



Dont visita nostre sires laire
ainsi come il auoit promys
et accompli ce que il auoit
dit. Car elle conceut a enfanta
un enfant en la vieillesse
ce el temps que dieux li auoit denant dit.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

June 25, 2023

We welcome all who are visiting with us today.
It is good to have you in worship with us. Please introduce yourself to
Pastor Phil this morning and let us know if there is any way
we might be of service to you or your family.

Silent Reflection: "It is better in prayer to have a heart without words than words
without heart." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Come, nations of the earth, to bow before God.
Distant galaxies proclaim the Creator of all things.

**ALL: We are humbled by the wonders of creation.
We are amazed by God's mighty works.**

ONE: This infinite God cares for each one of us.
God hears our cries and responds to our needs.

**ALL: In our days of trouble, we call on our God.
We are confident that God listens and answers.**

ONE: Let us also call on God with our prayers of thanks.
Let us celebrate the wonderful things God provides.

**ALL: God cares for us, even when others reject us.
We gather to glorify God's name.**

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CALL TO CONFESSION**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

God, we are poor and needy in matters of the spirit. You have offered us newness of life, but we are fearful of its cost. Your gifts pace us in debts so vast that we can never repay. We are not worthy of your love and cannot earn your forgiveness. How is it that when we accept your grace we sense a freedom we have never before enjoyed? O God, we want to be dead to sin and alive to you. Help us! Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**GLORIA PATRI****A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US**

Prayer for the children (*unison*):

We send blessings upon our children for all God's love,
all Christ's friendship and all the caring of the
Holy Spirit. Amen.

Song Response

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

SCRIPTURES:

Genesis 21:8-21

Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17

Matthew 10:24-39

HYMN***I Need Thee Every Hour***

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SERMON**HYMN*****When Peace Like A River***

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INVITATION TO OFFERING**GIVE THANKS:**

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," Let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

For all the great and wonderous things you have done for us, O God, we are grateful. You give us strength to go on when we are troubled and discouraged. You grant newness of life as we share in Christ's resurrection. We want to pass on the good news through this offering and by the way we live each day. Lead us and guide us in your steadfast love, that we might channel your gift to all we meet. Amen.

PRAYERS OF OUR CHURCH/SILENT PRAYERS/LORD'S PRAYER**PRAYER RESPONSE****Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus**

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face; and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.

*** HYMN*****I Have Decided to Follow Jesus***

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING YOU TODAY

Council Person	John Zweck
Liturgist	Donna Lowe
Accompanist	Melody Hollis

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

St. John's: Judy Chapman, Wally Foxworthy, Margie Foxworthy's son Sean, Cindy Roll, Jeffrey Thornton, and the family of Ella Boggy

St. Jacob: Ross Busher, Carol Casperson, Gail Miller, Ronald Rujawitz, Jane Schmidt, Carol Schmitt, and Carol Zweck

IL South Conference: Each week the churches of the Illinois South Conference are asked to pray for congregations and their pastors and other ministries of the UCC. This week we are asked to pray for:

Church & Pastors

-Biddleborn Trinity UCC, Rev. Tarrah (Jasen) Vaupel

-Breese St. John UCC

Retired Pastors

Revs. Bob Goddard and Janis Dashner, O'Fallon, IL

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Lola Kelley, June 25

Micah Lowe, June 28

Onis Zweck, June 28

Thomas Belcher, July 1

CHURCH ATTENDANCE, June 18, 2023

St. John's – 12

St. Jacob – 36

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor's office hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
(Mondays by appointment)

Secretary's office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Jacob Phone: 618-644-2142 / St. Jacob E-mail: stjucc@hometel.com

Website: stjacobucc.org

Pastor Phil Barbier: Phone: 314-312-2347 / E-mail: pastor@hometel.com

SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS, DONATIONS

-**St. John's UCC** is accepting monetary donations to purchase needed lunch supplies. Lunches are provided each weekday from 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and can be picked up at the Summerfield Fire Department.

-**St. Jacob UCC:** So far this year we are providing lunches to almost twice as many kids as in years past and could use monetary donations and additional volunteers. Volunteers are needed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays to allow time to assemble lunches, as well as clean-up afterward. Lunches are served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the St. Jacob Elementary School (outdoor classroom). A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Narthx. For more information, or to volunteer call Judy Bolton at 618-830-0526, or Audrey Yann at 618-567-8013.

VOLUNTEER LITURGISTS AT ST. JACOB

We are looking for volunteers willing to read scripture, no long-term commitment, just one Sunday at a time. Everyone from the congregation is invited to take part in helping lead worship. There is a sign-up sheet located on the table in the Narthx.

