

NOVEMBER 2022

AZMN Publication



ARIZONA
MINISTRY NETWORK

www.azag.org

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Thanksgiving

We want to offer thanks for each of you - our pastors, staff, and ministers that made room to attend and support the Minister's Renewal time we shared last month. It was a refreshing time in the Holy Spirit as I heard many of you comment. It was a sweet time of the Holy Spirit speaking to us and refreshing us in His presence.



We were touched and challenged by the testimony of Missionary Brent Teague and how he is able to praise God in spite of the ordeal he lived through. All of the 'behind the scenes' intervention of the Lord, even to setting in motion the rescue people before the shooting even happened, were truly miraculous. We were reminded of God's power to see Brent giving glory to the Lord and standing on his own strength. It was a challenge to trust God, to believe for the impossible, and to know He truly does direct our steps. Thank you, Brent & Shelly Teague, for your testimony!



Pastor Rick DuBose, our Assistant General Superintendent, brought challenging teaching from the Word of God with central thoughts taken from the story of Mt. Carmel. He reminded us of Elijah's faith and assurance that God was indeed going to demonstrate His power at the pivotal moment of that Old Testament event.



America is also at a 'pivotal' moment, as we citizens go to the polls and cast our vote. Like Elijah at Mt. Carmel, God is orchestrating a great showdown between His power and that of all the gods America is serving. God is going to show up in a powerful way as the Church seeks Him and remains faithful amidst the chaos we are in.

Pastor DuBose relayed the key verse that the Lord gave him in response to his question, "What is going to happen to America?" That verse was Ecc. 11:1. "Send your grain across the seas, and in time, profits will flow back to you!" (NLT) The NKJ Version of scripture says it this way, "Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days."

Rick said from the beginning of the Assemblies of God and other Godly movements, the focus has been on missions. Sending the Gospel all around the world was at the very heart, the very core, of who we were in those early days. For all of these years, we have been casting our bread upon the water. God has promised that seed will come back to us - back to America. It was such a powerful thought and served to give HOPE to each one of us. HOPE for America, Hope for the furtherance of the Gospel, and HOPE for the promise of Heaven. As we continue to cast our bread upon the waters, God will be true to His promise that it will return to our shores.

"Oh God we trust in you, not only for our own personal lives, but for our nation."

In between the two sessions that Pastor Rick DuBose so powerfully presented, there was a sovereign move of the Holy Spirit among us. At one point, the air reverberated with heavenly singing in the Spirit. It was an awesome moment where God used several voices to speak to us. It was truly one of those, 'You had to be there,' moments in the Renewal. How grateful we are that God came to our Mt. Carmel on that afternoon and demonstrated His power among us. Let's be Elijah in this hour and believe God for the impossible. Let us rest in His promises as we live out each day.

HUGE 'Shout Out' to Pastor Jason Brown and his entire staff who welcomed us to Cornerstone Church for the Renewal. They all went way above and beyond.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO EACH ONE OF YOU!!! We love you, and every single day is a blessing to serve you and to lead this wonderful part of God's church we lovingly call the Arizona Ministry Network. Blessings be multiplied on each one of you!!!!



Sincerely,
Pastor Harris and Marjorie



*Around
the Network*



Pastor Harris enjoyed connecting with Arizona students during the SAGU Campus Days in Texas!



Missions Strategy

Throughout my lifetime, I have pondered mission strategy. Now, after 40+ years of full-time ministry, I still find myself thinking, praying and planning ways to be more effective in our mission of reaching the lost. We all know the best strategies require consistent, ongoing evaluation. There is so much more complexity today than there used to be. Church and missions used to be so much simpler. Church was made up of people who looked, acted, talked and even dressed alike. We understood and knew how to minister to them. But things change, just like the seasons, and if we're not willing to adapt to those changes, we'll still be doing things the same way we did 20 years ago.

Beloved, the wall between ecclesiology and missiology has been coming down for years. That era of "church is here and missions is over there" is gone. **The "over there" now lives on the same block as the local church.** As leaders, we now need a practical skill set of cross-cultural missions to use here at home, just as our missionaries are using these same strategies overseas.

