

THE DESERT DISCIPLE

Volume 67 Issue 11

First Christian Church - Tucson, AZ

(520) 624-8695

November 1, 2016

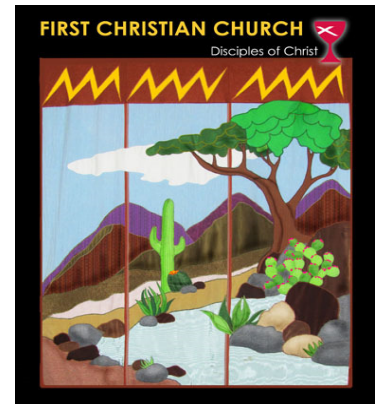
First Christian Church Presents:

EPIC Fun Fest!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

4:00pm - 9:00pm

Food * Music * Games * Fun!



First Christian Church will hold an Epic Fun Fest (festival) for the Tucson community on Friday, November 18, 4-9pm.

We will have food trucks, game booths for people of all ages, a piñata station, live music, and more. We need the help of all our members to set up, decorate, run some of the game booths, oversee the piñata station, help guide parking, etc. We are also seeking sponsors to help fund the live music.



Please contact Barbara Marshall or XPLOR resident Belén De La Trinidad to volunteer.



The purpose of this event is to provide an enjoyable evening and an opportunity for people to learn about our church and other non-profits making a difference in our community and the world. Community partners and organizations with which we have had connections have been invited to sponsor a game booth at which

they can also share information about their work.

Sunday, November 6: All Saints Day Worship & Legacy Planning Workshop

We will celebrate All Saints Day with guest preacher, the Rev. Marilyn Fiddmont. Rev. Fiddmont currently serves as Southwest Zone Vice President of the Christian Church Foundation. She will remain with us following worship and give a presentation for our Legacy Planning event. Our event will include other guests with legal information (power of attorney, living wills, plans for digital assets) and from the Funeral Consumer Alliance. A light lunch will be served and childcare will be available.



Sunday Worship
10:30am

Church School
9:00am

Church Office
(520) 624-8695

Pastor
Rev. Ailsa Guardiola González
fccailsa@gmail.com

Moderator
Ann Nichols

Office Manager
Jenna Hosler
TucsonFCC@gmail.com

The Desert Disciple
(USPS 154-880)
November 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

Just Food? Series Continues in November:



November 13:

“Creating Community”

Luke 10:38-42, Luke 10:1-12

November 20:

“Forward Together”

Luke 18:9-14, Galatians 5:22-6:5, 9-10

Pastor’s Note

November 2016 is an exciting month at First Christian with opportunities to worship, serve, build relationships, grow spiritually, and have fun together. It begins with 10 of our members attending Regional Assembly followed by a special guest preacher and event on Sunday, November 6. On Friday, November 18, we will throw a big party, Epic Fun Fest, for our community where people can get to know us, enjoy fun activities, hear live music, and have a great time.

Our youth and children will stay after worship on Sunday, November 13 for lunch, learning, and service to some of the most forgotten in our Tucson community. Then on Sunday, November 20 we will celebrate Thanksgiving together with a meal. One week later we’ll enter the Advent season (can you believe it?!).

In addition, November marks the second month of Mind Wholeness Ministries’ spiritual support groups as well as our new quilting ministry. We are also continuing to work with Church Extension to assess our building. This is the first step of an extensive process as we consider the details of our resources and needs to maintain them. Together, we continue to live into our call as a church to **Seek God, Love Like Jesus, and Serve the World** and to keep exploring all that means for us.

Even with all we have to look forward to, we know we remain in the midst of an important and tense time in our country with Election Day approaching. For this reason, we extend a special invitation to you to attend our 11am Tuesday prayer on November 8 to pray for the elections and for the days and months that follow. We stand in need of creatively constructive and unifying dialogue that considers the needs of the least among us. As people of faith, we seek God’s guidance so our words and actions reflect the ways of God’s reign proclaimed every time we gather for worship and at the table. We pray for the ability to listen generously, speak when necessary, and, as Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai writes in the poem below, recognize the futility of always living “from the place where we are right.”

