

Connections

Arise United Methodist Church



May 2006

Arise
A United Methodist Church

Ministers

Every member of the Church

Pastor

Douglas J. McMunn

Director of Music

Kevin Griffin

Administrative Assistant

Dave Russell

Ministry Center

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May 14

Lives of Service: An Interview with Dorothy Winslow and Judy Miller

As we look ahead to Mother's Day, this article highlights Dorothy Winslow and Judy Miller... the very visible mother-daughter team that serves Arise in so many ways!

Dorothy Winslow and Judy Miller are here, there and everywhere at Arise...serving chili at the Potato Feast, organizing Vacation Bible School, the first Arise Acres Campout (2005), and helping children to grow in faith and fellowship. As Dorothy says, "Doing things with the church makes you feel more a part of it, rather than just attending weekly." Sometimes they work side-by-side, and sometimes separately. "We support each other in a lot of things...in everything that we do," says Judy. "We both have found things at Arise where our gifts are being used."

Indeed they have! Dorothy serves the Arise congregation as Membership Secretary, maintaining the attendance and membership listings. In addition, she organizes regular Sunday and special event hospitality, and handles the bulk mail process for our newsletter, with the help of the Primetimers. Judy is the Children's Ministry Team Coach and Co-Coordinator (with Deb Short) of Vacation Bible School. She also served as newsletter editor from 2001 through January, 2006.

Dorothy was married to Orland (now deceased) for over 40 years, and is mother to two boys, three girls, and twin step daughters. All of her children are active in their faith... a tribute to the way she has raised them. One son is a puppet minister; another is a rodeo minister; and daughter Kathy, a minister with the Third Day Ministries in Oklahoma, has spoken at Arise. In addition to raising a family, she has held many jobs throughout her life, including being a buyer for the teenaged girl's department at Goodyear's Department Store in downtown Ann Arbor, Livingston County Red Cross Blood

Coordinator, and (later) volunteer for the Red Cross.

Judy did the layout for a military newspaper earlier in her career, worked in property/casualty insurance and retail. She is now the Executive Assistant to the President of McKeown

Associates Inc., a manufacturer's representative for linear rails, bearings and powdered metal products sold to the automotive industry. "I guess I've always been in sales," Judy says.

Both Dorothy and Judy are also active in The Order of the Amaranth, a Masonic organization dedicated to diabetes research. Dorothy is a past Mother Advisor and Worthy Matron, and Judy will be installed on April 29th as Grand Royal Matron of the Grand Court, along with husband, Gary, who will be Grand Royal Patron.

Of her activities with Arise children, Judy says, "The kids never cease to amaze me on how well they learn and what they want to do." She would like to see expanded activities for the children, including gatherings on different days and times, crafts, music and worship. Dorothy added, "The future of the church lies in the youth; if we lose the youth now, it is difficult to bring them back. They are our future and our strength." Judy encourages all Arise members to volunteer for something. "As in most things, we actually get more out of Arise spiritually than what we put into it. Anyone not sure of where they belong should pick one thing and try it, and see what they like."



Dorothy Winslow and Judy Miller serve chili on March 19th at the Arise Potato Feast

continued on pg.2

Pastor's Column



Pastor Doug McMunn

How Great is God's Love?!

Open your eyes, my reading friend! I know your eyes are open if you are reading this column, but OPEN YOUR EYES to the PLENTIFUL, GENEROUS, ABUNDANT LOVE OF GOD! Lower case letters aren't big enough to express it! Capital letters can't contain it! The God of all Creation sustains the earth in its orbit and sustains life in its oceans, skies, and lands. Here

in Michigan, the songbirds of springtime have returned to build their nests and celebrate each morning with music. OPEN YOUR EARS, my reading friends! Can you hear the birds declare their maker's praise?! To me, they don't simply sing, "Bob White, Bob White." No, no, they say, "God-is love! God-is love!"

God's love is infinite, so you can grow in it for your entire life! Are you growing in God's love? Ephesians 2:4-10 says, "But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us... made us alive together with Christ...For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."

