

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

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

Sunday Worship

9:00 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School for Children & Youth

10:45 AM

Nursery Provided at the 2nd Service

Church Office Hours

Monday & Wednesday: 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Friday: 7:30 am—11:30 am

Email:

admin@cor-pca.org

Website:

www.cor-pca.org



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Church of the RESURRECTION

"Where People Come Alive!"

The Spirituality of GRATITUDE THE UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS OF THANKFULNESS

Cultivating an attitude of gratitude is at the heart of true spirituality. Being thankful is not rocket science. Though the topic of gratitude goes as deep as the grace of God, it does not require tough biblical scholarship or advanced degrees to practice it. It just requires obedience.

Richard Foster reflects, "Superficiality is the curse of our age. The doctrine of instant satisfaction is a primary spiritual problem. The desperate need today is not for a greater number of intelligent people, or gifted people, but for deep people." The spirituality of gratitude is going deeper.

Christianity calls for radical gratitude. "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Developing the meditative habit of constantly whispering thanks to Him - no matter the situation - is in fact a mustard seed of life-changing power. Radical, for it goes to the root of who we are. Small, seemingly insignificant, yet it has the power to change our lives and blow our socks off, right in the middle of everyday. When we really give God thanks in everything, we are acknowledging that He is sovereign and that we trust Him. And we find that it changes us.

However, this kind of habitual gratitude is not unique to Christianity. Many religions commend thankfulness. The Internet (1,280,000 hits) encourages practicing gratitude as "self-empowerment" and reminds you that a habit of thankfulness has proven health benefits. In classical Western tradition, the Roman sage Cicero called gratitude not only the greatest of virtues but the parent of all others. Kant said that ingratitude was

the "essence of vileness." In our contentious, uncivil society of today have we lost our grip on civility because we have laid aside the practice of gratitude? In Abraham Lincoln's 1863 *Thanksgiving Proclamation* he observed that in our self-congratulatory prosperity we have forgotten God. God is the Source. We are not. We must humble ourselves before our beneficent Creator.

Ellen Vaughn tells the story... *Years ago there was an incident on the Washington subway system in which a crowded train stalled on an underground track. Harried commuters were beside themselves. No one had been talking with one another, but now they burst into mutual, frenzied spurts of accusations against the driver - as if the situation was under his control - the Metro authorities, the federal government, anyone and everyone they could blame for this vile inconvenience.*

Somewhere in the midst of all this invective, a woman with a number of bulky shopping bags dropped a new bottle of perfume, and it shattered. Within a few minutes, the pure, luxurious fragrance had wafted the length of the crowded car. They sniffed, smiled, and relaxed, laughing with each other. Surprise!

Followers of Jesus have the opportunity, in life's crowded moments when people feel stuck, to be the fragrance of Christ. Instead of following along on the lazy downward spiral of negativity, we can make a purposeful, daily decision responding to our calling to be the grateful one. The vistas of God's great love call us to come and enjoy Him, now and forever. In so doing, we make a difference, practicing the spirituality of gratitude. Gratitude effects *you*, and *others*. Practice it. God's smile will be upon you.

Meet Your Staff



Bob Norton
Pastor
928-699-7592



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Worship Leader
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Brigitte Bradley
Administrative Assistant
928-699-2715

Circle of Sisters

Craft Day - Saturday, November 4, 1 - 4 p.m.

Enjoy gingerbread & cider while working on your crafts in the fellowship of your sisters, from 1 - 4 pm. Come to the Fellowship Hall for the whole afternoon or drop in for as long as you can. *If you don't have a craft*, sign up on the bulletin board, and Trudy will show you how to make a "gratitude" gift.

Women's Ministry HOLIDAY POTLUCK DINNER And ADVENT/CHRISTMAS DECORATING PARTY Wednesday, November 29th, Starting with Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall



This is always a very special event. The dinner is really fun as the women bring their favorite foods to share. Then, the Sanctuary is adorned for Advent and Christmas. When the worshippers gather for Advent services, the Sanctuary is beautifully decorated with lights and greenery. Thank you, ladies for your service. And it's fun for everyone! For more information, contact event coordinator Cathy Jolma (602) 615-0194.



