

THE DESERT DISCIPLE

Volume 67 Issue 10

First Christian Church - Tucson, AZ

(520) 624-8695

October 1, 2016

October Sermon Series: *Just Food?*



What food do we choose to eat? Where does it come from? On whom do we depend on for it? What does it do for us? Some of us may spend an exorbitant amount of time thinking on one or more of these things, while others of us not so much. This October in worship we will consider how these questions are tied to faith, justice, and our call as God's people.



Mental Health Sunday October 2



October 2 we observe Mental Health Sunday with Rev. Mary Alice Do preaching. For over two years, our congregation has engaged in dialogue around mental health challenges in an effort to wipe away the stigma surrounding these and offer support and welcome to those facing mental health challenges and their families. We celebrate Mary Alice's gifts and leadership for our congregation and our wider denomination, especially in the launch of the mental health Mind Wholeness Ministries.

Mind Wholeness Spiritual Support Group Begins!



With great anticipation, we announce the launch of the Mind Wholeness Ministries with spiritual support groups for individuals and family members of those facing mental health challenges. **Mental health spiritual support groups will meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. The first group will meet Monday, October 3 at 6:00pm.** For more questions, please contact Mary Alice Do.

Crop Walk / 5th Sunday Service



The Tucson CROP Walk for Hunger will take place Sunday, October 30 and will be our 5th Sunday Service day project. You can sign up to be a walker or sponsor a walker with donations to help fight hunger in Tucson and around the world. Part of our project will also be to prepare the water table for walkers as they walk through our parking lot that afternoon as well as serve the water during the walk.

Tucson CROP Walk for Hunger
1:30pm Registration at First United Methodist Church
Walker packets available October 2



Sunday Worship
10:30am

Church School
9:00am

Church Office
(520) 624-8695

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The Desert Disciple
(USPS 154-880)
October 1, 2016
Published monthly by
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
740 E. Speedway
Tucson, AZ 85719
Periodicals Postage Paid
at Tucson, Arizona
POSTMASTER
Send Address Changes To
The Desert Disciple
c/o First Christian Church
740 E. Speedway
Tucson, AZ 85719

Pastor Ailsa Attending DSF Board Meeting

Pastor Ailsa will be out of the office **October 4th through 6th** to attend the Disciples Seminary Foundation board meeting. In case of an emergency, please contact Ann Nichols or Susan Harris.



World Food Day Meal Following Worship October 16

You are invited to our *Just Food?* Fellowship meal following worship on Sunday, October 16, World Food Day.



Children/Youth Activity

The youth activity this month will be the CROP Walk on October 30 after church. We will eat lunch together before going to the walk. **Pick up your walker packets on Sunday, October 2 and invite friends and family to sponsor you or join you in walking.**

Thursday Small Group Bible Study



Thursday small group conversation on 7 big topics of faith will conclude Thursday, October 13. **A new study**

focused on the prayerful reading of scripture will begin Thursday, October 20. If you have been curious about the Thursday morning study, this is a perfect time to come visit. **The group meets each Thursday at 11:00am in the Parlor.** All are welcome. Contact Pastor Ailsa with any questions.

Reconciliation Special Offering



We will receive the special offering for Disciple's Reconciliation ministry on **Sunday, October 9.**

The Special Offering is used to fund our Church's mission imperative to become a pro-reconciling and anti-racist church utilizing experiential education, inclusive worship and intentional dialogue. Our efforts to promote healing, relationship and restoration in the whole family of God are enlivened by funds from this offering. Through it we are able to provide programs for leadership development, curriculum for dialogue and learning, and partnerships within the Church and our communities.

Recent events have reignited the conversation about human brokenness evidenced in the sin of racism and perpetuated in our institutional structures and systems. Your generous giving to Reconciliation Ministry is transforming lives and strengthening Christ's witness in the world showing that we love one another, even as Christ continues to love us!

Disciples Women's Ministry



Our DWM group will meet on **Tuesday, October 11, from 11:30-1:30** to share lunch and learnings. **Bring a sack lunch.** Cathy Nichols will share her experiences from a recent mission visit to Chiapas, Mexico.

The next yard sale benefiting the ministry and work of our Disciples Women will be Saturday, October 22. Please bring items to church October 17-21 and place them on the stage.



Missionary Visit Thursday, October 20



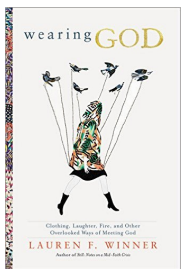
Anil and Teresa Henry are serving a four-year term with the Synodical Board of Health Services of the Church of North India. **They will be with us on Thursday, October 20 at 6pm.** We will enjoy a light dinner together and hear the stories of our brothers and sisters at the Christian Hospital in Mungeli where Anil serves as a medical doctor and Teresa serves as an anesthesiologist. The Henry's have been appointed by the Common Global Ministries Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. Their position is supported by gifts to Global Ministries and the Disciples Mission Fund.



For more information, visit <http://www.globalministries.org/update> from the christian hospital in mungeli



Sunday Evening Book Study



The Book Group will finish up with "In the Sanctuary of Women" by Jan Richardson in October. After that, we will read "Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God" by Lauren Winner.

The book group meets every Sunday evening at 4:00pm in the Parlor. Please contact Ann Nichols or Susan Harris for more information.

Prayer Quilt Ministry



Nancy Thompsen will lead the Prayer Quilt Ministry. The first gathering will be **Tuesday, October 18th at 6:00pm** the Parlor. Please contact Nancy for more information.

From the Personnel Team... Staff Spotlight: Sam Morales

We have been featuring the work of our excellent staff for several months now in our newsletter. Some have jobs that are easily visible, but others work behind the scenes to assist us in our fulfilling our mission to **Seek God, Love like Jesus** and **Serve the World**.



