

We at the Lake Land Church of Christ are a non-denominational, independent congregation of the Lord's people. We try our best to follow the New Testament design of governance and worship, which means we are an autonomous group whose allegiance lies with no one or any organization but Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Who is King of kings and Lord of Lords. We belong to Him because we are clothed in Him at baptism (Galatians 3:27) and it is through His blood that the church was purchased (Galatians 3:13; 1 Peter 1:19), and the church is His alone (Matthew 16:18). We believe that in His infinite wisdom He has left the local congregation to be overseen by elders to watch over and guard the spiritual needs of the flock (1 Peter 5:1-2); deacons to assist the elders in seeing that its members are provided for (Acts 6; 1 Timothy 3); teachers to help the congregation grow spiritually and in wisdom (1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11) and a minister or evangelist to proclaim God's word in season and out of season (Ephesians 4:11; 2 Timothy 4:2). If you are looking for a congregation that has no creed but only seeks to follow God's word as it is written, but acknowledges our own human foibles and weaknesses, then you need look no further! We want you to be a part of our congregation!

Lake Land Church of Christ

PO Box 634, Mattoon, IL 61938

Phone: 217.235.1645

Web Site:

www.lakelandchurchofchrist.org

Times of Meeting

Sunday: 9:30 AM Bible Study

10:30 AM Assembly

6:00 PM Assembly

Wednesday: 7:00 PM Bible Study

Welcome to the Lake Land Church of Christ

January 15, 2012



**“Behold! The Lamb of God Who
takes away the sin of the
world!”**

-- John 1:29 [RSV]

From the Preacher's Desk

What a remarkable time in which to live it must have been when both John the Baptist and Jesus Christ walked the Earth and spoke of the wonderful Kingdom of God that was at hand! In John and Jesus you have the two greatest prophets that ever walked upon the Earth. In John is the last of the Prophets of God pointing towards the Messiah, Jesus Christ, and in Jesus you have the One Who was the fulfillment of the Law of Moses, the One in Whose blood the New Covenant was to be established.



John the Baptist appears at the beginning of John's Gospel (and the other Gospels) and then falls to the background because he is a link or a bridge between the Old Testament and the New Testament. He is prominent at the beginning of the Gospel because he is part of the roots of the Gospel. The roots of Jesus go back into eternity itself (John 1:1), and John's roots go back to the Old Testament. John is like one of those great tree roots that protrudes above the ground a few feet out from the trunk of the tree.

Over and over we will see in the *Gospel of John* how John the writer explains Jesus in terms of the Old Testament. Jesus did not appear on the scene of history without historical preparation. God had been at work in Israel for two thousand years, and even before that, putting in place a historical backdrop that would make Jesus' life and ministry more intelligible.

John the Baptist is a root partly under ground in the Old Testament and partly exposed in the New Testament. He has a foot in both worlds – a prophet something like Elijah (but not Elijah reincarnated [John 1:21]), and a voice crying that the long-expected Messiah had come. It was John the Baptist who declared Jesus to be "***The Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world***" (John 1:29 [RSV]). To as many as receive Him, who believe on His name (John 1:12), their sins are taken away (John 1:29; 1 John 3:5), the wrath of God is removed (John 3:36; 1 John 2:2) and they are made the children of God (John 1:12) and given eternal life (John 3:16).



For Our Bible Sleuths...



1. What two books of the Bible start with the words, "*In the beginning*"?

2. Who is "*the life*" and "*the light of men*"?

3. Who does John say was not the light, but a "*witness to the light*"?

4. What specifically does John say "*became flesh and dwelt among us*"?

5. Who did the Pharisees think John may have been?

- For Our Bible Sleuths Answers:**
1. Genesis and John
 2. Jesus (John 1:4)
 3. John the Baptist (John 1:6-7)
 4. The Word (John 1:14)
 5. The Christ, Elijah or the prophet (John 1:25)

Humorous Thought for the Day:

Pray that your grandchildren are as well-behaved as your children were. It's your only chance to get even!



Jeanette Henderson: Cancer
Jasper Mangiaracina: Cancer and trouble swallowing
Mary Alice & Minnie Morgan: Health
Maxine VanMeter: Health and recovering from stroke
Pat Whitney: Falling and health
Modelle Cloyd: Recovering from eye surgery
Charlene Quakenbush: Health
Eric VonBehrens: Recovering from lung transplant
Eric Henson (Pat's nephew): Kidney shutting down
Reg Replogle: Recovering from eye surgery
Brad Boruff: Seizures
Tezie Hurd: Lung cancer
Brayden Hohmann: Clogged tear duct surgery
Ray Haynes (Bev's brother): Cancer on esophagus and lungs
Debra Dickson (Jason Kelly's mother): Multiple nodules in her lungs
Keith Schwabe (Pat's brother): Prostrate cancer and blockage of heart
Kamryn Soard (A.L.'s and Jeanie's great-granddaughter): Lump on neck
Family of Richard Philabaum: Passing of Richard
Dirinda Coartney: In nursing home for infection in foot

