

TRUE LIGHT

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

November 8, 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

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berniechurchofchrist
@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
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FIND US ON FACEBOOK:
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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

BIG ROCKS

> *Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head"* (Matthew 8:19-20).

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Sometimes, amid the realities of all the things we have to do each day, and with the voices of all the bosses and parents and children and spouses and teachers telling us that this or that is important or urgent ringing in our ears, we forget that we have the responsibility to decide what matters most to us. Not the guy who signs our paychecks. Not the person to whom we're married. Certainly not the people who assign our kids' homework. **We decide.** And we live accordingly.

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The Son of Man has no place to lay his head, He warned. And rightly so, because you can't have everything. To follow one path is to abandon another. To open one door is to leave another closed. There are just so many hours in a day, and to set one thing as a priority might mean you can't do something else. Or at least not right then. Or not as much. The parents at that meeting were feeling that time crunch. You can't do homework and go to church at the same time. (Well, you can – but neither ministers nor teachers recommend it…)

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Jesus, I think, wanted this man to understand what following Him would mean giving up. Because following Him does mean giving up other options, other choices, other priorities. I'm not necessarily talking about going to church vs. doing homework now, because going to church doesn't exactly equal following Jesus.

But this goes beyond what you do with an hour or two on Sundays. Following Jesus – being a disciple – is mostly about choices. It's a spiritual decision, yes, but our society's current inclination to talk about spiritual things as if they have no connection to the realities of day-to-day life is just foolish. Jesus made no such distinctions. Following Him meant taking a serious hit in your standard of living. It meant depending on the kindness of others, maybe sleeping out under the stars some nights. You didn't follow Jesus in those days for status, or wealth, or the approval of others. In fact, following Him would probably cost you at least one of those, and quite possibly all three.

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BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

November 10 – James Wood
November 13 – Kent Buck
Loretta Carson
Belated wishes to Jerry Burleson, who celebrated November 2, and Darrin & Lana Shipman who celebrated their anniversary yesterday.

CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Bottled Orange Juice * Saltine Crackers * Kool-Aid Mixes * Toilet Paper * Bathroom Cleaners * Laundry Detergent
Pick-up date November 30



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Opening Prayer……Jason Karnes
Scripture……Darrin Shipman
Prayer……Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer……Matt Ward

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Prayer……Justin Allen
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November 13 – Kent Buck
Loretta Carson
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Pick-up date November 30



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Opening Prayer……Jason Karnes
Scripture……Darrin Shipman
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Closing Prayer……Matt Ward

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Psalm 118:24

We Welcome You To All Of Our Services

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November 10 – James Wood
November 13 – Kent Buck
Loretta Carson
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Bottled Orange Juice * Saltine Crackers * Kool-Aid Mixes * Toilet Paper * Bathroom Cleaners * Laundry Detergent
Pick-up date November 30



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Opening Prayer……Jason Karnes
Scripture……Darrin Shipman
Prayer……Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer……Matt Ward

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November 15, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader……Chase Burch
Opening Prayer……Jon Neely
Scripture……Jorden Ross
Prayer……Jason Karnes
Closing Prayer……Jess LeCroy

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Prayer……Justin Allen
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Bible Study…..7:00PM

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November 13 – Kent Buck
Loretta Carson
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Pick-up date November 30



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Opening Prayer……Jason Karnes
Scripture……Darrin Shipman
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Opening Prayer……Jason Karnes
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Psalm 118:24

We Welcome You To All Of Our Services

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November 10 – James Wood
November 13 – Kent Buck
Loretta Carson
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Bottled Orange Juice * Saltine Crackers * Kool-Aid Mixes * Toilet Paper * Bathroom Cleaners * Laundry Detergent
Pick-up date November 30



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Opening Prayer……Jason Karnes
Scripture……Darrin Shipman
Prayer……Zack Tanner
Closing Prayer……Matt Ward

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November 15, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader……Chase Burch
Opening Prayer……Jon Neely
Scripture……Jorden Ross
Prayer……Jason Karnes
Closing Prayer……Jess LeCroy

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Prayer……Justin Allen
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Bible Study…..7:00PM

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November 13 – Kent Buck
Loretta Carson
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Pick-up date November 30



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Opening Prayer……Jason Karnes
Scripture……Darrin Shipman
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Opening Prayer……Jason Karnes
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She said, "You're the parents, and *you decide* what is important in your house."

In some ways, maybe that sounds too easy. I know it didn't solve the debate about how much homework is too much. What the statement did accomplish was to reframe the discussion in terms of priorities: "*You decide* what's important."

Sometimes, amid the realities of all the things we have to do each day, and with the voices of all the bosses and parents and children and spouses and teachers telling us that this or that is important or urgent ringing in our ears, we forget that we have the responsibility to decide what matters most to us. Not the guy who signs our paychecks. Not the person to whom we're married. Certainly not the people who assign our kids' homework. **We decide.** And we live accordingly.

I think Jesus was saying something like that to the certainly well-intentioned guy early in the gospel of Matthew who wants to be His disciple. He wants to learn from Him. Wants to be with Him and live life in His shoes. And it seems like Jesus brushes Him off. I think, though, that He was more likely saying something about priorities. He wanted this guy to know that he had the power to decide what mattered most to him.

The Son of Man has no place to lay his head, He warned. And rightly so, because you can't have everything. To follow one path is to abandon another. To open one door is to leave another closed. There are just so many hours in a day, and to set one thing as a priority might mean you can't do something else. Or at least not right then. Or not as much. The parents at that meeting were feeling that time crunch. You can't do homework and go to church at the same time. (Well, you can – but neither ministers nor teachers recommend it…)

What the principal reminded those parents of, though, is that if they wanted going to church to be a priority in their house, then they just needed to go to church. They needed to set the priority and fit the homework around it.

