



THE *Spiceland Friend*

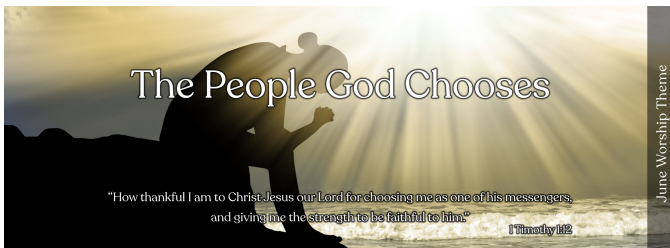
A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

June/July 2021



“The People God Chooses”

“How thankful I am to Christ Jesus our Lord for choosing me as one of his messengers, and giving me the strength to be faithful to him.” 1 Timothy 1:12 (TLB)



When I was in school, recess or lunch hour was a time that the boys would choose teams and play a game. Two people would be designated as captains and then they would take turns picking someone from the group to play on their team. Of course, the most athletic and coordinated boys were chosen first. I always dreaded these games because I would always be chosen last or next to last because I lacked athletic ability, and they had seen the way I played in previous games. One captain would say to the other one: “You take Brock.” The other captain would say: “No, I had him yesterday – you take him.” I couldn’t blame

them. They were playing to win, and they needed the best team members possible.

Adult life is much the same way – employers are looking for the best team members for their business so they can be profitable and successful. Students with the best grades get admitted to the best colleges and then they get the best jobs when they graduate. All of this picking and choosing makes us strive to be the best in whatever we do and to improve our skills and abilities.

Sometimes, we fall into the trap of believing that God does the same thing – chooses only the best for his calling and work. However, the Bible and our life experiences do not show that this is the case. **Instead, God seems to call flawed and imperfect people for his work in the world.** The scripture quoted above is the introduction to a few verses where Paul writes to Timothy that God does just the opposite of what we would expect. Paul uses himself as an example and discusses how he was chief among sinners: “Even though I used to scoff at the name of Christ. I hunted down his people, harming them in every way I could. But God had mercy on me because I didn’t know what I was doing, for I didn’t know Christ at that time.” (1 Timothy 1:13) **God chose Paul while he was still a sinner and the most unlikely candidate for God’s work, but God transformed him and made him into a follower of Jesus who would do great things to spread the good news of Jesus.** Paul put it this way in verse 14: “Oh, how kind our Lord was, for he showed me how to trust him and become full of the love of Christ Jesus.” We have seen the same principles at work in the book of Esther as God

(Continued on back)

The People God Chooses *(Continued)*

chose two of the most unlikely people to save his people from extermination.

God chooses each of us – weaknesses and all – to do his work in the world. The most amazing thing is that he promises to give us the ability and strength to do that work. The story of Esther has taught us to “cling to hope, however small, and to confidence that whatever evil might currently reign, the story of God isn’t finished.” (Mike Cosper in *Faith Among the Faithless*). God is faithful to us no matter what our situation is or the circumstances we face. He promises to draw near to us and to love us as he forgives us and strengthens us.

David Brock

Rocky Railway Is Departing Soon!

Choo choo!! Rocky Railway departs from the train station June 14-18 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. each evening. Kids ages 3 through having just completed 5th grade are invited to come along for the ride! The annual pitch-in will be held on June 20 immediately following the VBS Recap service at 10:30 a.m. Mark your calendars so you don’t miss this awesome train ride to learn all about Jesus. Some volunteer opportunities are still available. See or contact **Carly Griggs** if you have any questions.



Carly Griggs

Victory Lane Camp Breakfast

The Missions Committee of SFC will be serving breakfast to Victory Lane campers at Cornerstone Campground on Thursday, June 10. This is a non-profit organization that serves disabled children and their families.

June Monthly Meeting Is Coming up Soon

Spiceland Monthly Meeting will convene for the transaction of business following our worship service on June 13. The meeting will be held in the Mary M Room. Reports will be heard from the Associate Pastor, Ministry Coordinator, Treasurer, Trustees, Ministry & Oversight Committee, Missions Committee, and Christian Education Committee. Please plan to be in attendance.

