

MAY 2023

AZMN Publication

With Network Conference Pictures & More!



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ARIZONA
MINISTRY NETWORK

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Network Conference 2023 was most definitely a time of refreshing, Holy-Spirit driven inspiration, the best of fellowship, and was rewarding in every sense of the word!

I am personally so grateful for the valuable ministry that came from our guest speakers, **Travis and Brittany Jones** and **Mike Santiago**. Also, hearing from **Bishop Tshuduku** was a bonus as he expressed his sincere gratitude for the open heart of the Arizona Ministry Network for the spread of the Gospel in Botswana! What a moment! He was overwhelmed to be with us.

We also heard from our 'own three' as **Ryan Visconti**, **Christian Chambliss** and **Monica Hortiales** each, in their own unique way, fed our hunger and challenged us.

The worship team from our host church, **Generation Church** was anointed and blessed our gathering. We were blessed with **Beth Lavino** and her 'worker bees' team who quite literally went out of their way to be a blessing to our network. From setting up to packing up and loading up following the close of conference, they were there, feet on the ground. They were such gracious hosts to our office staff and entire network of pastors. *"Thank you Pastors **Ryan and Amy Visconti**, for your warm welcome and allowing us to gather in your beautiful facility for this time. Honestly, it could not have gone better in my opinion, and to my knowledge, there was not a hitch in the process. That is commendable and speaks of the leadership and workers for this conference."*

Our own office staff and the committees asked to help for this conference were diligent concerning their responsibilities and this superintendent is humbled and so proud of each one of them. What a pleasure to serve alongside these quality people.



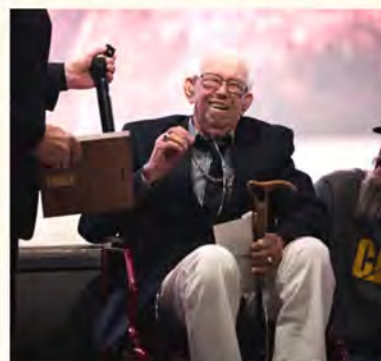
Ordination service is always a highlight, and we are proud for those receiving their Ordination, those Licensed and those receiving their Certified Credential during this conference.



Pastor **Ron Rockwell** was returned to office as the Network's Assistant Superintendent, and Pastor **Dale Gray** was returned as the Central Area Executive Presbyter. We are so very grateful for these men, their capable leadership, and their friendship.



We've received numerous texts, emails, and phone calls expressing appreciation for this conference and the ministry they received. I am grateful for these messages and grateful for the Lord's hand on us. He answered our prayers for a visitation of the Holy Spirit. Where two or three are gathered! God surely met with us.



It is an honor to be your Superintendent. We love each one of you and appreciate the ministry you bring to this beautiful state of Arizona.



Sincerely,
Pastor Harris and Marjorie Harris

We hope you enjoy the Network Conference photos on the next few pages and throughout this month's publication.









Christ Among Us



"For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing." - 2 Cor 2:15, NIV

What a joy it was to be together with fellow pastors, missionaries and ministry leaders and experience a wonderful time of business, ministry and fellowship during our recent Network conference. Sue and I are grateful for your love, support and vote of confidence as we continue in our role as Assistant Superintendent and World Missions Director for the Arizona Ministry Network. It is truly an honor to serve Pastor Steve & Marjorie and this great Network.

We're also very grateful that Network conference affords each of us the opportunity to connect with our Arizona missionaries and global workers who are currently stateside. Several couples and/or families have recently returned to the U.S. and are already traveling, calling, meeting, connecting and sharing with pastors and churches all across the state. Others continue strong in their budget raising and are looking ahead to a soon departure for their chosen field of assignment.

Once again, allow me to share the complete list of our Arizona Ministry Network Missionaries and encourage you to pray over this list, as well as generously invest in their ministry and missions calling:

BAILEY, Katie (Europe)
BERKEY, Scott & Sarah (Africa)
CHAVEZ, Emily (Sensitive)
GODIN, Jake (Sensitive)
HAMILTON, Sara Christina (Sensitive)
HUFFER, Connie (Sensitive)
JESTER, Jacob & Kristin (Africa)
JEYAKUMAR, Abe & Abby (Sensitive)
MANN, Tim & Karyn (Europe)
MCCARTY, Marisa (Sensitive)
MEACHAM, Tim & Janela (Sensitive)
METCALF, Dana & Bridgette (Asia Pacific)
PANGELINAN, Johnny & Andrea (Asia Pacific)
SITES, Doug & Cindy (Sensitive)
SUNSET, Dustin & Amy (Sensitive)
TOWNES, Michelle (Sensitive)
WEST, Dan & Joy (Europe)
WHEELER, Craig & Andrea (Europe)

