

which can only be navigated by a simple faith lies between the crisis and due season.

Usually, in my own life experience, I can say that God has worked things out in a manner that far exceeded my expectations or my plans. When God does something, as Scripture records from the very beginning, "It is very good".

My struggle has never been in accepting the solution of God, once it arrives. My struggle is in the wait between recognizing the void and awaiting it being filled. So faith is that thing that helps me manage that middle ground.

There are important lessons to be learned from such observations. Perhaps the most important deals with the concept of the sovereignty of God.

Another, however, is about being patient with yourself. You may find that you struggle, disappoint yourself and others, fall and struggle to regain your footing. That is the ground of faith between crisis and due season. Because God has not intervened at the moment to "fix you up", doesn't mean he isn't coming in your life. It means that he isn't there yet.

Your growth in faith is a "due season" process, not an instantaneous arrival through some magical event. You don't gain the bulk of your faith through reading about others. You will gain some faith from reading the stories of Scripture, but far more of it is learned through the nights of confusion, frustration and tears. Our recognition of survival being by the grace of God, honoring him for it and thanking him for sustaining us is where personal faith is built.

So, the days ahead may not look bright and cheerful in your walk with God. Struggle, falling, and crawling back to your feet may lie before you... don't give up. God isn't finished with you or the crisis you face. The important thing is to know you do not face it alone. None of us face it alone.



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

September 18, 2016

Not everything has gone as I expected it, or prayed for it to go. At times I have been angry over it, other times confused, and still more often simply brought to tears. Some of the conversations with God about such things have been long and involved in the middle of the night. Other times it has been a constant prayer upon my lips, seldom absent from my thoughts. One adage has been, "He may not come when you want him; but He'll be right on time." I've found that hard to accept, in the heat of crisis, while struggling in prayer.

But, as the Scriptures remind us, there is a "due season", a time selected and ordained by God. In my prayers, I am often attempting to wrest control from God. Being fully acquainted with my problem, I not only take it to God but also my solution and time table.

Over the years I learn the lesson time and time again, that in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. All in due season... at times I hate those words. Crisis and due season are not the identical time. Crisis and due season do not appear together where I can always see one from the location of the other. Too often, that great gulf

*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.

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 Breusing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
Terry Sallee, George Shelton
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel
TREASURER: Richard Breusing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

SONG LEADER: Gary Hornbaker
GATHERING SONG: No. 435—Come Into His Presence
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING:
Hebrews 13:5-6; 15-16 (Zach Marks)
SONGS: No. 613—Hold to God's Unchanging Hand
No. 611—Heavenly Sunlight
No. 608—He Gave Me a Song
No. 126—The Lord My Shepherd Is
PRAYER: Garland Mansel
SONG: No. 266—Majesty
No. 287—There Is a Redeemer
COMMUNION: Richard Breusing
Teddy Gingrich
Jerry Kinnamon
Joe Cornwell
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 874—Walking Alone at Eve (vs 1, 3)
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 907—Hark the Gentle Voice (vs 1)
PRAYER: Terry Sallee

(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.



COOKOUT AT LYONS'



You are invited to a cookout at the home of Chet & Marla Lyons on **Saturday, September 24th, at 12:30 pm**. Bring a lawn chair and a side dish. (Their address is 1365 E US Hwy 50, Stafford—which is right by Zenith. Ask for directions, if needed!)

LADIES RETREAT AT SILVER MAPLE CAMP

Please make note of the 2016 SMC Ladies Retreat, planned for September 23-24. If you haven't registered yet, please do so online at www.silvermaplecamp.org.

MEN'S RETREAT

Men's Retreat @ Silver Maple Camp—October 16-18.

COLLEGE ADDRESS

You are encouraged to send notes throughout the semester to Nick Mansel at this address:
408 Fort St, Apt D
Hays, KS 67601-4866

PRAYER REQUESTS

Luke Alpers (senior at Stafford High School; attends church at Stafford) injury to ankle during Friday night's football game, required surgery; home now
Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - recovering from shoulder surgery
Jill Morphew (Janet's sister-in-law in Pueblo, Colorado) - recovering from her cancer surgery
Michael Mitchell (Betty Chlumsky's son) - doing well after his recent spine surgery; your prayers have been appreciated
Gladys Hornbaker—was scheduled to finish cancer treatments last Friday
Alex Garcia (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee) - recent surgery
Annie Kent (Lupe Hudson's niece) - cancer
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - in hospice care, and his wife, Sheryl
David Ivy (Marilyn's brother) and his wife, Kathy
Marilyn Sprawka (Don Rujan's sister) - cancer
Jenny Walker (Carol's sister)
Sharon Goode Ames—lung cancer
Roger Dick—ongoing cancer treatments
Jonathan Batten – cancer
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) – now on Hospice Care at Leisure Homestead in Stafford
Myron Breusing (Richard's father) – Leisure Homestead
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Vic & Phyllis Staub – Kenwood Plaza

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org