



# The Lytle Light

## You Are The Light Of The World.

– Matthew 5:14a [NKJV]

Believers are appointed to be a lighthouse to others;  
a cheering lamp, a shining star, a loving guide.

bulletin of the CHURCH of CHRIST in lytle, texas

Volume MMXXV

**DECEMBER 7, 2025**

Number 50

**Sunday Schedule:** 9:45AM – Bible Study | 10:45AM – Worship | 12:00PM Fellowship Meal (4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

**Wednesday Schedule:** 4PM – Bible Study

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## FAITH FUNDAMENTALS

An examination of the Scriptures brings one face to face with the necessity of faith in a life that pleases God. The importance of faith can be seen throughout the Bible, regardless of the dispensation or the specific divine laws then in force. Abel, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David are among those “men of old” listed in Hebrews chapter 11 who “obtained a good testimony” by their faith (Hebrews 11:2). They represent a wide spectrum of Biblical history and illustrate the fundamental truth that “without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6). Like the men and women of ages past, we too must come to God on the basis of humble, trusting, and submissive faith if we are to receive His favor. Because such faith is critical to our spiritual well-being and eternal welfare, it is imperative that we understand both

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# WELCOME VISITOR!

If You're Visiting Today, We *Welcome* Each & Every One Of You To Our Worship Services! We Hope You Will Stay After Services So We May Become Better Acquainted! And Be Sure To Join Us For Our Bi-Monthly Fellowship Meal After Worship Services, Usually On The 4th or 5th Sunday!

Be Sure To Pick Up A Visitor Pamphlet From The Table Under The Mirror In The Front Hall.

And Please Fill Out A Visitor Card (We PROMISE Not To Sell Your Information!) From The Back Of The Pew In Front Of You And Place It In The Collection Plate Located On The Table In The Back Of The Auditorium.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

- Enter To Worship •
- Announcements •
- Scripture Reading •
- Opening Prayer •

659 – Joy To The World!

666 – Angels We Have Heard On High &  
Psalm 49:1-4; 8-9; 18

- Minister's Intercessory Prayer •

311 – My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

492 – Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All  
• Offertory Prayer •

Not In Book – Lamb Of God



- Sermon – See Right Column For Outline •

631 – No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus  
• Final Announcements •

118 – I Will Sing The Wondrous Story

- Closing Prayer •

- Go In Peace, Departing To Serve In Love •

## SERMON

### – PREPARING FOR CHRIST'S COMING –

#### • SERMON SCRIPTURES •

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; 2 Peter 3:10;  
2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Ephesians 5:8;  
Matthew 24:36; Ephesians 6:11-18;  
2 Corinthians 1:3-4; Romans 14:19; Acts 2:41,47

#### • SERMON OUTLINE •

INTRODUCTION - (1) *Paul Writes Of Second Coming*  
(2) *Are We Prepared?*

- I. He Shall Come As A Thief
  - A. For Some, But Not All
  - B. For Some, Destruction
- II. Live As Sons Of The Day
  - A. Watchful And Sober
  - B. Armed And Waiting
  - C. Comforted And Edified

CONCLUSION - (1) *Our Prepared Status* (2) *The Absolute Necessities*

#### • INVITATION •

## WED NIGHT STUDY

4 PM In Fellowship Room (Rear Doors)  
— Topic: JOSEPH —

## 2025 FELLOWSHIPS

- DECEMBER 28 – “NEW YEARS EVE” FELLOWSHIP WITH GAMES!

## 2026 FELLOWSHIPS\*

- MARCH 8 – PICNIC ON THE GROUNDS
- MAY 31 – POTLUCK (LADIES' CHOICE)
- JULY 26 – POTLUCK (LADIES' CHOICE)
- SEPTEMBER 27 – POTLUCK (L.C.)
- NOVEMBER 22 – THANKSGIVING MEAL
- DECEMBER 27 – NEW YEARS “EVE”

\* Other Dates May Be Added As Our Ladies decide to do so.



[continued from front]  
its nature and its origins.

