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little room for church.

It isn't about church... it is about God. We have accepted a system without "roads to Damascus", or "hands writing on the wall". We offer modification techniques rather than transformation. We set aside the work of the Holy Spirit in raising to new life and substitute communal conformity, hoping if we give others better people to hang out with they will become better people.

The Jesus we read about in Scripture is often far removed from church life. The revolution has been replaced by reconstruction. It is uninspiring, unprovoking, and dull. Those aren't words the Bible uses about the work of Jesus.

We make the assumption that Jesus needs pretty good material to begin with, a starting place so that restoration can begin. We forget about "spit and dirt" making mud and vision returning. We ignore the spiritual warfare, the battle engaged in a parallel world that the Bible talks about but we close our minds to.

In our approach it is no longer possible for God to save through few or many, he is limited to work through us, his team.

The danger in that thinking is that it is a duplication of the mindset of the religious world of Jesus day. He upset their apple cart, as surely as he will ours if we fail to acknowledge a God beyond our comprehension.

Stand amazed before him.

*Grace and Peace,
Carl*

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

**St John Church of Christ
609 N Pearl
St John, KS 67576
620-549-6146**



Robert Farrar Capon wrote in his book, *Between Noon and Three*, "...making things jump out of nothing is God's favorite act. He creates us out of it and He raises us up from it.

Jesus came to raise the dead. Not to improve the improvable, not to perfect the perfectible, not to teach the teachable, but to raise the dead. He never met a corpse that didn't sit up right then and there. And He never meets us without bringing us out of nothing into the joy of his resurrection."

One of the things that I worry about in our culture is the removal of the mystery of God from the story of the Bible. We have this idea that we can understand God, predict his reactions, fathom his behavior to such a degree that we will no longer be surprised by him.

We reduce Christianity to a self improvement course, a path of life that is designed for those who are inclined toward doing right things anyway. We expect God will work in and among those who are not too different from those who are already a part of Christianity. For the blatantly carnal, those sold into bondage to sin, we don't see much hope. What ever would they see in church life? Without drunkenness, drugs, illicit sexual activity and whatever other excess we can imagine, there remains

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SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
 Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
 Worship Service—10:45 am
 Afternoon Service—1:15 pm

WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study—7:30 pm
 Youth Group—7:30 pm (@ Feril's)

ELDERS: Richard Brensing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
 Terry Sallee, George Shelton

DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel

TREASURER: Richard Brensing

Worship Order for April 6, 2014

SONG LEADER: Richard Brensing
 GATHERING SONG: No. 71—As the Deer
 WELCOME: Tom Turner
 SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 103:8-18 (Chris Mansel)
 SONGS: No. 129—Amazing Grace
 No. 380—Jesus Sacrifice Medley
 -No. 381—Years I Spent in Vanity (vs 1, 4)
 -No. 382—Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?
 (vs 1, 3)
 -No. 383—Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross
 (vs 1, 3)
 No. 63—I Will Call Upon the Lord
 PRAYER: Terry Sallee
 SONG: No. 287—There is a Redeemer
 COMMUNION: Fred Johnson
 Ben Sizemore
 Jon Mansel
 Orrin Feril
 MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
 SONG: No. 543—Wonderful Words of Life (vs 1, 3)
 LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
 SONG: No. 924—Just As I Am (vs 1)
 PRAYER: Ned Marks

(CCLI #2440129)

Welcome Visitors

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

High School Senior Celebration

We will have a special celebration here honoring our high school seniors, **Kade Kinnamon** and **Maddy Lippoldt**, on Sunday afternoon, May 18th, at 1:30 pm. Please save this date on your calendar and plan to be here to share in this special time with Kade and Maddy.



Vacation Bible School



Planned for Tuesday, May 27th through Thursday, May 29th—with a picnic on Friday, May 30th.
 Times for Tuesday—Thursday: 6:30—8:15 pm.
 Time for picnic on Friday: 6:00—8:00 pm.

NEW MEMORY WORK

MARK 4:41

³⁵ Later that day, when evening came, Jesus said to them, "Let's cross over to the other side of the lake." ³⁶ They left the crowd and took him in the boat just as he was. Other boats followed along.
³⁷ Gale-force winds arose, and waves crashed against the boat so that the boat was swamped. ³⁸ But Jesus was in the rear of the boat, sleeping on a pillow. They woke him up and said, "Teacher, don't you care that we're drowning?"
³⁹ He got up and gave orders to the wind, and he said to the lake, "Silence! Be still!" The wind settled down and there was a great calm.
⁴⁰ Jesus asked them, "Why are you frightened? Don't you have faith yet?"
⁴¹ **Overcome with awe, they said to each other, "Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him!"** (*Common English Bible*)

Church Website - www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org

-Preschool Screening will be here on Thursday-

Prayer Requests

Porter Strum (son of Brett & Sarah; grandson of Richard & Shelly) - was released from the hospital late in the week and continues to improve
Pete Witt-deteriorating health
Brenda Mansel Reno—back pain
Serena Neidig (Teddy & Carol's daughter) - health concerns
Sarah (Messick) Ballard—stroke; she is staying in Wichita until she has a C-section in about 2 weeks
Nick & Kara Neidig—expecting a baby in May; baby has heart problems; they are seeing doctors at Children's Mercy in Kansas City
Carol Gingrich—health concerns
Marilyn Thornburg—recent hand/wrist surgery
Diane Manilla (Meagan's sister-in-law's mother) - cancer
Baylee Sizemore's Aunt Suzanne—chemo
Danny Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - health concerns
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - improving
Vic Staub—Kenwood Plaza
Phyllis Staub—Kenwood Plaza
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) - Kenwood Plaza
Dorothy McIntire—Pratt Care Center
Wilbur Kinnamon—Leisure Homestead—Stafford
Theo Birkett—Tara's mother
Margaret Marks (Ned's mother) - declining health
Rebecca Hunley—cancer
Barbara Schuette—Marla's half-sister
Jim Sorensen—Tara's brother-in-law; brain tumor
Jim Soukup—Gingrich's son-in-law (Shari's husband)
Eunice Rice—long term care in Stafford Hospital

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Darrell Bauer 4/7