

Amazing Grace Christian Church
7310 W. Camelback Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85301



DECEMBER 2018---Newsletter

Luke 1:69-70 ⁶⁹ *He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David* ⁷⁰ *(as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),*

Friends, I have always enjoyed Christmas! I love the decorations, trees, colored lights, Christmas music, food, family, friends, and especially the Spirit of Christmas. Generally, people just seem to be friendlier. I will never forget the new meaning Christmas had for me the first year I quit drinking and started reading my Bible. **The Spirit of Christmas (the Holy Spirit)** overwhelmed me with the understanding that God put on flesh in the person of Jesus to save us (which even included me). Oh, what unconditional love and grace was poured out for me. Such love required a response! The only appropriate response is a life surrendered to **Jesus the Christ, God-in-Flesh**. As the Spirit grasped me in the Word, I had a burning desire for all people to really understand the meaning of Christmas. I wanted them to know that the King of Kings left His throne in heaven to become a baby in a manger just to live in relationship with us. How can we trivialize such an event? How can we deny that it (the Virgin birth) happened? How can we say that there are other ways to know God? I wanted to scream, "**Folks, God is here now in Jesus! Please accept Him. Please accept this wonderful gift of grace!**" Over the years, my passion for Jesus has not diminished, but it seems our culture has aggressively sought to diminish Jesus and His miraculous coming 2,000 years ago. At times I am shocked and speechless at the lack of faith in our world and outright hostility toward our Jesus who came from heaven to earth to save us from *ourselves*. The world continually strives to remove Christ from Christmas and labels us who know the truth as naïve fanatics. Friends, how do we approach and overcome such an onslaught? We overcome this falsehood by praying, reading our Bibles, worshipping more than once a week, attending Bible study, by being generous, and by **constantly receiving more of the HOLY SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS!** It is the Holy Spirit in us who will create or restore our passion for Jesus and Christmas. Brothers and sisters, when the Spirit fills us we overcome all of the anti-Christ sentiments with **peace, love, and joy!** Please make time to worship at our mid-week studies and services as well as on Sundays during this Christmas season. You will find your hearts strangely warmed over our newborn King.

Love & Peace,

Pastor Rick

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DICIEMBRE 2018---Noticias



Lucas 1: 69-70 ⁶⁹ Él nos levantó un cuerno de salvación en la casa de su siervo David ⁷⁰ (como dijo a través de sus santos profetas de hace mucho tiempo).

Amigos, siempre he disfrutado la navidad! Me encantan las decoraciones, los árboles, las luces de colores, la música navideña, la comida, la familia, los amigos y, especialmente, el Espíritu de la Navidad. En general, la gente parece ser más amigable. Nunca olvidaré el nuevo significado que la Navidad tuvo para mí el primer año que dejé de beber y comencé a leer mi Biblia. **El Espíritu de Navidad (el Espíritu Santo)** me abrumó con el entendimiento de que Dios se hizo carne en la persona de Jesús para salvarnos (que incluso me incluyó). Oh, qué amor y gracia incondicionales se derramaron para mí. ¡Tal amor requería una respuesta! La única respuesta apropiada es una vida entregada a **Jesucristo, Dios en carne**. Cuando el Espíritu me atrapó en la Palabra, sentí un deseo ardiente de que todas las personas entendieran realmente el significado de la Navidad. Quería que supieran que el Rey de reyes dejó su trono en el cielo para convertirse en un bebé en un pesebre solo para vivir en relación con nosotros. ¿Cómo podemos trivializar tal evento? ¿Cómo podemos negar que sucedió (el nacimiento de la Virgen)? ¿Cómo podemos decir que hay otras maneras de conocer a Dios? Quería gritar: **"Amigos, ¡Dios está aquí ahora en Jesús! Por favor acéptalo. ¡Por favor acepte este maravilloso regalo de la gracia!"** Entre los años, mi pasión por Jesús no ha disminuido, pero parece que nuestra cultura ha buscado agresivamente disminuir a Jesús y su milagrosa venida hace 2,000 años. A veces me sorprende y me quedo sin palabras ante la falta de fe en nuestro mundo y la hostilidad abierta hacia nuestro Jesús que vino del cielo a la tierra para salvarnos de nosotros mismos. El mundo se esfuerza continuamente para eliminar a Cristo de la Navidad y nos etiqueta de que sabemos la verdad como fanáticos ingenuos. Amigos, ¿cómo nos acercamos y superamos el ataque? Superamos esta falsedad orando, leyendo nuestras Biblias, adorando más de una vez por semana, asistiendo al estudio de la Biblia, siendo generosos y **recibiendo constantemente más del ESPÍRITU SANTO DE LA NAVIDAD**. Es el Espíritu Santo en nosotros quien creará o restaurará nuestra pasión por Jesús y la Navidad. Hermanos y hermanas, cuando el Espíritu nos llena, vencemos todos los sentimientos del anticristo con **paz, amor y alegría**. Por favor tómese un tiempo para adorar en nuestros estudios y servicios a mitad de semana, así como los domingos durante esta temporada de Navidad. Encontrarás tus corazones extrañamente calentados sobre nuestro Rey recién nacido.

