



TRUE LIGHT

OF NATURAL CAUSES

March 29, 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
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DEACONS

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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**

So accept each other just as Christ has accepted you; then God will be glorified (Romans 15:7 NLT).

Larry died of natural causes, the coroner suggested. I balked at the suggestion, because Larry was only 51 years old. Now for some of you, that may seem old, but I'm 52 - dying of natural causes at 51 didn't seem quite right. But the longer I read the article about Larry's passing, I realized the "natural causes" were not what we usually mean when someone "dies of natural causes."

Larry's remains were recently found in his house in a skeletal, mummified condition. No one had seen him since Hurricane Rita had devastated Beaumont, Texas, nearly 18 months ago. The body was found on top of the bed, just like he had gone in to take a nap and never awakened. They are not sure if Larry expired shortly before the hurricane's arrival or shortly afterward. His house had not been severely damaged, so no one had actually gone inside to check on him and most folks just felt he had left before the approaching hurricane and never returned. A prospective buyer for the house found Larry's body. The house had been put up for auction because of unpaid taxes.

...his death should shock us into a realization that there are lonely people all around us - maybe even within us - who need someone to reach out and simply include them. So why don't we?

Sadly, no one had really missed Larry. Although he had family in the city, he didn't want to see them. His neighbors made assumptions about his absence. Who knows, if someone had been more aware of his status, he might have been found before he died!

Unfortunately, we live in a time when we hardly know any of our neighbors anymore. This is true whether we are talking about the neighborhood where we live or the "neighborhood" where we usually sit when we attend church. While we face an epidemic of loneliness in the many developed countries in the world - and the US seems to be the worst - most folks are waiting for someone else to reach out and include them. Rather than risking rejection, or interfering, or involvement, most of us go about our routines and remain relatively anonymous to the folks around us.

While Larry's death is an extreme example, his death should shock us into a realization that there are lonely people all around us - maybe even within us - who need someone to reach out and simply include them. So why don't we?

[The challenge for you is] to do just that. Look around your neighborhood and your church, and find people who seem a bit lonely or isolated. Intentionally include them. Encourage folks at your church or within your group of friends to begin to call on one elderly person per week to just check on that person and see how he or she is doing. Change the neighborhood where you sit at church at least once per month and sit by someone who seems to be alone and find out about that person. Offer to help carry groceries, the garbage can, or other tasks.

What holds you back from reaching out to someone else? What makes it hard to help touch the heart of someone who seems to be alone that you regularly see each week? Why have we become such an isolate culture, as we grow more "civilized and high tech"?

Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

March 31 - Kathy Hampton
April 1 - Cassie Cummings
April 3 - Ron & Gaye Miller (A)



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 22: 106

Contribution for March 22: \$4003

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

David Burleson will have a follow up tomorrow and is scheduled for another round of chemo Thursday. No visitors at this time, please * **Janet Woods** scheduled for back surgery April 15 * **Dale Swain** has surgery rescheduled for tomorrow * **Mindy Pruitt** will see her doctor tomorrow and is hoping to be released from driving restrictions * **Johhny Hester** diagnosed with Atrial Septal Aneurysm and saw a specialist on the 27th * **Marilyn Sullivan** (Millie's sister) recovering from surgery to remove a mass * Trish Swain is still in Cypress Point but is allowed some outings.

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 Beard * 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: 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 this evening. We will need help with snacks for tonight; a sign up sheet is on the table in the foyer.
- Our Wednesday fellowship meal will be fried fish, chicken, hushpuppies, french fries and baked beans. Desserts will be needed.
- April 5: Easter dinner will be served in the fellowship room for ANYONE who would like to attend. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to come and provide a dish.
- April 14: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 a.m. at Granny Lou's in Bernie.
- April 15: Jeff Abrams will be here to share about the work in Ukraine.
- April 26: Austin Holiman will be our guest speaker.

BIBLE TRIVIA

When Elijah was on Mt. Carmel, how many times did he send his servant to look for a cloud? * The two spies that Rahab hid fled into the mountains and hid for how many days? * How many men from the tribe of Judah were sent out to capture Samson? * How old was Jehoash when he was crowned king? * This person was brought water from the well at Bethlehem but poured it out on the ground because it was brought to him at great risk. Who was this person? * What type of bird was sold for "two for a farthing"? * Absalom was riding on a _____ when his hair caught in a tree * What did Achan steal from Jericho?

Answers: Seven (1 Kings 18: 42-44) * Three days (Joshua 2: 3,22) * Three thousand (Judges 15: 11) * Seven years old (2 Kings 11: 21) * David (2 Samuel 23: 15,16) * Sparrow (Matthew 10:29) * Mule (2 Samuel 18:9) * Gold, silver, and a garment (Joshua 7: 1,2)

WILLING TO SERVE

March 29, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Stan Dauck
Opening Prayer.....Jason Karnes
Scripture.....Jordan Ross
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Matt Ward

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Brandon Chesser
Prayer.....tba
Scripture.....tba
Dismissal.....tba

April 1, 2026

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Justin Allen
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

April 5, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
Scripture.....Steve Jones
Prayer.....Jason Karnes
Closing Prayer.....Jess LeCroy

Evening Worship:

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

THE COST

Michelangelo's works explored many facets of the life of Jesus, yet one of the most poignant was also one of the most simple. In the 1540s he sketched a pieta (a picture of Jesus' mother holding the body of the dead Christ) for his friend Vittoria Colonna. Done in chalk, the drawing depicts Mary looking to the heavens as she cradles her Son's still form. Rising behind Mary, the upright beam of the cross carries these words from Dante's *Paradise*, "There they don't think of how much blood it costs." Michelangelo's point was profound: when we contemplate the death of Jesus, we must consider the price He paid.

The price paid by Christ is captured in His dying declaration, *It is finished* (John 19:30). The term for "it is finished" (*tetelestai*) was used in several ways - to show a bill had been paid, a task finished, a sacrifice offered, a masterpiece completed. Each of them applies to what Jesus did on our behalf on the cross! Perhaps that's why the apostle Paul wrote, *May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world* (Galatians 6:14).

Jesus' willingness to take our place is the eternal evidence of how much God loves us. As we contemplate the price He paid, may we also celebrate His love - and give thanks for the cross.

Bill Crowder