

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

740 W. University Heights Dr. South
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Sunday Worship
10:00 AM

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Flexible Morning Hours

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FaithWorks The Navajo Christmas Mission

December 7, 2019

An early heads up! This year will be the 13th time to celebrate the Christmas Season with our Navajo friends. Please join FaithWorks for an afternoon of food, fellowship, worship and gifts, and/or drop off a wrapped gift with designation (teenage girl/boy, infant, adult man/woman etc.) at COR during the month of November. FaithWorks will pick them up in time for the event. For more information contact the Trip Coordinator Amy Casali at (928) 699-8138 or via email at Tony_Amy@FaithWorks4us.org



Church of the RESURRECTION

"Where People Come Alive!"

THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

LUKE 17:12-19

Bill Griffin tells the story of the leper in Mark 1:40 this way:

"Hello, I'm a leper!" A man popped out from behind a building and stood right in front of Jesus. 'Please don't run away, Jesus!'

"What's the matter with your skin?" asked Jesus.

"Can't You see I'm covered with runny sores and crusty scabs?' No one wants to look at me, my face is so horrible.'

"What do you want Me to do?"

"You can make me better. I know You can," said the man, falling on his knees in front of Jesus. 'If You don't, I'll scratch myself to death.' Jesus felt sorry for the poor man.

"Don't touch me," said the man. 'That's how you get it.'

"I'm not afraid to touch you.' Jesus reached down and took hold of the man's arms and pulled him to his feet. The itching was gone. The sores started to dry. The scabs began to fall off.

"Thank You, thank You, thank You!" shouted the man. 'What can I do to thank You?'

"You can go to the temple, show yourself to a priest and say a prayer of thanks to God.'

"Yes, yes; I will, I will!" promised the man hurrying off.

"One more thing," said Jesus.

"Anything, anything," said the man.

"You don't have to tell anyone what I just did.'

"I won't tell a soul," said the man as he skipped toward Jerusalem; but the man was so happy and the walk to the temple was so long that he forgot and told everyone he met. Then all the other lepers along the road began to look for the wonderful Man with the healing touch." (Calvin Miller, The Family Book of Jesus, Bethany House, 2002.)

The parable tells of the gratitude of a good leper. Good lepers are those who are healed and never forget the disease they once had. They remember how good clean feels. Bad lepers, on the other hand, are those who are healed and go on acting as if they never had the disease. Ninety percent of all the lepers in Luke 17 are ingrates – bad lepers pretending they never met Jesus. What a shame! They were so completely healed

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Meet Your Staff

Latest News:

We welcome
Pastor Joshua
Walker!



Liz Skowronski
**Worship Team
Leader**
623-810-7233



Brigitte Bradley
**Administrative
Assistant**
928-699-2715

Thank you to all our volunteers who have been keeping our church services running smoothly!!

WE WELCOME OUR NEW SENIOR PASTOR JOSHUA WALKER!

Praise be to God! Pastor Josh will start preaching in December and move to Flagstaff in January with his wife Krystle and son Calvin.

Please see the detailed article "Pastoral Search Committee" inside this newsletter.



(continued from page 1)

that there was not a smidgen of their former state of decay left to them. They were so healed, they headed back to the social centers of their communities. These pretenders were free to run for office—any office they might imagine. They were free to return to their former bridge clubs, Kiwanis clubs, golf clubs. Their once former scourge-word-confession, "Unclean!" had been replaced by, "Give me five!" The untouchables were now the embraceable. The infected have become the respected. The isolated tomb-dwellers have become the officers at Toastmasters.

However, for all the joy of their cleansing, we never would have known about them at all, except for the 10 percent of their group who knew the art of gratitude. One of the 10: "when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked Him – and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked a most perplexing question: 'Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to give praise to God except this foreigner?'" (Luke 17:15-18).