Missionary Associate Career
Missionary Associate
Missionary Associate Career
Missionary Associate
Approved Missionary
Appointed General Missionary
Special Assignment
Missionary Associate Career
Senior Active Current Assignment
Special Assignment
Candidate Special Assignment
Appointed General Missionary
Appointed General Missionary
Senior Active Current Assignment
Appointed General Missionary
Missionary Associate Career
Appointed General Missionary
Appointed General Missionary

What a privilege to partner with these wonderful people in sharing the Good News of the Gospel in this hour in history.

As members of Christ's community, we follow Him, who is our example. He walked with us, lived with us, and loved us. He came to this world to be the unblemished sacrifice for our salvation. His life in the flesh as the Son of Man is recounted in stories throughout Scripture and reminds us of God's faithful presence among His people. His presence in our splintered, fractured communities brings wholeness and peace. He is "Christ Among Us!"

The AGWM theme verse for this year (2 Cor. 2:15) instructs us to be a "pleasing aroma" to all the world. Like Christ on the Earth and the Holy Spirit in the Church, our presence brings encouragement to followers of Christ and attracts those who do not yet follow Him.

Christ calls us, and the Holy Spirit empowers us to live and minister among the whole world. In this way, we can be "Christ Among Us" to those who need Him.



Ron Rockwell
Assistant Superintendent



ATTRIBUTES OF A HEALTHY CHURCH: SOUND DOCTRINE

LEIGH METCALF

SECRETARY/TREASURER

MAY 2023

One of our core initiatives for the Arizona Ministry Network is to have healthy churches marked by spiritual & numerical growth. Over the next several months, I am taking the time to walk through what makes a healthy church. The second component I would like to emphasize is the need for sound doctrine.

A healthy church is rooted in sound biblical doctrine and teaches the Gospel accurately and faithfully. It also values theological education and encourages its members to grow in their knowledge of the faith. Sound biblical doctrine is important because it helps believers understand who God is, what He has done, and what He requires of us. It also provides a framework for living out the Christian life and includes key teachings such as:

The nature of God

as revealed in the Bible, including His attributes such as holiness, love, and justice.

The nature of humanity

including the fall of humanity into sin and our need for salvation through Jesus Christ.

The person and work of Jesus Christ

including His incarnation, death, and resurrection, and His role as the Savior of the world.

The nature and work of the Holy Spirit

including His role in regeneration, sanctification, and the empowerment of believers for ministry.

The authority and inspiration of the Bible as the Word of God

and its role in guiding our beliefs and actions.

The importance of the church

including its role in proclaiming the Gospel, making disciples, and serving the world.

Sound biblical doctrine is essential for the health and vitality of the church, as it provides a clear and consistent understanding of God, His Word, and His purposes for His people. Sound biblical doctrine is essential for a healthy church for several reasons:

Provides a foundation for belief:

A healthy church should be built on a solid foundation of biblical truth. Sound doctrine provides a clear understanding of what the church believes and teaches.

Guards against false teaching:

Sound doctrine helps us to protect the church from false teaching and heresy. When the church is grounded in the truth of God's Word, it is less likely to be led astray by false teachings.

Promotes spiritual growth:

Sound doctrine provides the framework for spiritual growth and maturity. As believers learn and apply biblical truth, they grow in their knowledge of God and are better equipped to live out their faith.

Guides decision-making:

Sound doctrine helps the church make wise decisions in matters of ministry, leadership, and outreach. When the church is guided by biblical truth, it is more likely to make decisions that honor God and advance His kingdom.

One good option for educating our congregations is our Arizona School of Ministry. The classes are not just designed for ministers but all people who want to grow in their faith. It is also a great way to equip future leaders. For more information on how to start a school of ministry for your church email asom@azag.org

Finally, I would like to encourage every church in Arizona to attend a special weekend seminar we will be having with Mike Santiago as part of our Arizona Church Multiplication Network initiative. Pastor Mike was one of our keynote speakers at Network Conference and he specializes in helping churches break barriers of all sizes. You and your teams are invited to attend this event at Desert Springs Church in Chandler on July 14-15. You can sign up today at azag.org.



AZ CMN RETREAT

JULY 14-15

HOSTED BY
LEIGH
METCALF



Desert Springs Church | Chandler

with Mike Santiago from Break200.com



FOR CHURCHES & CAMPUSES TRYING TO BREAK THE 200 BARRIER.

