



ARIZONA
MINISTRY NETWORK

October 2020

AZMN Publication

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Stephen Harris, Superintendent
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The background of the entire page is a photograph of a person's hands wearing bright yellow nitrile gloves. The hands are positioned as if they are about to clasp or are in the middle of a task. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green foliage and warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

THANK YOU

A lot has been written in recent months on the response to COVID and the monumental change, challenge it has brought to the church, as well as our nation as a whole. The response of our pastors in this network, as well as around the Nation has been nothing short of spectacular! In my article back in July, I highlighted the efforts led by Pastor Jackie Holgate at Mountain Top church in Flagstaff. You will see on Pastor Leigh's page for this month's article an update on 'Project Hope' that Pastor Jackie leads. So grateful for his ministry.

In the most recent National A/G News, Pastor Marty Paxson, White River Assembly of God, was highlighted as well as the support cast of churches and people who have brought relief to the Reservation his church ministers in.

"Marty Paxson's community received an unexpected helping hand in response to the coronavirus pandemic. The senior pastor of Whiteriver Assembly of God, with 300 adherents on the Fort Apache Native American reservation in Whiteriver, Arizona, recalls the pandemic 'brought everyone to a panic!'

In response, the church made a plea for help on social media. Whiteriver has a population of 4,100.

'We asked members of the church to drop off donations of personal hygiene products and nonperishable foods, so that we could hand them out to as many families as possible,' Paxson recalls. Leaders from Radiant Church saw our Facebook post about wanting to help our community and we came together so that 200 families received help.'

Pastor Greg Marquart stepped up and led Radiant Church in Surprise, Arizona to connect with other AG Native American congregations in the state through a food distribution in June coordinated with Convoy of Hope.

Pastor Marquart said, 'The Arizona Ministry Network was instrumental in connecting us with the pastors and churches, and Convoy of Hope blessed us with two semi truckloads of food, and God really set this up and went before us in an amazing and life-changing way!'

Refrigerated trucks, vans, and pickups transported hundreds of bags of food as well as pallets of water and cleaning products. The effort provided for more than 6,000 people on the reservations.

Supplies were delivered to Fort Defiance. Ken Delaney, pastor of The Family Church Revival Center, arranged for townspeople in the Navajo Nation community to receive the goods.

U.S. Missionary, Randy Wren was part of that blessing in delivering the goods, and said following, 'It was so good to show the community that we cared about them!'

Pastor Delaney says the goods blessed more than 200 families in the Fort Defiance area, which has seen a comparatively high number of positive cases of COVID-19. Radiant Church compassionately arrived in the area to be a great blessing to so many,' says Delaney, whose congregation has more than 150 attendees.

Pastor Joel Cornelius of Tuba City Assembly notes that the novel coronavirus drastically impacted the Navajo reservation town of 9,700.

'We were working under strict guidelines that prohibited a lot of movement and we had been doing our best to respond to the needs,' says Pastor Joel, whose congregation drew more than 220 regular attendees prior to the virus outbreak. 'Being able to work together with Convoy of Hope and Radiant Church provided an opportunity to share God's love not in a sermon, but in an act of kindness.' Over 1,450 families received meals in the outreach."

"THANK YOU to the pastors and churches who have stepped up and helped bring ministry, supplies, help to the Reservation lands in this COVID crisis. It's been a beautiful thing to see. Please pray for our Reservation lands. COVID remains a threat, and as of this writing, the Navajo Nation is still in lock down, due to the number of cases of positive COVID. We continue to look to the Lord for His healing hand in Arizona" -Pastor Harris

It was our privilege to worship with Rock Church, Apache Junction campus and to celebrate Pastors Lawrence and Gina Hernandez, along with their family and congregation.

Rock Church, Apache Jct., is a parent affiliated church, PAC Church, with Rock Church in Scottsdale, Pastors Dale and Darla Gray. God's favor is evident on this ministry, and it was our honor to affirm what the Lord has done through Rock Church, Apache Jct.