Lives of Service: An Interview with Dorothy Winslow and Judy Miller (continued)

On a more personal note, Judy thanks the Arise congregation for continued prayers in her ongoing battle with CML (chronic myelogenous leukemia)...currently under control. "I believe that it's been the prayers from Arise and especially the love of very dear friends that has made all the difference. The doctors call it a miracle, and I would call it God's miracle. We beat all odds." Although she has not had to have a bone marrow transplant, her mother is a perfect match...a very unusual occurrence. She recently published her tribute to Dorothy in a Masonic program for the annual installation of officers:

This year is being dedicated to my mother, Sojourner Dorothy Winslow; without her loving, but firm hand in my upbringing and her friendship over the many years I could never accomplish the tasks I attempt. With her love and support, I can climb mountains and soar like an eagle in the winds. Her love and devotion to God, our family and our fraternity is never ending. May you remember, whether you are young or old, dear children one and all, to thank God for mothers, who make our world complete.

Happy Mother's Day, Dorothy, and to all Arise mothers! That says it all.

Think of the great love with which God has loved us! Soak it in! And the correct response to growing in God's love is passing it on! What a privilege! What a great way of life!

Please join us for the sermons of May, 2006, at Arise Church. We'll see what the lectionary scriptures have to say about the proposed new mission statement of Arise Church: "Growing in God's Love and Passing it On."

May 7 "Get IN the Box" Be part of the main event— God's redemptive mission in the world. I John 3:16-24 "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us— and we ought to lay down our lives for one another." Keep the main thing the main thing.

May 14 "The Christ Code" Stay connected to Jesus— be productive in his sight. John 15:1-8 "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit."

May 21 TBD: This is always an exciting weekend as we proudly participate in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life AND The Detroit Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.

May 28 "FANAFA: Find a Need and Fill It" Working for the kingdom while we have breath. Acts 1:1-11 "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"

This month, I pray you'll keep your EYES WIDE OPEN to see GOD'S GREAT LOVE all around you!

Doug McMunn, pastor



(L to R) Cathy Chapman, Marge Smith, Marianne McMunn, Norine Bibicoff and Jen Wagner discuss Arise Strategic Initiatives and proposed objectives at the "Town Meetings" on April 9th.

Shelter from the Storm by Beth Plachta

When our children were in early elementary school, there was a neighborhood boy a few years older who liked to taunt and tease the younger children when they were playing outside or waiting for the bus. He had a lot of "attitude"-bragging and bossing them around. I thought this kid was a real pain, but his behavior was never seriously concerning, only annoying. I noticed that he was often wandering the neighborhood outside alone when the other kids had already gone in to dinner.

One afternoon, the bus dropped the kids off after school and one of those strong, sudden electrical storms rolled through that are unique to early spring. I was getting my kids dried off when I heard a knock at the door. There stood this same little boy, fighting back tears, asking if he could come in, since his mother wasn't home yet. He stayed for a while, was very polite and played until his parents returned. I never viewed that child the same way again. I had gotten a glimpse into his heart-without the usual bravado that masked his fears.

Are we really any different? As adults, we feel in control most of the time, particularly when things are going smoothly. We may not recognize our need for God. But when the storms come, and they always do, hopefully we will seek shelter with Him, knowing that He welcomes us and we are safe with Him.

Jesus said, "Every one who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock." Matthew 7: 24-25

A Challenge to the L.I.F.E. teams for Health Kits!

Every year the Arise Missions Committee sponsors the putting together of mission kits which are sent to help folks who desperately need them. They will be doing this again in late April - early May. The Wednesday Night Bible Study group has accepted the task of putting together as many "health kits" for the Arise Missions Committee as we possibly can. We are going to purchase as many supplies as we are able to, and then have a fun evening together assembling these kits as a group. We cordially invite the Missions Committee members to join us (exact date to be announced).

We would like to offer a friendly challenge to the other life teams who may be able to participate to see how

many "Tubs-full" of supplies they too can put together. Perhaps they would also like to hold their own "fun nights" and do the same thing. Of course, the real winners of this challenge will be the people of Liberia who receive the kits! Who's up for a fun challenge?

The Wednesday Nighters

Relief Kits for Liberia Caring for the Most Vulnerable



The UMCOR Relief Kits help to care for those most vulnerable in times of crisis. Liberia is one of the poorest countries in the world. The unrest that has plagued the nation, starting over a decade ago, has had a devastating impact on Liberians. Basic services such as health, water/sanitation and education are unavailable to many in the country. The Liberia Relief Kits are one way you can reach out and help.