The Place Where We Are Right

by Yehuda Amichai

From the place where we are right

Flowers will never grow

In the spring.

The place where we are right

Is hard and trampled

Like a yard.

But doubts and loves

Dig up the world

Like a mole, a plow.

And a whisper will be heard in the place

Where the ruined

House once stood.

Mind Wholeness Spiritual Support Group, November 7 & 21



Please continue praying for the Mind Wholeness Ministries in its second month. The Mental Health Spiritual Support Group is for individuals and family members of those facing mental health challenges. The group will continue to meet the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00pm. November meetings will be Monday the 7th and 21st. For more information, please contact Mary Alice Do.

Children/Youth Activity



On Sunday, November 13, youth and children will serve our community by baking cookies for those in the jail. We will enjoy lunch following the service, have a time of learning, and bake and decorate Christmas cookies. The cookies will be distributed in December by volunteers through Church Women United.

Prayer Quilt Ministry



The prayer quilt ministry will meet **Tuesday, November 1**. Join us in creating prayer quilts and a quilt to be raffled for the H.A.G.A.R (Helping Abused Grow And Recover) Project. No experience required; there is a job for everyone. We will meet at 6:30-8:00pm with setup at 6:00pm. Hope to see you there! If you have any questions call Nancy Thompsen at 520-419-0760 or e-mail at nancy.thompsen.yahoo.com.

Thanksgiving Meal November 20



Celebrate Thanksgiving at First Christian Church. All are welcome! Please bring a side dish to share. A sign up will be placed at the greeter stand to let us know you'll be there. Turkeys will be provided, but if you have one to donate please contact Susan Harris.

Thanksgiving Special Offering



The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). These learning communities are an extension of the church, challenging students to understand and respond to God's call to serve.

Thousands of students have attended the Colleges and Universities of the Christian Church receiving both a quality education and the opportunity to remain within our Disciple's heritage. Your financial gift provides scholarships and support for spiritual life offices. By giving to the Thanksgiving Offering you are investing in our students and helping keep education costs down.

The Thanksgiving Offering also provides scholarship and support for those pursuing theological education at one of our seven seminaries or divinity houses. Consider the many generations of pastors, who, if not for the support of faithful congregations and individuals over the ages would not have flourished as our pastors, teachers and leaders. What impact has your pastor had in the life of your church, community or region? You can thank them by supporting the Thanksgiving Offering.

Please give generously to this year's Thanksgiving Offering. FCC will receive the offering on November 20 & 27!

Disciples Women's Ministry

Our DWM group will meet on **Tuesday, November 8, from 11:30-1:30** to share lunch and learnings. **Bring a sack lunch.** Phyllis Hallman will speak on her recent mission trip to India.



Looking ahead: In December DWM will meet the **first Tuesday, December 6**, for a Christmas music program offered by Janet Tolman. All are welcome at this beautiful event! Please be aware that this is a change from our usual date (second Tuesday of the month).

Church Women United presents Forum: Streamlining

Streamlining? What is it? What can we do about it? How does it affect me? Join us in getting some answers!

Sunday, November 13th 2-4pm

FCC Parlor

Panel will include Isabel Garcia, Attorney, Matthew J. Lowen, AFSC, and Lois Martin, Activist. They will share their experiences in the courtroom and desert.

RSVP: Pat Hoag: phoag@q.com or 520-696-1903

Sunday Evening Book Study

YOU KNOW YOU ARE FROM TUCSON WHEN YOU SEE THIS, RIGHT?

Now that I have your attention... **BOOK STUDY continues every Sunday in the Parlor from 4-6pm.**

We are currently reading and discussing *In the Sanctuary of Women* A Companion for Reflection & Prayer by Jan L. Richardson. This book is so very interesting that we are reading and discussing into November, but the next book is lighter yet no doubt just as compelling, *Wearing God – Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God* by Lauren F. Winner. Please contact Susan Harris at 390-

5648 or susanlainharris@gmail.com, Ann Nichols or Claudia Ellquist for schedule changes. We would love to have your perspective, ideas, general support and camaraderie. If you have a book suggestion, we are eager to hear from you. The Book Study is for ALL.

