

Amazing Grace Christian Church  
7310 W. Camelback Rd.  
Glendale, AZ 85301



JANUARY 2019---Newsletter

*12 <sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, (Hebrews 12:1 )*

Friends, I am writing this the week before Christmas and the week after my 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary as your pastor at Amazing Grace. We were blessed this past Sunday with seven former inmates at worship. One of them was baptized at our Spanish service. As I reflect on this great cloud of witnesses I think back when Robyn and I first arrived to a congregation consisting of 23 people at worship (6 in the summer). God is so very good! But as I looked out this past Sunday at a full sanctuary, I saw the faces of miracles or witnesses. **Each and every face I saw had a story behind it witnessing to the power and the love of God.** There were people who had battled illness, people who helped others battle illness, people who were addicts, people who were incarcerated, people who had lost a loved one, people who had been abused, people who were just plain lost, and many others each with their unique witness to God's love and power. As I looked out at these many blessed faces, this great crowd of witnesses, I was awed and humbled by the goodness of God. Robyn and I have persevered for seventeen years and many times **had our doubts and questioned God.** However, we continued to run the race. But as we have run, we did not race alone. The Lord ran with us with His saints and angels, protecting, providing, and encouraging us every step of the way. Even though at times we felt we were running alone, in reality, God was always with us sustaining us and loving us. In this **New Year** God calls all of us to continue *to "run with perseverance the race marked out for us."* This means we must dump the sin and garbage that gets in our spiritual paths and entangles us. For me it is letting go when people make their own choices that I strongly disagree with. God is in control and not me...and thanks be to God for this fact! Brothers and sisters join me in 2019 in **LOVING ALL PEOPLE TO CHRIST BY BECOMING JESUS' FOLLOWERS AND BY ENJOYING THE EVER-CHANGING ADVENTURE OF JESUS.** Continue to love one another and pray for one another.

Love & Peace,

Pastor Rick

Amazing Grace Christian Church  
7310 W. Camelback Rd. Glendale, AZ 85301  
ENERO 2019---Noticias



*Hebreos 12:1 'Por eso, nosotros, teniendo a nuestro alrededor tantas personas que han demostrado su fe, dejemos a un lado todo lo que nos estorba y el pecado que nos enreda, y corramos con fortaleza la carrera que tenemos por delante.*

Amigos, escribo esto la semana antes de Navidad y la semana después de mi 17 aniversario como su pastor de Sublime Gracia. Fuimos bendecidos el domingo pasado con siete ex reclusos en la adoración. Uno de ellos fue bautizado en nuestro servicio español. Al reflexionar sobre esta gran nube de testigos, recuerdo cuando Robyn y yo llegamos por primera vez a una congregación formada por 23 personas en la adoración (6 en el verano). ¡Dios es muy bueno! Pero mientras miraba el domingo pasado en una iglesia llena, vi los rostros de milagros o testigos. **Todas y cada una de las caras que vi tenían una historia detrás de ella, que daba testimonio del poder y el amor de Dios.** Hubo personas que lucharon contra enfermedades, personas que ayudaron a otros a combatir enfermedades, personas que eran adictos, personas que estaban encarceladas, personas que habían perdido a un ser querido, personas que habían sufrido abusos, personas que simplemente estaban perdidas, y muchos otros. Con su testimonio único del amor y poder de Dios. Al mirar estos muchos rostros bendecidos, esta gran multitud de testigos, me asombró y me humilló la bondad de Dios. Robyn y yo hemos perseverado durante diecisiete años y muchas veces **tuvimos nuestras dudas y cuestionamos a Dios.** Sin embargo, seguimos corriendo la carrera. Pero como hemos corrido, no hemos corrido solos. El Señor corrió con nosotros con Sus santos y ángeles, protegiéndonos, proveyéndonos y animándonos en cada paso del camino. Aunque a veces sentimos que corríamos solos, en realidad, Dios siempre estuvo con nosotros sosteniéndonos y amándonos. En este **Año Nuevo**, Dios nos llama a todos a continuar **"corriendo con perseverancia la carrera marcada para nosotros"**. Esto significa que debemos deshacernos del pecado y la basura que se meten en nuestros caminos espirituales y nos enredan. Para mí es dejar ir cuando las personas toman sus propias decisiones con las que estoy totalmente en desacuerdo. Dios está en control y no yo ... ¡Y gracias a Dios por este hecho! Hermanos y hermanas se unen a mí en 2019 **AMANDO A TODAS LAS PERSONAS A CRISTO CONVERTIENDO EN LOS SEGUIDORES DE JESÚS Y DISFRUTANDO DE LA AVENTURA DE JESÚS QUE CAMBIA SIEMPRE.** Continúen amándose y oren unos por otros.