LEIGH METCALF
SECRETARY/TREASURER



Note to Self...

Seek Fresh Words for Yourself and Others

Isn't the word of God incredible? Life-giving? Ever-sustaining to our spiritual man?

I recently shared with our network staff my fresh awareness of the throne room of God in heaven. I told of how it actually started with a renewed appreciation for God revealing Himself as "Jehovah Nissi", our banner, in Exodus 17. I had been interceding for an urgent family matter by daily lifting my hands as Moses did, "for hands were lifted up to the throne of the Lord" (Exodus 17:15a).

Over a few weeks I began to be drawn to many passages about God's throne in heaven. Ultimately, I arrived at Revelation chapters 4 and 5, John's glorious window into that scene around the throne. For days I read it repeatedly and meditated upon the scene, the characters, the praise statements and songs, and above all, Jesus the glorified Lamb. My worship was renewed and heightened by this returning to something I have known and taught, but somehow was freshly captivated by.

Such is it with God's word. I agree with Eugene Peterson that it is wrong for pastors to condemn themselves when they mine out sermons from their daily devotional times. Why not? It is almost impossible to bifurcate between God's word in prayer/meditation and God's word in sermon preparation. How one would not impact the other is simplistic to say the least. Some of my most treasured sermon series and individual messages were born out of God freshly touching my heart with a truth of His word. To get to pass that on to my flock was not only a privilege, but usually came with great passion!

Pastors, let the Spirit lead you in your quiet times in God's word. God may want to reveal Himself or a truth to you in a fresh way that will in turn, be a blessing to others. Sure, do not make your devotional time sermon preparation, yet let the word speak so wonderfully to you that you will have plenty of fodder for giving fresh manna to those you lead.

Ways to gain fresh words from God...

- Don't read through the bible just to accomplish the feat again this year. Slow down and take sections or themes to meditate and cross reference upon.
- Let God massage a single theme into your heart, even one you have studied and preached many a time. Let fresh manna come.
- Be aware of the little nudges God gives us at times, toward a subject or passage. Act upon them when He does.
- If you would like to discuss these thoughts, feel free to give me a call: 480-579-9998.



**Stay healthy in ministry,
Pastor Jeff**



ROYAL RANGERS FATHER-SON CAMP

Highlights



IMAGINE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Look what God did!



ENOUGH
enough



ARIZONA YOUTH MINISTRIES



A Z Y M



Worship
SEU WORSHIP

Speaker Line Up

**MICAH MAC, NOAH HERRIN,
PETER REEVES,
AUSTIN WESTLAKE,
JOHN ZICK, BRIAN PORZIO,
REGGIE HILL**

ARIZONA
Youth Camp
FORGED
MAY 28TH — JUNE 21ST

**Fine Arts Festival
2023 was amazing!**



DISCOVER DEVELOP DEPLOY




We are so proud of all our Arizona students!

Make sure to go to azagyouth.org to stay up to date on all that is happening!



GRIFFIN MCGRATH

Youth & Young Adult Director

 gmcgrath@azag.org

WANTED



WEEK 1 JUNE 26–JUNE 30

Kaitlyn Hoorneman



WEEK 2 JULY 10–JULY 14

Kaleigh Olson



WEEK 3 JULY 17–JULY 21

**Sarah Zastrow and
Matthew Schmidt**





WELCOME TO THE ARIZONA SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

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.

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.

Fall Registration is open! Register now and grow in your calling through practical instruction in partnership with the local church.



PRODUCING MINISTERS AND LEADERS FOR EVERY CONTEXT

WRAPPING UP THE YEAR

It has truly been another great year. We very much enjoyed getting to see everyone at this year's Network Conference. There were so many ASOM students on stage during the credentialing ceremony and that was a great reminder of why we do what we do. It is our privilege to serve the vision of our leadership to continue to produce ministry leaders for Arizona. I'm looking forward to our next year launching again in August!



RICK RYAN *Director*



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RRyan@azag.org

AZRickRyan



LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

Pastor Benny Vergara received his license to preach at the recent Arizona Ministry Network Conference. Pastor Vergara came to the USA with his wife, Lydia, to plant Hope of Glory Christian Center in Tucson, Arizona with a faithful band of filipino believers. God has been good to this amazing church and after meeting in a recreation center for a year, First Assembly of God in Tucson, has opened their doors for this Asian American church to meet on Sunday afternoons. For a businessman, to a licensed pastor in the Philippines to the United States, receiving an R1 visa, planting a new church and now being licensed by the Assemblies of God in the USA – a great testimony of God's faithfulness.

