

Arthur Through My Eyes

A couple weekends ago I had the tremendous blessing of having some dear friends, Jim and Karen, visit me from Holland, MI. Jim has been my Bible study leader for over 3 or so years from my former church, Calva-

ry Baptist. Our little group still meets via Zoom every Friday evening. We have become like family.

When I think of he and Karen, 2 words come quickly to mind... intentionality and investment.

During some of the darkest moments of my life, with my Johnnie fading into heaven, Jim came to sit at his bedside in our apartment to read to him, while Karen sat with me in the other room to hold my hand, listen to my heart and pray with me. Their PRESENCE meant so much! Like Jesus with skin on! So important in times like these!

The morning that my beloved Johnnie was being ushered into eternity, Jim and Karen were there, singing hymns around his bed. "Blessed Assurance" is Jim's favorite hymn, and he chose to sing it that morning.

I tearfully recalled that as he bought a plaque of the lyrics at "Shady Crest" on their visit. Quite a fitting memento. Needless to say, their visit was deeply touching...as well as so enjoyable, as they just LOVED Arthur!!

I think they bought a little something in nearly every downtown store we visited. What was absolutely precious about their visit was that they just really wanted to meet all the people I have been telling them about and experience all I have been writing about in my column as they have prayed me to this place!

They were overjoyed to meet each and every person with a mindfulness of the LORD'S

faithfulness. Saturday morning we grabbed that coveted tall table window seat on the 2nd floor of "Shady Crest" to enjoy delicious breakfast croissants together. They just raved about them! They also didn't leave without buying cinnamon rolls, peanut butter cookies and pumpkin cookies. Those pumpkin cookies are to die for! Yum! Yum!

Next we were off on a walk downtown. We started at "Amish Heirlooms" and made our way down.

It was so fun to watch Karen, particularly, peruse the shops as she was so delighted with so many creative items her eyes fell upon.

And, like I mentioned earlier, her kindhearted hubby Jim, obliged to purchase those particular items that tickled her fancy.

It brought joy to my heart to observe a couple interacting with such obvious love, as Karen would have to get Jim to show him some treasure she'd found.

It reminded me of my Johnnie and I going on getaways and how I would do just the same.

When we arrived at "Arthur Floral and Home Decor" we had to get my favorite homemade chocolate peanut butter fudge. We sat together on a bench and shared the delicious treat.

Jim, since he does carpentry as a hobby, very much enjoyed conversing with George and Adam at "The WoodLoft" and

looking at the fine craftsmanship.

We ended our time at "The Little Nugget and Froggy's Nook" where I was pleased to be able to introduce them to the first friend I made in Arthur - Dale. They were so happy to make his acquaintance as Jim and Karen knew well how much such new friendships when I first moved here meant to me, and they had prayed about.

That evening we closed our wonderful day with a delicious meal at "Yoder's Kitchen".

Such a true encouragement to my heart to live in a town that I am proud to call home and which is a joy to share with others.

I can't tell you how many times Karen exclaimed how much she can't wait to return! I can't either...for more reasons than one.

So may this also encourage you to take pride in where we live and all we have to offer to each other and to those who visit.

Blessed Beyond Measure,
Trudy Feyereisen

Real Faith For Real Life

From Pastors of the Arthur Ministerial Association

Pause, Pray, Rest

Busy, busy, busy... we have entered into what I call a tornado of busyness. School is in full swing, harvest is here, football season, flag football season, pumpkin patches, pumpkin lattes, and then pumpkin pie! Before I know it, we have Christmas shopping done and I am putting up Christmas decorations. We sometimes catch ourselves getting so busy that we are too busy to read books about the health of cutting back on the busyness of our lives!

Do we make time for the Lord? When we switch on our brain to all of the stuff around us that needs to be done, we sometimes have a tendency to turn off our brain to the one we should actually be turning to. Let's switch on our brains to the Lord. If we walk into the busy seasons of our lives and we forget to pause and pray, daily things start to build up. We start to feel anxious, we forget to show love to people, we begin to become self absorbed and blinded to the needs around us.

Dr. Caroline Leaf, author of *Switch on Your Brain*, wrote

"It has been found that twelve minutes of daily focused prayer over an eight week period can change the brain to such an extent that it can be measured on a brain scan. This type of prayer increases activity in brain areas associated with social interaction, compassion, and sensitivity to others. It also increases frontal lobe activity as focus and intentionality increase."

