



# TRUE LIGHT

SNOW IN NOVEMBER

November 30, 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

Wayne Reams  
Rodney Williams

OFFICE: 573-293-5620  
Bernie Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 366  
Bernie, MO 63822

EMAIL:  
berniechurchofchrist  
@gmail.com

WEBSITE:  
www.berniechurchofchrist.com

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**

[A few weeks ago] - November 10th, to be exact, southwestern Virginia was blessed with the first snow flurries of the year. This is by far the earliest in the year I can ever remember it snowing, and certainly the earliest in my adult life. Unfortunately, the southern United States isn't the most snow-prone environment in the world, which means we get really excited when it does come our way (you can tell by our social media posts ... and our driving).

I've been thinking about our early snow for a few days now and the many lessons that came with it. The one that comes to me first is the lesson of God's beauty, creativity, and uniqueness, all reflected in each and every snowflake that falls from the sky. Another that comes to mind is the reliability of God to protect His creation (snow in November doesn't do much for the argument that the planet is endlessly warming, after all). However, the lesson that was most striking in this case was the lesson that the church could learn from this early snow about being noteworthy. Everyone that I know had something to say about how early the snow had started this year. This snow had captured universal attention not just because it was present, but because it exceeded our expectations.



Whether they realize it or not, people who encounter the church for the first time almost always have an expectation of how this encounter will go. Some expect kindness and warmth; some expect someone to try and convince them to believe what they believe; some expect someone asking for donations to a cause; some, perhaps because of a painful experience in the past, may expect judgment or inauthenticity. I should pause here and say that it is not our job to discredit or discount any of the feelings behind these expectations, whether they are accurate or not. The last thing that someone who is encountering God's people for the very first time should come away thinking is, "Wow, they really think I'm THAT lost." Regardless of what they think when we first find them, those we are seeking to find do not believe what they believe about us for no reason. Whether their belief is based on an accurate understanding of God's people or not, insulting that belief and the mindset behind it will do nothing to improve their opinion.

This leaves us with an important question to answer: What are we doing to exceed people's expectations for the church? How engaged in helping and celebrating our local communities are we? How focused on creating a welcoming, comforting, safe, and productive congregational environment are we? How well do we "speak the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15), and do we take the opportunities we are given to do so without falling out of balance one way or the other? Do we go out of our way to represent the compassion of Christ to those around us? And perhaps the most important point of all: If we find our answers to the previous questions are less impressive than we had hoped, what are we - as individuals and/or as congregations - going to do to change that, starting TODAY?

People across the country, and truly around the world, are desperate in the modern age for a sense of belonging and a community with which to identify. In many ways, this is a lamentable fact, but it is also a societal need that the church is perfectly planned to address and should be seeking to poise itself to address effectively. In order to reach those who need the church the most, we must be purposeful about exceeding their expectations in the ways that the church should by its very nature. It is in showing the love of Christ boldly and genuinely that we have that power - and with it, all the surprising beauty of snow in November.

*Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women (Acts 5:12-14).* Luke Tatum, via A Legacy of Faith blog post

**BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES**

November 30 - Leslie Neely  
Steve and DeeDee Burch (A)  
December 1 - Stan Dauck  
Jesse Shelton  
December 2 - Beverly Karnes  
December 5 - Curtis McClard



**CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS**

Bottled fruit juice \* Fruit cups \* Pud-  
ding/gelatine cups \* Snack cakes \*  
Baked beans \* Flour \* Miracle whip \*  
Alfredo sauce \* Ramen noodles \* Cereal  
\* Pop tarts \* Canned frosting \* Vinegar  
**Pick-up Date December 15, 2025**

**WILLING TO SERVE**

**November 30, 2025**

**Morning Worship:**

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams  
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely  
Scripture.....Darrin Shipman  
Prayer.....Jason Karnes  
Closing Prayer.....Jess LeCroy

**Evening Worship:**

Song Leader.....Chase Burch  
Prayer.....Rodney Williams  
Scripture.....Jordan Ross  
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

**December 3, 2025**

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton  
Prayer.....Sam Garner  
Dismissal.....Matt Ward

**December 7, 2025**

**Morning Worship:**

Song Leader.....Chase Burch  
Opening Prayer.....Jason Karnes  
Scripture.....Steve Jones  
Prayer.....Zack Tanner  
Closing Prayer.....Justin Allen

**Evening Worship:**

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

**MIGHTY WARRIOR**

Diet Eman was an ordinary, shy young woman in the Netherlands - in love, working, and enjoying time with family and friends - when the Germans invaded in 1940. As Diet (pronounced *Deet*) later wrote, "when there is danger on your doorstep, you want to act almost like an ostrich burying its head in the sand." Yet Diet felt God calling her to resist the German oppressors, which included risking her life to find hiding places for Jews and other pursued people. This unassuming young woman became a warrior for God.

