



TRUE LIGHT

WHY AREN'T MORE PEOPLE HERE?

March 15, 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
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573-281-6686
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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

***We Welcome You
To All Of Our
Services***

From the title of this article, you might think this is about worship attendance.

While that question is always fitting in that setting, this isn't about that. In fact, that question was not asked in a church building. It was at a hotel lobby.

Now, the question was not being asked about why more people were or were not guests of the hotel. It wasn't asked about why more were or were not lined up at a restaurant or coffee shop inside. It wasn't even asked about why more weren't headed to a pool, spa, or exercise room.

Instead, I overheard someone ask this question about why more people - specifically more couples - were not at a marriage retreat that Leah and I were blessed to be part of recently.

The retreat was in the Ozark Mountains in a beautiful location. The lessons were Biblically-based and there was a lot of free time to explore Branson, rest, and reconnect as a couple.

But here's what made that question interesting to me. The question was asked, not by a preacher, not by an elder, not by one of the workers, and not by a speaker at the retreat.

It was asked by one of the attendees.

Who not only is married, but who has been married for sixty-eight years.

Here was a couple, almost seven decades into marriage, attending a marriage retreat. (In all seriousness, as one of the speakers, I was totally intimidated. What on earth could I possibly say that would help this couple?!) Each time you saw them, they were shuffling along, arm-in-arm, and smiling. They were a blessing to us all during the time they were there.

But the wife's question was a good one. Here they were, obviously in the sunset years of marriage, still gaining and growing and reconnecting. And how many couples never take the time to go to any retreat or read a marriage book together or do anything else intentional to better ground their marriage in the Scriptures?

By the way, I was also encouraged by meeting a younger couple (I would guess they are in their late 20s) from Arkansas. They told Leah and me that they go to retreats all the time because, even if they have heard the speakers before, they appreciate the reminders and it always helps them. That is an attitude that will bless their marriage, Lord willing, for many years (and decades) to come.

Take a lesson from that sweet older sister In Christ. No matter how long you have been married - 68 days or 68 years - never stop growing and learning about marriage. Take time for just the two of you to think about, pray about, and reconnect about your marriage. When you have that attitude, you'll be shuffling along with a smile in your sunset years with that wonderful spouse on your arm, as well. And what a blessing that is to you, your spouse, and the Lord's Church.

Adam Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post



BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

March 15 - Beckie Tanner
March 22 - Cindy Burleson



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 March 8: 120

Contribution for March 8: \$3949

*This bulletin was printed in advance. Please listen to announcements for updates to our sick list

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Marietta Reams doing well following stent surgery for her kidney * **Rodney Williams** had a chemical stress test Wednesday * **Janet Woods** scheduled for back surgery April 15 * **Scott Burleson** who is in gravely ill condition * **Dale Swain** had to postpone knee replacement surgery a second time * **Carol Young** as she undergoes chemotherapy and radiation * **Johhny Hester** will be having an angiogram March 30 * **Marilyn Sullivan** (Millie's sister) will be having the mass on her ovaries removed in a few weeks

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Cody Boyt * Jerry Burleson * David Burleson * David Carson * Faye Dockins * Mike Duley * 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 * 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: Eddie Cloer from Truth for Today will be our guest speaker for morning worship.
- Our Wednesday fellowship meal will be taco salad. Desserts will be needed.
- 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. We will have a potluck meal following morning worship, and a youth emphasis night that evening. We will need help with snacks for Sunday evening; a sign up sheet is on the table in the foyer.
- April 13: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 a.m. at Granny Lou's in Bernie.

OPINION, PLEASE:

Easter Sunday falls on the first Sunday of the month this year. The elders would like to know if you prefer to keep our usual first Sunday, church, potluck, early evening service or revert to our normal Sunday schedule, with services held at 5 and no potluck. If we have it at 5, an Easter dinner will still be held for those who would like to participate. Please let one of the elders know if you have a preference.

It's a BOY!

Congratulations to Matt and Shyann Ward on the birth of their son, Ruben Buck, who was born March 10. Ruben weighed 8 lbs, 1 oz and was 21 1/4 inches long. Mom and baby are doing well!

WILLING TO SERVE

March 15, 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 18, 2026

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....David Carson
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

March 22, 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

THE REASON TO REST

If you want to live longer, take a vacation!

Forty years after a study of middle-aged, male executives who each had a risk of heart disease, researchers in Helsinki, Finland, followed up with their study participants. The scientists discovered something they hadn't been looking for in their original findings: the death rate was lower among those who had taken time off for vacations.

Work is a necessary part of life - a part God appointed to us even before our relationship with Him was fractured in Genesis 3. Solomon wrote of the seeming meaninglessness of work experienced by those not working for God's honor - recognizing its *anxious striving* and *grief and pain* (Ecc. 2:22-23). Even when they're not actively working, he says their *minds do not rest* because they are thinking about what still needs to be done (v 23).

We too might at times feel like we're *chasing after the wind* (v 17) and grow frustrated by our inability to "finish" our work. But when we remember that God is part of our labor - our purpose - we can both work hard *and* take time to rest. We can trust Him to be our Provider, for He's the giver of all things. Solomon acknowledges that *without him, who can eat or find enjoyment?* (v 25). Perhaps by reminding ourselves of that truth, we can work diligently for him (Colossians 3:23) and also allow ourselves times of rest.

Kirsten