

Greater Things

ARTHUR MENNONITE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2024

"Love Through Faithfulness"

by Emily Kauffman, Minister of Outreach

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ~ Lamentations 3:23

Has there ever been a time in your life that you questioned whether the sun would come up in the morning? Or maybe if the sun would go down? I cannot recall a time that I questioned this. Have you ever questioned if Tuesday would be after Monday, or if July would come after June? These seem like silly questions maybe. Time never changes. Time is never added nor is time ever taken away. The sun will always rise and set, as long as Earth exists on its axis. Time is fixed, firm, immovable, steadfast.

In the above verse from Lamentations, the love of the Lord is described as steadfast. Steadfast love is a powerful concept, especially when we live in a world where love is usually described as a feeling. Feelings are fickle and from my experience, change from day to day and sometimes moment by moment. Steadfast love is a choice. It is a decision that is made to be immovable and completely faithful. Never to be forsaken.

God's love is described this way in many places of the Bible:

Hebrews 13:5 ~ "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

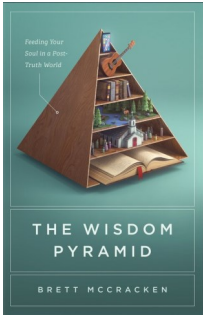
Deuteronomy 31:8 ~ "The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

John 15:9 ~ "I have loved you even as the Father has loved Me. Remain in My love."

Psalms 136 ~ "Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever."

Think now of the people who have chosen to love you. When you celebrate; they are there. When you are sick or healing; they are there. When you need to talk; they are there. When you need guidance or advice; they are there. They choose to be there; day after day... for better and for worse. This is a beautiful thing to think about. Something even more beautiful is knowing that when our loved ones are gone, when people disappoint us, or when someone chooses to no longer love us; God's love will never fail. God's love is immovable. God's love is immeasurable. God's love is steadfast, and this is for all of eternity.

BOOK OF THE MONTH



The Wisdom Pyramid by Brett McCracken

We're facing an **information overload**. With the quick tap of a finger we can access an endless stream of addictive information - sports scores, breaking news, streaming TV,

the latest social media posts, and much more. Accessing information has never been easier, but acquiring wisdom is increasingly difficult. Inspired by the food pyramid model, Brett McCracken has created "the Wisdom Pyramid" which challenges us to increase our intake of enduring, trustworthy sources (like the Bible) while moderating our consumption of less reliable sources (like the Internet and social media). *The Wisdom Pyramid suggests that we become healthy and wise when we reorient our lives around God and His Word—the foundation of truth and the eternal source of wisdom.*

Check it out from the foyer book rack today!

FIRST FRUITS ~ Giving God Our Best

Stewardship

December 31 - \$11,426 | January 7 - \$6,190

January 14 - \$1,655 | January 21 - \$18,660

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.

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR SUPER BOWL SUBS FROM OUR AMC YOUTH YET? THERE'S STILL TIME!

Subs are \$8.00 and will feature the Logondola bread filled with ham, turkey, and cheese. These freeze well and can be cut into smaller sandwiches for a quick lunch, or sandwich platter for your Super Bowl Party. Orders are due by February 4th with pickup on February 11th at AMC.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES



2 - Addison Yoder
5 - Debbie Miller
5 - Emily Kauffman
9 - Bill Moreland
10 - Jordan Gingerich
13 - Malachi Gutierrez
14 - Levi & Gloria Yoder
14 - Ryan Burdick
18 - Zeb Hughes
19 - Cari Plank
20 - Anna Mary Borntrager
23 - Grant Helmuth
23 - Karen (D) Miller
23 - Nancy Plank
24 - Glen Rhodes

1. What is your job and what does it consist of? **I am in Sales at the Cabinet Factories Outlet in Arthur. My job consists of helping customers find solutions to their cabinet/storage needs using the available product we have on hand. All of our product is considered seconds, over runs, and/or returns. But if you want to save some money and be flexible, we may have what you need.**
2. What is your favorite verse or book of the Bible? **I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me. Philippians 4:13**
3. Is there a time in your life when you have felt God's presence stronger than at any other time? **The most recent moment that I can recall is when my grandfather passed on to be the with Lord this past summer.**
4. What hobbies do you enjoy? **Drumming, or anything percussion. Music in general.**
5. What would you say is your favorite meal? **My wife Becky's fried chicken and taters.**
6. What do you regard as your most treasured possession? **The coins that my Uncle Pancho left to me after his passing. Every time I see them, they remind me of him.**
7. What is the happiest memory of your life? **My children being born, and the first embrace of them in my arms.**

AMC PERSONAL PROFILE



**ISAI
GUTIERREZ**