

*St John Church of Christ*

# Bulletin

February 9, 2025

## For The Church



Solitude #1 of 4:

What does solitude mean for a Christian? What is it about solitude that is so necessary and refreshing for our spirits? Part of it is doubtless because we are completely free to be ourselves. We don't have to act, put on airs, wear a fake, idiotic smile plastered on our face, or pretend to be someone we are not. Instead, we can relax, enjoy our environment and most importantly, enjoy and worship God. Indeed, studies have been done which indicate that solitude, when self-chosen and not imposed by some external agent or circumstance, helps to relieve stress, and provides opportunities to enjoy one's surroundings that are not typically available when in the company of others.

Of course, some might object that, as Christians, we are called to community rather than a life of solitude. This is an important point, so let me clarify that I am not arguing for a life of complete solitude, but rather for temporary periods of solitude that provide an opportunity for refreshment, rejuvenation, and reconnection with oneself and God. Just as we typically set aside time each day to eat and sleep, we should also set aside some daily time for solitude.

For this reason, I want to reflect on the value of solitude from a Christian perspective. I will argue that, at least for most of us, some amount of solitude is necessary for an emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually healthy life. Of course, the amount of solitude an individual requires/desires will vary according to that individual's personality and temperament. Some people require more solitude, and others require less. However, if we never spend time alone with God, then we're probably not as wise, perceptive, and spiritually healthy as we could be if we incorporated some much-needed solitude into the daily rhythm of our lives.

## In Our Prayers

Thomas Pruitt  
Zeb Carter  
Juanita (Abby's Mother)  
Tim Taylor  
Brenda Staub  
Dwight Huston

Linda Fry  
Vernon Bartlett  
Greg McAlister  
Pam Aldrich  
Laurie Saylor Gale  
Terry Nash

Vance Wendelburg  
Dennis Rosenbaum  
Betty Clumsky  
Brenda Reno  
Ryker Berens  
Jessica Kinnamon

# Upcoming Events

## Youth Group [Tonight]

The youth group will NOT meet tonight.

## Super Bowl Party [Tonight]

Everyone is invited to a Super Bowl party tonight at the Stafford Church of Christ starting at 5 PM. Please bring an appetizer, snack, or dessert and enjoy this time of fellowship with other Christians!

## Save the Date:

March 9 - Young Family Ministry (St. John)  
April 11-12 - Women Walking With God  
April 13 - Young Family Ministry (Stafford)  
April 18-19 - LTC (Kansas City)

## Birthdays

Cami Long - February 14



# Worship Order

Welcome Table & Greeters: Tom & Pam Turner

Song Leader: Stan Aldrich

Sound System: Jayce Feril

Gathering: #15 - Step by Step

Welcome: Chris Mansel

Scripture Reading: Gatlin Reed (Psalms 94:14, NLT)

Shepherd's Prayer: Tom Turner

Song: #449 - Thy Word

Song: #315 - When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Communion: Richard Brensing

Song: #390 - Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Lesson: Zeb Carter

Song: #915 - Trust and Obey (vs. 1)

Closing Prayer: Zach Marks



tithely.com (giving link)

**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,  
Zachary Marks  
**Minister:** Zeborah Carter