



# Lytle Light

You Are The Light Of  
The World.

– Matthew 5:14a

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

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## bulletin of the CHURCH of CHRIST in Lytle, Texas

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

## December 28, 2025

Volume MMXXVI Number 1

### A NEW YEAR, A NEW BEGINNING

This is the last Sunday of 2025 and this Thursday is day one of 2026. This marks 33 years I've worshiped with the brethren here in Lytle and 16 years since I started as a minister on January 1, 2010. I have had the privilege of writing around 700 bulletin articles.

When I was a youngster, it seemed as though a year was an interminable period of time: the school year, especially, seemed as though it would never end. Through my teenage years, time continued to drag and at eighteen it seemed as though I would never reach twenty-one, a full-fledged legal adult. Of course, that was something of a contradiction since, by the time I turned twenty-one, I had served at our country's leisure as a sailor in the U.S. Navy for two full years, working and operating in an adult world. But once I turned twenty-one the years have started to click off ever more quickly.

Anymore, the expression “time flies” seems like a gross understatement. Some of that sense of time is undoubtedly due to the continuing emphasis that our culture places upon speed – we're always seeking ways to do things faster. However, as we trim production and trim it again, we simply fill the time saved with more tasks. As we accomplish more, we're always seeking ways to accomplish more yet. It all has become a never-ending cycle that seems to wind itself around our necks in an ever tightening noose.

Time, though a constant, is moving more and more

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*If you're searching for faith rather than simply religion; virtue rather than simply values; relationship rather than rule-keeping; divine help rather than self-help; then we may be the place for you.*

# 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 approximately every other month!

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 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 So That We May Have A Record Of Your Visit With Us Today. Thank You!

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

- Enter To Worship
- Announcements
- Scripture Reading
- Opening Prayer
- 311 – *My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less*
- 215 – *All The Way My Savior Leads Me*
- Minister's Intercessory Prayer
- 634 – *Looking To Thee*
- 183 – *Anywhere With Jesus*
- 317 – *Living For Jesus*
- Lord's Supper
- Sermon – See Right Column For Outline
- 470 – *Just A Closer Walk With Thee*
- Final Announcements
- 403 – *A Blessing In Prayer*
- Closing Prayer
- Go In Peace, Departing To Serve In Love

<sup>11</sup>And *do this* [put on love], knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation *is* nearer than when we *first* believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. – Romans 13:11-12

## SERMON

### GUILTY

#### • SERMON SCRIPTURES

Psalm 32:1-11; Romans 3:10-25; Daniel 5:27; Isaiah 1:16; Isaiah 53: 5-6; Hebrews 7:25-28; Revelation 5:9-10; Psalm 51

#### • SERMON OUTLINE

*INTRODUCTION* - (1) *David's Description Of His Guilt*  
(2) *What Is Guilt?* (3) *What To Do About Guilt?* (4) *We Are Guilty*

#### I. Guilty Because I Am Guilty

- A. David's Own Sins
- B. Our Sins
- C. Weighed And Found Wanting
- D. Positive Effect

#### II. Because We Are Unforgiven

- A. David Before Forgiveness
- B. Unaccepted Forgiveness
- C. We Must Accept Forgiveness

#### III. Unless We Accept Forgiveness

*CONCLUSION* - (1) *Are We Prisoners Of Our Past?*  
(2) *We Can Be Free Of Sin*

#### • INVITATION



# WED NIGHT STUDY

## NO Study Due To New Years Eve

## 2025 FELLOWSHIPS

►TODAY◄ - "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"

\* Dates May Be Subtracted Or Other Dates Added As Our Ladies Decide To Do So.

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quickly, and each passing year brings each of us closer to the day when our personal time on this earth will be over. We are, after all, simply alien ambassadors on this earth (2 Corinthians 5:20). More importantly, each day brings us closer to that day of reckoning when God will hold all mankind accountable (Romans 14:12; 1 Corinthians 5:10; James 4:17) for the way we have lived our lives and bring time, as this world knows it, to an abrupt end (Revelation 10:6 KJV).

