

AEC CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

It is the AEC Children's Ministry's goal to help children come to know God in a personal way and help them commit to following Him in all areas of their lives. In addition to planning all our programming with that goal in mind, we want to support parents in their efforts to help their children come to know God and grow in their faith. One way we do that year around is through our children's classes held Sunday morning during the Going Deeper hour from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

The Sunday morning classes, for students in 1st through 6th grade, are using a curriculum where all age groups study the same Bible passage the same week. Parents can talk with their children about what they learned in class and can reinforce the lesson during the week. To help parents deepen their children's learning, the curriculum company provides a short blog each week that the parents can read for free. The blog contains info about what the students learned and also suggestions for fun activities parents can do as a family that will reiterate the lesson learned that week.

This is the website for the blog which is updated each week: <http://d6family.com/splink/>

Please contact our Children's Ministry Director, Deb Neuenschwander, anytime with questions, comments, suggestions or concerns. You can reach her through the church phone number (419-445-5661) or by emailing her at deb@archboldevan.org

Bev Nelson, Newsletter Coordinator
Lindsey Lange, Graphic Designer

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

IF: Tables Starting in June

We are so excited to begin a new women's ministry called IF: Tables! IF: Tables are simply 6 women, 4 questions, 2 hours. It is a time for women of all ages to sit around the table once a month and share with one another.

Our hope is that through IF: Tables, we will be forming a community of women with deep lasting relationships. Isolation is easy, but community is what gets us through. There is something so special about women from all stages of life taking the time to gather around the table, sharing stories, guiding one another through different seasons of life, and learning about each other's own journey with God. When gathering together is rooted in love, bonds are formed, hearts are mended, and lives are changed forever.

If you are interested in joining an IF: Table, email Leah Fruth at leahfruth@me.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, or if you have questions or want to share a thought concerning any of these matters, we encourage you to contact any of the following individuals:

- **ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD/LEADERSHIP TEAM:** Church Chairman, Dave Lersch, Jr.
- **ELDER BOARD:** Elder Chairman, Loren Roth
- **CHILDREN MINISTRIES:** Deb Neuenschwander
- **YOUTH MINISTRIES:** Pastor Nathanael
- **FACILITIES:** Facility Director, Rodney Rupp

Aec NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2016



COMMUNITY WORSHIP SET FOR JULY 13

It's not too early to reserve Wednesday evening, July 13th, on your calendar. Part of what has made Archbold a unique community, since its founding 150 years ago, is its strong faith base. In this diverse base is one unifying hallmark: Jesus Christ is Lord. To celebrate our unity and to acknowledge our firm foundation, all believers are strongly urged to attend the community worship service Wednesday evening, July 13th at 7:30 p.m. in Founder's Hall at Sauder Village.

Before or after the worship service, the community is invited to browse the displays churches are creating to remind others of their development in the community.

An offering will be taken during the service with the donations going to a new program in town that provides individual backpacks of a few quick meals for students who may go hungry over the weekend. The program was launched on a trial basis this spring and will expand into a weekly service to families in need this fall. This is a great way to support our local community that is in need.

SEEKING PRAISES AND TESTIMONIES

In our quarterly newsletter, we would like to include brief stories of praise and testimony to God's work in the lives of AEC. If you have a praise or testimony you would like to share, please contact Kami Rex at the church office.



www.archboldevan.org
705 Lafayette St, Archbold, OH 43502
Church Office: 419-445-5661
8:30 am & 11:00 am Sunday Worship Gatherings
9:45 am Sunday Discipleship Studies

Office Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Winter Facility Hours
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 am - 9:00 pm
Saturday - Closed
Sun. 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

KAHLER'S CORNER

Together For the Gospel Conference

On April 13-15, 2016, a group of ten men (six from AEC, three from Kings Cross, Defiance, one from Neighborhood Church, Adrian) traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, to experience a biennial conference for pastors and ministry leaders called the Together For the Gospel Conference. Its main focus was on the Reformation and the need for a continued distinction between Protestantism and Catholicism due to doctrinal and gospel clarity. However, much more was gleaned beyond that main focus.

It is very powerful to think of the Kingdom impact AEC has in investing and pouring into the birth and life of two young local churches as well as its own leaders. With an attitude of gratitude to AEC and FEC for stewarding funds to aid in the growth and training of our local church, your AEC church leaders hope you glean from our gleanings.

“There are innocent sufferings we experience. These sufferings we take to our grave and only then will Jesus wipe our tears from them away.”

C.J.Mahaney

PASTOR JESSE: The overall theme of the conference was how the Reformation of the 16th century is not over. The issues of the Protestant Reformation remain as relevant today as then. There is still a need to defend the same issues in order to be truly Christian. The five key issues of the Reformation were: 1.) The Bible alone as sole authority; 2.) Worship according to the Scripture; 3.) Grace alone, faith alone, Christ alone; 4.) Sacraments; 5.) Pastoral office (church government). The conference was a catalyst for a continued commitment to the proclamation of that very gospel the Reformers proclaimed.

