

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

740 W. University Heights Dr. South
Flagstaff, AZ. 86005

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School for Children & Youth

10:45 AM

Nursery Provided At Both Services

Church Office Hours

8:00 AM—5:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Email:

admin@cor-pca.org

Website:

www.cor-pca.org



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PathWays to Global Understanding

Tuesday Evenings, starting
January 19, at Canyon Chapel

We strongly encourage members and friends of COR to consider participating in this outstanding class in world missions. We have support funds available through our COR Mission Fund. You can apply through the church office.

What is PathWays? It is an eye-opening journey into God's kingdom blueprint that will inspire every Christian to desire to see His glory revealed among the nations. This dynamic curriculum will connect you to God's global enterprise in practical ways as He brings the world to our doorstep. The course is led by stimulating and thought-provoking speakers with extensive experience on each subject.

Brochures for PathWays are available at the church office.

Church of the RESURRECTION

Christmas Queries

I love the Christmas season. The traditions of this season - the lights, the Christmas trees, the caroling, Santa, the gifts, the Christ Child in the manger surrounded by the Holy Family, shepherds and angels - all of these warm my heart with the joy and wonder of Christmas.

What about the questions or queries of Christmas? I've been thinking about some of the questions we ask at this time of year. Answering these questions could help us make this the best Christmas ever.

First of all, **what does God want for Christmas?** My thoughts go to Scripture as recorded in Micah 6:8... "He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

May this season be a time of drawing near to God. Many experience Christmas as "a festival of consumption" feeling drained when the Christmas rush is over. As we walk humbly with our God, this season can actually energize us for the New Year. As we sort out our response to the Paris tragedy and the threat of terrorism, remember that we are called to act justly and to love mercy. There are many people around us who are precious to God and as we treat them with right behavior, mercy, and kindness, God is pleased.

Secondly, **have you mailed your Christmas cards yet?** Robin and I send cards to keep in touch with family and friends. Is it stressful? Of course, but we find it worth the in-

vestment of time and effort. However, the Scriptures talk about our lives being a letter for Christ. "You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts." (2 Corinthians 3:2-3) May our witness draw people to the Christ of Christmas.

Thirdly, **how can I have the best Christmas ever?** The season speeds by and Christmas can arrive without the preparation of our hearts. Ask the Spirit of God to put a song in your heart. Authentic joy is His gift to us. Remember, if Christmas doesn't happen in our hearts, then we certainly won't find it under the tree. As you check your list and go about shopping, remember that the best gifts are personal expressions of love and admiration. Give yourself away this Christmas.

Finally, **are you free to enjoy Christmas?** What would it mean to be "free" to enjoy Christmas? Since Jesus is the reason for the season, have you genuinely received Him into your heart and are you living in fellowship with Him each day of your life? Kneeling in Bethlehem along with the shepherds and wise men, brings the wonder of Christmas to your life throughout the entire year. They worshipped Him. Will you worship Him, too? Will you let Him be the Star whose light you will follow in the New Year? If so, then you will not only be free for Christmas, but for the abundant life he brings each day. "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." (John 8:36)

I wish you a Joyous Christmas with the wonder of His presence and the warmth of His love.

Meet Your Staff



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Family Ministry**
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928-225-9889



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**Administrative
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Upper Room Dedication and Reception Sunday, December 27

Our Upper Room has been going through an extensive renovation and remodeling process. Our special thanks to Bob Philpott and Dan Otten for their labor of love to make our Upper Room a very special place to gather. On December 27, after each service, we invite you pray over this new space dedicating it for the Lord's purposes. A very special thank you to those who donated funds to make this renovation possible. Your generosity is appreciated.

Beth Moore Bible Study coming in January Starting Tuesday, January 5, 6 PM

Ladies, come and travel to the Holy Land with Beth Moore in her 10 week bible study, "Jesus the One and Only", based on the gospel of Luke. Get to know Jesus intimately as though you had walked with Him during His days of earthly ministry. This in-depth bible study includes weekly personal assignments and video sessions taped on location in Jerusalem and throughout Israel. We'll have social time starting at 5:30 PM and then watch the thought-provoking DVD promptly at 6 PM with discussion to follow. Workbooks will be available soon for purchase at \$16. Sign up on the fellowship bulletin board downstairs. Questions? Call Roxi Ashurst at 928.864.6475 or Robin Long at 928.699.0703. See you there.

Sermons for Advent & Christmastide

The Advent and Christmas seasons are a wonderful time to invite family & friends to come and discover the true meaning of God's love coming into the world through Jesus, the Messiah. We encourage you to reach out and invite others. Many are ready to unwrap the reason for the season. The following sermon schedule will seek to explore the Christmas story with contemporary application:

- Sunday, Nov 29 "Arise, Shine! For Your Light Has Come!" Isaiah 60:1-3
 Sunday, Dec 6 "The Gospel According to Mary" Luke 1:46-56 and 2:1-7
 Sunday, Dec 13 "Good News of Great Joy" Luke 2:8-20
 Sunday, Dec 20 "A Shiver of Wonder" Luke 1:26-38 and 2:13-15
 Christmas Eve, Dec 24 "Joy to the World"
 Sunday, Dec 27 "Faith for the Journey" Matthew 2:1-12

The Season of ADVENT Begins on Sunday, November 29

The word "Advent" is derived from a Latin root which means "coming" or "arrival", and the season was developed in the Western Church as a preparation for the festival of the Nativity. Four Sundays before Christmas we celebrate Advent by lighting ceremonial and symbolic candles, reading Scripture, and preparing our hearts for a Christ-centered Christmas. Would you like to help with the lighting of the Advent candles and reading Scripture in this season? Call Pastor Bob at 928.699.7592.

