

Church Worship & Office Location

2215 S 8th Ave, Yuma, AZ 85364
(928) 343-9551

ctryuma@gmail.com

Fr. Austin Mansfield, a/OSA, Rector
(928) 247-4001

fr.mansfield@gmail.com

Dcn Linda Stokes, Assisting Clergy
(928) 259-6620 llstokes1@me.com

Worship Service Times

Sunday 11:30 a.m. & Wednesday 5:30 p.m.

Church Mailing Address:

PO Box 2919
Yuma, AZ 85366

Find us Online: ctryuma.org

Find us on Facebook:



Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church,
A Christian Community

Parish Council Members

Senior Warden

Sherri Wayman, sswayman@yahoo.com

Junior Warden

Jennifer Kircher, jangyuma@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Jeffrey Polston, Jeffrey@matpc.com

Assistant Treasurer

Mary Sue Houston,

neverhom2003@yahoo.com

Motty Durham, mottydurham@yahoo.com

Pat Fraser, lakefrontwest@shaw.ca

Jo Towner, josephine.towner@gmail.com

Ann Traverso, anntraverso@hotmail.com

David Wayman, dwayman66@yahoo.com

Next Parish Council Meeting
November 18, 2020, 7 p.m.

Thank you to all who are participating in writing a devotional for this year's booklet. Please remember they are due in the office by November 12.

In Word – Peace During Conflict

At the time this article is being written, no decision has been reached in our national election. There is no sweeping mandate from either side, but there is a clear division in what are supposed to be *united* states.

In his letter to the church in Rome, Paul encourages the Christians there to live in harmony—Jewish Christians and Gentile Christians—together as part of one Body of Christ.

If it is possible on your part, be at peace with all people. — Rom 12:18

There was a lot of conflict in the church when the Jews who had been banished from Rome for 12 years were allowed to return and discovered the Christian churches there now had a decidedly Gentile culture rather than Jewish one. Both groups were supposed to be Christians, yet they let their differences, rather than their similarities, define them.

Peter addressed a similar situation regarding the Jewish Christian view of the Gentiles Paul had brought to Christ. He describes Yahweh's desire to reach Gentiles as well as Jews during his meeting with the Jerusalem Council regarding circumcision and Mosaic Law.

Continues on next page

And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written:
¹⁶ *‘After these things I will return and build up again the tent of David that has fallen, and the parts of it that had been torn down I will build up again and will restore it, ¹⁷ so that the rest of humanity may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who makes these things ¹⁸ known from of old.’ —*
Acts 15:15–18

In verses 15-17b, Peter refers to the prophet Amos (9:11-12) and in 17c-18 he adds a statement from Isaiah 45:21. Amos and Isaiah did not say identical things; they said things that mesh together to give a more complete vision of Yahweh’s intention for his people.

Peter’s statement the “the words of the prophets agree” doesn’t match our perspective of what “agree” means. In our political discourse, “agreeing” with someone requires exact mirroring of that person’s views.

The Greek word translated as agree is *symphoneo*, from which we get symphony. Symphony orchestras typically have 70 to over 100 musicians playing 50 to 100 instruments. Picture every last one of them playing a C# over and over. Not very entertaining. The musicians play various notes that work well together. When a long series of notes that sound good together are structured to form a sequence with a beginning, middle, and end, it is a symphony. When notes that don’t work well together are added, it’s called *discord*. The word *discord* used to be common as a verb meaning *disagree*, as in “we discorded about the

subject.” Praying in one *accord*, therefore, is the opposite of *discord*. Agreement is not duplication. It is a blending of different ideas with the same goal in mind. Prayer is in one accord when it desires that God’s will be done, rather than our own.