Jesus, I think, wanted this man to understand what following Him would mean giving up. Because following Him does mean giving up other options, other choices, other priorities. I'm not necessarily talking about going to church vs. doing homework now, because going to church doesn't exactly equal following Jesus.

But this goes beyond what you do with an hour or two on Sundays. Following Jesus – being a disciple – is mostly about choices. It's a spiritual decision, yes, but our society's current inclination to talk about spiritual things as if they have no connection to the realities of day-to-day life is just foolish. Jesus made no such distinctions. Following Him meant taking a serious hit in your standard of living. It meant depending on the kindness of others, maybe sleeping out under the stars some nights. You didn't follow Jesus in those days for status, or wealth, or the approval of others. In fact, following Him would probably cost you at least one of those, and quite possibly all three.

And though in the intervening centuries we've developed a Christianity Life that sort of fits comfortably in among all the other things we want to do with our lives, the real thing is no less disruptive to our priorities today than it was back then.

Continued on back

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

November 10 – James Wood
November 13 – Kent Buck
Loretta Carson
Belated wishes to Jerry Burleson, who celebrated November 2, and Darrin & Lana Shipman who celebrated their anniversary yesterday.

CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Bottled Orange Juice * Saltine Crackers * Kool-Aid Mixes * Toilet Paper * Bathroom Cleaners * Laundry Detergent
Pick-up date November 30



Attendance November 1: 115 **Contribution November 1: $5924**

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sue Jester expected to be released home on hospice care following heart and lung issues. She will receive an indwelling pleural catheter to help keep fluid drained from around her lungs * **Ruth Dauck** struggling with some health issues * **Mark Clayton** as he takes treatments for colon cancer * **Mike Duley** will be having pancreatic surgery February 24 * **Tim Flowers**, currently home but will be returning to MD Anderson tomorrow for the second part of his treatment * **Cindy Williams** as she continues with treatments * **David Carson** continuing with tests * **James Bridges** (Judy Snyder's son-in-law) will have bypass surgery Nov. 17

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 * Nicole Garner * Patsy (Hardy) Gregg * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Donna McKuin * June Mothersbaugh * Bill and Beverly Pruitt * David and Jane Terrill * Woody and Janet Wood * Carol Young

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 * Angie Smothers * Anthony Tate * Bobby Thornton * Mindy Tomah * Joyce Walker * Christina Whitaker * Alan Woodward

Our Shut Ins: Pat Cooper * Faye Dockins * David Terrill

LOOKING AHEAD:

November 10: Ladies Lunch Out at 11:30 at Grecian Restaurant in Sikeston. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the foyer if you'd like to attend.

Our Wednesday night fellowship meal will be bbq, baked beans, baked potatoes and coleslaw. Desserts will be needed.

November 15: Potluck style Bridal Shower for Avery Caroline Neely and Hudson Vaughn. They are registered at Amazon, Target and theknot.com. Today is the last day to participate in a group gift; see Millie if you'd like to be part of one.

November 30: Children's Home grocery run. Let's get the cart filled up.

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.

December 6: First Sunday potluck and early evening service. We will have a potluck meal following morning worship, with an afternoon service immediately following. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

December 11: Annual Ladies Ornament Exchange in the Fellowship Room at 6 p.m. Bring a wrapped ornament valued at $10 or less (optional) and a dish to share.

December 17: Annual Ladies Holiday Brunch at the home of Amy Thomason at 10 a.m. Bring a wrapped gift valued at $20 or less (optional) and a dish to share. Bring items to support a local animal shelter to be entered into a door prize drawing.

WILLING TO SERVE

November 8, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader……Chase Burch
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

November 11, 2026

Song Leader……Jacob Clayton
Prayer……Jerry McCoy
Dismissal……Mike Duley

November 15, 2026

Morning Worship:

Song Leader……Chase Burch
Opening Prayer……Jon Neely
Scripture……Jorden Ross
Prayer……Jason Karnes
Closing Prayer……Jess LeCroy

Evening Worship:

Song Leader……Rodney Williams
Prayer……Justin Allen
Scripture……Sam Garner
Dismissal……Ryan Carter

Continued from front:
Sometimes following Jesus will call us to spend more time with our families, to love our children and spouses more. Sometimes following Him will call us away from our families. It takes careful listening for His voice to know which. It's not always easy to know what following Jesus means for each of us. It's nearly impossible for us to be certain about someone else. Again, you decide what's important for you. Sometimes it helps to have another perspective, so accept it graciously and offer it in the same way. But never forget that you have the privilege – and the responsibility – of evaluating what following Jesus will mean for you.

Steven Covey suggests that, in evaluating priorities, you think of a large, empty jar. Beside it are two other jars the same size. One is filled to the top with big rocks. The other is filled halfway with small pebbles and crushed gravel. Your challenge is to get the rocks in both jars into the empty one.

The answer, as a moment's thought will tell you, is to put the big rocks in first. The gravel and pebbles will fit in the spaces between the large rocks. But you have to put the big rocks in first.

So fit the big rocks into your life, first. Follow Jesus. Let Him set your priorities. You probably still can't get all the smaller ones in. But at least you'll know that what really matters is there. And I'm convinced that He'll help you work the rest out.

Now, excuse me while I go help my son with some homework.

Patrick Odum, www.heartlight.com

The leaves fall, the wind blows, and the farm country slowly changes from the summer cottons into its winter wools. *Henry Beston*