



From the Pastor:

If you are able to read this article, you have something to be thankful for! Over two billion in the world cannot read. If in your vehicle's ashtray (or sock drawer) there's some loose change, or if you have even a buck or two in the bank – you are in the top 8% of the world (maybe the bottom of that 8%!). If you have food, clothes, a roof, and a bed, you are better off than 75% of the world! We are, without a doubt, a rich nation of mankind.

Have you ever thought about the tenth commandment being the only of the commandments that deals with inner “action” as opposed to outer action? Commands 1-9 seem to need some sort of physical action to accomplish the breaking or not keeping of them. Outer sin first begins in the heart, however “do not covet” remains in the heart. It is a “state of heart” rather than a physical state of being. No doubt it will oft lead to outward sin.

Coveting essentially means an unrestrained, ungoverned, or unchecked self-desire for something. Don't you think some 3,500 years ago God knew of our generation when he gave this law to our forefathers? Of course he did! Desires are created in us by the minute through various media. We feel so deprived yet we have so much. One can make payments on nearly anything today! A materialistic culture does much harm to a Christian attempting to be satisfied. I'm amazed at how quickly we tire of priceless things and we're ready for the next best thing. Sadly this is true not only of things but of people. We throw away marriages, churches and family, only to again be dissatisfied with what we so covetously grasped.

Certainly God blesses us with material things – some are necessary for survival. He even provides things that go beyond our needs. Godly people live in large homes as well as small. Owning a fine car is not a sin, however, being owned by it certainly is! A satisfied heart is a gift but it is not easily attained. We struggle to own yet not be owned. Balance seems elusive to humans. Proverbs 30:7-9 are great verses. “...give me neither poverty nor riches...lest I...deny you and say, ‘Who is the LORD?’”

God has given us much – life, eternal life, family, church, daily bread, promises, Truth, friends, safety and more! We need to remember often what sixteenth century poet George Herbert said well, “Thou hast given me so much...Give me one thing more, a grateful heart.”

Boyer

EASTER DENOMINATIONAL OFFERING

Each year at Easter time the ARP Church collects a special offering to support some of the ministries of our denomination. You may use a pew envelope and note Easter Offering. This offering will be collected through this Sunday, April 10, 2016.

HOMEBOUND VISITATION

Please make plans to join the Elders and Women's Ministry Team members for a wonderful time of fellowship as we visit the homebound members of our church. You may bring goodies for bags to give them that day or give them to one of the Women's Ministry Team members. See you at 2:30 Saturday, April 16.

YOUNG AT HEART

Tuesday April 26 we will have Lasagna, salad and rolls. Contributions of other pasta dishes, vegetables and desserts will be appreciated. After the meal, we look forward to Bryan and Sarah Ickes making a presentation on their family life of foster parenting and adoption.

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS & JUBILEE BIRTHDAY REPORT

On April 24, Sheila Osborne, a representative from World Witness, will be here during the Sunday School hour to speak about short-term missions opportunities through the denomination. She will also speak about the Jubilee Birthday Celebration Offering that we collect each year.

MISSIONS SUNDAY & CONGREGATIONAL LUNCH

Mark you calendars for Sunday, June 5. Drew and Lauren Goodman will be with us for Sunday School, Worship, and Lunch. Pastor Goodman will share in the Sunday School hour, preach in our morning service, and be available during lunch to tell us about their pastoral ministry in Wales. They serve through the denomination's World Witness agency and serve the evangelical church in Wales.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

Alex Newton	4/3
Kay Moore	4/4
Hannah Roy	4/5
James Constable	4/6
Jim Knox	4/6
Patricia Pack	4/6
Glenn Owens	4/8
Steve Kyaw	4/9
Jessica Sneed	4/10
Gene Parks	4/14
William Roy	4/15
Rachel Pelone	4/17
Randall Cobb	4/21
Russ Payne	4/21
Mary Peppo	4/22
Jean McKinnon	4/25
Debbie Childrey	4/27
Sophia Ickes	4/29

ANNIVERSARIES

Seth & Laura Nicholson (10)	4/15
Harold & Shirley Boswell (23)	4/17

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT FIRST ARP

April

6	WM morning Bible Study
7	Evening Men's Book Study
12	WM evening Book Study
14	Stated Session Meeting
16	Homebound Basket Delivery
26	Young at Heart
27	WM morning Bible Study

May

1	Lord's Supper
1	Missions Luncheon
2	Men's Lunch Book Study
3	Women's Ministry Leadership Training
5	Men's Evening Study

Nursery:

April 10: John Robinson & Carol Erb
April 17: Dot Hutelmyer & _____

Counter:

April 10: Steve Kyaw
April 17: Ferald Mann

Deacon Duty:

April 10: Glenn Owens
April 17: Stephen Robinson

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