

Greater *things*

ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH - DECEMBER 2018
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Blessed

From Lamar Miller ~ Minister of Outreach

It is that time of year again that is called the holiday season. The time of year when we have two major holidays only about a month apart. It truly is a time of celebration and festivities that keep many of us busy.

Thanksgiving, the first holiday is when we celebrate the many things we are thankful for, such as family and friends. There are so many things we should be grateful for. I would encourage you to make a list of specific things you are thankful for and see just how long it becomes. Then, after you have your list, take some to give God thanks and glory for all he has provided for you. Most importantly, we need to be thankful that the creator and sustainer of this world sent his son Jesus to live on this earth and provide us with salvation.

Jesus, the reason for our second holiday in which we celebrate the birth of our lord and savior. Many of us celebrate his birth by buying gifts for each other just as the Magi brought gifts to Jesus. We gather with family for food and fun. Hopefully in the midst of the hustle and bustle of these holidays we don't forget what the birth of Jesus means to us. Because of Jesus we have new life, joy, peace, hope, comfort and the assurance of everlasting life with him. Jesus

came to this earth and gave it all so that we may have life to the fullest.

Here are some scriptures we can keep in mind as we think about expressing our thankfulness and sharing our blessings. James 1:27 says: "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." Matthew 25:35,36,40 say this: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

How will you celebrate the gift of Jesus of Jesus this season and throughout the coming year? There are so many people in need from California to Florida to right here in Arthur. Maybe we can find ways to celebrate Jesus by giving our time, money, encouragement and hope to those who have lost much.

Minister of Administration & Community Life:
Glen Rhodes

Minister of Discipling:
Jeff Marner

AMC
arthur mennonite church

Minister of Outreach:
Lamar Miller

Minister of Worship and Youth:
Ashley Litwiller

Advent and Christmas Sundays at AMC: When The Messiah Comes

Sunday, December 2 (First Sunday of Advent)

Focus: ...*There Will Be Light* ~ Isaiah 2:1-5

Sunday, December 9 (Second Sunday of Advent)

Focus: *There Will Be Peace* ~ Isaiah 11:1-16

Sunday, December 16 (Third Sunday of Advent)

Focus: *There Will Be Singing* ~ Isaiah 7:1-25

Christmas Program at 6 pm. then fingerfood fellowship.

Sunday, December 23 (Christmas Sunday)

Focus: *God will be with us* ~ Isaiah 9:1-7

Resource of the Month: Take Our Moments and Our Days An Anabaptist Prayer App



"This free mobile app makes these prayer services available to users in an easy-to-navigate format, as close at hand as your digital device. Features include navigation to a recommended service for the date and time of day, tracking to keep your place in the sequence of services, an ability to call up particular services, introductory materials and extensive indices that enable searches for particular texts." This resource has Advent prayers to aid us in our study during the season, as well as many other seasons. This collection of prayers is also in book form. The app is available on iOS and Android systems.

Congregational Meeting Sunday, Dec. 2nd at 6 p.m.

Come hear reports from the various commissions about what is going on at AMC.

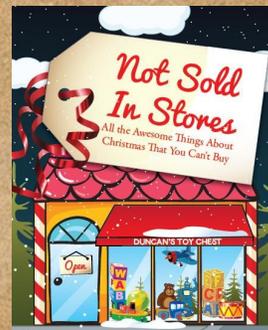
We will also be affirming the 2019 budget, and the GDCC commission callings for the upcoming year.



AMC NIGHT OF CAROLING

Thursday, Dec. 13th at 6 p.m.

*We'll travel in the Church Van
around town caroling!*



AMC CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, Dec. 16th at 6 p.m.

*A fingerfood fellowship
will follow the program!*

First Fruit Giving *Giving God Our Best*

	Stewardship	Attendance
10/28/18	\$1,914	126
11/4/18	\$5,827	135
11/11/18	\$11,047	101
11/18/18	\$2,687	115
11/25/18	\$3,518	110

Article 9 - Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective

The Church of Jesus

"We believe that the church is the assembly of those who have accepted God's offer of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. The church is the new community of disciples sent into the world to proclaim the reign of God and to provide a foretaste of the church's glorious hope. The church is the new society established and sustained by the Holy Spirit. The church, the body of Christ, is called to become ever more like Jesus Christ, its head, in its worship, ministry, witness, mutual love and care, and the ordering of its common life."