

# PASTOR GAGA

A few months ago, I told a group meeting at Church, “I want to change my name to **Pastor Gaga.**” Melissa and I had seen Lady Gaga on TV. She is a talented young woman. I wondered if it would make Church more exciting if I played the piano while standing on the piano bench.

But I said to Melissa, “I wonder if that is what she is really like. Or...is that a persona?” A “persona” is a character played by an actor or other entertainers. When I was young there was a singer named Alice Cooper. I heard him interviewed and he was nothing like he acted in his concerts. A “persona” is enhanced to make the person seem more interesting.

But a change of name can be significant. In the Old Testament there was a man named, “Jacob.” The name “Jacob” meant, “heel grabber.” Or, “Supplanter.” I know that does not mean much to you. The name Jacob was like naming your kid, “Cheater.” Or “Schemer.” “Liar.” Or...”Governor.”(just kidding) Can you imagine being named cheater? Jacob lived down to that name. He cheated his brother out of his inheritance and out of the blessing from their Father. He became what he was called. Later in life, Jacob was going back home with his family. He heard that his brother was coming to kill him. One night, Jacob went by himself to the Jabbok River. He had an encounter with God which he described as a wrestling match. He struggled with God and he said, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.” At the end of the night, God said, “What is your name?” Sheepishly, he said, “Jacob.” “Cheater.” “Liar.” God said, “I am changing your name to Israel.” Israel means “Prince of God.” Or, “One who has influence with God.” A new name. A new life.

Some of you don't have a bad name but you have been called bad names. And maybe they stuck with you. Loser. Failure. Fat. Stupid. I believe God would say to you, “I want to give you a new name. Child of God. More than a Conqueror through Christ. Over Comer.” God designed you to be special. But start with honesty. What is your name?

A Zoo received a Polar Bear. They put him in a cage while they built a larger naturalistic environment for him. In the cage, he could walk 3 steps one way and 3 steps the other way. They finally let him out of the cage into the new larger habitat. He still walked back and forth, 3 steps each direction. Have you hit your head on the wall? Or the ceiling? God says you're free. God says you are loved. God says you are my child. Don't listen to the world. Find out who you are in Christ. Don't worry. I'm not going to put on extreme makeup and clothes. But we have a new name and it's great: **Child of God.**

*--Pastor...(just Rick)*

## DVD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We're making the new schedule of DVD Volunteers to deliver DVDs of the worship service to our homebound members starting next month! It's a simple but meaningful way to keep those members in touch with our congregation. There are usually around 5 deliveries to make once a week for a month. If that's something you'd be interested in, please write "DVD" by your name in the fellowship pad on Sunday or contact the church office at 543-2292 or [vscc@mchsi.com](mailto:vscc@mchsi.com).



## FAMILY OUTING JULY 16<sup>TH</sup>!

Cool off at Gery & Cheryl Conlin's (320 Crestwood Drive in Arthur) on **Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>** at 4:00 pm for our next family outing. Enjoy the pool, relax in the air-conditioning at the house, watch the action from the screened-in porch, or do all three! No need to bring a thing—except your lawn chairs and appetites; all the food and table service will be provided. Just sign up by July 10<sup>th</sup> with how many you're bringing to let us know how much food to prepare.

## PIANO CONCERT JULY 23<sup>RD</sup>

The Vine Street Christian Church will enjoy a concert at 2:00 pm on **Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>** at Vine Street. Award-winning pianist Julie McClarey will perform in this concert sponsored by Eberhardt Village to celebrate their 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary. Everyone is invited to this special concert. Refreshments will follow at Eberhardt Village.

## PARTNERS IN PRAISE

On Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, our church will host the first "Partners in Praise" service at 6:00 pm. This special time will be a concert of praise featuring singers and musicians from several churches. And, it will also include both an adult and children's choir made up of singers from several churches. More info to come, but talk with **Mac Condill, Teri Drum, Carol Yoder or Pastor Rick** if you have any questions.

If your child is entering 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and would like to sing as part of the Partners in Praise Kid's Choir, they can sign up with **Mac Condill**. A practice schedule will be coming soon.

## PORK CHOP BENEFIT DINNER

The dinner, to help defer medical expenses for Phil (Philo) Schrock, will be on **July 8, 2011 from 4:30—7:30 pm**. It's going to be a drive thru Pork Chop dinner and you must get your tickets ahead of time. They are \$10 and can be purchased from **Ann Singer and Mary Foster**.



## ANOTHER RECORD-BREAKING YEAR AT VBS!

It seems like I should have to change the title of this article, but we did it AGAIN! We had a fantastic week at Bible School, breaking our attendance record on the first day! We had a peak of 162 kids. Our mission project this year went to support a family in southern Illinois whose house was ruined in the flooding. Our initial goal was \$500—with John Stewart, pastor of the First Baptist Church, promising someone getting their hair dyed green as a reward! Not only did we hit that goal—with the kids choosing Arthur's 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher **Emily Kauffman**, we hit the next goal of \$1,000—with the next target of Grade School Principal **Buck Condill**. To top it off, with the help of our friends and families at the program on Friday, we hit **\$1,599.62** with **Kristin Nall**, pre-school teacher and character in the skit, as the ultimate target!