We look forward to seeing as many of you as can attend our **Network Conference, October 26th and 27th @ Radiant Church in Surprise, AZ.** Your lunch on Tuesday is included in your registration fee, and a schedule of leaders and topics are listed below for your perusal.



LUNCH HANGOUTS

OCT. 27 FROM 12-1 PM

Group Name	Facilitator	Location
Youth Pastors/Young Adults	Griffin McGrath and Youth Team	Youth Building
Children's Pastors	Kirstyn Rempel, Amy Visconti	Lower Elementary Right
Worship Pastors	Jonathan Singh, Abel Livas, Aaron Sevigny	Green Room
Church Planters	Leigh Metcalf	Next Steps
Intercultural Pastors	Rick Ryan and Stephen Harris	Family Room
Counseling/Care Pastors	Jeff Peterson	Connect Center
Men's Ministry Leaders	Dale Gray	Patio Outside Lobby
Women's Ministry Leaders	Lindsay Petri	Lower Elementary Left
Native American Pastors	Jim Lopez	Upper (outside big room)
Media/Tech	Dylan Bush, Jill Girdner	Pastor Jill's Office
Credentialed Women	Denise Ryan, Catie Naranjo	Preschool Building
Executive Pastors	Tim Glass, Joe Martinez, Bryan Durrett	College Room
Retired Ministers	Doug Young	Lobby Connect Side

More Questions than Answers

Recently our family received the most devastating news any family could imagine. Our daughter-in-law, Danyel Rene Rockwell, left life on this earth all too soon. As you can imagine, our hearts were broken and we were left with more questions than answers. Only time will tell why a young, vibrant, loving, gentle person, who also served as the Media Director at Harvest Church, was suddenly lifted into the arms of Jesus.

The grief is overwhelming, the tears flow without end and the rush of sad feelings are a constant reminder of how fragile life is on this side of eternity. The Apostle Paul said, ***“For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face.”*** There is One who will make sense of everything upon our arrival in heaven and we keep our eyes on Him.

The events of these past couple weeks also remind us of another family in the bible who lost their loved one. When Lazarus passed away suddenly, everyone began say, ***“If only you would have been here, Jesus, he would not have died.”*** Sue and I cannot begin to describe all the “if only” moments we experienced this week. But we’re also gently comforted to know that in death we can be reminded of the most important lesson of all and hold firmly to Jesus’ words when He said to Lazarus’ family, ***“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he will live. And whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.”***

As a family we will always have more questions than answers, but we also know that our precious Dani is very much alive in the presence of Jesus and when we join her, all our questions will be answered. Until then, we keep going forward in faith, knowing God is good and He will be with us every moment until we finish this race.

It is also our expressed desire to thank our Arizona Ministry Network pastors, Steve and Marjorie Harris, their staff, and all pastors and missionaries who have been holding us up in your prayers. **THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS!** Sue and I are grateful we are part of this loving family.

In closing, I want to again thank every pastor and church for their continued support of all our missionary families. Throughout the Covid-19 season, we have seen miracles that have helped our faithful servants continue sharing the gospel throughout the world. AZ Network, you are the BEST!

Love and prayers, Ron & Sue



Below is our AG World Missions theme for the coming year: I like it!



Galatians 2:20



PROJECT HOPE

Mountaintop Church



Jackie Holgate | Lead Pastor - Mountain Top Church

Years ago, I was watching a PBS program in the mid-west region and they were doing a story on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, one of the most impoverished communities in the entire United States. In the story, they highlighted multiple efforts by outsiders to “help” the Native people that lived there. I remember, as the program was coming to an end, they started interviewing some of the locals in town. There was this woman that they interviewed and she said, “People come from all over the world to do many, many projects to help our people.” She went on to say, “they came to build wells, do housing projects, clean up the environment, and many other similar outreaches but no one came for me.” Those words she spoke impacted me more than anything when it comes to Missions. At that moment, the camera panned out as tears filled her eyes. I remember very clearly the Lord spoke to my heart that day and said to me, “if you ever want to help people in my Name, you must find the one person that no one came for!”





