



TRUE LIGHT

ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?

December 15, 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

Jim and I have been traveling lately and that has resulted in us visiting several congregations of the Lord's church. We love to visit others and usually come away blessed by the worship and fellowship. However, I have been distressed lately about something I have noticed on more than one occasion, both at those congregations and at our home congregation - the lack of listening intentionally to obtain what is being said concerning God's Word and focusing on offering your worship to God.

Oh, I'm way ahead of you. I have a feeling at this point in the post some of you are thinking, *how does she know they're not paying attention if she's really paying attention.* There is probably some truth in that thought, but I can assure you that it is never my intention to not be engaged in worship. I'm not talking about the babies who can interrupt your focus. I bless those parents who bring those babies to worship and begin their training from the beginning of their lives. They never really bother me.

I'm basically talking about two things: whispered conversations that go on during the worship, and seeing people on their phones during worship. I know, I can't know if they are using their Bible on their phone, or taking notes on their phone. However, there have been some occasions recently when I have seen with my own eyes adults playing games or texting on their phone during worship to God.

We have all whispered something to the person beside us. That's not what I'm talking about. Often it's a comment about what you are hearing, or telling someone the passage you were asked to turn to. I'm talking about the whispered conversations that go on for several minutes, or even for the entire worship time. These conversations disrupt worship for those sitting close to them, and send the message that these people are simply not interested in what is being said or done. When we assemble to worship it is not the time for conversations with one another.

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That brings me to the second thing I noticed in our visits with other congregations - playing games on your phone during worship. I've noticed lots of parents give their small child their phone or iPad to keep them occupied during worship. That's another post I may write one day because I don't think it's a good idea to begin something and then just arbitrarily pick an age that they must stop this behavior.

I'm talking about teenagers and adults playing games on their phones during worship. I have seen the screens and they don't contain Bible passages. I have been told by many people about this behavior.

- * What does it say about your love for God?
- * What does it say about your respect for God and His Word?
- * What does it say about your concern for those sitting around you?
- * What does it say to the first-time visitor to your congregation who sees you?

These are all questions we need to answer if we aren't focused on worship of the God who loved us enough to send His Son to die for our sins.

When we gather to sing praises to Him, study His Word, remember the sacrifice of His Son's body and blood, talk to Him in prayer, and give of our means, how can you focus upon anything else besides Him and His wonderful gifts?

Are you listening?

Donna Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post

...the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth (John 4:23-24).

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

December 17 - Zack & Beckie Tanner (A)
December 20 - Keri Waters
December 22 - Rosemary McCoy



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Vienna Sausages * Cheddar Cheese
Soup * Canned Chicken * Brownie Mix
* Brown Sugar * Shortening
Pick up date: **TOMORROW**

WILLING TO SERVE

December 15, 2024

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Derek Mays
Opening Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....Steve Jones
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Prayer.....Wayne Reams
Scripture.....Sam Garner
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Ron Garner
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

December 22, 2024

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
Scripture.....Steve Jones
Prayer.....Jason Karnes
Closing Prayer.....Jess Lecroy

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Derek Mays
Prayer.....Justin Allen
Scripture.....Ron Garner
Dismissal.....David Burleson

Attendance for December 8: 100

Contribution for December 8: \$5748

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Judy Snyder fell recently and fractured her wrist * **Cody Boyt** had a procedure in North Carolina Wednesday and is doing well * **June Mothersbaugh** has been having some stomach issues but is doing much better * **Bentley Collier** suffered a wrist injury while playing soccer * **Janet Woods** scheduled for some tests prior to a stent procedure * **Judy Flannery's** biopsy results came back good * **David Burleson** had an appointment Friday * **Joe Thomason** home from the hospital and improving * **Cathy Provance** struggling with knee and hip pain * **Jerry Collier** still having some issues with double vision *

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Janie Burleson * David Carson * Pat Cooper * Sue Flowers * Karen Forkum * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Donna McKuIn * Gloria Moore * Ida Roberts * Waynetta Rodgers * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Woody Wood

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Melinda Akers * Chastity Beaird * Cathy Bennett * Rodney Britt * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Tammy Clark * Randy Cravens * Barbara Denson * Bill Fitzpatrick * Audrey Galloway * Emily Garner * Patricia Greninger * Stan Goodman * Renee Goodman * Nolan Hollowell * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Holly Johnson * Kristin Meadows * Connie Lemmons * Ponna Mahan * Mike Napier * Betty Nicholson * Keagan Owens * Nikki Reif * Bobby Thornton * Mindy Tomah * Joe Vincent * Alan Woodward

Our Shut Ins

Pat Cooper * Sue Flowers * Ida Roberts * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson

Looking Ahead

TODAY: A holiday meal will be served following morning worship, hosted by the Daucks. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

TOMORROW: The children's home van will be here to pick up groceries. Let's get the cart filled up.

Wednesday Fellowship Meal: hot dogs, soups and chili. Desserts will be needed.

December 19: Ladies' holiday brunch at 10 a.m. at the home of Amy Thomason. Ham will be provided, please bring your favorite dish to share. We will also have an optional \$20 gift exchange. Bring bagged or canned pet food or other pet-related items to be donated to a local animal shelter if you'd like to be entered into a drawing for a door prize.

December 25: Christmas dinner at noon in the fellowship room. If you would like to attend, please sign the sheet on the table in the foyer. Last year we cancelled the dinner due to lack of interest. Additionally, we will not have a Wednesday evening Bible study this week.

December 31: New Year's Eve get-together at 7 p.m. Bring snacks and games to play and help us welcome in 2025!

January 5: Friends and Family Day with guest speaker Kayson Lawrence. We will have a potluck meal following morning service and a 5 p.m. worship service with a youth emphasis, followed by a light meal. Make plans to be here and invite your friends and family! There are some flyers on the table in the foyer.

January 11: Bridal shower for Jacob Clayton and Raysha Adams at 2 p.m. in the fellowship room. They are registered at Wal Mart, and found under "Kentucky" for the state.

BIBLE TRIVIA:

The Israelites were told not to destroy what when they besieged cities in the Old Testament?
* How many shekels of silver did Achan steal? * The name Judas Iscariot appears how many times in the Bible? * Obadiah hid how many prophets in caves to protect them from Jezebel? * When the tower of Siloam fell, how many people were killed?

Answers: The trees (Deut. 20:19) * Two hundred (Joshua 7:20,21) * Ten * One hundred (1 Kings 18:4) * Eighteen (Luke 13:4)

FEAR NOT

Linus, in the *Peanuts* comic strip, is best known for his blue security blanket. He carries it everywhere and isn't embarrassed at needing it for comfort. His sister Lucy especially dislikes the blanket and often tries to get rid of it. She buries it, makes it into a kite, and uses it for a science fair project. Linus too knows he should be less dependent on his blanket and lets it go from time to time, always to take it back.

In the movie *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, when a frustrated Charlie Brown asks, "Isn't there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?" Linus, with his security blanket in hand, steps center stage and quotes Luke 2:8-14. In the middle of his recitation, as he says, "Fear not," he drops his blanket - the thing he clung to when afraid.

What is it about Christmas that reminds us we don't need to fear? The angels that appeared to the shepherds said, *Do not be afraid ... a Savior has been born to you* (Luke 2:10-11).

Jesus is *God with us* (Matthew 1:23). We have His very presence through His Holy Spirit, the true Comforter (John 14:16), so we don't need to fear. We can let go of our "security blankets" and trust in Him.

Anne Cetas

