

When you are a person who lives by the code of returning a blessing for a curse (1 Peter 3:9), that is different than the impatience of using a middle finger at the driver who cuts you off in town. Making every humanly effort possible to live at peace with all men (Romans 12:18) is far different than making sure others treat you just right.

Paul told Titus, when the grace of God appeared to all men (when Jesus showed up), we were taught to live with some sense, being righteous, and exhibiting godliness right in the middle of this mess. (Titus 2:11-13) That is a far cry from raucous and unruly conduct that is sometimes exhibited by our contemporaries.

One of the most powerful things that comes across in Scripture as we read the life of Jesus is his profound kindness. The word compassion is used in conjunction with the life of Jesus more than any other word I can think of. He lived with a tender and sensitive heart, reaching out to and supporting all he came in contact with. Never underestimate the power of kindness.

Albert Schweitzer said, *Constant kindness can accomplish much. As the sun makes ice melt, kindness causes misunderstanding, mistrust, and hostility to evaporate.* It is a focused, conscious act of will to be kind. Few of us, I would hazard to guess, have ever been in the presence of consistent and focused kindness. When you are, and you recognize it... the world changes. It did with the presence of Jesus, and we are called to that same high calling.

Remember, you don't treat others kindly because they are kind. You do it because you are kind. When you adopt such a standard, you change the world.

Grace and Peace,

Carl

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

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St John Church of Christ
A Family of God

August 16, 2015

My paternal grandfather wore a very similar hat as the color and style I wear every day. I've decided it must be that I somehow pay tribute to him by my settling on that style. As a little boy, you couldn't always be assured of having a hat that fit, so you added a "stampede string". That way in a wind, you didn't spend the whole day chasing your hat across the yard. Also, if you rode your horse fast enough, you could push your hat back as you rode by, instantly conveying to those around you just how fast you were riding.

We've come to the point of the year that it is time for many of us to secure our stampede strings and settle in for the wild ride of fall.

As school begins, families fall into a routine and that is great. For those who have raced around during the summer, perhaps we can get on board with consistency, but the ride will be fast and furious.

I'm very excited to start a series of lessons from 1 Peter over the next few months. Peter wrote to people who had been displaced from their homes and scattered across the country. I know we haven't been run out of town, but I do think we live in a time that we are beginning to understand that we don't blend in with everyone around us.

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 AUGUST 16, 2015

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker
 GATHERING SONG: No. 524—I Know Whom I Have Believed
 (vs 1)

WELCOME: Tom Turner
 SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-16 (Garland Mansel)
 SONGS: No. 524—I Know Whom I Have Believed (vs 2, 3, 4)
 No. 380—Jesus Sacrifice Medley
 -No. 381—Years I Spent in Vanity (vs 1, 4)
 -No. 382—Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?
 (vs 1, 3)
 -No. 383—Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross
 (vs 1, 3)

No. 123—The Steadfast Love of the Lord
 PRAYER: Tom Turner
 SONG: No. 176—Lamb of God
 COMMUNION: Chris Mansel
 Ben Sizemore
 Orrin Feril
 Jeff Scott

SONG: No. 957—This World is Not My Home
 LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
 SONG: No. 948—I Am Resolved (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, right after worship services.

BACK TO SCHOOL!!

School starts this month for the schools in Stafford County:
 Stafford Schools—August 19
 Macksville Schools—August 20
 St John Schools—August 27

WEDDING INVITATION!

You are invited to the wedding of Cheyenne Scott and Adam Holmes on October 10, 2015, at 5 pm at Jeff & Lory's farm. They are registered at Bed Bath & Beyond—see invitation posted for more information.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jorja Blakeslee 8/19

SUMMER SERIES IN HUTCHINSON

The Eastwood Church of Christ in Hutchinson has invited several area ministers to come and speak on Wednesday evenings (at 7:00 pm) through the month of July and August. If you have a chance to get away for an evening, here is the remaining schedule:

August 19—Rob Kruckenberg
 August 26—Toby Levering

2015 SILVER MAPLE CAMP EVENT

September 24-26:

Adult Seminar with Jerry & Lynn Jones



PRAYER REQUESTS

Maggie Harris—knee replacement scheduled for Aug 18
Donna Laudick (Marla's sister) - has an infection and continues to be seriously ill
Anissa Potter—improving
Janie Nagel (Fred Johnson's sister) - recent stroke
Sonny Langford (Baylee Sizemore's father) - cancer
Dan Hampton—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
Millie Whitlow – at Clearwater; cancer
Olen Munz – in assisting living in Great Bend
Jessica Keeton (one of Clint's former BB players) - cancer
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 (Richard's father) – Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) – Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Vic & Phyllis Staub – Kenwood Plaza

OUR SYMPATHY to the family of **Meny Herrera**, a former St John student, who was involved in a car accident yesterday. He was transported to Wichita, where he later died.