



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

January 31, 2016

Last week a friend commented on the bulletin article. She “liked” it, but wanted to “double like” it because I used the word “fandango” in it. Once more I was reminded of how different our language is and some of the shifts of meaning that it takes on across the country. Words that might have meaning and communicate well in some places, fall flat or raise an eyebrow in others.

A school employee mentioned one day that she and others in the office had been discussing what “new word” I would use when I spoke with them next. Now the ones I am referencing are very bright people, but we don’t read the same kind of books or the same subject matter. That begins to create a divide in our “word set”. So perhaps I need to remind myself that the task of communication begins with the one speaking being sensitive to the ability of the one hearing to understand it. Communicating the Gospel of peace to a world that doesn’t “read the same kind of books” results in a similar challenge. Perhaps you smiled when the reports came across that a politician referred to

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Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

“Two Corinthians” when speaking at a rally. Because it sounds odd to our ear, it sticks out. We also stick out, based on our language. “Church words” may speak clearly to each other, but fall flat when speaking to those who are unfamiliar with the Bible. Your mind quickly takes in a word like “repentance”, but when was the last time you heard someone use the word outside of a church setting? There are a host of them... licentiousness, lasciviousness, reconciliation, propitiation... we could go on and on.

What difference does it make? Well, it is hard to read books that use lots of words you don’t understand. It is tough to listen to speakers who use language that may mean something to them, but leaves us confused and bewildered.

The goal of the “redeemed” is to communicate God’s love to a world who knows little about it. They may have an abstract idea, but it doesn’t have much clarity. It becomes more confused when those who claim to follow Jesus fail to communicate the loving nature of God. Paul urges us to be the “aroma of Christ,” communicating to a lost world a message of “life to life”.

So this week, as you read the story of Jesus, observe how he took the message of God’s love to those who felt like they were outsiders among the religious folk of his day. Seeing his efforts will hone and refine your own.

Grace and Peace,

Carl

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 JANUARY 31, 2016

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon
GATHERING SONG: No. 103—He Has Made Me Glad
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 7:1-5 (Orrin Feril)
SONGS: No. 719—Love One Another
No. 448—The Greatest Commands
No. 450—Give Me the Bible
No. 797—Lord, We Come Before Thee Now
PRAYER: Teddy Gingrich
SONG: No. 464—Because He Lives
COMMUNION: Richard Breensing
Joe Cornwell
Jon Mansel
Fred Johnson
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 853—When We All Get to Heaven
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 907—Hark, the Gentle Voice (vs 1)
PRAYER: Stan Aldrich

(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.

VALENTINE PARTY

Sat—Feb 13th—5pm (Supper Served at 6pm)
Games, Activities for Everyone! This is a FAMILY Night!
RSVP Not Required, but Appreciated to Cheyenne Holmes
[Call or Text 620-639-2610]

MEN'S RETREAT

Hosted by the Stafford Church of Christ
Sat, March 5, 2016
8:00 am to 2:00 pm—Breakfast and Lunch served
Cost: \$25
Speaker: Calvin Chapman (from Faith, SD)

DIRECTORY PAGES

Our apologies to Marilyn Thornburg, whose page was omitted from the recent printing of the directory. Please pick up her page to add to your book, as well as the new page for Stan & Orvalee Aldrich.

WOMEN WALKING WITH GOD

April 15-16; Hartman Arena, Wichita, KS

PRAYER REQUESTS

Chris Mansel—tests last week
Stan Aldrich—sinus surgery scheduled Feb 18
Cason Albritton (Richard & Shelly's grandson) - doing better, recuperating from RSV
Joy Monroe (Marilyn's daughter) - recent surgery
Stan & Orvalee's daughter —recent surgery
Larry Berg (Tom's friend) - chemo & radiation
Ty Hewitt (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - acute leukemia
Clay Rodgers (infant son of friends of Ben & Baylee) rare birth defect
Pati Waters Risley—recent stroke
Dan Hampton—still recovering after surgery
Michelle Rose (Vanessa Roger's aunt) - nursing home
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

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org