



# Greater *things*

ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
APRIL 2021

## Crossroads Of Change

*by Jeff Marner, Minister of Discipling & Youth*

Today, we see the cross as a reminder of the most beautiful act to happen in all of time. We revere it in our sanctuary and wear it as jewelry on our bodies. We see glorious grace in what was actually a gruesome act. Much of the culture has become indifferent to the cross but some groups take offense while others find it absurd. The Jehovah's Witnesses I've met throughout the years have acted as if it is ridiculous to use the cross as we do and they question why anyone would so honor the device that killed our Savior.

In this Easter season we celebrate our resurrected Savior. It's also a time when we think of how God can make good from the difficulties of life. Last year we didn't have in person worship during Easter and for a longer time than initially expected we didn't meet in person. While I don't think anyone will view this as a good thing, I believe a number of changes have come out of this last year that will stick because of their positive effect on our gatherings.

This last year has probably revealed to all of us what we value. It has forced some change in us and in other cases has caused us to look for new opportunities to create our own change. There is no thing that God can't turn to His will and redeem for His purposes. The Old Testament is the story of a people who were continually bringing ruinous situations upon themselves and God bending history to His will. The bad times often led the people of Israel to power. Israel's chosen position didn't mean protection from any bad. Through the bad God would often reveal a new work He was doing.

God allowed His son to die on a cross. To the world this act was folly, end, and failure. What the world meant as the end of a movement was the launching point of a church that would change the face of the world. God will continue to work in both the bad and good and will use those to change the face of our life.

Minister of Administration & Worship:  
**Glen Rhodes**

Minister of Community Life:  
**Nancy Kuhns**

**AMC**  
arthur mennonite church

Minister of Outreach:  
**Emily Kauffman**

Minister of Discipling & Youth:  
**Jeff Marner**



# UPCOMING AMA COMMUNITY EASTER SERVICES

## **Good Friday**

The Arthur United Methodist Church will be hosting an open service at their church on Good Friday from 10am-4pm. You're welcome to come and enjoy an open time for individual prayer and worship.

## **Easter Sunset Service**

This year's Easter service will be at 6pm on Easter Sunday at The Great Pumpkin Patch. You will be able to park and listen to the service through your radio, or you are welcome to bring lawn chairs and sit next to your vehicle. We hope you will join us!

### **AMC Personal Profile** **ANDY MARNER**

What is your job and what does it consist of? **The Arthur CounterTop Co.** I get to deal with customers; measure, fabricate, and install their counters. I sometimes provide digital services like templating and CNC cutting. As a side gig, I referee JH & HS volleyball and I recently started umpiring JH & HS softball games.



What is your favorite verse or book of the Bible? **Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV**  
*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.*

Do you have a favorite book or author? **A Scandalous Freedom: The Radical Nature of the Gospel** by Steven Brown and **I Don't Have Enough Faith To Be an Atheist** by Normal L Geisler and Frank Turek

What hobbies do you enjoy? **Music - making it, finding it, listening to it, sharing it, worshiping through it, and sharing that passion with others.** I also enjoy softball, volleyball, and tennis.

What do you consider to be your greatest achievement? **Happy wife, happy children, happy grandchildren, and happy great grandchildren. Not perfect, but nonetheless happy.**

What is your favorite song or hymn we sing at church? **Who You Say I Am; Lord I Need You; There is a Redeemer; It Is Well; I would list my top 10, but that list is longer than 10.**

If you could host a dinner part with any three people in the world, living or dead, whom would you invite? **My paternal grandfather, George, who passed before I was born. I've heard many stories that I'd like to hear them firsthand. My father-in-law, John Armstrong, who passed shortly before Lynn and I became an "item". The first Marner who immigrated to the US; I would really like to hear the story.**

What is your best piece of advice? **If you never heal from who cut you, you'll bleed on those who didn't.**

## **Tim Mast Benefit Fund**

Tim Mast lost his right foot and leg just below the knee due to diabetes. He needs our assistance with medical and utility expenses.

Donations can be made at the State Bank of Arthur or by mailing a check to Arthur Lions Club  
PO Box 33, Arthur, IL 61911

\*Note Tim's name in the memo line of your check

## **April Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Chad Yoder	April 3
Taylor Miller	April 3
Derek Rhodes	April 4
Ryan Miller	April 4
Joe & Lanora	
Gingerich	April 8
Cliff & Kathy Yoder	April 17
Elizabeth Miller	April 17
Paisley Yoder	April 18
Lynn Marner	April 19
Justin & Tiffany	
Grimsley	April 24
Colby Herschberger	April 25
Galen Tully	April 26

## **First Fruits - giving God our best!**

February 28th	\$2,377
March 7th	\$3,726
March 14th	\$4,090
March 21st	\$5,421

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 at:  
710 E Park, Arthur, IL 61911.  
Please include your envelope so your number can be recorded.