Prayer List



"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."
 -- James 5:16

This Morning's Speaker: David Ferguson

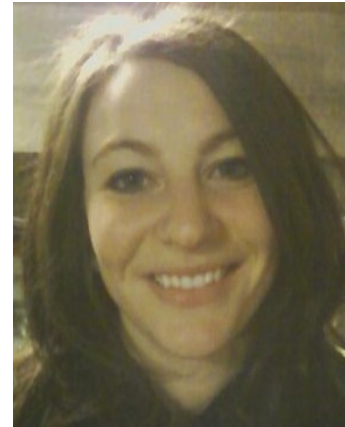
Sermon Title: *The Testimony of John*

Sermon Highlights: John and Jesus are the two greatest prophets. John 1:19-34. John is a link between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. Isaiah 40:3-5. Jesus is greater than John. John 1:1; John 1:15. Jesus takes away the sin of the world. John 1:14; 1 John 3:5; Leviticus 4:32-35; 1 Peter 1:18-19; John 8:46; 1 Peter 2:22; John 11:50-52; 1 John 2:2; John 3:36; John 8:24; 1 John 1:7.

Reading:

This Evening's Speaker: David Ferguson

Sermon Title: *Our Word of Life*



Congratulations to Chalice Cobb for completing her master's degree with a perfect 4.0 GPA! She finished a rotation at the Pentagon on January 13, 2012. Chalice will complete her 3 year internship with NAVAIR, Department of Defense at the Patuxent Naval Base at the end of January and transition into a full time civilian employee at the same location in February. Her address remains the same.

**Hey, kids!
 Lock-in at the
 Decatur YMCA
 on February 3!**



See bulletin board for details.

ON THE ROAD: Max VanMatre is in Texas.



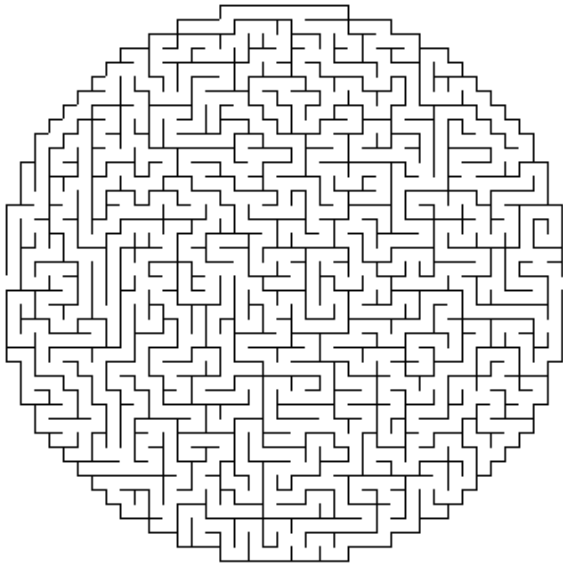


This week's memory verse:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."— John 1:1 [NKJV]

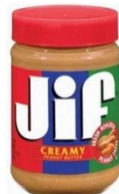
Kids' Corner!

Hey, kids! Draw a picture in the box below based upon today's sermon and we will post it on the bulletin board!

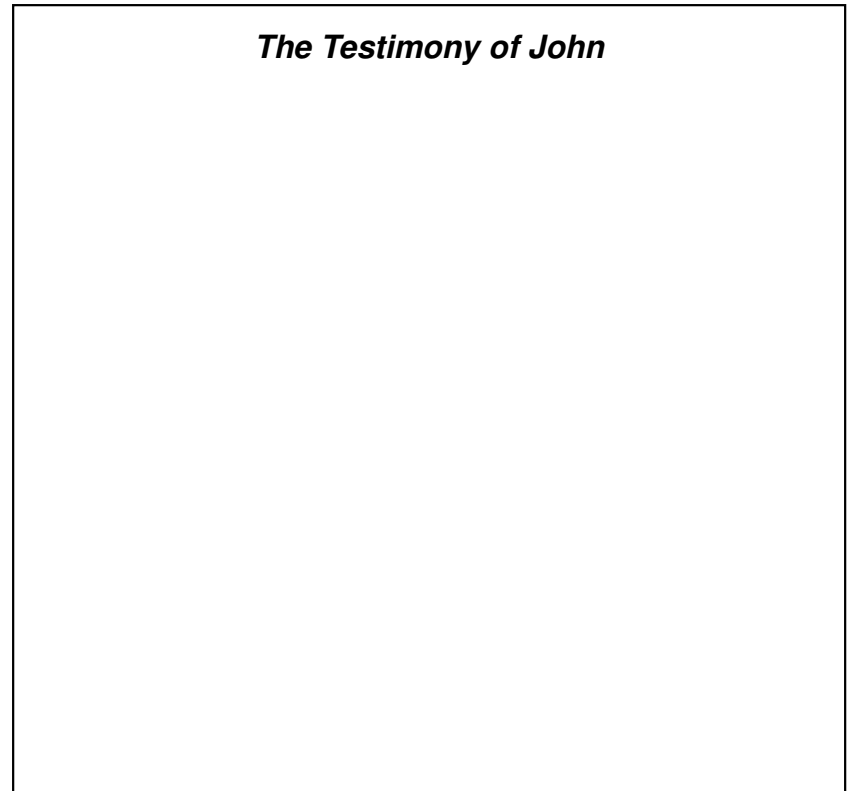


Help Jesus get to John!

Remember Shults-Lewis: We are collecting peanut butter and jelly.



FunZone



The Testimony of John