

AZMN *Publication*

Aug 2021



ARIZONA
MINISTRY NETWORK

www.azag.org

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CAMPS: Why They Matter!

What a summer! We sat in our Wednesday staff devotions a couple of weeks ago and listened as our Youth and Young Adult leaders, Griffin McGrath and Monica Hortiales along with Jovian Garcia, our Assistant Youth Alive Director, passionately shared the happenings of the summer camping season. The eternal impact made in the lives of hundreds of youth coming from every corner of our state, representing many nationalities, the redeemed and those still searching. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit as the gifts of the Spirit were manifested in the services and the Spirit-anointed speakers, worship, and yes, even the crazy-fun times that most assuredly left an imprint on the lives of those young people that will be remembered long after this summer has come and gone. Only the years ahead, should the Lord tarry His coming, will the full impact of this summer's ministry 'up on the hill' be realized.

A testimony shared by Griffin especially tugged at my heart, and I knew I had to share it in this article for August. 'Jaylyn' was among the hundreds of young people traveling to Prescott to be part of the Youth Camp with his youth group and leader, Kevin Perez of River City Church in Good Year. As is the case with many young people, Jaylyn came to camp needing a God moment to help make sense of his life. He did NOT leave camp the same person that stepped on to that campground. Praise God for His reaching hand that took hold of Jaylyn and thank God Jaylyn responded in a big way.



Griffin McGrath



Monica Hortiales



His youth pastor, Kevin wrote, “Talked with Jaylyn last night. He said going into camp he wasn’t sure about his salvation, but God ‘claimed him’, (his words) at camp and told him he was valuable. I did talk with him about the suicidal thoughts, and I think it was more of not seeing himself as having a purpose or not understanding the point of his life, rather than wanting to end it. His parents are divorced and his mom has cancer. He’s really dealing with some things that hit deep at any age. But, he’s believing for healing for his mom and he was so excited that they got baptized together! He does believe God’s called him to ministry! He wants to be a youth pastor because he’d be good at worship and games! He does have a calling on his life. Love this kid. His energy and love for Christ are inspiring! I wish I could clone him!”



Jaylyn had ‘an experience’ at camp, in the tabernacle on our campground! I am sharing a few pictures of Jaylyn.

Why do we need YOU to continue in your support of our campground ministry? Why do we encourage involvement in the giving to the 2% Fund that helps underwrite the immense cost in keeping the campground running, dorms presentable and comfortable, cafeteria updated and functional, physical activities safe and attended by people trained to help and on and on. Jaylyn is the reason! Every young person, every child that attends our KIDS camps, every adult that comes to retreats, all of them, may find on the campground the peace, salvation, wisdom, comfort, knowledge, inspiration, calling of God! We can do no less but to support in our prayers and in our consistent giving to know that for generations to come, our campground will remain a place where lives will be changed for eternity!



Jaylyn’s story did not end with youth camp. He returned home and had the awesome privilege of praying over his Dad to receive Christ at service in their home church. They baptized 19 of their Youth in that service. I am gripped in my heart to see Jaylan, standing over his Dad, tears streaming, his one hand on his Dad’s head, and the other on his back. Jesus is still changing lives and redeeming what the enemy thought he controlled.

“Oh God in Heaven. . .find us faithful so that testimonies like Jaylyn’s can be repeated over and over and over again! Thank you for Jaylyn. Bring divine healing to his Mom, and bring this family into relationship with YOU as never before. In Jesus’ Name we pray!”

**Sincerely,
Pastor Harris and Marjorie Harris**



Why Give?



It was September 1978 when I arrived at Trinity Bible College for my freshman year. My life was in a mess because of rebellion and wantonness living. Our campus missionary-in-residence that year was a couple from West Africa, Jonathan and Gwen Glover. These two began pouring themselves in me and demonstrated a lifestyle of prayer, giving and serving. Both Jonathan and Gwen have gone home to be with the Lord, but the indelible footprint they left on my heart has only grown through the years.

One of their first challenges to me at the age of 18 was to begin to sow into missions financially. Being a dirt-poor bible college student I didn't see how this would be possible. They told me to trust God and make a "Faith Pledge" believing Him to provide the means. So, in obedience I made my first financial commitment to the Lord, a \$5 monthly pledge to missions.

