

CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

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

Sunday Worship
10:00 AM

Church Office Hours
Flexible Morning Hours

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Church of the RESURRECTION

"Where People Come Alive!"

The End-Result of Gospel Teaching: Maturity

He [Jesus] is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me. Colossians 1:28, 29

The difference between "admonishing" and "teaching" is that admonishing has in view things that are wrong and call for warning... teaching has to do with the impartation of positive truth. Paul made it his business to instruct people, as well as to exhort them. **Admonishment, exhortation and warning are of little use where there is no sound instruction and a careful fostering of the Truth of the Gospel.** Paul not only preached Christ, but he also "taught Christ," for in Christ are "all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3). It was not necessary to introduce a new teaching, for all that a believer needs to know (and needs) is found in Christ. In 2 Peter the apostle wrote: "For His divine power has bestowed upon us all things that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (*virtue*). By means of these He has bestowed on us His precious and exceedingly great

promises, so that through them you may escape [*by flight*] from the moral decay (*rottenness and corruption*) that is in the world because of covetousness (*lust and greed*), and become sharers (*partakers*) of the divine nature." (2 Peter 1:3, 4 AMPC).

Paul does not proclaim politics, philosophy, a system of theology, or a theory of knowledge. He didn't preach himself, his opinions, even lots of entertaining stories or illustrations. He preached Jesus. He proclaimed a Person because Christianity is Christ. We too are called to testify of our risen Lord (Acts 1:8, "my witnesses"). Writing to the Corinthians Paul reminded them of the main message of the Christ declaring "*we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles foolishness but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*" (1Cor 1:23, 24).

According to the text Paul said: "To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me." Why was this important to Paul? Something had to beat in Paul's heart to drive him to proclaim the Gospel

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FaithWorks Medical Supply Mission to Agua Prieta, Mexico

FW's 54th Mission to Mexico! A team of up to 10 people bring donated supplies and equipment such as wheelchairs, crutches, canes, reading glasses etc. to the poorest of the poor. Cost will be \$195 per person for the 3 days. Transportation, food, lodging and a contribution to the overhead costs of the trip are included.

For more information contact the Trip Coordinator Amy Casali at (928) 699-8138 or via email at
Tony_Amy@
FaithWorks4us.org

FOREIGN INVASION: SCOTTISH THISTLE ON COR CHURCH GROUND

*All "Hands on Deck" for Church Cleanup Day
September 8, 9 a.m. - noon*

If you are a subscriber of the local newspaper, you may have read about the invasion of the Scottish Thistle, a non-native plant that is trying to make Flagstaff its extended home. Unfortunately, this invasive plant has spread far and wide over our church grounds.

Before going on his more than well-deserved vacation, our Deacon Chuck Thomsen worked tirelessly on digging up older plants and new growth - but it is a daunting task for just one man. Therefore, our fall Church Cleanup Day is not just dedicated to beautifying our church inside and out, but also to halt the march of the Scottish Thistle. If you are able, bring some gloves and a shovel. As the saying goes: More hands (shovels...) make for light work!

Meet Your Staff

COR will be blessed with guest pastors, until we have identified the Pastor who God has already chosen for us.



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



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

We are grateful for our volunteers who lead or take part in various ministries!

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so strenuously with all the energy Christ so powerfully worked in him to the people he encountered everywhere he went. The text gives us the answer... "so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ." (Col. 1:28b).

Nothing has impressed me more in recent years than this: if I were only more intimately and sensitively familiar with God's Word; if I had read and studied it more, weighed its meaning and applied its truth to my own life more – how much more useful my service in the kingdom of God would have been! In witnessing, my words would have been more faithful; in counseling, I would have been better able to reach into people's deepest and most hidden needs with the help of the Holy Spirit; in personal holiness, I would have been more conformed to the image of my Savior Jesus Christ. I would have seen more of the answer to His prayer for me: "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth" (Jn. 17:17).

