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nity. Our spiritual lives are expressed in connection with one another. If loving and worshipping God does not drive you to connect with all of those made in the image of God, you have made God in your own image. We are taught in Scripture that both friend and foe are worthy of, and should be recipients of, our blessing. To bless only those who we care for is selfish and stingy. Rather than being an exercise in imitation of our God, it is replacing the will of God with our own selfish motivation. We exalt our values over his values, while expressing our nature rather than his.

Finally, the final step is to process the day with God. Rehearsing the day's events, how you focused on denying self and imitating Jesus is the only way we can develop better spiritual habits.

I am pleased with how far we have walked together. Let's not give up.

*Grace and Peace,  
Carl*

*Perhaps my favorite weekly task as your preacher has been to write a weekly article. This will be the last, the bulletin taking a new format next week. If you want to continue to read, you can do so at my blog that you can locate through Facebook.*

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



## **His Faithfulness Reaches to the Clouds**

St John Church of Christ

June 16, 2019

Spirituality is an intentional act. The first step is to avoid hurry. Rushing through life leaves no room for introspection, processing the events that surround us, looking for the hand of God around us. To begin a spiritual walk, one must devote some time to it.

The development of a deeper spiritual walk also requires an acknowledgement of, and gratitude for, the provision of God. As Janet and I drove home last night and observed the lightning display in the storm clouds, we didn't reflect on how the heavier negatively charged particles were descending in the cloud, reacting to the positive particles producing lightning... it is true, but that isn't where our minds went. We thought of God, his power. We thought of his lovingkindness that reaches the clouds. We observed the way the moon was suspended above the cloud. As the cloud passed over the moon, we could still detect the shine, remembering in the darkest of nights... God is there, still extending lovingkindness.

The next step of spirituality is external. To satisfy a spiritual longing privately, without an external connection to life, is both selfish and destroys commu-

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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 JUNE 16, 2019

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker  
GATHERING SONG: No. 71—As the Deer  
WELCOME: Tom Turner  
SCRIPTURE READING: Philippians 3:20-21 (Zach Marks)  
SONGS: No. 850—Heaven Medley  
-No. 851—I'll Fly Away (vs 1, 3)  
-No. 852—When the Roll is Called Up Yonder (vs 1, 2)  
-No. 853—When We All Get to Heaven (vs 1, 3)  
No. 859—When All of God's Singers Get Home  
No. 827—Sweet Hour of Prayer  
PRAYER: Orrin Feril  
SONG: No. 387—Tell Me the Story of Jesus  
COMMUNION: Chris Mansel  
Jerry Kinnamon  
Fred Johnson  
Joe Cornwell  
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril (Psalm 108:3-5)  
(audience to read along)  
SONG: No. 659—I Love to Tell the Story (vs 1, 4)  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 948—I Am Resolved (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Richard Breensing

(CCLI #2440129)

## WELCOME VISITORS

We are so glad you have joined us in worship today; we invite you to come back anytime!

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Justeen Mayer—June 16  
Chase Mansel—June 20

## SILVER MAPLE CAMP

- 1st Session (Ages 9-13) - July 7-13
- 2nd Session (Ages 13-18) - July 14-20
- 3rd Session (Ages 9-18) - July 21-27
- Day Camp (Ages 7-9) - July 9 or 10

See Tom if you are interested in attending. The website is: [www.silvermaplecamp.org](http://www.silvermaplecamp.org).

The fall Ladies Retreat at Silver Maple Camp is planned for September 20-21—mark your calendar! Theme is "Fruit Bearing for Jesus"; this is being hosted by the Salina Church of Christ.

## RETIREMENT

You are invited to attend  
Carl and Janet's Retirement Celebration  
July 14, 2019  
Church of Christ, 609 N Pearl, St John, KS  
10 AM Carl's Bible Lesson  
10:45 AM Morning Worship (Carl-sermon)  
12:30-2:00 PM Catered Meal and Special time to honor  
Carl and Janet  
RSVP if you will be attending dinner. Text or call  
620-546-4826 or 620-253-0546 by July 9



Stafford County Annex  
209 N Broadway, St John, KS  
Come and Go 3-5 PM

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Gladys Hornbaker**—in Kenwood Plaza  
**Richard Breensing**—recent foot injury  
**Caylee Welch**—recent attempted suicide; in Texas  
**Jill Mophew** (Janet's sister-in-law in Lubbock)—cancer; in her last days  
**Orvalee Aldrich**—health concerns  
**Dena Mansel**—health concerns  
**Gary—Aldrich's neighbor**—cancer  
**Becky Arens** (Baylee's aunt) - diagnosed with AML (leukemia)  
**Tom Crawford** (Marilyn's nephew) - kidney/heart/liver problems  
**Thomas Crawford** (Marilyn's great nephew) - liver failure  
**Greg Lewis**—brain tumor; Stage 4 cancer  
**Barbara Schuette** (Marla's sister) - improving  
**Rick Toland** (Marla's cousin in Topeka) - cancer  
**Vince, Teddy's brother-in-law**—heart problems  
**Kim Staub**—Parkinson's  
**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

Prayers for the family of **Amy Seibert Sneath** from Great Bend (daughter of Gary & Nina Seibert, neighbors of Gingrich's).

## THANK YOU

Chase Mansel thanks the congregation for the graduation gifts and recognition.

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

