

developing an ear for the way Scripture is written can be a pretty difficult task.

This is one of the reasons that I am encouraging you to read the Gospel accounts of the life of Jesus with me this year. Trying to read a chapter per day isn't too difficult and it allows us to have background to hear the story of the life of Jesus with new ears.

When God decided to display himself in the most clear of all ways, it wasn't fire from the sky or even the power of the ocean. God simply walked the earth with everyday people and interacted with their lives. That single idea amazes me each time I think of it.

In the midst of political upheaval, Jesus walked along focused on God. In the middle of the hurts and the heartaches of the everyday man, Jesus stooped, knelt, and touched people where they lived. In the great times of wedding celebrations, or the grieving of those who faced the death of others, Jesus was present and caring for needs.

No fanfare, no fancy clothes or clever gimmicks, just God in human form reinterpreting misconceptions about man's real state and purpose. When Jesus taught about God, people heard the story as never before. When he described our necessary behavior, it was in clear and unequivocal terms.

No one left Jesus confused about how he loved them. No one left an experience with the Christ without benefiting from the encounter. Those from the Jewish ruling body or the disenfranchised poor felt him approachable. The ostracized lepers, the blind men, the cripples, and the mourning families could all expect his concern. It says volumes about God. You might want to re-read Mark's gospel.

*Grace and Peace,*

*Carl*



**St John Church of Christ**  
**A Family of God**

**February 21, 2016**

I've been working on a little project for Janet in my shop. I am taking two different types of wood and laminating a stand for something she would like for a lemonade decanter. The little project moved from being a little box to an elevated octagonal stand. There are lots of angles and cuts followed by glue up, clamping, sanding, and then repeating the cycle through the next phase.

I've been struggling with the project because one of the tools that makes this kind of work easier is not in my tool arsenal. Yesterday I changed that and bought a 12 inch disc sander. Wow, that really changed how I fine-tuned some of the joints last night.

Having the right tools is always important. I am a fanatic about no one using my pocket knife for a screw driver or my screw drivers for a chisel. Each tool has a different purpose and needs to be used accordingly, when you have them.

Unfortunately folks don't always have the right tools. When that is true, they face a dilemma. Oft times the result is a mess.

People have the same problem reading Scripture. Not having familiarity with the overall story of Scripture, one can get lost in some of the details in various stories. Just

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

**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 FEBRUARY 21, 2016

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker  
GATHERING SONG: No. 56—Lord, We Praise You  
WELCOME: Richard Breensing  
SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 40:11-26 (Orrin Feril)  
SONGS: No. 76—How Great Thou Art  
No. 578—We Will Glorify  
No. 3—Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah  
No. 96—I Stand in Awe (*stand for song & prayer*)  
PRAYER: Garland Mansel  
SONG: No. 364—Come, Share the Lord  
COMMUNION: Jerry Kinnamon  
Chris Mansel  
Ben Sizemore  
Fred Johnson  
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
SONG: No. 615—He Keeps Me Singing (vs 1, 3)  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 948—I Am Resolved (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Terry Sallee

(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.

## MEN'S RETREAT

### Hosted by the Stafford Church of Christ

A special meeting just for the men is planned for Saturday, March 5, 2016. It will be from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, with breakfast and lunch both served. Cost is \$25. Guest speaker will be Calvin Chapman (from Faith, SD)

## SUPPORT LETTERS POSTED

A follow-up letter is posted from Thayer and Chery Salisbury, letting us know they have reached their goal for funding of their trip to Nigeria. They are thankful of everyone's support.

Also a note from Madison Hamm is posted for you to read, as she has asked for help funding a mission trip to Tanzania.

## BABY SHOWERS

The ladies are invited to a baby shower honoring **Rebecca Turner** (Tom & Pam's daughter-in-law) on Saturday, **March 12th**, at 2:00 pm here at the church building. Rebecca & Tyler are registered at 'Target' & 'buybuyBaby'.

Also, save the date for a diaper shower being planned for **Vanessa Rogers** on Saturday, **April 23rd**.

## WE REJOICE!

**Olivia Rugan** was baptized here on Thursday.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Shirley Shelton 2/21

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

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Marci Klug** (Joe & Lisa's daughter)—her pregnancy is now considered high risk; the baby will need to be delivered 4-6 weeks early; please pray for Marci's health and the delivery of a healthy baby

**Stan Aldrich**—sinus surgery last week

**Chris Mansel**

**Brenda Staub** – to have radiation for stage 3 thyroid cancer

**Brent Monroe** (Joy Monroe's grandson; Marilyn's great-grandson) to have face advancement surgery March 23 in Dallas

**Alan Hildebrand family** in Stafford

**Sharon Goode Ames**—lung cancer

**Joy Monroe** (Marilyn's daughter) - recent surgery

**Larry Berg** (Tom's friend) - chemo & radiation

**Ty Hewitt** (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - acute leukemia

**Clay Rodgers** (infant son of friends of Ben & Baylee) rare birth defect

**Pati Waters Risley**—stroke

**Dan Hampton**

**Michelle Rose** (Vanessa Roger's aunt) - nursing home

**Roger Dick**—ongoing cancer treatments

**John Laudick** (Marla's brother-in-law)

**Pam Herrenbruck**—cancer treatment

**Jonathan Batten** – chemotherapy

**Theo Birkett** (Tara's mother)

**Eldon Ivy** (Marilyn's brother) – health concerns

**Jim Soukup** (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])

**Myron Breensing** (Richard's father) – Leisure Homestead

**Bonnie Guthrie** (Kay's mother) – Leisure Homestead

**Laura Wyatt**—Kenwood Plaza

**Vic & Phyllis Staub** – Kenwood Plaza

(Please help us update this prayer list, as some requests have not been updated for several months. If you would like someone's name to remain on the list, please let Janet know.)

**OUR SYMPATHY** to Dick & Marcia Smith, in our community, as Marcia's 98-year old father passed away last Sunday in Oklahoma.