The same writer who proclaimed the necessity of faith (Hebrews 11:6, quoted above) also defined it for us. Faith is “the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1). In other words, it is that which persuades and confirms for us those realities which cannot be observed by natural means. While one cannot physically see God or heaven, they can be nonetheless confident in their existence “by faith.” One can boldly fix his hope on that which is unobservable by the natural eye because it is clearly seen with the spiritual eye. Faith is that which drives one to live in the prescribed way despite being unable to see the One who prescribes it. It is an absolute conviction about unseen spiritual realities that motivates one to live by the higher standards of God’s will.

While our faith must reside in that which cannot be seen, that does not mean that ours is to be a blind faith or an ignorant acceptance, as some falsely charge. Instead God, the One who demands our faith, has provided evidence for our examination, upon which we can then build that faith. He has given that which we can see to persuade us regarding the greater realities behind it all that we cannot see. For that purpose, “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world...” (Psalm 19:1-4). In other words, the



honest person can observe the magnificence of our world and conclude that a superior creative power has designed and orchestrated it all. So compelling is the evidence provided that men who would deny God’s existence and power are “without excuse” (Romans 1:20).

But while we can know of God’s greatness and conclude our weakness by observing His creative work which surrounds us, we can only learn of His expectations for us as He

reveals those to us. “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the

commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes” (Psalm 19:7-8). Not only has He made Himself known in creation, but also through the revelation of His word. Our faith in Him and in His will come with our knowledge of His word. “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). Indeed, every account of conversion to Christ recorded in the book of Acts involves the preaching of the word (Acts 2:37; 8:12; 14:1; 15:7; 16:32; 18:8; cf. Mark 16:15-16). If one cannot please God without faith, and one cannot have faith without knowledge of God’s word, then one must know God’s word in order to please Him. Ignorant or blind faith is not what God expects or desires.

Contrary to much of the world’s religious teaching, Biblical faith is not an “irresistible grace,” the result of “praying through,” or a miraculous/mysterious “gift” infused into

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# Father, Please Hear Our Prayer

## CURRENT CONCERNS

- May The Will Of GOD, The FATHER Of LOVE, HOPE, COMPASSION, GRACE, MERCY, And RIGHTEOUSNESS Be Done On Earth As It Is In Heaven!
- *People In The U.S.A. And Around The World Who've Been Affected By Natural Disasters*
- Our Local, State & Federal Government Officials, Military, First Responders & Teachers Nourishing & Life-giving Rain
- Coronaviruses, Flues & Other Deadly Sickneses
- Civil Unrest, Racial Strife & Mass Shootings
- War, Unrest & Lack Of Peace In Other Countries
- Additional People/Situations For Which To Pray :

1. \_\_\_\_\_
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16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. \_\_\_\_\_

ALL FOLLOWING ENTRIES ARE BY DATE ORDER AND ARE ALPHABETICAL BY LAST NAME. A SUPERSCRIPTED NUMBER IN BRACKETS, I.E., <sup>[1]</sup>, AT THE END OF AN ENTRY DENOTES HOW MANY WEEKS THE ENTRY HAS BEEN IN THE BULLETIN.

## DECEMBER 7

- ◊ Bradley Family [Tom's friend Larry's Family] - Larry's wife passed. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◊ Flatequal Family - **Praise To GOD!** for the healthy birth of Adonis Flatequal, 7lb 1oz, 20", who made his appearance November 28. Congratulations to Alyiha, his mother and Pam, his great grandmother! <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◊ Prayer For Safety Of Travelers - Ruane Renninger and Ronda Spicer travelling to and fro. <sup>[NEW]</sup>

## NOVEMBER 30

- ◊ Fintel, Rick - He fell off his porch, landing on his hip and shoulder. **Praise To GOD!** nothing was broken but he may have torn something in his shoulder. <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◊ Flores, Carlos [Pam Flatequal's neighbor] He was to undergo surgery on Sunday, November 23 but doctors decided to perform a scope instead which is to be scheduled in December. <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◊ Smoot, Cody & Emily [Smoot's grandson & granddaughter-in-law] - We welcome Madelyn (Maddie) Joy Smoot born November 16. Baby girl weighed 6 lb, 13 oz and was 20". <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◊ Sparks, Tim [Tom Woodard's son-in-law] - His endoscopy on Friday, November 21 revealed nothing glaringly wrong. More tests to follow. <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◊ Strunk, Billy - **Praise To GOD!** He's gotten over his cold (for the most part). <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◊ Watkins, Mitchell - He's been diagnosed with a medium-growing prostate cancer

which, *Praise To GOD!* can be monitored for the next five to seven years if he wishes to go that route but he's considering a CyberKnife (pinpoint radiation) procedure. [01]

