Date: 8/25/18

Title: Journey of Faith

Theme: When we accept Jesus, we can be the friends of God and trust His promises.

Object: Blindfold.

Text: Genesis 12:1 (NIV) The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you."

When we do something for the very first time, it can be a little bit scary.

Do you remember your first day of school?

I bet one of your parents or grandparents went with you to help you find your room and meet your teacher and get your desk set up.

How about the first time you rode a two-wheeled bike.

Did you have somebody you trusted running along beside you holding up the bike until you learned to ride on your own?

If you know how to swim, I’m sure you didn’t just jump in the deep end and figure it out on your own.

Somebody you trusted held you up and gave you directions until you learned how to swim by yourself.

It’s wonderful to have someone you trust help you do something for the first time.

Who would like to be my volunteer this morning?

I have a blindfold here, and I’m going to put it on [name].

Then I’m going to spin her around so she has no sense of what direction she is heading.

Now [name] I want you to go the back of the church and get a hymnal from the back pew and bring it back to me.

Have you ever done that before with a blind fold on? It’s a little bit scary, isn’t it? Are you afraid you might bump into something? Are your afraid someone might laugh at you if you go the wrong direction?

What if I said that I would go with you and hold your hand? You trust me, don't you?

I promise I will be with you every step of the way.

How does that make you feel? (A lot less scared, right)

Let’s do it!

What [name] did this morning is similar to what Abraham and Sarah experienced in today's Bible verse.

God told Abraham to leave everything behind and to move to a new country.

He didn't even tell him where this country was.

He just said, "Go to the land that I will show you."

They didn't know where they were going or what they would find when they got there.

It was like they were wearing a blindfold, but they trusted God -- just like [name] trusted me –

And like we trust our parents to help us do new things.

So, even though they were a bit scared, they left everything and set out on the journey to the place that God showed them.

It took many years, but God was with them and he led them to their new home.

That’s what faith is.

It is trusting God to keep His promises.

Because Abraham trusted God, the Bible calls him the father of the faithful and the friend of God.

Do you know that God wants to be your friend too?

He wants to lead you and guide you and live right inside you.

He wants you to trust Him like Abraham did.

Would you like to be God’s friend and trust in His promises?

Let’s ask Jesus to come into our hearts and be our Savior and Friend!

Then God will keep all His promises to us.