



TRUE LIGHT

May 3, 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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*"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**

TO BE A MOCKINGBIRD

Mockingbirds are not generally found at the top of the list of favorites in this part of the country. They are aggressive, driving other birds away from the feeders, and they are loud. Aggressive and loud seldom endears anything or anyone to others. Mockingbirds do not have the brilliant plumage of the Cardinal, the Indigo Bunting, or the Goldfinch, which are common this time of the year. Yet, in spite of these negatives, I have a Mockingbird that is among my very treasured acquaintances.

For years, this Mockingbird has sung his loud and varied song in an old tree just outside my office window. He has always been loud enough to be heard, even in my office confines. He always brings a smile to me in the morning hours, when much of what I hear is depressing or lackluster,

When we began the new building work and the renovation of the older section of our church plant, it was deemed necessary to remove the old tree. I considered chaining myself to the tree, but was of the opinion that my popularity in these waning years might not be enough to prohibit the chain saws, so I elected to watch the tree fall with only a slight sigh. One of my real concerns was for the welfare of the Mockingbird.

I envisioned my Mockingbird buddy leaving, since the tree, which had always been his stage from which to perform, was no longer there. Happily, I was wrong! As though it was his special task to cheer me on each morning, he just moved to the peak of the roof above me and continued his appointed destiny.

Do you think we might learn a lesson from this persistent bird? He had a job to do and enjoyed doing it. Really big thunder storms temporarily distracted him, but ordinary rain just encouraged him. I often heard him in the midst of a summer shower singing at the top of his voice, in what appeared to be exuberant thanksgiving for the relief from the summer's heat. I cannot help thinking of the attitude of the Apostle Paul when he wrote, *I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am in. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me* (Philippians 4:11-13 NASB). Jesus said, *Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father* (Matthew 10:29). I have no doubt that the God who knows when a sparrow falls must surely know my Mockingbird and hears his song.
Bill Sherrill, www.heartlight.com

"I DON'T JUDGE PEOPLE"

Why don't you judge for yourselves what is right? -- (Luke 12:57).

Of all places, there is an insightful line about the necessity of passing personal judgment that comes from a new one-act play. As reported in a review carried in the New York Times, here is the way a debate goes between the play's two central characters:

"People have to judge you by something," he tells her. "I don't judge people," she replies. "Well, I hope you never drown," he replies. "Because if it's you and I and Michael Phelps in the Hamptons and you get a cramp? And you call on me because you're not judgmental? I think you'd probably die."

This dialogue takes place between a man with cerebral palsy and his caregiver, and it is meant to be a funny scene in the play. Regardless, it is also a statement of an obvious truth. We all make judgments about people. And it is neither smart nor virtuous to pretend we don't - or shouldn't.

Oh, I can hear the response of someone now. "Okay, you Christians are judgmental. Thanks for admitting it. But your 'Leader' condemned it!"

First, if this response is meant to claim that some Christians are overly judgmental and too quick to censure and condemn those with whom they disagree, it is surely correct. To make headlines by claiming that a Texas flood or a California fire is "God's judgment" against a person or lifestyle is simply crude and mean-spirited. If Moses was a prophet with a direct link to Yahweh about the plagues of Egypt, today's TV preachers and would-be prophets don't.

Second, Jesus - along with Paul and Peter and your common sense - actually requires that we pass judgment on truth and falsehood, right and wrong: *Do not judge by appearances, but judge with righteous judgment* (John 7:24 NRSV).

With this statement, Jesus prohibits racism, sexism, and various other forms of shallow judgment against persons. In the same breath, however, he requires his followers to make wise, prudent, and moral judgments. For example, to stay away from drug parties, immoral relationships, or jobs that require employees to exploit clients by lying about a product or service.

To offer Jesus' "Don't judge lest you be judged" as an excuse for some rotten behavior or to defend an obvious falsehood is to be both disingenuous and dishonest. To claim otherwise, is - uh, well - to make a judgment. To judge what I have claimed. To judge me.

Let's face it. Life requires judgments for the sake of intellectual honesty, making good decisions, and saving oneself from drowning! But it doesn't need professional critics and denigrators. It can't tolerate mean-spirited ridicule. Follow Jesus' counsel here. You will learn that some of the sweetest people have weird tattoos, while some of the meanest ones go to church every Sunday.
Rubel Shelly, via www.heartlight.com

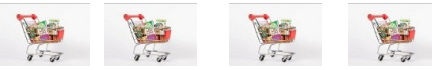
**BIRTHDAYS/
ANNIVERSARIES**

May 5 - Avery Neely
May 6 - Ken Durham
Jeff & Karen McGowan



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Country Gravy Mix * Brown Gravy
Mix * BBQ Sauce * Diced Tomatoes *
Black Olives * Pickles
Pick up date: August 3rd



WILLING TO SERVE

May 3, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Ralph Mullins
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

May 6, 2026

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Darrin Shipman
Dismissal.....Mike Duley

May 10, 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

FUELED BY FIRE

When two firefighters, weary and sooty, stopped at a restaurant for breakfast, the waitress recognized the men from the news and realized they'd spent the night battling a warehouse fire. To show her appreciation, she wrote a note on their bill, "Your breakfast is on me today. Thank you ... for serving others and for running into places everyone else runs away from ... fueled by fire and driven by courage, what an example you are."

In the Old Testament, we see an example of courage in the actions of three young men: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3). Instead of obeying the mandate to bow down to a statue of the Babylonian king, these young men courageously showed their love for God through their refusal. Their penalty was to be thrown into a blazing furnace. Yet the men didn't back down: *If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But even if he does not ... we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold* (v17-18).

God did rescue them and even walked with them in the fire (v25-27). In our fiery trials and troubles today, we too have the assurance that God is with us. He is able. Alyson Kieda

Horticulturally, the month of May is opening night, homecoming, and graduation day all rolled into one.

Tam Mossman

Attendance for April 26: 95

Contribution for April 26: \$4035

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Cindy Williams struggling with sciatic nerve pain * **Jess LeCroy** is dealing with some health issues * **Ron Garner** is doing well following back surgery * **Sue Jester** is home and doing well * **David Burleson** doing well following his chemo treatments * **Pat Cooper** currently at Annie's Garden skilled nursing facility in Sikeston for some rehab * **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 * **Trish Swain** was scheduled to be released from Cypress Point yesterday * **Clyde Jacques** is not doing well

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 * 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 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.
- Wednesday Fellowship Meal will be hot dogs with chili and soups. Desserts will be needed.
- May 12: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at Granny Lou's in Bernie. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.
- 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

In what book of the Bible do you find the words, "Thine eyes like the fishpools in Heshbon"? * Who was the first man the Bible says had a dream? * In what book of the Bible do we find God's punishment of "consumption, and the burning ague"? * How many chapters are in the book of Esther?

Answers: Song of Solomon (7:4) * Leviticus (26:16) * Ten Abimelech (Genesis 20:3) * Leviticus

More "Bible Triva"

What kind of motor vehicles are found in the Bible? Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord. * Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible? Samson. He brought the house down. * What excuse did Adam give his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden? Your mother ate us out of house and home.