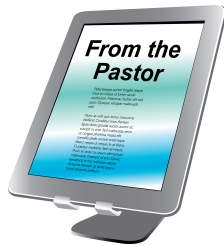




THE
Spiceland Friend

A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

March 2020



“Always Keeping Our Eyes on the Lord”

“I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.”
Psalm 16:8 (NIV)



The six weeks leading up to Easter Sunday have traditionally been a time set aside for spiritual growth, prayer, reflection, and communion with God. This tradition began as early as 100 AD as the church took shape. The early church saw the need to set aside a special time to focus on training new followers of Jesus and strengthening the existing followers. This year, Sunday, March 1, begins the six weeks of our special focus on our spiritual growth. Easter is April 12th.

The verse from Psalm 16 printed above is our theme verse. I love the picture the Psalmist paints and the concept that he conveys. Keeping our eyes always on the Lord and keeping the Lord at our right hand! What a challenge because we are easily distracted from closely following the Lord as the circumstances of life come our way. We

begin to trust in our own abilities and our own skills rather than realizing the God is standing right next to us and is willing to give us the strength and courage that we need to face our particular problems and challenges.

As we walk through life, we continuously measure whether we are up to the challenge. Many times we fear the coming circumstances because we cannot change or control them. As these fears pile up, we can become discouraged and stressed out. This verse reminds us that we can face those circumstances so long as we keep the Lord at our right hand. (If you are left-handed, you can keep him at your left hand.) The point is we can focus on the promises that God has given us to constantly be with us and to keep him right beside us. Keeping God right beside us and focusing on his presence contrasts with thinking that we must make everything work out on our own according to our own abilities. It contrasts with a culture of constant worry and fear that overwhelms us.

We had planned a Spring Bible Study for these six weeks. Ron Reece and I were going to lead a study on the second half of Acts focusing on how God led Paul and the early church leaders through difficult circumstances and persecution. We had to postpone that study due to my upcoming knee replacement surgery. You may want to read Acts 13 to the end during these weeks and consider what God is teaching you about keeping him at your side and keeping your eyes on him.

David Brock

Movie Night Is Coming Up!



Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 14, at 6:00 p.m. The Christian Education Committee is hosting a family movie night and will be showing “The Secret Life of Pets.” Free drinks, hot dogs, and popcorn will be provided, but feel free to bring snacks to share or enjoy during the show.

Upcoming Special Easter Services and Activities

Thurs., April 9, at 6:00 p.m. – Help the Christian Education Committee stuff Easter eggs.

Sat., April 11, at 12:00 noon – Easter Egg Hunt

Sun., April 12 – Easter!

8:00 a.m. – Community Early Easter service and breakfast at Spiceland UMC.

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School at SFC

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

Easter Egg Hunt

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held, **RAIN OR SHINE**, on Saturday, April 11, starting at noon. Children who are in the 5th grade and



younger are invited to participate in the fun! Bring some friends with you because there will be LOTS of eggs to find!

Also, we will need cookie and candy donations for this event. The sign-up sheet for cookies will be on the table in the Welcome Center, and the barrel for candy will also be in the Welcome Center. Please be sure that the candy is individually wrapped so that it can be used inside the plastic Easter eggs. If you have any questions, please see **Jessica Noteboom**.

Spring Bible Study – RESCHEDULED

We had planned to study the second half of Acts during our Spring Bible Study leading up to Easter (March 4-April 8). **Ron Reece** and I were going to teach it together. We had to reschedule the dates because of my surgery. We will do the study later this year. The dates will be set soon. We encourage you to begin reading Acts 13 through the end of the book.

– **David Brock**

Speaker Schedule for March

I will be preaching on March 1 and then we have guest speakers for the next five Sundays while I recover from knee replacement surgery. The guest speakers are a combination of our people who volunteered to bring the message one week and others who agreed to come on a Sunday to help us out. They are all people that we know and have heard from in the past. I will be able to attend church before I begin preaching, but I will be back in the pulpit on Easter Sunday, April 12.

– **David Brock**

March 1 – David Brock

Sermon – “How to Conquer Your Fears”

Scripture – Psalm 16

March 8 – Sandi Swann

Sermon – “Get Out of Your Comfort Zone”

Scripture – 1 Kings 18:8-24

March 15 – Wes Dicken

March 22 – Nancy Wadman

March 29 – Mark Herbkersman

April 5 – Pastor Art Whitaker

Don't forget to set your clocks forward an hour on Saturday, March 7, before you go to bed or you'll miss church!



