



# THE *Spiceland Friend*

A publication of Spiceland Friends Church, Spiceland, Indiana

## March 2023



### “Become an Encourager”

*“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”*

*1 Thessalonians 5:11*



The verse above is our theme verse for this month. Paul wrote this to the Thessalonian Church and the surrounding churches. He had visited all of those cities and towns on his first missionary journey and in each place a new body of believers had formed and they had begun to worship each week together. His letter was designed to instruct them in the faith and to encourage them to keep the faith in the midst of persecution and constant pressure to return to their old ways.

As he comes to the end of his letter, he lists ten specific ways we can practice encouraging one another and building each other up.

(Thessalonians 5:12-19)

1. Live in peace with one another
2. Encourage the disheartened
3. Help the weak
4. Be patient with everyone
5. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong

for wrong, but strive to do what is good for each other

6. Rejoice always
7. Pray continually
8. Give thanks in all circumstances for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus
9. Brothers and sisters, pray for us
10. Do not quench the Spirit

**Read these suggestions, reflect on them, and begin to apply them in new ways with people around you.**

After I wrote this article, I went to sleep before sending it in. During the night I had a very vivid dream. In the dream, a spontaneous gathering of about 30 people was happening at our house. The people were all from SFC. Some had brought food, some had just come. Strangely, my house was big enough for them all in this dream. I could not figure out why everyone had come. I asked several people and they all said we just felt like we should get together to encourage each other. Apparently, something terrible had happened (the dream never made it clear what that was) and their first reaction was to gather with other believers to pray together, to fellowship, and to encourage each other. That is exactly what Paul was encouraging in his letter. Our church was putting these principles to work in a practical way.

**We should encourage other believers, but also everyone around us and unknown people that God brings across our path.**

Come and join us each week as we study the life lessons that Jesus taught us and take some time to encourage others around you on Sundays and all through the week.

*David Brack*

## One Question After Another – Episode 1

One of my goals for 2023 has been to do more personal reading. In doing this, I thought it would be enjoyable to read through and digest Quaker “Faith and Practice.” Early in my reading, I stumbled across a list of questions intended to stimulate our thinking and hearts as we live out our Christian faith in the daily grind of life. Historically, early Friends called these questions “Queries.” They were commonly used during unprogrammed (silent meetings) to help turn hearts and minds toward God’s thoughts for worship. These questions are an excellent way for us to consider our faith journey. I plan to address these questions (queries) one at a time in our 2023 newsletters. I pray that you meditate sincerely on these questions in a way that brings closeness and confidence to your Christian walk.

Here is the question for March – *“Do you seek to maintain a Christian life and to be watchful that worldly affairs do not unduly absorb you?”*

We live in a world that depends on our absorption of worldly affairs. Everything around us begs to pull us into the world and away from Christ. Every product sold, and every newsreel we see is positioned to move our minds toward worldly affairs. With each mouse click on email ads and social media, we see the things of this world pulling us in like a magnet.

Practically speaking, it is up to us to put our minds and hearts in a place where we can hear God’s voice. I encourage you to turn down the noise. Take in the day’s news in a way that lets you be informed but not absorbed. Limit your time on electronic media. Use social media to encourage others. Seek out actual people to have as friends. Guard your time each day in a way that prioritizes your relationship with Christ. When we decide to have a relationship with Christ, we are given God’s Holy Spirit. Let’s get quiet and listen to Him and allow the affairs of this world to *“grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.”*

*Eric Bowman*



## Spring Bible Study

Come join us as we fellowship with Jesus and each other the first four Wednesdays in March. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. for a meal, with the



### Spring Bible Study

church providing the main entree, drinks, and table service. Please feel free to bring a side dish, dessert or just contribute to the cost of the main dish. You will have two choices of Bible

discussion following the meal from 6:45-7:45 p.m.

**Eric Bowman** will lead a discussion on How Do You Know Questions: How do you know God exists, How do you know Christianity is the Truth, How Do You Know Jesus is Real. His study is designed for teens, young adults, and older adults who are an influence on other children. **David Brock** and **Nancy Wadman** will lead a discussion on John, chapters 14, 15, 16, and 17. This is a discussion that will prepare our hearts for the upcoming Easter celebration as well as hearing Jesus’s final instructions to his disciples and us as to how to live an effective life after Jesus goes to heaven and before he returns for the final time. We will discuss promises of the coming of the Holy Spirit, Jesus preparing a place for us after we die, and that we can abide in Jesus as he abides in us. Bring your Bibles, Your questions, and Your willingness to discuss. If you don’t have a Bible we will give you one! See you on March 1, 8, 15, and 22 at 6:00 p.m. Child care will be provided!

## Tea Time for Ladies

The third Tuesday of every month has been a special time for women who have lost their



husbands to drink tea and coffee, enjoy something sweet and have great conversations. We ask each other for advice and freely

share any helpful hints we know that have worked for us. We meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Mary M Room and have room in our hearts and extra chairs in the room, so bring a friend and join us!

