

St John Church of Christ

Bulletin

February 11, 2024

For The Church



Desperate times call for desperate measures. We all know the story of Baby Moses from Exodus 2. And we easily accept, without judgment, the decision his parents made. I try to imagine the horror of placing my tiny infant in a river and walking away. There are similar stories from WWII of Jewish families who gave up their children to be smuggled out of the Warsaw ghetto. In every generation, in some place in the world, the story is repeated. The work the Serrano family is doing in Oaxaca City to aid desperate families who have walked the length of Central American with small children in tow tells of this desperation. In Arusha, Tanzania, where Pam and Linda will be going in April, the same is true. Women will risk abandoning a newborn, knowing if caught, they will go to prison. How much love is at the root of those desperate decisions? At Neema Village, there is no judgment, only mercy and grace. Their hope is to find the mother before the police do. Their mission is to rescue the mother, as well as the child.

I'm convicted by this absence of judgment. Regardless of whether hopelessness drives a decision halfway around the world or in our own backyard, Christ calls us to rise up with mercy and grace and never with judgment. Let us keep the eyes of our hearts open to see the opportunities for extending God's mercy and grace to everyone we meet and especially to one another. Let us pray that God will keep the temptation to pass judgment far from our hearts and minds.

To learn more about the work at Neema Village, go to neemavillage.org. There are baskets at the back if you would like to help financially with either the Serrano family or Neema Village. Let's be a blessing.

In Our Prayers

Emersyn Milton
Thomas Pruitt
Shannon Bauer
Elmer Schuette
Carol Gingrich
Madison Cole

Rick Rodness
Hadley Bright
Susan Mayer (Chet's sister)
Truitt Family
Tanna Martin
Ronnie Harris (Zach's grandpa)

Audie Thornburg
Brayden Smith
Megan Duntz
Chris Ortego
Shari Soukup
Alyson Rice

Upcoming Events

Super Bowl Party [Tonight]

Join us tonight for a Super Bowl Party! The game starts at 5:30, but we will be set up by 5. Please bring an appetizer, snack, vegetable, or dessert to share as we enjoy a time of fellowship together with God's people.

Mission Trip to Neema Village [April 2024]

Pam Turner and Linda Hamm (Pratt) will be volunteering at Neema Village Newborn Rescue Mission during the month of April 2024. As part of our job as volunteers, we have been asked to spread the word about what this mission does and to raise funds for mission projects. We are not raising funds for our travel expenses. There is a basket in the back for donations.

Women Walking with God [April 12-13]

The annual WWWG Conference is scheduled to be held at the Maize Performing Arts & Aquatics Center this year. Registration is \$55 for adult women and \$35 for those 25 years & younger. The church will pay for your registration; contact Richard Brensing. For more information, go to the website: WomenWalkingWithGod.org

Save the Date:

March 29-30 - LTC in Kansas City
April 12-13 - Women Walking with God

Birthdays this week:

Cami Long - February 14

Worship Order

Welcome Table & Greeters: Tom & Pam Turner

Song Leader: Stan Aldrich

Sound System: Jayce Feril

Gathering: #3 - Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

Welcome: Chris Mansel

Scripture Reading: Chris Stott (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)

Shepherd's Prayer: Richard Brensing

Song: #226 - O Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Song: #176 - Lamb of God

Communion: Chris Mansel

Song: #68 - Give Thanks

Lesson: Zeborah Carter

Song: #852 - When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder (vs. 1 and 3)

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