



THE  
*Spiceland Friend*

A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017**



### Let the Light of Jesus Shine!

*"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16*

The early church celebrated the Feast of Epiphany on January 6th – twelve days after Christmas Day. Custom has it that Epiphany was the day the wise men showed up to see Jesus and to announce that he was the expected Messiah to bring the good news of God's love to all peoples – not just the Jewish people. The wise men were led to Jesus by a bright and unique star in the sky. This special light created by God led these men, who had little knowledge of God, to God's son – and they recognized him as God's gift to the whole world. The light of this special star pierced the darkness and overcame it to announce God's wondrous love to everyone!

Today, some churches use the weeks between Epiphany and Ash Wednesday to teach and emphasize to the community around them who Jesus is and what his life means to us today. We have an opportunity to highlight and emphasize our living faith as we invite our community to "come and see who Jesus is." I remember when I

was a young adult, I asked a Friends Church pastor about what his church believed. His answer was simple, "Why don't you come around us, join in, and see how we live – that will tell you what we believe and will tell you what we believe about Jesus." I decided to take him up on his offer and joined in with the Friends Church – much different than the church I grew up in. I found out that Jesus was real among these people and that they tried to pattern their lives after his. I decided to become a part of a group that really lived what they said they believed, and here I am 40 years later still involved in the Friends Church and still involved in trying to live out my faith in my everyday life.

During these next seven weeks, let's listen to what Jesus said in the scripture as we look at his words each week during the sermon, and most importantly, let's shine our light by the way we live each and every minute of each and every day to allow the light of Jesus to be seen and understood by the people around us.

*David Brack*

### Lenten Study – Begins March 1

We will be kicking off our Lenten study on Wednesday, March 1. We will be announcing the book/topic we will be studying soon – so watch for additional details in the bulletin and through the SFC Friend to Friend e-mails. Each Wednesday we will have dinner at 6:00 p.m., and the class will begin at 6:45 p.m.

## Grief Support Group Starts January 12

A new GriefShare grief support group will be starting on Thursday evenings beginning January 12. The class will offer support and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.

The class will provide a warm, caring environment, and includes three parts – encouraging, information-packed videos, small group discussion about the weekly video content, and a workbook for your personal use that includes additional information on each week's theme, scripture readings, and questions to reflect on that week. Some of the topics included are as follows: Is this normal? The challenges of grief. The journey of grief. Grief and your relationships. Why? Guilt and anger. Complicating Factors. What do I live for now?

You are welcome to begin attending our GriefShare group at any point. Each session is "self-contained," and you can pick up missed sessions later. The class is led by **Cathy Harris** and **Janet Putnam** and meets 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Mary M Room. The class is free and open to anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one. Contact Cathy if you'd like more information.

## Youth Group Dates for January and February

- Jan. 15** High School Youth – 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
**Jan. 22** Elementary Youth – 3:00-4:30 p.m.  
High School Youth – 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
**Jan. 29** Combined Youth Groups – 3:00-4:30 p.m.  
**Feb. 5** Winter Sneak – no Youth Group  
**Feb. 12** Elementary Youth – 3:00-4:30 p.m.  
High School Youth – 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
**Feb. 19** High School Youth – 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
**Feb. 26** Combined Youth Groups – 3:00-4:30 p.m.

## Lost and Found

In recent weeks numerous articles have been turned in to the church office that have been found throughout the church. They range from earrings to toys to a denim shirt. If you have lost something, check the "Lost and Found" box in the coat room adjacent to the Welcome Center.

## Sermon Topics for January and February

**David Brock** will be preaching each Sunday in January and February.



### January 15

Sermon – "Come and See Jesus"  
Scripture – John 1:29-42; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

### January 22

Sermon – "Light for Your Pathway"  
Scripture – Matthew 4:12-23; Psalm 27:1, 4-9

### January 29

Sermon – "What Does God Require?"  
Scripture – Micah 6:1-9; Matthew 5:1-12

### February 5

Sermon – "Faith Based Living"  
Scripture – Matthew 5:13-20; Psalm 112:1-9

### February 12

Sermon – "This, Not That"  
Scripture – Matthew 5:21-37; Psalm 119:1-8

### February 19

Sermon – "Holy Living"  
Scripture – Matthew 5:38-48;  
1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

### February 26

Sermon – "Don't Worry; Trust God"  
Scripture – Matthew 6:24-34; Isaiah 49:8-16

## Christmas Eve at Spiceland Friends

There were 235 in attendance at the 61<sup>st</sup> Christmas Eve Service at Spiceland Friends. The theme of the service was "Waiting for Bethlehem's Light." The choir, directed by Cathy Harris, sang several selections, and the congregation joined in on familiar Christmas carols. Virginia Bryson was organist, Barbara Ward was pianist, and Christi Brock was flutist. Soloists were Michelle Clapp, Cathy Harris, Megan Harris, and Tasha Crandall. David Brock shared a devotional message – "Shining Bethlehem's Light."