Please allow me to share some brief highlights that were written by Rob Hoskins, along with some personal insights that speak to this process of our ever-changing missions environment and how it's imperative that we evaluate and adapt.

1. From emotive to informed.

When you combine the ubiquity of the Internet with the ease of access to technology and travel, the world is now a much flatter place. Information scarcity has turned into information overload. Everyone thinks they know everything about what's going on all around the world. However, that doesn't mean everyone possesses enough expertise to know how to respond effectively to crisis or needs. Truth is, there has never been a greater gap between knowledge and wisdom. The Apostle Paul said, **"Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up!"** Good missions strategy involves both information and inspiration. We need heart and mind to effectively reach an ever-changing culture.

2. From closed-denominational to open-Kingdom.

More congregations are desiring to move away from the “we do this and they do that” mentality to collaborate and do amazing things for the Kingdom. The caveat here becomes making sure what you say “yes” to aligns with your missions strategy and checking it against what authentic community and global engagement look like with the people God has placed in your church. Every church can do incredible things in missions if they reach beyond denominational lines and work with other outreach ministries to build the kingdom of God. Our Harvest Food Pantry is a positive example of this as we feed close to 1,000 people a week, and it all began with a simple connection to St. Mary’s Food Bank.

3. From “North to South” to “From all – To all.”

It used to be that we sent missionaries to other parts of the world to evangelize and start churches. These regions, like Latin America, Africa and Asia, now have mature church models. In fact, the world is showing up at our doorstep as other countries are now sending church planters to weak parts of the U.S. We need to create tools to help us find great international partners, rather than just being great international patrons. Jesus said, **“This gospel will be preached to ALL nations!”** We need both a local and global strategy as we strive to fulfill the Great Commission.

4. From unilateral to cooperative.

This means shifting from “this is the way we do it” to Spirit-led collaboration. Acts 13:2 says, **“While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”** The Holy Spirit is always leading the church to cooperate with His vision and will. And His mission has been and will continue to be to **“seek and save the lost.”** Thankfully, we see this strategy being used to a greater degree throughout our Assemblies of God U.S. and Global Missions, knowing that when we cooperate with each other, we all go further.

5. From generalist to specialist.

The global Church has become quite established and sophisticated. Receiving churches more often need specialists that can bridge very specific gaps, rather than the generalists with willing hearts who were effective in the past. We need every gift and talent to grow the kingdom of God. Missions strategy should include the fivefold-ministry gifts and the motivational gifts seen in Ephesians, Romans and Corinthians. The church needs teachers and techies, prophets and pianists, evangelists and encouragers, apostles and (digital) apps, preachers and prayer warriors. In God’s economy, **every member in the body of Christ is important and plays a vital part in fulfilling the Lord mission.**

6. From output-based to outcome-based.

As a baby boomer, this bullet point hits close to home because so much of my self-worth in ministry had been based on performance. I am still learning that “success” in ministry depends on how you define “effective” ministry. Increasingly, ministries are finding that they are exponentially more fruitful when they focus less on how much work they are doing, and instead define and measure how they are making a difference. This shift requires introspection into purity of motives and faithfulness of effort, along with intelligent and intentional pursuit of effectiveness. I should also like to add that missions effectiveness is a marathon, not a 100-yard dash, and the process is as important as the result.

7. From limited to holistic.

Most of the global Church shake their head at our Western debate between focusing on humanitarian efforts, as opposed to pure evangelism. Once we find the middle-ground and help each camp realize that the Bible mandates we do both **together**, we can then compose a holistic, robust model that combines and leverages both. Food banks and outreach teams go hand-in-hand because “a full belly softens the heart.”

8. From strictly individualistic to cultural narrative.

The big conversation in the last half-century has been whether to focus ministry efforts on structures or on individuals. From a local church perspective, it's important to listen to different ideas and pieces of information sent our way, then step back and think about the next 3 – 5 or even 10 years. Thinking and strategizing takes time, but it's imperative to systematically look at what we're doing, why we're doing it, who we are becoming, where the world is now and how it's changing. The world is changing, but the gospel is not. And then ask yourselves, “How is our ministry, church and missions strategy adapting accordingly?”

