

## "Hope Secured" by Emily Kauffman, Minister of Outreach

When a child experiences Jesus and learns more about the promises of Christ, it is a beautiful thing. This month I would like to encourage all of us to think about our children. Whether you have a child in our congregation, have been a witness to the beauty of a child worshiping the Lord, or have sat in a Sunday school classroom and experienced the joy of a child learning something new about Christ; we know that our children are a integral part of growing the kingdom of the Lord.

AMC's vision asks us to "Nurture The Future Church" and I think we are headed in the right direction. My son, Austin, just returned home from Camp at Menno Haven. This was his first year going to camp and he could not be more excited to share his experience. The theme at camp comes from a verse that I am fond of: "Hope Secured." This is from Hebrews 6:19 which says, "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." I feel that a Christ centered space where children can worship together, play together, read the bible together and make new friends is so valuable.

After a two hour nap in the car Austin had endless stories to tell, including what he learned about Jesus. I would like to share his perspective. The next paragraph is Austin's own words about his experience.

On Monday during camp we learned about God's promises of bringing hope. To me this means that God has wishes for you. Someday I would like to be baptized. Getting baptized means to ask Jesus into your heart. On Tuesday we learned about the lighthouse among the rocks. We sang "My Lighthouse". The lighthouse represents Jesus. He is there so you do not crash into evil. Jesus lights the way in your life. On Wednesday we learned about Jesus dying on the cross. Jesus died on the cross so we could have eternal life. We also learned that he fought death. He defeated death and came back to life. He rose from the dead. For us this means that we can have eternal life. With eternal life you go to heaven. In heaven we can see Jesus and the golden roads. I had a lot of fun at camp. My favorite part was paddle boating and going on a nature hike. God created nature so animals can live in it peacefully and have food. Also so we can breathe. Nature is beautiful. It has beautiful trees and plants that you can eat. One tasted like a sour apple. We had a nature expert tell us about the plants.

Minister of Discipling & Administration Glen Rhodes

Minister of Community Life: Nancy Kuhns



Minister of Outreach: Emily Kauffman

Minister of Worship & Youth: Jeff Marner



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## FIRST FRUITS - Giving God Our Best

Stewardship

5.28 - \$2,885 / 6.4 - \$6,990 / 6.11 - \$2,911 / 6.18 - \$2,855

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.

## **IULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

- 4 ~ Henry & Amanda Chupp
- 5 Denton Marner
- 6 Everlynn Yoder
- 12 DuWayne & Karen Miller
- 15 Darrel Gingerich
- 16 Cheyanne Miller
- 17 Wyatt Herschberger
- 18 Drew Cotton
- 21 ~ Jeff & Michelle Snyder
- 24 Andy & Nancy Plank
- 24 ~ Jeff Marner
- 27 Kody Burdick
- 27 Seth Gingerich
- 1. What is your job and what does it consist of? Well...that depends on the day. I've been at First Mid for 12 years and spend most of my time managing farms for absentee landowners. Most of my customers live out of the state or country and many of them I've never met in-person. In addition to managing farms, I appraise farmland, sell farmland, and sell crop insurance. In the evenings and on weekends, I help my dad on the farm.
- 2. What is your favorite verse and/or book of the Bible? Isaiah 40: 30–31. If anyone has seen my mother-in-law's license plate, it's a reference to this verse.
- 3. Is there a time in your life when you have felt God's presence stronger than at any other time? Our family, unfortunately, has experienced several unexpected deaths over the years. In those moments, I can always tell that God is near.
- 4. What hobbies do you enjoy? I really enjoy snow skiing. Recently, it's been a lot of fun watching Austin learn how to ski. I also enjoy helping coach Austin's sports teams.
- 5. What is something AMC might be surprised to know about you? I enjoy baking. It's become a tradition that I make Austin's birthday cake every year.
- 6. What is your favorite song or hymn that we sing at church? **Recently, it's been "Hymn Of Heaven".**
- 7. What do you regard as your most treasured possession?

  My green Dollar General coffee cup! It's perfect because it doesn't keep my coffee too hot. By the time I get to Chesterville on my way to work, the coffee is the perfect temperature. (Coffee is very important to me.)
- 8. What was your very first job? My first real job was painting propane tanks.

  Looking back it was a pretty sweet gig. I got to set my own hours and I got paid by the tank. I quickly learned the most efficient way to paint a tank.



AMC Personal Profile CORY KAUFFMAN