



TRUE LIGHT

THE BUTT SCRUNCH CULTURE AND OUR MORAL BLIND SPOT

January 18, 2026

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
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ELDERS

David Burleson
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*"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**

Most of my kids go to the gym to work out on a regular basis. Workout gear is a huge market these days - as people try to find clothing that is comfortable, functional, and, yes, makes them look good. There is nothing inherently wrong with wanting clothes that fit well and allow freedom of movement. But there is a newer trend that Christians, in particular, need to stop and seriously consider.

Many athletic clothing manufacturers are now intentionally sewing a seam down the back of leggings that creates what is commonly called a "butt crack." It goes by various marketing names - scrunch butt, butt lift, contour seam - but the purpose is the same: to define, separate, and draw attention to the buttocks in a way that was once universally recognized as indecent. This is not accidental design. It is not about performance. It is about display.

And here is where the conversation needs to get uncomfortable.

I want to talk to white Christians for a moment.

For years, many in our churches have openly condemned young black men for wearing saggy pants that reveal their underwear. We called it immoral. We called it indecent. We said it sent the wrong message. And in many cases, that criticism was framed as a moral concern, not merely a fashion preference.

But now, some of the very same Christians will turn around and spend \$80 or \$100 on leggings that reveal far more - only this time it is done with tighter fabric, strategic seams, and better marketing. The hypocrisy should be obvious. It is inconsistent to condemn one form of exposure as immoral while celebrating another simply because it is socially accepted, gendered differently, or sold by a trendy brand.

If revealing underwear - or the body in a sexually suggestive way - is wrong, then it is wrong regardless of who does it or how much the clothing costs.

Okay, now back to everyone.

Let's be honest for a moment. There are things that someone who has been washed in the blood of Christ should not wear.

Scripture does not give us permission to apply modesty selectively. The biblical call to modesty is not aimed at one race, one gender, or one age group.

Paul's instruction to dress with "propriety and moderation" (1 Timothy 2:9) is a principle, not a loophole. Modesty is about intent, message, and effect - not whether the exposure is crude or curated.

What makes the scrunch-butt trend especially troubling is how openly it sexualizes the body under the guise of fitness and confidence. These garments are designed to emphasize the very areas that Scripture and centuries of moral reasoning have identified as private. To claim that this is neutral - or merely about self-esteem - ignores both design intent and human nature.

Let's be honest for a moment. There are things that someone who has been washed by the blood of Christ should not wear. There are outfits that draw attention or accentuate certain parts of the body. Clothing is no longer designed primarily for function or comfort, but for display. The body becomes a billboard. And the more provocative the exposure, the louder the applause.

Christians must ask harder questions than, "Is this allowed?" We should be asking, "What does this encourage others to see? What does this train my heart to value? Am I reflecting holiness - or just keeping pace with culture?"

Indecency rarely announces itself as rebellion against God. More often, it shows up as a "new normal," wrapped in flattering language and attractive packaging. Slap a high price and trendy brand name on it. But the truth remains: when God's people begin to look indistinguishable from the world in how they present their bodies, something has gone wrong.

This is not about policing wardrobes or shaming bodies. It is about consistency, integrity, and submission to God's wisdom. If we are going to speak about modesty at all, we must be willing to apply it honestly - across cultures, across trends, and across our own closets (Romans 12:1-2).

The question is not whether society will continue pushing the boundaries. It will. The real question is whether God's people will have the courage to recognize the shift, resist it, and model something better.

Brad Harrub, via Facebook post

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

January 18 - Mike Duley
January 20 - Robbie Buck
Campbell Neely



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Muffin Mixes * Mac and Cheese *
Kool-Aid * Vanilla Wafers * Honey *
Crackers (Club, Cheez-its, etc)
Pick-up Date April 13, 2026