Mark Your Calendar for June and July Events

Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. – Walkers
Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. – Bible Study
June 1, 6:00 p.m. – Christian Education Meeting
June 7-12 – Set up for VBS
June 8, 6:30 p.m. – Missions Committee Meeting
June 13 – Monthly Business Meeting following
Worship
June 8-14, 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Rock Railway VBS
July 5 – 8 – Set up for Rummage Sale
July 6, 10:00 a.m. – Music Committee Meeting
July 9 & 10 – Rummage Sale in Family Center
July 11, 2:30 p.m. – Celebration of Life for Juanita
Setree
July 13, 6:00 p.m. – Christian Education Meeting
July 27, 9:00 a.m. – Deadline for newsletter articles
July 29, 9:30 a.m. – Fold August Newsletter

Celebration of Life Service

A Celebration of Life Service for **Juanita Setree** will be held on July 11, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. The service will be in the Worship Center at Spiceland Friends Church. Desserts and drinks will be served afterwards in the Family Center. The family is inviting all who come to the service to stay afterwards for refreshments.





Have You Ever Been Really Disappointed?

The first birthday I really remember was when I turned seven. I was getting ready for school when I decided to snoop around for a few minutes to see if I could find my present. Sure enough, as I rounded the corner to my mom's side of the bed, laying there in plain sight was a blue "Tonka" truck. But WAIT!! It was not the REAL one I had begged for. . . It was a plastic imitation. My heart fell. Disappointment began to weigh down my excitement. Not only was I not getting the truck I had dreamed of. . . I began to realize that it was only early morning and I had already discovered what would be the pinnacle of the day. Not only was it the wrong gift. . . I had nothing else to look forward to for the rest of my birthday.

Life never goes the way we expect. We are faced with EXTREME disappointment. A job loss, a family issue, a marriage struggle, a housing situation, a career goal, and even a life-threatening disease, or the death of a loved one CRUSHES us with disappointment. How we react and handle these moments is defining. We can choose to grow bitter and push back or we can choose to continue to grow through the heartache. I want to give you some quick steps that the Bible reveals to us on how to best handle CRUSHING DISAPPOINTMENT.

We must keep believing in God! God is a miracle worker. We worship a God who parts water, moves boulders, heals the sick, and raises the dead. He is able to save our very souls. We do not know if God will remove our problem or disappointing struggle, but we can trust and believe that from his perspective He knows best what we need for our future in both the now and eternity. *"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord, "and my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than*

the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."
– Isaiah 55:8-9

It's OK to grieve! Things have not gone the way you wanted. Your hopes and expectations have been defeated. You need to spend some time being sad, mourning the way you thought things would be. It's ok. *"The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit."*
– Psalm 34:18

It's time to pray and talk with God. *"Give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you. He will not permit the godly to slip and fall."* – Psalm 55:22

Be thankful! *"Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."* – Ephesians 5:19b-20

Believe in yourself! With God's help you have the tools to conquer *those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.* – Isaiah 40:28-31

We can get past our crushing disappointment. It's a step-by-step process. Give it to God. He will help you heal as you walk through this part of your life. There will be new life through our trials. New life now – New life in eternity.

Eric Bowman

Reserve the Date! August 24, 2021



Spiceland Friends Church will be putting together a professional picture directory. The company we are using will be here on August 24 to take free family directory photos. We need EVERYONE to set some time aside on August 24 from 2:00-8:30 p.m. to have your photo taken. Watch your August newsletter for details. We want you and your family to be photographed.

Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family

Libby Henshaw – broken hip
Megan Chandler – foot surgery
Debbie Denny – recovering from surgery; chemo
Pat Bogue – back surgery; eye problems
Elaine Wilson – heart complications; on hospice
Wayne Bogue – accident; concussion
Marcia Byrket – health issues
Sandi Swann – knee replacement surgery
Rick Little – cancer has returned; more chemo
George Lacy – lung cancer; chemo
George Fort – recovering from back surgery
Tom Weber – health concerns
Judy Smith – health problems
Steve Stevens – health concerns
Darlene Darling – at home
Kathy Painter – at home recovering
Marilyn Thompson – Bell's palsy
Don & Barbara Meade – health problems
Irene Goodwin – health problems
Janet Craft – ankle surgery

Extended Family and Friends

Family of Raymond Fort
Tivon Lee (grandson of Sadlers) – health issues
Bob Carroll (Priscilla James) – heart surgery
Carolyn Lantz – health problems
Abby (God daughter of Bob & Helen Rust)
Family of Larry Breckenridge (Cindy Mitchell's Brother)
Family of Jim Nelson (Brocks' neighbor)
Richard Biehl (Marilyn Biehl) – heart issues
Franka Dick (Pyles) – health issues
Aunt of Josh Riggs – possible colon cancer
Linda Dunfield (Tommie Hunt) – health issues
Jeff Snyder (Marilyn Biehl's nephew) – cancer; Mass on brain
Larry & Peggy MacFarlane – Larry - in hospital
Larry & Peggy MacFarlane's son – COVID-19
Danny Darling (brother of Gerald) – toe amputated
Steve Neal (Brenda Reece) – esophageal cancer
Rita Beaver (Garners) – bladder cancer
Melissa Humerickhouse (Jenny McDaniel) – brain tumor
Randy Helderbrand (Dale Albertson) – stomach cancer
Jan Hurst (Sister of Judy Stevens) – health issues



