

“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team
For the week of October 16, 2016

When You’re Learning to Trust God

The current series of Touch Points is taken from “Time Out in Tough Times,” from the editors of Guide-posts (MIF Books, 2009). The reflections come from a variety of writers.

READ: We have such trust through Christ toward God. *2 Corinthians 3:4*

REFLECT: Our two-year-old granddaughter Jamie was visiting. She scurried ahead of me one evening as we made our way down the stairs to the kitchen for a cookie. She was halfway down the stairs before she realized how dark it was.

Just as I rounded the corner behind her, I saw her sturdy little shape. She stood perfectly still, looking ahead, one hand on the banister and the other hand outstretched over her head, waiting for mine.

I paused for a moment and looked at her. She waited so patiently, so calmly. She didn’t turn around to see if I was coming, or even call out. She simply stood there, still and quiet, one small hand lifted up.

In the kitchen, I thought: *I must learn to trust my Father in that way. His hand is surely over me.*

All I have to do is reach up with certain faith.

Marion Bond West

PRAY: *I want to stand and wait for You to take my hand, Father, never doubting that You will.*

DO: Observe the level of trust in the children in your life.

ADDITIONAL PRAYER PROMPTS

- Use the Pause to Pray as a guide to focus on other concerns through the week. Copies can be found in the lobby and in the Archive section on the website (evbapt.org/archive). The full Pause to Pray is used in our Wednesday prayer time. An abbreviated version appears in the Sunday bulletin.
- Reflect on this week’s worship service—the music, Scripture, Pastor Dave’s message “How Long?” (1 Kings 18:17-21)—that all will help as you go through this week; for your own walk with Christ, and that you may be a blessing and witness to people you have contact with during the week.
- Continue to pray for opportunities to invite people to our services and to become engaged in spiritual discovery with the people of Evangel in other ways as well. Ask the Lord to open doors of conversation, connection and compassion with others to enable that engagement this week.
- Pray that God will bless our succession planning efforts (Pastor Dave and Jennie anticipate retirement, tentatively late spring 2017). Pray for the Lord’s leading as we process the discussion and any follow-up from today’s Open Forum. Pray also for the two churches that have made offers to purchase our property, that His will for their future will be made abundantly clear. Pray that all of us touched by this process will, like the trusting child in this week’s reflection, patiently wait for the reassuring grasp of our Heavenly Father.

* A podcast of the sermon and PDF files of other material will be posted on the website by Monday.

Touch Points is e-mailed every Friday, posted on the website (evbapt.org), with printed copies available in the lobby.

To be included in the weekly e-mail, use the Contact Us form on the website and request “add me to the Prayer Vigil list.”