

March 2011

From the Pastor



## A Faithful God

Looking outside right now can be a bit depressing. We see the snow that started way back in November. Now it seems to stay with us forever. When you think about it, we've had snow for only about four months; that's only one third of the year. By the time March is over, there is a good chance most of the snow will have melted. If not by March, we are certain that the snow will be gone by April.

Why do we know that? It's the way God created the earth. We know we can trust God that no matter how cold and how snowy things are, there will always be a spring. We know summer is also coming.

It reminds me of God's faithfulness to us. Consider this verse in 1 Corinthians.

*God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. (1 Corinthians 1:9 NIV)*

We can trust God. He is faithful to us. No matter what happens, we can trust God. Consider also this verse in 2 Corinthians.

*For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. (2 Corinthians 1:20 NIV)*

What are some of God's promises to us? Look at this list from the book of Psalms:

**Love, Salvation, Protection** – *Show the wonder of your great love, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their foes. (Psalm 17:7 NIV)*

**Guidance** - *Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. (Psalm 25:8 NIV)*

**Goodness** - *Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him. (Psalm 34:8 NIV)*

*(over)*



**Mercy** - *Answer me, O LORD, out of the goodness of your love; in your great mercy turn to me. (Psalm 69:16 NIV)*

**Forgiveness** - *You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you. (Psalm 86:5 NIV)*

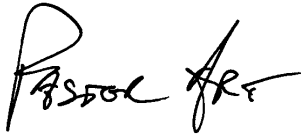
**Satisfaction** - *...for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things. (Psalm 107:9 NIV)*

**Instruction and Steadiness in Life** - *Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground. (Psalm 143:10 NIV)*

The seasons are one of God's illustrations of His faithfulness. We know someday soon we will be at the beach, on the golf course or on the bike trail enjoying a beautiful warm summer day. We know this because of how God has designed our world.

In a greater way, we can be assured of all of God's promises for the life of the believer, because we trust in a faithful God. Take time this month to thank God for His faithfulness.

In Him and for His glory,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pastor Arif". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.