Mark Your Calendars and Plan on Participating!

**FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT at CHASE FIELD**
Friday, August 24th
CHEERING on the Diamondbacks!

Ruling Elder Hal Givens is spearheading this special fellowship event. We’ll be carpooling to Phoenix for the Diamondbacks vs. Seattle Mariners baseball game, followed by testimonies from some of the players and some Christian music from the well-known “Mercy Me” Christian rock group. The tickets are $19 each. Hot dogs and cokes are on you. Contact Hal for procuring your tickets. Friends are always welcome.

**Coming this Fall…**
Leaders are preparing to offer new DivorceCare and GriefShare seminar/support groups starting in September. Also, the popular and dynamic *The Alpha Course* is in the planning stages. This group will be meeting in one of our larger homes and is a wonderful and effective way to introduce seeker friends to the Lord. The Evangelism Explosion Discipleship Training will be offered for “a few good men” (and women). Also, Chuck Thomsen would like to offer another Financial Peace University series. For more information, contact Pastor Bob at 928.699.7992.

**Next FaithWorks Mission**
Chugiak, Alaska
August 16-26, 2018
Up to 15 persons will fly to Anchorage, Alaska and drive out on to Birchwood Camp in Chugiak. The team will be doing “camp fix-up” for a camp that is used by many youth and adults year round. This gives the camp staff a break in order to get ready for the next set of campers. There could be painting, cleaning, gardening, roofing and/or light construction. Fee $450 plus airfare.

For more information contact the FaithWorks Office (928) 774-0504, or the Trip Coordinator Jan Allen (928) 567-0092

Hospitality of heart and home is a vital part of the Christian faith. Long before the church had pulpits and baptistries, she had kitchens and dinner tables. In the New Testament the primary gathering place of the church was the home. Consider the genius of God’s plan. The first generation of Christians was a tinderbox of contrasting cultures and backgrounds. Hospitality opens the door to uncommon community. It’s no accident that hospitality and hospital come from the same Latin word, for they both lead to the same result: healing. When you open your heart and your door to someone, you are sending this message: “You matter to me and to God.” You may think you are saying, “Come over for a visit.” But what your guest hears is, “I’m worth the effort.”

Let’s start on Sunday mornings. Welcome a stranger to the church as if that stranger whom we call a “guest” was Jesus Christ himself. The Rule of St. Benedict teaches this kind of hospitality based on Galatians 4:14. After the worship service observe the “Five Minute Rule” which means to take the first five minutes to turn to those you have not met and welcome them warmly before you turn to your friends. See that they get a loaf of bread and offer to take them to the refreshments and fellowship gathering. Invite these guests to our All-Church Picnic on Saturday, July 14th at Pine Canyon Park, to enjoy good food and make new friends.

Years ago, one of my dear friends in the church I was serving was Bonnie Duck. I called her Saint Bonnie because she had a marvelous ability to reach out to new people and make them feel warmly welcomed. In her early married life, her husband John was a Navy fighter pilot. In his twenty years of service they lived in eighteen different localities. They were always the new people at the church and Bonnie developed a love for reaching out to guests and visitors. She always had her antennae out. Initiating conversation. Inviting to lunch. Showing interest in their lives. As a pastor I wished that I could clone Saint Bonnie and have a whole congregation of welcomers like her.

In the summertime a spirit of hospitality works well in your neighborhood. Be looking for moving vans and U-Haul trailers. Bring a plate of freshly-baked cookies over and welcome them to the neighborhood. Ask if they have a church family. Invite them to our church. Invite them to the All-Church Picnic. They would love it!

There’s a movie coming out about Mister Rogers (played by Tom Hanks) “Everyone’s Favorite Neighbor” (a 2013 documentary). Rogers said in a 2001 commencement address at Middlebury College: “When we look for what’s best at that at the moment, we’re doing what God does; so in appreciating our neighbor, we’re participating in something truly sacred.”

The New Testament gives these encounters a wonderful mystical twist. In Hebrews 13:1-2 we read, “Let brotherly and sisterly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”
**Continuing Messages in Our “PrayerQuake” Series**

**Prayer: The Mightiest Power in the World**

In the midst of a polarized America, one cultural observer, Sarah Silver remarked, “Democracy is messy, but it’s not a blood sport.” As our nation is being torn apart through political rancor and vitriol, what is God’s answer to the dilemma? I believe He is calling His people to prayer. But prayer seems so weak, almost insipid. The enemy would love to have us believe that it is His lie to God’s people. The sacred Scriptures tell a different story. The inspired Word of God reveals that prayer is the mightiest force in the world. For those who believe and practice powerful prayer a unified nation is on the horizon. Then, America will be truly great!

Invoke your unchurched friends and neighbors who are looking for answers to the messy dilemma of our nation to join us for our ongoing series on PrayerQuake. We’ll be exploring some possibilities from God’s Word and introducing hope for the Lord reveals to His people in their darkest days. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:11-13) Our sermon series for July enfoils like this:

**Sunday, July 1** — “If My People...” 2 Chronicles 7:14 Celebration of the Lord’s Supper and Celebration of America

Sunday, July 8 — Elias Reyes Preaching COR and Oasis of Hope Prayer for Combined Worship

Sunday, July 15 — “Forever Ruined for the Ordinary” Proverbs 3:5-6 and John 10:1-16 Prayers for Healing and Wholeness


Sunday, July 29 — “Praying with Power” Exodus 17:16-18 and Acts 4:23-31 Reception of New Members and Baptisms

**All-Church “COR & Friends” PICNIC at Pine Canyon BBQ & Potluck, Recreation & Friendship Saturday, July 14th, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

This will be a special day to gather our Church of the Resurrection family and their friends! Delicious BBQ brisket, hamburgers, hot dogs and all the wonderful side dishes brought by the church family. We’ll need a set-up crew meeting at 10:00 to prepare for others arriving at 11:00. We’ll also need a clean-up crew from 2:00-3:00 p.m. to leave the Pine Canyon Family Park better than when we came. You can sign up for the “COR & Friends Picnic” and set-up and clean-up on the Ministry Board in the Fellowship Hall. Some of our folks are experts in BBQ and you may want to help them. Maybe you’d like to help with the recreation activities. Sign up for this as well.

