

St John Church of Christ

Bulletin

August 4, 2024

For The Church



The prophet Elijah was a man who had always taken care of himself. But suddenly (in 1 Kings 17:2-7) God took away all of Elijah’s ability to provide and drove him into the wilderness. And there he taught him a major lesson, a lesson we all need —the lesson of complete dependence.

Led down to the “Cherith Brook,” Elijah had to depend on the special provision of God for the food he ate and the water he drank. Cherith, in Hebrew, literally means “to cut down.” God was telling Elijah, “I’m going to cut you down, to remove any strength you have in yourself, even the capacity to take care of your most basic needs, and to teach you to depend completely on me.

Before God can use us, He must first break us. God was breaking Elijah as a way of preparing to use him, as he also does for us. Someone we trust betrays us; or we lose our job; or we have a sudden decline in health. In all of this, God is at work—removing our idols, those areas of false trust, false joy, and false hope. Because if dependence is the objective, weakness is an advantage.

Paul said it like this: “Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that power of Christ may rest on me” (2 Cor 12:9). On the face of it, that is just crazy. We do not naturally boast about being financially weak (poor), or occupationally weak (unemployed), or relationally weak (alone). Paul boasted in his weakness because he knew that God’s miracles and his glories are found there, not in our strengths.

So, rejoice in your weaknesses! And also beware of your strengths, because those are the areas you are most likely to forget God.

In Our Prayers

Emersyn Milton
Thomas Pruitt
Elmer Schuette
Carol Gingrich
Madison Cole
Susan Mayer (Chet’s sister)

Audie Thornburg
Shari Soukup
Zeb Carter
Juanita (Abby’s Mother)
Rick Toland
Tim Taylor

Girard and Marilyn Holinde
Courtney Emery
Brenda Staub
Dwight Huston
Becky Carter
Joel Miller

Upcoming Events

Potluck [Today]

Please stay and join us after services today for our monthly potluck. We will also discuss how VBS went this year after lunch.

VBS [August 10]

The Stafford Church of Christ will be hosting their annual VBS on Saturday, August 11 from 9 AM until 1 PM.

Save the Date

August 10 - VBS at Stafford
August 11 - Young Family Ministry (Stafford)
September 8 - Young Family Ministry (St. John)
September 20-21 - SMC Ladies Retreat
October 19 - SMC Fall Festival

Birthdays

Vanessa Marks - August 4
Kapri Like - August 6
Jerricko Gunter - August 7
Burke Long - August 9
Janet Feril - August 12



Worship Order

Welcome Table & Greeters: Carl & Janet Feril

Song Leader: Stan Aldrich

Sound System: Orrin Feril

Gathering: #794 - Unto Thee, O Lord

Welcome: Orrin Feril

Scripture Reading: Chris Stott (Matthew 6:19-21)

Shepherd's Prayer: Richard Brensing

Song: #574 - Oh, How I Love Jesus

Song: #315 - When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Communion: Carl Feril

Song: #662 - All to Jesus I Surrender

Lesson: Zeb Carter

Song: #874 - Walking Alone at Eve (vs. 1)

Closing Prayer: Jerry Kinnamon

Sundays: Bible classes for all ages @ 10:00 am
Worship service for everyone @ 11:00 am
Elders: Tom Turner, Richard Brensing, Terry Sallee, Carl Feril
Deacons: Jerry Kinnamon, Chris Mansel, Orrin Feril, Zachary Marks
Minister: Zeborah Carter