**Nancy Wadman,**  
Ministry Coordinator

## Please Remember in Prayer

### Church Family

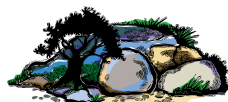
Shirley Miller Weber – knee surgery; Glen Oaks  
Peggy MacFarlane – knee surgery  
Bill Byrket – serious back pain  
Marcia Byrket – health issues; Glen Oaks  
Sarah Reiblein – cancer  
Steve Neal – liver cancer



### Extended Family and Friends

Art Whitaker – pneumonia; at home  
Gary Dice (Marilyn Thompson) – needs heart transplant  
Danny (Marilyn Thompson's cousin) – back surgery  
John Eaton (Chris Garner's friend) – heart attack  
Erin Branham (Vickie Richardson) – health problems  
Mai Nguyen (Julia Bouslog) – breast cancer  
James (Donna Hall's son) – lymphoma; chemo  
Sherry Butler (Tasha Crandall) – kidney transplant  
David Butler (Helen Rust's brother-in-law) – in need of prayer  
Franka Dick (Tom Pyle's sister) – health issues  
Ed Cole (Debi Zimmerman) – pancreatic cancer  
Kathy Gortner (sister of Cindy Mitchell) – kidney failure  
Carmelle Jordan (Darlings) – stroke  
Jan Hurst (Judy Stevens) – Parkinson's  
Betty Kirtley (Marilyn Thompson's mother) – severe back pain  
Jackie Clendenin (Pat Bogue) – swallowing issues  
Susan Weaver (Kristen Davis) – lung cancer  
Carolyn Lantz – health problems  
Rita Beavers (Garners) – bladder cancer  
Melissa Humerickhouse (Jenny McDaniel) – brain tumor  
Joyce Lacy (Sandi Swann) – needs prayer  
People in Turkey and Syria  
People in Ukraine  
Students, teachers, and school administrators  
Our country and servicemen and women

## Good Friday Supper



The Christian Education Committee invites YOU to a light soup supper, dessert, and a Max Lucado Easter Video at 6:00 p.m. on April 7. The CE Committee will provide everything. Just join us that evening as we remember what Jesus did for us.

## Sermon Topics for March

**David Brock** will be preaching all four Sundays in March. We will be focusing on the lessons Jesus taught as he was traveling toward Jerusalem, where he knew he would be crucified.

### March 5

Sermon – “Looking for Ways to Help”  
Scripture – Luke 10:25-42

### March 12

Sermon – “Allowing the Light In”  
Scripture – Luke 11:1-13 & 33-36

### March 19

Sermon – “Not to Worry”  
Scripture – Luke 12:22-34

### March 26

Sermon – “The Lost Are Found”  
Scripture – Luke 15:1-32

### April 2

Sermon – “A Big Celebration”  
Scripture – Luke 19:28-47



## Worship Assistants for March

### Scripture Readers

March 5 – Dale Albertson  
March 12 – Sandra Swann  
March 19 – Janet Putnam  
March 26 – Ron Reece

### Children's Story

March 5 – Mike Van Osdol  
March 12 – Janet Putnam  
March 19 – Diana Bowman  
March 26 – Linda Brock

### Junior Church

March 5 – Linda Brock  
March 12 – David Lahr  
March 19 – Diana Bowman  
March 26 – Linda Brock

**Greeters for March** – Gerald & Darlene Darling

## Baby Bottle Boomerang

It is time to pick up a baby bottle in the Welcome Center at SFC and fill it with coins, cash, or a check. All the money raised will help Henry County Pregnancy Care Center provide diapers, clothing, formula, and other items to families in need in our county. Please pick up a bottle and return it to the church by Sunday, March 26.



They are also in need of donations of disposable diapers (size 5 and 6 and pull-ups), baby wipes, baby lotion, and baby shampoo. These items can be brought to the church as well. If you have any questions, see **Vickie Richardson** or **Nancy Wadman**.

## Church Directory Changes

Please make these changes/additions to your church directory.

### Virginia Newkirk

Email – vlrfnewkirk@gmail.com

### David & Rita Reeves

Phone – 561-0958 (David)

### Lane & Mikala Rust

Anniversary – June 4, 2022

### Irene Goodwin

Phone – 813-435-8139



**Don't forget to set your clocks forward an hour on Saturday, March 11, before you go to bed.**

## Notes of Thanks

“Thank you for your donation of \$200.00 received January 2023. . . .”

**Christian Love Center Shelter**

“We wish to thank you for your donation of \$200.00 given on 1/24/2023. . . .”

**Westminster Community Center**

## Candy and Cookie 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 our Easter Egg Hunt will be taking place on Saturday, April 8, at noon, and we need your help. We will need candy and cookie donations. Candy donations can be brought to the Welcome Center at SFC anytime. As always, candy should be individually wrapped and small enough to fit into the plastic egg. Cookies may be brought and left in the kitchen from April 7 from 9:00 a.m. – noon, after 6:00 p.m., or on April 8 before 11:30 a.m.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations and best wishes to **Lindsey Peavie & Travis Isaacs** on the recent birth of a baby boy, **Colton Les**. Congratulations also to grandparents, Dennis & Monica Peavie, and great-grandmother, Kathy Painter.

## Second Harvest Food Distribution

On Monday, February 20, volunteers from Spiceland Friends distributed food for about 50-60 families in our area. We passed out apples, onions, fresh watermelon, a box of meat with fish sticks and sausages, containers of alfredo and spaghetti sauce, and protein drinks from Second Harvest and bread products from God's Grain Bin. This event started when Second Harvest contacted Spiceland's Town Office and Dawn asked us if we would be willing to let them use our parking lot. This has been a perfect match. We provide the place and the volunteers and they bring the food. Our volunteers are amazing! We had two that took time from their day off to help and one young person who had time off from school also helped, not to mention the retired members of our church who show up consistently to help. Volunteerism is alive and well at our church. I am so proud of our congregation!

This event happens four times a year! Come join us sometime. It is so nice to be able to help our community.

**Nancy Wadman,**  
Ministry Coordinator