

Greater things

ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | AUGUST 2021

“Which Did God Believe?”

by Glen Rhodes, Minister of Discipling & Worship

“I will open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be enough room to receive it.” Malachi 3:10 (NKJ)

Can you imagine with me the windows of heaven opened up and pouring out blessings upon us as this passage in Malachi so wonderfully illustrates? It is a wonderful picture of the blessings that come to those who love and honor God. Malachi goes on to write in verse 17 that to those who are obedient to the Lord, the Lord says of them, “They will be mine.” To be one of the Lord’s people is to be blessed!

If you read this entire book of the Bible, you will realize that these blessings do not just fall out of the sky to anyone. To receive them requires a commitment to God above all else. The Lord will not pour out his blessings on those who are fleeing God’s will and running from his precepts. Chapter 3 of Malachi proclaims this fact.

I cannot imagine any one of us not wanting to experience this type of pouring out that God is talking about here. Why would we follow our own desires and our own directions in life when they ultimately will shut us off from this wonderful flow? That question looms large, but we often still find a way to follow our own course of action.

To be blessed is not necessarily to be rich in earthly treasures. We are blessed in many other ways as well. We are richly blessed by people that God has placed in our lives. We are blessed by being able to draw close to God through a relationship with his son Jesus Christ. We also are blessed through the small occurrences that happen in our daily lives as we live each day in expectation and hope.

God does bless his people with what they need, and sometimes that comes in the abundance that is spoken about in Malachi. The key is to not only be in search of these

blessings alone. If we follow God and have an upright heart first and foremost then God will prepare this pouring out upon us. Many times, our attitude towards God and our thankfulness for what He has blessed us with can open or close this flow from heaven.

The story is told of a large family that was sitting around the dinner table one evening. As was the custom, the father returned thanks, thanking God for the blessings of having food. Immediately after, however, as was his bad habit, he began to grumble about hard times; the day he had at work, the way the food was cooked, and much more. His little daughter interrupted him, “Dad, do you suppose God heard what you said a little while ago when you were giving thanks?” “Certainly,” the father replied with the confident air of an instructor. “And did he hear what you said about your work and the food we are eating tonight?” “Of course,” replied the father with a note of caution in his voice. Then his daughter asked, “Dad, which did God believe?”

That story is a great example of how many times we are quick to give thanks for the blessings God sends our way and then so tempted to fall right back into a grumbling attitude about the things that we do not have or the things we wish could be changed. Many times, it is a child that will point these things out to us. How humbling that is.

Let us live our lives with a good attitude and a committed life to His desires. God desires to pour out these blessings in your life in quantities that are too great for you to have room for them all.

Minister of Discipling & Worship:
Glen Rhodes

Minister of Community Life
Nancy Kuhns

AMC
arthur mennonite church

Minister of Outreach:
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Minister of Administration & Youth:
Jeff Marnier

First Fruits - *Giving God Our Best*

Stewardship

06/27/2021 \$2,680 07/11/2021 \$7,151

07/04/2021 \$2,380 07/18/2021 \$3,481

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.

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 - Dee Kuhn	11 - Michelle Schrock
3 - Janette Petersheim	12 - Kollin Borntrager
3 - Kendra Hughes	14 - Larry & Dory Kauffman
3 - Kenny (M) Schrock	15 - Alexis Dodge
6 - Pat Yoder	17 - Jeff Snyder
7 - Dory Kauffman	19 - Willis & Dee Kuhns
8 - Irlene Chupp	20 - Lynn & Marla Kauffman
10 - Floyd & Anna Mary Borntrager	20 - Melissa Schrock
10 - Kyle & Jackie Crabtree	21 - Logan Schrock
11 - Irene Freeman	27 - Sandy Miller
11 - Jenni Marnier	28 - Mike & Katrina Taylor
11 - Lamar & Karen Miller	29 - Taya Foushi

AMC Personal Profile NANCY PLANK



What is your job? **I am a Certified Fitness Trainer and I also work at Jack Flash.**

What is your favorite verse of the Bible?
I can do all things through Him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

Is there a time in your life when you have felt God's presence stronger than at any other time? **When my mother passed away, when both my children were born, and when I made a change in my lifestyle in which God became my best friend.**

What hobbies do you enjoy?
Interior designing, weight training, hiking...anything outdoors

What are some interesting facts about you?
I am the oldest of 11 children, I used to interpret for deaf people, and I grew up on a farm and trained horses.

What is your favorite song or hymn? **In Christ Alone, I Need Thee Every Hour, and Nearer My God To Thee**

What do you regard as your most treasured possession?
A letter in my mother's handwriting and a Bible given to me after our house fire.

Do you have a favorite inspirational quote?
Everything has a purpose and that includes you.

What is your best piece of advice? **Invite Jesus to go with you in everything you do. Keep going and never quit.**

UPCOMING "MISSION-MINDED" EVENTS

ARTHUR MENNONITE RELIEF SALE

Friday, August 27th & Saturday, August 28th

Planning and preparations are underway for a great relief sale weekend! There are so many opportunities to help, serve, and give to this event, as well as many fun activities to attend throughout the weekend.

If you are interested in helping work the Registration desk, please sign up on the sheet on the church bulletin board.

The committee is taking hog donations. It is \$50 for a half and \$100 for a full. Talk to DuWayne & Karen Miller or Cliff & Kathy Yoder for any and all questions regarding the sale.

Stacy & Vojta Prknovi

Sunday, August 22nd

We are excited to have our supported missionaries from EMM join us during Christian Ed. and Worship to share about their experiences and the work they are doing in the Czech Republic.