

TRUE LIGHT

RESURRECTION 2.7: LET THE CLOUDS REMIND YOU

Anyone living in north central Texas, western Oklahoma, and Kansas would be wise to watch the sky in late spring. While modern meteorology and advanced weather forecasting can predict the possibility of dangerous storms, old-timers still look at the clouds. Meteorologists look at their Doppler radars for hook clouds and rotation. Old-timers check the clouds:

- Are they coming together from different directions?
- Are they filled with both cloud-to-cloud and cloud-to-ground lightning?
- Have the clouds changed color from indigo to dark purple or dark green?
- Are the high, dark, clouds in the west advancing with an eerie calm with descending darkness?

For farmers and ranchers whose families have lived in these areas for generations, the conditions reflected in the clouds are stronger warnings for them than severe weather warning sirens. "Watch the clouds," these weather watchers will tell you, "because the clouds will let you know when danger is coming. Ignore them at your own risk!"

As followers of Jesus, however, the clouds hold another message for us:

This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven (Acts 1:11).

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father - to him be the glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him... (Revelation 1:5-7).

The clouds can remind us that Jesus will return to us in the way his first disciples saw him leave them (Acts 1:11). Our resurrected Lord has not finished his work with planet earth. He has left for a while but with the promise that he will return.

Jesus' resurrection ensures that when he returns he will bring with him all those who have gone to be with him after their physical bodies have died (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Philippians 1:19-23; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10). They will be given new immortal bodies, like Jesus' immortal body (1 Corinthians 15:35-49). Those who are still alive when the Lord returns will also have their bodies changed into immortal bodies (1 Corinthians 15:50-54), and they will be with the Lord forever (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

This glorious day of victory and reunion is the promise God gave us with Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Jesus was the first fruit: the first of many to be raised never to die again (1 Corinthians 15:20-23). His victory over sin, death, and hell will become our victory (1 Corinthians 15:24-28, 53-58). Every cloud we see can be a reminder of the glory that awaits us (Romans 8:18) and the victory and reunion that lie ahead for all of us who belong to Jesus.

Yes, I will continue to watch the clouds in late spring where I live. I've seen dark clouds spin up horrible tornadoes, drop grapefruit-sized hail, cause flash flooding, and generate powerful straight-line winds. But, with each cloud, I also see the promise and hear the whispered reminder of Jesus' revelation to John on Patmos: *Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him!* And my heart leaps at the thought that these clouds might be the clouds of his glorious return. I see them and think to myself:

Amen! Come, Lord Jesus. We long to join the angels who bow before your throne!
Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

July 20, 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
573-281-6686
Stan Dauck
573-293-5594

DEACONS

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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**



Vacation Bible School

**Tonight at 6 p.m.
Monday-Wednesday at 6:30**

Lessons for everyone, games, skits, crafts and snacks.

Invite a friend and come to VBS!

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

July 20 - Cindy Williams
 July 23 - Sharon Durham
 Johnny McGowan
 June Mothersbaugh
 Cameron Shipman
 July 24 - Cathy Provance
 July 25 - Donna Layton
 July 27 - Rick Beard
 Amy Thomason



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Instant Rice * Muffin Mixes * Pretzels *
 Pasta (Bow Tie, Penne, Rotini) * Paper
 Towels * Ibuprofen/Acetaminophen

Pick Up Date August 18

Attendance for July 13: 88
Contribution for July 13: \$3204

WILLING TO SERVE

July 20, 2025

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Chase Burch
 Opening Prayer.....David Carson
 Scripture.....Jason Karnes
 Prayer.....Zack Tanner
 Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....VBS
 Prayer.....VBS
 Scripture.....VBS
 Dismissal.....VBS

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Song Leader.....VBS
 Prayer.....VBS
 Dismissal.....VBS

July 27, 2025

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
 Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
 Scripture.....Jordan Ross
 Prayer.....Jason Karnes
 Closing Prayer.....Jess Lecroy

Evening Worship:

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

WHAT A FIND!

While scuba diving in 2021, Jennifer's eyes fixed on a small, green bottle at the bottom of a river. She scooped up what she describes as a "once-in-a-lifetime" find. The bottle contained a message written by a young man on his eighteenth birthday in 1926! The words requested that whoever discovered the message return it to him. Jennifer used Facebook to locate a delighted family member of the man. Although he'd died in 1995, his once-hidden note brought joy to Jennifer and the man's family.