This is an outreach event and all COR folks are encouraged to bring friends and neighbors to get to know our church family. Everyone is welcome.

**The Bethel Bible Series OLD TESTAMENT STUDIES Starting Mondays on August 6th, 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

The Bethel Bible Series opens eyes and changes lives! One of the finest ways to teach biblical content, the Bethel Series is a 20-week adventure revealing biblical precepts from the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) followed by a 20-week exploration of the New Testament (Winter & Spring 2019). So many Christians are not comfortable with their grasp of the Bible. They would like to know their Bibles better. The Bethel Series speaks to this need.

One of the unique features of the Bethel Series is the use of teaching pictures as memory devices. Many people learn visually. During July we will have some of the Bethel teaching pictures displayed at our Bethel registration table in the Fellowship Hall. Come and bring your questions and check out Bethel as a possibility for you. For more information, contact Pastor Bob at 928.699.7592 for he loves to talk Bethel.

**Men’s Support Group INVITES NEW PARTICIPANTS**

The Navigator’s 2:7 Series “Bearing Fruit in God’s Family” (Volume 3) Fridays at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

We have a great group of men who meet each Friday morning for coffee, study, and good conversation. We’re growing as disciples of Jesus Christ. Learning Scripture.

Praying. Memorizing Bible verses. Talking about key issues of life and how we can be victorious over life’s challenges and prevail in life’s struggles. Come and join us.

**“The Band of Brothers” MEN’S PRAYER BREAKFAST Saturday, July 21st 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

Our COR men are always encouraged to bring their friends and neighbors to our Band of Brothers Gathering. The breakfast is hearty and delicious. The Banter about the table is always fun. The spiritual emphasis is practical and encouraging. Come and enjoy!

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY in the Upper Room Saturday, July 21st 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.**

Come and enjoy...and make a difference in the lives of hurting people

The Prayer Shawl Ministry gathers each month to craft shawls which are then distributed to folks in our church and beyond who need a little extra tender loving care. Shawls represent the love and prayers of God’s people for those hurting. To be enfolded by the love of God is a special grace. People often need to be reminded of his compassionate care. It also reminds us to pray for those going through difficult times. Would you like to be a part of the Prayer Shawl Ministry? Call Brigitte at 928.699.2715 or 928.774.5557 Come on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. to leave the Pine Canyon Family Park better than when we came. You can sign up for the “COR & Friends Picnic” and set-up and clean-up on the Ministry Board in the Fellowship Hall. Some of our folks are experts in BBQ and you may want to help them. Maybe you’d like to help with the recreation activities. Sign up for this as well.

**SESSION MEETING in July**

Our Session will be meeting on Monday evening July 16th with Teaching Elder (TE) Pastor Bob, Ruling Elders (REs) Fritz Barnard, Mike Bradley, and Elias Reyes. RE Hal Givens will be in the Midwest visiting supporting churches. Greg Reiff, our Director of Youth Ministry, will be back from the Colorado River and meeting with us as well. We’ll be exploring how to help D. H. Henry (PCA missionary to the Navajo). We’ll be talking about possible new Deacons and their training. Also, we’ll be discussing the Church in mission and how we can mobilize and empower COR for world-changing ministry. Keep your leadership in your prayers.

**COR to Host “The Arizona Presbytery” for August Meetings Thursday & Friday, August 23-24**

Teaching Elders (pastors) and Ruling Elders (lay leadership) from our Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) congregations all over Arizona will be converging on Flagstaff for meetings August 23rd and 24th. The Presbytery meets three times each year to guide the church in accomplishing the mission God has given us. COR and all of our guests are encouraged to gather for dinner at 6:00 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall on Thursday, August 23rd. An inspirational worship service will follow at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We hope many men and women, boys and girls from Church of the Resurrection and the Presbytery. In this new status additional support funds can become available. The Southwest Church Planting Network wants to get behind Oasis and encourage its growth and mission. Keep these meetings in your prayers.

**MUSIC MINISTRY in June**

Our Director of Music Ministry Patty Gross will be spending healing time with her family in Washington (near Seattle) for most of July. Patty’s father passed away several months ago and her mother died in recent weeks. Patty and Butch are traveling to gather with family for mother’s memorial service and to take care of family matters together. Keep Patty and her family in your prayers. And always be praying for Patty’s healing herself as she continues to battle cancer.

We are fortunate to have Brian and Liz Skowronsck serve in leading our worship team for the first four Sundays in July. Brian and Liz are very gifted musically. They met at college in Wisconsin studying music: Liz majored in piano and voice and Brian’s specialty was in the lower brass instruments. They also owned and operated their own music store in Phoenix for a time. Thank you, Brian and Liz for serving COR and putting a song in our hearts as we worship the Lord together. Brian is also a part of the Men’s Support Group and Liz does Prayer Shawl and Women’s Prayer Warriors. They also were enthusiastic volunteers in helping with Vacation Bible School. Thank you! You serve well!