



THE  
*Spiceland Friend*

A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

## March 2017



### **“Teach Us How to Pray!”**

(The disciples speaking to Jesus in Luke 11:1)

*“The Lord our God comes near when we pray to him.” Deuteronomy 4:7 (NCV)*

Among the many questions asked by church-goers about their faith, one of the most often asked are questions about prayer, how it works, and how we should be doing it. James White, pastor of a large church in Charlotte, North Carolina, describes several questions that have been asked in surveys at his church. He gives several examples in his book *The Prayer God Longs For*. “Are 1000 prayers for a person more effective than only 10 prayers? Do you pray to God or Jesus or both? How should a person pray – certain words, certain position, certain place? Why do we need to pray since God knows everything? Is it OK to ask for things I need?”

Perhaps you have asked some or all of those questions. We all want to be better at praying and better at knowing God. For hundreds of years, Christians have used the six weeks before Easter as a time to focus their lives on growing closer to God and deepening their spiritual life. We invite all of you to join in that process this year. Our Wednesday evening book study will be a study of James White’s book on prayer mentioned above. The disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. They were really asking him to teach them

how to have the kind of relationship to God that they had observed in his life. He taught them the Lord’s Prayer as a guide and model for our praying. He expanded on that prayer with illustrations of how God will answer prayer. Jesus also continued to model a life of prayer for them and for us by the way he lived. Come and join in conversation and fellowship beginning at 6:00 p.m. with dinner each Wednesday starting March 8 and the following four Wednesdays. The study group begins at 6:45 and lasts one hour. Everyone is welcome so bring a friend who may be wondering about prayer.

The sermons on Sunday mornings will focus on similar themes of helping each of us to know God more intimately and more completely. We will begin to understand how to apply the peace and contentment offered by God to our lives, our problems, and our stress. We will be taking a close look at Jesus as he reacted to six different situations – how he treated the people involved, what he taught as a result of the circumstance, and how he communicated with God

Take some extra time over these next few weeks to read your Bible, to pray, to listen to God, and to reflect on his encouragement to you. I hope to see you on Wednesdays and Sundays as we explore and deepen our relationship with God.

*David Brock*



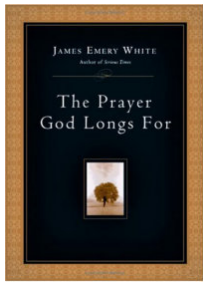
## Lenten Book Study Begins March 8

“What does God want from me?”

You might ask it in frustration or in devotion, but, whatever your approach, it's a question that has crossed the lips of men and women from every generation throughout human history.

What if God gave you an answer?

**David Brock will be leading our Lenten study of the book, “The Prayer God Longs For.”**



The author, James Emery White, guides us through a study of the Lord's Prayer in search of what God longs for in his relationship with each of us. As profound as it is simple, this prayer of Jesus *is* what God longs for – a divine-human dialogue that transforms you on earth and prepares you for heaven.

The study begins Wednesday, March 8. We will have dinner (main course, drink, and table service provided) at 6:00 p.m. with the study taking place from 6:45-7:45 p.m. The study will last five weeks and go through April 5 (Wednesday evenings).

Cost of the book is \$8.00. You can also purchase a Kindle version from Amazon for \$9.99. Most of the books are used, but in good/like new condition, as the book is out of print.

If you would like to participate in the study and need child care, please contact **Cathy Harris** so we can make arrangements to provide your child(ren) with care.

## Church Directory Is Available

The 2017 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.



**Mark your calendar for this year's "Maker Fun Factory" Vacation Bible School – June 19-23.**

## Sermon Topics for March

**David Brock** will be preaching each Sunday in March.

### March 5

Sermon – “Jesus, Teach Us About Temptation”  
Scripture – Matthew 4:1-11; Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

### March 12

Sermon – “Jesus, Teach Us About Forgiveness”  
Scripture – John 3:1-7; Genesis 12:1-3

### March 19

Sermon – “Jesus, Teach Us About Sharing Your Love with Others”  
Scripture – John 4:5-42

### March 26

Sermon – “Jesus, Teach Us About Trusting You More Completely”  
Scripture – John 9:1-41

## Upcoming Easter and Spring Activities

Thursday, April 13, 6:00 p.m. – Help the Christian Education Committee stuff Easter eggs

Saturday, April 15, 1:00 p.m. – Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 16 – 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 at SFC

## Candy Donations Are 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 1,000 Easter eggs! **Candy should be individually wrapped and small enough to fit** into the eggs. Also, we could use some more plastic eggs as some of the old ones were cracked and had to be thrown away, and we always lose some each year. Place donations in the box in the Welcome Center.