◊ Wiesel, Michelle [Homeless] – Pam Flatequal and Deborah Smoot saw her out and about recently. Prayers for her and her situation. [01]

## NOVEMBER 23

◊ Renninger, Ruane – Ruane hasn't been feeling all the well lately. Plus, she still has concerns for the health of her canine companion. [02]

◊ Vierling, Gene – *Praise To GOD!* Gene's PET scan came back clear and cancer free! [02]

## NOVEMBER 16

◊ Alderman, Roy [Ronda Spicer's brother] – He had surgery Wednesday, October 29 to remove a melanoma from his elbow. *Praise To GOD!* the surgery went well and the biopsies came back negative!!! [03]

◊ Street, Cris – She continues to feel poorly off and on and has been over the last few weeks. [03]

◊ Vierling, Carlene – She had a second fall in as many weeks but *Praise To GOD!* she's incurred no serious injury. [03]

## NOVEMBER 9

◊ Smoot, Tiffany [Smoots' daughter] – She's been diagnosed with a hiatal hernia. Doctors took biopsy(s) of her esophagus and duodenum to determine if there is any damage. She expects the test results in about two weeks. [04]

## NOVEMBER 2

◊ Gingerella, Ed [Tom Woodard's friend] – *Praise To GOD!* he's been declared cancer free! [05]

◊ Lester, Bob [Ruane Renninger's brother] – He has a cancer on his forehead close to his eye. He underwent four hours of treatment Wednesday, October 29. [05]

◊ Vierling, Scott [Vierling's son] – He's been diagnosed with A-Fib. He's to be scheduled for a series of tests... They've already shocked his heart a couple/few times. [05]

## ONGOING CONCERNS

*All Ongoing Concern(s) Below Will Remain For 20 Weeks. Removal Can Be Requested Earlier But Concern(s) Will Automatically Be Removed At The 21<sup>ST</sup> Week. If I Move Someone Off This Ongoing List That You Believe Should Go Back On The Detailed List Above, Please Let Mitch Know.*

Alderman, Kelly [06]; Andrews, Dale [07]; Bridgewater, Larry [17]; Brown, Colton Family (Colton, Abby, Phoenix, & Atreas) [17]; Brown, Diane Family [05]; Brown, Jane [12]; Burris, Joyce [09]; Cashion, Corina [07]; Clendenning, Carol [13]; Coughran, Brett [12]; Dober, Jerry Family [18]; Duncan, Roberta [16]; Gabehart, Tom [07]; Garay, Mary [10]; Gardner, Jim [14]; Gardner, Laura [15]; Gonzalez, Jackson [18]; Gonzalez, Joel [05]; Greer Family [16]; Guzman, Emily [15]; Jackson, April [12]; Johansen, Charles [15]; Keese, Robert [12]; Kennedy, Don [17]; King, Elizabeth Grace [17]; Lassen, Peter [06]; Leininger, Ellie [17]; Lett, Dale [15]; McMicken-Glaze, Ashley Family [06]; Montelago, Abe [21]; Matthews, Cody [20]; McMeans, Wendell [05]; Melendey, Max Family [20]; Moore, Michael [12]; Persat, Diana [05]; Price, [continued on page 6]