At the beginning of 2020, the entire world stood at a standstill

As we begin to hear the news about a pandemic called Coronavirus. The effects of this pandemic were felt everywhere, and it caused many challenges we have never seen before. People were self-quarantining or being quarantined, stocking up on toilet papers, disinfected wipes, food items of all sort and so forth. People started talking about symptoms, and eventually, deaths started to occur from the virus. There seemed to be panic everywhere. At this point, the Navajo Nation is being hit and hit hard. Communities like Navajo Mountain, AZ/UT and Kayenta, AZ reported victims where two or more in one household were dying. Soon, people you know are being affected. The immediate reaction was to self-isolate and run for cover. The Navajo Nation per capita exceeded cases and deaths than the state of New York.

COVID-19 hit the Native American communities harder than most of the communities across the USA

The infrastructure and limited resources played an important role in this pandemic's grave onslaught to the Navajo Reservation. The key factors that caused the greatest challenges for most people living in the harshest conditions were those that were ill-prepared and had underlining health problems. 40% of the Navajo Nation still do not have access to running water and electricity. Many households lacked the necessities needed during a pandemic. The Navajo Nation sits in the Southwest region of the United States and expands over 27,000 square miles over Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah, which is larger than the entire state of West Virginia. Yet, the Nation lacks many resources that came to surface once COVID-19 hit.





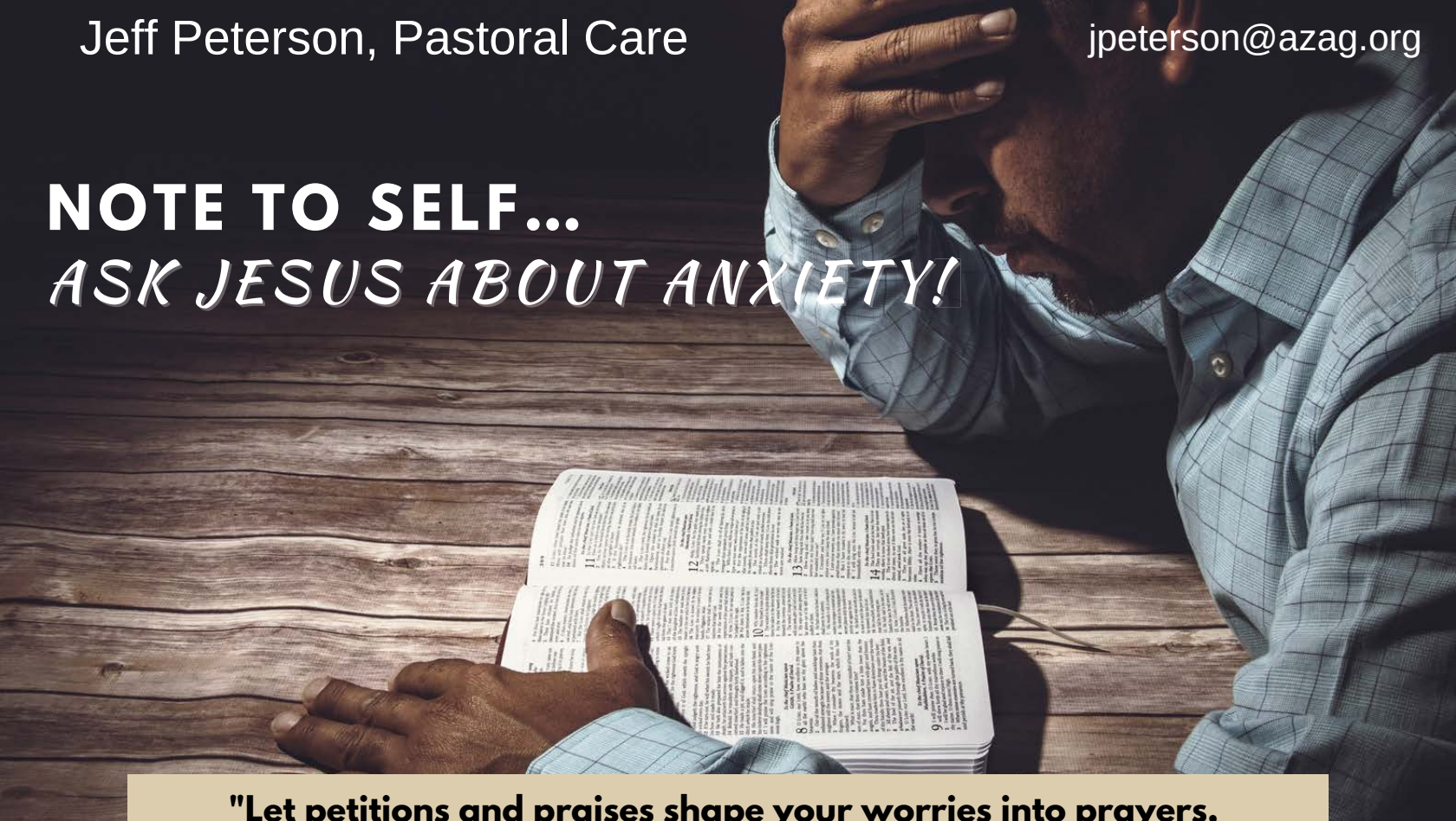
At this point, Mountaintop Assembly of God Church decided that we were going to do what we can to help with the much-needed relief effort on the Reservation