With the progress of relentless time I've come to realize that the true basis of life does not consist in how many jobs we get done, how many promotions or accolades we accumulate, how much money we make or save or how much stuff we possess. What gives life meaning is our spiritual identity. We're created in God's image. He has prepared an eternal home for us. Getting there, and hopefully taking others with us, is what life is all about. Serving God here on

earth is tied to our getting home there. Teaching others this truth is part of our service to God as we travel through the time He has given us. And the devil has been very good at getting people to focus only on this life and away from God.

As the Lord's church, if we're not careful, we can also get caught up in the material side of life. For instance, our facilities are important, but they're only a means to an end, providing a comfortable and convenient setting in which to worship God, study His word and teach others the gospel. Brethren, don't you think we should be focusing on getting souls in the seats, people who need to hear the gospel. We need to reach out to them in effective, purposeful ways. We need to focus on our own need to be at services and on the importance of our children to be in Bible classes. We need to pray for, and seriously talk to, our brothers and sisters in Christ who either no longer attend or who attend sporadically.

So, here we are at the beginning of another new year and time is passing, time is getting shorter. We have work to do - souls are at stake - our souls may be at stake. There is precious little time left so, let us use the coming year wisely, squeeze out of it as much good as we can for the cause of Christ. Let us use our time in such a way as to be able, when our time is up, to feel good about the way we use it. Let us use this year and every year, first and foremost, to God's glory!





# 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 Sickesses
- Civil Unrest, Racial Strife & Mass Shootings
- War, Unrest & Lack Of Peace In Other Countries
- Additional People/Situations For Which To Pray :

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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 28

- ◊ Bridgewater, Becky & Larry [Mitchell Watkins' sister & brother-in-law] - Their life has been infected with much chaos lately. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◊ Dygert, Harold [Melanie McMeans' uncle] - He suffered a stroke. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◊ Homburg Family [Norm Homburg is a fellow barbershopper of Mitch Watkins] - Norm's wife, Jimmie, passed into eternity from an infection incurred after a surgery.
- ◊ McMeans, Wendell - He had his initial interview with Goodwill and felt all went well. He should have heard something this past week on whether he'll move forward in the interview process. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◊ Moore, Perry [Melanie McMeans' brother] - He had a stroke and it's not as bad as Melanie first thought. He's unable to move his left arm and is working on his swallowing but he was able to stand with assistance so he could transfer between bed and wheelchair and back. <sup>[NEW]</sup>
- ◊ White, Linda [Melanie McMeans' sister] - She's having a test to determine whether she needs to have her gall bladder removed. <sup>[NEW]</sup>

## DECEMBER 21

- ◊ Carter, Emily Family [Charlene Carter (Former member)'s granddaughter] - Emily, age 41, passed into eternity from a heart attack. <sup>[01]</sup>
- ◊ Last Name Unknown, Missy [Pam Flatequal's friend] - She's been on an experimental medication but it's destroying her red blood

cells so she's had to come off of it. She isn't allowed to be around anyone due to her current condition. To add insult to injury she's been informed that her brain cancer has returned. <sup>[01]</sup>

◊ Price, Jennifer [Carol Vierling's 70-year-old friend] - She fell and shattered her elbow. <sup>[01]</sup>

◊ Ruane Renninger's granddaughter-in-law (no name provided) - She fell and broke her kneecap. To add insult to injury, she is having difficulty getting her insurance company to approve and pay for the surgery she needs. <sup>[01]</sup>

◊ Stapanovich, Elizabeth [Tom Woodard's granddaughter] - Praise To GOD! she just graduated from college with a BGS (Bachelor of General Studies, a highly interdisciplinary degree). <sup>[01]</sup>

## DECEMBER 14

◊ Bailey, Linzy [Ronda's niece] - Some recent blood work showed cancer cells, and more tests revealed she has a 1-1/2" tumor on her liver and was going to Dallas Monday, December 15 to see specialist. <sup>[02]</sup>