Supply lists for purchasing and creating the relief kits have been distributed in the Easter bulletin, and will also be available on the Arise website (www.arisechurch.org/). Threads of Faith has purchased the fabric and created the bags for School Kits. All you need to do is pick up a bag in the lobby between services, purchase the school supplies and bring back the bag with the supplies. For Sewing Kits and Health Kits, just put the supplies in a large zip lock bag. Also, Ron Fike and the Wednesday night Bible study group will be purchasing and filling kits during one of their meetings. Donations of supply items and money to purchase items can be passed on to Ron or Gayle.

Relief Kits can be dropped off between services on April 23rd, 30th and May 7th, 14th. The kits will be delivered to the Detroit Annual Conference on May 19th.

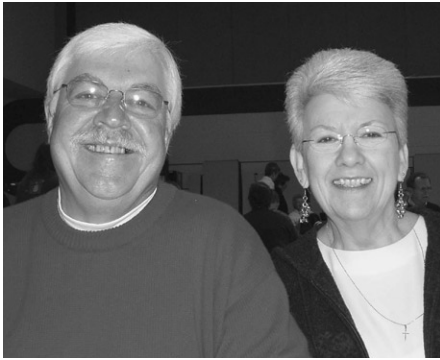
*Keep Liberia in your prayers,
Laura Bowen & the Missions Committee*

VBS is Coming to Arise July 24 to 28, 2006

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 24 - 28, 2006 at Arise Acres again this year. Although July is a long way off, we have positions to fill for this summer and you may just be the person we are looking for! Please contact either Judy Miller or Debbie Short if you can help in any way. Also watch the bulletins and newsletters for lists of positions and items that will be needed. Thanks, everyone!

VBS Co-Coordinator, Judy & Debbie

Wayne Kieb: Cancer Survivor



Wayne and Mary Ellen Kieb... rejoicing!

It was the afternoon of Oct. 30, 2005 and I was working at Huron Meadows Golf Course. When using the rest room, I noticed a red color in the water and thought, "Hmm, this is not good, but maybe it will go away." I continued to work, closed up

and went home. You see, a good friend of ours had lost her brother and we were supposed to go to the funeral home for visitation that evening, so I decided not to say anything to Mary Ellen; again hoping the problem would just go away. We returned home and did our normal evening things and about 3 am, I got up for my nightly walk and noticed the color was much redder than it was previously. I went back to bed and began to experience a pain that began to build in my lower flank. It finally got so intense, that I woke Mary Ellen and told her what was going on and that I should probably make a trip to the emergency room.

After EMS left, as they could not do anything, we went to St. Joe's in Howell and checked in. The doctor thought it was probably a kidney stone, but wanted a CAT scan. After the second scan, this time with an infusion, he came back in the room holding a piece of paper and told me I had a 6 centimeter mass on my left kidney and should see a urologist. He handed the paper to Mary Ellen and promptly escaped the room.

A mass? I knew in an instant that it was cancer- that dreaded, insidious disease that we all know about that had taken one of my former employees. The condition we hope we never have to deal with. It is the disease that puts fear in the hearts of strong individuals. I was scared and felt hopeless at this point! With the exception of a heart attack 13 years previously, I was in good health and active. How could this happen to me?

My first thought was of Mary Ellen and what she would do if I didn't survive this? How about Eric, Lisa and the grandkids? What were the next steps? Did Chris know? How could my life be so full one minute and so bleak and unsure the next? The only thing left was to beat this thing, so that morning we saw a urologist and had an appointment with the surgeon who would do the surgery within two days. You know the outcome; he removed the kidney and all the cancer, so it was a good ending.



Join the Relay for Life, on May 19th & 20th!

Relay for Life will be here before we know it. It takes place on the Brighton High School Track from 7 pm

Friday, May 19 to 7 pm Saturday, May 20. Arise L.I.F.E. Team members will fill a 24-hour roster of walkers that walk for one hour (or more, if desired). Funds raised support cancer research and treatment in our local community. Walkers are encouraged to get pledges from friends, family and co-workers to support these efforts.