As a Navajo Pastor in Flagstaff, AZ (border-town) which is located on the edge of the largest Indian Reservation in the United States (the Navajo Nation), we felt compelled to rally our church and start helping out. We assessed the situation and contacted pastors, local leaders, and a few health enters in many of the small communities of the Navajo Nation. We started operating small and started going often to some of the hardest hit areas on the Reservation in month of March. At first, we rented cargo vans, borrowed an open utility trailer, and even had to hire people to help us take all the donations and essential items out to these communities. The first few projects were very difficult, but we encouraged supporters from everywhere to intercede with us. Some supporters went above and beyond by donating monetarily and giving us their time to volunteer and reach people on the Reservation. Eventually many people caught wind of Mountaintop Project Hope and we were soon able to acquire a new 16-foot cargo trailer and pick-up truck used to haul supplies and essentials to the Navajo Nation without having to borrow or rent equipment to do the job. Praise God, He provides!



Although COVID-19 cases and deaths are slowly decreasing on the Reservation, there are still many needs at hand. Recently, I have been asked if we will continue doing Mountaintop Project Hope and my response remains "If there is still a need on the Navajo Nation, we will do our best to fill it, and continue to help that one individual that no one came for." Please be in prayer for the wisdom and direction as we continue to reach those in need.

NOTE TO SELF... *ASK JESUS ABOUT ANXIETY!*



**"Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers,
letting God know your concerns."**

Philippians 4:6b The Message

No question we are living in unusual times in 2020 that impact our ministries and personal lives. Reports abound on the residual effects of anxiety, depression, and even suicide as a result of this unprecedented season. Just today, I read statistics on suicidal ideation among our adolescents. On our home front, I have talked with many of you about your own anxiety or that of the flock you shepherd.

A few years ago, I stumbled across several passages that ministered greatly to me on this subject. One of them was Jesus' familiar words in the Sermon on the Mount, "Do not worry about your life..." (Mt. 6:25). I had just read an interesting article from behavioral science experts that deal solely with anxiety. I recognized that Jesus addressed their purported primary causes of anxiety with such precision, it was almost comical!

Anxiety.com's experts remind us that anxiety is not an "it" sickness that we suddenly acquire, as in the common cold or a disease. Rather, they say it is behavioral—in other words, a result of choices we make. They then, site **three reasons for anxiety**:

1. Fear-based worry
2. Runaway, controlling thoughts
3. Projecting negatively about the future

Meanwhile, our Lord and Savior (and Maker) said the following:

“So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' [FEAR BASED WORRY] These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers [RUNAWAY, CONTROLLING THOUGHTS], but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. [PROJECTING NEGATIVELY ABOUT THE FUTURE] Today's trouble is enough for today." Matthew 6:31-34

What a reminder the of the power and ever-relevance of God's word! Pastor, consider these additional passages for yourself and your flock in these anxious times: Psalm 37, Philippians 4:4-8, and Lamentations 3:19-25. That'll preach!



