



Making disciples who make disciples

*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
January 31, 2021*

Church Worship & Office Location

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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

Frank Durham, frankdurham65@yahoo.com

Junior Warden

Randy Smith, Bumper1194@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jeffrey Polston, Jeffrey@matpc.com

Assistant Treasurer

Mary Sue Houston,

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Ann Traverso, anntraverso@hotmail.com

David Wayman, dwayman66@yahoo.com

Connie Whitener, Believe47@q.com

Eric Scherrer, ericandrewscherrer@gmail.com

Next Parish Council Meeting
February 24, 2021 6:30 p.m.



GriefShare Program

The GriefShare program will begin Tuesday, Feb. 2, at 6:30 p.m. in our multipurpose room (library/classroom).

The 13-week program is for people who have lost a family member or friend. There is a \$20 cost for the workbook.

Please contact the office if you will attend to ensure adequate supplies.



Lenten Devotions

Thank you to those who selected a devotion (or two) for this year's Lenten Devotional. The deadline your submission is **February 4**. Many thanks to those who have already submitted their devotions!



Sunday's Scripture Readings

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111;
1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28



Those Who Serve

Altar Guild ~ Mary Sue Houston
Ushers- Sherri Wayman & Jim Slater
Chalice-Alan Kircher & Mary Sue Houston
Lessons- Bill Ramsey
Prayers- Sherri Wayman

In Word – Stumbling Blocks

“It’s my right!”

We hear this exclamation frequently, even about things that aren’t really “rights.” Just because something isn’t illegal, doesn’t make it a “right.” But the context it’s used in usually translates to “I want to do this, and you can’t stop me.”

This attitude extends back to the days of creation, with the first sin growing from the prideful idea that they had a “right” to know the same things that God knows regarding good and evil. That attitude was just as prevalent in Paul’s time.

In writing to the church in Corinth, Paul addressed the conflict in the church regarding false gods, food, and faith. The main religion of the time and culture was pantheistic, meaning they worshipped many gods.

Christians claimed that only Jesus was Lord, but the local culture recognized many as lord, even the emperor. Meat was frequently dedicated to one or more of their gods, and when buying meat, the odds were very good that it had been offered to one of these false gods by someone along the way to getting that leg of lamb to market. Maybe the shepherd or the butcher in Corinth, or the guy running the market, but someone probably offered it to some god before the Christian bought it.

Paul describes this dilemma for the Corinthian Christians.

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols, we know that “we all have

knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ² If anyone thinks he knows anything, he has not yet known as it is necessary to know. ³ But if anyone loves God, this one is known by him.

⁴ Therefore, concerning the eating of food sacrificed to idols, we know that “an idol is nothing in the world” and that “there is no God except one.” ⁵ For even if after all there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth, just as there are many gods and many lords, ⁶ yet to us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we are for him, and there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we are through him. —

1 Corinthians 8:1–6 (LEB)

After logically explaining that someone else’s sacrifice to their low-level god has no effect on Christians being able to eat it, because they recognize the falsehood of that sacrifice, Paul adds some additional perspective. He tells the Corinthians that other Christians among them do not yet have that level of understanding. The term he uses is “weak,” but is not meant disparagingly; rather it’s an objective description of that person’s journey with Jesus at that point in the process.

But this knowledge is not in everyone. But some, being accustomed until now to the idol, eat this food as food sacrificed to

idols, and their conscience, because it is weak, is defiled. ⁸ *But food does not bring us close to God. For neither if we eat do we have more, nor if we do not eat do we lack. — 1 Corinthians 8:7–8*

Paul then chides them for their inward focus about what they have a “right” to do instead of what effect their behavior may have on others.

But watch out lest somehow this right of yours becomes a cause for stumbling to the weak. ¹⁰ *For if someone should see you who has knowledge reclining for a meal in an idol’s temple, will not his conscience, because it is weak, be strengthened so that he eats the food sacrificed to idols?* ¹¹ *For the one who is weak—the brother for whom Christ died—is destroyed by your knowledge. — 1 Corinthians 8:9–11*

A new Christian seeing an older one eating meat that has been sacrificed to idols may join in the meal, still believing that what he is doing is wrong, but going along with what the other Christian is doing anyway. It therefore becomes wrong for him because of his belief.

Sin is not just a physical act; it also includes a mental aspect. In the American legal system, a guilty act (*actus reus*) must be accompanied by a guilty mind (*mens rea*). If you do something you think is illegal, but actually is legal, it is still legal even if you thought you

were doing something illegal. If you take some fruit from a market without paying for it thinking you are stealing it, but the sign over the bin says, “Free Fruit,” you haven’t stolen anything.