Sit at the once eroded feet of a thankful, Gentile leper and learn from him. It is the season of the year for us to come before God with the Old One-Hundredth on our lips and give praise to the Him for all of our abundance. I don't know if all lepers are pictured here to indicate that all praise-less people are in the 90th percentile of the blasé lepers who can receive so much from God and mention it so little. C.S. Lewis said that ancient man approached God out of a strong feeling that he was approaching a judge. "For modern man, the roles are reversed," says Lewis. *Modern man is the judge and God is in the dock* (cited in *A Hunger for Meaning*, InterVarsity Press, 1984, p. 114). Maybe this is why we feel we have no obligation to thank Him. I suspect this is what lies behind the reason we are developing a culture without a sense of thankfulness. For me, our thanklessness smacks of a lazy atheism. Remember, one old

definition of atheist is "someone who sometimes feels gratitude, but has absolutely no one to thank for it!"

There are two sides in the issue of all self-righteous abundance. These two categories are the thankful and the thankless. The thankless tend to act as though they and their circumstances are entirely self-made. The thankful see the providence of God in all they hold. The thankful believe that it is not how much we have or have not in life, but what we see as the source of what we have or don't have that is the real issue.

This Thanksgiving, enter His courts with thanksgiving and enter His gates with praise. "Were there not ten lepers healed? Where are the other nine?" Then answer, "Lord, I do not know where the other nine have gone...I only know I have received healing and not to praise You is a sin I must not condone. I have been loved. I am clean. I must enter Your gates with thanksgiving. I must come into Your courts with praise."

- Ruling Elder Eli Reyes



PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 2019

- November 3 - Elias Reyes
- November 10 - John Kelley
- November 17 - John Kelley
- November 24 - Austin Britton

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Church Family,

The Elders spoke to Pastor Joshua Walker and he has accepted the CALL of the congregation to be our Senior Pastor! Hallelujah! Through reading many candidate applications and hours of listening to sermons, the Pastoral Search Committee was propped up in prayer when we believe that God revealed Pastor Walker as His choice to lead us as a teacher and shepherd. Praise God for His hand in the hiring process!

Pastor Walker is currently living just down the hill in Gilbert, Arizona. He is married to Krystle and has a five year old son, Calvin. Tentatively, he will start preaching in December, and move to Flagstaff in January. Let's all set ourselves up to make their transition to Church of the Resurrection as easy as possible. We can give them a warm welcome during a blustery time of year!

Thanks to all of you who were a part of the hiring process with your prayers and concern. Please continue to support Pastor Walker, his family and the COR family with your prayers. Your support is essential and pleasing to God.

Remember to get the word out that a new pastor is in town. Invite neighbors, friends, co-workers and those you meet in line at the grocery store. The field is ripe, let's harvest.

As Paul instructed Timothy as he was ready to begin his pastoral ministry, to "Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season, correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction." 2 Timothy 4:2

Let's show Pastor Walker our appreciation and support with our individual gifts and talents. We are grateful that he answered God's call to serve us at Church of the Resurrection.

With Christ's Love,
Karen Cooper, Pastoral Search Committee Chair



BELARUS MISSION UPDATE

By Hal & Pam Givens

Our trip to Belarus with KidZ at Heart went so well! Thank you for praying for us. Your prayers were answered: Our flights were on time. Our luggage arrived with us. We stayed healthy. Most importantly, our meetings went well. In fact, the biggest problem was that our attendance went from 60 on Friday to 100 on Saturday. It was difficult to try to catch the new people up and still get in all of Module 2 on the second day.

We met a lot of people and have some new friendships. We learned a lot about Belarus. Like... did you know that they only have 29 all-sunny days a year? And that Minsk was completely destroyed during WWII, and millions of people were killed by the Nazis?

They definitely want us to come back next year and present the next 2 modules. There were two women from Russia who want to talk to us about coming to their town as well. We were blown away by the gratitude they expressed for our coming and teaching.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Belarus as they live out their faith in difficult circumstances. We look forward to going back again next fall to continue the KidZ@Heart training. Maybe you will want to come with us?

