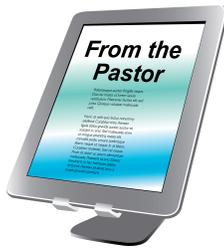




THE
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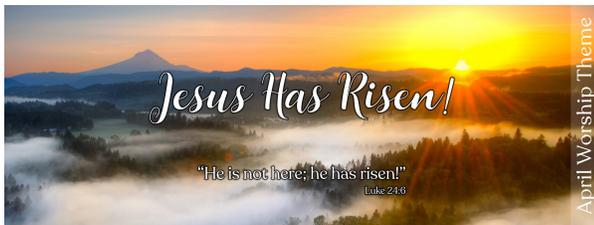
A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

April 2022



Jesus Has Risen!

"He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:6



April is here! After a long winter, we celebrate April arriving. April brings spring – flowers, buds on the trees and then leaves, green grass, warmer weather, and the chance to spend time outdoors without our coats on. April also brings Easter. We celebrate Easter on April 17 this year. The followers of Jesus have celebrated Easter each year for almost 2000 years!

We celebrate because on that first Easter everything changed about humankind's relationship with God. Ever since creation God had been active in the world and involved in people's lives, but now because of Jesus' resurrection from the dead everything changed. Jesus defeated sin and death. He opened the door for God's love and forgiveness to be available to every person on the earth then and in the future. He opened the door for direct communication between God and human beings through the Holy Spirit – the Spirit that Jesus sent to comfort, guide, and help us navigate life.

The disciples were overwhelmed with grief and fear. Jesus had been crucified on a cruel cross. They thought he had the power to do anything, but they saw him die. With his death their hopes and dreams of a kingdom of God coming were demolished. They feared for their lives – what if the same people came for them? They were confused about what they had believed – how could they have been so wrong? Even when they saw the tomb was empty and an Angel told them clearly, "Jesus is not here – He is risen as he told you he would," they still could not comprehend it. They simply went back home to think about it. They did not understand what this meant to them or to the world.

It took several instances of the risen Jesus appearing to the disciples at different times and different places before they began to understand. Finally, they began to understand that they had the power to minister to others in Jesus' name. They began to preach and teach about the love and forgiveness offered because of what Jesus had done. They taught about the transformation that God can bring about in each of our lives if we believe in Him and allow Him to work with us.

That forgiveness, that power, that transformation remains for each of us today if we open our lives to walking in the way Jesus taught us. It is available to each of us and to everyone in the world now and in the future. That is why we celebrate Easter every year!

Come to worship each Sunday this month and make a special effort to come on Easter Sunday to celebrate what the resurrection means in our lives. Invite some family and friends to come with you. Come and celebrate what Jesus has done and is doing in our lives.

David Brock

Daily Priorities

One day it will be the small things that matter. It is the mundane routine of the daily grind that impacts the distant future. We should not forget that there will be a day when a prayer for someone, a brief conversation about the gospel, and the daily love of those around us are the real things that will shape eternity. Big things like economic collapse, oil prices, pandemics, and even war itself will one day be 100,000-year-old memories. Life's successes come about in the daily grind, the daily habits, and the daily relationships.

While it is human nature in times like these to turn our minds to rising prices, wars, crime, pandemics, strong political views, and countless other crises, it is our daily, even hourly, ability to turn our minds and hearts to those we interact with moment by moment that will change eternity. How we attend to our children, our grandchildren, our spouses, our parents, our grandparents, those in our care, our friends, our employers, our employees, and even those we don't care to be around should be our continual focus.

It is important to be informed and have a grasp on the events of the world that impact our current life and future events, but let us remember that life is gained and lost in the small seemingly insignificant daily moments. It's possible and even probable that the most important impact of today's tragic headlines occurred 60 or so years ago at the family dinner table in the Putin household. It's even more probable that your impact on eternity occurs in the mundane cadence and routine of your interactions with those closest to you on a daily basis. Love now, right now and make it a habit!

Matthew 22:34-40 (NLT)

"Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, mind, and soul. Love others as you love yourself."

Eric Bowman



Upcoming Easter Events

Thursday, April 14 – Fill Easter Eggs – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 16 – Easter Egg Hunt – 12:00 noon

Sunday, April 17 – Easter!

8:00 a.m. – Community Early Easter Service
and breakfast at Spiceland Friends

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School at SFC

10:30 a.m. – Special Easter Worship Service

Annual Easter Egg Hunt



The Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 16, at noon – rain or shine.

We are asking for

donations of candy and plastic eggs which are needed by Thursday, April 14, and cookies which are needed by 11:30 a.m. on April 16.

Community Early Easter Service

This year's community early Easter service will be held here at Spiceland Friends Church at 8:00 a.m. (April 17). Join us for a time of celebrating the resurrection of Jesus as well as the hope, joy, and new life God offers us each day. **Nancy Wadman** will bring the message entitled "Do You Have Five Minutes for Jesus?" Special music will be provided by the Spiceland Nazarene Church. Join us for a delicious breakfast immediately following the service. Bring your family and friends!

Special Easter Service Is Planned

On Easter Sunday – April 17 – we will have a special Easter service at 10:30 a.m. **David Brock** is bringing an Easter message entitled "Empty" with scripture from Luke 24:1-12. **Haley Painter** will provide special music, **Virginia Bryson** will play the organ prelude, the choir will sing an anthem, and **Eric Bowman** will play trumpet accompaniment with the hymns. Come and sing your favorite Easter hymns and bring a friend or invite your family. Sunday School classes will meet at the regular time of 9:30 a. m. that day.

Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family

Tom Weber – surgery; Addison’s House #133
Marilyn Biehl – shoulder surgery
Pat Bogue – recovering from back surgery
Judy Smith – health problems
Marilyn Thompson – Bell’s palsy
Irene Goodwin – health problems
Janet Craft – health problems
Steve Neal – liver cancer



Extended Family and Friends

Naomi Wagner (David Baker’s sister) – lung cancer
Family of Richard Coffman
Betty Kirtley (Marilyn Thompson’s mother) –
severe back pain
Step-mom of Teresa Batt – broken hip
Brenda Maloyed – heart surgery
Diana Pfeffer (Tommie Hunt & Judy Stevens) –
cancer surgery
Marc Allhands (Cindy Mitchell) – sepsis and other
issues
Kelly Bush (Claudia Garner) – colon cancer
Eric Roth (Darlings) – recovering from COVID
Vickie Vaccaro (Helen Rust) – cancer
Jackie Clendenin (Pat Bogue) – swallowing issues
Ruthann Pittman (Kandi Rutledge) – cancer
Susan Weaver (Kristen Davis) – lung cancer
Daniel Sears (Kristen Davis) – stomach cancer
Par Sung (Bob Rust) – kidney problems
Tivon Lee (grandson of Sadlers) – health issues
Carolyn Lantz – health problems
Abby (God daughter of Bob & Helen Rust)
Emogene Putnam (Jim Putnam’s mother) – health
issues
Franka Dick (Pyles) – health issues
Rita Beaver (Garners) – bladder cancer
Melissa Humerickhouse (Jenny McDaniel) – brain
tumor
Parents of Teresa Batt
Joyce Lacy (Sandi Swann) – needs prayer
Byron Hanes (Relative of Pam Reno) – radiation
People in Ukraine
Students, teachers, and school administrators
Our country and servicemen and women
Prison Staff and Prisoners
Long-term care facilities staff and residents dealing
with COVID-19

Sermon Topics for April

Eric Bowman will be preaching April 3 and
24. Nancy Wadman will be preaching at the Com-
munity Early Easter Service on April 17. David
Brock will be preaching April 10 and 17.



April 3

Sermon – “A Final Word”
Scripture – Ephesians 6:10-17

April 10

Sermon – “Search Me, Oh God”
Scripture – Psalm 139

April 17 – Easter Early Service

Sermon – “Do You Have Five Minutes for Jesus?”
Scripture – Mark 8:31; Isaiah 53:11

April 17 – Easter Service

Sermon – “Empty”
Scripture – Luke 24:1-12

April 24

Scripture – Ephesians 6:18-25

Worship Assistants for April

Scripture Readers

April 3 – Bob Rust
April 10 – Ron Reece
April 17 – Debra Weber
April 24 – Janet Putnam



Children’s Story

April 3 – Mike Van Osdol
April 10 – Janet Putnam
April 17 – Diana Bowman
April 24 – Linda Brock

Junior Church

April 3 – Linda Brock
April 10 – David Lahr
April 17 – Linda Brock
April 24 – Claudia Garner

Greeter – Hunter Crandall

Tea and Time to Visit



On Tuesday, April 19, any ladies who have lost their husband are invited to come to Spiceland Friends at 10:00 a.m. for tea and treats. Last month we have six ladies and a great time of fellowship. Please feel free to invite a friend who is in the same situation. P.S. We will have coffee too! If you have any questions, please contact **Nancy Wadman**.

Graduation Sunday Is Coming Up

We will be celebrating and honoring our high school and college graduates on Sunday, May 15. If you have a student who you would like to be recognized, please give **Nancy** the following information: the school or schools they attended, their major if in college, activities, future plans, and parents' and/or grandparents' names. I would like to have this information by April 24. If you have questions, please see **Nancy Wadman**.

With Sympathy

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to **Randy & Sonja Coffman** upon the passing of Randy's brother, Richard Coffman, on March 19.

Why We Need Easter

No one is exempt from tragedy or disappointment – even God was not exempt. Jesus offered no immunity, no way *out* of the unfairness, but rather a way *through* it to the other side. Just as Good Friday demolished the instinctive belief that this life is supposed to be fair, Easter Sunday followed with its startling clue to the riddle of the verse. Out of the darkness, a bright light shone. . . .

The cross of Christ may have overcome evil, but it did not overcome unfairness. For that, Easter is required, a bright clue that someday God will restore all physical reality to its proper place.

– **Philip Yancey**

Notes of Thanks

“Thank you for making a memorial contribution in memory of my dad to Indy Honor Flight. He was looking forward to the trip, now he will be there in spirit. Thank you for sending a card to Operation Mail Call. He would have received it on the flight.”

– **The Family of Faye Crowell
Larry & Julie Lucas**

“Thank you for your kind donation to the Salvation Army of Henry County. When you donate to your local Salvation Army, the money stays local. This means help for your Henry County neighbors in need. We could not do what we do without donors like you!”

– **Salvation Army of Henry County**

“On behalf of Westminster Community Center, I wish to thank you for your donation of \$100.00 given on 3/13/2022. Your partnership with Westminster means so much to us and to the families we serve! Appreciate so much your generous gift to support!”

– **Jeff Kundert, Executive Director**

Complete Serenity

Many of us have heard the first part of what's called “The Serenity Prayer,” attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. But we would do well to learn the rest of it as well:

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.”

