

St John Church of Christ

May 10, 2020

This Week OnLine

Children's Bible Class

10:00 A.M.

Join Pete and Penelope online at 10:00 A.M.

Adult Bible Class

10:30 - 10:45 A.M.

As we climb the Stairway to Love, we're ready for what many people call, "the most difficult step" – self-control.

Worship

11:00 - 11:20 A.M.

Are you having a bad day? Paul wrote: "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong," (2 Corinthians 12:10 KJV). Join us online for worship and think about what he means, "When I am weak, then I am strong!"

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnChurchOfChrist/>

Don't forget to send us your prayer requests throughout the broadcast. We will include them in our benediction.

It's Time for an Adventure!

Then Bilbo sat down on a seat by his door, crossed his legs, and blew out a beautiful grey ring of smoke that sailed up into the air without breaking and floated away over The Hill.

"Very pretty!" said Gandalf. "But I have no time to blow smoke-rings this morning. I am looking for someone to share in an adventure that I am arranging, and it's very difficult to find anyone."

"I should think so - in these parts! We are plain quiet folk and have no use for adventures. Nasty disturbing uncomfortable things! Make you late for dinner! I can't think what anybody sees in them," said our Mr. Baggins, and stuck one thumb behind his braces, and blew out another even bigger smoke-ring.

J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*.

Many people believe Christianity is rather dull. Very few people would call our faith an "adventure," but I believe that is exactly what Jesus had in mind when he said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full," (John 10:10).

Life can be full of adventures. There are grand adventures like

mountain climbing, shooting rivers, exploring caves, sailing, and there are little adventures like running barefoot through the grass, gazing at the sky, or trying a new recipe. An adventure calls for us to step out of our comfort zone. There is an element of risk in any good adventure. I might not like Thai food. People might laugh at me or I might make a fool of myself, but even if it happens, people who dare to step out and explore discover something about themselves in the process and I believe they enjoy a fuller life.

Paul Tournier wrote: "There is a need for fulfillment that is part of the stuff of life itself, a need for personal adventure which is peculiar to man, a thirst for the absolute, which in the last analysis is an expression of man's hunger and thirst after God."

Experiencing transcendence – encountering the Almighty is the greatest adventure of all, and the most amazing part of this grand adventure is, God is not far from each one of us. As the Apostle Paul told the Athenians, God "is not far from each one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being,'" (Acts 17:27, 28).



When are we going to re-open?

We miss each other! In these uncertain times, we are all looking for answers. We'd love to get back together again. It would be wonderful if we could announce, "The pandemic is over!" but it's not quite the time.

In the meantime, please continue to call, text, and email one another. Let's make an extra effort to stay in touch.

Join us online for our streaming programs, and, did you know, if you miss the live program, you can still watch them at your convenience! Don't forget to check our website: StJohnChurchOfChrist.org and subscribe to our week-day devotional, "3-Minutes with God" by sending an email to John@JohnMcKeel.com.

So, we will continue to wait patiently living day to day and praying God's will be done soon.

For Your Prayers

Here is our latest prayer list from our last online worship service:

- "Please pray for Maren Turner, 2 year old from Great Bend who has Leukemia."
- Kari asked us to "Please pray for my friend Heidi as she is going through radiation for breast cancer."
- We also have special prayers for Dominic who is in Kansas, and Matthew who is in Connecticut. They are both in facilities, and due to the virus, their isolation has almost become unbearable. Please remember their loved ones who are unable to visit and comfort them at this time.
- Likewise, remember Don and Gladys. Kenwood isn't allowing visitors - but you can give them a phone call and talk with them while standing outside their window in back!
- Let's not forget to pray for our missionaries in Mexico where the virus is effecting them as well!

Pray for our online presence as we stream our worship and Bible Classes. Ask God to help us take advantage of these new opportunities!

In addition, let's pray for the safety of our community, our elderly and especially for our children. Thank God for those who are giving their time to minister to them and provide them with meals.

Pray for our families. Many businesses have closed or restricted their hours. Without work, needs are going to be especially great for them.