Since sin includes our disobedience to God, deliberately doing something that we think God forbids shows an attitude of rebellion that is sinful. This is the situation that Paul saw strong Christians putting their brothers and sisters in. He tells them that by doing this thing that is allowable in the presence of other Christians who think it is prohibited, thereby causing them to do something they believe is wrong, they are sinning against Christ. Paul closes the section by saying that if eating meat causes another Christian to sin, he will freely give up eating meat forever.

Now if you sin in this way against the brothers and wound their conscience, which is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³ *Therefore, if food causes my brother to sin, I will never eat meat forever, in order that I may not cause my brother to sin. — 1 Corinthians 8:12–13*

That’s the attitude Christians are called to have. We are supposed to care about how our actions affect others. Just because we are allowed to do something doesn’t mean it’s a good idea.

We don’t have food sacrifices anymore, but this lesson from Paul can be applied to other issues as well. We have freedom of speech, but that doesn’t mean Christians should say

anything they want. How we make our point on social media for instance can affect others. I'm not saying we cannot discuss difficult subjects with opposing viewpoints; I am saying, however, that the insults and name-calling that pervade many of the platforms in use can lead people to reject Christ based on the comments made by Christians (again, this is about *how* we communicate, not *what*). A good acronym for Christian discourse is THINK. Is what you're writing *true*? Is it *helpful*? Is it *inspiring*? Is it *necessary*? And is it *kind*? If we "THINK" before writing, we will be less likely to respond with angry insults.

Paul's admonition in his letter to the Corinthians extends beyond just food. It should guide us in all aspects of life so that we temper what we're *allowed* to do with what we *ought* to do.

To answer Cain's question in Genesis 4:9, we are indeed our brother's keeper.

Your Brother in Christ,

Fr. Austin



CtR's NEW Office Hours
 Tuesday – Thursday
 9:00 a.m. – Noon



February 1 ~ Chad Raschke
 February 1 ~ Jeffrey Polston
 February 2 ~ Wm. Russell McNair
 February 8 ~ Gail Barney
 February 10 ~ Lynda Lou True
 February 19 ~ Katy Mize

Blessings to you all!



Mark Your CALENDAR

Sunday, January 31

11:30a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, February 2

6:30 a.m. Bible Study

9 – 10:30 a.m. Prayer time in the Chapel

9:30 a.m. Prayers and Squares – CtR Library

1 – 3 p.m. Bible Study at Dorothy Warner's Home

6:30 p.m. GriefShare Program

Wednesday, February 3

2:00 p.m. Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Eucharist Service

Thursday, February 4

**** Devotions are due in the office today.**

11:00 a.m. Thursday Morning Prayer Group

12 – 1:30 p.m. Prayer time in the Chapel

Sunday, February 7

11:30 a.m. Worship Service

Prayer Time in the Chapel

In response to the prayer survey from last week, CtR will be holding 2 prayer times:

**Tuesdays, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. and
Thursdays, Noon – 1:30 p.m.**

Please speak with Connie Whitener if you have questions. All are welcome to come, even if you didn't fill out a survey.



Annual Giving Statements

2020 Giving Statements have been mailed. Please call or email the office if you have questions.



Prayer, Praise, and Healing Service

Will NOT happen in February. Please join us again on March 17, 5:30 p.m.



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 Gerry Pyper, Sandra Pyper, Kenna Tanaka, Wes Tanaka, Steven Fischer, Ann Traverso, Neil, Lauren, Marcela, Brenda and Lonnie, Fr. Austin, Pat Galloway, Dorothy Green, Denise, Connie, Sue, Scotty Haskell, St. Paul's Church (Payson, AZ), Christopher Randle, Diane Manning, 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, Zachary, Kathy Watson, 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

Proverbs 17:22-A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries up the bones.

A few weeks ago, we sang "I've Got that Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy Down in my Heart" during our worship service. Later in the service, while approaching the altar for Communion, the son of one of my sisters in Christ whispered to me that he remembered when I taught him that song in Sunday School a long time ago. I replied that I remembered it well. It's a song we taught our pre-school Sunday School classes every year. It was fun to sing because we clapped to the beat, shouted out "WHERE???", and made hand motions pointing to our hearts. The heart is where joy resides. Many of us over the past year have struggled with joy. It's hard to feel joyful when a pandemic is causing quarantines, discomfort, or even death. It's hard to feel joy in our hearts when we're being told not to socialize, worship together, or hold meetings or other anticipated events. It's even harder to know joy when, after a year and even with a vaccine now, we are still experiencing closed businesses, strict regulations, and in some cases, even city-wide or statewide lockdowns. I'm reminded in this period of doom and gloom of one of the life principles our Bible Study Group has studied recently:

