

# St John Church of Christ

March 1, 2020

## Order of Worship

Worship Leader: Richard

Gathering Song: No. 266 Majesty

Welcome: Tom

Scripture Reading: Zach  
2 Timothy 2:11 - 13

Songs

No. 594 Live for Jesus

No. 555 Seek Ye First

No. 690 Consecration Medley

No. 779 I Love You, Lord

Prayer: Gary

Song: No. 287 There is a Redeemer

Communion: Stan

assisted by

Chris, Fred, Joe

Song: No. 587 Sing and Be Happy (1<sup>st</sup> verse)

Lesson: Let's Wash Some Smelly Feet!

John Chapter 13:1 - 17

Song 903 There Is Power in the Blood (1st verse)

Prayer: John

(CCLI #244012t9)



## March for Missions!

### Another Conversation with Brother Curmudgeon

The other day my dear friend, Brother Curmudgeon cornered me after services, looked me in the eye, and complained, “Why are you people spending so much money on foreign missions when we need to be reaching people for Jesus right here in the United States?”

I smiled and replied, “Because that’s what Jesus wants us to do.” Do you remember Jesus’ command, “Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations”? (Matthew 28:19)

Sharing the Gospel with the whole world has always been a part of the Christian mission. Jesus also said, “you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:18) Everyone, those close by and those far off, needs to hear the Gospel!

Brother Curmudgeon screwed up his face as only he can and snarled, “Why? Why are worldwide missions so important for us in Kansas? I don’t understand why.”

Let me share with you (and Brother Curmudgeon) four reasons why a worldwide focus on evangelism is essential for Christians everywhere. First, missions teach us to value every person – not just those like ourselves. God loves the whole world and each person in it!

Second, thinking about sharing the Gospel elsewhere reminds us to do the same right here at home. If I start telling you about our sailing adventure to Mexico where Jan and I ate the most amazing steak we’ve ever enjoyed while we were there, your mouth might start watering, and you might start thinking about where to find one a little closer to home.

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Third, focusing on missions breaks down prejudice. You might not care about what happens in Mexico or Southeast Asia, but now, because we know Christians, there any news concerning the people becomes a family matter. We care!

Fourth, and I think most importantly, a focus on missions helps us to understand and interpret the Scriptures. Because we read the Bible as Americans, we often read our own culture into the text without even realizing it. For example, we ask men to distribute the communion to the congregation. Does that mean it is wrong for women to “wait on the table”? In Korea, the elders pray for the bread and the wine, and women serve the congregation – the family – just like they do at home. Who is right, and who is wrong? (Doesn't it seem strange that we let women pass the trays down the row, but we don't let them pass the trays between the rows?) By encountering a different culture through missions, it often forces us to think about our own interpretations. We can learn from each other!

I'm not sure Brother Curmudgeon was satisfied with those answers, but I hope you are. Join us as we “March for Missions” throughout this month!



*“Live a good and honorable life, then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.”*

– Wisdom from the Seat of a Tractor

## News and Notes

### VBS is Coming!

Our 2020 Vacation Bible School is fast approaching! Next Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, after lunch, everyone interested in helping with this year's VBS is invited to attend.

### May Birthdays!

3/1: Orrin Feril  
3/1: Dylan Huffman  
3/5: Destiny Huffman  
3/11: Orvalee Aldrich  
3/12: Meagan Feril  
3/13: Misty Blakeslee Rudy  
3/13: Gary Hornbaker  
3/15: Joe Cornwell  
3/16: Adam Holmes  
3/20: Angel Johnson  
3/20: Mara Feril  
3/25: Lory Willinger  
3/25: Kay Kinnamon

### For Your Prayers

The St. John congregation has always had a keen interest in missions around the world. This year we have contributed to Luke Alper's participation in *Let's Start Talking!* with university students in Thailand, two different mission works in Mexico, Dennis Rosenbaum in Florida, and sponsoring John McKeel's work with SIBI - the Sunset International Bible Institute in Singapore this April.

This week, please pray for the success of these efforts this year as we “March for Missions!”



SIBI Students in Singapore