

The Mission

God wants a relationship with us. A relationship means the people involved in that relationship must be compatible. They will hold the same values and goals to make the relationship work well. God is holy and good. God is love and always responds in love. God is also just and must have justice fulfilled. Who God is determines the nature of the relationship. We will have a relationship based on love and goodness. We then, must also be people who are loving and holy.

We are not always good, and we make many mistakes. We do things that are not loving, and we sin. God has a way for us to be forgiven of our sin through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Jesus is the sacrifice for our sin when we form a covenant with God. When we are baptized into Christ, he takes away all our sins and gives us the Holy Spirit to help with our attitude and behavior. We do not automatically become perfect and holy in our actions. We still struggle with our thinking and actions to be holy like God. The closer we are to being like God the better our relationship can be. When we are more like the world, we make God our enemy. (James 4:3,4) When we allow the Holy Spirit to work in our life, we develop the fruit of the Spirit that is like God. We find the love, joy and peace that comes from the father.

Everything else is to protect, develop and guide that relationship. Jesus established his kingdom to be the king of all the people who are in this holy relationship with God. This kingdom describes all the people of God in every time and age. We understand that the church is the way the kingdom of God is shown on earth today. We draw more people into the church so that they might have this relationship with God. We teach and explain what it means to follow Jesus since he is the example of what it means to follow God while on this earth. We not only help people make a covenant with God, but we also help in developing the maturity necessary for a full relationship with God.

The beginning of our relationship with God is about the salvation and forgiveness of sins. It is often referred to as a birth. We know that the relationship with a baby is limited. We watch our children develop and grow until we are able to have a relationship with them as adults. We go through awkward teen years where they develop their own independence and grow into mature adults. We go through awkward years as a Christian when we question why we need the church, the holy Spirit or a relationship with God. We question the Bible, the leaders, and the way people around us treat us. We eventually learn to use the things God has set up to build our relationship with God. The relationship with God is our goal. Helping others build their relationship with God is our mission.

--Terry

Mesa Family Directory Updates

- **Address:** Amanda Watts,
- **Address:** Mallory Watson,
- **Welcome to the Family:** Luis & Sandra Olaquibel,

Order of Worship

Song Leader: Jack Farr

Song 446: "Hear, O Israel"

Welcome & Prayer: *Joel Soumar*

Song 2: "We Praise Thee, O God"

Song 429: "Oh, to Be Like Thee"

Song: "In Christ Alone"

Song 382: "Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?"

Communion & Contribution: *Marc Engle*

Song 671: "Purer in Heart, O God"

Scripture Reading: Luke 5:1-11 *Matt Miller*

Sermon: "Connecting Mission & Heart" *Terry Singleton*

Song 694: "Servant Song"

Shepherd's Prayer: *Vince McNeil*



Tuesday Ladies' Class

Ladies' Class meets on Tuesday of this week in Room 105 at 10 a.m. Danell Fitzgerald is teaching "Gleaning the Old & Practicing the New." Ladies of all ages are invited to attend--please wear a mask and plan to social distance.

News from El Salvador

Dear brothers in Mesa, Last December 2020, we carried out the last delivery of the food bag to the beneficiary families with the help that you provided for this purpose. All the families express words of deep gratitude to God and to all of you for this great blessing that they have been receiving these past five months. It has been a great pleasure for me to be part of this channel of blessing for our family in faith. God will greatly multiply in his lives all that you have shared with us my beloved brothers. We wish all of you a blessed year 2021--praying that God grant you life, health and free you from all evil. God bless you. --Osvaldo Azucena & Noé Artero

New Sunday Adult Bible Class - Back to the Basics

A second Sunday morning adult Bible Class is now available in Room 104. Joshua DuBoise is covering the most basic beliefs and practices of new testament Christianity. The goal of this class is to reclaim the simple doctrine of the early church that is described in Scripture. This class is designed for those wanting to know more about Christianity, new converts, and seasoned Christians. Masks and social distancing are required.

Opportunity for Service

Sendy Green's parents, Neil & Cristie Simmons, are moving to town at the end of this month. They need assistance on Wednesday afternoon, January 27th, to unload some heavy furniture and large boxes into a storage facility here in Mesa. Please contact Sendy at 623-521-9859 if you could help with this!

News from Landon

There is an end-of-the-year recap from Landon Ubrig on the bulletin board in the foyer. Most of it had been posted in previous inserts, but here is an excerpt on a personal level. "Thank you all so much for your support through prayer and donations as well as encouragement through texts, cards, and emails. The Lord has truly blessed me with an amazing supporting congregation and family... I want to Thank you all again for making this possible. For the adventure I've gotten to go on and people I got to meet this year. May God bless you in this New Year. --Landon

Moving Away

Emeline and Jake Layton will be moving this week to South Carolina. Please keep them in your prayers for safe travels and a good adjustment to their new home. They will definitely be missed in the Mesa family!

Contribution Statements

Contribution statements for 2020 were emailed this past Thursday or dropped in the postal mail if we did not have an email address. Please let JoAnne know if you did not receive yours or have any questions.

Address of Note

Lynda Campbell is currently in rehab for her broken foot. Here is her contact information for calls or cards: Lynda Campbell, Room 314, Wellsprings of Gilbert, 3319 S Mercy Rd., Gilbert, AZ 85297 (480-526-3104).

Praise and Prayers

new and critical

Carl GoodmanCancer Treatments started
Ed Schroeder..... Back pain and procedures
Lynda Campbell.....Broken foot
Yamile Torres & TwinsStrength and growth
Malta O'Gorman Cancer Treatments beginning again

on-going health problems

Heather Jette, Luana Guthrie, Samuel DuBoise, Lynita Knoch, Peter Ballesteros, Kevin Olson, Julie Vega, Debbie McMorries (S. Young's mom), April Norment (D. DuBoise's mom), Shirley Mathis, Kathy Marstein (P. Watkins' mom), Lori Howerton's Parents, Troy Price, Gloria Hadley, Jerra Bonebrake, Gaby Ivy, Jon Hardin, Michelle Black, Lori Howerton, Tewana Carter, Martha Carroll, Brenda Yee, Diane Gist

Shepherds

Jack Farr C.R. Gaines
Jackie Hinkle Kevin Hubby
Vince McNeil Chuck Watts

Ministers

Pulpit Minister: Terry Singleton
Spanish Minister: Edison Quevedo
Family Minister: Joshua DuBoise
Youth Minister: Joel Soumar

Attendance & Offering

Sunday Worship: 212 + online
Wednesday: On-line only
2021 Budget: \$13,323
Giving: \$9,512
YTD Average: \$13,039

Children's bulletins are available at the Welcome Center. Please help your child choose the appropriate age level.

Contributions can be dropped in the containers at the doors following worship, given on line, by setting up through your bank, by mail or dropped off at the office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.