We are called by God to be in community; even more so, we are created by God to *need* community. Humans are social beings. We are also tribal, which means that when our social network reaches the size we find beneficial, we strengthen the bond with members of that community with whom we share particular traits (religion, music preference, neighborhoods, political perspectives, favorite sports teams, etc.), and push away those people whose traits aren’t like ours. Having grown up in the Bronx, I can attest to the serious social differences between Yankees and Red Sox fans. If you were from the Bronx, you were expected to be a Yankees fan (they were nicknamed the Bronx Bombers). If you wore a Boston Red Sox cap to a ballgame in Yankee Stadium (or a Yankees cap at Fenway Park in Boston) you were risking serious bodily injury. Seems pretty dumb, doesn’t it—beating someone for wearing a ballcap that indicates they like something different from you?

The prophet Isaiah described a governmental structure, of which America’s founding fathers were no doubt aware.

For Yahweh is our judge; Yahweh is our lawgiver. Yahweh is our king; he is the one who will save us. — Isaiah 33:22

Think about the three aspects of governance that Isaiah describes in separate terms, yet are part of the same holistic design led by God.

One aspect is judging disputes among the people regarding the laws given to them by another aspect, whose administration is enforced by the authority of a single executive of yet a third aspect.

Isaiah is describing a judiciary, a legislature, and an executive branch all embodied by God in his perfect kingdom. Here on earth, however, those three elements are separate, ensuring a balance of power and better likelihood of justice. The framers understood this and created a system that went completely against the monarchies of that time that had placed all three branches under the authority of one ruler.

Isaiah recognized that only God could embody all three. Lord Acton had said, “Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.” The American experiment eliminated the “absolute” power of government and put much of it in the hands of the people being governed. It was a radical idea that the European monarchies expected to fail quickly. Instead most European countries today have adopted some form of the three-branched government, with the remaining monarchs retained mostly as figureheads and tourist attractions.

America is not “God’s country.” Heaven is. America is a country that needs God. The only nation he has called by his authority (name) in the history of the world is Israel. God is not surprised by our election results, ever. Whatever the results, the president, senators, and representatives for this next term will have been put there by him for his purpose.

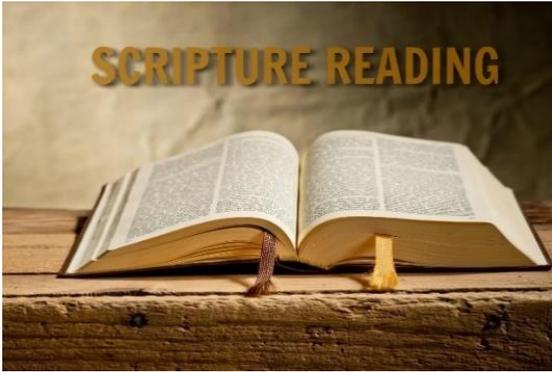
Our system is not perfect, but it is designed to settle disputes peacefully, without overthrowing the government whenever there’s a disagreement. The judiciary branch exists for settling legal differences; and bringing cases between two parties for a fair remedy goes back to Exodus for Christians (and even further for other cultures), when Moses was overwhelmed by having to judge all the Israelites disagreements himself. His father-in-law, Jethro, recommended that Moses delegate some of that authority to wise and honest men, to judge over groups of a thousand, hundred, and ten (Exodus 18:13-23).

Elections by their nature are disputes of a sort. When the decision of the people is not clear (too close to call, concerns about methods, etc.), the judiciary weighs the evidence and decides the outcome of the disputes brought before it.

That’s the way our system is designed. Lawsuits do not indicate a problem with the system. They show that our system addresses disruptive issues through legal recourse rather than violence.

Whatever the final results of this election are, we must come together as a nation, in agreement that we want to be the *United States of America*—a symphony for the world.

In Christ,
Fr. Austin



**Prayer, Praise and
Healing Service
Wednesday, November 18
5:30 p.m.**

Readings for November 8

Amos 5:18-24
Psalm 70
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

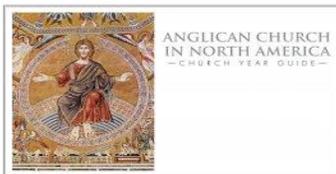


Those Who Serve Sunday

Altar Guild ~ Jennifer Kircher
Ushers ~ Randy & Patty Smith
Lessons ~ Dorothy Warner
Prayers ~ Motty Durham
Chalice ~ Sherri Wayman



Altar Guild has the **Church Year
Calendars** available for \$5 each. They are
available in the foyer.
Please leave your payment in the basket.
Thank you and God bless you.