Our caretaker, Sam Morales, who has worked with us since 2011, is one of our staff that you may not see very much of, yet he is one who is responsible for seeing that the church building is ready for whatever it is we are doing. When you come to church on Sunday, to a meeting during the week or attend a potluck dinner, Sam is the one who makes sure that the rooms are unlocked, setup and cooled or heated for participants to use. And at the end of the day, he will check to see that the rooms and buildings are locked and ready for the next day. If there are emergencies or problems that occur, since Sam lives in our caretaker's apartment, he is able to notify personnel who can help resolve the problem if he cannot. Our building is used continuously throughout the week by many groups and programs besides our church. He coordinates with Jenna Hosler, our office manager, to take care of these groups and events also. He works with our staff and ministry teams who have scheduled meetings and programs. This may seem simple, but it can actually be challenging to keep track of all that needs to be done. Sam accomplishes this while also doing outside work to support himself. He does his best to see that our building is ready to be used to support our mission and church life. So, when you see Sam checking to see that all is well, please thank him for his valuable contribution to First Christian Church.

2016 Regional Assembly | Asamblea Convención

CELEBRACIÓN

Christian Church in Arizona (Disciples of Christ)

November 4 & 5 at East Mesa Christian Church

Enjoy a weekend a fun, food and learning with other Disciples around Arizona at Regional Assembly!

Delicious Food & Regional Fellowship:

- ♥ Friday Night Kremes, Hispanic Disciples food booths!
- ♥ Saturday, Continental Breakfast
- ♥ Saturday, Panera Break Box Lunch

Inspirational Guest Preachers:

- ♥ Sheila Spencer
- ♥ Rev. Julian DeShazier
- ♥ Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnemon

Relevant & Informative Mini-Workshops:

- ♥ Topics include: Mental Health, Social Media, "Green" Faith, Financial Ethics, Peaceful Elections, Facility Assessment, Liability Insurance Needs and more!

Register now by going to the Regions website:

ra.azdisciples.org

or picking up a registration form on the Greeters Stand on Sundays.

Registration is due by October 12th to the Regional Office.



First Annual FCC **Fall Fiesta** Friday, November 18



Mark your calendar for an evening of fun and celebration! First Christian will host a Fall Fiesta for the community. Activities and games for youth and children, food trucks, music, and more. How can you help us reach out to our community? Opportunities will be available to help set up, run an activity booth, greet people who come, and others. More information coming soon.



New Tile Update

The installation of the tile, though delayed, is in progress and close to being finished. It is looking great! Stay tuned to the weekly emails for the latest updates.



Casa Alitas Needs Volunteers

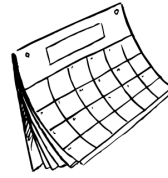


The Alitas Program serves migrant women and children who have left their home countries to escape violence and poverty. They provide care, short-term shelter and help to reunite with family members in the

U.S. In order to continue this ministry, Alitas needs volunteers to stay the night with the families in the shelter. For more information, contact 520-591-6390.

Music at the Park, Thank You!

The fantastic display of fireworks going off right over our heads was a wonderful ending to Music Under The Stars! Much thanks to Team Leader Barbara Marshall for coordinating First Christian members and friends to be able to attend. We look forward to more celebrations this fall.



October: At a Glance

- Elders Meeting** – Thursday, October 6 at 6:00pm
- Primavera Meal** – Friday, October 7 at 6:00pm
(Contact Sharon Sorensen if you'd like to help!)
- Mind Wholeness Spiritual Support Group**—1st & 3rd Mondays at 6:00pm (10/3 & 10/17)
- Ministry Team Leaders Mtg**—Sat, Oct. 15 at 9:30am
- FCC Outing to Mt. Lemmon**—Sat., Oct. 15 at 9:00am
- World Food Day Meal**—Sunday, Oct. 16 after worship
- Worship Team Meeting**—Wednesday, Sept. 14 at 6:30pm
- 5th Sunday Service Day**—Sunday, October 30
- CROP Walk**—Sunday, October 30 at 1:30pm (meet at First United Methodist Church)
- Fall Fiesta**—Friday, November 18
- Prayer Time in the Chapel** – Tuesdays at 11:00am
- Small Group Bible Study** – Thursdays at 11:00am
- Book Study** – Sundays at 4:00pm



“News from the Pews”

- ♥ **Continued prayers for:** Peggy Brady, Lily Foster, Grace Judson, Bea Kimberlin, Jack & Jody Vanderkolk.
- ♥ **Prayers for Larry Kimberlin**, infection in legs and experiencing pain.
- ♥ **Prayers for people with mental health challenges** and their families.
- ♥ **Prayers for Matt DeFer**, the N.A. Groups that meet in our church, and others struggling with addiction.
- ♥ **Prayers for The Mind Wholeness Ministries**





Sunday Schedule

9:00 am	Adult Education—Parlor*
9:00 am	Children/Youth Education—Room 107 & 110 *
9:00 am	St. Michael's ECC - Chapel
9:45 am	Children's Music *
10:30 am	Morning Worship - Sanctuary *
4:00 pm	Book Study—Parlor *



VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

firstchristianchurchtucson.org

CALL OUR OFFICE: (520) 624-8695



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the November *Desert Disciple* should be received in the office no later than **Monday, October 17.**

Praying For Our Missionaries!



Please be in prayer for our missionaries serving through Global Ministries.

During the week of...

October 2: Eleazar Fernandez, Philippines

October 9: Becca Owen, Swaziland

October 16: Diane & Tim Founderlin, Haiti

October 23: Monica Liddle, East Timor

October 30: Mark Behle, Lesotho

For more information regarding our missionaries, overseas partners, or how you can make a difference, visit: www.globalministries.org

Periodicals
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