



*From the Pastor:*

Dear Congregation,

Time is slipping by as we approach mid-February!

Let me mention a few upcoming events that are soon coming our way and commend them to you as ways to serve and be served.

There are two regularly scheduled events for our women of the church. Each second Tuesday evening at 7 PM at the church building, a book study gathers to consider a chapter of Barbara Duguid's *Extravagant Grace*. A weekly study led by Pastor Crotts meets on Wednesdays at 11 AM to study *Joshua: No Failing Words*, a commentary Bible study on the book of Joshua by Dr. Dale Ralph Davis.

If you are musical and enjoy fellowship, or enjoy fellowship and have some interest in music, consider joining our Handbells or Choir. Speak to Ed Limon, our music director if you have any questions or interest. Choir meets for rehearsals on Sundays at 5 PM and Handbells rehearse on Wednesday at 6:15 PM.

On February 21, the Congregation will gather for lunch after morning Worship. There will be instructions in the upcoming bulletin (2/14) and in next week's newsletter (2/16). This event was originally scheduled for 2/14 but has been bumped a week for various reasons. Considering the weather forecast, the move may prove to be very helpful! During the luncheon, Connie Bennett will give a report on her recent short-term mission to Trinidad.

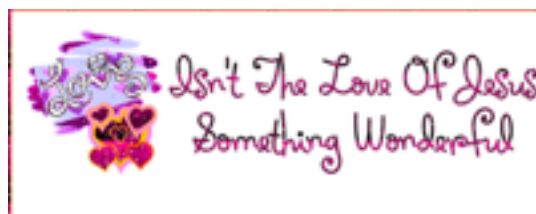
Our Mens' Lunch has now met twice. Our monthly daytime gathering is first Mondays at Noon at Southbound Sandwich Works on S. Church Street. The meeting is held in a back room and we have had over a dozen each time. The study book is Richard D. Phillips' *Masculine Mandate*, which is a wonderful theological and biblical guide to what God says about being a man. The next daytime gathering will be Monday, March 7. For those who are unable to attend the luncheon, we have now scheduled our first evening Mens' Gathering for Thursday, March 10 at 7 PM. The location is still to be determined, so watch future newsletters for details!

Finally, Easter is in March this year, so our plans are being laid for our Easter Sunday as well as another "lessons & carols" type service for the passion events of the Bible. Though our plans are still not fully made, be sure to note that Palm Sunday is March 20 and Easter is March 27.

In the newsletter each month, you will find a listing of important dates. Be sure to match these dates with your personal or family calendar so that you may be involved. Also, in this edition of the newsletter you will find attached a 2016 planning guide with several important dates through the end of the year for your consideration and future planning.

Blessings to you and stay warm over the next few days!

*Happy Valentine's Day!*



### NEW MEMBERS CLASS

A New Members Class will be offered during the 9:45 Sunday School hour beginning Sunday, March 6. If you are interested in membership at First A.R.P. Church, please let Pastor Crofts know.

### WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Please plan to attend a women's fellowship gathering for all ages, friends, family & guests on Saturday, March 19 at Two for Tea at 3:00 PM.

### LADIES MONTHLY BOOK STUDY

Please join us *TONIGHT*, February 9 at 7 PM as we resume our book study in *Extravagant Grace: God's Glory Displayed in our Weakness*.



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT FIRST ARP

#### February

- 9 Ladies Monthly Book Study - 7 PM
- 10 Ladies Weekly Bible Study - 11 AM
- 21 Congregational Luncheon
- 17 Ladies Weekly Bible Study - 11 AM
- 18 Stated Session Meeting - 7 PM
- 23 Young at Heart - 11:45 AM

#### March

- 2 Ladies Weekly Bible Study - 11 AM
- 5 1st Saturday Workday
- 6 Lord's Supper
- 7 Men's Lunch - Noon
- 8 Ladies Monthly Book Study - 7 PM
- 9 Ladies Weekly Bible Study - 11 AM
- 10 Men's Evening Bible Study 7 PM
- 13 *Daylight Savings Time*
- 16 Ladies Weekly Bible Study - 11 AM
- 17 Stated Session Meeting
- 20 Palm Sunday
- 22 Young at Heart
- 24 Maundy Thursday Service - 6 PM
- 27 Easter Sunday

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

#### BIRTHDAYS

Sarah Ickes	2/1
Donald Childrey	2/2
Dylan Jones	2/2
Harold Boswell	2/4
Janice Richardson	2/4
John Robinson	2/7
George McKinney	2/10
Margaret Owens	2/10
Abigail Newton	2/13
Jan Burwell	2/15
Karen Hoke	2/17
Lynn Limon	2/18
Al Wright	2/18
Alex Jones	2/22
John Greeson	2/23
Karen Jones	2/27
Mary Lou McKinney	2/27
Jim Christopher	2/28
Tim Bessette	2/29

#### ANNIVERSARIES

John & Cathy Young (37)	2/3
Gene & Helen Parks (64)	2/8
Ossie & Jennifer Spaulding (20)	2/14

### MUSIC MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Any member who would like to serve the Lord in the music ministry of the church, contact Ed Limon.

#### Nursery:

Feb 14: Fran Haynes / Macon Baird  
Feb 21: John Robinson / Sarah Ickes

#### Counter:

Feb 14 David Newton  
Feb 21: Ferald Mann

#### Deacon Duty:

Feb 14: Glenn Owens  
Feb 21: Stephen Robinson

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