

Elders
Richard Brensing
Carl Feril
Tom Turner
Deacons
Orrin Feril
Jerry Kinnamon
Chris Mansel
Zachary Marks
Minister
Zeborah Carter



609 N Pearl
St John, KS 67576
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stjohnchurchofchrist.org
Bible Class: 10:00 am
Worship Service: 11:00 am

Bulletin - July 12, 2026

For The Church

Spiritual Discipline: Solitude

Though we may be unfamiliar with the discipline of solitude, most of us recognize it as something we wanted when we were first in love. It didn't matter if the time spent together accomplished anything very useful or important to the world at large. It was simply the way we let our beloved know that he or she mattered. In order to show love, we sought time alone together. The discipline of solitude is the desire to leave people behind and enter into time alone with God. The practice of solitude involves scheduling enough uninterrupted time in a distraction-free environment that you experience isolation and are alone with God. Solitude is a "container discipline" for the practice of other spiritual disciplines.

Jesus began his ministry with forty formative days of solitude. No doubt Jesus intended to commune with God alone, but he also encountered the tempter in that desert place. Solitude is a formative place because it gives God's spirit time and space to do deep work. When no one is there to watch, judge, and interpret what we say, the Spirit often brings us face to face with hidden motives and compulsions. The world of recognition, achievement, and applause disappears, and we stand squarely before God without props. Throughout his three years of ministry Jesus often returned to solitude with God – it was a way He remained in touch with his true identity in God.

Times of solitude can be sweet times, but they can also be dark times when God seems to remain withdrawn and silent. We seek the Lord, but he doesn't seem to show up. These times of testing, of the "dark nights," like Jesus had in the wilderness, are well documented in the lives of many strong Christians. Don't be afraid of the darkness or the solitude. Stay with God. The light will eventually dawn.

In Our Prayers

Thomas Pruitt
Tim Taylor
Pam Aldrich
Dennis Rosenbaum
Crystal Emery (Gloria's mom)

Enrique Lira
Linda Guthrie
Ryker Berens
Betty Peptone (David's Sister)
Katie Rosenbaum

Clay Mason
Miguel Devore
Carl Feril
SMC 2nd Session
Kyler Dickson

Upcoming Events

Youth Group [Tonight]

We will have youth group tonight at 7 PM at the Stafford Church of Christ. Youth and families are also welcome at 5 PM for our young family ministry or they can come just at 7.

Young Family Ministry [Tonight]

We will have our young family ministry tonight at 5 PM at the Stafford Church of Christ. Come enjoy a time of fellowship and food. Dinner and childcare are provided.

VBS [August 5 and 12]

Our VBS will be on August 5 and 12 from 5:30-8 PM this year. There is a sign up sheet to volunteer in the foyer. Work times listed below..

Save the Date:

July 19-July 25 - SMC 3rd Sessio

July 26 - VBS Work Time - 3 PM

July 29 - VBS Work Time (6 PM)

August 3 - VBS Work Time (6 PM - if needed)

August 5 - 12 - VBS

August 9 - Young Family Ministry (St. John)

September 13 - Young Family Ministry (Stafford)

October 11 - Young Family Ministry (St. John)



Worship Order

Welcome Table: Orrin & Meagan Feril

Greeters: Zeborah and Jessica Carter

Song Leader: Gary Hornbaker

Sound System: Zoey Carter

Gathering: #578 - We Will Glorify

Welcome: Orrin Feril

Scripture Reading: Jerry Kinnamon (Zechariah 5:6-11)

Song: #577 - We Bow Down

Song: #176 - Lamb of God

Communion: Orrin Feril (Jayce Feril, James Harman, Darrel Bauer)

*Song: #903 - There's Power in the Blood

Lesson #1: Zeb Carter

Shepherd's Prayer: Tom Turner

Song: #902 - Nothing but the Blood

Lesson #2: Zeb Carter

Song: #904 - Have you Been to Jesus? (vs. 1 and 2)

Closing Prayer: Chris Mansel

* During the final verse of this song, children will be dismissed for Bible Hour.

