



Leap of Faith

August 2023

F. R. O. G.
Forever Relying On God



August is often a month of new beginnings. Children and teachers begin a new school year, and often a new school as well. This can be both exciting and scary all at the same time.

Something similar occurs often in the Bible. In Genesis 12, Abram was called by God to move to an unknown place. All throughout the Bible, many of the prophets and the disciples were often asked to go to unfamiliar places or talk to unfamiliar and different people. The disciples were asked to bring the salvation message to the Gentiles, and to all nations in the great commission given by Jesus Christ as He ascended to Heaven.

It was through the great faith of those called by God that the salvation message came to us today. There is a need to continue to share the salvation message with those around us. When God prompts you to share the message or to make a change, stop and pray, and listen to God, and what He is asking you to do.

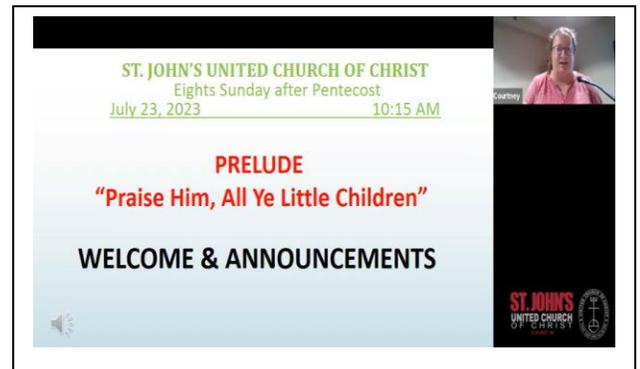
This can be easier if you make a habit of praying to and listening to God each day. It will be a blessing to you and help to increase your faith.

Amen Pastor Laura

COME TO WORSHIP WITH US ON ZOOM!

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here at St. John's United Church of Christ.

Contact stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com for service information.



CONSISTORY MEMBERS

Mary Ellen Harris (Pres)	Wayne Knudson
Jean Quillin (VP)	Edward Quillin
George Adamson (Treas)	Dennis Harris
Kelly Harris (Sec)	
Courtney Papa-Abell	

PLEASE COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Connecting to a community of believers is vital in your Christian walk. We all need Christian Fellowship to build us up and to hold us up. If you can't join us in person or on Zoom, watch our recorded service on our website or Facebook page.

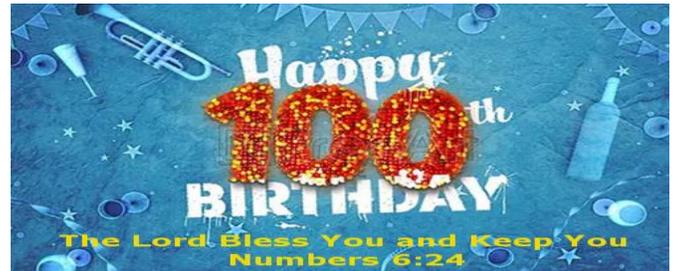
AUGUST WORSHIP LEADERS

- AUGUST 06** Laura Doty, Pastor
Liturgist – George Adamson
- 13** Laura Doty, Pastor
Liturgist – Courtney Papa-Abell
- 20** Jamelle Godlewski Guest Speaker
Liturgist – Wayne Knudson
- 27** Laura Doty, Pastor
Liturgist – Mary Ellen Harris

Thank you to everyone for helping out!

CONGRATULATIONS TO DICK STRAW

Who turns 100 years old this month. If you would like to send him a birthday card, please email Stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com to request his mailing address.



Bible Quiz: Parable of the Wheat and Weeds

(Matthew 13:24–43) <https://www.christianbiblereference.org>

1) Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' An enemy did this," he replied. The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' 'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time, I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'" NIV

Who does the man who sowed good seed represent in this parable?

- Jesus
- Jesus' disciples
- The Church
- Satan

2) What does the field represent?

- The Church.
- Israel.
- The Temple.
- The world.

3) Who do the weeds represent?

- The Jews
- The Gentiles
- Evil People
- The Pharisees

4) Who do the harvesters or reapers represent?

