



# Greater Things

ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2022

## "Love Me Like Jesus"

*by Emily Kauffman, Minister of Outreach*

Here we are, 280 days of February. Well, ask any teacher and they will agree that it feels like the longest month of the year. Cold, snow, and endless indoor recess. I know some can relate. I am sure we have some who love this wintery month. It can be a good opportunity to curl up with a blanket, hot chocolate and your favorite book to catch up on some reading. Others enjoy the opportunity to participate in winter outdoor activities: sledding, skiing, and building snowmen. Some fly south for the winter. South, is where you will probably find me in my retirement years.

We also get to throw in a holiday to break up the monotony; Valentine's Day. A holiday full of cards, flowers, chocolates, and sweet sentiments. Valentine's Day may be a good opportunity to reflect on our relationships. It may be a good opportunity to tell our loved ones how we feel. We could write someone special a love letter or reflect on how we have shown love to our children, family and friends.

Here is a question: Does Valentine's Day ever make you think about sin? Maybe not something we want to talk about during a season of "love" but let's trek down that path for a minute. The Corinthians is a great place to start. 1 Corinthians 13:4-6 "Love is patient, love is kind, it does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth."

Sometimes our sinful nature takes us in the opposite

direction of how God calls us to love. In my readings, one author explained that we forfeit many things when we sin. Sin forfeits selflessness, compassion, LOVE, obedience to God, trust, innocence, purity, conviction, integrity and joy. We should no longer justify sin with statements like, "It makes me happy," or "I deserve this." This path can and will become destructive for ourselves and the relationships we have with others.

How do we learn to love? Seek God's Word to define love and learn how to love. We can see a beautiful heart change within us when we allow God to search our hearts and find our own blind spots. God's Word opens our hearts, allows for purification then leads us to what is right and lovely.

Hebrews 4:12-13 says, "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any double edged sword. It penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give an account." This one made me squirm a little, not out of fear but out of hope and reverence. God can transform my heart. There is no "me version" of the bible. God has explained, described, mapped out how to live and how to love if we allow him that opportunity to change our hearts. We allow God to love us. Allow God to be our confidence so we do not fall into the path of sin. Allow God to teach us how to love.

Minister of Discipling & Worship:  
Glen Rhodes

Minister of Community Life:  
Nancy Kuhns

**AMC**  
arthur mennonite church

Minister of Outreach:  
Emily Kauffman

Minister of Administration & Youth:  
Jeff Marner

## VERTICAL Marriage

SMALL-GROUP STUDY

Cory & Emily Kauffman are leading this 5 week Life Group, starting soon, to discover the one secret that will change your marriage. Talk to them today if you'd like to join!

### FIRST FRUITS - Giving God Our Best

Stewardship

12.26.21 - \$10,355 | 1.02.22 - \$1,380 | 1.09.22 - \$6,595

1.16.22 - \$19,122 | 1.23.22 - \$3,656

If you would like to give tithes & offerings, please place them 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.

## FEBRUARY

### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

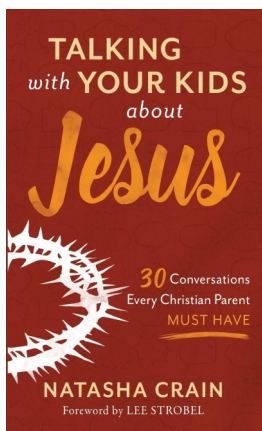
Addison Yoder	2nd
Debbie Miller	5th
Emily Kauffman	5th
Bill Moreland	9th
Jordan Gingerich	10th
Levi & Gloria Yoder	14th
Ryan Burdick	14th
Sam & Janette Petersheim	16th
Zeb Hughes	18th
Cari Munoz	19th
Anna Mary Borntrager	20th
Grant Helmuth	23rd
Karen (D) Miller	23rd
Nancy Plank	23rd
Glen Rhodes	24th
Harlee Stone	29th

## New AMC Vision Statement

By 2027, Arthur Mennonite Church will become a community of children and adults who build deeper relationships with each other. We will guide our children to learn God's Word and know Jesus personally. Opportunities for the spiritual growth of all ages will be provided as we boldly share God's love to the world.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

### Talking With Your Kids About Jesus



You already know the world is becoming an increasingly secular place that will challenge your child's faith in Jesus. But do you know specifically what those faith challenges are, how to effectively talk with your child about them, and what that means for you as a Christian parent on a day-to-day basis? If your answer is "no", you're not alone. Check out this book from the foyer book rack to learn more!

1. What is your job & what does it consist of?  
**I am a carpenter. My son, Keith, and I do remodeling...everything A to Z.**
2. What is your favorite verse of the Bible?  
**Philippians 4:13. "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."**
3. Have you felt God's presence at one specific time in your life more than others? **When I was baptized in the river.**
4. What hobbies do you enjoy? **Gardening, mowing yard, and spending time cleaning in the woods.**
6. What is your favorite song or hymn we sing at church? **Amazing Grace and Because He Lives**
7. What was your very first job?  
**I worked for Arthur Lumber Co.**
8. What is the happiest memory of your life?  
**I spent one week with my friend, Joe Hunter, going to the Appalachian Trail. We walked 70 miles and slept in shelters.**

AMC

## Personal Profile

HENRY CHUPP

