



TRUE LIGHT



January 19, 2025

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
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DEACONS

Wayne Reams
Rodney Williams

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
Bernie church of Christ

*"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***



HARD WINTER CHILL

Dear brothers and sisters, whenever trouble comes your way, let it be an opportunity for joy. For when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be strong in character and ready for anything (James 1:2-4 NLT).

Are you a winter person? Over the years, I've learned that there are winter people and that there are summer people - some folks who prefer the cold and others that prefer the heat. I guess I'm one of those summer folks. I'm not big on cold weather. So as the first real hard winter chill has come and gone, I've had the opportunity to reflect on it a bit. I was surprised that there are some interesting similarities between handling a long, hard, cold spell, and dealing with periods of trial, temptation, and trouble.

Prepare for It

One of the keys to enduring a hard freeze and a period of really cold weather is to prepare for it appropriately. Make sure the outside spigots are covered and insulated. Check out the heating system so you know it is ready to handle the load. Provide cover and warmth for pets and tender plants. Locate the proper tires or tire chains if the roads are impassable. Fill up the pantry with food and the cars with fuel to make sure you aren't caught unprepared and left stranded.

While we usually can know in advance when very cold weather is approaching, our spiritual times of trial are a little more unpredictable. However, even though we don't know exactly when these tough times are going to come, we can be sure they WILL come. Spiritual preparation is crucial. Having a regular time to be with the Lord - a familiarity with prayer and Scripture - is essential. Jesus used his knowledge of both the heart of God and the will of God to help him through his time of testing. In addition, having supporting relationships with fellow believers is crucial to help us weather these times which are much harder to endure alone.

Dress Appropriately

As the winter chill sets in, appropriate dress helps deal with the wind's bitter bite and the chill that infiltrates all the corners of our routine. Dressing in layers, having an appropriate coat, and wearing the right kinds of clothing close to our skin all make the winter chill bearable. Having the right shoes and gloves helps immensely. A good hat, cap, or hood helps the body retain much of its warmth that is lost if the head is uncovered. The cold isn't so cold when we dress appropriately.

Spiritual dress is equally important if we are to endure the bitter times of testing, trials, and troubles. The apostle Paul twice refers to this as spiritual armor - the dress we need to withstand, defend, and win our battles with the evil one. This spiritual dress is even more important for us than winter clothing if we are to survive Satan's chilling attacks.

Realize that this Time Will Pass

Winter isn't forever. The season of bitter chill will pass. Good things lie beyond the cold weather and the bleak landscapes. Spring awaits us. Life with all its beautiful colors will burst forth, bringing with it warmer temperatures, longer days, and different times.

Our spiritual times of chill also are not forever. As children of God, we're destined for better things - more glorious things. For most of us, a season of trials is over sooner than we feared and the joy returns to life leaving us with a renewed vigor and joy. Even when our physical circumstances don't change quickly, we know we have an eternal home with God that is without the bitterness of temptations, trials, and troubles. The great reassurance we have in Christ is that good things and joyous times await us in our future.

Learn to Value the Good Tough Times Bring

As much as the winter chill can be hard to endure, it does bring good results. The hard cold of winter helps rid our world of pests and weeds. It forces us into periods of rest and retreat. It offers some of our trees and outdoor plants a time to grow in ways that are not readily seen, but desperately needed.

While we don't ever volunteer for spiritual times of temptation, trial, and trouble, these too, offer us the opportunity to grow in necessary ways. These times slow us down, make us depend more upon God, and strengthen us in ways the easy times and good days can't. When we realize that our task on earth is not to find ease and comfort, but instead to develop an enduring faith and a holy character, then we can welcome these times knowing that God is at work in us to make us more like him.

Even if you are a winter person, I hope that you can see the importance of these observations. Troubles will come. Satan will make sure temptations assault us at our most vulnerable times. Trials are a part of human living. However, if our heart is set on our Savior and our desire is to please him and become more like him, then even the chill of this unwanted time can be a time of blessing. --Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

January 20 - Campbell Neely



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 28, 2025

WILLING TO SERVE

January 19, 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.....David Carson
Prayer.....Justin Allen
Scripture.....Ron Garner
Dismissal.....David Burleson

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Reed Burleson
Dismissal.....Sam Garner

January 26, 2025

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Kyle Ward
Opening Prayer.....David Carson
Scripture.....Ryan Young
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Britt Burcham
Prayer.....Wayne Reams
Scripture.....Sam Garner
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

LOST, FOUND, JOY

"They call me the ringmaster. So far this year I've found 167 lost rings."

During a walk on the beach with my wife, Cari, we struck up a conversation with an older man who was using a metal detector to scan an area just below the surf line. "Sometimes rings have names on them," he explained, "and I love seeing their owner's faces when I return them. I post online and check to see if anyone contacted lost and found. I've found rings missing for years." When we mentioned that I enjoy metal detecting as well but didn't do it frequently, his parting words were, "You never know unless you go!"

We find another kind of "search and rescue" in Luke 15. Jesus was criticized for caring about people who were far from God (vv 1-2). In reply, He told three stories about three things that were lost and then found - a sheep, a coin, and a son. The man who finds the lost sheep *joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says 'rejoice with me'* (Luke 15:5-6). All the stories are ultimately about finding lost people for Christ, and the joy that comes as they're found in Him.

Jesus came *to seek and to save the lost* (19:10), and He calls us to follow Him in loving people back to God (see Matthew 28:19). The joy of seeing others turn to Him awaits. We'll never know unless we go. James Banks

Attendance for January 12: 110



Contribution for January 12: \$4340

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Paul Gresham recovering from RSV * **Kendra Summers** recovering from a couple of falls resulting in fractured vertebrae and a fractured shoulder * **Janet Woods** recovering at home from stent surgery * **Janie Burleson** is continuing to slowly improve * **Ida Roberts** has been placed on palliative care * **Cathy Provance** struggling with knee and hip pain * **Jerry Collier** still having some issues with double vision and has begun therapy * **Jamie Bridges** (Judy Snyder's granddaughter) recovering from surgery to remove a grapefruit-size cyst from her ovary

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Janie Burleson * David 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

January 22: Our Wednesday evening fellowship meal will be ribs or bbq and sides. Desserts will be needed.

January 26: Congregational Valentine's Banquet following evening worship. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

February 1: 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, please see Millie or Cindy Williams.

February 2: First Sunday potluck and early evening service. We will have a potluck meal after morning worship, followed by a 1 p.m. evening service. Everyone is encouraged to attend the potluck and evening service.

February 5: Next Week's fellowship meal will be baked spaghetti, garden salad, and garlic bread. Desserts will be needed.

BIBLE TRIVIA:

What is the name of the king of Judah who made war machines that could shoot arrows and hurl huge stones? * What was the name of Haman's wife? * How many times does the name Satan appear in the Bible? * The manna in the wilderness was likened to what kind of seed?

Answers: Uzziah (2 Chron. 26:11, 15) * Zeresh (Esther 5:10,11) * Fifty-three * Cortander (Numbers 11:7)

CHURCH DIRECTORY INFORMATION:

If you would like to be included in our online church directory, there are some Church Directory Information forms on the table in the foyer. Please return completed forms to Stan or Amy Thomason. We currently use Instant Church Directory. Additionally, if you would like your directory photo updated, you can submit one through the directory app, to our church email address (berniechurchofchrist@gmail.com) or have Amy take one for you.

In Sympathy:

Sympathy is extended to Stan Dauck in the loss of his aunt, Nancy Williamson, who passed away January 13. Her funeral was held yesterday in Pochontas.