I've come to realize it was that one simple act of obedience that has led to multiple blessings in ministry. And today Sue and I continue to personally pledge a significant amount of our finances to missions.

Giving to missions is a life changer, not only for ourselves, but also for the churches we serve and the missionaries who are willing to "Go." Allow me to encourage you to continue to partner with missions and make it a priority in your life and ministries in which you lead.

Below is a wonderful devotional for your staff, Wednesday night teaching or could even be used as an outline for a missions Sunday service. It's entitled:

7 REASONS WHY WE SHOULD PARTNER WITH GOD IN GIVING TO MISSIONS

1. Because **we're called to be generous**. God is infinitely more generous than any of us. We're called to grow more like Him daily. Paul instructed Titus to have the Cretan believers support missionaries because they needed to learn to be generous. (Titus 3:13-14). Giving to missionaries is a biblical avenue for generosity.

2. Because **it's giving to God**. In Numbers 18, God instructed His people to give to Him and provide for the Levites. Paul cites this as the reason people under the new covenant should give to God by giving to missionaries in 1 Corinthians 9. When we give to missions we are giving to God.

3. Because **it takes you to the ends of the earth**. Most, if not all, of our disciple-making work is local. Yet we are called to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18), and Acts 1:8 tells us to put an equal priority on Jerusalem and the ends of the earth. But how can you impact the ends of the earth? 3 John 8 reveals that this happens by giving to missionaries.

4. Because **it helps align your heart with God's heart**. We know God is not willing that any should perish and desires all people to have the opportunity to know Him. This is clearly on His heart throughout the Bible. So how do we keep that on our hearts? Matthew 6:21 tells us that where our treasure is, there our heart will be also. So give to missionaries who serve Him so all can hear.

5. Because **it's good for you**. The Philippians gave generously and repeatedly to Paul's missionary ministry, and he encouraged them to keep giving for their own sake. "I seek the fruit that abounds to your account," he wrote in Philippians 4:17. Giving to missionaries is good for you.

6. Because **they need your partnership**. Normally, people who receive goods or services pay for them, providing a living for the people who provide them. But the gift of salvation is free. Missionaries can't charge for their work. That's why, in God's model, believers give to provide for missionaries (Romans 10:15; Luke 10:7). Your giving is their living.

7. Because **giving to missionaries is biblical**. The New Testament says more about giving to missionaries than about any other type of giving. 3 John 8 spells it out: We have a responsibility to meet the needs of missionaries. God's Word tells us to give to missionaries.

I'm so grateful that at the beginning of my ministry career someone taught me how to give to missions. \$5 a month doesn't seem like much today but I realize now it set the stage for the wonderful blessings I've received from the Lord over the years.

As always, Network Family, thank you for your faithfulness in keeping the priority of giving to missions in your heart and church. Because of your prayers and generosity, one of our newest missionaries who is serving in a sensitive country has been fully funded in record time and is now serving in the Arab world.



KUDOS TO OUR PASTORS AND CHURCHES!

**Love and prayers,
Ron & Sue**



MINISTER SPOTLIGHT

Anna Crandell

Congratulations to Anna Crandell was the valedictorian of her class at Caurus Academy High School in Anthem AZ. Anna is our youngest credentialed minister receiving her license at our Network Conference in April. Anna is the daughter of Stuart and Judi Crandell who are both credentialed ministers as well and serve as Children's pastors at Summit church in Anthem.

Anna has volunteered for the past three years as rec staff for Kids Camp. She enjoys being a part of the team, getting to meet new people, and making a difference in campers' lives.

Anna graduated this past year from Caurus Academy High school as Valedictorian. She was involved in Student Government, the videography team, the president of the National Honor Society, and much more.

Currently, Anna is Assistant Children's Pastor at Summit Church. Anna has been leading worship for the past few years and is now preaching regularly.

Anna will be attending GCU in the fall to major in Student Ministries with a minor in Spanish.

Anna desires to be a full-time Children's pastor and become more involved in local outreach.





NOTE TO SELF...

HONOR THOSE BEFORE YOU!

“Give to everyone what you owe them...if honor, then honor.”

- Romans 13:7

The men stood across our platform. Each took the mic to share a memory about their years pastoring the church. One aging pastor's hands shook with the evidence of Parkinson's. What stood out above his hands was his heart, as it burst with gratitude to the Lord.