Medical Mission to Sonora, Mexico Nov. 9-12, 2017

Sending medical professionals to minister healing to the sick, \$295.00 per person. This includes transportation, food, lodging and a contribution to the overhead costs of the trip, especially the cost of medicines. For more information contact the FaithWorks Office (928) 774-0504, or the Trip Coordinator Jan Allen (928) 567-0092

New Sermon Series for November "God's Generous People"

Each year our New Consecration Sunday Campaign unfolds the biblical teaching on the stewardship of all of life and the joy of giving. The apostle Paul teaches on giving in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9 and helps us to lay hold of these timeless truths. Remember, there are 500 verses in the Bible on prayer and 500 verses on faith. However, there are over 2,300 verses on our use of wealth for God's purposes. Pastor Bob loves to teach the Bible on stewardship because it sets people free, it liberates people from the vice-like grip of materialism and discontent. Through practicing generosity we are set free by the Spirit of God to a whole new joy in living and giving. Come and enjoy the truth that sets us free!

Sunday, November 5th - *"The Need of the Giver to Give"*
Teaching from 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Sunday, November 12th - *"The Joy of Giving"*
Teaching from 2 Corinthians 8:16 - 9:15

Sunday, November 19th Thanksgiving Sunday -
"The Spirituality of Gratitude"
Teaching from Colossians 3:12-17

Sunday, November 26th - *"Discovering Joy through
Everyday Thankfulness"*
Teaching from Luke 17:11-17 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Ordination Service For New Ruling Elder Michael Bradley Followed by a Congregational Potluck Luncheon Sunday, November 12th

On Sunday, November 12th we will gather for worship at our 10:45 Worship Service and include the Ordination of Mike Bradley. Then, immediately following worship we will celebrate with a potluck luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Mike served as a firefighter for 41 years in Oakland, California and Flagstaff. He served ably as Fire Chief and he brings those administrative and leadership skills to his new role as Ruling Elder at COR. Mike was unanimously elected by congregational vote at our meeting on October 15th. His spiritual gift mix includes leadership, teaching, giving, and discernment. He reflects the gifts and graces revealed in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus and his devotion for Christ is evident to all. His seven month Ruling Elder Internship reflected faithful service to our Lord and His Church. Mike is also married to our very able and charming Administrative Assistant, Brigitte Bradley. Welcome, Mike! And thank you Brigitte for your faithful service, representing Christ and blessing His people!

New Bibles (English Standard Version) Coming to COR

Last month we announced the possibility of purchasing 75-100 new pew Bibles for our congregational use. At Christmas time, the custom has become to purchase gifts for family and friends. Why not purchase gifts for Christ Himself by providing the Word of God for the use of worshippers at COR? Each beautiful and sturdy copy of the English Standard Version will cost \$10 and will carry a name plate indicating the donor and dedication. These Bibles will then go into the chair pockets after consecrating them on Sunday, November 26th, at both morning worship services. The current NIV Bibles will be given to local missions and offered to our homeless men. Would you like to participate in giving to the Lord for the blessing of His people? Sign up forms will be available for Reformation Sunday (October 29th) for your use.

Messy Christmas Family Workshop Intentional Planning for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany Wednesday, November 15th Dinner at 5:30 followed by this Creative, Fun Workshop

Our Youth and their families are invited to come and share a very special evening of food, fun, fellowship and being introduced to a treasure trove of ideas for the celebration of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany. This is the first of several gatherings to intentionally plan and implement meaningful celebrations for our families. Be sure and sign up for the workshop by calling the church office (699-2715) or using the sign-up sheet on the ministry board in the Fellowship Hall. For more information, contact (call or text) Pastor Bob at 699-7592.

People's Pantry Sunday Thanksgiving Sunday, November 19th, at Both Morning Worship Hours

In August we donated 1,054 pounds of food to the People's Pantry inspired and led by our own Sandy Berry. Then, in September we donated 669 pounds of food. This ministry to the poor and hungry of Flagstaff is growing exponentially. The need is great. We were the first church to participate and now six additional churches have stepped up to join in providing food and essential items for hungry families. Now, this month, as an act of Thanksgiving to the Lord, let us try to go over 1,000 pounds again. Maybe, we could even reach 2,000 pounds which would completely fill the People's Pantry van. Wouldn't that be wonderful and pleasing to the Lord!

