

Jesus said to his followers:

"... if you have faith in me, you will do the same things that I am doing. You will do even greater things, now that I am going back to the Father."

(John 14:12)

ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH

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## What is Your Vantage Point?

*by Lamar Miller, Minister of Outreach*

When visiting areas like the Appalachian Mountains you often see signs that point to lookout spots or viewing areas. These areas are usually on top of a mountain or ridge where you can look over an entire range and see the beauty of the rolling mountains into the horizon. Those vantage points are great, but I prefer to see the mountains from the inside. Taking a two lane road that travels up and down and around the mountain lets you see what creates the beauty in those great mountains.

I recently read a story that Pete Creig tells in his book, *The Vision and The Vow*. The story is about a distinguished art critic who was looking at a painting by Italian master Filippino Lippi. The critic was standing in London's National Gallery studying the painting of Mary holding the infant Jesus on her lap, with two saints kneeling close by her. It was obvious that Lippi had great skill with the colors and composition. But the proportions of the objects in the painting didn't seem quite right somehow. The hills in the background seemed oversized, almost like they could fall out of the frame at any time. The two kneeling saints looked awkward and uncomfortable.

This critic wasn't the only one to say that this painting had poor perspective, but he was the first to realize the problem might be his. This painting had never been intended to hang in any gallery. Lippi's painting had been commissioned to hang in a place of prayer. The critic dropped to his knees

before the painting in the gallery. He immediately saw what critics before him had missed. From his new vantage point the piece was perfectly proportioned. The foreground now eased into the background naturally and the saints looked settled and full of grace. With his new perspective it seemed as Mary was looking directly at him. You see, it was not the perspective of the painting that was wrong; it was the perspective of the people looking at it.

Having the wrong perspective is something that I believe many of us struggle with often. We as wealthy, comfortable Americans often have the perspective from the mountain top looking down on those less fortunate than us. The poor, the homeless, those that drive cars that barely run, the immigrant, the former convict, and those people who live in the "bad part of town" and the list could go on. In first Samuel, the Lord told him not to look at his appearance or height when choosing the new king. It goes on to say that the Lord does not look at the things people look at, people look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. Jesus, when he washed the disciples' feet changed his perspective as he knelt to do that. Jesus said he set an example that we should follow.

Getting on our knees before the Lord changes our perspective by reminding us we are not greater than anyone else and allows the Holy Spirit to change our hearts as well. The next time something seems a bit off for you, change your perspective, get on your knees and pray about it.

Minister of Administration & Community Life:  
Glen Rhodes

Minister of Discipling:  
Jeff Marnar

**AMC**  
arthur mennonite church

Minister of Outreach:  
Lamar Miller

Minister of Worship and Youth:  
Ashley Litwiller

## Church Order & Unity

“We believe that the church of Jesus Christ is one body with many members, ordered in such a way that, through the one Spirit, believers may be built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

As God’s people, the church is a holy temple, a spiritual house, founded upon the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. Church Order is needed to maintain unity on important matters of faith and life so that each may service and be served, and the body of Christ may be built up in love. Love and unity in the church are witness to the world of God’s love.

In making decisions whether to choose leaders or resolve issues, members of the church listen and speak in a spirit of prayerful openness, with the Scriptures as the constant guide. Persons shall expect not only affirmation, but also correction. In a process of discernment, it is better to wait patiently for a word from the Lord leading toward consensus, than to make hasty decisions.”



### AMC Personal Profile: Cameron Schrock

**How old are you?** I am 18 years old.

**What is your favorite verse?** “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 NIV

**Is there a time in your life when you have felt God’s presence stronger than at any other time?** I have felt God’s strength many times in my life. He is always with me.

**What school do you go to and what’s your favorite subject?** I have been going to Life Academy in Mattoon and I love music and art.

**What is your most treasured possession?** My most treasured possession is my family. They love me and take care of me every day.

**What hobbies do you enjoy?** I enjoy being outside. I like going for rides in my van. I love watching wrestling every Monday night. I enjoy music, football, and baseball (Go Cards!).

**What is your best piece of advice?** My best piece of advice is to live for the Lord and treat each day as a new beginning.

**If you could have dinner with anyone, which 3 people would you choose?** If I could have dinner with anyone, it would probably be John Cena from WWE, Kurt Russell and Tim McGraw who are country singers.

## First Fruit Giving

*Giving God Our Best*

	Stewardship	Attendance
6/30/19	\$4,698	112
7/7/19	\$3,056	88
7/14/19	\$6,131	120
7/21/19	\$2,826	160
7/28/19	\$14,255	100



Come relax with your church family for Menno Night at Bryan Yoder’s Pond on August 18th. Starting at 3:30pm, there will be swimming, games and fellowship together in the great outdoors. Bring a dish to share for the fingerfood carry in meal, which will start at 5pm. We hope to see you there!



The 58th Annual Arthur Mennonite Relief Sale is August 23 & 24. Stay Tuned to the Bulletin for more details or check out their website at [www.arthurreliefsale.org](http://www.arthurreliefsale.org).