They were standing in our new worship center, the fifth building on Red Mountain Christian Center's campus. It was filled to capacity on that 25th anniversary Sunday. In his trembling voice the pastor told of his young son helping him lay the block of the first building on the north end of the campus. He cried that he could never have imagined this many people would one day worship at the corner of Power/Adobe roads in Mesa.

The lesson transcends that moment to the generations of Church ministry since the first apostles. As Paul put it, *“I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building”* (1 Cor. 3:6-9).

The truth is...

- Whatever I am doing for God, I am building upon the work of those who proceeded me.
- We are all merely servants, fulfilling our calls and dependent upon God's blessing.
- Reward will come to each according to "their own" work.
- We are all co-workers in this great Kingdom enterprise.

I recently watched a young pastor speak with great sincerity and affection of those who gave of their time, talent, finances—their very lives—to the ministry he is now successfully pastoring. It was striking to me! How shortsighted when we fail to do so, my pastor friends. When pastors give no honor to those who preceded them in ministry they are dishonoring the Lord, His work, and the apostle Paul's summary of Kingdom work.

When you have opportunity, remind your flock of those who sat in their seats long before them and of the pastors who faithfully led the church years before you. It models for them such ideals as: honor, humility, sacrifice, appreciation, and faithfulness. It's often joked that there are no original sermon thoughts, but only those passed on throughout generations. The same is true of our ministries. There is no fruit that solely originates with us. Each of us builds upon the foundation another laid, waters seeds others have sown, and enjoys the collective fruit that God privileges us with. To Him be the glory!



**Stay healthy in ministry,
Pastor Jeff**

Reach Out to an Elder Today!

To speak confidentially with an Elder, find their contact info on the *Arizona Ministry Network* app or at www.azag.org.

AZ MAN CAMP

TWO CAMPS:

Sept. 24-25 in English

Oct. 8-9 in Spanish

September 24 & 25, 2021

Register at: azmensministries.org

- Golf Tournament
- Fishing Derby
- High Ropes Course
- Rock Climbing Wall
- Swimming

— COURAGE —

- Worship Service
- Motorcycle Ride
- Archery
- Lawn Games
- Camp Work Day



Choco de Jesus
General Treasurer



Stephen Harris
AZ Network Superintendent



Dale Gray
AZ Network Men's Director

- Curso de Cuerdas Altas
- Muro de Escalada
- Natación

Arizona Campamento de Hombres

- Servicio de Adoración
- Torneo de Volibol

— VALENTIA —



Pastor Mark Vega
Mark Vega Evangelistic Ministries

Octubre 8 & 9, 2021
Regístrese en: azmensministries.org



Pastor Dale Gray
AZ Network Men's Director

Fall Women's Retreat

2021

Weekend 1: Sept. 9-11

Weekend 2: Sept. 16-18

Ladies, mark your calendar and make plans to join us in September! This is the perfect opportunity to step away, take a deep breath, encounter God and meet new friends. There will be amazing speakers, powerful worship, breakout sessions, campfires, zip lines, rock walls, after parties, shopping, coffee and more! So start spreading the word in your church and among your friends. Space fills up fast and you won't want to miss this!



Lindsay Petri

Arizona Women's
Director

Find more info and register at azagwomen.org.

Activities



Pricing

Full Conference
\$170

**Friday/Saturday
Only Conference**
\$160

**Conference
(no lodging)**
\$160

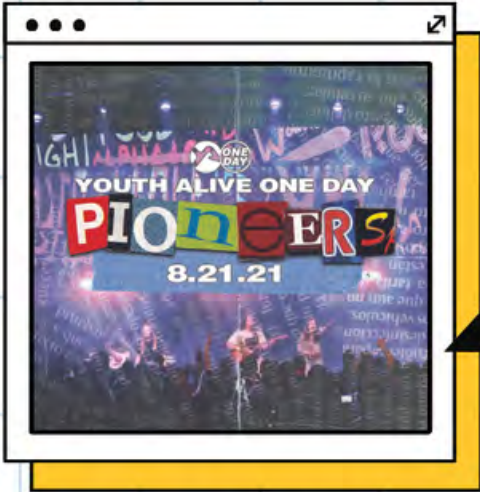
**Conference
(no lodging or meals)**
\$130

Register today!