## Please Remember in Prayer

### Church Family

Family of Charles Painter  
Barbara Ward – Florida  
Tom & Pam Pyle & family – death of  
Tom's cousin  
Joshua & Amanda Huss – adoption interviews  
Nancy Wadman – foot surgery  
Judy Smith – dental surgery & traveling  
Chris Garner – recent knee surgery  
Don Rutledge – treatments for prostate cancer  
Patty Thompson – lung cancer treatments  
Heather Groce – blood clots in leg  
Nancy Thompson (Sonja Coffman) – upcoming  
surgery  
Carolyn & Bud Lantz (Teresa Batt) – health problems  
Joan Austerman & Jerri Sharp – Joan very weak  
Monte Goodwin – Hancock Regional Hospital  
Tom Ratcliff – health problems  
Mildred Gephart – stroke, not doing well  
Unspoken requests

### Extended Family and Friends

Ruth Rickenbaugh (Priscilla James) – congestive heart  
failure  
Tom Leonard (Priscilla James) – on heart pump &  
fell/broke foot; in rehab for 3 months  
Husband of Janice Radcliff's niece who is not doing  
well  
Joyce Myers (Chris Garner's aunt) – back surgery on  
Jan. 9  
Dora Mae (sister to Charlene Williams) – heart valve  
replacement surgery on Jan. 10  
Niece of Debbie Denny – delivered preemie twins  
Kim (Teresa Batt's sister-in-law) – breast cancer  
Wes & Jessica Coffman (Sonja Coffman) – birth of  
twins on Jan. 4  
Mark Muse (Becky Muse) – malignant tumor on  
kidney  
Anita Williams (Lisa Little) – cancer treatments  
Sarah Maley (Kandi Rutledge) – metastasized breast  
cancer  
Bill Denney (Debbie Denny) – intense cancer  
treatments  
Steve & Elaine Hill – (Ralph & Renee Adams) Elaine –  
breast cancer  
Leigh Ann Brooks (Sonja Coffman) – completed  
chemo treatments; will start radiation  
Our country and servicemen and women  
Difficulties, problems in the Middle East



## In Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of **Charles Painter** who passed away Monday night, January 9, after a lengthy illness.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of **Eileen Graham** who passed away on December 1. She was the sister of Ruth Knotts, sister-in-law of Rex Brooks, and aunt of Janice Radcliff and Peggy MacFarlane.

## Financial Note from Treasurer \$\$

As we begin the New Year, I want to thank God for the many blessings that were received at Spiceland Friends last year. We were able to do more than ever for those with needs both locally and far away. I think about what an excellent team of pastors and members we have who dedicate themselves each week to bring us Gods' word and help to strengthen the bond of love and friendship among us.

Financially we ended the year on a very positive note. Our Building Fund balance is under \$98,000.00 now thanks to the many gifts received, and we have a healthy General Fund balance to begin the New Year. Loved ones have been honored and appreciated through memorial contributions. We have contributed generously to the many projects when asked above and beyond the regular giving that is done faithfully each week and month. Needs of the members and the community are always given great consideration, and our resources are used to strengthen the bonds of friends gathering to make quilts, make baby hats, attend Bible Study, have meaningful worship and messages for both young and old. Bible School, Jr. Church, Youth Groups, the prison ministries, and the many dedicated hours by members keeping the maintenance and building and grounds in good repair, are just a few of the things that require diligence and dedication of members and attenders.

Please continue to give prayerfully and generously as we begin the New Year and as we see what God has in store for us this year.

– Linda Ratcliff, Treasurer

## Faith & Family Night with the Indiana Pacers – March 24



That's right! Friday, March 24 – join us for a fun evening with the Indiana Pacers. Each person attending the game that evening will receive a hot dog, a drink, chips, and a Pacers cap. After the game, we will be meeting with one of the Indiana Pacers players, who will be talking about his faith in God. Cost is \$18.