Spiritual maturity was the end-result of the Apostle Paul's ministry. It lay at the nerve center of New Testament Christianity. What about us? Is bringing others to maturity our great goal? Do we long to present them mature in Christ? Do we labor for that, struggling with all the energy of God that works powerfully in us (Col. 1:28, 29)? That will be true only if maturity is one of the goals of our own Christian lives. That is where we need to start. And, if we have not started, or, having started have fallen by the way, there is no time like the present for us to pay attention to the exhortation of God's Word: "Let us – go on to maturity" (Heb. 6:1)

The only thing that counts, according to Paul, is being like Jesus (maturity). Are you growing more and more like Him? Then you are maturing as a Christian. But then and only then.

Elias R. Reyes
Ruling Elder; Oasis of Hope Ministries

PREACHING SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

- September 1 - Ruling Elder Eli R. Reyes
September 8 - Ruling Elder Eli R. Reyes
September 15 - Guest PCA Pastor Kelly Hand
September 22 - Ruling Elder Hal Givens
September 29 - Ruling Elder Hal Givens

Please keep these men in your prayers as they faithfully and powerfully proclaim the life-changing, ever-living Word of God... to God's people.

JOIN US FOR ANOTHER CHURCH PICNIC!

September 8, Pine Canyon Ramada

By Janie Stanford, Hospitality Coordinator



We had such a good time last month... it was fun to laugh together at the Ramada at Pine Canyon... everyone seemed to enjoy the good food on the potluck table... the fishing wasn't the best, but it was challenging... and the singing was hilarious! And isn't it good when we can get together as a church family and just enjoy one another. ... Sooo... we're going to have another picnic on Sunday, September 8, 4 pm at the Pine Canyon Ramada, 1201 E. John Wesley Powell.

The church is furnishing hamburgers, hot dogs, buns and drinks. Will you please bring a side dish that will compliment that menu? Of course, desserts are welcome... Dieters will just have to abstain.

For those who wish, there will be basket for donations for the food provided.

Looking forward to the Church Picnic,
September 8!

WHAT IS THE PCA "CONSTITUTION?"

by Mike Bradley, Ruling Elder

Our Constitution consists of two documents: The *Westminster Confession of Faith* (along with its *Shorter and Larger Catechisms*) and *The Book of Church Order*. Of course, the **Bible** takes precedence over either of these documents.

The *Westminster Confession of Faith* is a systematic exposition of our theology and beliefs. It was first written in 1647 by an assembly of 151 theologians. The document addresses doctrines such as the Trinity, the sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus, and other key issues involving our beliefs. The *Westminster Confession of Faith* is used by other Reformed denominations, and adaptations of it are used by Baptists and Congregationalists.

The *Book of Church Order* is similar to a policy manual that might be utilized in other organizations. It is comprised of the following sections: Form of Government, Rules of Discipline, and the Directory of Worship. It describes how we go about doing the business of the church. It covers everything from the ordination of Elders and Deacons to the major elements of how to conduct worship.

Both of these documents can be ordered from the PCA Book Store, or you can also find them on-line for free.



PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

As of press time of this newsletter, the church office has not received any additional news from the Pastoral Search Committee. It is our understanding, that they are identifying potential candidates and conducting preliminary interviews via Skype.

Please continue to pray for our Search Committee to move forward in a spirit-filled and efficient way, according to God's ultimate plan.

TERRIFIC TUESDAYS

Starting Tuesday, September 3, 2019
7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Six weeks of inductive Bible study for adults at Church of The Resurrection. The intent of these classes is Spiritual Formation. To help facilitate this goal of knowing God better (John 17:3) and growing more like his Son (2 Peter 3:18), these classes will give you an opportunity to practice what you are reading, and this in turn will help you to "internalize" what you are reading and will increase your retention and your confidence to apply these techniques in your daily time with God in His Word.

You will increasingly experience the joy of self-discovery of precious nuggets of Truth. You will also be pleasantly surprised to discover that through an inductive study of God's Word the Holy Spirit pricks your heart to believe and obey the truth He has just illuminated in each class. As A. W. Tozer put it "*Whatever keeps me from my Bible is my enemy, however harmless it may appear to me.*"

Supplies needed: a notebook, a writing instrument, your favorite Bible translation, and a desire to learn and grow

Teacher(s): The Holy Spirit & Eli Reyes

Warning: Inductive Bible study can be habit-forming. Putting the principles into practice can cause loss of anxiety, decreased appetite for lying, cheating, stealing, hating and "symptoms" of growing sensations of love, peace, joy and compassion.