Ephesians 6: 18 reads: "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." Prayer doesn't have to be fancy. It doesn't have to be poetically written, it doesn't even have to be outloud. The Lord knows what you need before you even do. He simply wants us to trust him, talk to him and rest in his presence. Take your worries, take your cares, take your life... to the Lord. The Lord will hear our prayers.

Emily Kauffman
Minister of Outreach
Arthur Mennonite Church

Town Talk

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October 7. Even though I'm a graduate I don't think I've ever been back for Homecoming. Go Panthers!

A SMALL WORLD STORY/EIU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

I was asked to go out to Eberhardt Village this past Friday night to take pictures of the Eastern Illinois University basketball team who were stopping by to spend some time with the residents out there and play Bingo. Before I went I learned that one of the players has a connection to daughter-in-law Tiffany's family in Peoria. So, after taking a team picture, I asked which one of the girls was Ella. A hand sort of tentatively went up but when I asked if she knew the Schindlers her face lit up and, with a big smile, she said yes! Turns out Ella's family and Tiffany's (Schindlers) have been longtime friends and attend the same church in Peoria/Bartonville. They even vacation in Chetek, Wisconsin together. Ella got a real kick out of this small world story. A very sweet young lady. The team and the residents then went on to spend some time together playing Bingo, something they all seemed to be enjoying. After meeting these girls and knowing they had some success last year, I'm looking forward to following them this season.

FIGHTING ILLINI/ KADEN FEAGIN

Our Illini finally pulled out a win last Saturday but one bright spot for the team this year has been ALAH's own Kaden Feagin. Kaden graduated with his class in May although he officially was done mid-term and began working out with the Illini in the spring. As a freshman he has been getting some playing time and making his mark. The interesting thing is that Coach Bielema seems to mention Kaden often when talking about some positives. Obviously the coach is impressed and all of us back home are very proud!

CONSTITUTION WEEK

Constitution day was September 17, the date our founding fathers signed the United States Constitution. Have been pleased to note that the students at Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond High School have been observing that day all during the past week with different events including a scavenger hunt. Nice to see

our school taking note of this important document. Also the high school has been posting 'something great happening at ALAH' each day on the Arthur CUSD 305 page. Check it out!

RITA GOODMAN

Although we knew that Rita had been having some health problems recently we were saddened to learn of her passing on September 16. Rita and Chuck were longtime Arthur residents who raised their two boys here in town. Chuck was involved with Scouting and both Mike and Jim became Eagle Scouts. Rita taught for many years in our grade school and was very involved in her church, Vine Street Christian. She also helped with many areas of sports while the boys were in school including keeping scorebooks for basketball and track and field events and even announcing at track meets. At Eberhardt Village where she lived for the past several years she continued that involvement and her love for 'old school gaming,' particularly card games. But my story about Rita has to do with how she touched the lives of her students, our daughter being one of them. In grade school Kyra struggled a bit and a lot of it had to do with her shyness and lack of self confidence. Rita was her fifth grade teacher and Kyra blossomed that year with Mrs. Goodman as that teacher. She gave Kyra the confidence she needed to realize she could do things she didn't feel comfortable doing. As it happened the next year Rita was moved up to the sixth grade and I did something I thought I would never do, I asked that Kyra be put in her class again. When talking with Kyra recently about Mrs. Goodman she remembered, "how much fun we had in Mrs. Goodman's room." She said she and her classmates still talk about that 5th grade year especially. And I can tell you to this day that Kyra will assure you that Mrs. Goodman was her favorite teacher. I am guessing there are many others that would tell you how much they liked Rita as a teacher. Our sympathy goes out to Mike and Stacy, Jim and Mindy and the grandkids. We know you will miss her but know your many memories will live on forever. Memorials can be made to Vine Street Christian Church and the Arthur Home.

And that's -30- for Homecoming week!

Village

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Goodman and his family for the loss of his mother.

-Christy Miller said the village had a good community wide pick up for the trash, but there was one rather large pile on Progress Street that either got put out late or did not get picked up by the company. The

village would ask for another truck to come and pick it up.

-The ALAH Football/Cheer Meals committee requested to use the lagoon area for fireworks during the homecoming on September 29, 2023. A motion was approved pending proof of adequate insurance before they are able to set off the fireworks.