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

We're continuing the beach theme all summer for Sunday School! We'll move through stations for worship, music, story, crafts and games with a fantastic team of teachers!

## MOVIES UNDER THE STARS

Mark your calendars and invite your friends for this fun, free popular event. The family-friendly movies will begin at dusk on the south lawn of the church. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets—drinks and popcorn will be provided. Rain dates will be the following Saturday.

Friday, July 30<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>



## GETTING READY FOR THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

Our Ice Cream Social isn't far away – **Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>** and we are really in need of *true* ½-gallon containers (the kind that sherbet come in). When you empty a container, you can just leave it in the kitchen.

And mark your calendars to help make the ice cream on **Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 8 am**. We'll need all kinds of help that morning, but guys, there's some heavy lifting involved, so make sure you let Sandy Dolan or Jo Watkins know if you can help.

The calling crew will be calling you all later for pies and cakes – and to schedule you to help work the event. Make sure to find time to work—and enjoy the fantastic ice cream!



## MOTHER-DAUGHTER HAT PARTY

We had a record-breaking 93 attendees to the festive Mother-Daughter Hat Party, with a unique variety of HATS all shapes and sizes. We enjoyed a delicious meal and, of course, dessert. We were entertained with a Hat Game, “Who's wearing the...”

...largest hat: **Becky Gutierrez**  
...smallest hat: **Amy Strong**  
...best decorated hat: **Wileva Williams**  
...most unique hat: **Sandy Dolan**  
...tallest hat: **Courtney Gutierrez**  
...widest brim hat: **Cheryl Huffman**  
...best bling!: **Laury Scott**  
...oldest hat: **Karly Goodman**

They each received a decorated hat centerpiece.

“What’s in Your Purse?” There were 20 items on the list and **Judy Kondrup** had them all! Wow, that’s a big purse!

**Mary Kate Singer** won the door prize containing a hat box filled with a cookbook, words about women, a notepad with pen, and a candle.

While the adults enjoyed the games, the young children had fun getting their faces painted by **Belinda Gilmore**.

Thank you, **Rev. Rick**, for the blessing and to all who attended and helped with the cleanup!

*--Stephanie Alexander & Teri Malin*

### **Congratulations ...**

.... to **CHUCK & RITA GOODMAN**, who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary here in Arthur with many friends and family.

### **Thank You’s**

*Thank you to all the volunteers from VSCC who made Vacation Bible School such a success: Marie Norvell, Shirley Edwards, Randa Carson, Jessica Vanausdoll, Cassidy Drum, Ruth Ann Lowder, Sandy Dolan, Ginny Condill, Buck Condill, Jeannene Yantis, Emily Harrison, Rev. Rick Williams, Laury Scott, and Erin Tohill. Your gifts are a blessing to the kids in our community! Thanks to all the parents and grandparents who brought their kids, and everyone who donated money and snacks. We couldn’t do it without everyone’s help!*

*--Carol Huffman & Shana Condill*

*To the members of VSCC,*

*I would like to thank you for the delicious breakfast that was prepared for my fellow graduates and myself. Also, thank you for my Dave*

*Ramsey gift, as I know it will be put to great use! But most of all thank you all for being there every step of the way for me during college. I am truly blessed. Thank you again!*

*Love,*

*Heather Jones*

*Dear Church Family,*

*Thank you for all of the support and love throughout the last 4 ½ years. You were always there for all the important moments. Thanks you so much for my graduation gift!! I will use it wisely.*

*Love,*

*Juliana (Jones)*

### **4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY WEEKEND INVITATION**

**An Outdoor Family Movie Night** (weather permitting) is being hosted by Rich & Sharon Buckler **Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 202 Surrey Lane in Arthur. Cartoons followed by a Disney classic will begin at dusk. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, golf carts, snacks & drinks. But leave your alcohol, cigarettes and fireworks at home!

And come again to Rich & Sharon’s the next night, **Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>** for Arthur’s **4<sup>TH</sup> of July Fireworks Display**. They are generously allowing guests to set up lawn chairs and blankets outside their house. The fireworks start at about 9:30.