Ama la paz,
Pastor Rick

Stay Connected with AG

BUBBA'S BREAKFAST



Monthly Men's breakfast!
First Saturday of the month @ 8am.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST



Second Saturday of the month.
8:30 am to 10:30 am.

PRAYER MEETINGS



Every Monday at 4pm
are together in Jesus' name, there he is...
Join us in our prayer meeting and feel
the presence of the Lord!

FREE COMMUNITY MEAL



Take a break from cooking and
at the church, for a free meal,
from 5:00 pm- 6:00 pm .

CELEBRATE RECOVERY



Join us every Tuesday at 7:00 PM
Bring your sorrows!!! Bring Your pain!!!
Bring your shame!!!

YOUTH GROUP



Youth group meets every 2nd & 4th
Sunday at 10:30 AM

CARE CENTER MINISTRY



Sunday at 1:30pm
Pacifica Care Center
Service by Shannon Owsley
and Cathy Gardner

JAIL MINISTRY



Monday	5 PM	Women's Mosaic
	6 PM	Men's Mosaic
Wednesday	5 PM	Men's Towers
Thursday	5 PM	Women's Estrella
	7 PM	Women's Estrella
Friday	6 PM	Men's Lower Buckeye SP.
Saturday	11:00 AM	Women Estrella
	2:00 PM	Women Estrella SP.
	2:00 PM	Men's Durango
	3:30 PM	Men's Durango SP.

Jail Ministry:

Pastor Rick Bezanson
Cecelia Stevenson
Greg Erdmann

Pastor Perry Kopatz
Sandi Strom
Mary Wong

Pastor Robyn Bezanson
Bill Thompson
Sharon Maddox

Annette Valverde
Hector De Los Santos

ODDS & ENDS

TIME WITH PASTORS

Sundays are very busy and several people come up to pastors to talk. Please do not ask for an appointment with them on a Sunday morning (they don't have their calendars with them). Instead, call their cell phone on Monday. Also, please choose another day to register your complaints about anything and let our pastors focus on their message and prayer.



MARRIAGE MATTERS

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT MARRIAGE!

Friends, Pastor Perry and I have considered the financial situation of many in our congregation, and felt moved to pay for marriage licenses for those who can't afford them. We are also offering to do a WEDDING BEFORE –THE –WEDDING. This consists of a private ceremony with the pastors (and a marriage license) before you have your large church wedding. Your pastors believe in the sanctity of marriage and encourage you to follow God's way pertaining to marriage and family. If you have any question, please, contact one of us.

IMPORTANTE MENSAJE SOBRE EL MATRIMONIO!

Amigos, el Pastor Perry y yo hemos considerado la situación financier de muchos de los miembros de nuestra congregacion y nos sentimos movidos a pagar por las licencias de matrimonio para apuellos que no puede pagar. Tambien estamos oferciendo hacer una BODA-ANTES- DE- LA – BODA.