Church Directory

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE

ARCOLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - USA, 311 E. Jefferson, Arcola. Church School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:30 a.m. Phone 268-3212

ARCOLA FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE - Rev. Ivan Jess 268-4769, 276-3020; Sam Miller, SS Supt. 202-6094. Sunday School, 9:30am Morning Worship, 10:30am; (Sign Language Interpreter) Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm; Wednesday evening Bible Study 6:00pm; Missionary Meeting second Wednesday night of each month.

ARTHUR MENNONITE CHURCH - 710 E. Park St., Arthur. Worship begins at 10:30 am each Sunday. Christian Education classes for all ages begin at 9:30 am. All are welcome, come and join us! Call 217-543-2781 for more information. Ministry Team: Glen Rhodes, Minister of Discipleship & Administration; Emily Kauffman, Minister of Outreach; Nancy Kuhns, Minister of Community Life & Worship. Website: arthurmennonite.org Email: arthurmennonite@gmail.com

ARTHUR SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH - 530 N. Vine St., Arthur. Pastor: Doug Davis, Worship 10:00am; Children's Church every Sunday morning at 9:30am, Nursery provided. Sunday Evening Worship 6:00pm, Wednesday: Service 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited. 543-2672.

ATWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 229 S. Main, Atwood. Pastor Don Gerkin. Phone 578-2880. Sunday School 9am; Church, 10am; Bible Study 6:30pm

BOURBON BAPTIST CHURCH - David Babb, Pastor, Sunday Worship, 9:30am; Sunday School 10:45am; bourbon.baptistchurch@yahoo.com

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - Missouri Synod. 1 mile south of Sullivan on Highway 32. Glenn Strohschein, Pastor. Sunday Morning Service 10:00am; Sunday School 9:00am; Saturday services 5:00pm. Online services: www.worshipanew.com

FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH - 320 Surrey Lane, Arthur, Timothy Froese, Pastor. Sunday School 10am; Sunday Worship & The Word 11:15am; Wednesday Night Bible Study 7pm. Website: www.facarthur.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (ABCUSA) - 120 E. Park, Arthur. John Stewart Pastor; Sunday School 9am, Worship 10am; American Baptist Women's Ministries meets 2nd Mon. 7pm; Prayer chain, 543-2296. For other activities and information, call church 543-2592 or Internet at www.firstbaptistarthur.com

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 231 N. Illinois, Atwood, 578-2555. Woody White, Pastor. Sunday School 9am; Morning worship 10am; Youth 5:00pm; Discipleship Class 6pm; Woman's Bible Study Tues. 9am; IGNITE Children's Ministry Weds. 6:30-8pm. Child care provided at all services. Website www.firstbaptistatwood.org

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH - 300 Northline Rd., Tuscola, 253-2084, Sunday School 9:30am; Morning Worship 10:30am; Evening service 6pm; Wednesday Evening 6:30pm. A Ministry for Everyone: Sunday School for all ages, King's Kids, Teen Dept. Homebuilders & more! www.faithtuscola.org

LOVINGTON FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH - Corner of County (Route 32) and Church Streets. Worship 9:30am; Children's Church 4 yrs.-1st grade 10:15am; Sunday School 10:45am for all ages; Wednesday night Bible Study, 6:00pm. Craig Swinford, Pastor.

LOVINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 241 S. Broadway, Lovington. Worship 10:00am. Rev. Leland Legg.

FAITH FAMILY FELLOWSHIP - 228 N. Broadway St., Lovington. 873-8791. "Real Faith, Real Life". Sunday Service 10am. www.lovingtonfaith.org

EAGLE MOUNTAIN - Assembly of God. Pastor Darin Elder, 253-4444, 401 E. Sale St., Tuscola. Sunday Services, 10am and 6:30pm and Wednesday Evening Service 6:30pm Nursery and children's ministries provided during all services.

SUNNYSIDE MENNONITE CHURCH - Larry Rocke, Senior Pastor, Luke Goss, Assistant Pastor. Sunday School 9:30am; Services 10:30am

COWBOY CHURCH - Penn Station, 122 E. Progress, Arthur. 217-273-4202. Services 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings. Darrell Helmuth, Minister. Everyone welcome.

