

wrong type of soil. Even with the best of mentoring, the best of teaching, still Judas decided to betray Jesus.

Brokenness removes our “right” to feel superior to others. We like to categorize sins, because that way we can insure that our favorites never make the list in the worst categories. We want to appear better, like we have it all together... but we know the truth. We know about our own short tempers, greedy thoughts, jealous feelings, and desire to get even. Brokenness levels the playing field.

If you are currently in a good place, family things going well, job secure, or health is fine... good for you. However, physical things change. Lean on Jesus, thanking him for small favors.

If you are in a bad place, children struggling, marriage in shambles, jobless, or in failing health. Lean on Jesus, thanking him for small graces.

This world is a broken place, inhabited by broken people. An inattentive driver, a night of poor choices, or a random blood clot and our world turns upside down and we are called on to respond in faith.

Jesus instructs us that death is the beginning of a walk of faith. We die to self and walk behind him with our own crosses. There is no promise of ease, health or comfort, only the promise of his presence. When Jesus told his disciples that he would die in Jerusalem, Peter told him that he was wrong. In Peter’s mind, following Jesus led to success not failure. Jesus said it was a message of Satan.

So, as much as we might like it to be different, in this world we have brokenness. We wait for a new heaven and new earth.

*Grace and Peace,*

*Carl*

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



St John Church of Christ  
A Family of God

May 8, 2016

A longtime friend took me into their confidence recently. Things have not gone well in their extended family. There have been broken relationships, some incarceration, some chemical abuse issues and a general breakdown within the family system. As we discussed the disappointments and heartache experienced within the family, a statement was made. “I never thought it would happen in my family. I thought we had done well enough that we might be exempt.” Unfortunately, we are all broken. It isn’t something that happens only in the inner city, or to hillbillies, or to the undereducated. It doesn’t happen only to those who come from broken homes, or those who involve themselves in wild living. It happens in church families and unchurched families, well-off families and poor families, small families and large families. Brokenness is a pre-existing condition in us.

There are no guarantees of success, no formulas for faultless families. Clearly putting the effort forth to do one’s best is more likely to produce desired results, but it is no promised reality. The parable of the soils from Scripture reminds us that even the perfect seed can fail to produce fruit in the

**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 MAY 8, 2016

SONG LEADER: Richard Breensing  
 GATHERING SONG: No. 23—Our God, He Is Alive (vs 1)  
 WELCOME: Richard Breensing  
 SCRIPTURE READING: Proverbs 31:30-31 (Nick Mansel)  
 SONGS: No. 451—Assurance Medley  
       No. 452—Standing on the Promises (vs 1, 2)  
       No. 453—Love Lifted Me (vs 1, 2)  
       No. 454—Rock of Ages (vs 1)  
       No. 470—Victory in Jesus (vs 1, 3)  
       No. 484—You Are My All In All  
       No. 781—Thank You, Lord!

PRAYER: Chris Mansel  
 SONG: No. 18—Faithful Love  
 COMMUNION: Jerry Kinnamon  
               Jon Mansel  
               Clint Kinnamon  
               Stan Aldrich

MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril  
 SONG: No. 587—Sing and Be Happy  
 LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)  
 SONG: No. 907—Hark the Gentle Voice (vs 1)  
 PRAYER: Gary Hornbaker

(CCLI #2440129)

### WELCOME VISITORS

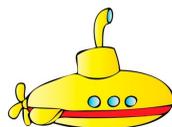
We are pleased you have joined us in worship and hope that you will come again! Please stay for our potluck lunch today.

### GRADUATION CELEBRATION

We plan to celebrate the high school graduations of **Nick Mansel** and **Keigan Riggs** on Sunday afternoon, May 22, after potluck lunch. Please mark your calendar and plan to be part of this special occasion.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**THEME: Jesus 'Seas' Me**



—Tuesday, May 31 through Thursday, June 2: Activities/Classes (6:30 pm to 8:15 pm)

—Friday, June 3: Family Picnic (6:00 pm)

Mark your calendar and plan to be involved in this great community outreach. Please **start saving toilet paper or paper towel cardboard tubes** for a children's activity.

We will also plan to have a float in the Jubilee Parade on Saturday, May 28th, at 1:30 pm, to help promote VBS. We will need riders who can throw candy to the crowd!

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Tom & Pam are proud grandparents of **Laurel Elizabeth Turner**, born on Friday to Tyler and Rebecca, in Olathe, KS. She weighed in at 8 lbs, 7 oz. Great grandparents are Don & Gladys Hornbaker.



**Happy Birthday!**  
**Trent Sallee - May 8**

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

### PRAYER REQUESTS

**Jenny Walker** (Carol's sister) - has been very ill; showing improvement  
**Ruth Ann Scott** (Jeff's mother) - had a cardiac stent placed last week and is doing very well  
**Chris Mansel**—feeling better  
**Gary Hornbaker**—now home  
**Larry Berg** (Tom's friend) - improved; appreciates prayers  
**Brenda Staub**—tests show she is now cancer free!  
**Annie Kent** (Lupe Hudson's niece) - cancer  
**Paul Bishop** (Betty Chlumsky's brother) - lung cancer  
**Glennys Sallabedra** (Tom's mother) - cancer; will not be pursuing treatment  
**Alex Garcia** (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee) - brain tumor  
**Brent Monroe** (Joy Monroe's grandson; Marilyn's great-grandson) recent surgery  
**Marci Klug** (Joe & Lisa's daughter)—high risk pregnancy; doing well at this time  
**Sharon Goode Ames**—lung cancer  
**Ty Hewitt** (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - acute leukemia  
**Clay Rodgers** (infant son of friends of Ben & Baylee) rare birth defect  
**Pati Waters Riskey**—stroke  
**Roger Dick**—ongoing cancer treatments  
**John Laudick** (Marla's brother-in-law)  
**Jonathan Batten** - cancer  
**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  
**Bonnie Guthrie** (Kay's mother) - Leisure Homestead  
**Laura Wyatt**—Kenwood Plaza  
**Vic & Phyllis Staub** - Kenwood Plaza

### OUR SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to Chuck & Mary Marshall, the minister at the Great Bend Church of Christ; Mary's father passed away last week in Colorado.