Current fundraisers are candy bar sales (\$1), luminary bags to decorate in honor or memory of a loved one with cancer (\$10), donating an item to the Silent Auction, sponsorship of a walker or making a general donation. Other ways to support the Arise L.I.F.E. Team are to sign up for food and drinks for our participants, attend the event itself and pray for all aspects of the weekend.

Other scheduled Relay for Life events that weekend are:

- Survivor Dinner 5 pm - 6:15 pm, Friday, May 19
- Survivor Lap 7pm, Friday, May 19
- Parade of Teams, 7:45 pm, Friday, May 19
- Luminaria Ceremony 9 pm, Friday, May 19
- Closing Ceremonies 6:30 pm May 20

The Haines family is again donating their fifth wheel for shelter. Thanks, Barb and Duane! There will be a sign at our campsite this year with "Arise L.I.F.E. Team" on it to help you find your way. To sign up to walk, either by yourself or with a group, to help with food and drinks, or for other questions, contact Diane Gould (734) 665-8997 or Mary Read (734) 878-6332.



Message from Gloria Jackett

Thank you so much for your continued prayers! I really appreciate them. I also want to thank you and Threads of Faith for the most welcome prayer shawl. It comes in handy when I get up for my 3:00 am IV antibiotic. And the cards have been so cheerful and uplifting! I appreciate each and every one! May God continue to bless each and every one of you!

In Him, Gloria Jackett.

Arise Youth Energized by Battlecry 2006!

Teens are attracted to larger-than-life experiences and, of course, lots of action. That's one of the reasons MTV is so popular. Youth rallies like Battlecry capitalize on young people's need for speed and passion for something bigger than themselves.

These youth events are powerful, interactive multimedia experiences that fuse godly principles with action-packed dramas, popular Christian bands, speakers, lights and pyrotechnics. The pace is quick but the direction is clear, inspiring young people to commit to live every day as passionate followers of Christ.

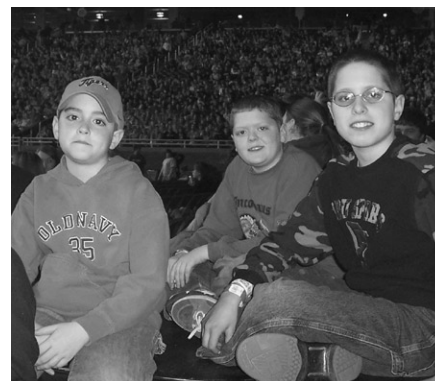
It isn't about short-term excitement but long-term change. Countless scores of teenagers hear their wake-up call at these massive events. Surrounded by thousands of others making the same decision, they find a new determination to live for God.

This year nine youth and four adults from Arise attended the Battlecry event, held in Detroit's Ford Field on April 7 & 8.

"It was good music and a good experience. Thousands of kids and adults were there. It was great!" ~ Tony Whalen

"I could go on for hours on end about everything I liked. I'm going into youth ministry and this is why—to get kids excited for God and show them how to be strong examples for God in the world." ~ Jason Janovits

"It was really cool! I really liked it. The songs that they sang were great. I'd want to go again." ~Austin Bollinger



Austin and C.J. Bollinger and Jeffrey Hillaker enjoy Battlecry 2006!

"I liked how the people showed us that worshipping God was fun!" ~Jeffrey Hillaker

"It got us pumped to learn about Christ. It was cool—a neat experience!" ~Eric Tice

"It was interesting and fun! A lot of people made it fun by making jokes, lots of sharing and stories." ~CJ Bollinger

A Mother's Example: Four Generations of Faith

Sara Duke, at the age of 84, is the most senior member of Arise. When she joined our church, she brought with her a lifelong belief in God and Christian service. Sara has been a regular worshipper at Arise during the last six years and her daughter, Cindy Morphew, also an Arise member, has been instrumental in initiating several new events, such as the Arise Bowling Team, a Dinner Dance and Silent Auction, the Arise Festival, the Arise Cookbook and numerous fundraising efforts that have benefited the Arise Building Fund. Cindy is perhaps best known for her gift of hospitality, hosting many Arise events in her home, along with husband, Jim. She will soon have another opportunity, as she will host the Arise Women's Retreat on May 6th.



