

## **A Living, Breathing God**

One day a man observed some farm workers harvesting a field by hand. He was interested because it was 1999, and harvesting crops by hand had gone out of style, or so he thought.

After a while one of the workers came close enough for him to ask the question which had been bothering him. "Why do you still harvest your crops by hand when there are machines that could do it much quicker?"

The worker looked at him and responded, "Because that's the way the owner wants it."

"Well, could I speak to the owner?" the man asked.

The worker shook his head and said, "No, he died 50 years ago."

Many religions today have the same problem the workers in the field had; they serve a God who is not living. Thankfully, we do not have that problem. Our God is alive and well.

In Revelation 1:18 Jesus declares, "I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive forever and ever!"

And because He lives, His Word also lives. Hebrews 4:12 tells us that, "the Word of God is living and active."

So what does all this have to do with us? So what if we serve a living god? What difference does it make anyhow? It makes all the difference.

Because we serve a living God our worship services are alive. As much as I would like to take credit for the energy surrounding our services recently, I cannot. That energy comes from the Holy Spirit. Our part in it comes when we open ourselves up to the blessings He provides.

Because He is alive, we are bound together as a community of faith by more than ideals or principles, we are bound by love. We suffer and rejoice alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ. This only happens when you serve a Living God.

And because he is alive, St. John Church is alive! St. John is more than bricks and mortar, more than carpet and paint, more than decorations and adornments. It is living, breathing ministry!

I hope you're as excited about what's happening here as I am. I believe God is going to use us to do a mighty work for His kingdom, because He is alive!

In Christian love,

Pastor Rob