Emma – 8-year-old with brain tumor (Marilyn Ingle)
Jill Stansberry (Claudia Garner) – mass removed
From spine
Jay French (Linda Ratcliff) – cancer; chemo & radiation
Shelly McIntosh – breast cancer
Grandson of Ray & Naomi Wagner (David Baker) – In hospital
Sue Engle (Kandi Rutledge) – breast cancer
Brooke Runyon (Cindy Mitchell) – facial cancer
Andy Davis (Janet Putnam) – cancer has returned
Jennifer (friend of Debi Zimmerman) – breast cancer
Juan (Beverly Reece) – health issues
Charlene Haugh (Claudia Garner) – recovering from bad stroke
Parents of Teresa Batt
Joyce Lacy (Sandi Swann) – needs prayer
Byron Hanes (Relative of Pam Reno) – radiation
Emogene Putnam (Jim Putnam's mother) – health issues
Students, teachers, and school administrators

Bring Us Your Attic Treasures

We are excited about having a huge rummage sale on July 9 and 10 at SFC during Freedom Days. We will start taking donations – no clothing, please – on July 3. Yes, I know that is a Sunday, but it may be more convenient for you to bring them when you come to church. Feel free to bring items on Tuesday through Friday. Someone will be here to help you unload between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. If you need to come at a different time, please call **Nancy, Vickie Richardson, or Sandi Swann** to make arrangements for someone to unlock the church for you. All proceeds will go to the Quaker Circle ladies group. There will be a sign-up sheet for workers at SFC on June 27. We will need volunteers to bring donations up from the basement. We will also be selling drinks and snacks both days, and there will be a sign-up sheet for donations for workers for both days.

Rummage Sale Hours:

Fri., July 9, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Sat., July 10, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

– Nancy Wadman

Worship Assistants for June and July

Scripture Readers

June 6 – Kandi Rutledge
June 13 – Janet Putnam
June 20 – Barbara Lacy
June 27 – Dale Albertson
July 4 – Nancy Wadman
July 11 – Diana Bowman
July 18 – Jim Putnam
July 25 – Dale Albertson



Children's Story

June 6 – Janet Putnam
June 13 – Diana Bowman
June 20 – Linda Brock
June 27 – Mike Van Osdol
July 4 – Janet Putnam
July 11 – Diana Bowman
July 18 – Linda Brock
July 25 – Mike Van Osdol

Junior Church

June 6 – No Junior Church
June 13 – David Lahr
June 20 – Linda Brock
June 27 – Claudia Garner
July 4 – Linda Brock
July 11 – David Lahr
July 18 – Linda Brock
July 25 – Claudia Garner

Greeters for June – Janice Radcliff and Ruth Knotts

Greeter for July – David Lahr

Notes of Thanks

“Thank you for all your prayers, cards and well wishes for me following my foot surgery. It went well and I’ve progressed to walking with a boot and physical therapy. I appreciate you all.”

–**Megan Chandler**

“The Christian Love Center would like to thank you for the monetary gift of \$100.00. We deeply appreciate your ongoing support of our mission to help others help themselves.”

–**Pastor Juanita Suggs**

Notes of Thanks (Continued)

“Thanks for supporting The Guest House with your donation of \$200.00. It is greatly appreciated.”

–**Carol Martin**

Sermon Topics for June and July

Nancy Wadman will be preaching on June 6, **Eric Bowman** will be preaching on June 13 and July 4, VBS staff will do the Concluding Program on June 20, and **David Brock** will be preaching June 27 and July 11, 18, and 25.

June 6

Sermon – “Discernment in Everyday Life”

Scripture – 1 John 4:1-6 (NLT)

June 13

Sermon – “Kohl’s Cash”

Scripture – Colossians 3:1-17 (NIV)

June 20

VBS Concluding Program &
Dinner after Church

June 27

Sermon – “Humility vs. Pride”

Scripture – Esther 4:15-5:8

July 4

Sermon – “Fire Works”

Scripture – Job 23:10

July 11

Sermon – “Coincidence or Providence”

Scripture – Esther 6:1-14

July 18

Sermon – “Reversal of Fortune”

Scripture – Esther 7 & 8

July 25

Sermon – “Defense and Celebration”

Scripture – Esther 9 & 10