Esta consite en una ceremonia privada con los pastores (y una licencia de matrimonio) antes que ustedes tengan la gran boda religiosa. Sus pastores creen en la santidad del matrimonio y los animan a seguir los caminos de Dios, con lo que concierne al matrimonio y familia. Si tienen alguna preguntata, no duden en contactarnos.

SUGGESTION BOX

Please, feel free to share ideas, volunteer your time or talents, get a call back from one of our council members. The box is located in the sanctuary on the back table.

COMMUNION

Would you like to donate wine/juice for communion? We use white grape juice (any brand) and Mogan David or Manishevitz concord wine. One bottle of each usually lasts for a month. If you would like to donate either, or both, please sign up on the chart on the bulletin board. The Altar Guild thanks you!

NEWSLETTER

If you have something you want put in the newsletter, or have an idea for an article or the Inspiration Corner, email us at agchurch7310@yahoo.com

FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS

We are currently enrolled in the Fry's Community Rewards Program. Every year Fry's Foods donates money to several non-profit organizations. In order to further our efforts, please register your Fry's VIP card and use it every time you shop. A portion of your purchase is donated to Amazing Grace. Please encourage friends and family to register their VIP card as well (you can register with your alternate ID). The registration process is very fast and easy, please follow the steps below, our organization code is FQ019. If you don't have a computer or access to internet, Robert and I will assist with the registration. God bless you all!!!



Actualmente estamos inscritos en el Programa de Recompensas Comunitarias de Fry. Cada año Fry's Foods dona dinero a varias organizaciones sin fines de lucro. Con el fin de continuar nuestros esfuerzos, por favor, registrar la tarjeta VIP de Fry y usarla cada vez que haga compras. Una parte de su compra es donada a Amazing Grace. Por favor anime a sus amigos y familiares a registrar su tarjeta VIP también (puede registrarse con su ID alternativa). El proceso de registro es muy rápido y fácil, por favor siga los pasos a continuación, nuestro código de organización es 71900. Si no tiene una computadora o acceso a Internet, Robert y yo le ayudaremos con el registro.

¡¡¡ Dios los bendiga a todos!!!



*Birthdays
of the Month*

NAME	DATE
Omar Cano	12/03
Angel Reyes	12/03
Michael Gardner	12/04
Anthony Maddox	12/04
Guadalupe Cano-Vasquez	12/10
Ian Reyes-Letcher	12/10
Sharon Maddox	12/11
Samuel Davis	12/11
Leticia Reyes	12/14
Cheryl Devoss	12/15
Vanessa Miranda-Gonzales	12/16
David Johnson	12/19
Cyndi McCurley	12/19
Robert Lorenzano	12/20
Melissa Davis	12/26
Juanita Reyes	12/27
Dorothy Nelmark	12/28
Sara Lorenzano	12/29

ANNOUNCEMENT:

If you need offering/tithe envelopes, please see Paula Berkshire.

Pastor Contact Information:

*Pastor Rick Bezanson Cell: 602-320-4728

E-mail: bezanson1@cox.net

Off on Fridays

*Associate Pastor Perry Kopatz Cell: 602-618-7129

E-mail: micah7pk@yahoo.com

Off on Saturdays

*Associate Pastor Robyn Bezanson Cell: 602-320-4767

E-mail: bezanson2@cox.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

SEE US AT: www.Grace-Happens.org



Amazing Grace has a wonderful Youth Group! All youth 12-17 years old are welcome. If you love pizza, we invite you to join us on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. The more the merrier.

We are eight members strong and growing. Robert and I are committed to guiding and encouraging the youth to learn about Jesus, and to apply this knowledge in their everyday lives. We offer a safe place for the youth to be themselves, share God's love, and explore their faith with friends and people who care. Our core objectives are learning about the bible, worshiping, and being of service to our community. We have been blessed to attend two major Christian Concerts, clean apartments for a Women's Shelter, and prepare this year's Easter Egg Hunt.

In His Love, Cathy Gardner & Robert Lorenzano

