

A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

March 2019



"Jesus Is Present" "Take Courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." Mark 6:50b

Last Sunday Nancy Wadman gave a testimony about how God had suddenly made himself very real to her as she tried to navigate driving in an unfamiliar area in a very intense snowstorm. She recounted how she had been becoming more and more tense and worried about reaching her destination safely. Finally, she said, "OK, God; you have got to take over because I am not able to do this on my own." Suddenly, she said, God's presence became very real, her nerves calmed down, and she felt a sense of peace all over. The storm was still there; the sense of being lost was still there; but she felt God guiding her and calming her through the rest of the trip. He helped her to arrive safely with a calmness that can only come from his presence.

Nancy's testimony reminded me of how many times I have the same experience. I forget that God is present and wants to be present in the midst of my life and all my life circumstances. It is easy to try to solve the problems on our own first and only turn to God's help as a last resort.

I am reminded of a favorite Bible Story that is usually referred to as "Jesus Walking on the Water." It is much more than the miracle of walking on the

water. The disciples were in a boat on the Sea of Galilee, and they had been rowing against a powerful wind for almost eight hours. Jesus had stayed behind on the shore to conclude teaching the crowds and to go to the mountain to pray. They never thought to call out to him or to pray for help. Jesus saw their danger and saw their inability to row through the storm. If he had only wanted to calm the storm, he could have done that with one word from the shore. However, he saw it as a "teachable moment" for the disciples. He wanted them to invite him into the problem, and he wanted them to understand that he was always present with them. He walked out on the water and acted as if he was going to walk on past them. They thought he was a ghost and cried out in terror. He came over to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." He used one of the most powerful names for God – I am. The I am of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God told Moses when he came to him in the burning bush, "My name is I am." Jesus was teaching his disciples (and us) that he and God are one and that the presence and power of God is always available, and he wants to be with us.

During the next few weeks, let's focus on inviting God to come alongside us each day and with each problem that we face. Let's focus on recognizing his presence and power. Let's focus on allowing his peace and calmness wash over us, calming our spirit and mind.





Wednesday Evening Lenten Book Study Begins Soon

Each year, during the weeks leading up to Easter, we have a book study to help deepen our spiritual lives and to help us focus on our relationship with Jesus. This year the study will be four weeks long beginning on <u>March 20</u>. We will meet the last two Wednesdays of March and the first two Wednesdays of April. Dinner is provided and begins at 6:00 p.m. (bring a side dish to share or give some money for the main dish), and the study begins at 6:45. We conclude at 7:45. Books are available in the Welcome Center for \$12.00. You can also order your own on Amazon if you want Kindle or another version.

This year's study will be Max Lucado's book, *Six Hours One Friday*. They were the most critical



hours in history. During those six hours on that Friday, God embedded in the earth anchors sturdy enough to withstand any storm – even the ones Christians face today. Lucado reveals the three solid anchors believers can count on today: their lives are not futile, their failures are not fatal,

and their deaths are not final. Through His death, your life has purpose and meaning. You are forgiven and loved by a Savior who died for you. And an empty tomb proclaims that death does not have the final word. **David Brock** will be teaching the class.

Come and join us on March 20 and bring a friend. All are welcome.

Search for Youth Pastor

Ministry & Oversight is now in search for our next Youth Pastor. If you are interested or know someone who is looking to get involved with youth ministry, please contact **Cathy Harris** or **Lisa Ash** for more details. If you are willing to assist Cathy in the meantime with keeping the momentum going with our youth, please feel free to reach out to either Cathy or Lisa. If you are not in a position to give of your time right now, we will gladly take all prayers moving forward with the process.

- Lisa Ash Clerk of Ministry & Oversight

Upcoming Special Easter Services and Activities



Wed., April 17, at 6:00 p.m. – Help the Christian Education Committee stuff Easter Eggs.
Sat., April 20, at 1:00 p.m. – Easter Egg Hunt
Sun., April 21 – Easter!
8:00 a.m. – Community Early Easter service and breakfast

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School at SFC

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

Candy Donations Needed for Easter Egg Hunt

It's hard to believe but Easter will be here

before you know it, and that means that before long our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be taking place, and we need your



help. We need to fill over 1,000 Easter eggs! Candy should be individually wrapped and small enough to fit into the eggs. A donation box will be in the Welcome Center soon!

Co-Pastor Is Traveling to Belize

Cathy Harris will be heading to Belize <u>Saturday, March 2</u>, where she will be attending the Friends United Meeting General Board Meetings.

Once every three years the FUM General Board meets off-site (away from Richmond, IN) at one of our missions sites. They will be visiting the Friends School in Belize City and will be spending time with students and staff during the week. They will also be worshiping with the new Belize Friends Meeting/Church that we are planting there. The Board will also be doing a service project. Cathy will return Saturday, March 9. She has been serving on the FUM General Board for 1½ years now. Our church financially supports the missions in Belize – the Friends School and Church.

Sermon Topics for March

David Brock will be preaching all five Sundays in March.

> March 3 Sermon - "Forgiven" Scripture – Matthew 6:9-13

March 10 Sermon – "Facing Temptation" Scripture – Luke 4:1-13

March 17 Sermon – "Facing Toward Jerusalem" Scripture – Luke 13:31-35

> March 24 Sermon – "Repentance" Scripture – Luke 13:1-9

March 31 Sermon – "Extravagant Love" Scripture – Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Youth Groups Activities

On Sunday, March 3, there will be no Youth Group meetings. **Cathy** is working to finalize the schedule of exciting activities and events for both the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High Youth Groups for the month of March so be sure to look for the "Friend to Friend" e-mail for this month's schedule. If you have questions, please text, call, or e-mail Cathy.

