



# TRUE LIGHT

December 29, 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."*

Psalms 118:24

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

## PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Father,

Give us a new year. Not just a new number, but a truly new year. Give us a year full of new things, new adventures, new attitudes, and visions. Lord, give us a new year full of new ideas and refresh some of our old ideas. Give us new relationships and renew old relationships, and restore relationships that have been broken.

Father, give us a new year. Give us a new song. Give us a new memory. Give us a new image of Your Son, and help us to show His image to those who are new to You. Give us new thoughts, new friends, and new things that replace the old worn-out things.

Father, give us a new year. The year that [is just ending] was difficult for some of us. There were struggles and frustrations and disappointments that we did not handle so well. Give us a better mentality and better spiritual insight that will help us deal with the struggles, frustrations and disappointments that will come in this New Year.

Father, give us a new year. Give us a year filled with new ministries, new opportunities, new voices, and new messages. Help us hold on to the old things that are worth holding, and help us let go of the old things that have served their purpose.

Father, give us a new year. Give us a year that is not controlled by fear. A year in which we are not afraid of people who are different. A year when we are not afraid of ideas that are new, of plans that are new, and places that are new.

Father, give us a new year. Give us a year filled with new love. A new love for You. A new love for each other. A new love for Your Kingdom. A new love for strangers. A new love for the helpless. A new love for the needy. A new love for the poor. A new love for the rich. A new love for all people.

Father, give us a new year. Help us put the old one to bed. Help us to leave the things of the past in the past. Help us look forward. Help us look beyond what we can see to what You have planned for us that we cannot see. Help us move forward with confidence and courage and humility and gentleness.

Father, give us a new year. Help us, in this New Year to completely surrender to You and what You have planned for us in this year filled with new things.

Tom Norvell, [www.heartlight.com](http://www.heartlight.com)



## ONE DAY CLOSER TO CHRISTMAS

"I can't believe Christmas is over," my dejected daughter said. I know how she feels. The aftermath of Christmas can feel dreary. Presents have been opened. The tree and lights must come down. Listless January - and, for many, the need to shed holiday pounds - awaits. Christmas - and the breathless anticipation that comes with it - suddenly feels eons away.

A few years ago, as we were putting Christmas stuff away, I realized: *no matter what the calendar says, we're always one day closer to the next Christmas.* It's become something I say frequently.

But far more important than our temporal celebration of Christmas is the spiritual reality behind it: the salvation Jesus brought into our world and our hope for His return. Scripture talks repeatedly about watching, waiting, and longing for Christ's second coming. I love what Paul says in Philipians 3:15-21. He contrasts the world's way of living - with mind(s) set *on earthly things* (v 19) - with a lifestyle shaped by hope in Jesus' return: *Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ* (v 20).

The reality that our *citizenship is in heaven* changes everything, including what we hope for and how we live. That hope is fortified by the knowledge that with every passing day, we're indeed one day closer to Jesus' return.

Adam R Holz

## BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

December 30 - Paul & Beth Gresham (A)

January 2 - David Carson

January 4 - Brenda Wheeler

- Janet Wood



## CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Muffin Mixes \* Instant Rice \* Dish-washing Detergent \* Pasta (Bow Tie, Penne, Rotini) \* HE Laundry Detergent

\* Stick Deodorant

Pick up date April 25, 2024

## WILLING TO SERVE

### December 29, 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.....Kyle Ward  
Prayer.....Wayne Reams  
Scripture.....Sam Garner  
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

### Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton  
Prayer.....Ron Garner  
Dismissal.....Mike Duley

### January 5, 2025

Morning Worship:

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

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Britt Burcham  
Prayer.....Justin Allen  
Scripture.....Ron Garner  
Dismissal.....David Burleson

Attendance for December 22: 104

Contribution for December 22: \$6646

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**Janie Burleson** is improving \* **Geraldine Sturges** has been released from the hospital and is back at Winchester Place \* **Cameron Traw** has started therapy following a debilitating stroke \* **Judy Snyder** recovering from a broken wrist \* \* **Janet Woods** will have a stent procedure January 9 \* **Ida Roberts** has been placed on palliative care \* **David Burleson** has an appointment Monday \* **Cathy Provance** struggling with knee and hip pain \* **Jerry Collier** still having some issues with double vision and has begun therapy \*

**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

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

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January 1: We will have a mid week service at 7. There will NOT be a fellowship meal. Meals are scheduled to resume January 8.

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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. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you can help with snacks for Sunday night. Make plans to be here and invite your friends and family! There are some flyers on the table in the foyer.

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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. They would also appreciate gift cards for home improvement stores. For more information or to contribute to a group gift, please see Millie or Cindy Williams.

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January 14: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at Huddle House in Dexter.

## BACK TO THE BASICS

Resolutions, it seems, are made to be broken. Some folks poke fun at this reality by proposing New Year's vows that are - shall we say - *attainable*. Here are a few from social media: Wave to motorists \* Sign up for a marathon. Don't run it. \* Stop procrastinating - tomorrow. \* Get lost without any help from Siri. \* Unfriend everyone who posts their workout regime.

The concept of a fresh start can be serious business, however. The exiled people of Judah desperately needed one. Just over two decades into their seventy-year captivity, God brought encouragement to them through the prophet Ezekiel, promising, *I will now restore the fortunes of Jacob* (Ezekiel 39:25).

But the nation first needed to return to the basics - the instructions God had given to Moses eight hundred years earlier. This included observing a feast at the new year. For the ancient Jewish people, that began in early spring (45:18). A major purpose of their festivals was to remind them of God's character and His expectations. He told their leaders, *Give up your violence and oppression and do what is just and right* (v 9), and he insisted on honesty (v 10).

The lesson applies to us too. Our faith must be put into practice or it's worthless (James 2:17). In this new year, as God provides what we need, may we live out our faith by returning to the basics: *Love the Lord your God*, and *Love your neighbor as yourself* (Matt 22:37-39).

Tim Gustafson

## FRESH START EFFECT

When Bryony turned thirty, she was sad to still be in a sales job she'd never liked. She decided it was time to stop procrastinating and find a new career. For David, New Year's Eve had him looking in the mirror vowing this would be the year he lost weight. And for James, it was watching another month pass without his angry outbursts decreasing. Next month, he promised himself, he would try harder.

If you've ever vowed to change at the start of a new month, new year, or major birthday, you're not alone. Researchers even have a name for it: the fresh start effect. They suggest that at calendar points like these we're more prone to assess our lives and try putting our failures behind us to start over. Wanting to be better people, we long for a fresh start.

Faith in Jesus speaks powerfully to this longing, offering a vision of what our best selves can be (Colossians 3:12-14) and calling us to leave our past selves behind (v 5-9). It offers this change not by decisions and vows alone, but by divine power. When we believe in Jesus, we become new people, and God's Spirit works in us to make us whole (v 10; Titus 3:5).

Receiving salvation in Jesus is the ultimate fresh start. And it doesn't need to wait for a special calendar date. Your new life can start right now.

Sheridan Voysey