

“The Search Begins...and So Do We”

A Pastor shocked his congregation when he unexpectedly announced he was resigning. After Church, one woman had tears in her eyes when she spoke with the Pastor. “Why do you have to leave?” she asked. The Pastor said, “Now, now. . . . don’t be upset. I’m sure the next Pastor will be great.” “Yeah, right,” she replied. “That’s what they said the last time!”

The Search Committee has begun their work. And it is work. Be patient with them. There is much more to the process than most people realize. And pray for them. And I believe the next Pastor is going to be great. Really. Spring is a time for a new beginning. This is such a time at Vine Street and it is a good thing. This can be a time of new beginnings for each of us. I am not only talking about “activity” although we are a very active Church. I am talking about a revival of faith. I encourage you to pray daily. And find a group of 2-3 to pray with. Spend time in the Word of God and watch your faith grow (Romans 10:17). In all our activities, let’s not forget our relationship with Christ. May the sun (Son) of God shine upon us and bring forth new life.

Now...to a few calendar items and some notes of thanks and praise from your Interim Pastor.

Baptism: We will probably celebrate some baptisms in early April. You will have to watch the bulletin for details. Each youth discusses this with parents and decides. But it is my privilege to work with these outstanding young people.

COMING UP: Take a look at the announcements in this newsletter. I hope to see you at the Mystery Dinner Theater. It will be a lot of fun. And let’s worship together on Good Friday and Easter.

Now...let me close with some thanks. Thanks so much to the Nurture Committee and all who helped on the dinner and the Gunny Sack Revue Concert. What a great time! And there are too many to thank for the Mystery Dinner Theater. To the cast, to those building props and scenery, to those working on the dinner and selling tickets, and to those who work on sound, lights, production, etc., we say, “Thanks.” And to our leader who wants to remain nameless :D, we say thanks.

And a final word: Congratulations to our own Jim Yoder, winner of the BESI award. This is an award for, “Business Ethics and Social Involvement given by the, “ECIDC.” We have great people at Vine Street and in this area and we are proud of all of them. But I believe this award couldn’t have gone to a more deserving person. Great job, Jim!

In closing, may the Spirit of God breathe life into us may you and I experience a new beginning.

Rick Williams, Interim Pastor

HURRY FOR YOUR MYSTERY DINNER THEATER TICKETS!

“Who Dun Stole The Bride”—A Hillbilly Mystery Dinner Theatre, is this year’s show and promises to be as entertaining as the title implies! And Special Musical Guest, **Mackville**, will be playing throughout the dinner and performance!

Tickets for the theater, **Sunday, April 3rd at noon (doors open at 11:15) at Arthur High School Old Gym**, are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children (4-9) and free for children 3 and under. Everyone will need a ticket (no matter the rate) to give us a head count for the meal. Tickets are available from Sandy Dolan (543-2468) or any cast member (including Rick). But hurry, tickets need to be purchased by **Sunday, March 27th** so we can prepare for the meal!

EASTER LILY SIGN-UP

The Easter lily sign-up sheet is on the L-table as you enter and leave the sanctuary. If you’d like to pay for a lily to grace our sanctuary on Easter Sunday (April 24) in honor or memory of someone you love, put their name and yours on the sheet. You can also phone in “orders” to the church office. The lilies are \$12. **NOTE: Deadline for signing up is Sunday, April 10.** The list of donors will be printed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

WEDNESDAY MORNING LENTEN STUDY

The Lenten Bible Study will continue Wednesday mornings through **March 20th at 10:00 am** in the Genesis Room. Join us!



OUTREACH OFFERINGS

We’ll be receiving contributions on Sunday, April 17th and 24th to the Easter offering, which helps

support the life-changing ministries of our church in the U.S. and around the world.

Our just-finished Week of Compassion offering, which goes to help meet emergency needs around the world in the event of natural and man-made disasters, is again in great need since the Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan.

We are continuing to collect for that specific offering, which will go directly for aid in that country.



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE AT OUR CHURCH THIS YEAR

Our Church will host this year’s Good Friday service from Noon to 1:00 pm on April 22.

COMMUNITY EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE – 6:30 AM, APRIL 24

This year’s Community Sunrise Service will be at the First Apostolic Church beginning at 6:30 am on Easter, April 24. Six area churches participate in this service in providing special music and sharing in worship leadership. Our own Rev. Rick Williams will be preaching. Other participating churches include our church, the Arthur Mennonite Church, the Arthur United Methodist Church, the Arthur Southern Baptist Church, and First Apostolic Church.



