE

February 11, 2024

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

Attendance for February 4: 90

Contribution for February 4: \$4813

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Larry Summers was taken by ambulance to Mercy in Cape Wednesday in critical condition * **Mike** and **Judy Duley** both diagnosed with bronchitis * **Marty Howard** as he recovers from a broken bone in his leg * **Brian Thomason** has a consultation Feb. 19 with a neurosurgeon for carotid artery surgery * **Becky Johnson** * **Roxanne Carson** got a good report from her doctor * **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 a fluoroscopy and asteroid epidural on her spine April 11 *

Continue praying for these members of our church family: David Burleson * David Carson * Scott and Judy Flannery * Karen Forkum * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Donna McQuin * 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

February 13 - Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at La Cascada in Bernie. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

Wednesday fellowship meal will be fried chicken and the fixins. Desserts will be needed.

February 17 - Wedding ceremony of Jess Lecroy and Linda Jones at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

February 19 - Children's Home grocery pickup. Let's get the cart filled up.

March 8 & 9 - Inspiration 2024 at Dexter with guest speaker Lonnie Jones.

When a mother saw a thunderstorm forming in mid-afternoon, she worried about her seven-year-old daughter who would be walking the three blocks from school to home. Deciding to meet her, the mother saw her daughter walking nonchalantly along, stopping to smile whenever lightning flashed. Seeing her mother, the little girl ran to her, explaining happily, "All the way home, God's been taking my picture!"

A little boy walked down the beach, and as he did he spied a matronly woman sitting under a beach umbrella on the sand. He walked up to her and asked, "Are you a Christian?" "Yes." "Do you read your Bible every day?" She nodded her head, "Yes." "Do you pray often?" the boy asked next, and again she answered, "Yes." With that he asked his final question. "Will you hold my quarter while I go swimming?"

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
 Prayer.....Rodney Williams
 Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

February 18, 2024

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Derek Mays
 Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
 Scripture.....Jason Karnes
 Prayer.....Sam Garner
 Closing Prayer.....Jess Lecroy

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Ron Garner
 Prayer.....Rodney Williams
 Scripture.....Derek Mays
 Dismissal.....David Burleson

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Some of our favorite interests and abilities are honed and made better because God is always at work in our lives *to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose* (Philippians 2:13 NIV).

The third mark of God's SIGNature on us are the gifts God gives us - the Bible emphasizes these gifts come from the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - when this precious gift from Jesus is given us at our conversion (Acts 2:38-39; Titus 3:3-7). Four key places in the New Testament talk about these spiritual gifts:

Romans 12:3-8 * 1 Corinthians 12:1-31 * Ephesians 4:7-13 * 1 Peter 4:10-11

While we don't have time or space to delve into the nature and types of spiritual gifts we have been given, suffice it to say that God is at work in us to do amazing things to honor him and bless his people. Spiritual gifts are not about us but about God's grace working through us to grow our church family to be more like Jesus in what we do to bless others both in how we serve them (Ephesians 4:13; 2 Corinthians 3:18) and in power available to us (Ephesians 1:17-20; Ephesians 3:14-21) to do the work God has called us to do!

So we have covered the S-I-G in SIGNature, but what about those last letters - "nature"? That's the discussion of much of the apostle Paul's writings. We can live by the flesh or by the Spirit. We can be led by our flesh or sinful nature, or we can be led by the Spirit, our Spirit-filled nature. Life in the Spirit is realizing that we have been born into a new "nature" - or as Paul says, we are a "new creation" (2 Cor 5:17; Col 3:9-17). Life in the Spirit is about learning to be filled and led by the Spirit (Eph 5:17-21; Gal 5:22-25). As we learn to let the Spirit lead us, we begin to see the life of Jesus - his compassion and character - come alive in us! Yet when we look in the mirror, we are still us ... ourselves ... except only now, the light we see shining through us and reflected from us reminds others of Jesus! Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com