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curse those who are made in God's image (James 3:9). There is also a suggestion by Peter that when couples are in a conflict, that prayers become hindered (1 Peter 3:7).

The counsel of Scripture is uniform in settings of conflict, seek peace. Paul tells the Roman church, "as much as it depends on you, seek peace with everyone" (12:9). That isn't peace, if you get your way. That isn't peace, if they acknowledge you were in the right all along. It is a peace that requires everything that we have, all our patience, resources, tolerance, and anger management. It is one of those, going the extra mile, turning the other cheek, and sacrificing both your coat and your cloak also, kind of peace making sacrifices.

It is the kind of sacrifice that puts the kingdom of God ahead of everything. It is the kind of peace that is heavenly in origin, not selfish or carnal. It is an out of this world behavior, not normally seen in the light of day.

What does Jesus say about these situations? Jesus tells us to lose, to lay down and die, to give up, give in and roll over.

Make no mistake about it, it is hard. Jesus calls on us to do unearthly things for spiritual reasons. So, love them, pray for them, and care about them. Everyone of them. There is no side but God's side, so don't take one. Nothing about it will be easy. Living spiritually isn't easy.

Grace and Peace,

Carl

St John Church of Christ
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His Faithfulness Reaches to the Clouds

St John Church of Christ

January 27, 2019

It is an ugly situation. A church is in the midst of division. Differing parties, each claiming to be right, each defending the "weak" from the terrible ideas of the other side, have decided that they can't worship together anymore. My friend writes, "What does Jesus tell us to do in this situation?"

I am sure, from other notes in the email, that my friend was asking which side was right. But the way they phrased the question caused me to go a different way with the answer.

"What does Jesus tell us to do in this situation?" You mean when two brothers are in a squabble? When one group says one thing and the other says something else? In that kind of setting?

Jesus mentioned those who were going up to offering a sacrifice at the temple, remembering that there was a problem in a relationship. To those he said, ²³ *So if you are offering your gift on the altar, and there you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled with your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5)*

It would appear that Jesus is indicating that when our relationships are strained among us, it thwarts our ability to interact with God. Much as James indicates that we cannot use the same tongue to bless God and

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

WORSHIP ORDER FOR JANUARY 27, 2019

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon
GATHERING SONG: No. 68—Give Thanks
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Philippians 4:8 (Dominic Rogers)
SONGS: No. 490—It Is Well With My Soul
No. 492—Only in Thee
No. 570— A Beautiful Life (vs 1, 4)
No. 764—Teach Me Lord to Wait
PRAYER: Richard Breising
SONG: No. 361—Nailed to the Cross
COMMUNION: Orrin Feril
Teddy Gingrich
Joe Cornwell
Chris Mansel
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril (Psalm 108:3-5)
SONG: No. 736—To Christ Be True
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 904—Have You Been to Jesus? (vs 1)
PRAYER: Carl Feril

(CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship; please come again!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASS

A parenting class is being offered Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm at Carl & Janet's home. Childcare & a children's Bible Class are offered here at the church building. Parents can drop their kids off at church at 7:00 pm and pick them up at 7:45 pm. Extra help is needed with the childcare/Bible Class—please see Tom if you have any questions.

BABY SHOWER

Today we will have a baby shower for Jesse & Justeen Mayer at 1:30 pm, right after our pot luck lunch. They are expecting a baby boy March 27th and have already picked his name: Jerimiah Allan.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the family of Pam Herrenbruck, who passed away last Thursday. Celebration of Life service will be 11:00 am Saturday, February 2nd at IOOF Lodge in St John.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

If you did not get one of the new directories, please see Janet to get your copy today!

ANNUAL BUDGET

Copies of the annual budget are available on the table in the foyer.

NEWS FROM MEXICO

An updated newsletter is posted from Ubaldo & Maria Cardona. Take a minute to read about the happenings in Parral, Chihuahua.

WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD CONFERENCE

Friday, April 13 (5p-9p); Saturday April 14 (8a-4p)

Make note that through January 31st, the registration fee is \$63. After that date, it will increase to \$68. Save your place now to attend this great event!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Stan Aldrich—to have more medical tests
Orvalee Aldrich—ongoing health concerns
Gayle Byer—scheduled for cataract surgery on Feb 6th
Alan—Aldrich's neighbor—health concerns
Carol Gingrich—as she continues to deal with health concerns from their auto accident last August
Jesse & Justeen Mayer—high risk pregnancy
Beth Wilson—torn meniscus
Brent—Marilyn Thornburg's great grandson—(10 yrs old) to have surgery Feb 13th in Dallas
Easton Neidig (Teddy & Carol's great-grandson) - recovering from a broken wrist
Greg Lewis—diagnosed with a brain tumor; Stage 4 cancer
Jill Mophew (Janet's sister-in-law in Lubbock, TX)—ovarian cancer—on hospice care
Caylee Welch—as she goes through drug rehabilitation
Dena Mansel—health concerns
Barbara Schuette (Marla's sister) - improving
Rick Toland (Marla's cousin in Topeka) - cancer
Vince, Teddy's brother-in-law—heart problems
Gayle Sears (Marla's friend) breast cancer; chemo
Kim Staub—Parkinson's
Diane Campbell—MS
Katherine Suiter—cancer
Crystal Easley (Terry/Linda Welch's daughter) - cancer
David Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - Emphysema
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) - in Leisure Homestead in Stafford

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org