



From The Elders at the St John Church of Christ

In Genesis, God introduces himself to the world in how he describes his interaction with mankind. God begins by bringing order from chaos. It doesn't mean that God is structured and organized, it demonstrates that God structures things to benefit all that he creates. God is creator, provider, helper, this is his **Person**, his character, just who he is. Repeatedly in the coming stories, we see God delivering mankind from the chaos of wickedness, the hurtfulness of sin, the evil of the fallen state of mankind to a restart with freshness, a new beginning, the chance for a new start.

In the initial story of creation, everything is set up for mankind's arrival in this world, all the lands, the rivers and seas, the flora and fauna, the creatures, both great and small. As God walks with Adam and Eve (his **People**), surveying the creation, it is pronounced... "good." The animals that pass by for naming are there for inspection and familiarity, God observing his creation in harmony. What a great start!

But it doesn't last... sin enters through the action of Adam and Eve, trouble enters as man chooses a way that is different from God's way. Pain, struggle, shame, and disharmony are present for the first time. Not because God chose it, because man did not follow God, choosing his own way.

God introduces a hopeful message, even in pronouncing the penalty. Pain in childbirth, toil amidst the chaos of weeds, pain and troubles, the serpent, the seed, a bruising and a crushing blow, a **Provision** for the future. The broken relationship with God is replicated in the broken relationships with each other, Cain and Abel, the tower of Babel, the flood, Noah, God's people in trouble. But God has a plan to repair it, over and over.

In Our Prayers

Don Hornbaker
Emersyn Milton
Thomas Pruitt
Shannon Bauer
Elmer Schuette (Marla's Brother-in-law)
Becky Carter
Maggie Harris
Drexyel Like
Mamie Bailey (Meagan's Grandmother)

Carol Gingrich
Madison Cole
Larry Hamm
Rick Rodness
SMC 3rd Session (starts today)
Boyd Gower (Vanessa's cousin)
Joseph Morien (Jessica's Dad)
Lisa Cornwell
Vernon Bartlett
Piper Harner

Upcoming Events

Ladies Day at Lyons COC [Next Saturday]

The Lyons Church of Christ is hosting a ladies day, entitled Where Friends Gather, on Saturday, July 29. They need RSVPs by TOMORROW. Check the bulletin board for further information.

Gospel Singing [Next Sunday]

The Stafford Church of Christ will be hosting a gospel singing in the Stafford City Park with a cookout on Sunday, July 30 at 6:30 PM.

Stafford VBS [August 12]

The Stafford Church of Christ will be holding their VBS on Saturday, August 12.

Save the Date:

SMC 3rd Session (ages 9-18) - Starts Today!
SMC - Ladies Retreat - October 6 & 7

Birthdays this week:

None



Worship Order

Welcome Table and Greeters: Richard and Shelly Brensing

Song Leader: Quinn Palmer

Sound System: Orrin Feril

Gathering: #63 - I Will Call Upon the Lord

Welcome: Orrin Feril

Scripture Reading: Landon Marks (Psalm 100:1-5)

Prayer: Carl Feril

Song: #242 - Sing Hallelujah to the Lord

Song: #354 - I Gave My Life for Thee

Communion: Stan Aldrich

Song: #490 - It Is Well With My Soul

Lesson: Zeborah Carter

Song: #903 - There is Power in the Blood (vs. 1 and 2)

Closing Prayer: Jerry Kinnamon

Sundays: Bible classes for all ages @ 10:00 am Worship service for everyone @ 11:00 am
Elders: Tom Turner, Richard Brensing, Terry Sallee, Carl Feril
Deacons: Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril
Minister: Zeborah Carter