LOOKING AHEAD TO VBS

The Vacation Bible School committee is hard at work planning an exciting week to kick off summer. **Mark your calendars for June 6th through the 10th, 9:00—11:30 am.** Let Carol Huffman or Shana Condill know if you'd like to volunteer for this fulfilling week.

We are again continuing our VBS theme into the Summer Quarter for Sunday School. The curriculum incorporates worship, music, crafts and games as a group. Consider also volunteering to lead sections of the summer quarter—which is easily broken up to accommodate summer vacations!

DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN IN THE NURSERY?

If you do, the nursery staff needs you to fill out a **Child Information Form**. The staff is creating **VSCC Kid's Cards** that will let the staff members know any special information about the child, such as allergies, at a glance. You can pick one up in the nursery the next time you drop off your child.

MAKING DINNER AS SERVICE

Since you're probably making dinner anyway most nights, here's an easy way to plug-in. Sandy Dolan and Ruth Ann Lowder are creating a calling list of people who are willing to make meals for members in need. Many of us know what it's like to be on the receiving end of this generosity and if you'd like to return the favor every so often, let Sandy (-2468) or Ruth Ann (-2050) know.



GRADUATES' NAMES NEEDED

If you know someone in our church who is graduating from high school, eighth grade or college (or who graduated last December), please let us know. We want to get a complete list for the Graduates and Families Breakfast in May.

Congratulations!

To Kyla Carson who was chosen as MVP on her 5th Grade Basketball Team!

APRIL 2011 BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

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| 1 - Scott Hollingsworth | Andrew Singer |
| 3 - Michael Johnson
Jill (Johnson) Sillery | 18 - Shelia Crowe
Kenneth Wilson |
| 5 - Billie Fustin | 19 - Lonny Peterson |
| 6 - Janet Ray | Robert & Sandra McDonald (A) |
| 7 - Jamie Carson | 22 - Avery Alexander |
| 8 - Kent Schmidt
Amy Strong | 23 - Andrew Sillery |
| 9 - Vincent Lee Ray | 25 - John Harrer
Peter & Judy Kondrup (A) |
| 10 - Chloe Custer
Rhonda Trower | 26 - Katey Custer
Ann Kauffman
Jane Trower |
| 11 - Mark McCollum | 29 - Bryce Yantis |
| 12 - Pete Jean | 30 - Mark Jones
Karl & Tara Bursa (A) |
| 14 - Zebulon Crist | |
| 15 - Lindsey Daugherty | |
| 17 - Marilyn Maffett | |

**Please let us know if anything in this list needs to be corrected.
Thanks – and Happy Anniversary!**

APRIL 2011

<u>EVERY SUNDAY</u>	8:25 am	Singing Group Practice
	9:00 am	SUNDAY SCHOOL
	10:00 am	WORSHIP
<u>EVERY MONDAY</u>	8:30 am	Crafts Group
<u>EVERY TUESDAY</u>	7:00 pm	Crafts Group

<u>SUNDAY, MARCH 27</u>	Elder's Meeting immediately following worship.	
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Wed, March 30	10:00 am	Lenten Study
SUNDAY, APRIL 3	Noon "Who Dun Stole The Bride" Mystery Dinner Theatre Arthur High School Old Gym *Doors Open at 11:15*	
<i>Food Pantry Sunday</i>		

Tuesday, April 5	11:00 am	Prayer Group
Wednesday, April 6	10:00 am	Lenten Study
	1:30 pm	CWF Meeting
	7:00 pm	Admin Team Mtg
Saturday, April 9	8:30 am	Women's Birthday Breakfast at Yoder's

SUNDAY, APRIL 10	<i>Home Communion Sunday</i>	
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Tuesday, April 12	4:30 pm	VBS Directors Mtg
	6:00 pm	Arthur Home Service
Wednesday, April 13	10:00 am	Lenten Study
	7:00 pm	Board Mtg

SUNDAY, April 17	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	
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Tuesday, April 19	11:00 am	Prayer Group
Wednesday, April 20	10:00 am	Lenten Study (final class)

Friday, April 22	Noon	Community Good Friday Service Here
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SUNDAY, APRIL 24	<i>Easter Sunday</i>	
	6:30 am	Community Sunrise Service at the First Apostolic Church

Tuesday, April 26	4:30 pm	VBS Directors Mtg
Wednesday, April 27	9-11 am	Toenail Clinic