"Truly, a Privilege and a Joy!" HOSTING the HOMELESS at Church of the Resurrection The Week of November 5th-11th

We are gathering volunteers to help with our Hosting of the Homeless. For several years we have partnered with the Flagstaff Shelter Services to provide safe, warm, comfortable lodging for 15-25 homeless men during the most bitterly cold season of the year. We see this as an expression of the compassion of Christ. Our Lord does not want to see men freezing and dying in the alleys and dumpsters of our city. Volunteers are needed to prepare breakfast, sharing snacks in the evening, and leading enjoyable activities in the evening. We also collect new clean socks, warm jackets, and gloves/mittens to help keep the men warm in these winter months. Would you like to help? Parents, bring your children and help them learn the importance of caring for the poor and needy in our midst. Hear the stories of these men's lives. Many are men of faith going through difficult times. Let's be there for them. Sign up today!



The Band of Brothers MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST Saturday, November 18th, 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall Come and Bring Your Friends!

We sure enjoy gathering monthly for our *Band of Brothers* Men's Prayer Breakfast. A team of volunteers cook a delicious, hearty breakfast. Each man donates to help cover the costs. Then, volunteers clean up and set up for Sunday morning. Friends are always welcome. Spiritual talks are given and the Table Talk is rich. This event is for fun fellowship and spiritual growth. Come and enjoy!

Prayer Shawl Ministry Blesses The Hurting People of Flagstaff and Beyond

Volunteers will be gathering on Saturday, November 18th, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Room to craft prayer shawls for hurting people. The volunteers start with breakfast provided by the Band of Brothers and then share in the congenial fellowship of crocheting and knitting the shawls and knitting their hearts together in Christian love. Come and enjoy. People are so deeply touched by this tangible expression of compassion when they receive their prayer shawls. Do you know someone who could use a prayer shawl? Call the church office (699-2715) and tell of their need.

HARVEST / CONSECRATION SUNDAY Sunday, November 26th at Our 9:00 and 10:45 Worship Services

On Consecration Sunday this year we will be consecrating our Estimate of Giving cards for our ministry in 2018. We will also be consecrating our new ESV Bibles and rededicating ourselves to the Ministry of the Word. Worshippers will also be able to consecrate their Estimates of Giving on Thanksgiving Sunday as an act of Family Dedication and a heartfelt and tangible expression of our thanksgiving. This is our spiritual harvest in devotion to the Lord.

Blessing Children at Christmas in the Name of Jesus Christ Two Ways This Year! The Angel Tree Project and FaithWorks Gifts for Navajo Children

The Angel Tree Project focuses on the children of an incarcerated parent. A dad or mom in prison would love to purchase a gift for their child. Prison Fellowship has discovered that if the Christian community steps up and helps with the gifting and delivery of gifts for these children that families of prisoners are brought closer to Christ. Participants adopt an angel agreeing to purchase and wrap a \$15-\$25 clothing or toy gift for a child. We then gather the gifts on Angel Tree Sunday and pray for the families. We want to bring the whole family into the family of God. This compassionate ministry touches hearts for Christ. Hard hearts become open to God's grace. For more information about this opportunity, contact coordinator Joan Stoner at 853-9827.

For several years we have helped provide gifts for Navajo Children for the FaithWorks Navajo Christmas Mission in Leupp on the reservation. These gifts are clothing or toy or athletic equipment etc. gifts blessing the children in the Name of Christ. The mission happens in early December and the gifts are distributed by a consecrated Santa who loves the Lord with all of his heart and loves the children. Information sheets for appropriate gifts are available at the church.



ANGEL TREE - How it Works

It's simple. Beginning November 5, you can take a tag from the Angel Tree, purchase and wrap the gift, and return the gift to the Church by December 3—in the name of incarcerated parents. Discover the joy of serving a prisoner's family. Please contact Joan Stoner at (928) 853-9827 with any questions. It starts with a gift, and it leads to families restored and lives transformed.