

home. Obviously there are other ways to spend a weekend; in fact, we usually do spend it other ways.

I make a conscious effort to fight a problem common to us all, ethnocentricity. That is a fancy word for “always hanging around people who are just like you”, seeing yourself and your peers as normal, while viewing others as “a bit off”.

Ethnocentric beliefs cause us to be judgmental, intolerant, and selfish. We, if we indulge the tendency, become abrasive, rude, and overbearing. Acknowledging the peculiarities of our own culture, we minimize the damaging features while focusing on the peculiarities in an opposing group.

In a church culture it might exhibit itself in Jewish Christians clinging to their familiarity with a kosher lifestyle while condemning the difference in the Gentile community.

Contemporarily, a church might “overlook” socially acceptable sins like greed, harsh judgment, or cheating on taxes, while loudly condemning those who are outside the norm, struggling with same sex attraction, broken relationships, or other sins. Ethnocentricity gives more grace to their “own” and more judgment toward “others”.

We counter this like Jesus did, love everyone.

Grace and peace,

Carl

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other

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Flying to the Rock

St John Church of Christ

February 19, 2017

Janet and I attended a bluegrass festival in Wichita Friday and part of Saturday. We enjoy the music, enjoy the groups that come in from around the country, and find it a time to connect with people that we only associate with because of the music genre.

Saturday afternoon, way off in Minneola, a real long way from Wichita, we met some other friends at a birthday party to play music, more country western in style. However, when we got there the music was more soft rock in nature, with a bit of new country. A new group of people, so a new emphasis of style. After supper a few of us stayed and played the music that is my preference.

I thought about why I went to all the effort to attend as we made the long drive

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 Brensing, Teddy Gingrich, Terry Sallee,
George Shelton, Tom Turner
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril
TREASURER: Richard Brensing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2017

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker
GATHERING SONG: No. 31—Be Still and Know
WELCOME: Orrin Feril
SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 9:1-2 (Jayce Feril)
SONGS: No. 1—Praise Medley
-No. 2—We Praise Thee, O God (vs 1, 2)
-No. 3—Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah (vs 1, 2)
-No. 4—To God Be the Glory (vs 1, 3)
No. 15—Step by Step
No. 779—I Love You, Lord
PRAYER: Jerry Kinnamon
SONG: No. 18—Faithful Love
COMMUNION: Chris Mansel
Orrin Feril
Ned Marks
Fred Johnson
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 480—Blessed Assurance
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 904—Have You Been to Jesus? (vs 1)
PRAYER: Terry Sallee

(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 BIRTHDAY!

Shirley Shelton—Feb 21



WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD

Ladies—Registration is open for the upcoming Women Walking with God conference on April 22 in Wichita. The cost is \$68 per person and includes lunch.

Reimbursement for the conference fee and one night motel room is available for any of our ladies—please contact Richard. See more information on the website: <https://womenwalkingwithgod.org>

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the family of Myron Brensing, who passed away last Thursday evening. A memorial service is planned for Wednesday, Feb 22nd, at 1:30 pm at Minnis Chapel in Stafford. Inurnment will be at the Stafford cemetery.

NEWS FROM CHIHUAHUA

A recent letter from Ubaldo Cardona is posted.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Jonathan Batten—ongoing cancer treatment; in Wichita beginning stem cell transplant process
Micaela Garcia (Alex's mother; neighbor of Stan & Orvaley) aggressive breast cancer
Brent Monroe (Marilyn's great grandson) - being treated for a serious infection; improving
Marilyn Thornburg's grandson, Timothy—health concerns
Betty Chlumsky's son, Mike—recent pneumonia
Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - cancer
Rod & Cris Seidel in Pratt (friends of Richard & Shelly) - as Cris is treated for her cancer
Greg Barlage (Baylee Sizemore's cousin, who lives in Wellesley, MA) diagnosed with Leukemia
Alex Garcia (neighbor of Stan & Orvaley) - 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 Rugan'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
June Cornwell—Kenwood Plaza
Vic Staub—Kenwood Plaza
Phyllis Staub—on Hospice Care at Kenwood Plaza
Laura Wyatt—on Hospice Care at Kenwood Plaza

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org