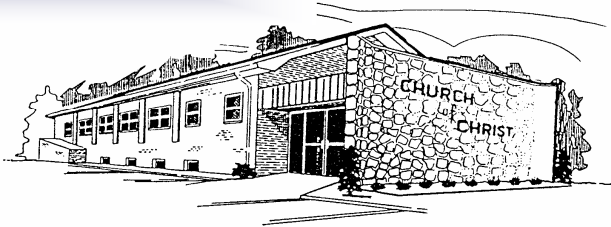


Teaching them to observe  
all things...Matt. 28:20



# The St. Joseph Observer

May 9, 2010

## The St. Joseph Church of Christ

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### Schedule of Services

Sunday School  
9:45

Sunday Worship  
10:45

Sunday PM  
5:00

Tuesday Ladies' Class  
9:00 AM

Wednesday Bible Study  
6:00

### Elders

Leo Conkin 925-7688  
Clyde Daniel 428-2322  
Charlie McGee 861-5811  
Steve Parsons 465-7901

### Deacons

Dave Hipskind 468-4735  
Eric Ramso 465-5965

### Ladies' Prayer Chain

Kim Batson 428-7281  
Barb Conkin 925-7688  
Gayle Daniel 428-2322  
Jan Mundy 473-1505

## Characteristics of a Mother

I have been the child of but one mother and the husband of but one wife. My perception of what a good mother is has been shaped by three things; my own mother, my wife, and God's word. Here are some characteristics of a mother.

**They are gentle:** They have a kind heart and naturally want what is best for their children. A father also wants what is best. A father tends to be rougher. Some men understand that and try hard to be gentler. In 1 Thessalonians 2:7, Paul tells these Christians that he and others who worked among them were gentle "like a mother caring for her little children."

**A mother wants the BEST for her children:** Mothers may, on occasion, overstep their bounds in their zeal to help. Sometimes what's best is perceived to be something physical. But certainly, every Christian mother wants their children to have a home in heaven. And, if they could, they would sacrifice the inheritance of others for the benefit of their own children.

Salome, the mother of James and John so wanted her sons to have the best place in heaven that she became bold enough to approach Jesus and ask Him point blank if He would allow them to sit on either side of Him (Matthew 20:20ff). She didn't understand that it was inappropriate for her to ask that of Jesus. Nor did she understand that it was not for Jesus to decide who would be on His right and left. She only knew that she wanted this good thing for her kids.

**Provides spiritual nourishment:** While it is the father's God given responsibility to look after the spiritual welfare of his family and to lead them to Christ, too often it is the mothers that must assume that responsibility. I thank God for fathers who accept their responsibility and mothers who support their husbands in this effort. And I am especially thankful for mothers like mine who assume the responsibility when the father shirks it. Timothy's mother was a woman of great faith as was his grandmother. Timothy had a strong faith in large part because of these two women. (1 Timothy 1:5)

**Command respect:** Godly mothers know their children and are respected. A child learns to respect their parents when they are young. I am convinced that Jesus learned to respect and obey His mother during His formative years. As He grew older, His obedience continued and was natural. When Mary wanted Jesus to turn the water to wine at the wedding feast (John 2:1ff) it was clear that Jesus really didn't want to do that. After Mary asked Jesus to do what she wanted, she didn't hang around to argue with Him or debate the issue.

**They discipline their children:** One of the most unpleasant responsibilities a parent has is to discipline their children. A Godly mother never enjoys this necessary aspect of childrearing. Even Mary expressed her disappointment on occasion. I can sense her frustration as she chastises Jesus for not staying with the caravan (Luke 2:48).

**They are to be honored:** Mothers not only deserve it; God expects it (Ephesians 6:2). To fail to honor our mothers is to fail God; to commit sin. I am sure that it is true that only another mother can truly understand the trials and tribulations of motherhood. But I don't have to understand it to be able to appreciate it.

*God bless our mothers!*

**Please remember in prayer...**

- Members with Health Issues Leo Conkin, Warren James, Virginia Kowalski, Vanessa Matthews, Jim Smith, Lee Wallis, Juanita Weatherford
- The Military Nick Hastings, Ian Matthews
- Our Church The Buildings & Grounds Committee, our Elders & Deacons, our members

**Announcements**

**Ladies' Fellowship—  
Thursday, May 13 at 6:30  
At Kim Batson's  
Menu: Appetizers & Desserts**

*5th Sunday Potluck & Fellowship  
May 30*

*We will be collecting change for the Schultz-Lewis Children's Home  
from May 16 until September 12.*

*Each family will have a collection can available Sunday, May 16. Please be sure to get one.  
We will collect change (and dollars and checks!) through the summer.*

**2010 Giving**

Weekly Budget:




\$1500

Contribution Last Week:

\$1970

**Congregational Calendar**

**May**

9	10	11  Trevor Kubvaruno <i>Ladies' Class</i>	12	13  Sheila Waldrop	14  Parsons	15  Jack Salmon
16  Charlie McGee	17	18 <i>Ladies' Class</i>	19	20	21  Dean Kittleson	22