



TRUE LIGHT

Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. ~ Psalm 119:105

September 27, 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

OFFICE: 573-293-5620
Bernie Church of Christ
P.O. Box 366
Bernie, MO 63822

EMAIL:
berniechurchofchrist
@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
www.berniechurchofchrist.com

FIND US ON
FACEBOOK:
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***

THE ULTIMATE FAILURE

Some time spent with the owner of a local business a couple of years or so ago and subsequent events shed new light on an issue I had never considered. As I sat with him in a local restaurant which he owned (or at least owned the local franchise), he shared a frustration with me that, at the time, was incredible to me.

According to what he said, his business was hurting because he needed employees. His frustration was not only his need for employees, but it was what had become an increasingly familiar scenario. The scenario went something like this: people applied for positions, all of the "paperwork" (i.e. computer work) was done, the person was scheduled to start work at a certain time on a specific date, the time came and went, the day came and went, and the person never showed up – **ever!**

It was incredible to me to hear about people who took the time to "jump through all of the hoops" necessary to be employed, but apparently had no interest in actually working. According to the potential employer, there are some loopholes in some of our government programs that make this an attractive option for far too many people.

Would it surprise you to learn that I now regularly drive by that building in which the conversation took place and see only that – a building? There are no cars lined up in the drive-through lane or sitting in parking spaces while people enjoy a meal inside the establishment. There are no employees. There are no delivery trucks. There is no trash that needs to be disposed of. There is **nothing there except a building.**

As I reflect on that conversation and the subsequent events, I have begun to wonder why I should have been surprised at all. After all, I have had the sad experience of seeing a very similar scenario play out in something much more important to me than a local fast food restaurant.

In fact, what I started thinking about is much more important – period. If I have any grasp of the scriptures at all, nothing should be more important to an individual than the eternal destiny of his or her soul.

You may want to consult Matthew 16:26 as you consider why I wrote that last sentence:

For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

You may want to also look at the context in which that verse is found. As you do, you will find that Jesus discussed the value of a soul in the context of the absolute necessity of picking up our crosses and following Him. In fact, He said we cannot be His disciples if we are unwilling to do that.

So – what is the connection between being a disciple of Jesus and that conversation at a local restaurant? My guess is that you probably have already figured that out.

If that is not the case, I ask you to remember what the people on the Day of Pentecost who were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:38) knew *before* they were baptized. They knew that Jesus was both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36).

Since our government was established, at least in part, on "the consent of the governed," most of us do not relate well to the concept of lordship. We tend to think of leaders in terms of how they can please us. Legislation begins to look more like suggestion. That's not even close to how lords operate. Simply put, a lord "calls the shots." What he says, goes. There is no room in this arrangement for refusing to do what is required – whether or not those requirements meet with the approval of the subjects.

So – what is the connection? Maybe a few questions will help with that.

Why would somebody at least ostensibly do what is required to become a Christian and then never serve the One whom they call Lord? Why would there be no involvement in His work in a local congregation? Why would they even fail to attend worship services and/or Bible classes? In short, why would a person even "sign up" for something he or she had no intention of doing?

I sat across a table from a man whose business ultimately failed because people were unwilling to even attempt to please an employer. I am hoping that all of this will remind us of something much more important than where we can get our next hamburger. One day each of us will stand in front of the One who once asked some individuals, *And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?* (Luke 6:46).

In the grand scheme of things, the failure of one place of business may not matter a great deal. If, on the other hand, I lose my soul because I never really became a disciple of Jesus, that would be...

the ultimate failure.

Jim Faughn, via A Legacy of Faith blog post

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

September 27 – Pam Collier
October 4 - Faye Dockins



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Bottled Orange Juice * Saltine Crackers
* Kool-Aid Mixes * Toilet Paper *
Bathroom Cleaners * Laundry Detergent



WILLING TO SERVE

September 27, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....Ralph Mullins
Opening Prayer.....Jason Karnes
Scripture.....Darrin Shipman
Prayer.....Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer.....Matt Ward

Evening Worship:

Song Leader.....Rodney Williams
Prayer.....Justin Allen
Scripture.....Sam Garner
Dismissal.....David Burleson

September 30, 2026

Song Leader.....Jacob Clayton
Prayer.....Ron Garner
Dismissal.....Jerry McCoy

October 4, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader.....TBA
Opening Prayer.....Jon Neely
Scripture.....Jordan Ross
Prayer.....Jason Karnes
Closing Prayer.....Jess LeCroy

Evening Worship:

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

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

On a teaching trip to Moscow, I decided to take the subway to get lunch. Standing in the subway car, I started whistling simply because I felt good after an enjoyable morning and the day was pleasant. The passengers stared at me like I was insane. When I got back to the school, I told one of the office workers that the people were so discouraged and downhearted they stared when I whistled. She politely informed me, "Yes, their lives are very hard, but that isn't why they stared. They stared because it's rude to whistle in public here."

When we make assumptions, we base them on external factors that may not have any bearing on the moment. It's helpful to recall the story of David's selection as future king of Israel. As the prophet Samuel considered Jesse's eldest son, he thought, *Surely the Lord's anointed stands here before the Lord* (1 Samuel 16:6). But God told Samuel, *Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart* (v 7).

Basing judgments on appearances will lead to wrong conclusions. We do well to let God do the judging. He sees the heart of the matter.

Bill Crowder



Attendance September 20: 88

Contribution September 20: \$4265

***this bulletin was printed in advance. Please listen to announcements for updates to our prayer list**

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Nicole Garner, struggling with migraine issues. She was scheduled for an MRI Wednesday * **Woody Woods** and **Waynetta Rodgers**, recovering from hip replacement surgery * **Cindy Williams** continuing with chemotherapy treatment * **Judy Snyder** doing better after having severe pain in her arm * **Linda LeCroy** is home following surgery on her neck and is having some issues with pain * **Tim Flowers** as he continues treatments for MDS, a blood cancer. * **David Carson** continuing with tests

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Cody Boyt * Jerry Burleson * David Burleson * David Carson * Pat Cooper * Faye Dockins * Mike and Judy Duley * Karen Forkum * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Donna McKuin * June Mothersbaugh * Bill and Beverly Pruitt * David and Jane Terrill * 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 * Joseph Dauck * 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: Austin Ketchum will be our guest speaker for both services.

Our Wednesday night fellowship meal will be Mexican chicken (mild) with rice, and sides. Desserts will be needed. If you can help prepare a fellowship meal this year, please let Stan know.

October 4-7: Our Gospel Meeting with Charles Abernathy. The theme will be "Still Surprised: Old Truths I See with New Eyes." Flyers are available on the table in the foyer. Also, we will need some help with desserts and snacks for Youth Night October 4. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you can help fill that need.

October 13: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at Main Street Restaurant in Bernie.

October 17 & 18: Healthy Heart and Mind: Raising Faithful and Resilient kids in the Digital Age with guest speaker Dr. Jeff Cline at Slicer Street church of Christ. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

December 5: Second annual youth rally at Green Forest church of Christ with guest speaker Chase Almond. More information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.