## Please Remember in Prayer

### Church Family

Lin Sadler – recovering from pneumonia, flu - weak  
Family of Ruth Burk  
Family of Joan Austerman  
Libby Henshaw – sciatic nerve pain  
Tom Ratcliff – hospice care  
Don Rutledge – treatments for prostate cancer  
Mildred Gephart – stroke, not doing well  
Irene & Monte Goodwin – moved to Forest Ridge Assisted Living; Monte hospitalized last week

### Extended Family and Friends

Carolyn Lantz (Teresa Batt) – very ill with the flu  
Theresa Wilson (Cathy Harris' sister-in-law) – thyroid cancer  
Family of Ken "Bud" Lantz  
Family of Ruth Rickenbaugh (Priscilla James)  
8-year old daughter of Cheryl Moore – open heart surgery on 2/28  
Jackie (Strunk) Clendenin – serious health problems, testing  
Floyd Wiley (Charlie Brown) – double pneumonia; kidney failure  
Kenny Carter (Marilyn Ingle) – advanced cancer  
Tom Leonard (Priscilla James) – health problems  
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  
Our country and servicemen and women

## Baby Bottle Boomerang Continues



There's still time to pick up a baby bottle, fill it with coins, dollars, or a check! Please return bottles by Sunday, March 19, along with any donations of diapers, new or gently used baby clothes and blankets, etc.



## Worship Assistants for March

### Scripture Readers

March 5 – Caylie Dicken  
March 12 – Wes Dicken  
March 19 – Janet Putnam  
March 26 – David Reeves



### Junior Church

March 5 – Tyler Little  
March 12 – Linda Brock  
March 19 – Cathy Harris  
March 26 – Amanda Huss

**Hosts for March** – Ralph & Renee Adams

**Children's Messages** – Charlene Williams

## Join the Walking Group

Interested in adding some exercise to your weekly routine? We invite you to come to the church Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. and walk with your friends. 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 encourage and support one another. You can also enjoy a cup of **Pam Pyle's** fresh, hot coffee or a cup of tea and some fresh fruit or snacks and spend some time visiting with one another.



**Don't forget to set your clocks forward an hour on Saturday, March 11, before you go to bed or you'll miss church!**

## Address Change for Directory

**Monte & Irene Goodwin**  
Forest Ridge Assisted Living  
2800 Forest Ridge Parkway, Apt. 103  
New Castle, IN 47362  
Phone: 765-524-0615

## We Extend Our Heartfelt Sympathy to . . .

The family and friends of **Ruth (Neal) Burk** upon her passing on February 16.

Priscilla and Joe James upon the death of her mother, **Ruth Rickenbaugh**, on February 26 in English, Indiana.

The family of **Joan Austerman** who passed away on February 16.

The family of **Patty Thompson** upon her passing on January 23.

Greg Armstrong and Rita Shock upon the passing of Greg's aunt, **Ada Armstrong Leer**, on January 16, at the age of 104.

Vickie & T. J. Richardson and family upon the recent passing of Vickie's aunt, **Marcella Walgamuth (Markle)**.

The family of **Greg Pitts** who passed away in January. He was the son of Patsy Pitts and brother of Jenny McDaniel and Kathy Ellis.

Paul and Max Copeland upon the passing of their brother, **Dick Copeland**, on January 28.

Family of **Ken "Bud" Lantz** who passed away Tuesday evening, February 28, in Greenfield.

## Men's Apparel Is Needed

New Castle Correctional Facility is currently experiencing a shortage of coats, shoes, and men's pants size 34 and up. If you have anything you are willing to donate, please bring it to the church. The clothing goes to men who are newly released.



## Notes of Thanks

"Your kindness, cards, gifts and the comfort you showed our family was overwhelming. The dinner was superb as usual. You are in our thoughts and prayers."

– **Family of Charles Painter**

"Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness during this time of loss. Thank you for the lovely flowers and delicious meal."

– **Family of Joan Austerman**

"On behalf of Westminster Community Center, I wish to thank you for your donation of \$100.00.... Thanks so much for your gift of support!"

– **Jeff Kundert, Executive Director**

"I want to thank you for your financial assistance to the Heaven's Bread Basket food pantry...."

– **Donna McElhany, Director**

"Thank you so much for your most recent gift. We pray that you are as blessed as the 'giver,' as much as we are as the 'receiver.' The ministry will only continue to exist by generous supporters like yourselves. May God continue to bless us all."

– **Mesquakie Friends**

"On behalf of White's Residential and Family Services, I would like to thank you for all of the support that you have given our organization. Because of your total contributions of \$1,700.00, we were able to support all in need of care...."

– **Aaron Carmichael**

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## Giving credit where due?

Running late for a meeting, a man circled the block, looking for a place to park. Desperately, he raised his eyes toward heaven and prayed, "Lord, if you'll find me a parking spot, I promise I'll start going to church again." Just then a car pulled out of a space right in front of the man. "Never mind," he said to God. "I found one!"