Stay healthy in ministry,
Pastor Jeff

"How do I find an elder?"

Download the *Arizona Ministry Network* app from the Play Store or App Store. Under the tab "A Safe Place", scroll through the elder names, pictures and phone numbers. Then, simply reach out via text or phone call.

You can also find the list of Elders and their contact info through the azag.org website [HERE](#).





AZ MAN CAMP

Highlights

Thank you to everyone who participated, spoke and served at Man Camp this past month. It was a powerful weekend!



Dale Gray, Men's Director
dgray@rockag.com

— she —
STANDS

Highlights

Women's retreat was an incredible weekend full of God's sweet presence, anointed speakers, and powerful worship. Thank you to everyone who came and especially to those who served on the "Dream Team."



Lindsay Petri, Women's Director
lindsay@azag.org



Griffin McGrath

Youth & Young Adult Director
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f t i @azagyym + @griffinmcgrath



YOUTH CONVENTION 2020

www.azagyouth.org/azyc



ARIZONA YOUTH CONVENTION 2020
RADIANT CHURCH / OCT 23 - 24



Allen Griffin



SEU Worship



Terry Parkman

azyaya pop up

AN ARIZONA YOUNG ADULTS GATHERING
DESERT SPRINGS CHURCH / OCT 22



Addison Bevere



SEU Worship

REGISTER AT AZAG.ORG/AZYAPOPOPUP



YOUTH LEADERS' SUMMIT

LOCATION: Granite Hills Retreat & Conference Center - Prescott, AZ

The Arizona Youth Leaders' Summit is the best environment for spiritual formation and leadership development among a like-minded community of youth leaders around the state. We encourage Youth Pastors to bring their spouse (if married), leadership team, and candidates for youth leadership for a weekend of celebration, ministry, prayer, vision casting, and practical team building. This year we will have Eric Hoffman our STL Director from the National Office as our guest speaker.

REGISTER AT AZAGYOUTH.ORG/YLS

THE BEST IS YET TO COME! UPCOMING EVENTS

NATIONAL STL DAY
October 18

YOUTH CAMP 2021 REGISTRATION OPEN
azagyouth.org/youthcamp

FINE ARTS 2021 REGISTRATION
Opens 12/1

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



GROW

KidMin Conference
DIGITAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

Join us THIS Saturday! Kids ministry looks different than ever before and for that reason Grow Kidmin Conference 2020 will look different than ever

before!
Schedule:

- 9:30 - General Session 1 w/Jim Wideman & 2911 Worship
- 11:00 - Group Discussion
- 11:15 - Workshops
- 12:00 - Lunch break
- 1:00 - General Session 2 w/Kirstyn Rempel & 2911 Worship
- 1:30 - Live Q&A Zoom w/Jim Wideman
- 2:30 - Giveaways, prayer, and goodbye!



**Register and
get more info
@ azagkids.org!**



ARIZONA SCHOOL OF MINISTRY



Upcoming November Classes: Ministerial Ethics, Conflict Resolution, Biblical Counseling



For more info and to register for classes please visit AZASOM.com

Introducing Your New ASOM Team!

Yisrael Vincent - ASOM Director



We are thankful to have Yisrael Vincent stepping up to lead the Arizona School of Ministry! Both he and his wife, Christiana, are ordained ministers. Yisrael is currently in the dissertation phase of earning his Ph.D. in Biblical Theology and Interpretation with the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary and earned his Master of Divinity at AGTS as well. He has most recently served as the Resource Development Manager of the Church Multiplication Network and is also an Adjunct Professor at Northwest University and Evangel University.

Yisrael brings experience with having served as an Associate Pastor, helping in the finances for Chi Alpha Campus Ministries in Springfield, having written for Influence Magazine, and working as an Administrative Assistant at Green Valley Christian Center in Henderson, NV.

