



# TRUE LIGHT

June 2, 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

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."*

Psalms 118:24

**We Welcome You  
To All Of Our  
Services**

## ANOTHER LOOK AT BEING BLINDED BY THE (WRONG) LIGHT

Some who read this may have read a previous post of mine that dealt with what I believe may be a danger for those of us who preach and teach God's word. The short version of what I wrote then is that there is the possibility that the fact that we are often "in the spotlight" can distort our message, our lives, and our eternal destiny.

This post is intended to "shed some light" (pun intended) on another dangerous issue. There are those who attempt to influence others by dazzling them with their personalities, their oratorical skills, impressive Hollywood style productions, and a host of other things. Those who experience their presentations are usually impressed with just that - the experience. When all of the theatrics and "fluff" is stripped away, there is just not much of a message at all. What may pass for a message is actually an effort to make the messenger look good and/or to make the hearer feel good.

You may remember an account from the Bible about a situation somewhat like that. You can find it recorded in Acts 12:21-23. A ruler known to history as Herod Agrippa I, but who is referred to in this text merely as Agrippa, was no friend of the early Christians. As we begin reading Acts 12, we find information about him having James, the brother of John, killed and having Peter imprisoned with the intention of also killing him.

As we come close to the end of the chapter, we read about a speech that Agrippa made. Interestingly, though, we do not actually read about the speech [itself]. Instead, we find some information about how he looked and the impression that he made on the people.

All that the Bible tells us about is the appearance of Herod Agrippa as he spoke and the effect his appearance and presentation made on those in attendance. The text informs us that he was *arrayed in royal apparel...* (Acts 12:21).

The Jewish historian, Josephus, provides more information. According to him, on occasions such as the one recorded in Acts 12, Herod wore a special garment made entirely of silver. He would position himself in such a way so as to reflect the rays of the sun and impress people. Apparently, as the sun rose, this reflection was extremely effective and, as the sun continued on its course across the sky, the color, intensity, etc. of the reflection would change and continue to impress. If, in fact, this was the "royal apparel" worn by Herod on this day, it may go a long way in explaining why the people said, *...It is the voice of a god, and not of a man* (Acts 12:22).

I suppose that it could be said that this was the forerunner of present-day "light shows." Then, as now, people seemed to be much more impressed with style than they were with substance. Just as speakers can be blinded by the spotlight, hearers can be blinded by nothing more than dazzle.

You may remember that things didn't turn out so well for Herod on that occasion, though. As Luke continues his inspired narrative in Acts, we read these words: *And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost* (Acts 12:23). We may not expect God today to punish in such a dramatic way those who are more interested in impressing people with themselves instead of encouraging them to honor God. At the same time, we can rest assured that... *God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble* (1 Peter 5:5).

Before we leave out consideration of Acts 12, we need to think seriously about these words: *But the word of God grew and multiplied* (Acts 12:24). That information reminds me of something found in the Old Testament: *For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater; So shall my word by that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it* (Isaiah 55:10-11).

The focus must never be on us. Things like notoriety, popularity, acceptance, acclaim, and even monetary gain will mean absolutely nothing when we stand before the One who said **twice** *I am the light of the world* (John 8:12; 9:5). All of us - especially those of us who preach and teach - would do well to remember that.

Those of us who listen to preachers and teachers need to do all we can to make sure that our lives are guided by always the consistent *...light of the glorious gospel of Christ...* (2 Cor. 4:4) and not by something as inconsistent as a reflection that changes with the movement of the sun.

Jim Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post

## BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

June 2 - Glen Burch  
Joe Watson  
June 4 - Julie Garner  
June 6 - Rodney Britt  
Luke Tanner  
June 7 - Zander Northern  
June 9 - Darri Thompson



## CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Spaghetti Sauce \* Pasta Noodles \* Stick  
Deodorant \* Sugar \* Canned Drinks \*  
Kitchen Tash Bags (13 Gallon)  
Pick up date: August 26



## WILLING TO SERVE

### June 2, 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.....Derek Mays  
Prayer.....Wayne Reams  
Scripture.....Sam Garner  
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

### Wednesday, June 5, 2024

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton  
Prayer.....David Burleson  
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