Attendance for January 11: 123

Contribution for January 11: \$3833

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Millie Dauck had an overnight stay in the hospital Monday but is doing better * **Bonita Carvey** is home and doing better * **Carol Young** is scheduled to begin chemotherapy and radiation this week * **Jess LeCroy** hasn't been feeling well * **Kathy Caudle** is at home with bronchitis * **Rodney Williams** has been having issues with racing heart and will be wearing a heart monitor * **David Burleson** had a cancer scan Tuesday * **Steve Jones** as he prepares for prostate surgery * **Faye Dockins** is at home and has been sick. Her eyesight is also rapidly deteriorating * **Randy English** will have a knee replacement February 16 * **Kim Cagle Allen** (client of Maura) is in grave condition following a blood sugar spike of over 800 last week *

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 * June Mothersbaugh * Woody and Janet Wood

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

Melinda Akers * Chastity Beaird * Cathy Bennett * Rodney Britt * Scott Burleson * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Lisa 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 * Anthony Tate * Bobby Thornton * Mindy Tomah * Joyce Walker * Christina Whitaker * Alan Woodward

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

Looking Ahead:

TODAY: The family of Sue Jester would like to invite you to a light lunch and birthday cake in the fellowship room following morning worship, in celebration of her 85th birthday. Everyone is invited to attend. No gifts, please!

January 21: Our Wednesday night meal will be soups, hot dogs and chili. Desserts will be needed.

January 25: Ladies of the congregation are invited to a "Welcome Baby Celebration" for Malakai Shipman at 2 p.m. in the fellowship room. For those who have not yet gifted and would like to participate in a money tree, please see Loretta Carson.

February 1: First Sunday potluck and early evening service. We will have a potluck meal following morning worship with evening service immediately afterward. Make plans to stay for both the potluck and evening service.

February 20-22: Challenge Youth Conference, Pigeon Forge.

BIBLE TRIVIA

Name the gentile king that made Esther his queen * Who said the following and to whom was he speaking? "Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee." * The mother-in-law of Ruth was Naomi. What was the name of her father-in-law? * What is the name of the man who was seduced by his daughter-in-law and what was her name? * How many times did Balaam hit his donkey before the donkey spoke to him? * How many years were added to Hezekiah's life? * Joash was told to shoot an arrow from the window. What was the arrow called?

Answers: Ahasuerus (Esther 2: 16,17) * Spoken by Balaam to his donkey (Numbers 22:28,29) * Elimelech (Ruth 1:2-4) * Judah was seduced by Tamar (Genesis 38:13-18) * Three times (Numbers 22:28) * Fifteen (Isaiah 38:5) * The arrow of the Lord's deliverance (2 Kings 13:15-17)

Congratulations to Dari Thompson on the birth of her son, Malakai Joseph, who arrived January 6, weighing 8 lbs, 5 oz. and 20 1/4" long. Congratulations also to Jesse and Mabree Shelton on the birth of their daughter, Nimby Rose Marie, who was born January 7, weighing 4 lbs, 13 oz.

WILLING TO SERVE

January 18, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Chase Burch
Opening Prayer.....Jason Karnes
Scripture.....Steve Jones
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Matt Ward

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Prayer.....David Burleson
Scripture.....Justin Allen
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

January 21, 2026

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Ron Garner
Dismissal.....Sam Garner

January 25, 2026

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.....Ron Garner
Scripture.....Darrin Shipman
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

FIGHTING "FLASHY" THINGS

In the 1960s-era TV series *The Andy Griffith Show*, a man tells Andy he should let his son Opie decide how he wants to live. Andy disagrees: "You can't let a young'un decide for himself. He'll grab at the first flashy thing with shiny ribbons on it. Then, when he finds out there's a hook in it, it's too late. Wrong ideas come packaged with so much glitter that it's hard to convince them that other things might be better in the long run." He concludes that it's important for parents to model right behavior and help "keep temptation away."

Andy's words are related to the wisdom found in Proverbs: *Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it* (22:6). Although many may read these words as a promise, they're really a guide. All of us are called to make our own decision to believe in Jesus. But we can help lay a biblical foundation through our love for God and Scripture. And we can pray that as the little ones under our care mature, they choose to receive Christ as Savior and walk in His ways and not *in the paths of the wicked* (v 5).

Our own victory over "flashy things" through the Holy Spirit's enabling is also powerful testimony. The Spirit helps us to withstand temptation and molds our lives into examples worth imitating.

Alyson Kieda