JANUARY 2021						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Our second Healing Service was a success! Two guest musicians and members of Faith Lutheran Church joined us. Please plan to attend our 3rd service which will focus on THANKSGIVING. See you Nov. 18th at 5:30pm. Please consider bringing a friend.

Rev. Deacon Dr. Linda Stokes
Assisting Clergy

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 8

11:30a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, November 10

6:30 a.m. Bible Study – Job
9:30 a.m. Prayers and Squares – CtR Library
1 – 3 p.m. Bible Study at Dorothy Warner’s home

Wednesday, November 11

2:00 p.m. Bible Study - Pauline Letters (Romans)
5:30 p.m. Worship Service

Thursday, November 12

10 a.m. – Noon Women’s Prayer Group
(CtR Library) **NEW DAY AND LOCATION!**

Sunday, November 15

11:30 a.m. Worship Service

Join Fr. Austin on a Trip to Israel!

Brochures and Registration forms for Fr. Austin's trip are available in the Narthex at church, or by contacting the office. Trip will depart on February 22 and return on March 1, 2021. For more information, contact Fr. Austin. See more information at the end of this newsletter.



Do you have a prayer request that you would like to submit? Our Tuesday prayer group will be praying for all submissions at our weekly meetings. Kindly submit your prayers to Deacon Linda via email – llstokes1@me.com, or call at 928-259- 6620, or fill out a form found in your bulletin during our worship service. All prayers are kept confidential.



Prayer Requests

Lord, we ask you to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in sickness, or any other adversity. Open the hearts to know your love and feel your presence.

We pray for Ann Traverso, Pastor Glen Larsen, Linda Larsen, Linda Pruden, Denise, Connie, Sue, Scotty Haskell, St. Paul's Church (Payson, AZ), Christopher Randle, Diane Manning,

Fr. Austin, Bishop Keith, Abbie Bundy, Betty (Bo Peep) Penny, Donna, Dcn. Linda, Lorraine Chavez, Steve Chacon, Merle Shyne, Laura, Darlene O., Maddy, Lauren, Steven, Elena, Officer Shay K. Mikalonis, Niki, Roni, Bob, Carol, Mickey Greenlund, Zachary, Kathy Watson, Tyler, and Pray for the World.

If you would like to submit prayer requests for this newsletter or if you have any updates, please contact the church office at 928-343-9551, or ctryuma@gmail.com

PRAYERS FOR THE DEANERY OF AZ

The Rev. Dr. Earle Fox, Good Shepherd, Mesa

The Rev. Leo and Sylvia Laney, Living Faith, Tempe



CtR Prayer Project

Leviticus 19:18-Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

If you hear the words “God’s laws”, what immediately comes to mind? Yes! The Ten Commandments! When I was in Sunday School as a child, we were charged with the task of memorizing them. And when I taught Sunday School for many years to 5th and 6th graders, I challenged them to memorize them, as well. But as an adult, leading women’s Bible study groups, we have read and studied much more of the Bible than just Exodus 20, and we have come to see that there are three categories of laws in the Old Testament: ceremonial, moral, and civil. Ceremonial laws governed Israel’s worship; its primary purpose was to point to Jesus Christ. Ceremonial laws became unnecessary after Jesus’ death and resurrection, because His sacrifice (He’s called “The Lamb”) was once for all. We are still to worship and love our God, because Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us, enabling us to become Children of God, forgiven, and the Bride of Christ---eligible to