- Susan Harris



Thursday Small Group Bible Study



We continue the study focused on the prayerful reading of scripture. 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. Please note this group will not meet on Thursday, November 24 (Thanksgiving Day).

New Tile in Welcome Area!

The installation of the tile is complete! And it looks great! Thank you to all who contributed to this project!



Week of Compassion: From Our Haitian Partners



After a rapid, preliminary assessment of what urgently needs to be addressed, Week of Compassion partners in Haiti shared a few quotes from affected families in the Northwest of Haiti.

A pastor shared: "I lost all my 14 goats". Not far away, was another house, with only a foundation and one wall remaining and some scattered notebooks and items of clothes remaining.

A pregnant mother of six said: "We had left our home to look for shelter, our house was damaged. I had only one suitcase and thieves took it. The shoes and school uniforms were spoiled by mud. My children are not in school now."

Cholera is increasing, food will be a concern because the gardens have been lost, many homes were damaged, everywhere trees are down, fields of bananas are flattened, and livestock was lost.

Week of Compassion partners are working to address all of these issues - from the restoration of schools, to the repairing of houses and the renewal of agriculture, to the provision of clean water through filtration and sanitation systems. Many of those who have been affected are feeling exhausted, both physically and emotionally, and our partners are there to offer hope.

You can help provide hope in Haiti and in the Southeastern U.S. coast by giving to Week of Compassion. Designate your gift "hurricane," and 100% will go toward those affected by Hurricane Matthew.



November: At a Glance

- Prayer Quilt Ministry**—Tuesday, Nov. 1 at 6:30pm
- Elders Meeting** – Thursday, November 3 at 6:00pm
- Primavera Meal** – Friday, November 4 at 6:00pm
(Contact Sharon Sorensen if you'd like to help!)
- Mind Wholeness Spiritual Support Group**—1st & 3rd
Mondays at 6:00pm (11/7 & 11/21)
- Disciples Women's Ministry Lunch & Learning**—
Tuesday, November 8, 11:30am-1:30pm
- Streamlining Forum**—Sunday, November 13, 2-4pm
- Board Meeting**—Tuesday, November 15 at 6:30pm
- Epic Fun Fest!**—Friday, November 18, 4-9pm
- Thanksgiving Meal**—Sunday, November 20 following
worship
- Receive Thanksgiving Special Offering**—Sundays,
November 20 and 27
- Prayer Time in the Chapel** – Tuesdays at 11:00am
- Small Group Bible Study** – Thursdays at 11:00am
- Book Study** – Sundays at 4:00pm
- Cookies for Pima County Jail** – December 5, 6, 7
- Live Nativity** – December 22-23
- Christmas Eve Services**—Family Service 6:30pm,
Candlelight Service 11:00pm



"News from the Pews"

- ♥ **Continued prayers for:** Peggy Brady, Lily Foster, Grace Judson, Bea Kimberlin, and Jody Vanderkolk.
- ♥ **Prayers for the Vanderkolk Family**, upon the death of Jack on October 14. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 12 at 4:00pm in the FCC Sanctuary. A reception will follow.
- ♥ **Prayers for Larry Kimberlin**, recovering after surgery October 20.
- ♥ **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 *

Praying For Our Missionaries!



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

During the week of...

- November 6:** Sarah Williams, India
- November 13:** Sharla Russell, Congo
- November 20:** Michael Joseph, Colombia
- November 27:** Nikotemo Tapeko, Fiji

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



VISIT OUR WEBSITE:



firstchristianchurchtucson.org

CALL OUR OFFICE: (520) 624-8695

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the December *Desert Disciple* should be received in the office no later than **Monday, November 14**

Periodicals
Postage
PAID at
Tucson, AZ

The Desert Disciple
First Christian Church
740 East Speedway
Tucson, AZ 85719

