

Without looking up, he said, “My mom lives in Heaven.” I blinked back tears and tried to regain my composure. With a smile, I replied, “So does my mom! Maybe they’re friends.” His eyes met my mine and he smiled widely and nodded.

Mother’s Day is a sweet time but it’s going to difficult for some. It was for me for many years. The day brings with it good and bad memories, regrets from women who did the best they could and others who know they didn’t.

It doesn’t matter if you’re 6, 16 or 60 you still miss your mom or the mom you should have had or should have been especially on days like this.

So, here’s to all those facing this day without your mom or all those moms wishing you could hug your child one more time. You are loved. You are appreciated. You matter. You are not alone. God is faithful and will never leave or forsake you.

If you haven’t already, this would also be a good time to forgive your mom for her shortcomings even those she willingly chose. Let grudges go. Remind yourself that life is hard and some people are better at it than others.

Surround yourself with folks who love God and try to bring his peace, grace and joy into this dark world. Call your mom and tell her you love her. And then go hug someone who wishes they could.

I hope you have a beautiful Mother’s Day.

*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  
St John, KS 67576*



## *Flying to the Rock*

*St John Church of Christ*

*May 14, 2017*

A good friend of Janet and mine, Paula Harrington wrote this a few years ago. I think it is a great article on Mother’s Day.

I had a room full of young kids enjoying some free time the other day. As class came to an end, several were cutting and pasting. Some were making masks or paper airplanes. I noticed one sitting in the back alone. As I grew closer, I saw that he was making a card. He had the words, ‘I love you, Mom’ written on the front and had taken time to do his best writing.

When he saw me looking, he smiled. I stepped closer and said, “Your mom is going to love that.” He grinned even bigger and as I was getting ready to walk away I noticed something in his eyes. Not sure what it was but I turned back to him. We talked for a second and then I asked if he was going to give his card to his mom when he got home or wait until Mother’s Day.

**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 MAY 14, 2017

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker  
GATHERING SONG: No. 155—Highest Place  
WELCOME: Tom Turner  
SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 23 (Zach Marks)  
SONGS: No. 451—Assurance Medley  
—No. 452—Standing on the Promises (v 1, 2)  
—No. 453—Love Lifted Me (v 1, 2)  
—No. 454—Rock of Ages (v 1)  
No. 490—It Is Well With My Soul  
No. 827—Sweet Hour of Prayer  
PRAYER: Garland Mansel  
SONG: No. 359—I Love the Lord  
COMMUNION: Ned Marks  
Teddy Gingrich  
Fred Johnson  
Orrin Feril  
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
SONG: No. 608—He Gave Me a Song  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 947—Jesus is Tenderly Calling (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Richard Brensing

(CCLI #2440129)

### WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship and hope that you will come again!

### NO POTLUCK LUNCH TODAY

Since today is **Mother's Day**, we will not have potluck lunch together, in order to promote family time.



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be May 30 through June 1, with a family picnic on June 2. The theme is: "**Jesus is My Superhero**" and lessons will be focused on Bible Heroes.

### SUMMER BASH

A special program is planned for grade school children for every 3rd Wednesday from May through August. The first one will be May 24th and will include a Bible story, activities and snacks. Invite children from the community for these special evenings — see Tom or Pam for more details.

### SHOWER FOR BABY GIRL

You are invited to a baby shower honoring **Cheyenne Holmes** on Sunday, June 4th, from 2—4 pm here at the church building. This is being hosted by Chelsea, Sarah and Vanessa. Please RSVP to Chelsea at 620-282-0357 by June 1st if you plan to attend. Cheyenne is registered at Buy Buy Baby. Also, if you like, instead of a card bring a book and sign it.

### SILVER MAPLE CAMP

Registration is now open online for SMC summer youth sessions:

- First Session—July 9-15; Ages 9-13
- Second Session—July 16-22; Ages 13-18
- Third Session—July 23-29; Ages 9-18
- Day Camp—July 11 & 12; Ages 6-8

See more information at: [www.silvermaplecamp.com](http://www.silvermaplecamp.com)



### PRAYER REQUESTS

**Terry Sallee**—has a bad case of the shingles  
**Joy Monroe** (Marilyn's daughter) - diagnosed with an ulcer  
**Larry Carter** (Gary's friend in Missouri) - surgery to remove cancer from face  
**Danny Hecker**—having seizures and mini-strokes  
**Deb Thornburg** (Marilyn's daughter-in-law, married to Tim, in Billings, MT) - unexplained weight loss  
**Arthur, unborn son of Baylee Sizemore's cousin, John**—diagnosed with a hole in his heart  
**Jonathan Batten**—cancer treatment; doing well  
**Micaela Garcia** (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee) cancer  
**Ty Hewitt** (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - Leukemia  
**Greg Barlage** (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - Leukemia  
**Rod & Cris Seidel in Pratt** (friends of Richard/Shelly) - cancer  
**Alex Garcia** (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee) - improving health  
**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) – Stafford Leisure Home  
**June Cornwell**—Kenwood Plaza  
**Vic Staub**—Kenwood Plaza

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Harper Marks—May 15

Richard Brensing—May 15

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Gerry & Lupe Gunter—May 20

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