JONATHAN CREEK CHRISTIAN CHURCH - "Forward in Christ, United in Love, Come as You Are". 1425 Jonathan Creek Rd, Sullivan, 728-4369. Website: jcreek.org. Email: jonathancreekchurch@yahoo.com. Pastor Tim Henderson. Sunday Worship: 8:00am Traditional Service, 10:00am Con-

temporary Service; 10:00am FROG (Fully Rely on God) Super Kids Church (for children 4-12); 6:00pm Believers Meeting (Contemporary Service.)

Corporate Prayer: Tuesdays at 6:30pm. **Family Night:** Wednesday Evenings @ 6:30-8 pm Summer Schedule: 5/15, 5/22, 5/29, 6/5, 7/3, 8/7. Will start back weekly in September. Lite meal at 6:30-7pm then break up into classes til 8pm. **Bus Service Available** Call 521-9576 for bus info. Jonathan Creek Christian Church a Regional Life Transformation Center; LovingPeople to Life; Everyone Welcome.

NORTH VINE MENNONITE CHURCH - 312 N. Vine, Arthur, Brian Petersheim, Sr. Pastor; Mike Helmuth, Asst. Pastor. Sunday School for all ages 9:30am; Message 10:30am; Sunday evening services 6pm. No services on last Sunday night of every month. All are welcome.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH - Washington & Pine Streets, Arcola, 268-3766. Rev. Angel Sierra, Pastor. Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.; Weekday Mass Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Confessions Wednesday 6:15 p.m. or by appointment. Affirmations Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Email: johnbaptist@consolidated.net

LIFEPOINTE CHURCH - 700 E. Main, Arcola. Nondenomination/Spirit-Filled Church. Ph. 217-268-4586. Rev. Gephard and Judy Warman. Sunday Worship Service: 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Pastor Rogelio Gutierrez - Spanish Church. Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m. Friday Service: 7:00 p.m.

ARTHUR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 128 E. Illinois, Arthur. Pastor Jill Bunker. Worship 8am & 10am; Sunday School 9am Nursery for Sunday School and 10am Service. www.arthurunitedmethodist.org

VINE STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 249 S. Vine, Arthur. Pastor Bob Silvanik. Sunday School 9am; Worship 10am. Christian Women's Fellowship meets first Wednesday each month 1:30pm, September-June. Nursery and air conditioning.

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST - P.O. Box 252, Arthur. 2 1/2 miles south of Garrett. Church Worship 9:00am; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m

LOVINGTON FIRST CHURCH OF GOD (ANDERSON) - 301 W. State St. Lovington, IL 61937. Pastor Rodney Houser. Phone 873-4749 9am Sunday School, 10am Morning Worship, Wednesday 7pm Midweek Services, adult and childrens ministries.

PRAIRIE VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH - 2423 CR 500 E, Lake City, IL 61937. Phone 677-2464. Nursery available for all services. Sunday School for K4-Adults 9:30 a.m. Worship and Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening services 6:00 p.m. Wednesday night Bible Study 7 p.m. with Flyer's Club (K4-1st Grade), King's Kids (2nd-6th Grade) and Teens (7th-12th Grade) every Wednesday (Sept.-May). Email: info@prairieviewbaptistchurch.com Website: www.prairieviewbaptist.com

LOVINGTON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 360 W. Springfield Rd. Sunday School 9:30am, Morning Worship 10:30am, Evening Service 6pm, Wednesday Mid-Week Prayer & Bible Study, 7:00pm Church phone: 873-5116. www.fblovington.org

NEW LIFE CHURCH - R.R. 1, Sullivan, IL 61951 (3 1/2 miles east of Sullivan on the Cadwell Rd.) Ph. 728-4200 Dave & Debra Dolan, Pastors; Liz Dolan, Minister of Music; Debra Dolan, Secretary. Sunday Worship 9am. Wednesday Worship Service (for all ages), 7pm. Website www.newlifesullivan.org

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP -212 E. Third Street, Arthur. Sunday Worship services 10am, Sunday evening worship service 6:30 pm. Everyone warmly invited to join us for evening.

UNITED CHURCH OF ATWOOD - 210 N. Main St., P.O. Box 379 Atwood, IL 61913 • 578-2832. Mike Drake, Pastor. Non-Denominational Christian Church. Service: 10:00am. Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-Noon

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