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vealed in the Gospels, focused on helping the sick and the oppressed, seeing that the poor have the Gospel preached to them.

The second revolves around our personal lives. James calls it, keeping ourselves unspotted from the world. Before we can be successful in advocating for Jesus, we have to see to our own behaviors and habits. There is no place for the “spiritually elite”, those supporting an aloof position of moral superiority. Those with this kind of attitude were condemned along with the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Jesus was in the trenches, standing alongside those struggling with burdens. Lifting from the shoulders the oppressive weights of judgment and ostrification, offering inclusion in the kingdom.

He recognized in others those who were “not far from the kingdom”, along with others from which “the kingdom of heaven” would be composed. It require conversion to become like a little child. An awareness of lessons to be learned, and those from whom we might learn. Jesus pointed us toward spiritual insights that could be learned from fig trees, wheat fields and the birds of the air.

Explaining, living, and pointing to the kingdom of heaven is a task for right now, something which is a task for every believer.

Grace and peace,
Carl

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

St John Church of Christ
609 N Pearl
St John, KS 67576
620-549-6146

The Day Is At Hand

St John Church of Christ

May 27, 2018

Why are we saved? There are many who will tell you that we are saved from our sin, in order to go to heaven. I am not sure that is an adequate description.

Now before I am misunderstood, let me acknowledge that I believe all men sin and fall short of God’s glory, and that Jesus saves us from that sin by paying the price on the cross. In addition, I believe that God looks for a restoration of the relationship, like mankind shared with him before the fall in a time Scriptures referred to as the new heavens and new earth.

That being said, I think the Scriptures indicate that we are saved for much more than this. *We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God created beforehand that we should walk in them.* God has a long term plan concerning what we are to be about between our entering the Christ and our ultimate reward. There is a way of living, and a purpose for living, that is greater than simply sitting around biding our time until we hear trumpets and the cloud roll back.

These good works are defined in James as a two part religion. The first part of it revolves around taking care of the vulnerable, or as James describes them, widows and orphans. This is in harmony with the life of Jesus as re-

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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 Breensing, Teddy Gingrich, Terry Sallee,
 George Shelton, Tom Turner

DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril

TREASURER: Richard Breensing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR MAY 27, 2018

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker
 GATHERING SONG: No. 155—Highest Place
 WELCOME: Tom Turner
 SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 15:8-10 (Kolton Sizemore)
 SONGS: No. 624—Seeking the Lost
 No. 622—Ring Out the Message
 No. 650—Send the Light (vs 1, 3, 4)
 No. 659—I Love to Tell the Story (vs 1, 2, 4)
 No. 781—Thank You, Lord
 PRAYER: Tom Turner
 SONG: No. 325—Boundless Love
 COMMUNION: Richard Breensing
 Ben Sizemore
 Jerry Kinnamon
 Chris Mansel
 MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril (Romans 13:11-12)
 SONG: No. 864—Where the Gates Swing Outward Never
 LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
 SONG: No. 922—Jesus Paid It All (vs 1)
 PRAYER: Garland Mansel

 (CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

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



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

May 29-31 @ 6:30 pm

Family Picnic—June 1st @ 6:00 pm



- VBS is THIS week!! The theme is “I Work for God” and Legos will be used throughout the lessons and activities; for ages Pre-K through 6th grade
- YOUR HELP is needed for each day — if you come, there will be a place for you to work!
- For the PICNIC on Friday evening, sack lunches are being prepared. Cookies are needed for these—please sign up to bring a type of cookie that won't melt (like oatmeal, snickerdoodle, peanut butter, or your choice). Make them large enough so only one can be used for each sack. Cookies are needed at the church building by Thursday evening—sack lunches will be made on Friday.

WEDDING GIFTS

We are gathering some gifts for Dylan & Destiny Huffman. If you would like to contribute toward (or buy) some sheets, towels, etc, please contact Janet, so we can coordinate purchases/colors, etc.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Hadley Marks—May 27

Zach Marks—May 27

Cheyenne Holmes—May 30

Terri Koelsch—June 1

EASTWOOD SUMMER SERIES

The Eastwood Church of Christ in Hutchinson will start a Wednesday evening summer series on June 6th, with guest speakers from various locations. A schedule is posted if you would like to travel to Hutch to hear any of this special series.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - out of the hospital; back at Leisure Homestead in Stafford, in Skilled Nursing

David Sizemore (Ben & Hannah's dad) - moved to Swing Bed care at Stafford Hospital; to go to Trent & Hannah's this week

Ava Walton (daughter of Aaron & Autumn Walton; granddaughter of Jim & Denise Walton of Stafford) - in pediatric ICU at Wesley with a rare form of seizures

Lowell Dell (Cindy Kinnamon's brother) - recovering from a brain injury; now home from the hospital and doing much better

Kaylee Welch Brown (Debbie Welch's daughter) - in Rehab in Dallas

Ashton Line—(student at Ingalls) - doing some better

Gayle Sears (Marla's friend) breast cancer; chemo

Kim Staub—Parkinson's

Diane Campbell—MS

Jim Walton (Stafford) - throat cancer

Katherine Suiter—cancer

Crystal Easley (Terry & Linda Welch's daughter) - cancer

David Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - Emphysema

Jim Sorensen (Tara's brother-in-law) brain cancer

Marilyn Sprawka (Don Rujan'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

SYMPATHY

Lynn Kinnamon (Wilbur Kinnamon's younger brother, Jerry's uncle) passed away last week in Houston, TX