

be selfish with God's time and attention, as she needed it much more than he did at that time.

I understand his trying to sort through his feelings, about God, healing, dying, strength, and weakness. I understand his concern that his business could fail due to his distraction from it to his wife's needs. I listened to him speak of spending "a lifetime learning to live with her, but completely unprepared to live without her." I heard his pain, but other than prayer and listening, there was little I could do to help.

I don't know my friend well, we've spoken perhaps 10 times in the past four years. But I learned much that day. I learned that the opportunities to care about others surround us every day. I was reminded that pain, horrific pain is just behind the curtain of the "front" that many put on to greet the public. I was grateful for the privacy his little shop offered us, to have conversations that would not happen in a big, busy place. I was reminded that God can use any opportunity and turn it to ministry if I will only listen.

You can join me in praying for my friend and his wife in her last few days. Since I don't have his permission, I won't mention his name, but God will recognize him in your prayers. Also remember that tens of thousands face equally difficult situations all around us. Be praying for others who are saying their goodbyes. Be praying for those who don't know how to "live without" their loved one. Also pray for God to open your eyes to the occasions for good that surround you.

*Grace and Peace,
Carl*



St John Church of Christ
A Family of God **September 25, 2016**

I was in Wichita Tuesday for the monthly preacher's meeting. After lunch I wanted to run by a store to have some service work done. In checking the website for the location to plug into my GPS, I noticed the owner had posted some information about his wife's health. I went by the store and he happened to be open, the first day he was open in 2 weeks.

I asked him about his wife and learned she had been placed on hospice care over the weekend. She had been instructed to call those she wanted to say goodbye to, for she has only a few weeks to live. He was trying to get some things done while her brother sat with her.

My plans changed as I heard his story of the past 8 months of health crisis. I told him I wasn't interested in his working on my little problem but would very much like to pray for his family. As I prayed for his wife's ease and comfort as she faced death, and for his strength and comfort as they faced it together, I heard his tears joining my own. After the prayer was completed and we continued to talk, he told me that it felt wrong to have any of the attention shifted from his wife's illness to him as the caregiver. He didn't want to

*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 Breensing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
Terry Sallee, George Shelton

DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel

TREASURER: Richard Breensing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon

GATHERING SONG:

No. 238—You Are the Song That I Sing

WELCOME: Tom Turner

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9 (Steve Potter)

SONGS: No. 850 Heaven Medley

-No. 851—I'll Fly Away (vs 1, 3)

-No. 852—When the Roll is Called Up Yonder (vs 1, 2)

-No. 853—When We All Get to Heaven (vs 1, 3)

No. 770—Dear Lord & Father of Mankind (vs 1, 4)

PRAYER: Tom Turner

SONG: No. 464—Because He Lives

COMMUNION: Stan Aldrich

Chris Mansel

Orrin Feril

Ben Sizemore

MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril

SONG: No. 470—Victory in Jesus

LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)

SONG: No. 904—Have You Been to Jesus? (vs 1)

PRAYER: Richard Breensing

(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.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dena Mansel

Sep 27

CONGRATULATIONS!

Paul and Rachael (Staub) Weber are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, **Jaci Jade**, who was born on Friday, Sep 23rd, at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. She weighed 8 lbs, 3.5 oz, and was 19" long.



MEN'S RETREAT

A men's retreat is planned at Silver Maple Camp, starting Sunday evening and going through Tuesday morning—October 16-18. Speakers will be: Jon Camp, Lyle Hinsdale, and Neil Taylor. Worship Leader will be Sheldon Hightower. See flyer posted or go to www.silvermaplecamp.org for more information.

ABUNDANT LIVING MINI-RETREAT

The Eastwood Church of Christ is co-sponsoring a retreat with Abundant Living, an outreach of Church Relations at Harding University. "Making the Most of the Rest of Your Life" will be held at the Kansas State Fairgrounds on Saturday, Nov 5th, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Cost is \$25. The target audience is Christian Seniors.

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Ty Hewitt (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - his leukemia has returned and he is to begin a Stem Cell Transplant in Houston the first of October

Laura Wyatt—placed on hospice care last week; the family says she enjoys receiving cards. Here is the address: Kenwood Plaza, 607 E 1st, St John, KS 67576

Vic & Phyllis Staub—health concerns

Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - recovering from shoulder surgery—at home now

Larry Berg (Tom's friend) - cancer

Landon Neidig (Teddy & Carol's great grandson) - being evaluated for possible additional heart surgery

Jill Morphew (Janet's sister-in-law) - cancer

Gladys Hornbaker—cancer

Alex Garcia (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee) - health concerns

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 Rukan'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 Breensing (Richard's father) – Leisure Homestead

Janet's aunt, **Doris Lindahl**, passed away last Thursday in Oklahoma City; memorial service will be on Tuesday.