I hope and pray that one, two or many of these strategy points will help you as you continue to set your heart on missions. And as always, thank you for your investment in prayer, encouragement and support of our missionaries. May the Lord bless you during this holiday season and give you peace and strength to continue in your calling.



Ron Rockwell
Assistant Superintendent

INNOVATE COHORT & CELEBRATING HOPE OF LIFE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

LEIGH METCALF
SECRETARY/TREASURER



Hope of Life International Church is PAID OFF!

Pastor Theo Nkinzingabo and his wife, Aimee came to the United States from Central Africa in 2008 and launched Hope of Life International Church in 2011. After renting for several years, Pastor Theo felt from the Lord that it was time to purchase a building for their ministry to expand. The church was faithful to give and in 2017, they purchased their building in Phoenix. With a word from the Lord, the church then began to remodel this building with the words of their Pastor echoing "Why not us? We are immigrants, but we can do it! It is our time now. We aren't going to ask others to help us, not one penny. We can build this!" The faith of Pastor Theo and his church has paid off as they are now able to say that their building and remodel is paid off after only 5 years!

Innovate Cohort Testimony

During the 2022 Innovate Cohort, Pastors Monty and Kelli have been openly available to us and they have been able to provide spiritual guidance in our churches mission and vision. They have also given us great insight in overseeing our multi-campus expansion. Their expertise in building churches and community has helped us continue to grow as a church and as a leadership team."

Raul Salgado

Lead Pastor | Revolution Ministries



In January of 2023, the Arizona Church Multiplication Network will be launching another 10-month Innovate Cohort for your church to be part of!

If you are interested, please email me at lmetcalf@azag.org

Note to Self...

Return Your Spirit!

The Law of Lord is perfect, reviving the soul (Ps. 19:7a)...He restores my soul (Ps. 23:3a).

My mornings just seem to beckon the psalms. In both my lowest and highest of times, the psalms always seem so appropriate. I return to them over and over again. I also return to the same backyard spot by our pool, looking at mountains and the sunrise to the northeast of Mesa.

Psalm 19 provides an obvious outline. David begins with (1) the heavens and creation, moves to (2) the Law and precepts of God, and closes with (3) the introspection of his soul. It struck me recently that I have followed this same path for many years in my quiet time: creation, the word, and confession:

1. Contemplation of God and His creation
2. Consistent reading of God's word
3. Confession and cleansing of sin

I have done this over and over again, and it has brought healing and restoration to my life.

David exclaimed that God's word "revives" the soul and that our shepherd "restores" our soul. The Hebrew word is the same and it is most often translated "to return." Isn't it a wonderful thing that as we return to Him, our Maker and Savior, He will restore and revive on the inside? I

In reading on leadership, and in particular the health of leaders and pastors, a consistent theme is solitude. I love the intentionality Richard Foster reminds us of in this matter:



"Loneliness is inner emptiness. Solitude is inner fulfillment." I have found my most fulfilling moments with God to be with Him in His creation, meditating upon Him and His word, and receiving the cleansing forgiveness of grace that revives me for yet another day.

KEYS TO RETURNING:

Do a study of God as Creator throughout the word

Take your quiet time as outdoors as possible for you

Receive the elements of communion on your own more often

Meditate on St. Patrick's Breastplate Prayer (I can provide you a copy.)

I am always available to you...just give me a call: 480-579-9998.



Visit men.ag.org for men's ministry resources and discipleship material.



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



AZ Women's Ministries Project



This year the Arizona Women's Ministry is partnering with the country of Botswana. With over 80% of the country being blanketed by the Kalahari Desert, Botswana remains very arid and prone to droughts. Major environmental problems are making life hard on three-quarters of the population that depend on groundwater for survival. We are excited to partner with Botswana by building a well and clean water system. It cost \$12,000 to accomplish this goal - and we are inviting you to partner with us as we bring clean water and the hope found only in Jesus to the beautiful country of Botswana!

