

TRUE LIGHT

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

It seems as if spring has sprung!

What a blessing it is to see the green grass, the blooming trees, and the beautiful flowers that wake us up in this season. I love all of the seasons, but spring is one of my favorites. So many beautiful things come along with spring and summer. We can open our windows and let the fresh air in. We can get outside and enjoy some physical activities. We can shed those heavy winter coats and boots. We can also shed our heavy clothes. And we can put on...



What exactly WILL be put on during those warm months

ahead of us? For many people, the answer to that question would be - very little. I know I'm getting started early in the season talking about inappropriate dress, but it is needed now more than ever.

I'm really talking about modesty and I thought about using the title "Modesty," but I figured some would just skip [reading this article] because you've heard it all before. I read a statement lately that just keeps floating around in my head - "Modesty is the outward expression of inner purity."

Men and women, young and old, need to read the quote above and let it sink into your mind. If you are trying to live a godly life full of inner purity, shouldn't that be shown on the outside by how you talk, act, and dress?

I've heard words come out of the mouths of those who claim to be living in purity for God, but their words disprove it. I've seen actions of some who claim to be Christians which have left me wondering about their devotion to God. And, sadly, I've seen those who profess to be Christians dressed in clothing that would be described as anything but modest. Modesty isn't vain or boastful. "Modesty is the outward expression of inner purity."

If those who talk, act, and dress this way are trying to please themselves and those around them, they are doing a good job. If these same people are trying to please God, they are failing badly. God cannot be fooled. We either live as He has told us to live, or we live to please ourselves and others. I think I remember reading something about not being able to serve two masters.

Because I care about the souls of those around me and anyone else these words might reach, I pray that you will consider this post in the way it was intended. I want all people to please God and not care so much about pleasing those in the world.

Donna Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post

THE BAGGAGE ACTIVITY

Karen, a middle school teacher, created an activity to teach her students how to better understand one another. In "The Baggage Activity" students wrote down some of the emotional weights they were carrying. The notes were shared anonymously, giving the students insight into each other's hardships, often with a tearful response from their peers. The classroom has since been filled with a deeper sense of mutual respect among the young teens, who now have a greater sense of empathy for one another.

Throughout the Bible, God has nudged His people to treat one another with dignity and show empathy in their interaction with others (Romans 12:15). As early in the history of Israel as the book of Leviticus, God pointed the Israelites toward empathy - especially in their dealings with foreigners. He said to *love them as* [themselves] because they, too, had been foreigners in Egypt and knew that hardship intimately (Lev. 19:34).

Sometimes the burdens we carry make us feel like foreigners - alone and misunderstood - even among our peers. We don't always have a similar experience to draw on as the Israelites did with the foreigners among them. Yet we can always treat those God puts in our paths with the respect and understanding that we, ourselves, desire. Whether a modern-day middle schooler an Israelite, or anything in between, we honor God when we do. Kirsten Holmberg

April 6, 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 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

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We Welcome You To All Of Our Services BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES April 6: Reed Burleson April 12: Maura Thomason Madelyn Ward April 13: Casey Karnes



Attendance for March 30: 109

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Muffin Mixes * Instant Rice * Dishwashing Detergent * Pasta (Bow Tie, Penne, Rotini) * HE Laundry Detergent * Stick Deodorant Pick up date April 28, 2025

Contribution for March 30: \$5126

Janie Burleson has been moved to Cypress Point room 16 for rehab * Steve Jones is home and doing better * Judy Flannery has been moved to a rehab facility in Chesterfield and may be released this week * Linda Jones is scheduled for surgery on her neck Tuesday * Jeff McGowan will be seeing his cardiologist Tuesday * Geraldine Sturgess remains at Poplar Bluff hospital for low heart rate. * David Burleson got a good report from the cancer doctor * Jerry Burleson has finished his radiation treat-ments * Jerry Mickey has been diagnosed with fibromyalgia and is seeking treatment options * Darlene McGowan has been moved to Winchester assisted living * Scott Burleson is at home following an extended stay in the hospital * 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 * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson * Cripture......Scripture..... 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 Fitz-patrick * 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 * Bettie Thurston * Marty Watson

Looking Ahead:

TODAY: Our Gospel Meeting with Bryan McAlister begins. The theme will be "Won with Christ in a Romans One World." There are flyers available on the table. Be praying for a successful meeting. We will have a potluck meal following morning worship and a light meal following our evening worship. If you can help provide snacks for the evening meal, there is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer.

April 9: Wednesday fellowship meal will be fried catfish, chicken strips, and the fixins. Desserts will be needed.

April 15: Ladies Lunch Out. Note this is one week later due to our Gospel meeting. We are planning a "day trip" to Jackson for lunch at Hickory House Restaurant in Jackson and some shopping. We plan to take the van, and leave the building at 9:30. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer. If you would like to go, plan to keep the day free as we don't have an estimated return time.

April 20: Easter dinner will be served potluck style in the fellowship room following morning worship. There's a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

April 28: Children's Home Grocery Run. Let's get the cart filled up.

May 1: Ladies Retreat planning meeting in the fellowship room.

June 8: Baby shower for Kayli and Kason Lawrence. They are expecting a baby girl. More details to follow.

June 22: Potluck style bridal shower for Luke Tanner and Caris Foriester. More details to follow.

Congratulations are extended to Sacob Clayton and Raysha Adams, who were united in marriage yesterday in Mayfield, Kentucky.



WILLING TO SERVE

April 6, 2025

Morning Worship:

Song Leader	Stan Dauck
Opening Prayer	David Carson
Scripture	Steve Iones
Praver	Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer	Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

Song Leader	Brandon Chesser
Praver	tha
Scripture Dismissal	tba
Dismissal	tba

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Song Leader	Rodnev Williams
Praver	Řon Garner
Dismissal	Jerry McCoy

April 13, 2025

Song Leader	Rodnev Williams
Opening Praver	Ion Neelv
Scripture	Rván Young
Praver	Jason Karnes
Scripture Prayer Closing Prayer	Jess Lecroy

Evening Worship:

Song Leader	David Carson
Praver	Justin Allen
Scripture	
Scripture Dismissal	David Burleson

COMPANIONS IN CHRIST

The Harvard Study of Adult Development is a decades-long project that's resulted in a greater understanding of the importance of healthy relationships. The research began with a group of 268 sophomores at Harvard University in the 1930s and later expanded to, among others, 456 Boston inner-city residents. Researchers have conducted interviews with the participants and pored over their medical records every few years. They discovered that close relationships are the biggest factor in predicting happiness and health. It turns out that if we surround ourselves with the right people, we'll likely experience a deeper sense of joy.

This appears to reflect what the apostle Paul is describing in Philippians 1. Writing from prison, Paul can't help but tell his friends that he thanks God for them every time he remembers them, praying with joy (v 4). But these aren't just any friends; these are brothers and sisters in Jesus who *share in God's grace*, partners in the gospel with Paul (v 7). Their relationship was one of sharing and mutuality - a true fellowship shaped by God's love and the gospel itself.

Yes, friends are important, but fellow companions in Christ are catalysts of a true and deep joy. The grace of God can bind us together like nothing else. And even through the darkest seasons of life, the joy that comes from that bond will last. **Glenn Packiam**