



THE  
*Spiceland Friend*

A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019**



**“New Every Morning”**

*“It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness.”  
Lamentations 3:22-23 (KJV)*

As 2019 began, I was reflecting on everything that happened last year in our family. I was suddenly overwhelmed with how God had been so faithful to us and had walked with Linda and me through unexpected and difficult times. He not only walked with us, but He provided unexpected miracles of friendship, encouragement, gracious help, and compassionate prayer partners. His promises and faithfulness certainly held true for us. Then, at the same time that I was reflecting on these thoughts, I opened a new devotional book that Cathy Harris gave me for Christmas. The title is *“New Morning Mercies”* by Paul David Tripp. The author explains why he used that title. It is based on the well know scripture above and the better-known hymn, *“Great is Thy Faithfulness.”*

*“Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided –  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!”*

The author’s goal is that the reader will experience God’s mercies in a new way each day and recognize that those mercies are present and never fail us. He puts it this way:

“One of the stunning realities of the Christian life is that in a world where everything is in some state of decay, God’s mercies never grow old. They never run out. They never are ill timed. They never dry up. They never grow weak. They never get weary. They never fail to meet the need. They never disappoint. They never, ever fail, because they really are new every morning. Form-fitted for the challenges, disappointments, suffering, temptation, and struggles with sin within and without are the mercies of our Lord.

“God’s mercies don’t come in one color; no, they come in every shade of every color of the rainbow of his grace. God’s mercies are not the sound of one instrument; no, they sound the note of every instrument of his grace. God’s mercy is general; all of his children bask in his mercy. God’s mercy is specific; each child receives the mercy that is designed for his or her particular moment of need.”

Mr. Tripp’s words are reminders to us that God’s mercies will never fail us. Many times we have to work at seeing those mercies and understanding them, but they are there and specifically designed for us by God himself. Join me in prayer that each one of us will experience God’s new mercies each morning and each day.

*David Brock*

## Beautiful and Inspiring!

These were two of the words used to describe our 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Candlelight Service. The choir sang a number of beautiful numbers but for the first time a number of different musical instruments were used during the service – a ukulele, a violin, and guitars. **Cathy Harris** directed the choir with **Virginia Cripps** serving as the accompanist. **Ginny Bryson** played a number of traditional Christmas carols at the beginning of the service. The church was filled to capacity with 50 extra chairs added to the back of the sanctuary and over 40 found seats in the balcony. All told, we believe between 310 and 325 were in attendance. Several choir members had solos, and **David Brock** had an inspirational message just prior to the lighting of the candles. The attendance, the largest in over twelve years, might have been due to the fact that the weather was rather mild for December, and there was no rain, snow, sleet, or ice. The candlelight service originated with **Earl J. Prignitz**, one of our former pastors, who served at Spiceland Friends from 1953 to 1960.

– **Richard Ratcliff**

## Grief Support Group Starts January 24

A new GriefShare grief support group will be starting on Thursday evenings beginning January 24. The class will offer support and encouragement after the death of a family member or friend.

The class will provide a warm, caring environment, and includes three parts – encouraging, information-packed videos, group discussion about the video content, and a reference book for your personal use that includes additional information on each week's theme, as well as scripture readings, and questions to reflect on. 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 **Janet Putnam** and **Cathy Harris** 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 or Janet if you'd like more information.

## Sermon Topics for January and February

**Cathy Harris** will be preaching on February 3.  
**Chris Harris** will be preaching on February 10.  
**David Brock** will be preaching the other Sundays.

### January 6

Sermon – "A Mother's Perspective"  
Scripture – Luke 1:46-56

### January 13

Sermon – "Compassion"  
Scripture – Colossians 3:1-12

### January 20

Sermon – "Kindness"  
Scripture – Colossians 3:12-17

### January 27

Sermon – "Humility"  
Scripture – Colossians 3:1-4, 15-17

### February 3

Sermon – "Help Is on the Way!"  
Scripture – Acts 27:9-20

### February 10

Chris Harris will be preaching.

### February 17

Sermon – "Gentleness"  
Scripture – Matthew 5:1-12

### February 24

Sermon – "Patience"  
Scripture – Matthew 5:43-48

## Valentine's Dinner

The Jr./Sr. High Youth group is sponsoring a Valentine's Dinner on Saturday, February 9, at 6:00 p.m. in the Family Center. The menu includes spaghetti, salad, breadsticks, desserts, and drinks. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, and free for children under two. Free entertainment – a variety of music provided by our youth – can be enjoyed by everyone. All proceeds will go toward youth activities and programs. There is a sign-up sheet in the Family Center to let us know if you are coming and how many will be dining. Reservations are not required but will be helpful for planning purposes. Plan now to come and enjoy a delicious meal and an elegant evening with some delightful entertainment. Bring a friend or loved ones – this meal is for everyone!



