



Greater Things

ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2025

"What's Important?"

by Sam Miller, Minister of Youth and Family Life

We, the Millers, have settled into our home on Ash street in Arthur. As the hustle and bustle starts up after the snow storm that kept us all at home for a few days in January, we start to see the community at work. We are renting a home at the moment; it really is home. "Home is where the Heart is" and this is currently where the heart resides so we will call it home. I will add though many of you have heard me referring to "home" as our "Indiana home" as habits are hard to just stop overnight. We do still own the house in Indiana, so technically it is still "our place, our property," just not our "home."

As we made the trek and settled in, it also gave us/me time to reflect, mostly at night when I wasn't dismantling boxes, on what is important in life. How we fill up our days with "stuff" to do, people to help, kids to run where, and what we are involved in, etc. I found this to be an opportunity to do a "reset" of sorts. So what is important? Why do we fill our schedules and go crazy?

I am reading through a book called "The Forgotten Ways" by Alan Hirsch and he talks about "Surfing on the edge of chaos." In this section he talks about how we thrive on that edge and how that is a condition and not a location. You can't go to the "edge" but you can create that condition in your life. He goes on to refer to our ability to thrive there as a sweet spot for productivity and change. Now I will caution that I don't think everyone works with the same mental prowess in chaos; some like things done in an orderly fashion and way ahead of schedule.

For those that do thrive on the edge, this is your sweet spot. But are you thriving in and getting accomplished what is important in life? As we get closer to the Easter season, I want to challenge everyone to stop and enjoy the time we have with family and friends. Stop and just take a minute to breathe. Stop and go visit someone in a nursing home you wouldn't normally. Stop and say hi to a neighbor you don't talk to much. These are all a part of celebrating Jesus. During the last supper Jesus made space for all of his disciples to be around him and enjoyed a meal with them. So let's not forget to fellowship with those who are not like us (the twelve disciples were a diverse group).

Good Friday, as we read in Luke 23:44-46 in the NKJV: *Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.' Having said this, He breathed His last.*

As we remember the darkness and death that had to happen and Jesus' blood shed for our salvation, let's remember what he endured for us on the cross.

Easter, He is risen! What glorious miracles our Father in heaven can perform! Let's pick up the story again in Luke 24:3-7: *Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'"* And so it is, he went to sit at the right hand of God to intercede for us until we all meet again.

AMC
arthur mennonite church
MINISTRY TEAM

Glen Rhodes
Minister of
Discipling
(M.T. Leader)

Sam Miller
Minister of Youth
and Family Life
(Community Life)

Emily Kauffman
Minister of
Outreach

Les Helmuth
Minister of
Administration

Nadine Miller
Minister of
Worship

JOIN US AT ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH AND AT EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE ARTHUR MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION AS WE GO THROUGH HOLY WEEK TOGETHER



Join us at AMC as we celebrate Palm Sunday and its reminder to welcome Jesus into our hearts. We look forward to our primary department entering while waving their palm branches as we sing, Hosanna To the King!



The **AMA Good Friday Service** will be held at the Arthur United Methodist Church from 12-1pm on Good Friday. John Stewart and Glen Rhodes will be sharing during the service. Join us as we reflect on Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for us on the cross.



Praise God for the gift of eternal life through Christ Jesus for all believers! Jesus has conquered death! This year's **AMA Easter Sunrise Service** will be held at the First Apostolic Church at 6:30am. There will be many special times of sharing from local churches, including a song by the Marner family. After the Sunrise Service, join us at AMC for **Easter Breakfast** provided by our youth from 8:00-9:15am in the fellowship hall. Invite your family and friends to join us at 10:30am for our special AMC Worship Celebration. Make sure to snap a photo with your group in front of our Easter backdrop! *HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!*

EASTER TULIP SIGN UPS \$12 EACH



We will be ordering tulips in a variety of colors to adorn the sanctuary for Easter. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for all who would like to place an order. You are welcome to dedicate these in memory of a loved one. These can be taken home following our Easter service.

First Fruits Stewardship ~ Giving God Our Best

3 - Chad Yoder	26 - Galen Tully
5 - Isai & Becky Gutierrez	27 - Parker Miller
7 - Liz Diener	30 - Renee Olivero
8 - Joe & Lanora Gingerich	
11 - Jory Borntreger	
17 - Cliff & Kathy Yoder	
18 - Paisley Yoder	
19 - Lynn Marner	

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

March 2 - \$6,064 | March 9 - \$1,613

March 16 - \$4,528 | March 23 - \$7,395

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.

AMC Personal Profile



EDEN GUTIERREZ

- How old are you and what school do you attend?
I am 14 years old and attend Arthur Christian School.
- What is your favorite verse/book of the Bible? **Luke 1:37 "For no word from God will ever fail"**
- Is there a time in your life when you have felt God's presence stronger than at any other time? **Not really.**
- What is your favorite subject in school? **My favorite subject is Math**
- What is your favorite hymn or song we sing at church?
My favorite song to sing is Hymn Of Heaven by Phil Wickham, and I love it when Erica hits the high note.
- What would you say is your favorite meal? **Spaghetti**
- Which season of the year would you say is your favorite?
Winter because I love playing in the snow.