

that may be expressed about immigration, gun rights, or abortion are usually viewed by us from the perspective of our personal position on the topics. From our point of view the protest is legitimate or foolish based upon our agreement or denigration of it.

Is there a valid “Christian response” to these issues? Our instinct is to say yes, and to affirm that the valid response is in full alignment with my personal view. As a result, our reaction is to affirm or deny based on our own conclusions. Is this the way controversies were handled by early Christians?

In Acts 6, a group of Christians began to protest, concerned that the widows among the Greek speaking Jews were being overlooked in the food distribution by the native Jewish Christians. As the controversy swelled, the apostles reacted by having them select spiritual men from among themselves to handle the issue.

There was no statement of judgment regarding the facts, simply an effort to insure that the concerns were addressed. Do you suppose every individual was satisfied? Has it ever happened in history?

The point is, those in control heard the complaint and acted to include the minority in a manner that empowered them.

It happened in Acts 15 when concerns about things kosher and food eaten to idols was brought up. Again, action, not ignoring. We would do well to reexamine the text.

Grace and peace,

Carl

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other

*St John Church of Christ
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Flying to the Rock

St John Church of Christ January 22, 2017

I didn't watch any of the inauguration ceremony or the events surrounding it. I took some time away from the computer during it, as well, not wanting to be lured into the rhetoric.

What I did hear about was that protesting existed, and there were marches in various cities for various causes.

Typically, protests are public gatherings of people concerned that their voice is not being heard or represented by those in a position of power. From protests about the war in Viet Nam, Civil Rights, ERA, to more contemporary concerns about LBGT, or Women's March, or Rolling Thunder (a motorcycle rally in DC), the effort is to communicate that their viewpoint feels threatened or needs to be heard. Concerns

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

WORSHIP ORDER FOR JANUARY 22, 2017

SONG LEADER: Richard Breising
GATHERING SONG: No. 23—Our God, He Is Alive (vs 1)
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 40:1-4 (Dominic & Zach)
SONGS: No. 608—He Gave Me A Song
No. 915—Trust and Obey
No. 745—Humble Yourself
No. 779—I Love You, Lord
PRAYER: Stan Aldrich
SONG: No. 176—Lamb of God
COMMUNION: Gary Hornbaker
Fred Johnson
Teddy Gingrich
Jerry Kinnamon
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 251—The Lord Thy God
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 and hope that you will come again! Please stay for our potluck lunch today.

WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS

- Adult Bible Class at 7:30 pm
- Youth Group at 7:30 pm at Carl's house

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Jeff & Lory Scott—January 26

WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD

Ladies—It is time to register for the upcoming Women Walking with God conference if you want to get the early-bird price of \$63. After January 31st, the price goes up to \$68; each registration includes lunch this year. The conference will again be held at the Hartman Arena in Wichita. See more information on the website:
<https://womenwalkingwithgod.org>

THANK YOU NOTE

“Thank you so much for your gifts for our new little one. We are grateful for all of your well wishes and support. Again thank you so much for your gifts! Love, Ben & Baylee Sizemore”

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Betty Chlumsky's son, Mike—recovering from pneumonia
Gayle Byer—in the hospital in Hutchinson recently
Vernon Bartlett (Lory & Vicky's father)—had gall bladder surgery last week in Hutchinson; now home
Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - cancer; taking chemo & radiation
Rod & Cris Seidel in Pratt (friends of Richard & Shelly) - as Cris is treated for her cancer
Jonathan Batten—ongoing cancer treatment
Greg Barlage (Baylee Sizemore's cousin, who lives in Wellesley, MA) diagnosed with Leukemia
Alex Garcia (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee) - improving health
Ty Hewitt (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - leukemia
Annie Kent (Lupe Hudson's niece) - cancer
David Ivy (Marilyn's brother) and his wife, Kathy
Marilyn Sprawka (Don Rukan's sister) - cancer
Jenny Walker (Carol's sister)
Sharon Goode Ames—lung cancer
Roger Dick—ongoing cancer treatments
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) – on Hospice Care at Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Myron Breising (Richard's father) – Leisure Homestead
Laura Wyatt—on Hospice Care at Kenwood Plaza
Vic & Phyllis Staub—Kenwood Plaza
June Cornwell—Kenwood Plaza