

Before the Byrd's "Turn, Turn, Turn," King Solomon wrote, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecc. 3:1, ESV). We all know that change is essential, that change has to happen. And sometimes, we like change. Change is healthy. No one wants babies to stay babies forever, and you moms don't even try to argue with me! We know that we'd miss out on all the joy that comes with toddlers and preschoolers, not to mention preteens and teens, and eventually grandbabies. In order for grandbabies, though, we need to have change.

And most of us like modern conveniences, too. I was talking with someone about how much we take things like washing machines for granted. And I'm sure some of you used a ringer washer, maybe some still do, but most of us wouldn't trade our washer and dryer for anything. We like that change. But the change we resist the most comes in a place or an environment where we find comfort. Often we don't want to change, we even fight change, when we enjoy what is happening and we're content. We know that change can cause challenges, conflict and even ulcers.

And so, you guessed it, another change is on the horizon for Astoria Christian Church. And in order to help prepare and move forward well, we want to open up a dialogue between you all and the leadership of the church. We want you to know that we desire to hear any positive or negative feedback on this change in the coming weeks. We want to hear you and we want to pray with you.

So what is this change? Many of you have heard it already, but in a nutshell, we are reducing our Sunday

morning services to one service. And this will impact everyone, because, in an attempt to compromise, we will be meeting at 9:00 am. We hope this is a fair balance, but all in all, the goal is that we are one.

Jesus prays in John 17 a beautiful prayer just before he is arrested. I encourage you to take time to read it. But in that chapter we see him pray for his followers, "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." (20-21, ESV).

We pray for unity in this move. We also pray for a growth in community. And to build community we will be having a breakfast/community time between our service and Sunday School, which now will start at 10:30 am. Please pray about this change moving forward and know that your leaders did not take it lightly. We truly desire to hear from you and ultimately give glory to God. We will begin the new service time on June 4th.

Serving Him and you,
Matthew

VBS

VBS is coming up in just about a month. The dates are June 5th – 9th with a closing program schedule for June 10th. This is for kids who are currently 4 years old through 5th grade. We will have registration forms available soon and can always use more adult help if you're available for even part of the week.

SUMMER CAMP

Camp registrations are available on the back table in the sanctuary. This is for kids going into 1st through graduating seniors. The church will again pay at least half of the cost but please see Matthew (507-360-2405) if cost is an issue. You can also get forms from lamoinechristiancamp.org. Please have forms turned in by May 15th.

It's Camp Barrel time for LaMoine Christian Camp and we need to supply 30 large boxes of fruit loop cereal. These donations help keep the cost of camp down for the campers. Please have your cereal turned in by May 15th!

Soul Sisters

Soul Sisters will be holding a Ladies Tea on Saturday, May 13th beginning at 3p.m. at the Oak Ridge Café. We invite all ladies to join us for finger foods and drinks. There will be time for fellowship with our sisters in Christ and lots of fun! Hope to see you all there!

Prayer list (4/23/2017)

Donald Anderson - cancer treatment (10-16)
Doris Baker – Alzheimer's
Denny Belville – surgery in the next month(4-6)
Leroy Bollinger - not doing well (3-19)
Betty Bucher - congestive heart failure, hospice (11-16)
Mike Busby – radiation treatments
Justin Cozad - battling cancer
Jack Danner - hospice (12-16)
Linda Danner - fall, broken ribs (4-9)
Zack Duba, 25 years old, massive stroke (4-21)

Lila Edwards - broken ankle (3-19)
Brenda Fawcett - consultation for surgery (4-13)
Todd Hamm - cancer surgery, treatments (2-5)
Leonard Kaufman - cancer (10-16)
Rachel Koenig - pregnancy (10-16)
Laurie Martin - check up in St. Louis (4-23)
John Moose - surgery recovery (3- 22)
Sharron Musson - tests 3-19
Gerald Nelson - cancer in bones, chemo (1-1)
Denise & Kevin Owsley - health issues and loss of her father
Lori Rodriguez - back pain, doing better (4-23)
Karen Sager - radiation (1-17)
Tammy Smith - white blood count issues /surgery (2-5)
Linda Schneider – cancer treatments

Praise:
Ashley Davis, Pat B.s granddaughter, gave birth to a healthy baby boy!
Jake McCombs - cataract surgery a success

Condolences:
Family of Olivia Anaganostopolus
Family of Tom Stell
Family of Sally Jackson
Phil Derry - loss of daughter

Attendance/Offering March

Date	1 st	S.S.	2 nd	Offering	Needed
2	22	25	63	\$1,825.00	\$1,636.41
9	17	34	59	\$1,037.00	\$1,636.41
16	40	27	59	\$1,712.00	\$1,636.41
23	17	30	56	\$1,610.36	\$1,636.41
30		#'s	not	Available	at print
Totals	96	116	237	\$6,185.36	\$6,545.64
Averages	24	29	59		

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POSTMASTER:

Send form 3579 to
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Church, P.O. Box 677,
Astoria, IL 61501

You Are

Welcome At
Our Services!

Sunday

1st Morn. Worship.....8 a.m.

Sunday School9 a.m.

2nd Morn. Worship10 a.m.

Church Office: 309-329-2150,
Matthew Thiner: 507-360-2405,
Website: :www.astoriachristian.com
Facebook: Astoria Christian Church

May

Wed., May 3 rd	6:00 p.m. Family Night Finale
Thursday, May 4 th	7:00 a.m., Noon, and 7:00 p.m. Meetings at the square for the National Day of Prayer
Saturday, May 6 th	8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Fishing Tournament at Camp Emmanuel with a lunch provided and a special speaker 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Camp Cleanup
Sunday May 7 th	4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Community Youth Night
Tuesday, May 9 th	6:30 Man-up meeting at Damon Sherrod's home
Saturday, May 13 th	3:00 p.m. Ladies Tea, at Oak Ridge Café.
Monday, May 15 th	6:00 p.m. Camp Fellowship at Astoria Christian Church
Wednesday, May 17 th	7:00 p.m. Baccalaureate
Sunday, May 21 st	10:00 a.m. VBS Supplies Due 2:00 p.m. High School Graduation
Tuesday, May 23 rd	6:00 p.m. Board Meeting 4:30 p.m. VBS Meeting
Sunday, May 28 th	2:00 p.m. VBS Craft set up

Dates and times are subject to change.

Please check your weekly bulletin for updates.