◊ Balderrama, Matthew [Joey Dzierzanowski's friend] - He's suffering from unknown medical issues. <sup>[02]</sup>

◊ Cashion, Corena - Concerns due to her cancer. <sup>[02]</sup>

◊ Duncan, Roberta [McMeans' neighbor] - **Praise To GOD!** her brain tumor is gone but her liver tumor is still there though shrunk. She's now wheelchair bound much of the time due to weakness. <sup>[02]</sup>

◊ French, Misae - She's developed a bad cough. <sup>[02]</sup>

◊ Moore, Sherry [Melanie McMeans' sister-in-law] - After suffering from tummy issues, she's been diagnosed with stomach cancer. <sup>[02]</sup>

◊ Mr. Lowe [Joey Dzierzanowski's friend's 95-year-old grand or great grandfather] - He fell recently and is in the hospital. Unfortunately, things aren't looking good for this nonagenarian. <sup>[02]</sup>

◊ Undergoing PT - Carlene (shoulder); Ronda (hip); Ruane (back). <sup>[02]</sup>

## DECEMBER 7

◊ Bradley Family [Tom's friend Larry's Family] - Larry's wife, Carmen, passed. <sup>[03]</sup>

◊ Flatequal Family - We welcome Adonis Flatequal born November 28. Baby boy was 7lb. 1oz, and was 20". <sup>[03]</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>[04]</sup>

◊ Flores, Carlos [Pam Flatequal's neighbor] He's to have a scope procedure some time this month. <sup>[04]</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>[04]</sup>

◊ Sparks, Tim [Tom Woodard's son-in-law] - His endoscopy on Friday, November 21 revealed nothing glaringly wrong. More tests to follow. <sup>[04]</sup>

◊ Strunk, Billy - **Praise To GOD!** He's gotten over his cold (for the most part). <sup>[04]</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. <sup>[04]</sup>

◊ Wiesel, Michelle [Homeless] - Pam Flatequal and Deborah Smoot saw her out and about recently. Prayers for her and her situation. <sup>[04]</sup>

# 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 Someone Is Moved Off This Ongoing List And You Believe They Should Go Back On The Detailed List Above, Please Let Mitch Know.

Alderman, Kelly <sup>[09]</sup>; Alderman, Roy <sup>[06]</sup>; Andrews, Dale <sup>[10]</sup>; Bridgewater, Larry <sup>[20]</sup>; Brown, Colton Family (Colton, Abby, Phoenix, & Atreas) <sup>[20]</sup>; Brown, Diane Family <sup>[08]</sup>; Brown, Jane <sup>[15]</sup>; Burris, Joyce <sup>[12]</sup>; Cashion, Corina <sup>[10]</sup>; Clendenning, Carol <sup>[16]</sup>; Coughran, Brett <sup>[15]</sup>; Duncan, Roberta <sup>[19]</sup>; Gabehart, Tom <sup>[10]</sup>; Garay, Mary <sup>[13]</sup>; Gardner, Jim <sup>[17]</sup>; Gardner, Laura <sup>[18]</sup>; Gingerella, Ed <sup>[08]</sup>; Gonzalez, Joel <sup>[08]</sup>; Greer Family <sup>[19]</sup>; Guzman, Emily <sup>[18]</sup>; Jackson, April <sup>[15]</sup>; Johansen, Charles <sup>[18]</sup>; Keese, Robert <sup>[15]</sup>; Kennedy, Don <sup>[20]</sup>; King, Elizabeth Grace <sup>[20]</sup>; Lassen, Peter <sup>[09]</sup>; Leininger, Ellie <sup>[20]</sup>; Lester, Bob <sup>[08]</sup>; Lett, Dale <sup>[18]</sup>; McMicken-Glaze, Ashley Family <sup>[09]</sup>; McMeans, Wendell <sup>[08]</sup>; Moore, Michael <sup>[15]</sup>; Persat, Diana <sup>[08]</sup>; Price, Dylan <sup>[18]</sup>; Rasmussen, Linda <sup>[09]</sup>; Renninger, Ruane <sup>[05]</sup>; Roeder, Gayle <sup>[18]</sup>; Schilling, Gene <sup>[10]</sup>; Sisters of Oliver Flores <sup>[15]</sup>; Smith, Betty <sup>[08]</sup>; Smith, Jimmie (JD) <sup>[05]</sup>; Smoot, Bailey <sup>[10]</sup>; Smoot, Dani'el <sup>[20]</sup>; Smoot, Deborah <sup>[20]</sup>; Smoot, Roger <sup>[12]</sup>; Smoot, Tiffany <sup>[07]</sup>; Spicer, Ronda <sup>[08]</sup>; Sprite, Juanita <sup>[20]</sup>; Street, Cris <sup>[06]</sup>; Strunk, Billie <sup>[13]</sup>; Unknown Last Name, Katheryn <sup>[11]</sup>; Vierling, Carlene <sup>[20]</sup>; Vierling, Gene <sup>[12]</sup>; Vierling, Scott <sup>[08]</sup>; Wade, John <sup>[18]</sup>; Walker, Tony Family <sup>[08]</sup>