In 2 Kings 22:8, we read that Hilkiah made an extraordinary find when he *found the Book of the Law in the temple of the LORD*. The high priest found what was likely the book of Deuteronomy. *When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he was both deeply moved and greatly distressed (v 11)*. Like the temple in Judah itself, God and the reading of and obedience to the Scriptures He'd inspired had been neglected by the people. In repentance, the king had the temple swept clean of idols and anything that would displease God as he instituted reforms for his nation (23:1-24).

Today, our Bibles contain sixty-six books that reveal God's wisdom and instruction - including Deuteronomy. As we read and listen to them, may the Holy Spirit transform our minds and reform our ways. Dive into the life-changing story of Scripture today and find wisdom to explore for a lifetime!

Tom Felten

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Faye Dockins will begin radiation treatments soon. She continues to deal with macular degeneration as well * **Jack McGowan** doing much better * **Margaret Burch** (Loretta Carson's sister in law) had open heart surgery Friday * **Steve Jones** will have kidney surgery July 30 and hernia surgery later * **June Mothersbaugh** has been having trouble with an infection in her toe, making it difficult to walk * **Pat Cooper** hasn't been feeling well lately * **David Burleson** got a good report from the doctor last week * **Cody Boyt** will see a heart doctor July 30 * **Bettie Thurston** is at Winchester on hospice care and is some better * **Gordan Hogan** suffered a stroke Wednesday that compromised his entire right side. He remains in the hospital * **Joe Vincent's** cancer is back and he is not doing well * **Cathy Provance** has his replacement surgery scheduled for August 11

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Cody Boyt * Jerry Burleson * David Burleson * David Carson * Pat Cooper * Sue Flowers * Karen Forkum * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Donna McKuin * Gloria Moore * Bettie Thurston * Woody Wood

Those dealing with cancer/other illness (non congregational) :

Melinda Akers * Chastity Beard * Cathy Bennett * Rodney Britt * Jeanie Buck * Scott Burleson * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Tammy Clark * Randy Cravens * Barbara Denson * Bill Fitzpatrick * Misty (Owens) Frankling * Audrey Galloway * Emily Garner * Patricia Greninger * Stan Goodman * Renee Goodman * Christy Heskett * Nolan Hollowell * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jerald * Holly Johnson * Kristin Meadows * Jerry Mickey * Connie Lemmons * Ponna Mahan * Betty Nicholson * Keagan Owens * Nikki Reif * Joe Richardson * Bobby Thornton * Mindy Tomah * Joe Vincent * Alan Woodward

Our Shut Ins

Pat Cooper * Sue Flowers * Bettie Thurston *

Looking Ahead:

TODAY through Wednesday: Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year is "Untangled: Wild About God's Plan." We still need cookies and other supplies for VBS. There are sign up sheets on the table in the foyer. Be praying and planning for a successful VBS in 2025.

July 28: Summer Youth Series at Green Forest at 7 p.m.

August 2: Celebration of Life for Janie Burleson at 1 p.m. in the auditorium.

August 3: First Sunday potluck and early evening service. We will have a potluck meal following morning service and an early, 1 p.m. evening service. Everyone is encouraged to stay for both the potluck and afternoon service.

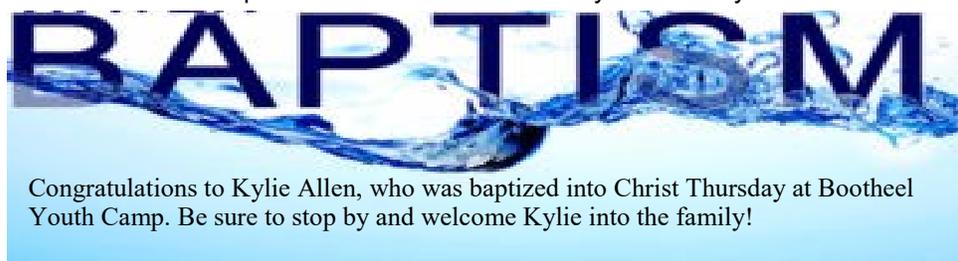
August 4: Summer Youth Series at Shady Acres at 7 p.m.

August 7: Ladies Retreat planning meeting in the fellowship room at 6:30 p.m.

August 11: Summer Youth Series at Dexter at 7 p.m.

August 12: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at the Airways Café in Dexter.

September 27: Children's Homes 70th anniversary homecoming and open house. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.



Congratulations to Kylie Allen, who was baptized into Christ Thursday at Bootheel Youth Camp. Be sure to stop by and welcome Kylie into the family!