*** **THE UPPER ROOM** (July-August) magazines are available on the table in the Narthx at St. Jacob.

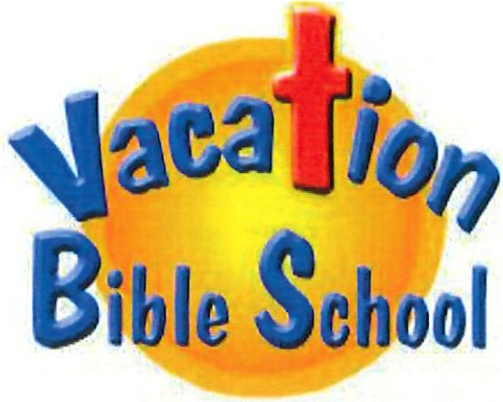
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CALENDAR/ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUNE 29 - JULY 5: Pastor Phil at UCC General Synod

INTERGENERATIONAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

St. Jacob UCC and Troy Friedens UCC are working together to organize an Intergenerational Vacation Bible School this summer – it will be held from 6 to 8 p.m., July 20 at St. Jacob Township Park, July 27 at Tri-Township Library, and Aug.



3 at Tri-Township Park. This Intergenerational Vacation Bible School is for everyone ages of 1-100-plus, and we will explore the theme of the Greatest Commandment: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind,"* and *"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."* For more information, contact the church office at (618) 644-2142.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 21:8-21

The boy grew and stopped nursing. On the day he stopped nursing, Abraham prepared a huge banquet. Sarah saw Hagar's son laughing, the one Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham. So she said to Abraham, "Send this servant away with her son! This servant's son won't share the inheritance with my son Isaac."

This upset Abraham terribly because the boy was his son. God said to Abraham, "Don't be upset about the boy and your servant. Do everything Sarah tells you to do because your descendants will be traced through Isaac. But I will make of your servant's son a great nation too, because he is also your descendant." Abraham got up early in the morning, took some bread and a flask of water, and gave it to Hagar. He put the boy in her shoulder sling and sent her away.

She left and wandered through the desert near Beer-sheba. Finally the water in the flask ran out, and she put the boy down under one of the desert shrubs. She walked away from him about as far as a bow shot and sat down, telling herself, I can't bear to see the boy die. She sat at a distance, cried out in grief, and wept.

God heard the boy's cries, and God's messenger called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "Hagar! What's wrong? Don't be afraid. God has heard the boy's cries over there. Get up, pick up the boy, and take him by the hand because I will make of him a great nation." Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well. She went over, filled the water flask, and gave the boy a drink. God remained with the boy; he grew up, lived in the desert, and became an expert archer. He lived in the Paran desert, and his mother found him an Egyptian wife.

(continued from inside cover)

SECOND LESSON: Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Lord, listen closely to me and answer me, because I am poor and in need.

Guard my life because I am faithful. Save your servant who trusts in you – you! My God!

Have mercy on me, Lord, because I cry out to you all day long.

Make your servant's life happy again because, my Lord, I offer my life to you, because, my Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of faithful love for all those who cry out to you.

Listen closely to my prayer, Lord; pay close attention to the sound of my requests for mercy.

Whenever I am in trouble, I cry out to you, because you will answer me.

My Lord! There is no one like you among the gods! There is nothing that can compare to your works!

All the nations that you've made will come and bow down before you, Lord; they will glorify your name, because you are awesome and a wonder-worker. You are God. Just you.

Come back to me! Have mercy on me! Give your servant your strength; save this child of your servant!

Show me a sign of your goodness so that those who hate me will see it and be put to shame – show a sign that you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39

“Disciples aren't greater than their teacher, and slaves aren't greater than their master. It's enough for disciples to be like their teacher and slaves like their master. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebul, it's certain that they will call the members of his household by even worse names.

“Therefore, don't be afraid of those people because nothing is hidden that won't be revealed, and nothing secret that won't be brought out into the open. What I say to you in the darkness, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, announce from the rooftops. Don't be afraid of those who kill the body but can't kill the soul. Instead, be afraid of the one who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Aren't two sparrows sold for a small coin? But not one of them will fall to the ground without your Father knowing about it already. Even the hairs of your head are all counted. Don't be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.

“Therefore, everyone who acknowledges me before people, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven. But everyone who denies me before people, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

“Don't think that I've come to bring peace to the earth. I haven't come to bring peace but a sword. I've come to turn a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. People's enemies are members of their own households.

“Those who love father or mother more than me aren't worthy of me. Those who love son or daughter more than me aren't worthy of me. Those who don't pick up their crosses and follow me aren't worthy of me. Those who find their lives will lose them, and those who lose their lives because of me will find them.