Please Remember in Prayer



Church Family

Family of Monte Goodwin

David Brock – knee replacement surgery on Mar. 9

Helen Rust – cyst burst behind her knee

Darlene Darling – at Glen Oaks, Room 207

Amy Upchurch – recovering from cancer treatments

David Copenhaver – knee replacement surgery

Betty Moffitt – recovering from aorta valve replacement

Chris Garner – recovering from neck surgery

Max Jessup – continuing to decline

Rick Little – receiving chemo

Judy Smith – health problems

Irene Goodwin – health problems

Pat Bogue – problems with both eyes and knee

Janet Craft – broken shoulder and ankle; breathing problems

Pastoral search for a new co-pastor

Extended Family and Friends

Leona Blake (Mother of Helen Rust) – heart attack

Co-worker of Debbie Denny

Cyndi McHolland (Josh Griggs' great-aunt) – in hospice

Tommie Hunt's granddaughter – recovering from ACL surgery

Connie Smith (Linda Ratcliff's sister) – cancer

Jan Hurst (Judy Stevens' sister) – knee replacement surgery

Jason Ash's parents – in Rushville nursing home; Dad is declining

Rev. Gene Bennett – congestive heart failure; at Glen Oaks

Brad Coffey (Joe James) – cancer

Friend of Steve & Judy Stevens – recent hip surgery

Byron Hanes (Relative of Pam Reno) – lymphoma; chemo

Irene Hudelson (Pat Bogue) – heart problems

Raintree Square – Search for new Executive Director

Kurt Ernestes (Jason & Lisa Ash) – car accident

Sarah Maley (Kandi Rutledge) – advanced breast cancer

Young mother of 4 children diagnosed with cancer (Pat Bogue)

Bob Jones (V. Newkirk) – problems with diabetes

John Reno (uncle of Pam Reno) – health issues
Joe & Debbie Whitesett (friends of Darlene Darling) – multiple health problems

Carolyn Lantz (Teresa Batt) – B-Cell lymphoma
Cousin of Jason Ash – chemo treatments

Isabel Cummins (Claudia Garner) – back surgery; has a lot of pain

Emogene Putnam (Jim Putnam's mother) – uterine cancer

Andy Davis (Janet Putnam) – brain cancer treatments

Our country and servicemen and women

Quaker Missionaries/Missions/FUM

Friends United Meeting

Native American Friends Centers – Mesquakie (Mac & Berny McDonald), Kickapoo, Mowa-Choctaw

Belize Friends School and New Friends Church (Oscar Mmbali, Nikki Holland)

Ramallah Friends School in Palestine (Adrian Moody)

Shawn & Katrina McConaughy – Kenya Missionaries

Prayers for Our Pastor

As most of you know, **David Brock** will be having knee replacement surgery on March 9. Ministry & Oversight is asking for you to join us in prayer not only for a successful operation to alleviate his pain, but for **Linda** as his caregiver, and the surgeon and his staff. Along with offering our prayerful encouragement, we ask you to support his time away from the pulpit by calling or texting **Lisa Ash** (765-561-1595) or by email (lash514@hotmail.com) or other members of M&O for church related matters. Members include Ron Reece, Debi Zimmerman, Brian Thomas, Debbie Denny, Chris Garner, Lisa Knotts, Sandi Swann, and Priscilla James.

– **Lisa Ash**, Clerk of M&O

Church Directory Is Available

The 2020 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.

Worship Assistants for March

Scripture Readers

March 1 – Linda Brock
March 8 – Teresa Batt
March 15 – Beth Carr
March 22 – Kathy Painter
March 29 – Tom Pyle



Junior Church

March 1 – Jason Ash & Marcia Byrket
March 8 – Linda Brock & Judy Smith
March 15 – Linda Brock & Judy Smith
March 22 – Claudia Garner & Brenda Reece
March 29 – No Junior Church

Hosts for March – Charlie & Marcia Byrket

Children's Messages

March 1 – Linda Brock
March 8 – Mike Van Osdol
March 15 – Janet Putnam
March 22 – Mike Van Osdol
March 29 – Linda Brock

Baby Bottle Boomerang Begins!

Stop by the table in the Welcome Center this Sunday, March 1 (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 29. All proceeds will go to the Henry County Pregnancy Care Center. They can also use disposable diapers, new/gently used infant clothing, infant formula, and baby equipment (in good condition).

This outreach ministry is sponsored by our Missions Committee.



With Sympathy



We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Irene Goodwin and family upon the passing of **Monte Goodwin** on February 1.

Update on Associate Pastor Search

Since Cathy Harris left at the end of August 2019, Ministry and Oversight has been searching for a replacement for her position. We also need a youth pastor and so we have developed a flexible job description that we hope will attract candidates with varied gifts. We can build our pastoral team with a full-time pastor or with a combination of part-time people with some of the different skills that we need here at Spiceland Friends.

To date we have looked at a few resumes but have not interviewed any candidates yet. Pastors are in short supply in many churches, including Friends. We have been praying for the right candidate or candidates to apply and praying for guidance and wisdom as M&O makes a selection and submits it to Monthly Meeting for approval. We ask all of you to join us in prayer for this position to be filled with the right person.

M&O still feels led to approach our total pastoral ministry with a team approach as we have done for the last 12 or more years. If you have input on this topic or input or suggestions on candidates, please talk to Lisa Ash, another member of M&O, or David Brock.

In the meantime, we are very fortunate and very grateful for the many volunteers who have stepped forward to effectively cover many of the responsibilities that an Associate Pastor would cover. We believe that everyone who is a follower of Jesus Christ is also a minister – so we are all called to share in this wonderful ministry here at Spiceland Friends.

– **David Brock**

Notes of Thanks



“Thank you for your continued love and support of bringing Christ’s love to our beloved Mesquakie. God is throwing open so many previously closed doors. We are eager to see what He does in 2020. May God bless you all!”

– **Mac & Berny McDonald**

“The family of Jackie Jones is so appreciative of your kindness in providing a meal after Jackie’s funeral service. Please accept the enclosed check in Jackie’s memory. Again, thank you so much!

– **Helen McKinley, Judy Benge,
Robert McKinley, Jeanne Roberts**