Two key messages stood out to me: The essential need to endure over a long period of time embracing the slowness of progress and spiritual health, and the reminder regarding Job that he never received explanations as to why or answers to the suffering he experienced.

PASTOR ROGER: The conference confirmed to me the need to remain theologically connected to the principles of the Reformation, but also to ultimately derive our foundations from Scripture. It is important to continue reading theological works, but not to neglect the Scripture as the main source for wisdom, direction, and relationship with God.

PASTOR NATHANAEL: The opening session of the conference was a sermon by C.J.Mahaney on Job that set the tone for me. He preached on the goodness of God, and how the book of Job is not necessarily a book on how to handle suffering, but how God interacts with us while we suffer. The conference was an opportunity for me to get to know the other pastors better and to discuss what we had learned and heard together. I highly value unity on a pastoral staff, and time away like these conferences provides excitement for my ministry.

PASTOR NICK: The key impact of the conference for me was the emphasis on singing in corporate worship. The breakout sessions energized me and confirmed the philosophy of worship that we have at AEC. The sessions addressed some of the same challenges we face, but didn't pretend to have all the answers. It was also good to get to know the team we went with from AEC, King's Cross, and Adrian.

JERRY LUGBILL (ELDER): The key thing I gleaned from the speakers is that we ought to do a better job of preaching about sin, its just punishment, and the need for repentance. Sin is rebellion against God; repentance is submitting to God. When we become desensitized to the horror and ugliness of our sin, we become desensitized to God's glory and grace. A Christian's life is to be a life of repentance. While we are saved by God's grace through faith alone, the result must be a holy transformed life that produces the fruit of good works. Sanctification is God's work in us to prepare us for life in the world to come. People who are sincerely striving to be obedient to God should be encouraged by the reminder that there is forgiveness when we fall, and God's Spirit within us will help us to live in a way that is pleasing to Him.

I was also challenged by the characteristics of church leaders that can help keep them from becoming too authoritarian. As church leaders we should be willing to say "I don't know"; cultivate a willingness to be corrected rather than thinking we should always be affirmed; our love for the people of our church should be greater than our desire to have an ideal church; and, we should rely on the power of the Word and God's Spirit to change the minds and hearts of our people.

NEWLY ELECTED ELDERS

At the church business meeting held in May, an election for elders was held. In order to "meet" these newly elected elders, a brief biography of personal questions and answers is included below.

GORDON SCHUMACHER

Family: 4 children (3 are married), 12 grandkids

Event that impacted your life: Getting married while still in college. That's when I started to mature.

Favorite childhood memory: I am an only child, so it was fun playing with my cousins on Sundays.

Favorite verse: Is. 53 (I can still quote it!)

What do you enjoy doing with your free time: Playing with my grandkids

One item on your bucket list: Going to Germany and Switzerland and seeing where my family roots originated

What is one way your wife has helped you become a better person: Instilling common sense

LOREN ROTH

Family: 2 children (1 is married)

Event that impacted your life: Visiting my parents in Congo in 1985. During the visit I re-met Nancy for the first time since we were kids. One thing led to another, and 31 years later, here we are.

Favorite childhood memory: Visiting Victoria Falls in Zambia

Favorite verse: Colossians 3:1-2

What do you enjoy doing with your free time: Coaching kids, motorcycling

What is one way your wife has helped you become a better person: She reminds me not everyone shares my opinions.

Feel free to introduce yourself to these men if you do not know them; but above all, pray for them as they, the other elders, and the pastors work together to lead and guide our congregation. Pray for their spiritual wisdom as they meditate on God's Word and seek God's guidance for our church!

THANK YOU FROM THE MCLENNANS

The following is a brief excerpt from a letter Tom and Carol McLennan wrote to their friends at AEC informing the church of their past mission work and their anticipated service in the future. If you would like to read the entire letter and see all the pictures, it will be posted on the Mission Board.

To our dear friends at Archbold Evan,

It is hard to find words to express how blessed we have been through you. When we made the transition into missions after being on the staff at AEC, we did it with the full blessing of the church... Later in 2002 when we began raising support to go to Russia, ... you were our sending church and continued to be our greatest source of financial support and encouragement throughout our 6-1/2 years of serving in Russia. You have also remained with us through our 7 years of serving through the Entrust home office in Colorado

Springs! God has truly blessed these past 14-1/2 years.

We have had the opportunity to touch the lives of men and women with the love of Jesus and His Gospel in the countries of Russia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Austria, Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia, Zimbabwe, India, Belarus, and throughout the US... Such a rich blessing is ours, and because you have stood with us, it is yours, too... Our journey is not over, however. As the Lord provides us strength and health, we plan to remain active in ministry and missions. We plan to stay active through Entrust, probably transitioning to part-time next year... Russia still beacons us, and we would like to return for at least six weeks... We desire to be a resource to local churches in the US by training Christian leaders... What a mighty God we serve! He has truly done great things, and we anticipate He will continue to bring glory to His name through the ministries and mission endeavors of AEC in the years to come.

Tom & Carol McLennan

