



TRUE LIGHT

March 1, 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
573-293-5620

ELDERS

David Burleson
573-820-0329
David Carson
573-281-6686
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**

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FALLING ON OUR FACE

We've all done it. We've "fallen on our face." Some of us have done it literally. My nickname through early life was "Trip" and I've literally dive-bombed my way into an embarrassing situation or two - while walking to class, on dates, with family, in front of crowds, walking off of the tee box ... the list could go on and on.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint (Isaiah 40:30-31).

Nearly all of us have "fallen on our face" figuratively. We've promised God we wouldn't fall into the same old sinful trap and then turn around and stumble over the same temptation. We've torn apart a relationship because of repeated bad judgment, insensitivity, or just plain ole sinfulness. We've ruined a good business because of continuing greed, arrogance, or success lust. We've spawned a feud with a family member and nurtured it with an unwillingness to ask for forgiveness and with an unwillingness to forgive. The list could go on and on.

If we are honest, we all know a little bit about how Guo XinXin of China felt when she fell on her face during the [2006] Olympics. Guo had led the first round of Women's Aerials in freestyle skiing. However, when Evelyn Leu of Switzerland connected on her extremely hard triple summersault with three twists, Guo had to try a very hard jump to win. Her jump was beautiful in the air, but on her landing, her skis pulled apart and she missed her landing. Actually, she literally "fell on her face" with her arms and legs spread eagle with her landing. This not only cost her the Olympic gold medal, it also cost her a trip to the podium for any medal.

Like the old ski jumper in ABC's "agony of defeat" segment, that poor guy who missed his jump and bounced down the slope of the hill with his arms flailing, Guo was the "spectacle" in the "spectacle of sport." She was the morbid fascination of this winner-takes-all made for TV drama. She even made the front page of our sports section. She was displayed face down in the snow, sliding down the landing hill with ice and snow splashing all around her.

Guo is from sports culture where winning is so important - and these days it sure seems all cultures are pretty much that way about the Olympics. I have wondered how Guo will be received at home. Will she be lauded for attempting such a hard jump rather than simply settling for a medal? Will she be "scapegoated" for her failure to live up to her predicted victory? How does she feel inside about "falling on her face"? How will her friends and teammates help encourage her?

Over the years, I've literally seen thousands of posters, plaques, needlepoints, pictures, and banners displaying Isaiah 40:30-31. Nearly all of those have a picture of an eagle. I've never seen any with a person lying face down in the snow! While I love the majestic grandeur of these soaring eagles, I've come to believe that the real heroes are not those who soar like eagles. It's pretty easy to enjoy life and keep going when you're soaring like an eagle! My heart is now more often drawn to those who have stumbled and fallen, even "fallen on their face," and then they have gotten back up and kept on walking.

So here's to you, Guo XinXin. May you keep on walking. And if you do, I know you will take flight in the aerials once again. And here's to you - yes, you who have "fallen on your face" once again. Your failure matters more than Guo's because she failed at a game, no matter how important that game may seem. No, you have failed at your life. You're not sure you can go on. You're not sure you even want to try to go on. Even worse, you are not sure you are even worthy to be given another chance to go on. I want to simply remind you that the greatest of heroes are those who get up and keep walking after they have "fallen on their face," again. God's promise is for you, if you will summon the courage to believe ... and get up ... and keep on walking.

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

March 1 - Mark Clayton
 March 5 - Steve Ward
 March 8 - Joy Greer



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 February 22: 84

Contribution for February 22: \$4010

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Marietta Reams will meet with her doctor March 10 following a CAT scan Thursday evening * **David Burleson** as he begins radiation treatments * **Cody Boyt** will be having a stress test and echocardiogram Tuesday in St. Louis * **Walker Boyt** will have some genetic-type tests Tuesday in St. Louis * **Rodney Williams** will be having a chemical stress test * **Kim and Glen Ward** were under the weather last week * **Janet Woods** scheduled for back surgery April 15 * **Scott Burleson** who is in gravely ill condition * **Dale Swain** had to postpone knee replacement surgery * **Carol Young** as she undergoes chemotherapy and radiation * **Roxanne Carson** recovering from gamma knife procedure * **Marilyn Sullivan** (Millie's sister) has a mass on her ovaries * **Faye Dockins** will be moving to Jackson, TN today to be with her daughter

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Cody Boyt * Jerry Burleson * David Burleson * David Carson * Mike Duley * Karen Forkum * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Donna McKuinn * Gloria Moore * June Mothersbaugh * Woody and Janet Wood

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

Melinda Akers * Chastity Beaird * Terry Bean family * Cathy Bennett * Rodney Britt * Scott Burleson * Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Barbara Denson * Bill Fitzpatrick * 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 * Cindy Miller * 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: First Sunday potluck and early evening services. We will have a potluck following morning services with an early evening service afterward. Everyone is encouraged to stay for both the potluck and evening service.
- Our Wednesday fellowship meal will be hot dogs, chili and soups. Desserts will be needed.
- March 8: Daylight Saving Time begins. Don't forget to "spring forward" an hour.
- March 10: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at La Cascada in Bernie. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.
- March 13-14: Inspiration 2026 with Lonnie Jones at the Dexter church of Christ. If you'd like to attend, you are asked to register by today. More information can be found on the bulletin board by the nursery.
- March 21: Benefit Auction for BYC at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Dexter church of Christ. More information can be found on the bulletin board by the nursery.
- March 22-25: Gospel Meeting at Gideon with guest speaker Kason Lawrence.
- March 29: Our spring gospel meeting with Tim Wooldridge begins and runs through April 1. Be praying now for a successful meeting.



In March, winter is holding back and spring is pulling forward. A.R. Ammons

WILLING TO SERVE

March 1, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Chase Burch
 Opening Prayer.....Jason Karnes
 Scripture.....Jordan Ross
 Prayer.....Zack Tanner
 Closing Prayer.....Matt Ward

Evening Worship:

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

March 4, 2026

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
 Prayer.....Sam Garner
 Dismissal.....Chase Burch

March 8, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
 Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
 Scripture.....David Burleson
 Prayer.....Jason Karnes
 Closing Prayer.....Jess LeCroy

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....David Carson
 Prayer.....Ron Garner
 Scripture.....Darrin Shipman
 Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

SAFE AND STILL

As a full-of-energy preschooler, my son Xavier avoided afternoon quiet time. Being still often resulted in an unwanted, though much-needed, nap. So, he'd wiggle in his seat, slide off the sofa, scoot across the hardwood floor, and even roll across the room to evade the quiet. "Mom, I'm hungry ... I'm thirsty .. I have to go to the bathroom ... I want a hug."

Understanding the benefits of stillness, I'd help Xavier settle down by inviting him to snuggle. Leaning into my side, he'd give in to sleep.

Early in my spiritual life, I mirrored my son's desire to remain active. Busyness made me feel accepted, important, and in control, while noise distracted me from fretting over my shortcomings and trials. Surrendering to rest only affirmed my frail humanity. So I avoided stillness and silence, doubting God could handle things without my help.

But He's our refuge, no matter how many troubles or uncertainties surround us. The path ahead may seem long, scary, or overwhelming, but His love envelopes us. He hears us, answers us, and stays with us ... now and forever into eternity (Psalm 91).

We can embrace the quiet and lean into God's unfailing love and constant presence. We can be still and rest in Him because we're safe under the shelter of His unchanging faithfulness.

Xochitl Dixon