

to a meeting of peace between two countries, because there was only one common country. One purpose for this was the desire for the passage of the 19th Amendment which would require the abolition of slavery in all states within the country. For Lincoln, a greater purpose was the beginning of a restoration of acknowledgement that those in the North and South were one people.

Today, most acknowledge the genius of his position, but at the time there was criticism on every hand.

When Jesus came into our world, what people were looking for in a savior was not to be found in him. He did not arise from a politically powerful family. He had no military background that might equip him to lead a revolt against the Roman oppression. He didn't have the backing of either the Pharisees, or the Sadducees for influence with the Sanhedrin. He had been born in the wrong town, reared in the wrong region. The likelihood of success was highly in doubt. God certainly seemed to have messed this one up.

But, as we read the rest of the story, the path to the throne of God was not designed to move through Herod's throne. There was no need for warfare of a physical type to overthrow Roman rule. Just as God had made shepherds into kings in the past, or a cowering harvester into a military leader, he had a different road to glory in mind.

Words like suffering, sacrifice, cross, death didn't have the ring to mankind's ears that "winning" did. We would do well to remember that "your ways are not like My ways."

Grace and Peace,

Carl J



St John Church of Christ
A Family of God

February 7, 2016

I enjoy quips, proverbs that make a point that visually stays in one's mind. I was reminded of one by Red Steagall recently. In quoting playwright Channing Pollack, he said, "A critic is a legless man teaching about running."

We all know that it is easier to have opinions about topics about which we know nothing than to address the complexities of topics when we are considered experts. Criticism of a politician, a teacher, or a church leader is easily done from the sidelines. We have our viewpoint and are blissfully unaware of a myriad of influences and considerations that guide that decision. At times, a decision is made for a different reason than the one that seems most apparent.

During the American Civil War the Confederate government sent their representatives to attempt to negotiate for peace. At this stage of the conflict both the North and the South had louder and louder voices crying for peace. Lincoln initially refused to meet with them. As you might imagine, this infuriated his critics. They felt the pain of war, they saw the devastation of an economy, the endless slaughter of troops on both sides, and desired peace at any price. Lincoln stated that he would not listen

St John Church of Christ
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Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

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 FEBRUARY 7, 2016

SONG LEADER: Richard Breensing
GATHERING SONG: No. 435—Come Into His Presence
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Proverbs 30:5 (Nick Mansel)
SONGS: No. 449—Thy Word
No. 679—Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
No. 538—My Hope is Built on Nothing Less
No. 794—Unto Thee, O Lord
No. 801—Where No One Stands Alone
PRAYER: Jerry Kinnamon
SONG: No. 176—Lamb of God
COMMUNION: Tom Turner
Chris Mansel
Joe Cornwell
Jon Mansel
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 864—Where the Gates Swing Outward Never
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 924—Just As I Am (vs 1)
PRAYER: Garland Mansel

(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

A special meeting just for the men is planned for Saturday, March 5, 2016. It will be from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, with breakfast and lunch both served. Cost is \$25. Guest speaker will be Calvin Chapman (from Faith, SD)

SUPPORT LETTER POSTED

A letter is posted from Thayer and Chery Salisbury, requesting assistance as they plan a survey trip to Nigeria to evaluate the situation there and the possibility of moving there to teach.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY (*last week!*)

Anissa Potter 2/3
Garland Mansel 2/6
Dan Hampton 2/6

HAPPY BIRTHDAY (*this week!*)

Jon Mansel 2/10
Vicky Mansel 2/13



PRAYER REQUESTS

Stan Aldrich—sinus surgery scheduled Feb 18
Chris Mansel
LauraLou Rodarmel—in Leisure Homestead; she also requests prayers for her sister in Wichita
Cason Albritton (Richard & Shelly's grandson)
Joy Monroe (Marilyn'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

SAVE THE DATE!

A baby shower is being planned for Tyler & Rebecca Turner on Saturday, March 12th, in the afternoon. This will be a ladies-only shower. More details to come...

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org