

From the Pastor...

Each Easter we take up a special mission offering for North American mission causes supported by the Southern Baptist Convention. The offering is named after Annie Armstrong who lived from 1850 to 1935. Annie lived in Baltimore, Maryland. She had a heart for children, the poor, the sick and those who did not know Jesus Christ. She had the gift of evangelism and missions.

Annie encouraged prayer support for missions as well as financial support. It is reported that one year she wrote 18,000 notes to people and churches encouraging support to home and international missions. You do the math; that is 50 letters per day for 365 days!

This year Linda Strader has prepared Easter envelopes to use to put our offering in. We will have a special time in the worship service on Easter Sunday when we, as a church family, will give our offering. Be thinking and praying about your gift to missions in North America. If you did not receive your envelope last Sunday, be sure to pick one up this Sunday, Palm Sunday. This year's goal is \$1,200.00.

The Caring Place is open this Saturday, March 19, from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. If you are able to help, please contact Mark Sconce at 417-328-9053. Volunteers need to be at the church no later than 8:30 a.m.

We will start our Easter Celebration with a breakfast at 9:00 a.m., not our usual time of 8:15 a.m. We will not have Sunday School on Easter Sunday, and the worship is at the regular time, 10:00 a.m. Our children will be singing at the beginning of the Easter worship service. They will then have their own worship time. Following Easter Worship, there will be an Easter egg hunt for preschoolers and elementary-age children. Please bring candy for the Easter eggs tonight or this coming Sunday, March 20.

Be thinking of people you can invite to attend Easter worship with you. I believe we could have 200 in worship on Easter Sunday. It will take some effort on our part to make that happen.

I love you, and I love being your pastor.

Blessings,

Nolan



March 13, 2016, attendance: Sunday School 57; Worship 102



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Laura Barker needs copies of CPR/AED provider cards **ASAP**. In addition, each leader of a group needs to make sure they have someone in their group that is certified, i.e. each adult class, youth classes, TeamKID, B.O.S.S., C.R.A.F.T., The Caring Place, etc. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Barker at 417-788-2760.

If you were unable to attend the **VBS 2016** organizational meeting last Sunday and would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Kathy Fulks or Archie Buckner. There are several jobs still available. A sign-up sheet is on the back table in the sanctuary. Please pray about what God would have you do, and then sign up to help. **VBS 2016 will be Sunday through Thursday, July 17 - July 21.**

If you are interested in helping serve dinner at Victory Mission on **April 19** and/or **June 1**, please see Eric or Christina Bowers for more information. You will need to be at Victory Mission by 6:30 p.m. The church will be providing desserts for both dates. The two sign-up sheets for the April 19 date will be posted soon: One for those serving the meal, and another one for those providing desserts. This service opportunity is open to the entire church.

**Sunday School teachers**, mark your calendars! The **Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Dinner** will be on **Thursday, April 21**, at 6:00 p.m. Please plan to attend for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship.

### **CALENDAR**

**Today, March 16**, at 6:00 p.m. – T.E.A.M. meeting

**Today, March 16**, 7:30 p.m. – Pack backpacks

**Saturday, March 19**, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – The Caring Place food and clothing distribution

**Sunday, March 20** – Backpack offering will be received

**Sunday, March 20**, 5:00 p.m. – Small groups meet in Springfield and Walnut Grove

**Saturday, March 26** – Young Adult Sunday School class dinner at Smith's in Bolivar; leave the church at 5 p.m.

**Easter Sunday, March 29** – Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Worship at 10:00 a.m. Easter egg hunt following morning worship service

**Easter Sunday, March 29** – The Annie Armstrong offering will be received

**Tuesday, April 19** – Serving dinner at Victory Mission

**Thursday, April 21** – Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Dinner; 6:00 p.m.

**Friday, May 6**, 6:00 p.m. – Ladies' Tea

**Saturday, May 21** – Men and boys St. Louis Cardinal Baseball trip. Leaving at **8:00 a.m.** The cost is \$10.00 each.

**Wednesday, June 1** – Serving dinner at Victory Mission

**Sunday through Thursday, July 17 - July 21** – VBS 2016