*JULY 2011 BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 - Nicholas Perrine<br>Jeremy & Amy Malin (A)<br>Kevin & Amy Strong (A) | 15 - James & Billie Fustin (A)<br>Shawn & Jessica Vanausdoll (A)<br>Neda Greathouse |
| 2 - Allen Lowder<br>Carl & La Rae Riggs (A)<br>Hewitt & Marilu Hafer (A) | 16 - Philo Schrock  |
| 3 - Tanner Kingery<br>Eric Alexander                                     | 17 - Jan & Alice Ray (A)  |
| 4 - Greg & Marcia Stiff (A)  | 19 - Judy Kondrup<br>Shirley High<br>Rebecca Ann (Fustin) Jean<br>Shelby Ray        |
| 5 - Ralph Wilson<br>Joyce Shasteen<br>Lauren Beth Ray                    | 20 - Ruth Ann Lowder<br>Jody McGrath  |
| 6 - Gary Alexander<br>Jill Hohlbauch                                     | 21 - Mark Anthony Mentzer<br>Jerry Ray  |
| 7 - Connie Kroll<br>Elena Marie Garza<br>Les & Cheryl Hall (A)           | 22 - Dale Hutchcraft  |
| 8 - Noah Yantis<br>Tom & Elise Singer (A)<br>John & Mar Harrer (A)       | 23 - Curtis Conlin  |
| 9 - Tyler & Katie Custer (A)   | 24 - La Rae Riggs<br>Addison Justine Tinkle<br>Walmer & Lorene Willoughby (A)       |
| 10 - Alice Ray<br>John & Jody McGrath (A)                                | 25 - Max Douglas Clay Duzan   |
| 11 - Jo Ellen Watkins  | 26 - Kyla Carson<br>Taylor Harris<br>Robert Lowder<br>David Tiffan                  |
| 12 - Ashley Helm<br>David & Carol Crist (A)                              | 27 - Cindy Helton<br>George B. Wells<br>Barry Burnett                               |
| 13 - Laury High-Scott  | 28 - Ty Duzan   |
| 14 - Tyler Yoder   | 30 - Ron Norvell  |

*AUGUST 2011 BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 - Ann Singer<br>Gery Conlin                           | Agnes Voltenburg   |
| 2 - Teri Drum   | 20 - Wileva Williams   |
| 4 - Karen Helton<br>Sue Williams                        | Brian Hohler   |
| 5 - Buck & Shana Condill (A)                            | Brody Strong   |
| 6 - Piper Conlin  | 21 - Dave Binion   |
| 7 - Terry Ferchow<br>Zoe Conlin                         | Courtney Gutierrez   |
| 9 - Beth Ann Camp<br>Sharon Buckler                     | Barry & Anita Burnett (A)  |
| 11 - Laura Hall   | 22 - Heather Jones   |
| 12 - Steve Gangloff<br>Will Jean                        | Becky Harrer   |
| Mark & Connie Kroll (A)                                 | 23 - Darrell Jean  |
| 14 - Wesley & Cathy Yoder (A)<br>Kaden Eugene Hohlbauch | 24 - Sara Lou Benard   |
| 15 - Shawn Vanausdoll<br>Linda Keiss                    | 25 - Nathan Schrock  |
| 16 - Stephanie (Malin) Alexander                        | 26 - Justin Yoder<br>Gery & Cherryl Conlin (A)<br>Kevin & Jill Hohlbauch |
| 18 - Debbie (Binion) Kingery                            | 27 - Jake Yoder<br>Jeannene Yantis                                       |
|   | 29 - John & Jo Ellen Watkins (A)<br>Michael & Katrina Taylor (A)         |
|   | 30 - Bradley & Sue Wells (A)   |
|   | 31 - David & Aura Hopkins (A)  |

# July/August 2011

EVERY SUNDAY 9:00 am SUNDAY SCHOOL  
in SUMMER 10:00 am WORSHIP

EVERY MONDAY 8:30 am Morning Crafts Group

Tuesday, June 28 6:00 pm Arthur Home Service

SUNDAY, JULY 3 *Food Pantry Sunday*

Wednesday, July 6 7:00 pm Administrative Team Mtg

SUNDAY, JULY 10 *Home Communion Sunday*

Wednesday, July 13 7:00 pm Board Meeting

Saturday, July 16 4:00 pm Pool Party @ Conlin's

SUNDAY, JULY 17 11:30 am Elder's Meeting after worship

Saturday, July 23 2:00 pm Julie McClarey Piano Concert

SUNDAY, JULY 24

Monday, July 27 9-11 am Toenail Clinic

Friday, July 29 Sunset Outdoor Movie Night

SUNDAY, JULY 31

Wednesday, Aug 3 7:00 pm Administrative Team Mtg

SUNDAY, AUG 7 7:00 pm "Partners in Praise" night of  
*Food Pantry Sunday* praise and music

Wednesday, Aug 10 7:00 pm Board Meeting

SUNDAY, AUG 14 *Home Communion Sunday*

Tuesday, Aug 16 7:00 pm Education Meeting

SUNDAY, AUG 21

Monday, Aug 22 Noon Visitor article deadline

Wednesday, Aug 24 9-11 am Toenail Clinic

Friday, Aug 26 Sunset Outdoor Movie Night

Saturday, Aug 27 8:00 am Make Ice Cream

SUNDAY, AUG 28