

Now I understand that most of you have no problem grasping this. It isn't your hobby. You don't care one way or the other. You think, get a grip Carl, it is a handful of horses running down a dirt track to an invisible finish line.

Basketball, NASCAR, shooting sports, quilting, golf, football.... Are all only a flash in the pan when compared to eternity.

Difficult bosses, lousy jobs, poor crops, low cattle prices, high cattle prices, the world's greatest job, baby colts, baby kittens, baby babies.... All of that is temporary. None of it can cause us to shift our eyes from the task of eternity, honoring God.

Like VBS, or Bible classes, or worship services, or Bible camps, or Ladies' events or whatever other church related activity you want to mention... each are a piece of life, a portion, but not life. Each may help us on our way, give us a glimmer of energy as we try to do the larger task of honoring God, but none of them are the task itself.

As important as family is, as important as our marriages are, as life defining as our careers can be, when compared to the task of giving fitting acknowledgement to the greatness of God in being merciful to the world in offering Jesus, they are about as important as a horse race.

All of the important, and unimportant things I've mentioned here, that we enjoy on earth... they are momentary things. They last 10 years, 50 years, a lifetime, then they are gone. The Bible calls it a wisp of smoke.

God invites you to view the world in a new way. With an eternal lens, a view that steps outside the physical and into the eternal. It is hard to keep focused there with all the physical things around us. But it is important. Remember, it is only a horse race.

Grace and Peace,

Carl

St John Church of Christ
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Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.



St John Church of Christ
A Family of God

June 7, 2015

There are so many things that seem important at the time. Yesterday I, along with many others throughout the country, watched a horse race. I have had it on my "to do" list for many years, as the Belmont is the final leg of the Triple Crown. In terms that non-horse racing fans might understand, the Triple Crown is the March Madness of the racing world. There have been 12 winners since 1919, so it is a rarity.

American Pharaoh won yesterday and my phone, the internet and text messages began going off. People I know who share the interest began reveling in the excitement. I've enjoyed watching the races since 1971, having managed to watch them each year. So, I watched Secretariat (the greatest of the Triple Crown winners), Affirmed, and Seattle Slew all win. Yesterday it was accomplished by American Pharaoh, ending a 37 year drought.

So... as passionate as I can be about it, as much detail as I take in, the reading and video clips I watch of the various horses run and the prior races they competed in, under what conditions..... and so on and so on. What does it really mean?

With an eye to eternity, nothing. It means nothing. What about the 40 billion dollars per year that horse racing generates in this country, or the 460,000 full time jobs? Nothing. What about the passion, the pride, the rarity, the focus that so many place on it? Nothing.

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 JUNE 7, 2015

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon
GATHERING SONG: No. 435—Come Into His Presence
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 7:41-50 (Ned Marks)
SONGS: No. 514—Redeemed
No. 513—I Will Sing of My Redeemer
No. 300—Praise Him! Praise Him!
No. 800—What a Friend We Have in Jesus

PRAYER: Tom Turner
SONG: No. 230—Worthy Art Thou
COMMUNION: Richard Breensing
Chris Mansel
Teddy Gingrich
Fred Johnson

MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 957—This World Is Not My Home
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 915—Trust and Obey (vs 1)
PRAYER: Joe Cornwell

(CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship today and hope that you will come again! We invite you to stay and enjoy lunch with us, as we will have a meal ready to eat soon after worship services are over.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Shane & Amy Albritton are the proud parents of a little boy, **Cason Russel**, born June 5th! He weighed in at 7 lbs 8 oz, and was 19½" long. Congratulations to grandparents, Richard & Shelly, and great-grandparents, George & Shirley!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jerry Kinnamon 6/8
Marisa Mansel 6/10

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Clint & Tara Kinnamon 6/9

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to George Shelton and his family on the passing of his sister-in-law, **Irwanna Shelton**. She was 95 years old.

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org

2015 SILVER MAPLE CAMP EVENTS

June 26-28: Young Adult Retreat
July 5-11: Junior Camp (9 to 13 yrs old)
July 8-9: Day Camp (6 to 8 yrs old; 9:15 am to 4 pm)
July 12-18: Senior Camp (13 to 18 yrs old)
July 19-25: Group Camp (9 to 18 yrs old)
September 24-26: Adult Seminar with Jerry & Lynn Jones

PRAYER REQUESTS

Lupe Hudson—knee replacement surgery last week
Donna Laudick (Marla's sister) - serious health issues
Joe Rosenberg—facial reconstruction surgery last week
Anissa Potter—health concerns
Gladys Hornbaker—health concerns
Mike Bookstore—health concerns
Charlene Jimerson (Chet's youngest sister) - health concerns
Sherri Holguin & baby (coworker of Joy)
Marion Alpers—stroke
Maggie Harris (Lisa's mother) – recent heart surgery
Racheal Davis – progressing well from recent surgery
Dixie Hornbaker—health concerns
Millie Whitlow – at Clearwater; cancer
Darla Chapman (in Faith, SD) – thyroid cancer
Carol Gingrich – pacemaker/ defibrillator
Olen Munz – in assisting living in Great Bend; doing better
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
Dena Mansel – health concerns
Cody Dick – cancer; undergoing treatments
Roger Dick - cancer
Jonathan Batten – chemotherapy
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Jim Sorensen (Tara's brother-in-law) chemo for brain tumor
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) – health concerns
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
Myron Breensing – Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) – HomePlus in Stafford
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Vic & Phyllis Staub – Kenwood Plaza
Audrey Nusser - pancreatic cancer