

rough ropes, tight enough that there would be no escape when the time came. Moving to the feet, practiced hands held the legs as he gathered his mallet and the spike. The crowd's jeering hushed as they held their breath for the first blow of the mallet, driving the spike into place to pin the feet to the upright. Then the roar and the screams mingled together as the crowd cheered and the condemned wailed.

Each blow of the hammer was felt by all there, for some a hideous hurt, for others a momentous victory.

But for him, just a job. The sweat from his brow dripping on the quivering flesh beneath him as he nailed Jesus at both hands and feet. Just a job.

As I think back at the events of that day, I don't want to be this man in history. The executioner, the hammer man who nails a body to the cross with blow after blow of an oversized mallet. Simply doing his job, carrying out the orders from above.

It will be later, after the upright is hoisted into the slot and dropped into place, after he nails the plaque above him, "King of the Jews"... after these things, in the coming days he will learn.

But that day, he is doing his job. That day, he is just repeating the task that he does week after week in his work in this executioner's squad of soldiers. Three different men this day. Some days more, some days less, but just a job.

This day, however is different. This day remains seared into the mind. You see this day as he nailed Jesus to the cross, the very man who drove the nails received the same forgiveness as you and I. I wouldn't want to be that man, anonymous in Scripture. But in a sense I was.

*Grace and Peace,  
Carl*

*Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.*

St John Church of Christ  
609 N Pearl  
P. O. Box 241  
St John, KS 67576



St John Church of Christ  
A Family of God

April 5, 2015

It looked to be one of those kind, he thought as he watched the crowd milling their way to the top. There he was, the condemned, struggling to drag the beam amid the jeers, taunts and raucous laughter. Then he tripped, actually more he collapsed, his body almost to the breaking point it seemed. Some poor sap from the onlookers pressed into service to take over dragging the beam as the condemned was lifted, shoved and kicked along his way.

An odd mixture of folks, to his practiced eye. Evidently Jews from the dress of many in the crowd, and possibly some political implication, because he noticed some of the Jewish higher-ups keeping track of the process.

Here he is now. The beam was quickly jointed together and his practiced hand began the process of nailing it to the suspension pole. Each blow of the mallet caused a quivering of the hardened muscles in his weathered arm, as he drove spikes into the cross member. He noticed the jarring, visceral reaction in the body of the condemned. He might be broken and bloodied, but he knew what was coming.

He took his place on the right side of the cross beam, quickly lashing the hand tightly as the condemned's arm was held in place. Moving to the left side he continued to bind the arm with

SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service – 9:30 am  
Bible Study for all ages – 10:00 am  
Worship Services – 10:45 am  
WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study – 7:30 pm  
Youth Group – 7:30 pm (at Carl's)  
ELDERS: Richard Breusing, Teddy Gingrich,  
Loyd Ratts, Terry Sallee, George Shelton  
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel  
TREASURER: Richard Breusing  
MINISTERS: Carl Feril, Tom Turner

### WORSHIP ORDER FOR APRIL 5, 2015

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon  
GATHERING SONG: No. 68 – Give Thanks  
WELCOME: Tom Turner  
SCRIPTURE READING: Richard Breusing  
Matthew 20:17-19; 26:36-39, 57-68; 27:1-2, 11-31  
SONGS: No. 349 – Ten Thousand Angels (vs 1-4, then chorus)  
No. 312 – Cross Medley  
No. 313 – The Old Rugged Cross (vs 1, 2)  
No. 314 – Beneath the Cross of Jesus (vs 1, 2)  
No. 315 – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
(vs 1, 4)  
PRAYER: Gary Hornbaker  
SCRIPTURE READING: Tom Turner  
Matthew 27:47-66; 28:1-10  
SONG: No. 344 – Low in the Grave He Lay (vs 1-3, then chorus)  
COMMUNION: Tom Turner  
Chris Mansel  
Orrin Feril  
Jon Mansel  
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
SONG: No. 359 – I Love the Lord  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 948 – I Am Resolved (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Teddy Gingrich

(CCLI #2440129)

### WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship today – please come again!

### WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD

Conference in Wichita, KS – April 17-18, 2015

Anyone who has an interest in attending, but is not registered yet, please talk to Janet this week.

### NO POTLUCK TODAY

Please note that there is NO potluck lunch today.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Darrell Bauer 4/7



### SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS!!

Tues, May 26-29

More information coming soon!

### SILVER MAPLE CAMP EVENT

“STRAIGHT TALK Into Human Behavior, Into the Heart of God”

September 24-26, 2015

An Equipping Workshop with Jerry & Lynn Jones; Worship Singing to be lead by Keith Lancaster; See information posted.

### MORE PRAYER REQUESTS

**Audrey Nusser** - health  
**Racheal Davis** - health  
**Grant Raleigh** (Kyler Kinnamon's friend) ski accident  
**Raymond Hamilton** – friend of Fred's in Trousdale; pacemaker recently put in

### PRAYER REQUESTS

(Please provide updates to Janet)

**Maggie Harris** (Lisa's mother) – had a stroke last Sunday afternoon, then another on Monday; currently in rehab care in Lawrence and her cardiac surgery has been postponed  
**Millie Whitlow** – at Clearwater; cancer spread to her liver  
**Darla Chapman** (in Faith, SD) – thyroid cancer  
**Carol Gingrich** – adjusting to new pacemaker/ defibrillator  
**Gladys Hornbaker** – cataract surgery postponed  
**Juan Ortiz** (son of Chito & Lolis Ortiz from Macksville) recovering from an auto accident; they request our prayers  
**Olen Munz** – recovering from recent surgery for a brain tumor; moving to Newton to a care facility  
**Jessica Keeton** (one of Clint's former basketball players) has breast cancer that has spread to her spine and lymph nodes; our prayers are requested  
**Laura Wyatt** –recuperating from broken ribs  
**Joy** (Marilyn's daughter) –health concerns  
**Vesta Shelton** (George's sister-in-law) recent stroke  
**Dena Mansel** – health concerns  
**Lyndsey Dryden** – still recovering from auto accident  
**Cody Dick** – cancer; undergoing treatments  
**Roger Dick** - cancer  
**Jonathan Batten** – chemotherapy  
**Charlene Lyons** (Chet's sister-in-law) – health concerns  
**Theo Birkett** (Tara's mother)  
**Jim Sorensen** (Tara's brother-in-law; monthly chemo for brain tumor)  
**Eldon Ivy** (Marilyn's brother) – health concerns  
**Jim Soukup** (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])  
**Wilbur Kinnamon** – Leisure Homestead in Stafford  
**Myron Breusing** – Leisure Homestead in Stafford  
**Bonnie Guthrie** (Kay's mother) – HomePlus in Stafford  
**Vic & Phyllis Staub** – Kenwood Plaza  
Those affected by the storm damage last Thursday night

Church website: [www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org](http://www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org)