The Christian Education Committee has reserved a block of seats and will have to confirm the number of participants by February 1. **If you would like to attend, please contact Cathy Harris by January 29.** Make checks payable to Spiceland Friends Church and turn in to the office. Everyone is welcome, and we can do some carpooling!

## We Bought Chickens

Yup! You read that right. We bought chickens – or at least the youth group did. Although we had multiple conversations about how they may or may not make the ideal youth group pet, the chickens are not for our youth or for our church, but rather for impoverished families in developing countries. Combining small donations from both Elementary and High School Youth, we



raised enough money to supply a family with a flock of six chickens through the Heifer International organization. In addition to providing a sustainable food

source for a single family, the eggs and poultry can also be taken to the local market and sold, raising funds for medicine, clothing, education, and more. As a small expression of our ministry as a youth group, we wanted to play our part in ending hunger and poverty in the world.

## Winter Sneak Coming Up!

Winter Sneak 2017 is coming up soon! The theme this year is "REWired." It will be February 3-5, at Quaker Haven Camp. All students in grades 7-12 are invited to join **Tyler** and **Karmen** as they attend the camp over the weekend.

Check out the promo video and register online at [www.qhcyouthprogramming.com](http://www.qhcyouthprogramming.com). If you have any questions, please contact Tyler Little.

## Youth Group Picture of the Month



## Attention All Committees!

Just a reminder that you will need to meet soon and select a clerk of your committee for 2017. Please let the office know who the clerk(s) will be right away as we need the information to include in the new church directory. Have fun as you begin praying about and making plans for our congregation for 2017 – and thanks for this important ministry!

## Directory Information Needed

We are in the process of preparing and printing the 2017 church directory. If you have changes of additions, please turn them in to the church office so that the directory will be accurate and up-to-date.

## Notes of Thanks

“Thank you for all the cards I received upon the death of my sister, Eileen Graham.”

**Ruth Knotts**

“We want to thank you for all the wonderful Christmas cards and gifts we received. We appreciate your thoughtfulness, kindness, and are so blessed to be a part of our wonderful, supportive, loving – and fun – church family.”

**Tom & Cathy Harris**

“Thank you for the Christmas gift from the church and for many other gifts from individuals as well as the many supportive and encouraging comments in Christmas cards! We appreciate each person in this wonderful congregation, and we are grateful for their encouragement and prayers throughout the year.”

**David & Linda Brock**

“I want to thank the church for the monetary gift and restaurant gift card given to me for Christmas and for my birthday. David and I will certainly enjoy using them!”

**Carol Fox**

“Thank so much to the church for remembering myself & my family with a Christmas cheer gift again this year! It means so much to be remembered!”

**Amie Thornburg**

“Thank you very much for your support and all the donations you give our shelter.”

**Melody Ford, The Guest House**

“Thank you, thank you, thank you for all you do for the kids and families we serve. We can't do what we do without you.”

**Aaron Carmichael, White's**

“On behalf of the board of directors at White's, I would like to thank Spiceland for both your recent gift, and your long-time generosity. Your support and partnership is deeply appreciated. Blessings to you.”

**Eric Dale, Board President**

## Worship Assistants for January & February

### Scripture Readers

January 1 – Bob Rust  
January 8 – Sandra Swann  
January 15 – Mike Van Osdol  
January 22 – Doris Hoover  
January 29 – Mason Rottinghaus  
February 5 – Beth Carr  
February 12 – Judy Smith  
February 19 – Nancy Wadman  
February 26 – Kandi Rutledge

### Junior Church

January 1 – Tyler Little  
January 8 – Linda Brock  
January 15 – Cathy Harris  
January 22 – Amanda Huss  
January 29 – Cathy Harris  
February 5 – Tyler Little  
February 12 – Linda Brock  
February 19 – Cathy Harris  
February 26 – Amanda Huss

**Host for January** – Pat Bogue

**Hosts for February** – Joe & Priscilla James

**Children's Messages** – Charlene Williams

## Come and Join the Walkers!

Now that the holidays are behind us, you are invited to add some exercise to your weekly routine. The group meets each Monday and Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Family Center. Everyone is welcome! Walk at your own pace, and for the length of time that works best for you. It's an opportunity to not only get some exercise, but to visit with one another over a cup of coffee. Feel free to park under the awning if the weather is bad.

