



## **"Sowing Spiritual Seeds"**

by Les Helmuth, Minister of Administration

Farmers have been actively sowing and planting in the last month. Their efforts are focused on preparing for a bountiful harvest. Just as farmers sow seeds hoping for a good harvest, Christians believe in sowing spiritual seeds, trusting in the promise of reaping eternal rewards.

Farmers in this area typically plant a variety of crops, including corn, beans, wheat, and hay. Likewise, Christians cultivate a variety of spiritual seeds, such as acts of kindness, prayer, sharing faith, worshiping together, generosity, and serving others...though this is just a partial list...with many more examples.

People in our church are constantly sowing their spiritual seeds, fostering a thriving and faithful fellowship. Some generously share their time, such as mowing the yard, maintaining the buildings, leading Sunday School and serving on committees, while others offer prayer and comfort. Many give an abundance of tithes and offerings. These are all important seeds in growing as a Christian, the rewards are great and eternal.

### **2 Corinthians 9:6**

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,  
and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

A strong church depends on its members sowing spiritual seeds through acts like service, prayer, and generosity. These efforts nurture faith and fellowship, ensuring the church remains vibrant and resilient, much like a garden flourishing from careful planting.

What are your spiritual seeds? Are you sowing seeds that will provide a bountiful harvest and lead to spiritual growth, a deeper connection with your faith, and positive change in your life and community? No matter how small the seed, it can have a rich harvest.

### **Matthew 13:31-32**

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.



### Sam Miller Ordination - June 1st

Join us for the ordination of Sam Miller, Minister of Youth & Family Life, by LMC during our morning worship service on June 1. LMC District Bishop John Nissley will be here to bring the message. We will also have our fellowship meal following the service.

## WORSHIP IN THE PARK

JUNE 15 AT BRAD-O-CLEN

**9 - 9:50am: Donuts & Coffee**  
**10am: Worship Service**

Bring lawn chairs to sit outside as we worship together. We'll also celebrate men for Father's Day!

There is no fellowship meal following the service, but you are welcome to bring your own picnic-style lunch to eat outside.



**JUNE 16 - 20 | 9-11:30AM daily at AMC**

Children entering K-8th grade in the fall are encouraged to attend! Find out all the details and register on the newly updated website: [www.arthurvbs.org](http://www.arthurvbs.org)

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

2nd - Matt & Jacque Lane  
5th - Cory Kauffman; Michael Yoder  
7th - Garrett Yoder  
8th - Glen & Rhonda Rhodes  
9th - Matt Lane  
12th - Virgil & Sondra Gingerich  
14th - Josephine Marner  
Ryan & Kat Burdick  
15th - Bill & Donna Moreland  
Sam & Issa Miller  
16th - Galen & LeAnne Tully  
17th - Sawyer Miller  
18th - April Carter  
Marlon & Sandy Miller  
22nd - Natalie Borntreger; Tim Mast  
25th - Eric Chupp; Maddox Everhart  
28th - Alexis Helmuth  
29th - Amanda Chupp  
Amber Gingerich

### First Fruits Stewardship Giving God Our Best

**April 27 - \$4,880      May 11 - \$2,235**  
**May 4 - \$10,615      May 18 - \$1,530**

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.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO RHONDA RHODES ON HER RETIREMENT THIS MONTH!



**FIRST YEAR**



**FINAL YEAR**

1. What was the very first job you had, and how old were you when you started? **I remember walking beans & babysitting as my first paid jobs. My first full-time job was at Rockome Restaurant working in the kitchen.**
2. What is the position/job you held currently and how long had you been working there? **I have been in the same classroom teaching third grade for 21 years.**
3. What do you consider some of your greatest accomplishments? **Connecting with students, forming relationships, & seeing them grow is what I love most about my job. I love visits from former students. Along with the basic subjects in school, I try to find ways to teach kindness & how our words and actions toward others are so important.**
4. What did you consider some of your biggest challenges? **It is a challenge to cover academically everything you need to in a day, week, & school year. When state tests loom, paperwork is behind, data needs collecting, & all the other details can seem to "take over" what the most important part of teaching really is.**
5. What are some of your fondest memories while working? **Spontaneous lessons, or when the subject I'm teaching goes down an unexpected tangent & I can just throw out the "lesson plan" & relate to them about life. Also, kids write the best notes & I have saved so many special ones. Kids coming back to my room to tell me what they remember about third grade. The friendships I have with co-workers are also some fond memories!**
6. What advice would you give others in your job? **Each student is so unique & special. Get to know them well, form relationships, & know that you are investing in & making a difference in each life.**
1. What do you look forward to most about retirement? **The slower pace; being able to spend more time with family & friends will be a highlight. I look forward to what God has in store for me during the next phase of my life!**