

**“First Watch” Touch Points for Evangel’s Prayer Vigil team**  
**For the week of April 23, 2017**

**Our Home (Psalm 90:1-2)**

*As Evangel faces change in 2017, we recognize how important prayer has been—and will continue to be—as we participate in the unfolding of God’s plan. Our Touch Points reflections come from “The One Year Book of Praying Through the Bible” by Cheri Fuller (Tyndale, 2003)..*

***This week’s reflection is very fitting as all of us at Evangel will be seeking a new church and some will also be moving.***

**READ:** Lord, through all the generations you have been our home! Before the mountains were created, before you made the earth and the world, you are God, without beginning or end.

*Psalm 90:1-2*

**REFLECT:** One day I was wrestling with God about our impending move. This was the first house where I’d felt at home and the first one we owned in our ten years of marriage. It was small, but it was all ours. We had painted it lovely colors, wallpapered the kitchen, prepared a nursery for our baby, and built a wooden fort in the backyard for our sons. I didn’t want to pack the boxes. I didn’t want to move *again*, and I wrestled with God over this matter as I strolled my little ones around our beloved neighborhood. *Lord, you know how hard we worked to fix up this house and how I love living here.* As I continued telling him all the reasons I wanted to stay, his gentle whisper interrupted me, *I am your dwelling place. Through all generations, I have been and will be your home.* Seeing God as my dwelling place that day changed the way I looked at moving—and at houses. No matter where I live, and we have lived in a number of houses since that first one, the Lord is my heart’s true home and will be for eternity.

**PRAY:** *LORD, through all my life, you have been my true home. Through all generations, even before you made the earth, you have been our dwelling place. You are God, without beginning or end. I am thankful that wherever I go, I don’t have to feel insecure or anxious because you are here! Thank you for your faithfulness and loving-kindness that follows me all the days of my life.*

**QUOTE:** To me remains no place or time, / My country is in every clime; / I can be calm, and free from care / on every shore since God is there. *Madame Guyon*

**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](http://evbapt.org/archive)).
- Reflect on this week’s worship service—the music, Scripture, guest speaker Dwight Perry’s message “Embracing Diversity”—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.
- Continue to prayer for the succession planning process as we move through the transition of our property from Evangel to Vineyard Church of DuPage in the coming months, with the formal transfer likely to occur on or about August 1. The Negotiating Team, Church Council, and others are attending to a myriad of details. Pray for wisdom, energy, and attention to detail as there is much to do! Pray also that, through it all and despite much sadness, in the end there will be a sense of joy in successfully “ending well” and “passing the baton” to Vineyard.

*\* a podcast and other materials from the service will be posted on the website by Monday.*

*Touch Points is e-mailed every Friday, posted on the website ([evbapt.org](http://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.”*