

We have to be people who make it our hearts' desire to communicate the life approach of Jesus to those around us. That isn't done through deep theological discussions (Jesus didn't have many of those), but rather through demonstrating a loving respect of people in an effort to draw them closer to God.

The battles that some folks face will not be the same battles that you face. Some fight more with sins of the flesh, others may fight more the sins of the spirit. For some, lustful thoughts about others is the problem. For others, the thoughts might be more envy, or even disgust. Discounting others for the problems they face, because they are different than our own, is failing to recognize that we each are made in God's image and are worthy of respect for no other reason than that.

This includes nice folks, and not so nice folks. We are told that we cannot bless God and curse those made in his image. There is no caveat that says, "unless they make us uncomfortable". We are to return a blessing for a curse, obviously the one cursing us isn't on our "favorites list". Jesus treated with respect high priests, prostitutes, tax collectors, widows, demonic folks, the destitute, the rich, the strong and the ill. He didn't allow a person's background to restrict his acts of kindness to others. Lepers were as welcome to his attention as temple officials.

So, when we try to understand how God wants us to live, don't look for 'how you do church', look for how you 'touch others'. In doing so, you become much more like the original.

*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**

**May 12, 2017**

We don't look anything like Christians of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century, and before that offends you... we shouldn't. Their culture was different, entirely different. Even in the most modern of contexts they never experienced anything like the American culture. The pace was different, the expectations were different, and even their aspirations were different.

That is okay, because the task for the child of God is not to look like people of days gone by. The task is to think, behave, and honor like Jesus did. The example of what is God-approved is not so much early Christians (although they did God-approved things), but to live like Jesus. Paul told early Christians, "Be an imitator of me, in the same way that I imitate Jesus." (1 Corinthians 11:1)

**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 21, 2017

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon  
GATHERING SONG: No. 72—Blessed Be the Lord God  
WELCOME: Richard Brensing  
SCRIPTURE READING: James 3:13-18 (Ben Sizemore)  
SONGS: No. 681—More Holiness Give Me  
No. 690—Consecration Medley  
—No. 691—Make Me New  
—No. 692—Change My Heart, O God  
—No. 693—Heart of a Servant  
—No. 694—Servant Song  
No. 452—Standing on the Promises (vs 1, 2)  
No. 779—I Love You, Lord  
PRAYER: Stan Aldrich  
SONG: No. 464—Because He Lives  
COMMUNION: Orrin Feril  
Gary Hornbaker  
Ned Marks  
Joe Cornwell  
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
SONG: No. 976—I Shall Not Be Moved  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 903—There Is Power in the Blood (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Teddy Gingrich  
(CCLI #2440129)

### WELCOME VISITORS

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

### SUMMER BASH

A special program is planned for grade school children on every 3rd Wednesday from May through August, from 7:00-8:00 pm, focusing on Bible Heroes. 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.



### 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.**”

### 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)



### GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to our High School Seniors, Cole Kinnamon and Destiny Johnson, who graduated yesterday. We also received an announcement from Austin Shklar, who graduated from Alva High School yesterday. Many of you will also remember Wyatt Rugan, who graduated at Great Bend this past week, as well.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**Gayle Byer**—cardiac tests last week; scheduled for cardiac procedure Tuesday at Hutchinson Regional Medical Center  
**Larry Carter** (Gary's friend in Missouri) - surgery to remove cancer from face went well; requests prayers for healing  
**Joy Monroe** (Marilyn's daughter) - diagnosed with an ulcer  
**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!

Hadley Marks—May 27  
Zach Marks—May 27

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Tom & Pam Turner—May 26

Please save all your cardboard tubes from bathroom tissue, paper towel, etc & bring for use at VBS!

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