



From The Elders at the St John Church of Christ

In the first eleven chapters of Genesis, God introduces himself as creator, provider, helper and reclamer. He clearly has expectations for how his people should interact with each other and the world around them. Adam and Eve fail, they are removed from the garden and we see the descent of mankind. Jealousy, shame, murder and chaos ensue. Still God remains attentive, involved and concerned for his creation.

Ultimately mankind is described as having caused God to grieve, with hearts that were fully turned to do evil. Our righteous God ([Person](#)) regretted the choices of mankind, his eyes fell on Noah and his family ([People](#)). Through a flood, the destruction of the world of evil and preservation of what was still good, God begins with man again ([Provision](#)). Sadly, Noah makes decisions that disappoint God again, and his sons further compound the problem. We see the cycle of God creating good, mankind failing, and the need for reconciliation repeated once more.

Beginning in chapter 12, God tells his story through his interaction with a new man and his family. Here we read about Abram, who will later have his name changed to Abraham. Scriptures do not record Abram's beginnings as being unusual. His father and grandfather were both idolaters. What seems to mark Abram as different in the record is that when God speaks, Abram listens. The Bible goes into great detail over the next few chapters about God making promises to Abram and his willingness to hear and obey God. This was a new experience for Abram and Sarai, so we see some faltering steps in their journey. Over thirteen chapters in Genesis we see God leading, Abram following and God providing for his family. There are bumps along the way, but God carries Abram along, then Isaac, then Jacob.

In Our Prayers

Don Hornbaker
Emersyn Milton
Thomas Pruitt
Shannon Bauer
Elmer Schuette (Marla's Brother-in-law)
Becky Carter
Maggie Harris
Drexyel Like
Meagen Feril's family

Carol Gingrich
Madison Cole
Larry Hamm
Rick Rodness
Boyd Gower (Vanessa's cousin)
Joseph Morien (Jessica's Dad)
Lisa Cornwell
Vernon Bartlett
Piper Harner
Melanie Barkley

Upcoming Events

Gospel Singing [Tonight]

The Stafford Church of Christ will be hosting a gospel singing in the Stafford City Park tonight at 6:30 PM. Come and join us in worship and fellowship!

Potluck Meal [Next Sunday]

Join us next Sunday for our monthly potluck meal following services!

Stafford VBS [August 12]

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

Save the Date:

SMC - Ladies Retreat - October 6 & 7

Birthdays this week:

Maxxamus Gunter - August 1

Craig Smith - August 3

Vanessa Marks - August 4



Worship Order

Welcome Table and Greeters: Richard and Shelly Brensing

Song Leader: Jerry Kinnamon

Sound System: Quinn Palmer

Gathering: #578 - We Will Glorify

Welcome: Orrin Feril

Scripture Reading: Chris Mansel (Psalm 96:1-13)

Prayer: Tom Turner

Song: #18 - Faithful Love

Song: #315 - When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Communion: Carl Feril

Song: #449 - Thy Word

Lesson: Zeborah Carter

Song: #909 - There's a Fountain Free (vs. 1 and 2)

Closing Prayer: Stan Aldrich

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