



A Fresh Start

As a student, I always looked forward to the start of a new school year. But not for the reasons you might think. I didn't win any popularity contests, and no one would have accused me of being a scholar. No, I looked forward to each new year because it brought with it the opportunity for a fresh start. I could put the successes and failures behind me and embrace tabula rasa status.

As great as this fresh start was, it is nothing compared to the fresh start that we are afforded because of Christ. Through Him, God provides us the opportunity to try again. I believe scripture bears out the fact that not only does he provide it, but it brings him joy to do so! Isaiah 43:18-19

"Remember not the former things, nor consider things of old. Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert..."

Does God's mercy grant us a license to sin? Of course not (Rom. 6:1ff). But it does afford us a fresh start. We can be eternally thankful for God's grace and mercy that was extended to us on the cross. So, what about this fresh start...how do we go about making the best of it? There are a few things to remember...

1. Identify the pain or problem. Understanding our own strengths and weaknesses is key to spiritual growth. What is it that has held us back and what can we do to overcome it? Self-examination is the best way to reveal the truth about ourselves to ourselves.
2. Understand it's all about God. All too often we try to do it on our own. The problem is we can't. It is impossible. What we need to focus upon is what God is doing in our lives and let him work!
3. Release the past. Excessive dwelling upon past success and failures is a sure way to kill a fresh start. Let the successes of the past give us encouragement but not cause us to "rest on our laurels". Learn a lesson from past failures, but don't allow them to cause worry, fear or anxiety.

--Jason

we have children's programs available during our worship service

- An **Attended Nursery** is available for infants (1-2 years) in Room 101.
- A **Training Room** for infants and nursing mothers is also provided at the back of the auditorium.
- Toddlers Bible Hour (TBH)** is offered for all children 2-3 years old, begins after communion in Room 103.
- Children's Bible Hour (CBH)** for children ages 4 - 4th grade, begins after communion upstairs in Room 221.

teen news:

DEVO – Today – hosted by the Obert's @ 5pm

Food and drinks provided - bring \$3 per person, maps are available at the youth board.

GRITS n GUYS – Sunday, August 22nd @ 5pm in the youth center

MYG guys conduct pm worship – Sunday, August 29th @ 5pm

Parent Meeting and LTC kick-off – Sunday, August 29th- following the am worship service

All children and parents of children going into the 3rd through 12th grades in the fall are encouraged to attend. Please bring a finger-food dish (enough for your family and a few others) to share. Drinks and dessert will be provided. We will meet for lunch and the meeting immediately following the morning worship service in the fellowship hall.

Save the Date:

Faith and Family Night at the D-Backs Game – Friday, September 24th

Infield reserve seats are \$10 per person. Sign up at the welcome desk no later than Sunday, August 29th if you want to purchase tickets with the group. Payment is due to the church office by Sunday, September 5th. Make checks payable to Mesa Church of Christ. We will distribute the tickets prior to the game, and meet at our seats on the night of the game. First pitch is set for 6:40 pm. A concert with Jeremy Camp will follow the game.



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Office Hours: Mon.-Thur. (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)*

Fri. (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)*

*Jason out of office on Monday; Terry out of office on Thursday;

Jesús out of office on Friday



Vol. 67 No. 33

August 15, 2010

Worship Leader: Ryan Hilton

Welcome/Prayer: Brent Jameson

Song 469 "Faith Is the Victory"

Song 410 "He Leadeth Me"

Song 452 "Standing on the Promises"

Song 679 "'Tis So Sweet..."

Song 332 "Lead Me to Calvary"

Communion/Contribution: Steve Hubbard

Song 560 "Living By Faith"

Scripture Reading: Bruce Erno
(2 Cor. 5:1-5)

Sermon: Terry Singleton
"Walk by Faith"

Song 904 "Have You Been to Jesus?"

Responses

Song 539 "Higher Ground"

Closing Prayer: Kevin Hubby

God's Arrangements

God has arranged many things throughout history. All the things that have happened are not just random accidents the same way the world was not created by a random accident. While God may not direct every tiny detail of everything there are times when the detail is incredible. The way that things are arranged at just the right time makes us aware that God has his hand in our lives.

How does it not rain all the time Noah is building an ark and then within a week of the ark being finished and loaded, rain enough to flood the world? How does a plague occur right after Pharaoh had decided not to let Israel go out of Egypt? How does a plague stop as soon as Pharaoh decides to let Israel go and it happens 10 times in a row? Battles are won or lost based on God's agenda. Nations rise to power because God raises them and sends others to captivity for specific periods to time exactly as he said through his prophets.

God visits specific people with instructions. He gives others visions or sends angels with a message. He has given his word to us through apostles and prophets. It has even been collected into a convenient book that comes in all colors and sizes as well as on all our electronic devices. We have no excuse for not knowing what he said.

However it is the same as all the other things we should know. It was always a challenge to know how to program the VCR. It is still a challenge to know why our blue ray player wants internet access when all we wanted was to watch a movie. It should be simple, we pushed the button and now it won't work. If we are confused about electronic media we can ask an expert; they are called teenagers. Can they ask us what a scripture means or how to live as a Christian?