## A Note from the Youth Pastor

My term as the Interim Youth Pastor will be coming to an end on February 10. I am very grateful for the chance to meet and grow closer to so many different people at Spiceland Friends, the Youth Group, and the community.

I will be moving to Virginia in mid-February to take a job doing Electrical Engineering work for a shipbuilding firm. While new and exciting challenges lie ahead, my heart and spiritual home will never leave Spiceland Friends. I want to especially thank everyone who has helped contribute to the success of the Youth Groups. To all those who supported us with your time, financially, and in prayer. Our Youth Program has flourished because of the support the congregation has given the youth. And in return our youth have come to take great pride and interest in being a part of Spiceland Friends. My Sunday afternoons and evenings will never quite be the same.

– Chris Harris

## Worship Assistants for January and February



### Scripture Readers

January 6 – Sandi Swann  
January 13 – Lisa Knotts  
January 20 – Beth Carr  
January 27 – Marilyn Ingle  
February 3 – Ralph Adams  
February 10 – Nancy Wadman  
February 17 – Kandi Rutledge  
February 24 – Janet Putnam

### Junior Church

January 6 – Chris Harris  
January 13 – Linda Brock  
January 20 – Megan Harris  
January 27 – Cathy Harris  
February 3 – Chris Harris  
February 10 – Linda Brock  
February 17 – Megan Harris  
February 24 – Cathy Harris

**Hosts for January** – Gib & Doris Hoover

**Host for February** – Marilyn Ingle

**Children's Messages** – Mike Van Osdol, Jan. 13, Jan. 27, and Feb. 3.

Linda Brock – Jan. 20, Feb. 10, 17 and 24

## Please Remember in Prayer



### Church Family

Family of Phil Alexander  
Lisa Ash – knee injury  
Ed Bryson – double pneumonia & flu  
Sandy Alexander – health problems  
Max Jessup – move to Glen Oaks  
Sandy White – cancer surgery  
Charlie Byrket – upcoming surgery on leg  
Tom Pyle – testing; meeting with cardiologist  
Marcia Byrket – pneumonia  
Barbara Meade – rotator cuff injury  
Helen Rust – knee injury  
Pete Kiger (Judy Sadler) – serious illness  
Doris Hoover – recovering from cancer treatments and blood clots  
Linda Brock – recovering from radiation treatments  
Pat Bogue – eye problem  
Eleanor Painter – recovering from cancer treatments  
Bobby Thompson – recovering from pneumonia  
Irene & Monte Goodwin – at home; Irene – eye surgeries; Monte – respite care  
Youth Groups & College Students  
Unspoken prayer requests

### Extended Family and Friends

Doyle Chandler (Vickie Richardson) – prostate cancer complications  
Mary Kay Lacy (Vickie Richardson) – lung cancer  
Niece of Bob & Helen Rust (Cierra) – hospitalized for heart problems  
Friend of Judy Stevens – whose son passed away from drugs  
Mandy Boyd (Pat Bogue) – trigeminal neuralgia  
Teresa Batt's mother, Carolyn Lantz, recovering from knee surgery  
Family of Jackie Coffman (Kandi Rutledge)  
Ryan Marsh (Helen Rust) – 3-year-old with kidney problems  
Cathy Chamberlin Smith (Tasha Crandall) – breast cancer  
Sarah Maley (Kandi Rutledge) – cancer  
Pansy Pyle – health problems  
Franka Dick (Pam Pyle) – health problems  
Aaron Reed (Susan Waymire) – teen with bone cancer  
Lesley Reece (Beverly Reece) – hip replacement surgery  
Mack Davis (Kristin Davis) – surgery, cancer, chemo

## Please Remember in Prayer *(Continued)*

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  
Family of Dale Graves  
Shawn & Katrina McConaughy – Kenya Missionaries

## Youth Group News

*(By Chris Harris)*



### Elementary Youth Group

Jan. 13 – 3:30-4:30 p.m. Please note the time change.  
Jan. 27 – 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Feb. 10 – 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Feb. 24 – 11:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Lunch and Bowling

### Jr./Sr. High Youth Group

Jan. 13 – 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
Jan. 25 – 6:00 p.m.-midnight – Lock-in. Everyone is encouraged to bring friends.  
Feb. 3 – 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. – Ice Skating; lunch will be provided.  
Feb. 10 – 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
Feb. 17 – 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
Feb. 24 – 5:00-7:00 p.m.