THE BLESSING OF THE LORD

Pastor David Vega was ordained as a minister of the Gospel. Pastor Vega, his wife, Mizraim, and his sons, Jaciel and Uziel, pastor of Radiant Church, El Mirage. Pastor Vega helped to plant the church under the direction of Radiant Church, Surprise. They serve one of the neediest places in the Valley of the Sun. God has brought a great revival in the launching of this dynamic church. Literally, growth is happening every Sunday. Pastor Vega pastored in the northern Sonora, area of Mexico before coming to Arizona. The city he was in was the third most violent city in Mexico. God is now using him to preach freedom every Sunday to those who need to be set free.



MIRACLES HAPPEN

Pastor Frank Gutierrez received his ordination to proclaim the Gospel. Pastor Gutierrez and his wife, Maria, started a Bible Study in their home in Yuma, Arizona, that was growing. In looking for a new place to meet, Pastor Paula Milner, their pastor, presbyter, mentor and friend, opened up her church at Yuma First Assembly on Pentecost Sunday to launch the Hispanic Church. God is moving as they have doubled in attendance.

EVERY TONGUE, EVERY NATION

Pastor Maria Borraya recently received her ordination to proclaim the Gospel at the Network Conference. Pastor Borraya, with her husband, Raul, pastor Journey Church Hispanic in Cottonwood, Arizona. Her ministry dovetails beautifully with her husband as they co-lead. Journey Church Hispanic is part of Journey Church which is lead by Pastors Jeremy and Rachel Peters. Amazing growth and a spiritual revival has gripped this church. Together they are declaring to Cottonwood and the whole Verde Valley, whoever you are, no matter what language you speak, we are here for you to receive the Lord!



After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

Revelations 7:9-10

PERSONAL REQUEST

PRAY

Please ask God what you might do to reach the diversity around you.

GO

If you want to do more to reach the diversity in your community, we would love to dream and strategize with you.

GIVE

If you would like to join our finance team, visit www.azag.org. Your one-time or monthly gift are a great benefit to what God is doing.

NWWM

Called to Lead

NETWORK OF WOMEN MINISTERS

MAY 19TH 7:00PM

HARVEST CHURCH - GLENDALE, AZ



SUE ROCKWELL

8340 W NORTHERN AVE,
GLENDALE, AZ 85305



Teen Challenge of Arizona

Thankful!

Colossians 4:2

SPRING GRADUATION 2023

Saturday, May 13, 2023 - 2 PM

Without Walls Church
1303 S Lindsay Road, Mesa AZ

KEYNOTE SPEAKER REV. NICK ZAMORANO

Nick is an ordained member of the Assemblies of God. He is the lead pastor at Valley Church/Iglesia Del Valle in Surprise, Arizona, and is currently the Director of Student Development at the SAGU American Indian College in Phoenix. He also serves on the Teen Challenge of Arizona Board of Directors.

Nick's grandfather, Reverend Oscar Zamorano was one of the first Teen Challenge of Arizona graduates in the 1960s. Nick is so thankful for the transformation when his grandfather was

set free from drug addiction and Jesus became the Lord of his life. Oscar became the first Teen Challenge graduate to serve on the Board of Directors. Today, Nick continues as the third generation of Zamoranos to carry the Light!



Reception for Graduates and their Families following the Ceremony.

Network Information

ARIZONA MINISTRY NETWORK

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Fax: 602.252.5527

Website: www.azag.org

Email: districtoffice.azag.org

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 Intercultural

Dale Gray Central Area

Todd League North Area

Kirk Sorensen South Area

GENERAL PRESBYTERS

Stephen L. Harris

Leigh Metcalf

Ron Rockwell

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Griffin McGrath Youth Director & Under 40 Rep.

Jeff Peterson Pastoral Care Director

Lindsay Petri Women's Director

Kirstyn Rempel Children's Director

Christina Vincent Women's Rep.

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Josh Lane Southeast Section

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Paula Milner Southwest Section

Keith Howard West 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

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

(Interim: Ron Burnett)

Denneshotso, Trinity Assembly of God

(Interim: Isaac Todachine)

Golden Valley-Abundant Grace Fellowship

Page, First Assembly of God

Rainbow Mtn., Navajo Mtn.

San Manuel, Assembly of God

Welton, Assembly of God

(Interim: Ron Kobs)

TRANSFERRED OUT

James Morey from Rocky Mountain District 4/5/23

DECEASED

Jesse Vela 4/13/23

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