

# St John Church of Christ

September 22, 2019

*Welcome to the Family!*

We're glad you're here. If you would like to learn more or have any questions, please give us a call. John's number is (619) 313-7997.

## More About Us

### Meeting Times

- Sundays
  - ◇ Leisure Homestead 9:30
  - ◇ Bible Study for All Ages 10:00
  - ◇ Worship 11:00
- Wednesdays (coming soon!\_

### Elders

- Richard Brensing
- Teddy Gingrich
- Terry Sallee
- George Shelton
- Tom Turner

### Deacons

- Jerry Kinnamon
- Chris Mansel
- Orrin Feril

### Minister

- John McKeel



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<https://stjohnchurchofchrist.org>



## The Sunathalon

John McKeel

It's almost time again for the Olympic Games. They are scheduled for summer 2020 in Tokyo, and I'm excited. Most Christians know Paul describes the Christian life as a "race" (2 Timothy 4:7), but they may not know Paul has given this race a name: the *sunathalon* (pronounced "soon-ath-a-lon").

We are familiar with the *decathlon*, a race of ten (deca-) events; and the *pentathlon*, a contest with five (pente-) events, but the *sunathalon* is a race of cooperation. *Sun-* means "with," and *athalon* means competition. It's a "together race!"

In his letter to the Philippians (4:2, 3), Paul tells Euodia and Syn-tyche to cooperate as "yoke-fellows" because they are running

a *sunathalon* with Clement and Paul's fellowworkers. (The Greek word *sunathalon* is translated by the phrase "labored side by side" in many English Bibles.)

Now can you picture the poor farmer harnessing two rebel oxen to a yoke with each beast trying to pull the plow in a different direction? On the other hand, when two powerful animals pull in unison and work in harmony, there is no limit to what can be accomplished!

One of our biggest faults as Christians has been to forget our brothers and sisters in our personal race for life – an idea completely foreign to the New Testament. Instead, we should think of our life more like a three-legged race.

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Don't you remember tying your legs together with dad's old neckties and trying to stay in step? We all ran down the grassy field arm in arm, chanting cadence - "left, right, left, right!" We might fall down in a big tangle, but we laughed and got back up again and raced together.

Now imagine the fun as 50 - 100 - 300 Christians, arm in arm, laughing and singing cross the finish line! It's a beautiful thing when we work together in harmony. Remember: no one crosses the heavenly finish line alone!

## For Your Prayers

Please pray for the family of David Lewis, a former preacher with us in St. John. David passed away Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from a sudden heart attack. Condolances can be addressed to:

Lynn Lewis  
P.O. Box 83  
Bronte, TX 76933

Let's keep Carol in prayer as she prepares for her surgery on October 10.

## News & Notes

### LTC - Leadership Training for Christ

Get ready! After services on October 6th, Anita Palmer will be telling us about "Leadership Training for Christ," a great program for our children Mark your calendar!

### For the Bulletin

Do you have a prayer request, announcement, or item for the calendar? Please email or call John so we can include your requests in next week's bulletin:

John@JohnMcKeel.com  
(619) 313-7997

## Thank You!

John and Jan would like to thank everyone who helped them move into the Preacher's Home last Sunday afternoon. It was an amazing display of love!



**believe**  
"I am who you say I am"

*Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her! - Luke 1:15*

**Saturday, October 12, 2019**

*Registration: 9:00-9:30 AM — Conference: 9:30 AM-3:00 PM*  
Garden City Church of Christ · 1715 Pioneer Road · Garden City, KS 67846

\*\*\*\* This is a free event — Childcare will NOT be available \*\*\*\*

Register by October 6th to Barb Rains by calling or texting to 620.290.9539 or  
by e-mail to [gchurchofchrist@cox.net](mailto:gchurchofchrist@cox.net)

*Speakers: Tammy Meador (Ingalls, KS) & Barb Rains (Garden City, KS)*