PRAY

Prayer can change everything. We ask that you join us in praying that God would guide our steps and multiply our efforts as we strive to be His hands and feet.

GIVE

We invite you to partner with us through a financial gift so we can make an impact for Jesus!

1. CHECK: Make checks payable to Arizona Ministry Network and designate women's project in the memo. Mail to Arizona Ministry Network.
2. GIVE ONLINE: Click [HERE](#) and select 'Women's Money for Missions'

GO

We are inviting women throughout the state of Arizona to gather together throughout the year to serve. During this time, we will have various projects organized that will support the ministries and missionaries we're partnering with this year.



Arizona Youth Ministries



Youth Convention 2022 GOOD NEWS

We struck a new vein of revival in our youth and young adults. New wells of revival are springing up in the desert, and we are marching unshackled into the fullness of God's promises for this generation.

240 decisions for Christ, hundreds responded to the call of God for full-time vocational ministry, and over \$60,000 (most in a single offering) given to *Speed the Light*, and a fresh wind of God's Spirit in the headlines!

AIM LATIN AMERICA MISSIONAL TOUR May 15-22, 2023

We're leading a youth and young adult pastor AIM trip for leaders who have not been or haven't been on a mission trip in a long time!

<https://www.azagyouth.org/lamt>



GRIFFIN MCGRATH
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT DIRECTOR
GMCGRATH@AZAG.ORG



@azagym + @griffinmcgrath

January 13-14, 2023

YOUTH LEADERS' SUMMIT 2023



Granite Hills Retreat & Conference Center
Special Guests: Rod Whitlock & Chris Moore

YOUTH LEADERS' SUMMIT 2023

We are excited for our Arizona Youth Leaders' Summit January 13-14, 2023! Our greatest resource in developing the next generation is each other. Before our students meet with God this summer, we want to have an encounter with Him together as leadership.

Our bullseye for 2023 is **discipleship**. The man who literally wrote the book on discipleship (*Creating a Discipleship Culture in Your Youth Ministry*), Rod Whitlock, is our keynote speaker. Rod was the National AG Youth Discipleship Director for a decade and continues to be a key voice in the development of Bible Engagement Project and current national discipleship curriculum.

Also featured at our summit is Chris Moore, founder of Youth Pastor Round Table and Good & Faithful. DJ Ross out of SoCal Worship Collective will lead scaled back, intentional times of worship. You will hear practical breakout sessions from your peers that are successfully making disciples in creative ways. There are also strategic breaks in the schedule to connect!

VISIT OUR WEBPAGE
AZAGYOUTH.ORG
TO STAY UP TO DATE
ON ALL THE LATEST
INFO!



*Thank You
Kids Ministry
Leaders!*

As the year comes to a close, I want to take the time to thank all of our kids ministry leaders across our Arizona churches!

I know you work hard to create an amazing experience for every child that comes through your ministry, and I want to remind you that what you do matters! There is so much you do behind the scenes like writing and prepping lessons, setting up classrooms, scheduling volunteers, getting check-in systems to work, and so much more!

From the big moments to the small moments, thank you for being faithful and consistent. You are impacting lives for the Kingdom of God. You are showing little hearts how to love Jesus. You are ministering to families. You are laying the foundation of God's Word in their lives.

Thank you for all you do and I will continue to pray for you and your ministries.



**Sincerely,
Kirstyn Rempel**

PRODUCING

We are your on ramp for ministers and local church leaders in the Assemblies of God. We exist to help students grow in their calling through practical instruction in partnership with the local church.

