



THE *Spiceland Friend*

A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

July/August 2025



Dear Apprentice, HOLD FAST!!!

Over the past three months, we've been exploring the Gospel of Mark with a focus on moving beyond simply having "faith" and stepping into faithful action. Each week, David has challenged us to become *apprentices* of Jesus, not merely believers. To follow Jesus as an apprentice means learning His ways, walking in His steps, and trusting His heart every single day.

This path calls for commitment, surrender, and growth, and it also brings challenges, doubts, and seasons of waiting. In those moments, Hebrews 10:23 encourages us: *"Let us hold resolutely to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful."*

In August, we'll take time to reflect on this journey of apprenticeship. Following Christ means wrestling with difficult questions and facing real struggles. But we will do this together, leaning into Scripture to discover how God's Word offers hope, strength, and direction to keep going.

As apprentices, we profess a hope that is not mere wishful thinking; it is rooted in the unchanging character of the One who calls us.

Jesus doesn't promise ease, but He promises His presence. He doesn't guarantee a smooth path, but He assures us it leads to life. Every act of obedience, every moment of humility, and every stretch of faith shapes us to become more like Him.

When the weight of life tempts us to let go, we cling more tightly to His faithfulness. God's promises are not fragile; they are firm and eternal. To hold fast is to practice active trust, daily surrendering, and remembering. We can trust Him because we've seen His hand in our past. Even the smallest joys are signs of His goodness.

So, dear apprentice, keep your grip on hope. His promises endure. His faithfulness never fails. And the hope you profess is not in vain; it is anchored in Christ, and it will not disappoint.

HOLD FAST!!!

Eric Bowman

Missions Committee Activities

The Missions Committee has met several times this year and would like for you to know what the church is doing in that area. We annually donate \$200 to Victory Lane Camp, the Salvation Army, The Guest House, and the Christian Love Center. We paid a plumbing bill for a local resident whose pipes froze early this year and didn't have the money to pay for repairs. We gave \$500 in gas cards to a local family with two children whose mother has stage 4 pancreatic cancer and needed gas to take her for treatments. We raised \$880.55

(Continued on back)

Missions Committee Activities *(Continued)*

through the Baby Bottle Boomerang and a carful of items for the Henry County Pregnancy Care Center. We gave our retiring Postmistress a gift card and thank you for her many years of friendly service. We also provided drinks for Spiceland Cares Day Activities. In the past we have fixed a meal in the summer for Victory Lane Camp summer camps; however, the last two years they have hired a camp cook so we donated \$300 towards their meals. The local library asked if we would donate snacks for their summer children's activities for which we happily bought drinks and treats.

Our future activities include doing the Ham and Bean Supper for Freedom Days on Friday evening. We also plan to have a "FREE" community dinner on the Saturday evening during Spiceland's Rummage Sales Days in September. Second Harvest Food Bank has a quarterly food distribution which we would like to supplement with canned food items. Look for more information on these activities in this newsletter.

Nancy Wadman,
Missions Committee Clerk

Spiceland Freedom Days

Ham and Beans Supper

Friday, July 11, 5:00-7:00 or until beans are gone

Freewill donations

Includes drinks and desserts

Freedom Days Ministries

Spiceland's annual community Freedom Days are July 11 and 12. Spiceland Friends will be involved as we prepare and serve three separate meals during this great annual event. Our Missions Committee will be hosting their annual Bean Supper on Friday evening. Our congregation will be hosting a biscuits and gravy breakfast on Saturday morning, and our summer youth group will be serving pork burgers during the car show Saturday afternoon. All of these events will take place at our church. Sign-up sheets will be available soon in our Welcome Center for these events. Please pitch in! All of these events help extend our meeting to serve our local community.

Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family

Mike Van Osdol – recovering from surgery

Tom Weber – fluid retention

Barb Meade – heart blockages

Pat Bogue – stroke; at The Waters

Irene Goodwin – rehab at Stonebrooke

George Fort – Parkinson's issues

Cindy Mitchell – cancer

Jenny McDaniel – eye surgery

Jada Woolard – in accident; 2 broken legs

Marilyn Biehl – recovering from surgery; at Stonebrooke

Don Painter – health issues

Correna Thompson – released to home 6/27

Libby Henshaw – at Glen Oaks

Judy Smith – at Stonebrooke

Sarah Reiblein – cancer

Extended Family and Friends

John Hicks (Kevin Crandall) – cancer

Mark Haynes (Virginia Newkirk's cousin) – liver cancer

Shirley Bowman – fractured shoulder

Teresa Jackson – recovering from hand surgery

Janet Herron (mother of Dylan Altman) – in rehab

Lana Clampitt (Sister of Brad Knotts) – lung surgery

Sherri Stubbs (Kandi Rutledge) – broken collarbone

Abby (God-daughter of Bob & Helen Rust) – severe burns

Elizabeth Burroughs – health issues

Pansy Pyle (Tom Pyle's mother) – in hospice

Great-nephew of Sue McDonough – upcoming surgery

Marge (sister of Claudia Garner's friend) – tonsil cancer

Mike Clapp (Janet Putnam) – liver disease

Belinda Jones (Tasha Crandall) – cancer

Hogan (Carly Griggs) – cancer

Danny Williams (Rust family) – stage 4 cancer

Andy Denny (Debbie Denny) – Hodgkins Lymphoma

Craig (cousin of Judy Stevens) – in need of prayer

Timmy Vanmatre (Cindy Mitchell's grandson) – MS in brain

Sherry Matney (Kandi Rutledge) – breast cancer



Sermon Topics for July and August

David Brock will be preaching each week in July and August 3. August 10 is Youth Sunday with **Gus Upchurch** preaching. **Eric Bowman** will be preaching August 17, 24, and 31.