Christmas in the Mountains with the Master Chorale Sunday, December 13, 3 PM NAU Ardrey Auditorium

This wonderful Flagstaff tradition continues with an extravaganza featuring festive music for choirs, brass, percussion and organ complete with lighting and holiday decorations. Hear your favorite holiday favorites sung by Flagstaff's best musicians! Tickets available online or at the NAU box office. Our very own Pastor Bob and Kellie Swartzfager have sung with Master Chorale and can attest to what a fine concert it will be.



Women's Potluck Dinner & Decorating Party Thursday, December 3, 6:00 PM

Join us for a festive evening of food and decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. All members and friends of COR are encouraged to participate in this enjoyable evening. Please note the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Cathy Jolma for more information at 928.773.7956.

Midweek Children's Ministry Pioneer Club is Loads of Fun! Come by Tuesday After-School at 3:30 PM Our Club Meets in the Church Fellowship Hall

Games, activities, and interactive Bible lessons are what bring the kids (K-3) together for Pioneer Club on Tuesdays. We are learning about the church and about how to love each other, ultimately because we know how great the love of Jesus is for us. The kids have been earning activity and Bible awards, playing together and memorizing parts of the Bible. We even play music and sing in our meetings! Pastor Bob and Wes would love to see you and your friends there. We are always welcoming more to join in the fun!

A Christmas Carol presented by Theatrikos Doris Harper-White Community Playhouse

This delightful fresh approach to a Christmas classic features Dave Kelly from our congregation playing six roles. Weekend shows start November 27 through December 20. Tickets are on sale at Theatrikos. If you volunteer to usher, admission is free!

Homeless Refuge for the Winter Flagstaff Shelter Services Overflow at COR Each Night December 13-19

Church of the Resurrection will be opening our doors to our homeless neighbors (as many as 25 men) every evening for a week this winter as overflow for the Flagstaff Shelter. This is a great opportunity for you to be practically involved in a ministry to people who are in need. There are many ways to participate: sign up to spend the evening at the church, donate warm socks for the men, prepare either breakfast or dinner for them. If you are interested in any of these (or have your own idea), see Pastor Wes for details. Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall.

New Member & Baptism Class Wednesday, December 9, 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary

We invite those desiring to unite with our Church of the Resurrection to gather for this class of preparation. We will explore the significance of Christian Baptism. We will also prepare those youth and adults who would desire to become members of the church on Christmas Sunday, December 20. Come and learn how you can take this important step of faith. For more information, call Pastor Bob at 928.699.7592 or the church office at 928.699.2715 to register.



Join us for Christmas Caroling Monday, December 21, 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

This year we will be caroling in the neighborhoods of our people. Many homebound people or those going through a season of grieving appreciate carolers bringing the songs of Christmas into their homes. Come and share in this wonderful ministry of hope and love. We'll gather at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall for warm-up and orientation prior to departing for homes in the area. (Dress warmly)! Our evening shall culminate in returning to the church for hot chocolate and cookies. Register your intent to participate on the ministry sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services Thursday, December 24, 5:30 PM or 7:00 PM Invite Your Friends & Neighbors! Bring Your Whole Family!

Christmas Eve is the most beautiful night of the year! At COR we gather to worship the Christ of Christmas at 5:30 PM and then again at 7:00 PM. This outreach service touches the lives of many with God's Christmas grace. Singing the joyous songs of Christmas. Hearing the good news of great joy. Reading the Scriptures to tell the wondrous story of Christmas. All are welcome. Members and friends of COR are encouraged to use this opportunity to reach out to non-Christian folks so as to introduce them to Christ. Mark your calendar and begin inviting today!

Youth & Family Group Weekly Meetings Wednesday, Every Week 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall

Are you interested in being part of our group? If you are in middle or high school we would love to see you there! Your family is also welcome to join! Lately, we have been digging into God's Word to see what He says about our identity. What amazing things we have discovered! If you want to have a good meal, play some fun games, and get to know some cool people, be there on Wednesday nights. We welcome you with open arms!

Also, if you like to cook, consider blessing our Youth & Family with your culinary masterpiece. We always need a good hot meal and we love the people who make them!

The Youth & Family Winter Retreat "The Gospel for Me and for You" January 15-18 in Mt. Lemmon

Are You Ready? This is our first winter retreat which joins Youth & Family with our sister-church: Rincon Mountain Presbyterian in Tucson (led by Pastor Ben). We will be staying in an enormous mountain cabin for a fun-packed weekend of games, fellowship, new (and old) friends, and Gospel-focused lessons. The total cost for the trip is only \$40 and it will be a great opportunity to grow in your walk with the Lord and have a real adventure with a totally awesome group of friends! If you would like to register for this event, sign up in the Fellowship Hall and ask Pastor Wes for the registration forms.

GriefShare Seminar / Support Group Wednesday Evenings, Starting January 6, in the Sanctuary

Pastor Bob will be facilitating this new GriefShare group for those who have lost a loved one and are seeking to learn about this journey of loss and grieving. The seminar will provide sessions on principles of healthy grieving. It also provides a support group as participants share what they are going through day to day while receiving encouragement from others. This seminar/support group is for the Flagstaff community. Members and friends of COR are encouraged to reach out and invite those they know in the community who are going through this difficult time of loss and grief. For more information, call Pastor Bob at 928.699.7592 or register for GriefShare by calling the church office at 928.699.2715