

# Greater *things*

## Being Real

*By Glen Rhodes, Minister of Administration & Worship*

People do not like "fake" things. Fake news has been talked about recently in light of many news and social media stories that are not true or are trying to promote a certain agenda. We don't like it when people are fake either. This being when someone is acting in a way that is not consistent with who they really are. On social media and in real-life people can sometimes portray a fake representation of their real self.

In Acts 2 the early Christians were not only devoted to the ways of Christ; they were also devoted to one another. Yes, it says that they shared property, possessions, and other things, but verse 44 says, "all the believers were together and had everything in common." Does this mean they agreed on every little thing? No, I am sure that was not the case. They were human. What it does mean is that they were "real" with each other. They shared their deepest feelings, hurts, struggles, celebrations, etc. with each other in a very real and authentic manner.

This is something the Christian Church of today needs to encourage. This is something we need to encourage at AMC. We need to make room for this and give opportunities for people to share what is going in their life. This is what can truly bring Christian community to the church and draw

us closer together as God's people. When we can be open and honest with one another we can truly help each other in this journey of life.

Sharing our life stories with one another is one way this can happen. AMC Fellowship Groups, Life Groups, and friendships is where this can also happen. There is so much we don't know about each other. If we find opportunities to open up and share what we have been through and how Christ has blessed us in life, we will find help, encouragement, strength, and grace to move forward in what the Lord has in store for our futures together. If you are currently not a part of one of these groups at AMC, talk to a member of the Ministry Team or call the church office and we will help you to get connected.

Someone once said, "The world at its worst needs the church at its best." Being real and authentic with each other and how we live our lives in the world (including social media) can be a great witness for Jesus Christ. The first Christians practiced true community and verse 47 of Acts 2 says that they were, "Praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." Why? Because when people are real and authentic it is noticed by others.

Minister of Administration and Worship:  
Glen Rhodes

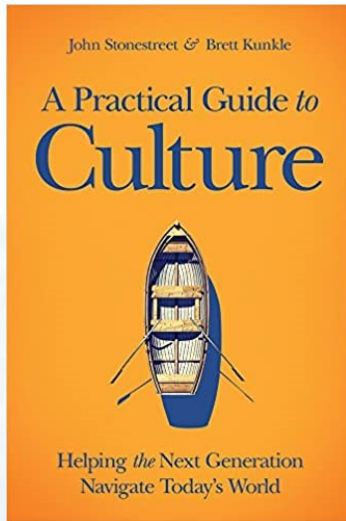
Minister of Community Life  
Nancy Kuhns

**AMC**  
arthur mennonite church

Minister of Outreach:  
Lamar Miller

Minister of Discipling and Youth:  
Jeff Marner

# Book of the Month



*A Practical Guide to Culture* by John Stonestreet and Brett Kunkle is a great resource on how to help the next generation navigate today's world. It can be located in the book rack in the church foyer. Cultural pressure is increasing, especially on our kids. But even in a world of addictions, ever-present screens, and gender identity questions, our youth can have clarity and confidence. We must help them attain it. This is an honest and practical guide for parents and Christian leaders that will enable you to help your kids influence the culture rather than letting the culture change them. You can find this book in the church library. Check it out!

FULLY KNOWN

# JESUS

*A Message Series from the Gospel of John*

**AUGUST 16TH: THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

*John 10:1-10; Psalm 23; Luke 15:1-7*

**AUGUST 23RD: THE EXAMPLE OF SERVANTHOOD**

*John 13:1-17, Isaiah 42:1-4; Luke 10:25-37*

**AUGUST 30TH: THE WAY, TRUTH, AND LIFE**

*John 14:1-14; Psalm 1:1-3; Galatians 5:16-26*

## First Fruit Giving

*Giving God Our Best*

Stewardship

6/28/2020 \$3,837 7/12/2020 \$11,349

7/05/2020 \$2,813 7/19/2020 \$5,614

If you would like to give tithes & offerings during this time, please place it in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary, or mail your envelope/check to the church address:

710 E. Park, Arthur, IL, 61911.

Please include your envelope so numbers can be recorded.



## AMC Personal Profile: Michael Yoder

What is your job and what does it consist of?

I farm with my dad and grandpa. Farming consists of many jobs including marketing grain, data management, running equipment, scouting crops, making crop plans, and a lot of problem solving.

What is your favorite verse and/or book of the Bible?

**Psalms 1:1-3**

Is there a time in your life when you have felt God's presence stronger than at other times?

Not so much certain times as much as moments in time. Moments while farming or out in the woods hunting when it is clear that what you are looking at or experiencing has been created by God.

What hobbies do you enjoy?

Wake boarding, flying remote control airplanes, hunting, and fishing

Any interesting facts about you that we may not know?

I lived in Alaska for 6 months. I went through the 13 week department of defense fire academy in San Angelo, TX. I recently got into 3D design and printing that I'm using to create new ideas I have for the farm.

Do you have a favorite historical figure?

Thomas Jefferson. He must have been an extremely sharp and motivated man. He spoke many languages and drafted the Declaration of Independence. Our country was extremely fortunate to have such talented leaders at the helm during our founding that were willing to take massive risks for the future.

Do you have a favorite inspirational quote?

"You can do anything, but you can't do everything."

What is your best piece of advice?

Ask lots of questions and listen.