Amor y paz.

## Stay Connected with AG

### BUBBA'S BREAKFAST



Monthly Men's breakfast!  
First Saturday of the month @ 8am.

### WOMEN'S BREAKFAST



Second Saturday of the month.  
8:30 am to 10:30 am.

### PRAYER MEETINGS



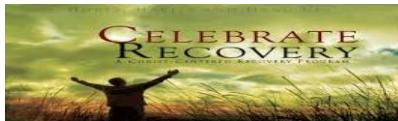
Every Monday at 4pm  
are together in Jesus' name, there he is...  
Join us in our prayer meeting and feel  
the presence of the Lord!

### FREE COMMUNITY MEAL



Take a break from cooking and  
at the church, for a free meal,  
from 5:00 pm- 6:00 pm .

### CELEBRATE RECOVERY



Join us every Tuesday at 7:00 PM  
Bring your sorrows!!! Bring Your pain!!!  
Bring your shame!!!

### YOUTH GROUP



Youth group meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday at 10:30 AM

### CARE CENTER MINISTRY



Sunday at 1:30pm  
Pacifica Care Center  
Service by Shannon Owsley  
and Cathy Gardner

### JAIL MINISTRY



Monday	5 PM	Women's Mosaic
	6 PM	Men's Mosaic
Wednesday	5 PM	Men's Towers
Thursday	5 PM	Women's Estrella
	7 PM	Women's Estrella
Friday	6 PM	Men's Lower Buckeye SP.
Saturday	11:00 AM	Women Estrella
	2:00 PM	Women Estrella SP.
	2:00 PM	Men's Durango
	3:30 PM	Men's Durango SP.

### Jail Ministry:

Pastor Rick Bezanson  
Cecelia Stevenson

Pastor Perry Kopatz  
Sandi Strom

Pastor Robyn Bezanson  
Bill Thompson

Annette Valverde  
Hector De Los Santos

## **ODDS & ENDS**

### **TIME WITH PASTORS**

Sundays are very busy and several people come up to pastors to talk. Please do not ask for an appointment with them on a Sunday morning (they don't have their calendars with them). Instead, call their cell phone on Monday. Also, please choose another day to register your complaints about anything and let our pastors focus on their message and prayer.



### MARRIAGE MATTERS

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT MARRIAGE!**

Friends, Pastor Perry and I have considered the financial situation of many in our congregation, and felt moved to pay for marriage licenses for those who can't afford them. We are also offering to do a WEDDING BEFORE –THE –WEDDING. This consists of a private ceremony with the pastors (and a marriage license) before you have your large church wedding. Your pastors believe in the sanctity of marriage and encourage you to follow God's way pertaining to marriage and family. If you have any question, please, contact one of us.

### **IMPORTANTE MENSAJE SOBRE EL MATRIMONIO!**

Amigos, el Pastor Perry y yo hemos considerado la situación financier de muchos de los miembros de nuestra congregacion y nos sentimos movidos a pagar por las licencias de matrimonio para apuellos que no puede pagar. Tambien estamos oferciendo hacer una BODA-ANTES- DE- LA – BODA.