Do we see God working in our life now? Can we see the things he does all around us and the opportunities he gives us? Jesus needed to borrow a donkey. Jesus needed someone to carry his cross. What does God need from us right now? Is there something we have that we can use for God?

Terry

Welcome to the Mesa Family

We are so glad that you are here today! We have been praying that God would allow us to meet you today and worship together. You are an answer to our prayer! If you are visiting from the area, we would love to have you as part of our family!

our lessons for today

morning: "Walk by Faith" (Terry Singleton)

afternoon: "A Reason to Boast" (Terry Singleton)

¿habla español?

tenemos servicios en español en el salón de actividades
Predicador: Jesús Rodríguez

VISITORS

Please consider yourself our honored guest. We are glad you have come our way and invite you to return any time you can. We encourage you to fill out a visitors' card so we have a record of your visit. There are a number of people in our congregation who would love to study the Bible with you if you so desire. Please come back to worship with us at any and every opportunity you have.

Time of Prayer

The elders meet with the ministers each Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in Room 105 for a time of prayer. They would like to invite anyone who would like to join them for this.

Any Soldier Update

To date Mesa Church of Christ has sent out 39 boxes containing 199 pairs of socks (which were greatly needed), protein products, hygiene items, snack foods, writing materials, drink mixes, sunscreen, foot care items, and many other items...not to forget over 130 cards and letters!

There is a new updated board out in the foyer with new pictures of Bravo Company, a thank you note and new additional thank you notes for us to send them. Please remember Warren, his unit and all of our military personnel in your prayers. Thank you, David & Sarah Woodrow, Debbie Suazo and Terri Smith (Any Soldier coordinators.)

Teachers Needed

Ken Watkins is looking for a few teachers for the upcoming quarter. He needs a Cradle and 2 & 3 Year Old teacher for Wednesday evenings beginning September 1st and a Cradle Teacher for Sunday morning beginning September 5th. If you could fill one of these positions, please speak to Ken asap!

Attention Ladies

Do you ever wonder where your joy went? Would you like the first impression people have of you is that you are filled with the joy of the Lord? Come to Wednesday night ladies' Bible class beginning September 1st to explore together the message of joy God reveals to Paul in the book of Philippians. Joy is a fruit of the holy Spirit, so let's reap a great harvest this fall quarter. Nancy Singleton will be leading this study!

Check out the Bulletin Board

Merel and Rosemary Green sent some pictures and an anniversary announcement from the paper. They are on the board in the foyer!

Pantry

The pantry is quite bare and this is the season when we get a great number of requests for food assistance! Boxes of cereal, cans of corn and/or beans, Ramen noodles, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, canned tuna, rice, dry beans, powdered laundry soap and hand soap are our main staple items for the bags. Donations for these can be placed in the foyer or cash donations to purchase items can be given to Santiago Yañez.



D-Backs Game!

The annual D-Backs Faith and Family Night at the ballpark is coming up! Infield reserve tickets are \$10.00 per person. Please indicate your name and the number of tickets you want on the form in the welcome center. Deadline to sign-up for the group tickets is Sunday, August 29th. Payment is due by Sunday, September 5th to the church office. We will distribute tickets the week prior to the game and meet at our seats on the night of the game. Please make checks payable to Mesa Church of Christ.

Attention Parents

All children and parents of children going into the 3rd through 12th grades in the fall are encouraged to attend a parent meeting and LTC kickoff in the Fellowship Hall following the a.m. worship service on August 29th. Please bring a finger-food dish (enough for your family and a few others) to share. Drinks and dessert will be provided.

Voter Guides

Non-partisan voter guides for the upcoming primaries are available at the Welcome Center. There were a limited number sent to us so if you have internet available, please go online to azvoterguide.com to read this material and leave the copies for those who do not have access online.

Transitions/Directory

Phone: Bruce & Cheryl England. New house phone number effective on August 18th.

CBBC Retreats

Saturday, August 28th, is the date for the annual Senior Saints Retreat at Copper Basin Bible Camp. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and \$10 covers a continental breakfast and lunch.

September 10th and 11th are the dates for this year's Fall Women's Retreat.

September 24th and 25th is the annual Men's Retreat. Wyane Atkinson, pulpit minister of the Northwest Church of Christ, will be the featured speaker and his topic is Reclaiming the Church for Men. Cost is \$25. Cost includes Bud Harper's famous Cowboy Steak Dinner on Saturday!

Registration forms and additional details for all of these are available at the Welcome Center.

Project LOVE

Mark your calendars for September 11th for the annual pancake breakfast and family day kick off for the new year! Details will be coming soon.

Bread Available

We receive a number of donations of bread for pantry bags and those who can use it. Check the freezer if you need some!

Chris & Tracy Heath

together with their parents
request the honor of your presence
at a reception celebrating
their marriage
on Saturday, the fourth of September
Two thousand and ten
From two to four in the afternoon.
Mesa Church of Christ
Fellowship Hall
1223 E Dana Avenue
Mesa, AZ 85204

Tracy & Chris are registered at
Target & Bed, Bath & Beyond



Communion Preparation

Jorge & Candice Oviedo are scheduled to prepare communion for Sunday, August 22nd.