- Jesus
- The angels
- Righteous People
- Satan

BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1) Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' An enemy did this,' he replied. The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?' 'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'" NIV

Who does the man who sowed good seed represent in this parable?

The correct answer is: Jesus

[Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43](#). Jesus often referred to Himself as the "Son of Man." Instead of "weeds" some Bible versions say "tares" or "darnel" - weeds that grow in grain fields and look very much like the wheat itself.

2) What does the field represent?

The correct answer is: The world

[Matthew 13:24, 37-38](#). Jesus sowed the "good seed" throughout the world. Thus the kingdom of heaven will include people of all races, peoples and nations.

3) Who do the weeds represent?

The correct answer is: Evil People

[Matthew 13:25-26, 38-39](#). Evil and evil people will be among us until Jesus comes again. We will not be able to "weed them out", nor should we attempt to judge whether or not someone belongs in the kingdom of heaven. That is God's decision, not ours.

4) Who do the harvesters or reapers represent?

The correct answer is: The angels

[Matthew 13:28-30, 39-43](#). It will be the angels who have the knowledge to separate the truly good from the truly evil.

Request from Bashor Children's Home

Our recreational department is seeking used magazines to aid our children in arts and crafts activities! Kindly bring your used magazines to the admin building (Arbogast) on our campus. You'll find a designated box just inside the doorway. The building is open Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Thank you for your generous support, as it means the world to our kids!

Summer Church Pillow Contest

I love to make things for people. I believe it has become my calling to make gifts for others and share the message of God while doing so. Giving gifts to others is truly a gift in itself. You get to see the person who is receiving the gift become so relaxed and just start to shine so brightly with this joy. The feeling I get is indescribable.

Well, earlier this spring, an idea popped into my head during church service. I heard a voice speaking to me to make a pillow for someone who attends church. I was not sure how to pick a person, but quickly an idea formed and it all came together so easily. I texted my Consistory President with my idea and she loved it! My plan was approved!! Every Sunday we worked together to write the names of everyone who attended church in June. At the end of June, we found that six ladies attended ALL of the Sunday services. So, we stuck their names in a bowl and Pastor Laura pulled a name out. Noli was our winner!!

Noli really loves the color purple and her second favorite color was pink. So I made her a pillow that was purple with her name in bright pink. I also made a pocket on the back with the verse, Psalm 133:1- "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is to dwell together in unity!" She loved it!

We are called to serve others. Let us use our talents and gifts to lift others and bring them joy.

Romans 12:6-8

6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.



Kelly



Season after Pentecost Year A	First* reading and Psalm	Alternate* First reading and Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Proper 13 (18) Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 6, 2023 ART -- PRAYER	Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 15	Isaiah 55:1-5 Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21
Proper 14 (19) Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 13, 2023 ART -- PRAYER	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b	1 Kings 19:9-18 Psalm 85:8-13	Romans 10:5-15	Matthew 14:22-33
Proper 15 (20) Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 20, 2023 ART -- PRAYER	Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133	Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Psalm 67	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28
Proper 16 (21) Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 27, 2023 ART -- PRAYER	Exodus 1:8-2:10 Psalm 124	Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138	Romans 12:1-8	Matthew 16:13-20

IT'S A NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

Please pray for the teachers and students to have a good year and that God would bless them.

SUBSCRIBE TO PRAYER REQUESTS

To get a list of prayer request you have to subscribe to it on our web page. You will not see all the requests unless you have a subscription. You do not have to be a member of our Prayer Warriors group or even a member of our church to subscribe. For instructions on how to subscribe please, email webmaster@sjtohnsucelkhart.com



St. John's United Church of Christ
% Laura Doty
55839 Rivershore Lane,
Elkhart, IN 46516

Contact Information

St. John's United Church of Christ
c/o Laura Doty
55839 Rivershore Lane
Elkhart, In 46516

Phone: 574-651-7612

Email: stjohnsuccofelkhart@gmail.com

Website: www.stjohnsuccelkhart.com

Webmaster: Kevin Harris – Webmaster@stjohnsuccelkhart.com

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Northwest Association IKC - www.nwaikucc.org

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