MINISTERS & LEADERS

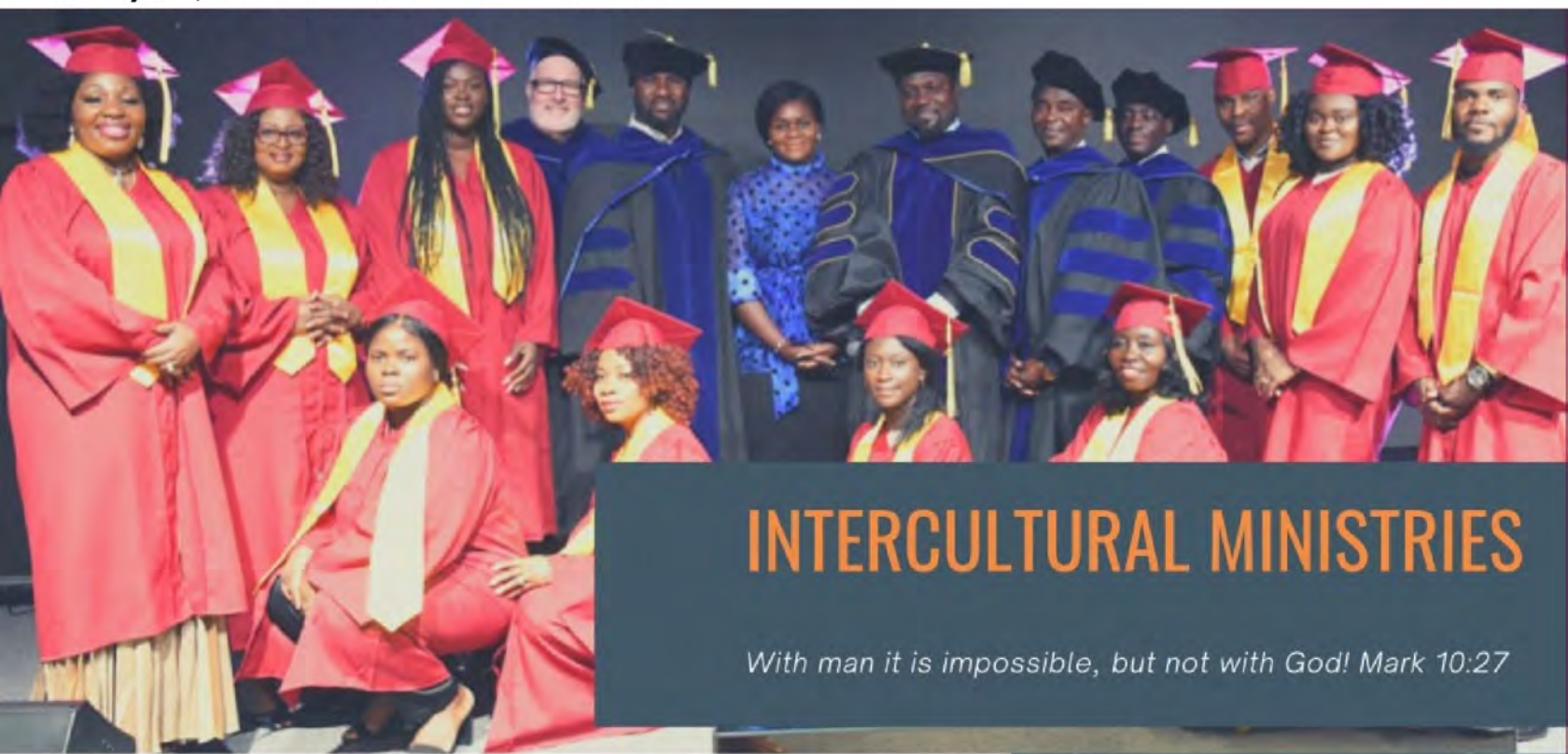
All of our classes meet the educational requirements for ministry credentialing with the Assemblies of God. Whether you feel called to be a pastor or just want to be a better small group leader we have classes to meet your needs.

FOR EVERY CONTEXT

Our classes meet all around the state and virtually and include top quality instruction from scholars and practitioners in our movement. Classes happen month to month and you can hop in anytime.



azasom.com



INTERCULTURAL MINISTRIES

With man it is impossible, but not with God! Mark 10:27

FIRST CONGOLESE ARIZONA SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

On October 22, 2022, we gathered with pastoral leaders from four vibrant Congolese churches, studying for credentials with the Assemblies of God. We do not have text books in their native language, so we teach through a translator using a study guide as their text book.

The Study guide is being translated. A heartfelt thank you to the Arizona Ministry Network, Secretary/Treasurer Leigh Metcalf and ASOM Director, Yisrael Vicente for their \$2,000 scholarship investment for refugee pastors.