With Sympathy

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of **Jo Ann McCormack** upon her passing on January 31 in North Manchester, Indiana.



Don't forget to set your clocks forward an hour on Saturday, March 9, before you go to bed or you'll miss church!

Worship Assistants for March

Scripture Readers

March 3 – Libby Henshaw March 10 – Sandra Swann March 17 – Renee Adams March 24 – Tom Weber March 31 – Jason Ash

Junior Church

March 3 – Kids stay in worship March 10 – Cathy Harris March 17 – Megan Harris & Darlene Darling March 27 – Cathy Harris & Judy Smith March 31 – Kids stay in worship

Hosts – Bob & Helen Rust and family Children's Messages – Mike Van Osdol

Baby Bottle Boomerang Begins!

Stop by the table in the Welcome Center this Sunday, March 3 (or any Sunday in March) and pick up a baby bottle. Take it home and fill it with coins, paper money, or a check and return it to the Welcome Center by Sunday, March 31. All proceeds will go to the Henry County Pregnancy Care Center. They can also use disposable diapers and new/gently used infant clothing.



This outreach ministry is sponsored by our Missions Committee.

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 1 John 4:9 (NIV)

Church Directory Is Available

The 2019 Church Directory has been printed

and is available at the church. If you haven't picked up one yet, you can get one in the Welcome Center. Changes and additions will be printed in the newsletter as they are received.



Please Remember in Prayer

Church Family

Janet Craft - at Glen Oaks with broken shoulder Linda Brock – at Glen Oaks for rehab Sandy Alexander – Glen Oaks undergoing therapy Charlie Byrket – recovering at home Max Jessup – Glen Oaks with advancing dementia Eleanor Painter – PET scan shows additional cancer Don Painter – pins removed from injured thumb; in brace Family of JoAnn McCormack Chris Harris - move to Virginia Chris Garner – recovering from back surgery Faye Crowell – shingles Lin Sadler – gallbladder surgery Lisa Ash – knee injury Marcia Byrket – pneumonia Pete Kiger (Judy Sadler) – serious illness Pat Bogue – eye problem Bobby Thompson – recovering from pneumonia Irene & Monte Goodwin – Irene – eye surgeries Youth Groups & College Students Unspoken prayer requests

Extended Family and Friends

Karen Reno (Pam Reno) – significant health problems Jim Hughes (Debbie Denny) – tumor surgery Doyle Chandler (Vickie Richardson) – prostate cancer complications Mary Kay Lacy (Vickie Richardson) – lung cancer Niece of Bob & Helen Rust (Cierra) – heart problems Mandy Boyd (Pat Bogue) - trigeminal neuralgia Ryan Marsh (Helen Rust) – 3-year-old with kidney problems Cathy Chamberlin Smith (Tasha Crandall) – breast cancer Franka Dick (Pam Pyle) – surgery on Feb. 5 Aaron Reed (Susan Waymire) – teen w/bone cancer Lesley Reece (Beverly Reece) – hip replacement Mack Davis (Kristin Davis) - cancer, chemo Andy Davis (Janet Putnam) - brain cancer treatments Ron Cox (R. J. White) – cancer Jan Hurst (Judy Stevens) – fell; broke hand Our country and servicemen and women

Quaker Missionaries/Missions/FUM

Friends United Meeting Native American Friends Centers – Mesquakie, Kickapoo, Mowa-Choctaw Belize Friends School and New Friends Church Ramallah Friends School in Palestine Shawn & Katrina McConaughey – Kenya Missionaries

E-mail Updates and Prayer List

We occasionally send out emails ("Friend to Friend") to keep folks updated on events and things that come up in the life of our church family. We also send out prayer list e-mails with requests and needs for prayer – as well as to share joys and how we are seeing God at work in our lives and to give thanks. If you'd like to be added to e-mail list, please contact **Cathy Harris** at cathy.spiceland friends@gmail.com.

2019 Quaker Haven Camp Dates

Quaker Haven Church Camp is a wonderful camp, which is located in northern Indiana on beautiful Dewart Lake. There are lots of fun



activities, and it's a great opportunity to get to know other Quaker youth from around Indiana. It is also a great time to learn more about God and to deepen our relationship with God.

aker Haven CAMP

Our church pays half of the

cost for each camper to attend camp (half of the cost listed below). If the cost of the remaining balance is a concern, please see **Cathy Harris** for additional help. Questions? Contact Cathy Harris.

You can register online at http://www.qhc youthprogramming.com/ or Cathy will help students register.

Below are the dates for 2019:

Beginners Camp – June 14-16 (ages 5-7 with parent/grandparent/guardian) Cost: \$156
Little Friends Camp – June 7-10 (ages 7-9) Cost: \$196
Adventure Camp – June 23-28 (ages 9-11) Cost: \$296
Jr. High Camp – June 9-14 (ages 11-13) Cost: \$296
Sr. High Camp –
Week 1: June 16-21 (ages 13-18) Cost: \$296

Week 2: July 14-19 (Ages 13-18) Cost: \$296 Young Adult Camp – June 7-9 (ages 20-35) Cost: \$50