Standing (from left):
Cindy Morphew, Sara Duke,
Laura Smathers.

Sitting: Jennifer Counihan,
Haley and Chelsea Smathers

In addition to her son Joe, Cindy has two daughters who are married and live outside the Pinckney area. Both Jennifer and Laura have been active in Arise activities over the years and are now busy serving in their own church homes. Laura has two girls, Chelsea and Haley, who love to visit Grandma and Great-grandma whenever they get a chance. Thank you Sara and Cindy, for sharing your gifts and your families with us at Arise!

Mother's Day Memories

From Cheryl Bollinger...

As a child, my mom and I attended mother and daughter banquets together. Every year she would sew look-alike dresses for her and me. As an added bonus, she would use the scraps to make clothes for my Barbies. I always enjoyed the way we looked alike on the outside. Today, as a mom, I strive to look like her on the inside. I remember years ago, a friend asking me, "Does your mom ever yell?" Until then, I never really noticed that she didn't yell. But we knew without a doubt what was and was not acceptable. What set my mom apart was that she put Christ in the center of her life. I see how important it is to put Christ in the center of your life and to strive every day to be more like him. In turn, you will be continually blessed by The Spirit!



continued on next page

Mother's Day Memories *continued*

From Norma Topp...

When I was a little girl I remember going to the mother daughter banquet where the men served the meal and my dad took me to buy a corsage, which the moms wore to the banquet and to church the next day.

When my kids were young, they always had soccer games on Mother's Day, so we had to schedule our Mother's Day celebration around the games. But there were never any soccer games on Father's Day. Who made up that schedule????

My best, most recent, favorite Mother's Day memory was when our granddaughter, Gracie, called and said, "I love you, Grandma!"

Question to Youth: What is the best gift you could give your mom for Mother's Day and why?



Pizza, because it's good to eat and she likes pizza.

~Tyler Tankka

A big, giant bouquet of flowers, because it would make her feel happy and special. ~ Faith Hillaker

Her favorite stuffed animal with a sign that says "Best Mom" because she is the best mom. ~ Kimberly Boyne

A giant king-sized Almond Joy, because she loves that. ~ Jeff Hillaker

Chocolate, 'cause our mom likes chocolate. ~ Myles Wagner

I could buy something for her. One of the things she wants is makeup and new clothes, because she always wants to look nice for church. ~ Wilson Wagner

I'd get my mommy hair shampoo, because it makes her hair smell good when she comes out of the shower.

~ Jacob Russell



Faith Hillaker, Kimberly Boyne, Wilson and Myles Wagner discuss gifts for Mom.



Elly and Kim Sherry, at a recent Threads of Faith meeting

Kim Sherry: A Mother's Story

Most people at Arise know Kim Sherry. They know she has a large family of children that were adopted from around the world. But do they know why? Or how? Kim shares some of her thoughts with us on the joys and challenges of mothering such a unique family. The story of Kim, husband E.J. and their

children will be continued in the June issue.

"I was an only child growing up," says Kim. "My parents were married for seven years and had lost hope of ever having a child. So, they spent their \$15,000 savings on a house, a car and new furniture. That month my mother became pregnant with me. I guess I was meant to be. Since my parents had problems conceiving, they talked about adopting other children, but never pursued it. That's why it always interested me."

Kim's mother had been given diethylstilbestrol (DES), a drug thought to prevent miscarriages. Because Kim was exposed to this drug during her mother's pregnancy, she was born with a condition that would make it difficult to have children herself. "I knew from the age of 13, that this had happened and that's when I knew I wanted to adopt." After experiencing a miscarriage herself, she and E.J. decided to apply for adoption through Catholic Social Services in Ann Arbor, but the wait list was five years long and the cost was \$5,000 per child. "It might as well have been five million," Kim says. "E.J. kept getting laid off from the auto industry and I was 21 years old. We couldn't afford it."

Through a series of amazing coincidences and "out of the blue" opportunities, Kim and E.J. adopted ten children of multi-ethnic backgrounds over the years, which will be detailed in next month's issue. "The biggest challenge in raising my family in this [largely Caucasian] community is facing racism," Kim explains, while relating some recent experiences her children have had to endure. "The most rewarding part is helping them to find their way, and hoping their self esteem is good enough to enable them to feel good about themselves. I love my family and I think it's perfect. I wouldn't have had any less children and I wouldn't have done it any other way."

