



TRUE LIGHT

ABOUT THOSE CRYING BABIES

April 19, 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
573-820-0329
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573-281-6686
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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."*

Psalms 118:24

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

There are several sounds during a worship service that are beautiful.

Joyful singing. Pages turning in Bibles. Silence during communion. Laughter. Sniffles.

And crying babies.

Yes, crying babies are a glorious sound during worship. They are the sound of hope. They are the sound of proper family priorities. They are the sound of preparation for the future.

That doesn't mean that the cry of a baby doesn't at times distract. Of course, it does. But what better distraction can there be than the sound of this wonderful child being brought to worship by parents who love God above all else!

I've heard all the complaints. "That mama should take that baby out." "I couldn't hear anything... that baby just kept crying." "I can't worship when that baby's screaming."

Yes, the mama (or daddy) should take the baby out for a few moments - not the rest of the service - to calm down. I agree.

That said, if the sound of babies crying keeps you from worshipping, here are some thoughts to keep in mind.



* Offer to help. But, please, offer in a way that does not come across as accusatory or frustrated. Show those parents that you are so grateful they are bringing that baby to church and offer to hold the baby for a few moments or get something (quiet) out of the bag to help. It's one way for those who are older to help train the younger. (I think I've read somewhere that that type of thing is actually commanded of us.)

* Say a silent prayer. If you are truly distracted and struggling to worship, pause for a moment and pray to God. Ask Him to help you focus. Pray that He will help you be grateful for this family. Pray for the family, that they will keep bringing their baby to church and not get discouraged.

* If you had children, don't play the comparison game. There's a major difference in offering help and saying, "Back in my day...". You may have done a great job and you may have helpful wisdom to offer, but you are not raising *this* child in *this* home at *this* time. Choose your words very carefully.

* Sit elsewhere. If you really can't stand the noise, here's a novel concept: quit being glued to your pew! Did you realize you can worship on the other side of the auditorium? It is possible to sing praises and pray in the front just as well as the back (or vice versa). Instead of moaning and groaning, make a simple move.

Parents, bring those babies!

Churches, offer a "cry room," and, at various times, explain the purpose. (Short "training" times, not a permanent home!)

Members, be grateful you have crying babies at church. There are dozens and dozens of congregations where that sound has not been heard in a long time, and the members are worried about their future. You get to hear the sound of hope week after week. Rejoice in it!

Oh, and thank the parents for trying to do their best. The need all the encouragement they can get.

Adam Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

April 20 - Nicole Garner
April 21 - James & Janet Wood (A)
April 24 - LaRhonda Billingsley
Debbie Hobgood

*Belated birthday wishes to Casey Karnes, who celebrated April 13, and John Neeley, who celebrated April 17



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Muffin Mixes * Mac and Cheese *
Kool-Aid * Vanilla Wafers * Honey *
Crackers (Club, Cheez-its, etc)
Pick-up Date April 20, 2026



WILLING TO SERVE

April 19, 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.....Chase Burch
Prayer.....Ron Garner
Scripture.....Darrin Shipman
Dismissal.....Jerry Burleson

April 22, 2026

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Ron Garner
Dismissal.....Mike Duley

April 26, 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.....David Carson
Prayer.....Sam Garner
Scripture.....Rodney Williams
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

WINDOWS

Near the foothills of the Himalayas, a visitor noticed a row of houses without windows. His guide explained that some of the villagers feared that demons might sneak into their homes while they slept, so they built impermeable walls. You could tell when a homeowner began to follow Jesus because he put in windows to let in the light.

A similar dynamic may take place in us, though we might not see it quite that way. We live in scary, polarizing times. Satan and his demons instigate angry divisions that split families and friends. I often feel like hiding behind my walls. But Jesus wants me to cut a window.

Israel sought refuge in higher walls, but God said their security lay with Him. He reigns from heaven, and His word governs all (Isaiah 55:10-11). If Israel would return to Him, God would *have mercy on them* (v 7) and restore them as His people to bless the world (Genesis 12:1-3). He would lift them up, ultimately leading them in a triumphal parade. Their celebration *will be for the LORD'S renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever* (Isaiah 55:13).

Sometimes walls are necessary. Walls with windows are best. They show the world that we trust God for the future. Our fears are real. Our God is greater. Windows open us to Jesus - *the light of the world* (John 8:12) - and to others who need Him.

Mike Wittmer

Attendance for April 12: 115

Contribution for April 12: \$3765

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Ron Garner is home and recovering from back surgery * **Sue Jester** is in room HB3 at Cypress Point for the next several days for therapy following a bad fall April 9 * **David Burleson** was scheduled for a second chemo treatment Friday * **Pat Cooper** had her gallbladder out Thursday and will be transitioning to Annie's Garden skilled nursing facility in Sikeston * **June Mothersbaugh** was released from the hospital Thursday following foot surgery * **Janet Woods** was unable to have back surgery due to osteoporosis. She will be getting treatments for several months to build up the bone in order to try again * **Cindy Williams** is having issues with her sciatic nerve and will be seeing a specialist

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:

- April 20: Children's Home grocery run. Let's get the cart filled up.
- Wednesday Fellowship Meal will be baked spaghetti, garden salad, garlic bread. Desserts will be needed.
- April 25 & 26: 2026 Seminar at Highland Drive church of Christ. The theme is "The Christian Response to some of Poplar Bluff's Greatest Needs," and will have various speakers. More information can be found on the bulletin board by the nursery.
- April 26: Austin Holiman will be our guest speaker.
- May 3: First Sunday potluck and early evening service. We will have a potluck meal following morning service with an afternoon service immediately following. Please make plans to stay for both the potluck and afternoon service.
- May 17: Senior Sunday recognition following evening worship. Our two seniors this year are Houston Neely and Jordan Ross. Parents, please gather 50-75 photos and give them to Amy or submit them digitally as soon as possible.

BIBLE TRIVIA

While Joseph was in prison, he interpreted dreams for two men. What were the occupations of these two men? * Whose birthday celebration was the first mentioned in the Bible? * In what book of the Bible does it talk about trading a boy for a harlot? * How many men in the Bible were named Judas? * Who received the first kiss that is mentioned in the Bible?

Answers: baker and butler (Genesis 40:1-9,16) * Pharaoh's (Genesis 40:20) * Joel (3:3) * Six - (Matthew 10:4; 13:55; Luke 6:16; Acts 5:37; 9:11; 15:22) * Isaac (Genesis 27:26,27)