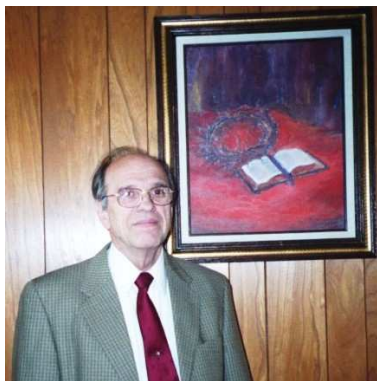

The Sower

Arthur Church of Christ

415 West 4th Street
Arthur, IL 61911

Times of Worship

Bible Classes.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.



Ron Bartanen, Minister

WELCOME to today's Bible class and/or worship assembly. If you are a VISITOR, we especially appreciate your decision to meet with us. It is our hope that you will return at every opportunity.

Have you visited our website lately?
(www.arthurchofchrist.com)

Be sure to check out the "Christian Evidences"/"Apologetics Press" links Now in both English and Spanish.

May 11, 2008

HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY!

WHAT'S A MOM WORTH?

According to one new report, \$138,095 a year.

That's the figure in a report by Salary.com, which calculates the wages that would have been paid a stay-at-home mom in 2007 if she were compensated for all the elements of her "job." That total is up 3% from 2006's salary of \$134,121.

Moms who have jobs outside the house would earn another \$85,939 for their mothering work—beyond what they bring home in existing salary.

Talk back: What's your "mom-work" worth?

The job descriptions that Salary.com used to determine a mom's salary includes 10 jobs that moms do on an average day: housekeeper, day care center teacher, cook, computer operator, laundry machine operator, janitor, facilities manager, van driver, CEO and psychologist.

Plenty of overtime:

In calculating a mom's wages, Salary.com looked at the "overtime" that both working and stay-at-home moms put in each week. "Mom works multiple jobs and rarely gets a break from the action, working an average of 52 hours of overtime," said Bill Coleman, senior vice president at Salary.com, in a statement.

--Source forgotten.

MISCELLANEOUS THOUGHTS ON MOTHERS

- Some men were discussing the various versions of the Bible. After they were finished giving the pros and cons of each Bible, a man who had been silent spoke up and said, "The best version of the Bible is the one my mother lived!"

- A godly mother will point her children to God by the force of her example as much as by the power of her words.
- Mother's hands: "What can be said of mother's hands can also not be said, for who can count the vast drudgeries performed each day—and who can surmise if drudgeries are really joys, because it is their price.... And they also minister kindness.

THREE MOTHERS

The second Sunday in May is a day set aside to honor mothers. Perhaps modern mothers can identify with one of these three from the Bible.

Eve was "the mother of all living" (Genesis 3:20). She and Adam had "sons and daughters" (Genesis 5:4); only three are named: Cain, Abel and Seth. Of the first two, Abel was righteous, Cain was wicked. Cain even killed his brother (Genesis 4:1-8). Eve could well have asked, "When two children are reared in the same home, what causes one to be good and the other one to go astray?" It's an old question.

Mary was chosen of God to be the mother of his Son. Much is implied about her character in God's choice. Her years of mothering are but touched on in the New Testament. Her Son was brutally killed at age 33. She could understand those who ask, "Why did my child have to die before I did?"

Eunice was a faithful Jewish woman married to a Greek (Acts 16:1; 2 Timothy 1:5). She reared her son Timothy without the full support of her husband. Timothy had not been circumcised as a baby as the law commanded (Acts 16:30). Even today some godly mothers are not able to do all they desire in rearing their children because their husbands are not faithful. But Timothy was taught well (2 Timothy 3:15). Many mothers today teach their children the Scriptures without the help of the fathers.

--James D. Burns, Henderson, Tenn.

"Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation. Harken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray. My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD: in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up" (Psalms 5:1-3).

Abraham Lincoln once said: "It is your business to rise up and preserve the Union and liberty, for yourselves, and not for me.... I appeal to you again to constantly bear in mind that with you, and not with politicians and office-seekers, but with you is the question, 'Shall the Union and the liberties of this country be preserved to the latest generation?'" --
Trib-Bits, Decatur Tribune

IF HE SHOULD COME TODAY

If He should come today
And find my hands so full
Of future plans, however fair,
In which my Savior has no share,
What would He say?

IF He should come today
And find my love so cold,
My faith so very weak and dim,
I had not even looked for Him,
What would He say?

IF He should come today
Would I be glad—quite glad?
Remembering He had died for all,
And none through me had heard His call,
What would I say?
--Author unknown

I hear a lot about the economy lately. Here are some random thoughts:

- Limit your wants to your wealth.
- Just about the time you think you can make ends meet, someone moves the ends!
- There can be no economy where there is no efficiency. (Benjamin Disraeli)
- Whatever you have, spend less.

WELCOME to today's Bible class and/or worship assembly. We are especially grateful for any that may be VISITORS. It is our hope that you find the service spiritually enriching, and that you will return at every opportunity.

- **"THE CHRISTIAN'S THREE HOMES"** will be this morning's sermon topic, with Ephesians 5:22-33 as the reading. This evening I plan to speak on the question, **"At What Price?"** and Matthew 13:44-46 will be the reading.
- **NEXT SUNDAY morning** the message will be, **"Warnings From God,"** with Genesis 6:11-17 as the reading. The **evening** lesson will be, **"Hebrews—God's Word of Encouragement,"** and Hebrews 2:1-4 will be the reading.
- **BIBLE CLASSES: Wednesday,** as we continue our study of church history (presently of the Restoration Movement), we will begin with "XXXVIII. Moses E. Lard" on our lesson sheet. The next lesson sheet is available on the literature table also.
- **A GRANDDAUGHTER GRADUATING:** How the years do fly by! Our youngest granddaughter, Kristen, will be graduating from the Highwood (Montana) High School May 17. For any who would like to send her a card of congratulations, her address is: Kristen Cooper, PO Box 335, Belt, Montana 59412.
- **PRAY FOR:** Paul continues to improve in spite of some setbacks. Prayers are being answered. Remember Nadine and family as well. *** Lyla received a good report from her tests. *** Lester may have surgery soon for carpal tunnel syndrome. *** Continue to remember Dean, Inez, Doris, Woody, Rodger, Charles Moore (Tex.), Lewis Carter (Ind./Fla.), and our men and women serving in our armed forces. Also pray for the leaders of our nation and other nations in efforts for peace. Pray for God's providence in our coming presidential election that the right person will be selected to lead our nation in a way that best conforms with the will of God.