AUGUST

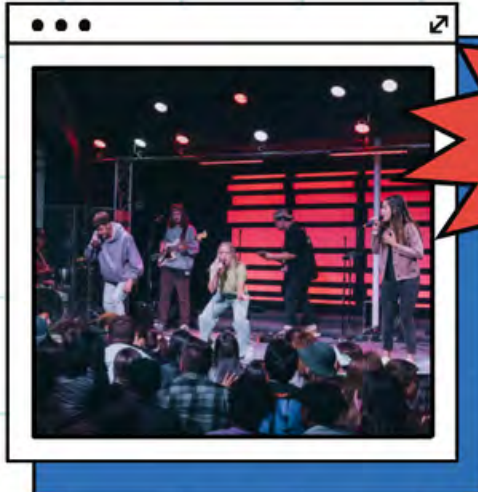


ARIZONA YOUTH MINISTRIES



AUGUST 21st

YOUTH ALIVE ONE DAY !!!



CAMP RECAP!

Check out our website for all the pics!

Camp was AMAZING!

We are still in awe of all that God did at our Camp this summer! 6 camps with 651 first time campers, 1,028 healings, 571 decisions for Christ, 358 filled with the Spirit, 651 heard God's direction for their lives and that is not even the half of it!

FEARLESS
AZYC2021

ARIZONA YOUTH CONVENTION
RADIANT CHURCH OCT 22-23, 2021

REGISTER AT WWW.AZAGYOUTH.ORG/AZYC



CHRIS ESTRADA



MANNY ARANGO



RIVER VALLEY WORSHIP



Kid's Camp Recap

LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE!

Total Campers and Leaders: 914

Salvations: 143

Rededications: 245

Filled with the Holy Spirit: 142

Received direction for their life: 219

Healings: 209



Kirstyn Rempel, Kid's Director
krempe1@azag.org



THE ARIZONA SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

WE ARE BACK!

The 2021-2022 school year is up and running. Students are welcome to sign up for classes at any time. We have several new cohorts around the state with in-person and online options available.


Interested in teaching? Connect with Yisrael at yvincent@azag.org!


SEPTEMBER CLASSES


Spirit-Empowered Church
Leadership Skills
Theology of Worship

SAGU PARTNERSHIP

Interested in getting your master's degree? SAGU will be launching a special Master's in Organization Leadership this Fall. Email asom@azag.org for more info!

 602-343-4000

 asom@azag.org

 azasom.com



Yisrael Vincent
Director



Jeanna Lonergan
Coordinator



Intimate community can significantly influence ministry development and emotional health. Sensing that God is calling the Network of Women Ministers to more meaningful relationships, SISTERSTRONG COHORTS are being established to help us foster sacred fellowship.

What is a SISTERSTRONG COHORT?

A carefully selected NWM group of 4 to 5 women acting as mutual mentors. You meet monthly for approximately one hour for 11 months. The intent is to bring growth to individual ministry and be encouraged personally. These objectives are achieved by supporting and encouraging each other, as well as giving and receiving feedback.

Why do I need SISTERSTRONG COHORT?

We all need feedback and fresh perspective to grow. We desire our SISTERSTRONG COHORTS to be encouraging Spirit led moments. They are a safe place to ask challenging questions and share problems that may not be appropriate to discuss elsewhere. Receiving candid feedback from an objective and wise group you trust helps you resolve issues faster - and often with better results - than if you try to solve it alone. At the same time, God wants to use you to bring encouragement to women in the NWM as a mutual mentor. God wants us to partner in ministry and fellowship.

How is a SISTERSTRONG COHORT structured?

Your group divides its meeting time by the number of participants. Each person has a designated time to share a budding initiative or a challenging situation in order to get feedback and perspectives from the others on how to move forward. Each member, then has designated time to share a personal matter where you desire prayer and support.

1. Each Sisterstrong Cohort has a facilitator.
2. Meetings are conducted via Zoom or FaceTime.
3. Once your meeting time and format is settled, your Sisterstrong Cohort facilitator will divide the time equally between your group.
4. The person sharing first tells the group her issue or challenge as well as how the group can help. This should take no longer than 5 minutes (the facilitator will use a timer).
5. Next, the group may ask a clarifying question to ensure they have good understanding of the issue. Do not begin problem solving until it is clearly understood.
6. The remaining time is spent with the group offering resources, making recommendations and/or sharing insights.
7. When the timer goes off it is important to make an abrupt stop so everyone receives their full time. If time runs out before you are able to respond, you may write your response down and/or reach out later to continue conversation.
8. A final opportunity is given for each woman to share a personal prayer need.
9. Your meeting is concluded in prayer.

