

them from the consequences of sin until Jesus paid the full price of the sins. Then the animal sacrifices become reminders that sin has consequences, but also that God is protecting them from the results of their sin.

Which view moves us closer to God? Which view helps us understand God's desire for us? Turning then to the New Testament and seeing Jesus arrive, his message stood in stark contrast to what had been preached.

The religious orthodoxy of the day had convinced themselves and those around them that God didn't really like them too much. Now they taught God liked Jews far more than Gentiles, but most of the Jews he didn't like too much. So, to keep in God's favor and to avoid his wrath, there were lots of regulations to observe. Keep the Sabbath, no matter what it cost you. Maintaining an external isolation from the "unclean" was of far more value than any good that you might do for them. In fact, a careful reading of the regulations might result in not having to really do God's intent completely.

Many lived in hopelessness, because they didn't hear messages of hope. They were clear about their guilt, because it was re-enforced each day, but not about God's desire for them. When Jesus showed up with a different message, in the words he spoke and the way he lived, the hopeless flocked to him.

Maybe, when you feel hopeless... you should read it again.

*Grace and Peace,*

*Carl*

St John Church of Christ  
609 N Pearl  
P. O. Box 241  
St John, KS 67576

*Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.*



St John Church of Christ  
A Family of God September 27, 2015

How we understand God, if from an informed position of Scripture or an uninformed position of human/church tradition, will either limit or enhance our movement toward him.

There are those who view God as a threat to be bought off. Perhaps when reading the Old Testament, they reached the view from the thousands upon thousands of animal sacrifices, that this indicates that "God is going to get you" unless you pay him off. Just as Molech (god with a head of a calf and hollow arms of brass filled with coals so they would glow) required children to be placed in his arms to insure prosperity and avoid calamity in the future, one might assume animal sacrifices for sins were for the same purpose.

Each year the Day of Atonement reminded Israel again that God had withheld his justice to a guilty people who offered more sacrifices for sin. Of course that same idea can be seen through a different lens. It was also a reminder that God had extended mercy, shielding

**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 SEPTEMBER 27, 2015

SONG LEADER: Richard Breensing  
GATHERING SONG: No. 435—Come Into His Presence  
WELCOME: Tom Turner  
SCRIPTURE READING: Galatians 5:13-25 (Ned Marks)  
SONGS: No. 745—Humble Yourself  
No. 719—Love One Another  
No. 448—The Greatest Commands  
No. 704—Bind Us Together  
No. 705—A Common Love  
PRAYER: Gary Hornbaker  
SONG: No. 359—I Love the Lord  
COMMUNION: Orrin Feril  
Teddy Gingrich  
Ben Sizemore  
Jon Mansel  
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
SONG: No. 570—A Beautiful Life (vs 1 & 3)  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 904—Have You Been to Jesus? (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Jerry Kinnamon

(CCLI #2440129)

## WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship today and hope that you will come again! Please stay for lunch right after services.

### BABY SHOWER!

Everyone is invited to a baby shower honoring Trey & Amber Turner, here today at 2:00 pm. They are expecting a boy, due in early November!



### WEDDING INVITATION!

You are invited to the wedding of Cheyenne Scott and Adam Holmes on October 10, 2015, at 5:00 pm at Jeff & Lory's farm. The reception will be at the VFW in Stafford afterward. See invitation posted for more information. *You are encouraged to wear jeans to this special event!!*

## SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to Chet and Marla Lyons on the passing of his sister, **Charlene Jimerson**, last Wednesday.

**A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY** is in the making! Please see Janet with any updates needed, including a new picture.

**Church website:** [www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org](http://www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**  
**Dena Mansel 9/27**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

**Donna Laudick** (Marla's sister) - in remission from her cancer, although still fighting an infection  
**John Laudick** (Marla's brother-in-law) - doing better following a stroke  
**Stan Aldrich**—health concerns; improving  
**Dan Hampton**—continuing health concerns; possible heart valve replacement surgery soon  
**Maggie Harris**—recent knee surgery  
**Pam Herrenbruck**—cancer treatment  
**Josh Oakley** (grandson of Bill Oakley) - on heart transplant list  
**Sonny Langford** (Baylee Sizemore's father) - cancer  
**Gladys Hornbaker**—health concerns  
**Sherri Holguin & baby** (coworker of Joy)  
**Millie Whitlow** - at Clearwater; cancer  
**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** (Richard's father) - Leisure Homestead in Stafford  
**Bonnie Guthrie** (Kay's mother) - Leisure Homestead in Stafford  
**Laura Wyatt**—Kenwood Plaza  
**Vic & Phyllis Staub** - Kenwood Plaza