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With all of the spiritual disciplines that we might ascribe to apply to our lives, with all of the intensive Bible exploration that we might engage in over time, and with all of the innate intelligence one might possess... we can be so spiritually blind to such basic tenants of Scripture as "love your neighbor as yourself" or being "created in the image of God."

Micah 6:8 says; "...what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Pretty straightforward I would think. But somehow we can rationalize under nationalism, patriotism, or 'unalienable rights' a denigration of others based on appearance, race or country of origin. We impugn the integrity of the poor, the disenfranchised, the social outcasts by using words like lazy, dirty, or labels that stigmatize.

But our comfort with our "faith" is unchallenged? Perhaps not. When I read such history from those I respect, I am taken aback and cause to ask myself, "Where are my blindspots? What am I not seeing?"

Grace and peace,

Carl

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

St John Church of Christ
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The Day Is At Hand

St John Church of Christ February 18, 2018

My friend, John Mark Hicks, is a great encourager; however, at times he digs up troubling tidbits from church history. Yesterday he shifted my morning with this: ***This is from the minutes of the "Church Record of the Congregation between Canton and Sully, Missouri, 1850-66."***

It reports why one of their members is no longer part of the congregation and has been dropped from the roll.

"Amanda, the slave of H. White... sold at St. Louis..."

Sobering, lamentable, and convicting.

"Much as I may sympathize with a black man, I love a white man more." (Alexander Campbell, Millennial Harbinger, 1845, 234.)

Appalling, maddening, and distressing.

For me, I wonder in what ways I am blind to my own brokenness and injustice.

May God have mercy!

Source: David Edwin Harrell, Jr., Quest for a Christian America, p 94, 97

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SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
Worship Service—10:45 am
WEDNESDAY: Varies by Time of Year (*refer to Bulletin News*)
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 18, 2018

SONG LEADER: Richard Brensing
GATHERING SONG: No. 38—Awesome God
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 3:11; 16-18 (Jerry Kinnamon)
SONGS: No. 448—The Greatest Commands
No. 570—A Beautiful Life
No. 719—Love One Another
No. 517—Heaven Came Down (vs 1, 3)
No. 779—I Love You, Lord
PRAYER: Garland Mansel
SONG: No. 364—Come, Share the Lord
COMMUNION: Teddy Gingrich
Ben Sizemore
Fred Johnson
Orrin Feril
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril (Romans 13:11-12)
SONG: No. 959—Just a Little Talk with Jesus
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 924—Just As I Am (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!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASS

The parenting class at Carl & Janet's home will resume this week at 7:00 pm. Childcare will be provided here at the church building. (Help is needed each week with the childcare.)

WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD

The Women Walking with God conference hosted by the North-side congregation in Wichita will be April 13-14, 2018 at Hartman Arena. The theme this year is "Trust His Path."

Website: www.womenwalkingwithgod.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Loyd Ratts—Feb 18 (103 years old!)

Hannah Sallee—Feb 18

Shirley Shelton—Feb 21

CONGRATULATIONS!

Tyler and Rebecca Turner are the proud parents of a baby boy, Henry Owen Culver-Turner, born Sunday, Feb 11th, at 7:00 pm. He weighed in at 9 lbs, 2 oz and was 21 inches long. He was welcomed home by big sister, Laurel. Proud grandparents are Tom & Pam; great-grandparents are Don & Gladys.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Gladys Hornbaker—in Stafford hospital
Orvalee Aldrich
Jim Walton (Stafford) - throat cancer
Carl Dudrey (Gladys' brother) - in Stafford hospital
George Shelton—eyesight issues
Gayle Sears (Marla's friend) breast cancer
Katherine Suiter—cancer
Crystal Easley (Terry & Linda Welch's daughter) - Stage 4 cancer
Sherri Owens
Clint Bonner—multiple myeloma
David Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - Emphysema
Jim Sorensen (Tara's brother-in-law) brain cancer
Marilyn Sprawka (Don Rugan's sister) - cancer
Jenny Walker (Carol's sister)
Roger Dick—ongoing cancer treatments
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
June Cornwell—Kenwood Plaza
Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - Stafford Leisure Homestead

Keep those in mind who were affected last week by tragedy:

- The school shooting in Florida
- Earthquakes in Mexico (Serranos report they are okay)

Memory Work for 2018—Romans 13:11-12

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org