### Elementary Youth Group Is Going Bowling

On Sunday, February 24, the Elementary Youth Group will have lunch in the Family Center right after worship and will then head out to go bowling. We will return to the church at 4:00 p.m. There is no charge for the students. Parents are welcome to join us – and help drive! The youth do not need any money. See **Cathy Harris** if you have questions.



## Thank you to Richard P.

The Jr./Sr. High Youth would like to give a special thank you to **Richard Ratcliff** for giving us a short history of Spiceland Friends. After bribing him with cookies, Richard came to one of our Youth Group meetings and gave a presentation. The talk included a history of the different meetinghouses as well as an introduction to many of the important and interesting historical personalities that have made our meeting what it is today. It was entertaining and at times scary. (Why are there always bats involved?) Thank you, Richard.

## Youth Group Program in Transition

**Chris Harris** will be completing his work as Interim Youth Pastor on February 10. Ministry & Oversight is in the process of accepting applications and hiring a new Youth Pastor. We are working to make the transition as smooth as possible for all our youth and families. **Cathy Harris** will be leading the Youth Groups until a new Youth Pastor is hired, and she will be helping with the transition.

There will be opportunities to help with our youth! We would like to have volunteers help with the Elementary and Jr./Sr. High Youth groups. With the Elementary Youth Group, having adult volunteers to help serve snacks and to help with games (and crowd control) would be great (no planning or preparation required). Please see Cathy if you are willing to help out occasionally. If you have questions or concerns, please see **Cathy Harris** or **Lisa Ash**. Our goal this year was to put a lot of time and effort into getting a strong foundation for our youth group program, and we really appreciate Chris' ministry to the youth and families in our church.

## Directory Information Needed

We are in the process of preparing and printing the 2019 church directory. If you have changes or additions, please turn them in to the church office so that the directory will be accurate and up-to-date. We also needed address information for college students.

## **Come and Join the Walkers – We Welcome More 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. Our walking group needs more people! We have lost three to illness. Everyone and all are welcome. You walk at your own pace 10:00 to 11:30. Some come early and walk about 9:30. We break at 10:15 for fresh fruit, cookies, coffee, tea, or water. Some choose to walk more. Lots of fun and stories at break.

– Pam & Tom Pyle

## **Balcony Closed for Inspection**

On Christmas Eve, we had over 40 people sitting in the balcony. While there is no indication of any structural issues with the balcony, the Trustees have decided that due to its age, the balcony is in need of inspection. The Trustees will have the balcony evaluated for its structural safety and determine whether there should be load capacity limitations set. During this time, the Trustees ask that no one use the balcony until they go through the process. Thank you for your cooperation and patience during this time.

## **With Sympathy**

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family of **Phil Alexander** upon his passing on December 31.

Our sympathy is also extended to the family of **Jackie Coffman** upon her passing on December 27. She was the aunt of Kandi Rutledge and Randy Coffman.

## **Change of Address**

### **Max Jessup**

Glen Oaks Health Campus, Room 408  
601 W Co. Rd. 200S  
New Castle, IN 47362

## **Notes of Thanks**

“The Missions Committee would like to thank all the people who made food and donations for all our activities in 2018. We are looking forward to continuing to provide desserts once a month to The Guest House and providing a meal for Brianna’s Hope when they need it. We hope to find more opportunities to give support and hope to people who need God’s Love.”

**Nancy Wadman,  
Clerk of the Missions Committee**

“Thanks to everyone involved in the Community Cheer gifts. I appreciate the gift and being remembered again this year. Thanks!”

– Amie Thornburg

“Thank you for the prayers and cards. We appreciate it very much.”

– Barbara Meade

“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

“I would like to thank Spiceland Friends for the monetary gift at Christmas and also for the restaurant gift card for my birthday. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity.”

– Carol Fox

“Thank you for all the Christmas gifts, the Christmas cards and notes, and all the encouragement! This is a wonderful congregation and we are blessed to be a part of it!”

– David & Linda Brock

## **Contribution Reports Are Available**

Due to changes in income tax laws, it is likely that fewer people will be itemizing this year. Because of this, I won’t be automatically sending out contribution letters. This will save Carol and me some time and the church some money. However, these statements are definitely available. If you would like a statement of your giving for income tax purposes or other uses, please let me know.

– Tom Pyle