Nursery Helpers

Meg Camp and Sugeely Villaman will serve in the Nursery today. Cathy Erno and Luz Delia Hernandez will serve next Sunday, August 22nd.

Bible Hour Leaders

TBH LEADERS: Today: Brian and Shannon Black assisted by Jessica and Alexis Wilson. Next week: Maria and Evelyn Navarro assisted by Susan and Cindy Fernandez. CBH LEADERS: Today: Keith & Sheryl Wilson assisted by Donna and Heather Glaser, Serina Rossman and Kelsey Mo. Next week: Keith & Sheryl Wilson assisted by Donna and Heather Glaser and Gaby and Emil Rodriguez.

August Greeters & Welcome Center

WELCOME CENTER (Bible Class): Tom & Lynnita Knoch
WELCOME CENTER (Worship): Pam Smith and Jana Church
GREETERS (Prior to and beginning of Class): Roshelle Barnes and Wendy Hubby
GREETERS (Prior to and beginning of worship): Kim and Renda Clark

Communion to Shut-In Members

Today: Danny Church and Wilburn Ivy
Next Sunday: Kevin Hubby and Bill Archer

Wednesday Assignments

Worship Leader: Jack Farr

Sympathy

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Cory & Danielle Martin in the passing of their wife and mother, Sue Martin. A memorial service honoring Sue's life will be held here at the building at 11 a.m. next Saturday, August 21st.

Deacon Spotlight--Jim Bolton

This week we are spotlighting James (Jim) Bolton, our deacon over the sound room and audio systems. Jim is a native Arizonan--born at St. Joe's Hospital in Phoenix. He and his wife Vickie (also a native Arizonan) have 3 children--Jason, Angela and Rebekah Campa and 4 grandchildren--Ethan, Luke, Kennedy and Collin. Jim has a BS from ASU and a Masters in Quality Management and works as an Electronic Engineer-Systems Engineer. He enjoys flying as a private pilot and fixing things. Jim says that his favorite Bible Verse is John 20:31 because, "The Bible is everything we need to know for salvation!" Jim is always in need of people to assist with the slide presentations in the sound room--no experience necessary--he is a great teacher!



Calendar

August

17 Hal & Ann Nichols 52nd Anniv.
19 Q-Bees
21 Widows' Luncheon
24 Voting in Annex
26 Q-Bees
29 MYG Parent Mtg./LTC Kick off
29 Ken & Virginia Davidson 61st Anniv.

September

2 Q-Bees
4 Heath Reception
6 Labor Day (Office Closed)
9 Q-Bees
11 Project LOVE Breakfast
16 Q-Bees
19 Project LOVE

Praise and Prayers

new and critical problems

Tracy Bouley..... Gall Bladder Surgery recovery
Natalie & Mariah Bouley..... Test results 8/16
Wanda Johnson..... Praise! Home
Martin Family..... Death of Sue
Brian Peterson..... Rotator Cuff surgery recovery
Doris Schrubbe..... Praise! Home
Margaret Treat (mom of Penny Sartin)..... Health

continued prayers

Daniel Archer (Bill & Anita's son)..... Military
Berry Becknel..... Ankle recovery
John Blake..... Cancer follow-up
Esther Bowman..... Parkinson's
Violet Burrell..... Skin Cancer
Donna Camp..... Health
Michael Forrest..... Health
Rose Fox..... Health
Ed Hanzuk (Steve's Dad)..... Health
Chris Heath..... Military
Jacqueline Henderson..... Health
Jim & Mary Hughes..... Health
Anna Lou Hyder (B.Waite's Mom)..... Health
Joe Johnson..... Health
Joanne Johnson (T. Carter's Sister)..... Needs kidney transplant
Ruth May..... Health
Sandy Merrill (L. Meda's Mom)..... Heart recovery
Gary Miller (N. Miller's son)..... Parkinsons
Nancy Norris (Ruth's Sister)..... Diabetes/kidney dialysis
Kaye Pierce..... Health
Deb Piercy (Joan's daughter)..... Health
Jerry & Jean Roberson..... Health
Maria Saravia (H.Dawson's Mom)..... Brain Tumor
Tracy Schoen..... Health
Gil Slifer..... Health
Linda Slifer (sister-in-law of Gil)..... Cancer
Bobby & Pat Vaughn..... Health
Michelle Vaughn (Bobby & Pat's daughter-in-law)..... Brain tumor
Becky Waite..... Health
Phillip Wallers (Richard & Colysta's G'son)..... Military
Warren Woodrow..... Military

mission prayers

Missionaries
Local Outreach
Team in Southeast Asia (Ken & Jean Fox/John & Betty Breeden)
Amy Stoll (Praise! She returned safely from Haiti this past week)

Our Meeting Times

Bible Class.....9:30am
Worship..... 10:30am
Family Circles.....5:00pm
Worship.....5:00pm
Wednesday Class.....7:00pm

Attendance & Offering

Sunday Worship: 409
Wednesday: 185
Budget: \$8,700
Giving: \$6,272
Average: \$8,452