We find many stories in the Bible similar to Diet's, stories of God using seemingly unlikely characters to serve Him. For instance, when the angel of the Lord approached Gideon, he proclaimed, *The LORD is with you, mighty warrior* (Judges 6:12). Yet Gideon seemed anything but mighty. He'd been secretly threshing wheat away from the prying eyes of the Midianites, who oppressively controlled Israel at the time (vv 1-6, 11). He was from the weakest clan of Israel (Manasseh) and the "least" in his family (v 15). He didn't feel up to God's calling and even requested several signs. Yet God used him to defeat the cruel Midianites (see Ch. 7).

God saw Gideon as "mighty." And just as God was with and equipped Gideon, so God is with us, His *dearly loved children* (Ephesians 5:1) - supplying all we need to live for and serve Him in little and big ways. Alyson Kieda

**Attendance for November 23: 116**

**Contribution for November 23: \$4174**

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Robbie Buck** experiencing some issues with her esophagus. She was expecting test results this past week \* **June Mothersbaugh** continuing to have issues with her toe and foot \* **Terri Ward** doing well following gall bladder surgery \* **Rick Beard** improving following heart surgery \* **Cathy Provance** continuing to recover from hip surgery at her sister's house \* **Gloria Moore** has been diagnosed with colon cancer \* **Steve Jones** waiting for a treatment plan \* **Faye Dockins** is at home and having some in-home physical therapy. She would welcome visitors \* **Deborah Sturgess** has been struggling with knee issues \* **Jerry Burleson's** PSA levels have increased a little

**Continue praying for these members of our church family:** Cody Boyt \* Jerry Burleson \* David Burleson \* David Carson \* Pat Cooper \* Karen Forkum \* Patsy (Hardy) Gregg \* Helen McGowan \* Jeff McGowan \* Donna McKuin \* Gloria Moore \* Woody and Janet 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 \* Lisa Clark \* Tammy Clark \* Randy Cravens \* Barbara Denson \* Bill Fitzpatrick \* Misty (Owens) Franklin \* Audrey Galloway \* Emily Garner \* Patricia Greninger \* Stan Goodman \* Renee Goodman \* Christy Heskett \* Nolan Hollowell \* LeAnn Jacques \* Tommy Jacques \* Pam Jeralds \* Kristin Meadows \* Jerry Mickey \* Connie Lemmons \* Ponna Mahan \* Betty Nicholson \* Keagan Owens \* Nikki Reif \* Joe Richardson \* Bobby Thornton \* Mindy Tomah \* Joyce Walker \* Christina Whitaker \* Alan Woodward

**Our Shut Ins:** Pat Cooper \* Faye Dockins \* David Terrill

**Looking Ahead:**

December 3: Our Wednesday fellowship meal will be soups, hot dogs, and chili. Desserts will be needed.

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December 5: Annual Ladies Ornament Exchange at 6 p.m. in the fellowship room. Bring a wrapped ornament (or fun pair of socks) and a dish to share. Feel free to invite a friend.

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December 7: First Sunday potluck and early evening service. We will have a potluck lunch following morning worship, followed by an early evening service. Everyone is encouraged to attend both the potluck and early evening service.

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December 8: Ladies Lunch Out at Hickory Log in Dexter at 11:30. Note: lunch out will be on a MONDAY this month. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer; if you plan to attend PLEASE sign up as we have to have a reservation and this is by far our most popular ladies lunch out month.

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December 15: Children's Homes grocery run. Let's get the cart filled up.

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December 18: Annual Ladies Holiday Brunch at the home of Amy Thomason. We will have an optional, \$20 gift exchange. Ham and rolls will be provided - bring your favorite dish to share. If you would like to be eligible for a door prize, bring an item or items to support a local animal shelter. Most needed items include: Bleach, dog treats, puppy pads, dust pan, disinfecting wipes, throws.

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December 25: Christmas Dinner will be served in the fellowship room at noon. A sign up sheet is on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

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December 31: New Year's Eve get together in the fellowship room following Bible Study. Bring games and finger foods and help us ring in 2026!