Disappointments are inevitable; discouragement is a choice. How do we keep disappointment from becoming discouragement? Dr. Charles F. Stanley tells us that disappointments take our focus off the Lord and place them on the very thing that is playing havoc with our emotions. When we find ourselves mulling our unpleasant circumstances over and over in our minds, we can call out the Name of Jesus, and remind ourselves of all He has done to give us hope for the future. Dr. Stanley points out that circumstances don't control us; Jesus does. We have the choice of seeing ourselves as victims, or we can acknowledge that we are already victorious in and through Jesus Christ. Though our challenges are great in times

like these, we mustn't let them steal our enthusiasm or confidence in our Lord. If God has allowed disappointments to occur, He has a reason for those and a better plan for our lives. Let's all sing the "Joy Song" and choose to fill our hearts with Him. Any discouragement that is temporarily abiding there will be forced to flee.

Praying in One Accord-Our hearts can either be full of joy or full of doom and gloom. When we are in one accord with God's plan for us, our joy will be evident.

Accord Prayer-Lord Christ, joy is Fruit of the Spirit. Fill our hearts with thoughts of You, so the Fruit of joy will be abundant in our lives. In Your Name we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving-Father God, You sent Your Son to die for us so that we can live a tear-free life with You in eternity. Thank You for reminding us that discouragement is a choice, and we can use the free will You have given us to replace discouragement with joy. Thanks be to God! Amen.



catalyst

Virtual Catalyst:
Day of Discovery for Lay Missioners
Saturday, February 20, 2021
90 minutes (12pm PST, 1pm MST)



DIOCESE OF
WESTERN
ANGLICANS

RSVP to: cn.jesse@westernanglicans.org

Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church

Parish Council Minutes
December 16, 2020

Present: Jennifer Kircher, Motty Durham, Jeffrey Polston, Jo Towner, Ann Traverso, Pat Fraser, Sherri Wayman, Mary Sue Houston, Deacon Linda Stokes, Fr Austin Mansfield

Absent: Dave Wayman

Fr Austin opened the meeting with prayer at 7:05 PM

Minutes of the Nov. meeting were approved. Sherri moved Ann seconded. Motion carried

Jeffery gave the Treasurers report.

Celebrations of what we've done

1. Kathryn Bunch came. She attended the Faith Lutheran service at 9:30 and CTR service at 11:30. Was very pleased with the turn out.
2. The 4th Healing Service was held 12/16. Large attendance the 4th service. 3rd Wednesday will continue as healing service.
3. New Advent vestments and altar items were purchased by the Altar Guild.
4. CTR has had several members affected by Corona Virus. We are thankful for their healing.

Where we can help each other

1. Search for new Parish Council.
2. Members continues. Jennifer & Sherri will ask those suggested.
3. The Diocesan 5 yr. plan is progressing.
4. Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00 PM on 12/24. Faith Lutheran is included
5. Community Action continues with the park ministry.
6. Pat Fraser will send cards to those congregants that are missing.



Upcoming Events

1. Replacement of Heat Pump continues. Hansberger is working the install in while working on new VA complex. It is hoped to be finished soon.
2. Annual Meeting will be held January 17. It will be held in person with brown bag. 1:30 PM. It will also be held zoom for those wanting to attend remotely.
3. Same pledge cards as last year will be mailed. Can be done by email.
4. Israel trip still has some spots available. The 10-person minimum has been met.

Vision for future

1. Faith Lutheran will have an interim pastor. Likely Richard Peterson.

Committee Reports

1. Mary Sue reported on Steering Committee & ExCom.
2. Sherri Wayman reported on Executive Committee.
3. Connie Whitener Discernment Committee. With death in her family, it will meet again after the holidays
4. Fencing will be put around the area of Faith Lutheran.
5. Deacon Linda reported on having lunch with the park people. Linda's schooling is going well Her health is good. The port comes out in January.
6. Sherri gave Sr Warden report.
7. Jennifer gave Jr Warden report. No problems this month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55. Jeffrey moved Pat seconded.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Sue Houston
Clerk

Concerning Food Sacrificed to Idols

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

O N T A I E F S C F N O W
 O D H N B I I D O O K M M
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ANYONE	ANYTHING	BECAUSE
BROTHER	BUILDS	CAUSE
CHRIST	CONCERNING	CONSCIENCE
EVEN	FOOD	IDOL
KNOW	KNOWLEDGE	KNOWN
LORD	LOVE	MANY
NECESSARY	NOTHING	PUFFS
SACRIFICED	THERE	THEREFORE
THINGS	THINKS	WEAK