

Greater Things

ARTHUR MENNONITE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MARCH 2022

“Let’s Embark on a Lenten Journey”

by Nancy Kuhns, Minister of Community Life

Wednesday, March 2, is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of the liturgical season known as Lent. Lent is a forty-day period leading up to Easter which commemorates the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness before beginning His earthly ministry. For Christians, Lent is a time of reflection, a time to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us on the cross. Sacrifice is a word often associated with Lent and is carried out by the giving up of, sacrificing, something important to us. Sacrifice often has a negative connotation, but if we choose to give up negative practices, positive results can occur. Many of us remember fish sandwiches being served in the school cafeteria on Friday since many Catholics give up meat on Friday during Lent. This may have led us to believe that observing Lent is a Catholic practice. Actually, Lent is observed in various ways by many denominations, Catholic and Protestant. This year, I would like to encourage you to choose a way to observe Lent. Here are some suggestions of ways you might embark on your Lenten Journey:

- 1 Give up something for Lent, make a Lenten sacrifice. What in your life shifts your focus away from God? TV, video games, Facebook, surfing the internet? Consider giving up the one that takes the most of your time and use that time for prayer, Bible reading, family time, acts of kindness. Many use Lent as a time to give up some of their unhealthy eating habits. Eating too much junk food, fast food, sweets, soda? Choose to give up your unhealthy habits and use the time during Lent to make healthier choices.
- 2 Add good things to your everyday life. Prioritize eating together as a family, save your change and donate to a worthwhile cause, add daily exercise to your routine, make your bed every day. Lent could be the time you decide to volunteer at the MCC Thrift Shop or make a dessert for the Wednesday Night Community Meals. You could mail a card to shut-ins and nursing home residents or do some baking and share with your neighbors and coworkers. The list goes on and on!! Just do some of those things you have been telling yourself you need to do!
- 3 Make a commitment to be in church every Sunday during Lent. Take time to reflect on your Christian walk and your relationship with Jesus. Refocus on your spiritual life by reading your Bible and having a daily devotional and prayer time. Read the gospels and see all that Jesus did for others and for you. Choose to get involved in a life group or come to Christian Ed. Make your relationship with God a priority during Lent.

Please join me on this 40 day Lenten journey beginning Ash Wednesday, March 2, and continuing until Easter, April 17th. I challenge you to choose one of the ideas mentioned above and incorporate it into your daily life. I look forward to hearing what you learned on your trip to Easter!!

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

LENT 2022

THE LIFE WE LIVE NOW

GALATIANS 2:20

MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

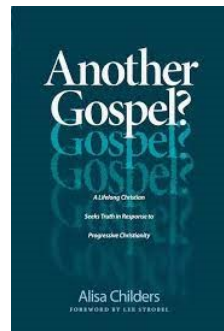
MARLENE HELMUTH	1st
ASHLEY LITWILLER	4th
CONNER CRABTREE	4th
ED & JOANNA YODER	4th
JUNIOR & JUDY BEACHEY	6th
PETER KAUFFMAN	6th
GARY KAUFFMAN	7th
OLIVIA YODER	8th
KENNY & ERICA SCHROCK	10th
ERIN SCHROCK	12th
HANK WALKER	14th
ROY WILLIAMSON	15th
ANDY MARNER	17th
WILLIS KUHN	19th
KEVIN MILLER	21st
TONY PEARSALL	21st
JUNIOR BEACHEY	23rd
KEVIN & LINDORA MILLER	25th
KATIE MILLER	26th
DELMAR SCHROCK	27th
KENDALL BURDICK	30th
SARAH STORM	31st

How are we living now in light of the life that Jesus calls us to?

Join us this Lent season as we look deeper into the main text for our Lent theme, Galatians 2:20, which says,
"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I know live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Book of the Month

Alisa Childers' faith was deeply challenged when she met a progressive pastor who called himself a hopeful agnostic. This book describes the journey she took over several years as she wrestled with questions that struck at the core of the Christian faith and found the truth. Alisa's story may be your own - or that of someone you love. Or perhaps you have encountered the ideas of progressive Christianity in your every day life and aren't sure how to respond. Find this book in the foyer book rack and check it out today!



Another Gospel?
by Alisa Childers

First Fruits - Giving God Our Best

Stewardship

01/30/2022	\$15,910	02/13/2022	\$2,741
02/06/2022	\$2,700	02/20/2022	\$2,567

If you would like to give tithes & offerings, 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.

What is your job and what does it consist of? I teach third grade at Arthur Grade School

What is your favorite verse in the Bible? Philippians 4:13 from the Message translation.

"Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am."

Is there a time you felt God's presence stronger than any other time? I felt God's presence greatest during the journeys to bring each of my children home. Rebecca came home at two months old, and Derek at ten months old. Both were miraculous journeys where God provided great comfort, peace, and direction.

Do you have a favorite book or author? My favorite fiction book has been *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. For Christian titles, I have learned a lot from *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction* by Eugene Peterson and *The Forgotten Way* by Ted Dekker.

What do you regard as your most treasured possession?

Quilts from each of my grandmothers and several from my mom. These are treasured possessions because not only are they beautiful, but so much time and love went into making each one.

What would you say is your favorite meal? Chicken parmesan, garlic bread and Caesar salad with chocolate cream pie for dessert.

What is your favorite song or hymn we sing at church?

Song - Great Are You Lord. Hymn - The Love of God.

AMC
PERSONAL
PROFILE

Rhonda
Rhodes

