



TRUE LIGHT

March 9, 2025

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NAME "CHRISTIAN"

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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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**

The name "Christian" carries profound significance, rooted in the early history of the church, known as 'the Way' or "the Faith." Derived from the Greek word "Christianos," it means "follower of Christ." The term "Christian" was first used in Antioch (Acts 11:26); it was what those outside of Christ called those baptized into Christ, possibly in a blasphemous way (James 2:7). Thus, the name "Christian" signifies a personal choice to embrace Christ in baptism (Galatians 3:27) and to live faithfully until death (Rev. 2:10) in accordance with the teaching exemplified by Jesus and scripture. It is not merely a label; it represents a lifestyle dedicated to service, humility, and faith. Therefore, the name "Christian" is not just an identifier; it symbolizes profound devotion and a call to lead a spiritual life. Many individuals adopt the name "Christian" without genuinely following Jesus' teaching and scripture (James 1:22). These individuals may simply misunderstand what the name fundamentally signifies from a biblical perspective. Many today assert that reciting a personal prayer (e.g., the sinner's prayer) automatically makes someone a Christian. However, this view is not accurate.

Many people may lead a "Christian" life, or what we will refer to as a good moral life, but that does not necessarily make them a Christian (Acts 11:14). They may even lead a religious life (Acts 17:22), but will that genuinely save an individual? The simple answer is no. One must obey all the teachings in the New Testament to be called a "Christian;" they must not only have a basic belief in Jesus as their Lord and Savior, but they must also follow all the teachings of the New Testament to please God and to be a "follower of Christ" (Hebrews 11:6).

As we go out to teach the gospel in our community, as commanded by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all things (Matthew 28:19-20), let us always remember that the power to save and the honor or bearing the name "Christian" comes solely from the power of God (Romans 1:16).

The Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Derek Mays

SOMETHING MUCH BIGGER

More than 200 volunteers assisted October Books, a bookstore in Southampton, England, move its inventory to an address down the street. Helpers lined the sidewalk and passed books down a "human conveyor belt." Having witnessed the volunteers in action, a store employee said, "It was ... a really moving experience to see people [helping] ... They wanted to be part of something bigger."



We can also be part of something much bigger than ourselves. God uses us to reach the world with the message of His love. Because someone shared the message with us, we can turn to another person and pass it on. Paul compared this - the building of God's kingdom - to growing a garden. Some of us plant seeds while some of us water the seeds. We are, as Paul said, *co-workers in God's service* (1 Corinthians 3:9).

Each job is important, yet all are done in the power of God's Spirit. By His Spirit, God enables people to thrive spiritually when they hear that He loves them and sent His Son to die in their place so that they can be free from their sin (John 3:16).

God does much of His work on earth through "volunteers" like you and me. Although we're part of a community that's much bigger than any contribution we may make, we can help it grow by working together to share His love with the world.

Jennifer Benson Schuldt

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

March 11 - Jerry & Janie Burleson (A)
 March 13 - Deborah Sturgess
 March 14 - David Billingsley
 Kim Flowers
 March 15 - Beckie Tanner



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

March 9, 2025

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
 Opening Prayer.....David Carson
 Scripture.....Ryan Young
 Prayer.....Zack Tanner
 Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

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

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

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

March 16, 2025

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Aiden Owens
 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

WHO KNOWS?

According to Chinese legend, when Sai Weng lost one of his prized horses, his neighbor expressed sorrow for the loss. But Sai Weng was unconcerned. He said, "Who knows if it may be a good thing for me?" Surprisingly, the lost horse returned home with another horse. As the neighbor congratulated him, Sai Weng said, "Who knows if it may be a bad thing for me?" As it turned out, his son broke his leg when he rode on the new horse. This seemed like a misfortune, until the army arrived at the village to recruit all able-bodied men to fight in the war. Because of the son's injury, he wasn't recruited, which ultimately could have spared him from death.

This is the story behind the Chinese proverb which teaches that a difficulty can be a blessing in disguise and vice versa. This ancient wisdom has a close parallel in Ecclesiastes 6:12, where the author observes: *Who knows what is good for a person in life?* Indeed, none of know what the future holds. An adversity might have positive benefits, and prosperity might have ill effects.

Each day offers new opportunities, joys, struggles, and suffering. As God's beloved children, we can rest in His sovereignty and trust Him through the good and bad times alike. God has *made the one as well as the other* (7:14). He's with us in all the events in our lives and promises His loving care. Poh Fang Chia

Attendance for March 2: 119

Contribution for March 2: \$4475

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Geraldine Sturgess remains in Poplar Bluff hospital in room 6009 * **Jerry Burleson** waiting on test results. His last PSA test showed his numbers had doubled * **Regina Halterman** recovering from a broken arm * **Jack and Helen McGowan** have been home with the flu * **Darlene McGowan** remains in Winchester Place for rehab * **Scott Burleson** remains in Mercy hospital at Cape * **Linda LeCroy** will be having surgery next month on her neck * **Janie Burleson** has been to Vanderbilt for testing * **Ida Roberts** has been moved to Winchester Place, room 209 * **Cathy Provance** will be having hip replacement surgery in the next six to eight weeks

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Cody Boyt * 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 * 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 * 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

March 12: Our Wednesday fellowship meal will be hamburgers, potato salad, chips and baked beans. We will have ice cream floats for dessert.

March 11: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at Dexter Pizza Company in downtown Dexter. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

March 14 & 15: Inspiration 2025 at Dexter church of Christ. The theme is "Branded" with guest speaker Joe Wells. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

March 16: Derek Mays will be our guest speaker for a.m. services.

March 16: 60th birthday party for Brian Thomason in the fellowship room following evening worship. Everyone is invited to attend - no gifts, please.

March 16-19: Gospel Meeting at Gideon with guest speaker Brent Newton.

March 22: Fish Fry and Silent Auction for Bootheel Youth Camp at Dexter church of Christ.

April 6-9: Our Gospel Meeting with Bryan McAlister. Be praying for a successful meeting.

April 20: Easter dinner will be served potluck style in the fellowship room following morning worship.

BIBLE TRIVIA:

What time of day did God rain down fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah? * What did Abraham call the name of the place where he was about to sacrifice Isaac? * How old was Esau when he married his two wives Judith and Basemath? * Isaiah prophesied that how many women would take hold of one man? * Zechariah saw a vision of a scroll that was how many feet long?

Answers: Early in the morning (Gen. 19:23,24) * Jehovah-jireh, "the Lord will provide" (Gen. 22:14 * Forty (Gen. 26:34) * Seven (Isaiah 4:1) * Thirty (twenty cubits) (Zechariah 5:1,2)