

October 1, 2023



## From The Elders at the St John Church of Christ

In Genesis, God (Person) shows his faithful, loving nature in making a promise to Abraham (People), to bless (Provision) him and all nations of the world through him, if he will follow God. In Exodus, God powerfully keeps faith (Person) by using Moses to lead the family of Abraham (People) out of slavery into the Wilderness wanderings, where he cares for (Provision) and shapes his people. In Joshua, God keeps his promise (Provision) to give Abraham's descendants (People) a land in which to live, thus proving himself (Person) to be the faithful provider.

Today we read of Abraham's descendants (People) breaking faith through idolatrous disobedience repeatedly in the stories in the time of the Judges. The stories told in this book are violent and sordid, because the people of God are turning away, wandering off into the idolatrous practices of their neighbors. God proves himself to be faithful (Person) to his people by raising up judges (Provision), rulers who give them periods of peace while Israel returns to God.

In the various stories you might read here, you will be shocked by the violence and the seediness of the people who are called to follow God. God can use anyone, from any background, if they will rely on him. Many times we may feel disconnected from the day-to-day events in lives of the Bible stories. These stories are even more uncomfortable to our ears. But see the "big picture", these people get caught up in day-to-day survival. They feel they must do all kinds of things to compromise. Eventually compromise becomes routine, then life becomes unbearable. Prayer becomes the answer, and they (People) cry out for help from God. God faithfully (Person) responds with a "judge" (Provision) and a period of reprieve. They forget, and the cycle repeats, like us.

## In Our Prayers

Don Hornbaker  
Emersyn Milton  
Thomas Pruitt  
Shannon Bauer  
Elmer Schuette (Marla's  
Brother-in-law)  
Becky Carter

Maggie Harris  
Drexyel Like  
Carol Gingrich  
Kay Kinnamon  
Brenda Staub  
Sally Truitt  
Madison Cole

Rick Rodness  
Joseph Morien  
Vernon Bartlett  
Mark Naes  
Tami Byer  
Clint Kinnamon  
Chris Ortego

# Upcoming Events

## Potluck [Today]

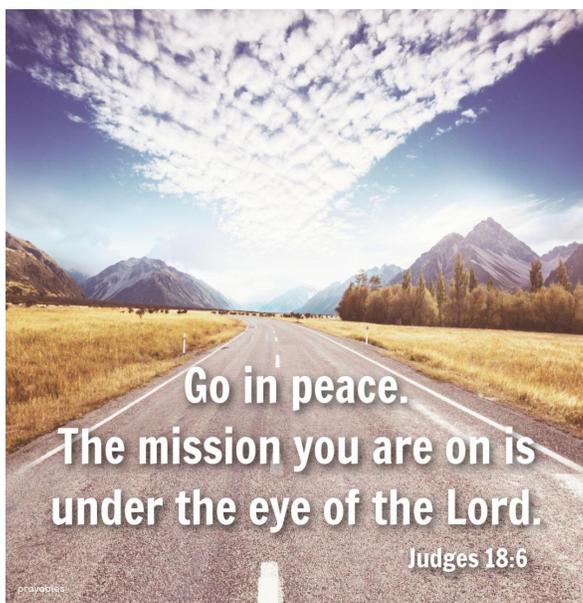
Join us following services for our monthly potluck meal! This is a great time of fellowship and there is plenty of food for everyone to stay and enjoy.

## Save the Date:

SMC - Ladies Retreat - October 6 & 7  
SMC - Crafter's Retreat - October 12-14  
Women's Conference at Garden City CoC - Oct. 14  
SMC - Men's Retreat - October 15-17  
SMC - Teen Retreat - November 17-19

## Birthdays this week:

Jakobe Gunter - October 3  
Don Hornbaker - October 4



# Worship Order

Welcome Table & Greeters: Carl and Janet Feril

Song Leader: Jerry Kinnamon

Sound System: Orrin Feril

Gathering: #63 - I Will Call Upon the Lord

Welcome: Chris Mansel

Scripture Reading: Jayce Feril (Judges 18:6)

Prayer: Richard Brensing

Song: #286 - Wonderful Story of Love

Song: #176 - Lamb of God

Communion: Carl Feril

Song: #446 - Hear, O Israel

Lesson: Zeborah Carter

Song: #622 - Ring Out the Message (vs. 1 and 2)

Closing Prayer: Chris Stott

**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