

When Paul wrote in Galatians 3, *“28 There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus”*, he wasn't denying heritage, social state or biology. He wasn't saying that such places don't exist and you can freely move from one to the other, just wherever you want to be.

He was saying that for any and every individual, whatever their lot, all of us have our identity in Christ. In that place, we are the same.

There is no room for someone to announce to the world, “I'm different than what I am, and you have to accept that or the evil is in you.” You see, it is being portrayed in the media, that if you don't accept Jenner's status, however he defines it, then you are a bigot, or intolerant, or somehow deficient. Much of culture says, “Accept everyone, however they see themselves or you are evil.”

Then Rachel Dolezal shows up... *How dare she! She isn't black! She can't do that!* You aren't hearing a lot of tolerance in her situation. You see, if scientists searched her DNA, ran her chemistry through the Human Genome Project, there would be an answer as to the sequence of her genetic pattern from both a physical and functional pattern.

If the same scientists ran Bruce/Caitlyn Jenner's DNA through the Human Genome Project, there would be an answer to the sequence of that genetic pattern from both a physical and functional pattern.

You see, everyone can claim whatever they desire. God gives us free will to make choices, good ones and bad ones, accurate ones and inaccurate ones. It doesn't mean that everyone around us has to accept the choices. It doesn't mean that society has to label them good or bad. You can violate God's will or obey it, that is up to you.

I would only remind us all, our identity is in Jesus. There, we are all the same. We all need him and are stripped down to the soul level there.

I do feel for, and grieve with children who are spun up on the “augers” of parents who want to define themselves on their own terms. I also grieve for the society who cannot see the flaw in the reasoning process.

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

St John Church of Christ
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St John Church of Christ
A Family of God

June 14, 2015



Sometimes, when you want something badly, you just do it anyway. Like the fellows in the photograph, who wanted a hole in that spot, so they took their big auger and dug it, along with miles of underground cable.

I saw some other pictures that reminded me of the same thing this month. Bruce Jenner has made the news frequently of late, or his “new identity” of Caitlyn Jenner. I also read the article about Rachel Dolezal, the NAACP leader in Spokane, Washington, who has passed herself off as a black woman when she is in fact white.

There is nothing wrong in being a woman, black, or anything else that you are born. If you are Comanche Indian, Japanese, or Russian... fine, it is your heritage. The difficulty comes when you begin to pretend that everything is open to choice, no matter what happens around you. That is when you begin to roll up a big ball of cable on the auger and that affects everyone else.

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 JUNE 14, 2015

SONG LEADER: Richard Breensing
 GATHERING SONG: No. 66—Doxology
 WELCOME: Tom Turner
 SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 65 (Gary Hornbaker)
 SONGS: No. 4—To God Be the Glory
 No. 742—When Upon Life's Billows
 No. 68—Give Thanks
 No. 827—Sweet Hour of Prayer
 PRAYER: Teddy Gingrich
 SONG: No. 359—I Love the Lord
 COMMUNION: Chris Mansel
 Jon Mansel
 Fred Johnson
 Ned Marks
 MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
 SONG: No. 535—The Glory-Land Way
 LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
 SONG: No. 948—I Am Resolved (vs 1)
 PRAYER: Terry Sallee

(CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship today and hope that you will come again! We invite you to stay and enjoy lunch with us, right after worship services.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to George Shelton and his family on the passing of his sister-in-law, **Irwana Shelton**. She was 95 years old. (*Apologies to the family for stating in last week's bulletin that this was Vesta Shelton.*)

TCF BANQUET at GARDEN CITY CHURCH

We are invited to a TCF Banquet (Taking Care of Family) on Saturday, June 20th at 6:30 pm at the Garden City Church of Christ. Proceeds from the meal and entertainment will go toward helping 3 families: (1) Everett & Rochelle Miller & 2 teenage boys; Everett Jarrod & Aubrey & 2 young children; as Jarrod searches for a new job; (3) Jonathan & Alice Batten; as Jonathan fights non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. If you would like to donate to this effort, but cannot attend, please contact Terry or Joy Sallee.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Nick Mansel 6/18
 Chase Mansel 6/20

2015 SILVER MAPLE CAMP EVENTS

June 26-28: Young Adult Retreat
July 5-11: Junior Camp (9 to 13 yrs old)
July 8-9: Day Camp (6 to 8 yrs old; 9:15 am to 4 pm)
July 12-18: Senior Camp (13 to 18 yrs old)
July 19-25: Group Camp (9 to 18 yrs old)
September 24-26: Adult Seminar with Jerry & Lynn Jones

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sonny Langford (Baylee Sizemore's father) - cancer
Maxxamus Gunter (Lupe's grandson in Tulsa) - oral surgery scheduled for this week
Dan Hampton—health concerns
Donna Laudick (Marla's sister) - diagnosed with cancer last week; now having chemotherapy
Lupe Hudson—recent knee replacement surgery
Joe Rosenberg—in rehab in Wichita and improving
Gladys Hornbaker—health concerns
Mike Bookstore—health concerns
Charlene Jimerson (Chet's youngest sister) - health concerns
Sherri Holguin & baby (coworker of Joy)
Marion Alpers—stroke
Maggie Harris (Lisa's mother) – recent heart surgery
Racheal Davis – progressing well from recent surgery
Dixie Hornbaker—health concerns
Millie Whitlow – at Clearwater; cancer
Darla Chapman (in Faith, SD) – thyroid cancer
Carol Gingrich – health concerns
Olen Munz – in assisting living in Great Bend; doing better
Jessica Keeton (one of Clint's former basketball players) breast cancer has spread to her spine and lymph nodes
Joy (Marilyn's daughter) –health concerns
Dena Mansel – health concerns
Cody Dick – cancer; undergoing treatments
Roger Dick - cancer
Jonathan Batten – chemotherapy
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Jim Sorensen (Tara's brother-in-law) chemo for brain tumor
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) – health concerns
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
Myron Breensing – Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) – HomePlus in Stafford
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Vic & Phyllis Staub – Kenwood Plaza
Audrey Nusser - pancreatic cancer