To Kim, we want to say a big "thank you," not only for sharing her story, but for her love of children. We look forward to learning more next month!

MAY 2006 CALENDAR

WEEKLY EVENTS

"I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life." – Abraham Lincoln

Sunday _____

7:30 a.m.

Move into school

9:00 a.m.

Spirited Traditional
Worship

9:45 a.m.

Friendship Coffee

10:30 a.m.

Praise Celebration

4:00 p.m.

Arise Bowling League
700 Bowl, South Lyon

Monday _____

11:00 a.m.

Prayer Team

7:00 p.m.

Men's Huddle

Tuesday _____

7 p.m.

Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday _____

6:30 p.m.

Sr. High Youth

7:00 p.m.

Adult Bible Study

Thursday _____

10:00 a.m.

Worship Design

Saturday _____

8:30 p.m.

Young Adult LIFE Team

Coming Events

June 4

Graduate recognition at
Arise

June 24

Arise Leadership
Community, 9 a.m.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
April 30	May 1 Worship Design 6:30 p.m.	2 Church Council 7 p.m.	3 Building Committee at Topp's 7 p.m.	4 National Day of Prayer	5 TGIF Sisters 10 a.m.	6 Arise Women's Retreat at Morphew's 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Trustees Work Day
7 Holy Communion Inside/Outreach Offering*	8 Threads of Faith 7 p.m.	9 Finance Committee at Plachta's 7 p.m.	10	11 VBS meeting at Miller's 7 p.m.	12	13 Evangelism & Worship Workshops in Flint 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17 Trustees 7 p.m.	18	19 TGIF Sisters 10 a.m. Detroit Annual Conference begins (5/19 – 21) Relay for Life	20 Relay for Life
21 VBS Meeting 10 a.m. Detroit Annual Conference ends (5/19 – 21)	22	23 Collate Newsletter 10 a.m.	24 SPRC at the Ministry Center 6:30 p.m.	25	26	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31 Baccalaureate PHS 7:30 p.m.	June 1	2 TGIF Sisters 10 a.m.	3

**The May 7th Inside/Outreach offering covers shipping fees for Liberia relief kits with the balance going into our annual conference offering for our partner churches in Liberia and Haiti.*

Children's Church Changes

As some of you know, we have been making changes in our children's program to better address your needs. After the children are released from regular worship, they gather with their teachers in the Art Room for their own Music and Worship time, including songs, prayer and a Bible Story. As of April 9, 2006 they have also been challenged to bring in an offering for our collection. They will decide each quarter whether it will go to a mission project, the building fund or some other cause. We have also

implemented an incentive program, where each attendee will get "points" for each of the following: bring a Bible; memorize the previous week's verse; bring a friend; help the teacher/leaders and, of course, attend and participate. At the end of May each child will choose from items that have been donated, as a special award. If you have questions or would like to donate something, please let us know. Thank you for your support and let us know if you have questions or suggestions.

Judy Miller, Children's Ministry Team Coach 734-649-7967

Arise

A United Methodist Church

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To every person in the home of:

If you wish to be removed from our newsletter mailing list, please return this mailing panel to us. Thank you.

MAY ANNIVERSARIES



5—Robert & Joyce Barnard 21—Ron & Gayle Fike
5—Barry & Kelley Boyes 31—Chuck & Patricia
10—Mark & Barbara Wood Boyne

*"Alone we can do
so little, together we
can do so much."*

—Helen Keller

MAY BIRTHDAYS



1 Marsha McMunn	3 Leah Sherry	5 Ingrid Weisz
10 Dorothy Winslow	11 Paul Smith	15 Patricia Sliter
18 Rob Wagner	20 David Russell	21 Joe Morphey
25 Kahlin Dawson	28 Ellen Janovits	

We would like to share your celebrations and apologize if we missed any special dates. To have a birthday or anniversary included in future newsletters, please give the information, in writing, to Dorothy Winslow. Thank you!

ARISE NEWSLETTER TEAM

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*Thanks to all who contribute;
please contact us with your feedback
and suggestions!*

• We are pleased to announce that *Arise Connections* is now available online at www.arisechurch.org •