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yond their control. When early disciples asked questions about the relationship of sin to circumstances (John 9), Jesus reminded them that God sometimes has an overarching plan. What is happening around us or to us, these things may be unrelated to our behaviors.

The understanding I've come to in these things is that I am just to focus on being faithful regardless of my circumstances. Things didn't go your way?... Be faithful. Things exceeded your expectations?... Be faithful. This wasn't a part of your plan, or even on your radar?... Be faithful.

Easy or difficult... Smiling or through tears... Where you want to be or pleading for relief.... Be faithful. Our lives are not to be evaluated by our successes or failures. Our future is not dictated by getting it all right or by making a few mistakes.... Be faithful.

*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**



I am excited for you to hear Zeb Carter this morning as he fills in for me in my absence. Zeb, of course, grew up here and returns today to bless you with the word of God.

I know many are engaged in wheat harvest this past week. Some have been surprised to be cutting better wheat in some places than expected. Others are recognizing just how difficult such a poor crop is.

I would remind you that a relationship with God is not evaluated by the ease of one's life, the size of one's crops, or the security of one's financial future. In difficult times, or merely less than ideal times, the same God loves and cares for us as he did during easier times of prosperity.

It is a very easy thing to fall into the trap of believing that we can evaluate a relationship with God through a lens of our own comfort or discomfort. Some go through life relatively unscathed by disasters. Others bury their children, lose their careers, battle injuries, chronic pain, and difficulties far be-

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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

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

DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel

TREASURER: Richard Breensing

Worship Order for June 22, 2014

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon

GATHERING SONG: No. 155—Highest Place

WELCOME: Tom Turner

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 40:1-11 (Ned Marks)

SONGS: No. 608—He Gave Me a Song
No. 613—Hold to God's Unchanging Hand
No. 15—Step by Step
No. 778—Be With Me, Lord (vs 1, 2, 4)

PRAYER: Terry Sallee

SONG: No. 367—The Scars in the Hands of Jesus

COMMUNION: Tom Turner

Chris Mansel

Teddy Gingrich

Jon Mansel

SONG: No. 976—I Shall Not Be Moved

LESSON: Zeb Carter (*Children's Bible Hour*)

SONG: No. 915—Trust and Obey (vs 1)

PRAYER: Garland Mansel

(CCLI #2440129)

Welcome Visitors

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

Silver Maple Camp

Young Adult Retreat:

June 27-29 (for college-aged students)

Youth Camps:

Session #1—July 6-12 (Ages 8 to 13)

Session #2—July 13-19 (Ages 13 to 18)

Session #3—July 20-26 (Kids of all Ages)

Day Camp:

July 9-10 (Ages 6-8) 9:15am to 4:00pm each day

Early registration is always best! Go to the camp website for details of all camp sessions: www.silvermaplecamp.org. Talk to Richard Breensing about payment for the week you select.

Youth Group

Youth Group will resume once school is back in session in the fall.

'Fishers of Men' Program Update

Ron Maynard sent a newsletter last week, reporting on their recent activi-

Happy Birthday!

Natalie Lippoldt 6/23

Sorry for these recent omissions from
the calendar and bulletin!

Marisa Mansel 6/10

Nick Mansel 6/18

Chase Mansel 6/20

Prayer Requests

(Please provide updates to Janet)

Nick & Kara Neidig and baby Landon—Landon is doing well at last report; had another visit to KS City last week
Sara (Messick) Ballard—report was that her brain surgery last week was successful and she has been released from the hospital; please continue to pray for her as she recovers from this surgery

Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) - Leisure Homestead

Don Hornbaker—Kenwood Plaza

Brenda Mansel Reno—recent back surgery

Baylee Sizemore's Aunt Suzanne—Leukemia

Dennis Lyons (Chet's brother) - ear infection; hearing loss

Charlene Lyons (Chet's sister-in-law, Dennis' wife) - health concerns; improving

Diane Manilla (Meagan's sister-in-law's mother) - cancer

Danny Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - improving

Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - improving

Theo Birkett—Tara's mother

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)

Vic & Phyllis Staub—Kenwood Plaza

Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza

Wilbur Kinnamon—Leisure Homestead—Stafford

Margaret Marks (Ned's mother) - declining health

Michael Thys has been hired by the Church of Christ in Hempstead, Texas as the new Family and Youth Minister. He begins this full-time position August 1st. Plans were for Michael and Alyssa to move there this past week. They appreciate everyone's continued financial support until they begin this new work, as well as continued prayers.

Guest Speaker Here Today

Welcome to Zeb Carter; we appreciate him speaking in Carl's absence today.