Esta consite en una ceremonia privada con los pastores (y una licencia de matrimonio) antes que ustedes tengan la gran boda religiosa. Sus pastores creen en la santidad del matrimonio y los animan a seguir los caminos de Dios, con lo que concierne al matrimonio y familia. Si tienen alguna preguntata, no duden en contactarnos.

### **SUGGESTION BOX**

Please, feel free to share ideas, volunteer your time or talents, get a call back from one of our council members. The box is located in the sanctuary on the back table.

## COMMUNION

Would you like to donate wine/juice for communion? We use white grape juice (any brand) and Mogan David or Manishevitz concord wine. One bottle of each usually lasts for a month. If you would like to donate either, or both, please sign up on the chart on the bulletin board. The Altar Guild thanks you!

## NEWSLETTER

If you have something you want put in the newsletter, or have an idea for an article or the Inspiration Corner, email us at [agchurch7310@yahoo.com](mailto:agchurch7310@yahoo.com)

## FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS

We are currently enrolled in the Fry's Community Rewards Program. Every year Fry's Foods donates money to several non-profit organizations. In order to further our efforts, please register your Fry's VIP card and use it every time you shop. A portion of your purchase is donated to Amazing Grace. Please encourage friends and family to register their VIP card as well (you can register with your alternate ID). The registration process is very fast and easy, please follow the steps below, our organization code is FQ019. If you don't have a computer or access to internet, Robert and I will assist with the registration. God bless you all!!!



Actualmente estamos inscritos en el Programa de Recompensas Comunitarias de Fry. Cada año Fry's Foods dona dinero a varias organizaciones sin fines de lucro. Con el fin de continuar nuestros esfuerzos, por favor, registrar la tarjeta VIP de Fry y usarla cada vez que haga compras. Una parte de su compra es donada a Amazing Grace. Por favor anime a sus amigos y familiares a registrar su tarjeta VIP también (puede registrarse con su ID alternativa). El proceso de registro es muy rápido y fácil, por favor siga los pasos a continuación, nuestro código de organización es 71900. Si no tiene una computadora o acceso a Internet, Robert y yo le ayudaremos con el registro.  
iii Dios los bendiga a todos!!!



*Birthdays  
of the Month*

NAME	DATE
Angelica Palacios	1/06
Jacqueline Rodriguez	1/10
Janet Reyes-Letcher	1/12
Shirley Johnson	1/15
Aranay Marquez	1/15
Vanessa Miranda	1/22
Alijah Marquez	1/23
Dennis Mondragon	1/23
Jaslene Mondragon Reyes	1/25
Robyn Bezanson	1/26
Lindsey Bezanson	1/30

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

If you need offering/tithe envelopes, please see Paula Berkshire.

**Pastor Contact Information:**

\*Pastor Rick Bezanson Cell: 602-320-4728

E-mail: [bezanson1@cox.net](mailto:bezanson1@cox.net)

Off on Fridays

\*Associate Pastor Perry Kopatz Cell: 602-618-7129

E-mail: [micah7pk@yahoo.com](mailto:micah7pk@yahoo.com)

Off on Saturdays

\*Associate Pastor Robyn Bezanson Cell: 602-320-4767

E-mail: [bezanson2@cox.net](mailto:bezanson2@cox.net)

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

SEE US AT: [www.Grace-Happens.org](http://www.Grace-Happens.org)



Amazing Grace has a wonderful Youth Group! All youth 12-17 years old are welcome. If you love pizza, we invite you to join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. The more the merrier.

We are eight members strong and growing. Robert and I are committed to guiding and encouraging the youth to learn about Jesus, and to apply this knowledge in their everyday lives. We offer a safe place for the youth to be themselves, share God's love, and explore their faith with friends and people who care. Our core objectives are learning about the bible, worshiping, and being of service to our community. We have been blessed to attend two major Christian Concerts, clean apartments for a Women's Shelter, prepare the Easter Egg Hunt, help with the Fall Festival, and have other community service projects coming up in 2019.

In His Love, Cathy Gardner & Robert Lorenzani

