

St John Church of Christ

January 23, 2022

Worship
Service

Premiers
Sunday at 11:00

Welcome to Worship!

We're glad you're here. Bible classes begin at 10:00. For kids, Pete & Penelope, our children's puppet program, is followed by songs and classes in the Fellowship Hall.

"Basic Training" continues in the auditorium this morning. Perhaps the most important question you can ask is "What must I do to be saved?" The answer might surprise you. Join us at 10:00 A.M. Worship follows at 11:00 A.M.

If you are unable to be with us in person, our worship is shared through our website:

www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org

Simply select "Sermons" from the menubar at the top, or click this link to visit our page on YouTube:

[St. John Church of Christ](http://St.John Church of Christ)

The Positive Christian

"The average pencil is seven inches long, with just a half-inch eraser — in case you thought optimism was dead."

— Robert Brault



Photo by Glen Carrie

Somewhere along the way, Christians received the reputation for being negative people. Perhaps we inherited that label from our Jewish forefathers.

The rabbis studied the first five books of the Bible and identified 613 commandments that cover nearly every aspect of life. It seems that 365 of them are negative ("Thou shalt not ...") and 248 of them are positive ("Thou shalt ...").

We do it to ourselves too of course. I once knew a preach-

er who always seemed so angry in his sermons. I asked him why and he announced, "The Apostle Paul told Timothy to 'reprove, rebuke, and exhort' (2 Timothy 4:2) and so I believe two out of three sermons ought to be angry!" I'm sad to say, I think he was serious, but I still don't think he was right. Christians ought to be the most positive people on the planet. Why we have so much to live for, we even have something to die for! We've read the book, and we know how the story ends.

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I suppose I've always been an optimistic Christian. Along the way, I've collected some tidbits that reinforce that view:

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

– Winston Churchill

"Dwell on the beauty of life. Watch the stars, and see yourself running with them."

– Marcus Aurelius

"You'll never find a rainbow if you're looking down"

– Charles Chaplin

"Only those who attempt the absurd can achieve the impossible."

– Albert Einstein

Life isn't a weary cycle that repeats itself over and over and over again. Jesus told us, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10). So, I'm positive – I'm a Christian!



Key Dates

Birthdays and Anniversaries

1/30: Chet Lyons

2/3: Anissa Potter

2/6: Garland Mansel

2/18: Hannah Sallee

2/21: Shirley Shelton



St. John Church has always been a big supporter of Silver Maple Bible Camp. We are currently constructing a new building in preparation for camp this summer. Here are some pictures of Chris and his gang hard at work.



Likewise, we are involved in the Silver Maple "Sewing for the Master" project. We are in need of cotton quilting fabrics and gently used children's t-shirts. Please see Pam Turner for details.



Prayer Requests

Don't forget our homebound members:

Gail Byer

Don Hornbaker

Garland and Dena Mansel

Don Rugan

George and Shirley Shelton

Please keep Terry in your prayers. He is awaiting the results of tests on his back before he can undergo surgery.

Likewise Nancy, Kay, and Dixie are struggling with chronic pain. Please pray the doctors will find solutions for them quickly!