spend eternity with Him. Moral law is a direct command from God, just as the Ten Commandments were a direct command to the Israelites wandering in the wilderness, and moral law still applies today. We are to obey it, not to earn our salvation, but to walk in the Spirit and live in a way that is pleasing to God. Civil law, like the Scripture in Leviticus, above, dictated Israel's daily living in community, but we cannot follow all of these laws strictly because our society and culture is much different today than it was 2,000+ years ago. However, the principle behind civil commands should still guide our conduct. Civil laws promote unity and harmony among the people of a nation and the peoples of different nations. In our nation right now, we are divided---not so much by political preference as by those following and wanting to please God and those rejecting God and wanting to please themselves or other men. In order to have law and order in our world, we must first acknowledge the facts that 1) God created this world we live in; 2) Sin separates us from God and each other; 3) God has provided the path to peace and unity with Himself and other men; and 4) God is coming back to earth to set up His kingdom, where His laws---ceremonial, moral, and civil---will reign supreme forever.

Praying in One Accord-Only when we live in accord with God's laws can we be in one accord with other men.

Accord Prayer-Lord Christ, thank You for fulfilling all the ceremonial, moral, and civil laws; help us continue to love and worship You in everything we do, think, and say. In Your Name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving-Father God, thank You for Your Word, which teaches us about Your ceremonial, moral, and civil laws; thank You for helping us obey them and the principles behind them, in and through the power of Your Holy Spirit. Amen.



Prayers and Squares Needs YOU!

Prayers and Squares can really use your help. Even if you can't sew there are still many ways you can participate. The group meets on Tuesday mornings, starting at 9:30 a.m. in the Library.

For those of you requesting a quilt, contact Lisa Reel (760-937-4323), Katy Mize (928-782-0843) or email the church office ctryuma@gmail.com.



A Few Reminders about the Christian Church (Based on John 17):

God is expecting His Church to change the world.
If we as a Church are divided, the world doesn't stand a chance.
A house divided against itself cannot stand.
Christ is counting on us to be in unity with each other and with Him, so that
the world will know the Father sent Him.
The Christ who unites us is more powerful than the politics that divide us.

Dorothy Warner with help from KB



Anglican Deanery of AZ Next Steps Conference

November 7, 2020 9:00 a.m. Arizona Time

Goal of the Conference: Help people in Arizona and Nevada get excited about spreading the Gospel right where they are.

Proposed Schedule to include a Morning Prayer service, and discussions about "Where we are today and where are we going?" Reports will also be given about the new church plants in Prescott, AZ, Maricopa, AZ, and Las Vegas.

An email was sent out Thursday (11/5) with the links to join this conference. No sign up needed.



KCFY Fall Sharathon
Nov. 18-20, 2020

Help keep Christian radio on the air!
 The goal is \$85,000 – that will keep KCFY
 broadcasting for the next 6 months.
 Call 928-317-8810 or go to www.kcfy.com to
 donate.



Quiet? It's exactly what I needed!

Soul Care Retreat ~ Nov. 14
 Live Contemplative 2-hour Retreat
 Self-guided Silent Retreat resources
 Soaking Prayer ministry

For ALL ACNA, for you.
 A part of the Matthew 25 Virtual Gathering

An email was sent out on Thursday (Nov. 5) that
 included a link to register for this. Cost is \$49.

You may also go to their website directly:
Anglicanjusticeandmercy.org, and click on
 “The Gathering” for more information and
 registration.



The Parable of the Ten Virgins
Matthew 25:1-13

L K K L K D F D W H E N
 W T V U U B E C A U S E
 I O H W T R L L D B A O
 S O M E A I L E A S G S
 E K E P R D R S N Y B A
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ANSWERED	BECAME	BECAUSE
BRIDEGROOM	COMPARED	DELAYED
DOOR	DROWSY	FELL
FIVE	FLASKS	FOOLISH
HEAVEN	KINGDOM	KNOW
LAMPS	LORD	MEET
OLIVE	ONES	SAID
SOME	TAKE	THEN
THERE	TOOK	VIRGINS
WENT	WHEN	WISE