

speak of each time? Is there a football group, a shopping group, a grandkid group and a craft group?

Do the conversations have spiritual themes? Are the topics more about church interaction or more about Jesus? Who are the facilitators in the group, those who serve and insure others have things to do?

How are the weaker treated in the group? Are the aged cared for, the marginalized engaged? Do children take a front seat or a back seat?

As I am making my "observations" I have to remember that I am a part of the mix. How do I do in these groups? Am I following or leading? Am I attempting to control or attempting to help? What are the reactions that I see take place around me? Am I attempting to include others into the conversations? Do I notice those on the fringe, looking for the opportunity to be included?

What does this have to do with some point of spiritual teaching? Why write about this, Carl, it isn't a forum to just write about daily events? You are correct.

Groups are where we practice the "one another" passages of Scripture. You know the ones, bear with one another, grieve with one another, rejoice with one another, love one another.... There are lots of them.

How do we do? How did you do?

*Grace and Peace,*

*Carl*

*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

December 27, 2015

I am a people observer. In places where there are people I don't know well, or at all, I am always curious about how people interact. Even those I know well, I like to reflect on the interaction to gauge growth or development.

We had many of you over last Sunday night, then I spent a few days with Janet's extended family this past week, so I've had a good time.

Now when I say that I observe people, that isn't saying I categorize into the good list and the bad list. That isn't my job, I'll let God do that. What I am talking about is more about needs that people are fulfilling or seeking to fulfill for others.

In both locations there were new babies. Who are the "baby hogs"? You can just form a line behind me. Who interacts with the same folks at each gathering? Who moves around, seeking out the quiet or more reserved people at the gathering?

What are the topics of conversation? Is everyone covering the topics they

**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 DECEMBER 27, 2015

SONG LEADER: Stan Aldrich  
GATHERING SONG: No. 68—Give Thanks  
WELCOME: Tom Turner  
SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 16:5-11 (Fred Johnson)  
SONGS: No. 98—Holy Presence Medley  
—No. 99—In His Presence  
—No. 100—Holy Ground  
—No. 101—Holy Ground  
No. 2—We Praise Thee, O God  
No. 800—What A Friend We Have in Jesus (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Jerry Kinnamon  
SONG: No. 361—Nailed to the Cross  
COMMUNION: Richard Breensing  
Ned Marks  
Jeff Scott  
Teddy Gingrich  
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
SONG: No. 517—Heaven Came Down (vs 1, 3)  
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
SONG: No. 922—Jesus Paid It All (vs 1)  
PRAYER: Joe Cornwell

(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.

### LEISURE HOMESTEAD SERVICE

'Thank You' to those who made a special effort to come to the Leisure Homestead last week to help with the Sunday morning devotional. It is a real encouragement to the staff and residents to spend this short time there each week—you are encouraged to come whenever you can.

### WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD

- April 15-16; Hartman Arena, Wichita, KS
- Let Janet know if you want to be registered with the group who is going (we can get a discounted fee until January 31st)
- We will be registering our group soon—hopefully you can join the 9 women who have already made a commitment to attend!

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Carl & Janet Feril 12/28  
George & Shirley Shelton 12/29  
Phillip & Terri Koelsch 1/1

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

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**Chris Mansel**—not been well lately  
**Brenda Staub**—as she recuperates from thyroid surgery  
**Darlene Stimatze** (Amber Turner's mother) - as she recuperates from hip surgery  
**Dan Hampton**—recent surgery  
**Michelle Rose** (Vanessa Roger's aunt) - in a nursing home for rehab  
**Marilyn Thornburg**—recent knee surgery  
**Roger Dick**—ongoing cancer treatments  
**John Laudick** (Marla's brother-in-law)  
**Pam Herrenbruck**—cancer treatment  
**Jonathan Batten** – chemotherapy  
**Theo Birkett** (Tara's mother)  
**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