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Dylan <sup>[05]</sup>; Rasmussen, Linda <sup>[06]</sup>; Roeder, Gayle <sup>[15]</sup>; Schilling, Gene <sup>[07]</sup>; Segers, Jacob <sup>[19]</sup>; Sisters of Oliver Flores <sup>[12]</sup>; Smith, Betty <sup>[05]</sup>; Smith, Jimmie (JD) <sup>[12]</sup>; Smogur, Joyce Family <sup>[18]</sup>; Smoot, Bailey <sup>[07]</sup>; Smoot, Dani'el <sup>[17]</sup>; Smoot, Deborah <sup>[17]</sup>; Smoot, Roger <sup>[09]</sup>; Spicer, Ronda <sup>[05]</sup>; Sprite, Juanita <sup>[17]</sup>; Street, Cris <sup>[13]</sup>; Strunk, Billie <sup>[10]</sup>; Strunk, Lea Family <sup>[20]</sup>; Unknown Last Name, Katheryn <sup>[08]</sup>; Vela, Cheryl <sup>[18]</sup>; Vela, Maeve <sup>[18]</sup>; Vela, Olivia <sup>[18]</sup>; Vierling, Carlene <sup>[17]</sup>; Vierling, Gene <sup>[09]</sup>; Wade, John <sup>[15]</sup>; Walker, Tony Family <sup>[05]</sup>

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one's heart by God. Instead, the Bible teaches that it is the natural byproduct of an honest examination of the evidence, both in creation and in the revelation of Scripture, which motivates one to serve the One to Whom the evidence points. It is this kind of informed, trusting, and obedient faith with which one can please God, obtain His favor, and receive His rewards. This is faith "to the saving of the soul" (Hebrews 10:39). **END**



## HEART, SOUL, MIND

-BY CHRISTINE V. MITCHELL

Give me a humble heart, O God,  
A heart that looks at you;  
A heart that isn't concerned with self  
But keeps Your glory in view.  
Fill my soul with love, O Lord,  
The love that never fails;  
The love that shares Your joy and peace  
And all that this entails.

## SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

### JAMES 2:14-18

<sup>14</sup> What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? <sup>17</sup> Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. <sup>18</sup> But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

D J B X M Q J B I D M S K R O W R E J  
O U R P J F H K V C X W R Y S L G V C  
O D E D A W T Q K W M H S O K Q M I I  
F O T Q R R N D E P O G M D D H P G S  
T F S I K E T Q F T U E X E E T A S O  
G P I K I H H J H Z O D S S H D I G Z  
N R S G T T X I Z N E T Z I F N E T U  
C O N N K O V M E K I X N W A P D E X  
H F E T J R A K A T X G W M I E R K N  
S I R D I B J N U H S W I O T G E O C  
A T H O R B E T F L E S T I H J C I L  
V D T X M R E B F C L A U T Z D M Z B  
E B E Y G E T Q R J F Y L I A D A U E  
X G R A B O U Y D T B C K Z O H T B A  
B A B P D K P L W I T H O U T R O R D  
B Y W D E M R A W S Q Z U V A D S K Z  
T A J E B H E Z Z O H W I P Y F Y X Y  
B P N K D C N C N K O O E W T M Z Y D  
F H E C A E P V S L A D W Q F C I R H

Give me a made-up mind, O Lord,

A mind that is renewed;

A mind that thinks upon the things

That are lovely, pure and good

O may my praise and worship, Lord,

Ascend to heaven's throne

Through daily living the life that pleases

You and You alone.

# ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Corina Cashion	Dec 3	Birthday
Abby Vierling	Dec 11	Birthday
Roger & Deborah Smoot	Dec 21	Anniversary
Joey & Gaylia Dzielzanowski	Dec 29	Anniversary
Dan Orr	Jan 11	Birthday
Billy Strunk	Jan 26	Birthday
Jim Gardner	Jan 30	Birthday



If Your Special Day Is Between Today And January 30<sup>th</sup> And You Do Not See  
Your Name(s) Above, Please Let Mitch Watkins Know!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