GRADUATION

What a great blessing to speak at the graduation for the 2022 class of Jesus Power Assembly of God's School of Ministry in Chandler. These incredible gifted students are developing their God given abilities through education and ministry. Two of these students are now seeking credentials with the Assemblies of God. Thank you, Pastor Edmund Eghan, for your vision and the building disciples of Jesus Christ!



Pastor's Summits

Every eight weeks, our Intercultural Pastors gather for a Leaders Summit. We meet with three groups: Hispanic, Asian American, and the African Pastors. They come to build relationships, receive coaching, develop personally and set goals for their present ministry and future in Arizona.





DENISE RYAN
DIRECTOR

DRYAN@AZAG.ORG



@AZNWM
@AZDENISERYAN



NWM

Called to Lead

Highlights



SAVE THE DATES

FEBRUARY 17TH 2023

*Generation Church
Mesa, Arizona*

MAY 19TH 2023

*Harvent Church
Glendale, Arizona*

MARCH 17TH-18TH 2023

*Passion Church
Casa Grande, Arizona*

OCTOBER 10TH 2023

*Radiant Church
Surprise Arizona*



Teen Challenge of Arizona

Thankful!

Colossians 4:2



FALL FUNDRAISING BANQUET TOUR 2022

Featuring our State-wide Choir & Powerful Stories of Changed Lives!

TUCSON

Tucson Teen Challenge/Springboard

MONDAY, November 7, 2022

RECEPTION: 6PM // BANQUET: 7PM

El Conquistador

10000 N. Oracle Road, Tucson, AZ 85704

TICKETS \$57 / TABLE \$456

CONTACT: Tucson (520) 730-4265

Springboard (520) 404-4561

PHOENIX

Greater Phoenix Teen Challenge

FRIDAY, November 18, 2022

RECEPTION: 6PM // BANQUET: 7PM

Renaissance Phoenix Glendale

9495 W. Coyotes Blvd, Glendale, AZ 85305

TICKETS \$66 / TABLE \$528

CONTACT: (602) 478-7704

EAST VALLEY

Greater Phoenix Teen Challenge

THURSDAY, November 17, 2022

RECEPTION: 6PM // BANQUET: 7PM

DoubleTree Hilton - Phoenix Mesa

1011 W. Holmes Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85210

TICKETS \$66 / TABLE \$528

CONTACT: (602) 478-7704

SCOTTSDALE

Christian Life Ranch

SATURDAY, November 19, 2022

RECEPTION: 6PM // BANQUET: 7PM

DoubleTree - Paradise Valley Scottsdale

5401 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85250

TICKETS \$66 / TABLE \$528

CONTACT: (602) 309-4391



STAY CONNECTED WITH THE ARIZONA MINISTRY NETWORK APP!

