

I was immediately moved to want to say something, invited to say something, but was wanting to be very careful. Here was someone who had trusted God in the past, faced a terrible loss, and now was having to reorganize her thinking about God with this new information that was such a terrible burden.

My mind ran from panic to despair, to rejoicing it wasn't our child, to thinking about my limitations in trying to help with this. How do I speak on behalf of God in such a setting?

Securing a fresh box of Kleenex, in quiet hushed tones, we began the process. God, who has carried her through horrible relationships, severe illness, financial crisis, and the routine struggles of day to day life, now seemed very distant and beyond her reach in this latest, current crisis. No amount of talking was going to restore life to what it had been. No magic words would be spoken to take away the hurt, to make it better, to make things "normal" again.

It isn't blaming God to cry out in despair. It is not an accusing of God to search for answers where no answers can be found. There is no vindication through a legal process that will take away the hurt. But God, is there no justice?

It was a lengthy time, a good time, a very spiritual time, but an unexpected time. It was a time to speak of God.

*Grace and Peace,*

*Carl*

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

St John Church of Christ  
609 N Pearl  
P. O. Box 241  
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St John Church of Christ

A Family of God

October 4, 2015

We never know when that opportunity will take place, or when it might happen. During a time that I was training in another field, focusing myself on sequencing, technique, pacing and other components of a specific skillset, the other therapist who was taking the role of the client asked me a question. "Would you be willing to work on a difficult one for me?"

I could tell by the tears brimming in the eye lids that this was important and not easily asked, so I quickly agreed.

"Earlier this year, while my eldest child was away at college, he was murdered by his roommate and her boyfriend. We later found the murder weapon, the roommate and her boyfriend disappeared into the world of methamphetamines. His death has been ruled a suicide. I know I will never find justice, or resolution but I need to find room for some kind of peace in my life. I know God loves the whole world, but it doesn't seem he loves me very much right now."

**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 OCTOBER 4, 2015

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker  
GATHERING SONGS: No. 68—Give Thanks  
No. 66—Doxology

WELCOME: Tom Turner  
SCRIPTURE READING: James 1:17-18 (Garland Mansel)  
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. 129—Amazing Grace  
No. 601—My God and I (vs 1, 3)

PRAYER: Richard Breensing  
SONG: No. 325—Boundless Love  
COMMUNION: Jerry Kinnamon  
Fred Johnson  
Orrin Feril  
Ned Marks

MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
SONG: No. 76—How Great Thou Art (vs 1, 3, 4)  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 948—I Am Resolved (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Chris Mansel

(CCLI #2440129)

## WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship today and hope that you will come again! Please stay for lunch right after services.

### WEDDING INVITATION!



You are invited to the wedding of **Cheyenne Scott and Adam Holmes** next Saturday, October 10, 2015, at 5:00 pm at Jeff & Lory's farm. The reception will be at the VFW in Stafford afterward. See invitation posted for more information. *You are encouraged to wear jeans to this special event!!*

**A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY** is in the making! A few families need current pictures — please get those to Janet this week, if possible.

### Family Fun Night on Saturday, October 24th

Come out to Jeff & Lory's farm any time after 4:00 pm—for pumpkin carving, a hayride, and lots of visiting and fun. Supper will be provided—sometime around 6:00 pm. Just bring a lawn chair!

Pick up a reminder card to take home!  
**This is for ALL ages!**  
It's time for us to get together!



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

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Donna Laudick** (Marla's sister) - in remission from her cancer  
**John Laudick** (Marla's brother-in-law) - doing better following a stroke  
**Stan Aldrich**—health concerns; improving  
**Dan Hampton**—continuing health concerns  
**Pam Herrenbruck**—cancer treatment  
**Josh Oakley** (grandson of Bill Oakley) - on heart transplant list  
**Sonny Langford** (Baylee Sizemore's father) - cancer  
**Gladys Hornbaker**—health concerns  
**Sherri Holguin & baby** (coworker of Joy)  
**Millie Whitlow** – at Clearwater; 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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

**Don Hornbaker 10/4**

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

**Ben & Baylee Sizemore 10/5**