### June 9, 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.....Rodney Williams  
Prayer.....Derek Mays  
Scripture.....Ron Garner  
Dismissal.....David Burleson

## GIVING OUT OF LOVE

Every day, Glen purchases his morning coffee at a nearby drive-through. And every day he also pays for the order of the person in the car behind him, asking the cashier to wish that person a good day. Glen has no connection to them. He's not aware of their reactions; he simply believes this small gesture is "the least he can do." On one occasion, however, he learned of the impact of his actions when he read an anonymous letter to the editor of his local newspaper. He discovered that the kindness of his gift on July 18, 2017, caused the person in the car behind him to reconsider their plans to take their own life that day.

Glen gives daily to the people in the car behind him without receiving credit for it. Only on this single occasion did he get a glimpse of the impact of his small gift. When Jesus says we should *not let [our] left hand know what [our] right hand is doing* (Matthew 6:3), He's urging us to give - as Glen does - without need for recognition.

When we give out of our love for God, without concern for receiving the praise of others, we can trust that our gifts - large or small - will be used by Him to help meet the needs of those receiving them.

Kirsten Holmberg

*June is the pearl of summer, shining with warmth and joy.*

Lucy Maude Montgomery

Attendance for May 26: 50

Contribution for May 26: \$2284

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**Janie Burleson** recovering at home. She received a heart monitor Friday and will see her doctor Tuesday regarding dangerously low blood pressure issues \* **Pat Cooper** back at Cypress Point doing some better, although she is having kidney issues \* **Wayne Reams** recovering from hernia surgery and doing well \* **Trish Baldwin** continuing to improve \* **Donna McKuin** waiting on results from her heart test and scheduled for another lumbar epidural \* **Traci McKuin** recently fell and broke her arm in two places

**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 McKuin \* Gloria Moore \* Ida Roberts \* Waynetta Rodgers \* David Terrill \* Bettie Thurston \* Marty Watson \* Woody Wood

## Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Melinda Akers \* Chastity Beard \* Cathy Bennett \* Rodney Britt \* Roxanne Carson \* Sherry Chambers \* Randy Cravens \* Barbara Denson \* Bill Fitzpatrick \* Audrey Galloway \* Patricia Greninger \* Stan Goodman \* 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 \* Joe Vincent \* Alan Woodward

## Our Shut Ins

Sue Flowers \* Ida Roberts \* Bettie Thurston \* Marty Watson

## Looking Ahead

TODAY: First Sunday potluck and early evening service. We will eat following morning worship and have an early, 1 p.m. evening service. Please plan to attend.

\*\*\*

June 5: Our Summer Speaker series begins with Brent Newton. There is a list of speakers on the table in the foyer.

\*\*\*

June 7-9: Bootheel Youth Camp PeeWee session.

\*\*\*

June 9 - CRC Day. There will be a box in the foyer for donations to Crowley's Ridge College.

\*\*\*

June 9-12: Vacation Bible School at Highland Drive church of Christ. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

\*\*\*

June 11: Ladies Lunch Out at Airways Café in Dexter. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

\*\*\*

## WHAT DO YOU LOVE AND REMEMBER ABOUT THE BERNIE CHURCH FROM YEARS PAST OR WHILE YOU WERE GROWING UP?

If you have some stories, please give them to Amy for future publication. If we get enough, she will try to publish them in a little keepsake book. Please write them out for her and don't worry too much about typos/punctuation errors. To get you started here is a story from the Mars Hill congregation:

"There was one event while I was preaching at Mars Hill that has never occurred at any other congregation where I served as minister... One Sunday morning as I concluded my lesson and stepped down from the pulpit, I noticed something on the carpet. It was a little green snake and my immediate thought was, 'Somebody is playing a trick on me just to see how I would respond.' It was at that point that the little fellow wiggled and I knew he was real. Brother Ray Horseman was sitting near the front and he may have seen the expression on my face that tipped him off, but as soon as the 'amen' was said, he swung into action with a song book and took care of the unwelcome visitor. I've heard of dogs meandering down the aisle in days gone by, but I have yet to hear of another preacher who had a literal snake come forward during the invitation."

Randy Baker