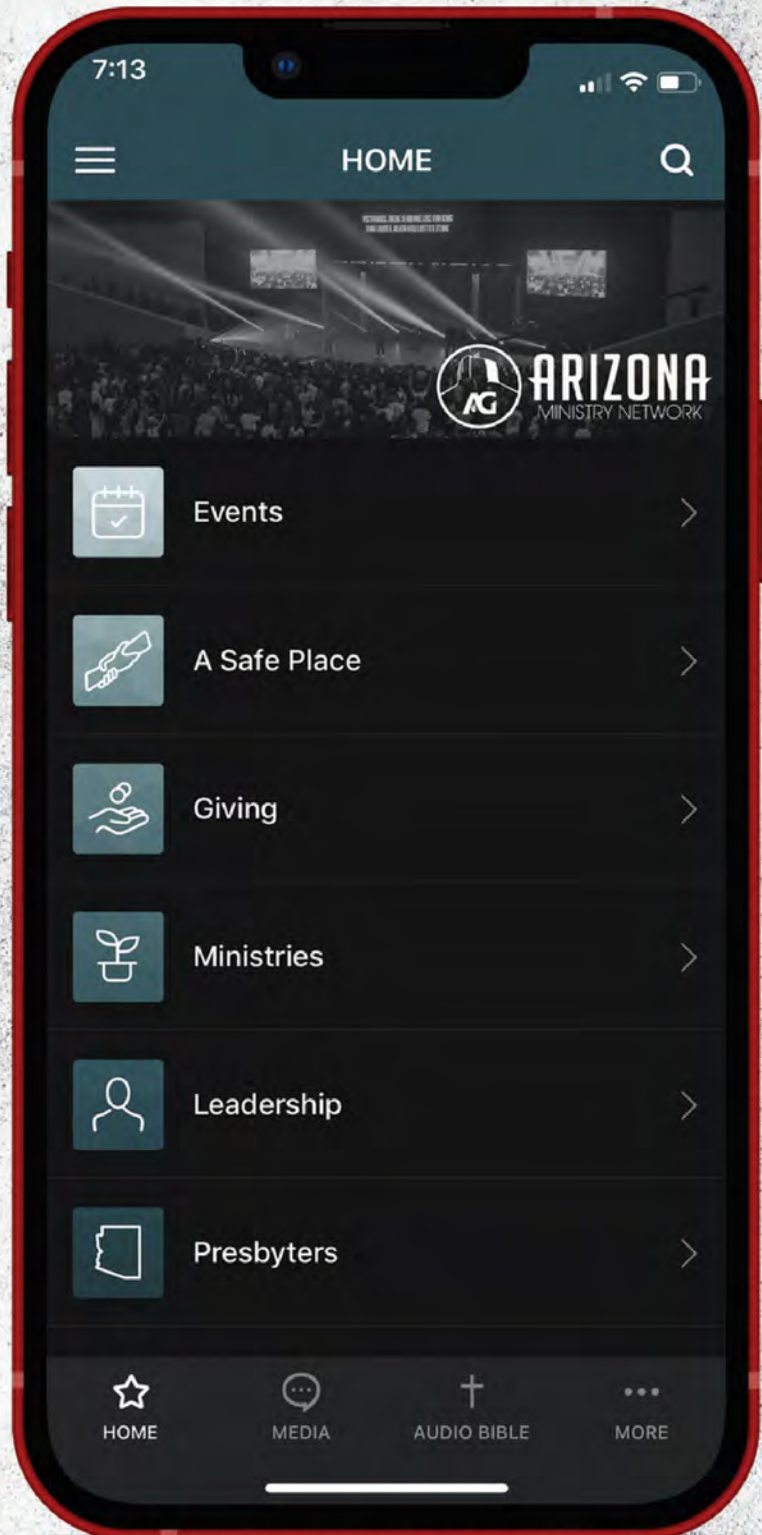


Get easy access to:

- **A Safe Place** - List of elder contacts for times of crisis + coaching
- **Events** - detailed information/ easy registration
- **Ministries** - links to all network ministry websites
- **Leadership** - network leadership/presbytery contacts
- **Inspiration** - daily scripture + network pastors' blogs
- **Giving** - easy giving link
- **Media** - of network events



SCAN TO DOWNLOAD
OUR APP



Network Information

ARIZONA MINISTRY NETWORK

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

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Ron Rockwell Assistant Superintendent

Leigh Metcalf Secretary-Treasurer

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Jesus Garza

Dale Gray

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Jeremy Peters North Central Section

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Bruce Rahlf Northwest Section

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Eric Young South Section

Paula Milner Southwest Section

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Kirstyn Rempel Kids Ministries

Dale Gray Men's Ministries

Lindsay Petri Women's Ministries

Jeff Peterson Pastoral Care

Yoyo Garcia 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

Cedar Creek, Assembly of God
Dennehotso, Trinity Assembly of God
Kayenta, Living Word Assembly of God
Page, First Assembly of God
Rainbow Mtn., Navajo Mtn.
San Manuel, Assembly of God
Shonto, Victory Assembly of God
Welton, Assembly of God

TRANSFERRED IN

Benjamin Crosby from South Carolina
Mark Duncan from Arkansas
Carley Kendrick from the Oregon
Cody Mckee from North Texas

DECEASED

Larry Tuton - 10/25/22

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