

COUNTRYSIDE NEWS

Mar 2016

The Journey to the Cross

“Come, Follow Me.”

The church calendar leads us through the life, death and resurrection of Christ. During this season of Lent, we have been following Luke’s account of Christ’s journey to Jerusalem. In the week leading up to Easter, we will journey with Christ to the cross:

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!

“Friends, when life gets really difficult, don’t jump to the conclusion that God isn’t on the job. Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner.”

- 1 Peter 4:12-13 (MSG)



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Pastors' Corner

Well, here we are, right smack dab in the middle of Lent. Did you decide to fast anything? How is that going? Let me share a bit of my experience with you.

This year for Lent, I decided to give up sugar. I've discovered that that is really hard! For two reasons. First, sugar is in *everything*. Second, I really like sugar! I love cookies and pudding and gummy bears and ice cream and...I could go on and on. I've been missing my yummy snacks!

This past week, I was reading in Isaiah 55. Verse 2 says, "Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare."

I realized how much effort I spend in my pursuit of things that taste good but really aren't good for me at all. Meanwhile, I'm starving for the things that feed my soul—for connection with people, for a sense of purpose and significance, for confidence that God can and is making a difference in our world.

During this Lent, I confess that I have spent my money and labor on things that do not satisfy. What about you? Are you enjoying the "richest of fare" as you pursue the things of God? May you be filled with His joy and peace!



That which does not satisfy: peaches and cream (but so yummy!)



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!



Seder Meal: March 24th, 6:00PM

Just as we did last year, Mike and I will again lead a Christian Seder meal. This meal is based on the Jewish Passover meal but interspersed with Gospel readings and Christian songs. We will enjoy a wonderful meal of roast lamb, fresh-baked bread, charoset (an apple-walnut salad), and other sides. As we eat, we will participate in a service similar to that which Jesus and the disciples would have likely observed on the night of the Last Supper. This is a really unique way to experience Holy Week and a very meaningful service. All are welcome!

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

Seder Meal

March 24th, 6:00pm

Good Friday Service

March 25th, 6:00pm

Children's Easter Egg Hunt

March 27th, 10:00am (Sunday School hour)

Easter Sunday Service

March 27th, 11:00am

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

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