

St John Church of Christ

January 19, 2020

More About Us

Meeting Times

- **Sundays**
 - ◇ Leisure Homestead 9:30
 - ◇ Bible Study for All Ages 10:00
 - ◇ Worship 11:00
- **Wednesdays**
 - ◇ Community Bible Study 2:00 p.m.
 - ◇ Dinner & Devo 6:30
 - ◇ Bible Classes 7:00
- **Every Other Monday**
 - ◇ Ladies' Bible Class 7:00 P.M.

Elders

- Richard Brensing
- Teddy Gingrich
- Terry Sallee
- George Shelton
- Tom Turner

Deacons

- Jerry Kinnamon
- Chris Mansel
- Orrin Feril



Downtown St. John, Kansas



A Pop Can More Precious Than Gold

In the 19th century the complexities of refining aluminum ore made the metal more precious than gold or silver. In fact, Napoleon III, the first President of the French Republic, served his state dinners on aluminum plates. Rank-and-file guests were only served on dishes made with gold or silver!

It's a little-known fact that the Washington Monument is topped with a pyramid 9 inches high by 5.6 square of pure aluminum. At the time (1884) aluminum was a precious metal and many didn't even believe they could cast the capstone from the stuff. The pyramid was to cost a phenomenal \$75, but the final bill came to a whopping \$225. (Remember those were 1884 dollars!) Before being placed atop the monument, the capstone was put on public display at Tiffany's in New York City where visitors could step

over it so they could all boast they had "stepped over the top of the Washington Monument."

The problem with aluminum was how to extract the metal from its ore. Heat extracts iron, but not aluminum. Finally, in the 1820s, a German chemist was able to extract a few precious flakes and people fell in love with the shiny silver metal. In the mid-1800s, ingots sold for \$550 per pound! The French government proudly displayed bars of aluminum alongside their crown jewels.

But shortly after the Washington Monument was capped, scientists discovered a very inexpensive way of extracting aluminum from aluminum ore, the most common metal in the earth's crust. In 1888 Alcoa managed to produce almost 50 pounds of the metal a day. Twenty years later production soared to 88,000 pounds per

Continued on back page

Continued from front page

day! The price dropped from \$550 per pound to 25 cents per pound (1850 prices). Today aluminum can be found everywhere from pop cans to baseball bats.

On the spiritual side, I worry about how people value grace. The precious blood of Jesus takes away our sins. Grace reconciles us to God. What could be more valuable? But, perhaps, because grace is available to all, we don't value God's gift the way we should. Just because it is free doesn't mean it is cheap!



Building Churches in Mexico

We help support Rick Owens building churches in Mexico. Here is a picture from their first project of 2020 at the Fundadores Congregation, in the city of Saltillo, the State of Coahuila. Follow this link to see more: <http://slickpic.us/2194307OuNY>



News and Notes

Intergenerational Ladies' Day

"A Cord of Three" is the topic of the Eastwood Church of Christ's Ladies' Day, Saturday, February 8th. Elaine Denman, a prior *Women Walking with God* keynote speaker, will be featured and lunch is provided. Registration begins at 8:30 A.M. and the program ends at 2:00 P.M. Lunch is provided. Please RSVP (620) 960-5214 or hillary.carden@gmail.com. The address is 2500 N. Plum, Hutchinson.

"The victorious Christian life is a series of new beginnings."

– George Morrison

For Your Prayers

We've heard good reports from Stan and Orvalee concerning his visit to the Mayo Clinic. Please continue to pray for them as Stan continues to recover.

Let's also pray for our children and especially remember little Jeremiah as he continues to grow. All the children are a blessing and need our continued prayers. Be sure to smile at them this morning as they eagerly rush to Children's Bible Hour!

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