

COUNTRYSIDE NEWS

Feb 2016

The Journey to the Cross

“Come, Follow Me.”

During Christmas, we celebrated the birth of Christ—the time when God came and dwelt among us. But his coming led to his death. During the season of Lent, we will remember our own failings and weaknesses with the assurance that though we cannot save ourselves, there is one who can save us. We will journey with Christ to the cross in our services together:

Easter Week Services:

- Palm Sunday, March 20—We remember the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and we also remember how quickly our lives can go from victory to defeat.
- Seder Meal, March 24th, 6pm. We will celebrate a Christian Passover meal together, through food, Scripture, and song.
- Good Friday service, March 25th, 6pm. We will walk through Christ's journey to the cross.
- Easter Sunday, March 27th—We will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior together!

*“The light shines in
the darkness and the
darkness has not
overcome it.”*

- John 1:5



A great headline for our church! This article appeared last Easter in the Warrensburg paper.

In This Issue

- Ash Wednesday Service Info
- Lent: A Season of Fasting
- Countryside's 65th Anniversary!
- Upcoming Events

Pastors' Corner

Lent is one of my favorite seasons. (I know I said that about Advent too!) One of my favorite parts of Lent is the way it corresponds to the seasons. There is something powerful about celebrating the resurrection of Jesus—new life out of death—just as color is starting to return to the world around us. The sprouts coming from the ground, the buds appearing on trees, the flowers starting to bloom—during this season we cannot escape from the promise of new life!

But the season of Lent doesn't begin in the spring. It begins in the winter, when there is often snow still on the ground, when the days are still dark and cold. When we begin this season, we begin in faith that though death surrounds us, new life is coming soon—both in the natural world and in the spiritual world. During this season, we make a powerful statement of faith that “though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day” (2 Cor. 4:16).

In my personal life, I like to think of Lent as a chance to reorient my life. I often find myself discouraged and depleted in the dead of winter, but during this season, I welcome the new life of Christ into my spirit anew, by fasting, engaging in other spiritual disciplines, and by remembering that there is yet hope. May we all be reminded of the hope that we have during this season!



Spring will come again!

Photo credit: Sondra Laughlin



65 Year Anniversary Celebration

Save the Date!

On October 30th, we will be celebrating Countryside Church of the Nazarene's 65th anniversary! The celebration will include special guests and speakers, special music, and a dinner together.

Put the date on your calendar. Come be a part of the celebration of 65 years of ministry in our community!

Planning Committee

Volunteers Needed: If you would like to help plan the celebration, contact Mike or Marissa to join the planning committee.

Check out our Website!

We have a website at www.countrysidenaz.com. This site is especially useful as a resource for visitors:

- Our service times are easy to find.
- We have a description of what visitors can expect in our services.
- We have directions and other information.

We hope to keep improving what potential visitors can learn about us! The website is part of our desire to offer the hospitality of Christ to one another as well as those who are seeking.

We also have resources for current attenders:

- Upcoming events
- Archived newsletters
- A link to our Facebook page

We also hope to keep adding features to our website for regular attenders. This is another way we can stay connected during the week if we miss a Sunday!



ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday Service: February 10th, 6:00pm

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the season of Lent. We begin the season of Lent by coming together in humility to receive the mark of the cross as a symbol of our repentance. This will be a service of somber reflection through music, Scripture, and a short message on our inability to save ourselves and a reminder of our mortality. No matter how hard we try, we can't make it on our own. Sometimes we forget that, but on Ash Wednesday, we come together to acknowledge that reality again.

A prayer for us to pray together:

"Lord, I don't ask for much today. I just ask that you give me your heart for lost people."

Upcoming Events and Services

Sunday School

10:00am, every Sunday morning

Worship Service

11:00am, every Sunday morning

Mid-week Book Study

7:00pm, every Wednesday evening

Ash Wednesday Service

February 10th, 7:00pm

Church Dinner

February 14th

Seder Meal

March 24th, 6:00pm

Good Friday Service

March 25th, 6:00pm

Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at
www.countrysidenaz.com
(there is also a link to our
smartphone app on the
main page)

Pastors: Michael and
Marissa Coblentz

Countryside Church of the Nazarene

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