# SCRIPTURE WORD SEARCH

## 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

<sup>29</sup> But this I say, brethren, the time is short, so that from now on even those who have wives should be as though they had none, <sup>30</sup> those who weep as though they did not weep, those who rejoice as though they did not rejoice, those who buy as though they did not possess, <sup>31</sup> and those who use this world as not misusing it. For the form of this world is passing away.

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



TIME  
IS  
RUNNING  
OUT!



# 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 -	
Every Thursday	Approximately Noon To Two	
Sun - Jan 4	In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Work Of The Church</i>	
Sun - Jan 11	In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Do Works Matter?</i>	
Sun - Jan 18	In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>How Jesus Endured</i>	
Sun - Jan 25	In Search Of The Lord's Way - <i>Do Not Grow Weary</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 28	National <sup>1</sup> Card Playing And <sup>2</sup> Call-A-Friend And <sup>3</sup> Chocolate Candy & Pledge Of Allegiance Day	
Mon - Dec 29	Tick Tock (Finish All Those Tasks You Still Need To Do) Day & Still Need To Do Day & Pepper Pot Stew Day	
Tue - Dec 30	National <sup>1</sup> BACON ! And <sup>2</sup> Resolution Planning Days	
Wed - Dec 31	New Years Eve & World Peace Mediation Day & Make Up Your Mind Day	
Thu - Jan 1	New Years Day & Commitment Day & Rose Bowl Game & Apple Gifting Day & Polar Bear Plunge Day	
Fri - Jan 2	National <sup>1</sup> Buffet And <sup>2</sup> Cream Puff And <sup>3</sup> Swiss Cheese Days	
Sat - Jan 3	National Chocolate Covered Cherry & Fruit Cake Toss Day	
Sun - Jan 4	National <sup>1</sup> CanDo And <sup>2</sup> Spaghetti Days & Earth At Perihelion (Earth Closest To The Sun It's Entire Orbit)	

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local time and  
channel

## 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 —



## OLD & NEW IN 365 —

Daily Readings From Both The Old And New

Testaments (Old, Once & New

**SUN** — Day 1 - Gen 1-2; Mat 1

**MON** — Day 2 - Gen 3-5; Mat 2

**TUE** — Day 3 - Gen 6-8; Mat 3

**WED** — Day 4 - Gen 9-11; Mat 4

**THU** — Day 5 - Gen 12-14; Mat 5:1-26

**FRI** — Day 6 - Gen 15-17; Mat 5:27-48

**SAT** — Day 7 - Gen 18-19; Mat 6

Gen = Genesis | Mat = Matthew

## 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 About Time Running Out

**Matthew 24:22** — <sup>22</sup> And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

**Matthew 24:36** — <sup>36</sup> “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.

**Matthew 24:42** — <sup>42</sup> Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.

**Matthew 24:44** — <sup>44</sup> Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

**Ephesians 5:15-17** — <sup>15</sup> See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, <sup>16</sup> redeeming the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

**2 Peter 3:10** — <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.