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describes fading vision, cataracts, frailty and instability, along with stooping shoulders, poor eye sight, loss of teeth, and failing hearing. Of course, the odd part is that even though the hearing fails, we awaken at the slightest sound and become preoccupied with all of the things that can go wrong in life.

Small wonder we take no pleasure in these. The end is the same for all of us, *the silver cord snaps, the golden bowl shatters... and the life-breath returns to God who gave it.* We aren't being picked on, singled out or punished for some evil.... It is a transition. Aging is that way, for us to stand on the porch and flail our arms at it is as pointless as fighting against the wind. We weren't created to stay in this world forever. In fact, being in this world keeps us from enjoying a seat around the throne of God. Some leaves cling to the branches a bit longer. Some leaves change into lovely colors and others just shrivel and fall, but all are destined for the same end. If a bit of wind hurries the process a bit, that isn't all bad when we see the large picture. Remember, transition means we are moving from one place to the next. From what I understand, the next place isn't that bad.

*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**



Transitions can be difficult, but only if we resist them. Seeing them as natural, inevitable, a normal progression through life is helpful. We've arrived at fall weather. When I went to bed last night and woke this morning, the sound of wind was at the window, a natural part of our fall.

I'm not a big fan of wind, in fact it tires me as quickly as anything I know. Somehow standing on the porch, flailing my arms and shaking my fist at the wind does little to alter it. Perhaps learning to see the benefit will adjust my attitude.

Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the fall. This process is assisted by the winds of autumn. One thing that is always discouraging to me is to see an early snow break the limbs from a tree, distorting its natural shape and beauty. Wind, of course, tends to aid in the dropping of the leaves and preventing this destruction.

As we enter the fall or the winter of our lives, there are transitions as well. Ecclesiastes 12 speaks of a time *when the days of trouble arrive... "I take no pleasure in these"*— then he

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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 (@ Carl's)

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

DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel

TREASURER: Richard Breensing

Worship Order for November 2, 2014

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker

GATHERING SONG: No. 31—Be Still and Know

WELCOME: Tom Turner

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 15:1-7 (Chris Mansel)

SONGS: No. 624—Seeking the Lost

No. 214—Have You Seen Jesus My Lord

No. 129—Amazing Grace

No. 823—Lead Me Gently Home, Father (vs 1 & 3)

PRAYER: Jerry Kinnamon

SONG: No. 176—Lamb of God

COMMUNION: Orrin Feril

Teddy Gingrich

Richard Breensing

Fred Johnson

MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril

SONG: No. 611—Heavenly Sunlight

LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)

SONG: No. 940—Only a Step (vs 1)

PRAYER: George Shelton

(CCLI #2440129)

Welcome Visitors

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

Youth Group

Youth Group will meet at Carl & Janet's on Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

Baby Shower!

Everyone is invited to a baby shower for Joe & Mam Sallee today—right after lunch. They are expecting a little girl in early December.



Upcoming Events at Silver Maple Camp

➤ **Adult Retreat:** Nov 15—This is a one-day event at camp

➤ **Teen Retreat:** Nov 21-23 — information posted

Secret Santa Fund—St John School

Monetary donations are beginning to be collected for the Secret Santa Fund at the St John School. This effort provides clothing for Stafford County children who are in need. Last year a package of clothing was provided to 30 children.

Checks should be made to "Secret Santa Fund" and can be turned into the St. John School (care of Marla Irvine, Lisa Cornwell, or Andrea Siefkes.) 100% of the donations go back to the community; all workers are volunteers!

Prayer Requests

(Please provide updates to Janet)

Denise Bailey (Meagan's mother) - recent surgery

Elmer Schuette (Marla's brother-in-law) - recent shop accident

Wilbur Kinnamon—Leisure Homestead-Stafford

Keri Morphew (Janet's sister-in-law in Lubbock) - recovering from extensive back surgery

Jett Weber—on a new medication

Shirley Breensing (Richard's mother)

Landon Neidig—continues to do well

Myron Breensing—The Arbors at Waldron Place

Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother)—HomePlus in Stafford

Don Hornbaker—Kenwood Plaza

Dennis Lyons (Chet's brother)

Charlene Lyons (Chet's sister-in-law, Dennis' wife)

Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother)

Danny Ivy (Marilyn's brother)

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

Margaret Marks (Ned's mother)

Church Website - www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org