

God's great acts throughout history in drawing all men to himself is a natural outcome. Reading the stories of people of faith, who step into God's story to walk with him inspires us to look for that same opportunity. When we read the life and teachings of Jesus, faith begins to focus on the efforts of God through Jesus to remove sin from the world. The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus become the centerpiece of history, and the story that is told and retold over and over.

Paul says that he would focus on nothing else, again and again in his letters. This one event is the turning point in all of history. Satan is seen as defeated, mankind is redeemed and victory is claimed.

Then, we are offered the opportunity to be a part of that. The picture that illustrates it is baptism, a dying to sin, burial in water and resurrection to new life. Millions of disciples throughout the history of the world have taken the step in faithfully following Jesus. This birth into a new life hidden in Christ is where we become a part of God's great story ourselves. Not about us anymore, but all about him.

But, as we are told in the Great Commission, more discipling takes place. We continue to learn, we are continuing to be transformed, as God's Spirit reshapes us into the life of Jesus. Paul reminds us again, "If you have been raised with him, seek the things that are above where he is, seated at the right hand of God." Colossians 3:1-2

So today, Steve joins the rest of us in that part of the journey. Encourage his faith.

*Grace and Peace,*

*Carl*

*Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.*

St John Church of Christ  
609 N Pearl  
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St John Church of Christ  
A Family of God

April 26, 2015

Last night we witnessed a new birth as Steve Potter was buried with Christ. His obvious joy was shared by those in the room as his journey with Jesus took a significant step forward.

In the Great Commission, Matthew tells us to go into all the world and make disciples of every nation, we are then to baptize those disciples and continue to disciple those disciples. Matthew 28:18-20

Yes, that word disciple appears in different forms on both sides of the act of baptizing, and for good reason. The act of following, learning, and identifying with Jesus begins for many people long before a choice to be baptized. As we are learning about God, and his gracious act of calling us through Jesus' sacrifice, it causes the beginnings of faith. We come in contact with God in the witness of creation, the support of other Bible believers who point out acts of grace, mercy, or faith all throughout life. Perhaps they will acknowledge that they are praying for us, or offer a word of support, a favorite Scripture or give an acknowledgement to an act of God seen in their lives. These are all things that God's Spirit can use to nurture faith and encourage a person to be a disciple.

As teaching is formalized, through reading and studying God's word, awareness of gratitude for

**SUNDAY:** Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am  
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am  
Worship Service—10:45 am  
Afternoon Service—1:15 pm  
**WEDNESDAY:** Adult Bible Study—7:30 pm  
Youth Group—7:30 pm (@ Carl's)  
**ELDERS:** Richard Breensing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,  
Terry Sallee, George Shelton  
**DEACONS:** Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel  
**TREASURER:** Richard Breensing

## WORSHIP ORDER FOR APRIL 26, 2015

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon  
GATHERING SONG: No. 23—Our God, He Is Alive  
WELCOME: Tom Turner  
SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 4:19-21 (Kade Kinnamon)  
SONGS: No. 120—God's Love Medley  
—No. 121—Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing (vs 1,3)  
—No. 122—The Love of God (vs 1, 3)  
—No. 123—The Steadfast Love of the Lord  
No. 453—Love Lifted Me  
No. 779—I Love You, Lord  
PRAYER: Richard Breensing  
SONG: No. 359—I Love the Lord  
COMMUNION: Gary Hornbaker  
Ned Marks  
Chris Mansel  
Orrin Feril  
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
SONG: No. 574—Oh, How I Love Jesus  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 915—Trust and Obey (vs 1)  
PRAYER: George Shelton

(CCLI #2440129)

## WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship today – please come again! We also invite you to stay and enjoy a potluck meal with us today after worship services.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**



**Tuesday, May 26 through  
Thursday, May 28**

**Family Picnic  
Friday, May 29**

Classes/Activities planned for preschool through  
Grade 6—invite your friends and neighbors!

Most of the activity leaders have been assigned, but help is needed from everyone. Things as simple as holding a child's hand as they go from one activity to another, helping a child glue a craft, serving refreshments, and just giving smiles of encouragement are all important tasks as everyone works to make VBS a success!

## NEW BROTHER IN CHRIST!

We rejoice with [Steve Potter](#) who was baptized last evening here by Mike Couch. Steve and Anissa reside in Pratt.

## SILVER MAPLE CAMP EVENT

“STRAIGHT TALK Into Human Behavior, Into the Heart of God”  
**September 24-26, 2015**  
An Equipping Workshop with Jerry & Lynn Jones  
See information posted.

Church website: [www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org](http://www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Maggie Harris** (Lisa's mother) – in the hospital in Topeka; her heart surgery is planned for tomorrow  
**Rachael (Staub) Weber**—kidney stones/follow up treatment  
**Millie Whitlow** – at Clearwater; cancer spread to her liver  
**Darla Chapman** (in Faith, SD) – thyroid cancer  
**Carol Gingrich** – pacemaker/ defibrillator  
**Olen Munz** – in a care center in Great Bend  
**Jessica Keeton** (one of Clint's former basketball players) breast cancer has spread to her spine and lymph nodes  
**Joy** (Marilyn's daughter) –health concerns  
**Vesta Shelton** (George's sister-in-law) recent stroke  
**Dena Mansel** – health concerns  
**Cody Dick** – cancer; undergoing treatments  
**Roger Dick** - cancer  
**Jonathan Batten** – chemotherapy  
**Charlene Lyons** (Chet's sister-in-law) – health concerns  
**Theo Birkett** (Tara's mother)  
**Jim Sorensen** (Tara's brother-in-law; monthly chemo for brain tumor)  
**Eldon Ivy** (Marilyn's brother) – health concerns  
**Jim Soukup** (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])  
**Wilbur Kinnamon** – Leisure Homestead in Stafford  
**Myron Breensing** – Leisure Homestead in Stafford  
**Bonnie Guthrie** (Kay's mother) – HomePlus in Stafford  
**Vic & Phyllis Staub** – Kenwood Plaza  
**Audrey Nusser** - pancreatic cancer  
**Racheal Davis** – health concerns  
**Marion Alpers**—recent stroke  
**Lisa Cornwell**—scheduled for knee surgery in May

## GOSPEL MEETING—Dodge City Church of Christ May 1-3, 2015

Speakers: Lee Rottman, David Harlow, Chuck Marshal  
See information posted for specific times & topics