July 7

Sermon – “Transition Time”
Scripture – Mark 8

July 14

Sermon – “Who Do You Say That I Am?”
Scripture – Mark 8

July 21

Sermon – “Mount of Transfiguration and
the Power of Prayer”
Scripture – Mark 9

July 28

Sermon – “Jesus Teaches What the Messiah
Must Do”
Scripture – Mark 9

August 3

Sermon – “Teaching on the Way to
Jerusalem”
Scripture – Mark 10

August 10

Youth Sunday

“Personal Testimony and Youth”

August 17

Sermon – “Hold Fast, Apprentice”
(Series Introduction)
Scripture – Hebrews 10:19-25; Habakkuk 1:17

August 24

Sermon – “Hold Fast, Even When Bad
Things Happen”
Scripture – Selections from Job

August 31

Sermon – “Hold Fast, Through Church Hurt”
Scripture – 1 Thessalonians 5:1

Worship Assistants for July and August



Worship Leaders

July 6 & 20 – Sandra Swann
July 13 & 27 – Bob Rust
August 3 & 17 – Sandra Swann
August 10 & 24 – Bob Rust
August 31 – Nancy Wadman

Song Leaders

July 6, 13, 20 – Tasha Crandall
July 27 – Hayley Painter
August 3 – Tasha Crandall
August 10 – Tasha Crandall
August 17 – Debra Weber
August 24 – Hayley Painter
August 31 – Tasha Crandall

Scripture Readers

July 6 – Janet Putnam
July 13 – Bill Rutherford
July 20 – Lisa Knotts
July 27 – Kandi Rutledge
August 3 – Amanda Judge
August 10 – Ceci Houchins
August 17 – Judy Sadler
August 24 – Debra Weber
August 31 – Barbara Lacy

Children's Story

July 6 & August 3 – Diana Bowman
July 13 & August 10 – Amanda Judge
July 20 & August 17 – Mike Van Osdol
July 27 & August 24 – Janet Putnam
August 31 – Diana Bowman

Junior Church Leaders

July 6 & August 3 – Kristin Davis, Julia
Bouslog, Carly Griggs
July 13 & August 10 – Kristin & Karleigh
Davis
July 20 & August 17 – Josie & Kevin Weber;
Jessica Noteboom
July 27 & August 24 – Diana Bowman
August 31 – Children stay in worship

Greeter for July – Jana Hinkle

Greeter for August – Donita Barnes

Ladies, Ladies, Ladies

There are some activities in the church that really could use some unofficial committees. If you are interested in helping with any of the following activities, please see **Nancy Wadman**: Annual Ladies Night, Kitchen Organization and Supplies, and Kitchen Set-up and Food for our Annual Bazaar. We used to have committees for these activities, but unfortunately, they faded away during Covid. Please let me know if you are interested in organizing these events.

Nancy Wadman
Ministry Coordinator

Second Harvest Food Bank

The Spiceland Town Office and our church sponsors a small community food distribution through Second Harvest Food Bank. We actually just provide a place to do it, and the volunteers distribute the food. We have noticed recently that they could really use some more nutritious food. I called and discussed the issue with them, and they are going to try to bring better quality items. I asked if we could supplement with items we can donate and was told yes.

The next two distributions will be on August 18 and November 17. The Missions Committee would like to start collecting just canned food items for these two distributions or if you want to give money, the committee will purchase the food. We usually have around 30-40 families that come through on those days. If you have any questions, please contact **Nancy Wadman**.

Membership

We would love to have you join Spiceland Friends. Official membership is a simple way of saying that you desire to join arms with us as a way to walk out your Christian Faith in the encouragement of one another as we share Jesus with our community. Let **David Brock**, **Eric Bowman**, or **Nancy Wadman** know if you are interested or have questions about becoming a member.

Notes of Thanks



"Thank you everyone for all the cards and messages and the ones who stopped by. I had a great birthday!

– **Ruth Knotts**

"Thank you for the Bible I received Graduation Sunday and also for the thoughts and prayers."

– **Ben Simerly**

"Thank you for the Bible. It looks like a good study Bible that can help me understand different verses."

– **Jada Woolard**

"Thank you for being a part of our church page."

– **The Courier Times**

Chair Yoga/Exercises starting in September
Tuesdays and Thursdays
10:00-10:30 a.m.
See **Nancy Wadman** if you are interested.

You Are Invited

Ladies of the church are invited to a Baby Shower for **Jada Woolard** on Sunday, July 27, 2:00-4:00 p.m. at Spiceland Friends Church Family Center. It is being hosted by Marilyn Ingle and Angela Speer. Please R.S.V.P. at 765-524-3791. Jada is registered at Amazon and Walmart.

A Refreshing Gift

Oh, how beautiful is the summer night, which is not night, but a sunless, yet unclouded, day descending upon earth with dews and shadows and refreshing coolness! How beautiful the long mild twilight, which, like a silver clasp, unites today with yesterday!

– **Henry Wadsworth Longfellow**