----- Church Stuff ----- Church Stuff ----- Church Stuff -----		
Generally - 4 <sup>th</sup> Or 5 <sup>th</sup> Sun, Every Other Sun	Table Fellowship Potluck Lunch - Approximately Noon To Two	
Every Thursday	Sewing Sisters (ALL Ladies Welcome!) - Meet In The Fellowship Room From Noon To 2 For Fellowship And To Sew/Craft Stuff For The Needy And Elderly	
Sun - Dec 14	In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Battle For Your Soul</i>	
Sun - Dec 21	In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Jesus &amp; His Promises</i>	
Sun - Dec 28	In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>God Of The Bible</i>	
Sun - Jan 4	In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>TBD</i>	
----- Non-Church Stuff ----- Non-Church Stuff ----- Non-Church Stuff -----		
Every Tue	Lytle Friendship Art Club - Meets In The Fellowship Room At 9:30AM	
Every 3 <sup>RD</sup> Mon	VFW Auxiliary - Fellowship Room At 6:30PM	
Sun - Dec 7	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day & National <sup>1</sup> Cotton Candy And <sup>2</sup> Letter Writing Days	
Mon - Dec 8	National <sup>1</sup> Blue Collar And <sup>2</sup> Brownie Days	
Tue - Dec 9	Christmas Card Day & Lost And Found Day & National <sup>1</sup> Llama And <sup>2</sup> Pastry Days	
Wed - Dec 10	Dewey Decimal System Day & Human Rights Day & Nobel Prize Day	
Thu - Dec 11	Noodle Ring Day & UNICEF's 79 <sup>th</sup> Birthday	
Fri - Dec 12	Gingerbread House And Decorating Day & National <sup>1</sup> Poinsettia And <sup>2</sup> Ambrosia Days	
Sat - Dec 13	National Guard's 389 <sup>th</sup> Birthday & National <sup>1</sup> Cocoa And <sup>2</sup> Cream Cheese Frosting And <sup>3</sup> Ice Cream Days	
Sun - Dec 14	National <sup>1</sup> Bouillabaisse And <sup>2</sup> Biscuits And Gravy Days And <sup>3</sup> Roast Chestnuts Days	

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## GOD'S PLAN For Saving Man —

- ◊ **God's Grace** — Ephesians 2:8;
- ◊ **Christ's Blood** — Romans 5:9;
- ◊ **The Spirit's Gospel** — Romans 1:16;
- ◊ **Sinner's Faith** — Acts 16:31;
- ◊ **Sinner's Repentance** — Luke 13:3;
- ◊ **Sinner's Confession** — Romans 10:10;
- ◊ **Sinner's Baptism** — 1 Peter 3:21;
- ◊ **Our Work** — James 2:24;
- ◊ **Our Hope** — Romans 8:24;
- ◊ **Our Endurance** — Revelation 2:10

ARE YOU SAVED BY GOD?  
ASK HOW IF YOU'RE UNSURE!

## INTERACTIVE

### Daily Bible Reading Plan —

To open and/or download the interactive PDF file go to: [video.wvbs.org/spotlight](http://video.wvbs.org/spotlight)

### DAILY Bible Reading For Edification —



## THE BIBLE IN “90” —

Read The Entire Bible Through In “90” Days (88 Plus Two Grace Days) = 4 Times Thru This Year!

**SUN** — Dec 7 — Zec 11:1 - Matt 4:25

**MON** — Dec 8 — Matt 5:1 - Matt 15:39

**TUE** — Dec 9 — Matt 16:1 - Matt 26:56

**WED** — Dec 10 — Matt 26:57 - Mrk 9:13

**THU** — Dec 11 — Mrk 9:14 - Luke 1:80

**FRI** — Dec 12 — Luke 2:1 - Luke 9:62

**SAT** — Dec 13 — Luke 10:1 - Luke 20:19

Zec = Zechariah | Matt = Matthew | Mrk = Mark

## WANT TO BE

### Part Of This Local Family Of Christ Jesus?

To be identified with our Congregation (aka “place membership”): Please fill out a Visitor’s Card, making sure to check the box on front that says, “Wish To Serve In This Congregation.” Please place the completed card in the collection plate on the table in the back of the auditorium.

## MEMORIZE Scripture —

Scripture Verses

**Proverbs 3:5-6** — <sup>5</sup> Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

**Matthew 21:22** — <sup>22</sup> And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.

**Mark 11:22-24** — <sup>22</sup> So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God. <sup>23</sup> For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. <sup>24</sup> Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

**1 Corinthians 2:4-5** — <sup>4</sup> And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of [a]human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

**2 Corinthians 5:6-7** — <sup>6</sup> So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. <sup>7</sup> For we walk by faith, not by sight.

