

# Harvest time!

With harvest underway or imminent, fields of ripe grain, tall cornstalks and soybeans turning brown recall Jesus' words to the disciples: "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38, ESV).

Nowadays farmers use fewer laborers and bigger machines than in decades past. But what about harvests of faith? Leading people to know God's love can't be done "mechanically." Studies show that newspaper ads or door-hangers left anonymously are less effective at bringing people to church than a warm personal invite.

Right after urging his disciples to pray for harvest workers — in a classic instance of "You might be God's answer to your own prayer!" — Jesus sends them out as those very laborers! How will they work the harvest? Not by guilting people into faith. Not by pronouncing judgment or biblical law. But by using Jesus' authority to counter evil, illness and brokenness among those they befriend.

Ponder and pray about where Jesus is sending you as his laborer to cultivate and reap Christian faith and assurance of God's love.

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## THIS WEEKS CHURCH CALENDAR

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

9:00 a.m. Come AZUR Service
9:50 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service
11:00 a.m. Live Stream Worship
5:00 p.m. P22 Ministries
5:00 p.m. Planet 456
6:15 p.m. Youth
MONDAY, AUGUST 24
9-12 noon Methodist Market
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26
6 p.m. Chancel Choir
6 p.m. Youth Small Group
SATURDAY, AUGUST 29
9-12 noon Methodist Market



23. Mr. & Mrs. Camp King28. Mr. & Mrs. James Cresswell



Linda Little Fennell

M/M Mike Hodgson

## Gerald Paul Fraiser

JoAnn Voigt Josephine Roby M/M Davis Gary M/M Phil Nichols M/M Howard Webb



Sympathy and love is extended to Brenda and Jim Oakes in the death of Brenda's mother, Susan Mazelle Johnson Simmons, who died August 16, 2020.

Sympathy and love is also extended to Bettye Dearman in the death of her brotherin-law, Cletus King, who died August 17, 2020.

**Congratulations** to James and Emily Cresswell on the birth of their grandson Cooper Thomas Howell, born August 11, 2020 to Laura Kathryn and J. T. Howell.







"Shout triumphantly to the Lord, all the earth!"

Psalm 100:1

Last week in Sunday school we talked about how King Solomon built the Temple for God so the Israelites would be reminded of how great God is and to be faithful to God. This Sunday, we will hear a story about Paul and Silas in prison. Even though their situation seemed tough, they praised God. This story is a reminder that God never leaves us and is with us in good and bad times.

It was so good to get back to our normal activities last week. Last week we began a study on the Armor of God. Each week we will continue to learn about the importance of all the ways God has equipped us to face the ways of our world. We will meet at 5:00 p.m. and dismiss at 6:00. We will <u>NOT</u> have snack supper for the first few weeks.





Last week P22 met for the first time. We had a great little group that showed up, and we hope to have a few more join us as the study continues. Our first meeting was a get-toknow you meeting. This Sunday night at 5:00 p.m., we will begin our Bible Study, *The Armor of God*. We are excited that Mrs. Julie Paul felt led to help with this ministry. Again,

the Bible Study will begin this Sunday, August 23, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. We will **NOT** have snack supper for the first few weeks.



# Solid Ground

Thank you so much to Mrs. Carrie Chaney for offering to step in and teach our young people for the month of August. It is nice to be back in a routine. We will be using the *Bible in Life* curriculum, and this month the lessons will be from the book of Proverbs. This week the lesson is about living wisely.

## **Sunday Night Youth**

The Youth group met this past Sunday night in the Youth Basement, and we welcomed our new 7<sup>th</sup> grade group. It was nice to have a sense of normalcy back among the kids. We began a study on **Gideon**, which we will continue through the first part of October. This Sunday night we will be on Lesson 2: *The Battle We Face*.

## Wednesday Night Small Group

Our Wednesday night small group kicked off this past week. We had a good time of food and fellowship. The group was introduced to the new study that we will begin next week entitled, **Feed the Dog**. This study is by illusionist Brock Gill and focuses on 7 key disciplines to help us grow our relationship with God.



This Sunday, August 23, we will have our regular services: Come AZUR at 9 a.m. and our traditional worship at 11 a.m. We hope you will join us. For those who are not yet comfortable in corporate worship, we will also have our live stream worship service Sunday at 11 a.m.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 24:1-15 Sermon: "Do Unto Others" Greeters: Donna Heidel/Phil & Sharon Nichols Flowers: Jamie Wallace and family

## **Daily Bible Readings**

#### AUGUST

#### 23. 12th Sunday after Pentecost

24. To walk his ways25. Fair and righteous judgment26. A promise to exiles27. The time of singing28. A scepter of equity

29. First fruits of creation

#### John 6:56-59

Deuteronomy 10:12-13 Psalm 9:1-8 Ezekiel 11:14-20 Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 James 1:17-27