Helpful Ground Rules:

- It's important to be strict and use a timer with an alarm so everyone has their full time and the group finishes on time.
- Keep the conversation focused on the person sharing – it is about them during their time.
- Self-regulate. Be careful not to dominate the time. Be brief with your responses so to let everyone have an opportunity to contribute.
- When it is your turn, you may need to redirect the others as needed to ensure you are getting feedback that will help you.
- When it is your turn, practice listening to the feedback and simply say “thank you” to allow others time to give you input. The more you talk, the less time you have to hear from everyone. The value in this exercise is hearing a variety of fresh perspectives.
- Your commitment to be present each month for your SISTERSTRONG COHORT is vital to your group's cohesion. We understand there may be an unexpected emergency that arises, but ask everyone to do their best to attend each meeting.

**If you would like to join in this new initiative,
please email Denise Ryan @ DRyan@azag.org.**



Denise Ryan
dryan@azag.org

TEEN CHALLENGE OF ARIZONA Graduation 2021

Saturday, September 18, 2021 - 2 PM

EQUIP CHURCH
1601 Grand Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

Rev. Daniel Williamson
Special Speaker



1999 Graduate
Vice Chairman, Board of Directors
Teen Challenge of Arizona

Private Reception for Graduates and their families will be held at
PHOENIX TEEN CHALLENGE CHAPEL
1515 Grand Avenue, Phoenix, AZ



**Thank you for praying for our
Teen Challenge Director, Snow Peabody, as
he continues to recover from Covid-19.**

Network Information

ARIZONA MINISTRY NETWORK

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Phone: 602.343.4000

Fax: 602.252.5527

Website: www.azag.org

Email: districtoffice.azag.org

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Stephen L. Harris Superintendent

Ron Rockwell Assistant Superintendent

Leigh Metcalf Secretary-Treasurer

EXECUTIVE PRESBYTERS

Jesus Garza

Dale Gray

Todd League

Kirk Sorensen

GENERAL PRESBYTERS

Stephen L. Harris

Leigh Metcalf

Ron Rockwell

OTHER PRESBYTERS

Jeremy Naranjo Under 40 Representative

Jackie Holgate Native American Representative

Sue Rockwell Women's Representative

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Bob Sainz Central Valley Section

Travis Schroeder East Section

Allen Tyson East Central Section

Brad Davis East Valley Section

Jeremy Peters North Central Section

Kathryn Pierce Northeast Section

Bruce Rahlf Northwest Section

Ralph Morris Phoenix Metro Indian Section

Pete Cordova Southeast Section

Dave Beach Southeast Valley Section

Eric Young South Section

Alan Puccini Southwest Section

Keith Howard West Valley Section

Darin League Northwest Valley Section

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Kirstyn Rempel Kids Ministries

Dale Gray Men's Ministries

Lindsay Petri Women's Ministries

Jeff Peterson Pastoral Care

Christian Chambliss Youth Alive

Yisrael Vincent Arizona School of Ministry

Rick Ryan Intercultural Ministries

Jim Lopez Native American Ministries

Denise Ryan Network of Women Ministers

Jason Dyer Granite Hills Camp

Bill Weaver Royal Rangers

Doug & Lynda Young Retired Ministers

Snow Peabody AZ Teen Challenge

Stephen & Jill Valentine Deaf Ministries

*Thank you for being a
part of the Arizona
Ministry Network!*

Recent Network Statistics

OPEN CHURCHES

Holbrook, Faith A/G
Houck, Bethel Navajo A/G
Sierra Vista, Mt.View A/G
New River A/G
Page, First A/G
Phoenix, All Tribes A/G
Rainbow Mtn., Navajo Mtn.
Sacaton, River of Life A/G
San Carlos Apace A/G
Scottsdale, Salt River Indian Church
Shonto, Victory A/G
Springerville, Momentum Life

FILLED CHURCHES

Life Springs Church, El Mirage
Mtn. View A/G, Sierra Vista

**Minister Statistics will be posted in
upcoming publications.**