Jeanna Lonergan - ASOM Assistant

Jeanna was raised in a ministry home, born in Canada and lived most of her life in Washington State. She has been in Arizona four years now and recently received her BA in Christian Studies and Worship Leadership. Along with her new role with the Network, she also works part-time at Banner Church in Scottsdale. We are so thankful to have her on the team!



NETWORK OF
WOMEN MINISTERS

NETWORK
CONFERENCE
2020

lunch hangout

OCTOBER 27 | 12 - 1:00PM



Special Guest

CRYSTAL MARTIN

National Director Network of Women Ministers

Join us for an encouraging update from Crystal Martin. We will enjoy time together and celebrate the women who have advanced with their ministerial credentials!

Lunch Hangout at Radiant Church PreSchool Building.
Order your lunch through your Minister's Portal.

Please RSVP by text to Denise at 417.849.0596



TO GOD BE THE GLORY GREAT THINGS HE IS DOING

From the shores of Island Nations
To the prophetic lands of the Middle East
To the throngs without Jesus in Asia

A tsunami of God's presence is striking these people groups who have found a home in the state of Arizona. With great sacrificial efforts of Spirit-empowered pastors, these amazing churches are living out the Great Commission to "go and make disciples of all nations". Please pray for these leaders who are 'missionaries' in this land to reach their people. Pray for these churches who are starting to plant daughter churches. Pray for the birthing of four new church plants. Pray that God will send more laborers. With **prayer** and the miraculous **power of the Holy Spirit** *"we can see God do exceedingly above all we could ask, think or imagine."*



The new Filipino/American church plant in Tucson gathers for the first time!

OCTOBER PRAY FOCUS

Pastor Thang Sian and his wife, Zel Myanmar
Faith Assembly of God, Phoenix

Pastor Diodor Garcia and his wife, Pam
New Filipino/American Church plant, Tucson,

Pastor Samuel De Asis and his wife, Mhel
Christ's Family Life Church, Gilbert

Pastor Nomer Valdez, and his wife, Marci
Psalm For Christ Church, Gilbert,

Dr. Roy Cheriyan and his wife, Sarah
International Assembly of God, Chandler

Pastor Daniel Lukose and his wife, Shiny
International Assembly of God, Tucson



TEEN CHALLENGE OF ARIZONA



Trusting GOD

VIRTUAL FALL BANQUETS 2020

TUCSON NOVEMBER 16 – 7PM
To benefit Springboard & Tucson Men's Center

PHOENIX NOVEMBER 20 – 7PM
To benefit Phoenix Men's Center

SCOTTSDALE NOVEMBER 21 – 7PM
To benefit the Christian Life Ranch



Free Registration Online: tcaz.org
Corporate Office / PO Box 5966 / Tucson, AZ 85703 800-346-7859



Network Information

ARIZONA MINISTRY NETWORK

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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

DISTRICT PRESBYTERS

Richard Bush Canyon North Section

Bob Sainz Central Valley Section

Travis Schroeder East Section

Allen Tyson East Central 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

DIRECTORS & LEADERS

Griffin McGrath Youth Ministries

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

Recent Network Statistics

OPEN CHURCHES

Camp Verde, First A/G
Fountain Hills Christian Center
Glendale, Hope City Church
Holbrook, Faith A/G
Houck, Bethel Navajo A/G
Sierra Vista, Mt.View A/G
New River, First A/G
Page, First A/G
Rainbow Mtn., Navajo Mtn.
Sacaton, River of Life A/G
San Carlos, Apache A/G
Scottsdale, Salt River Indian Church
Shonto, Victory A/G
Winslow, First A/G

FILLED CHURCHES

Sells, Papago A/G by Daniel Helt

CLOSED CHURCHES

Sunizona A/G

TRANSFERRED IN

Joseph Swartzenruber from German District
Tyler & Juliana Daniels from Northwest District
Wayne & Connie Evans from Nevada District
Andrew Baker from Nebraska District

DECEASED

Adolph Cota- August 29, 2020

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