	<h1>Sunday Schedule</h1>
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 *

Praying For Our Missionaries!



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

During the week of...

July 2: Jeanette Salley, Nicaragua

July 9: Eleazer Fernandez, Philippines

July 16: Jerri Handy, Mexico

June 23: Scott Couper, South Africa

June 30: Nike 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 August *Desert Disciple* should be received in the office no later than **Wednesday, July 19.**

THE DESERT DISCIPLE

Volume 68 Issue 7

First Christian Church - Tucson, AZ

(520) 624-8695

July 1, 2017



Celebrate 4th of July at FCC

FCC will host its annual 4th of July Celebration on Tuesday, July 4 at 7:00pm. Please bring your favorite dish to share in the potluck dinner. Drinks will be provided. We will enjoy the A-Mountain fireworks from the roof at 9:00pm.

July Preaching Line Up

July 2 – “God of Refuge: Words of Life” with Pastor Ailsa

July 9 – Rev. David Buss preaching

July 16 – Lauren Pew preaching

July 23 – New Series: “One” with Pastor Ailsa

July 30 – 5th Sunday Service Day

General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to vote on General Minister and President Nominee

First Christian Church will be well represented at the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that will gather in Indianapolis, Indiana July 8-12. Pastor Ailsa, Rev. Mary Alice Do, Krysia González, and Rev. Janis Brown, who is an active participant in our church, will travel from Tucson to participate in the Assembly. In addition, Cathy Nichols will be there working with the events and workshops sponsored by Global Ministries.

We celebrate that Rev. Mary Alice Do will have the opportunity to share about the Mind Wholeness Ministry and promote her book throughout the Assembly while at the Disciples Home Missions booth. In addition, Pastor Ailsa will share about our work with the Southern Arizona Sanctuary Coalition at one of the workshops.

One of the many reasons Disciples attend the General Assembly is to worship God together! While there, participants experience powerful preaching, uplifting music, and sharing the Lord's Supper with thousands of Disciples from across the U.S. and Canada and partners around the world. This year themes for worship are based on John 17:20-21a: “I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one.”

Another reason for gathering is to perform the worshipful work of the Church through business sessions. The General Assembly is the general representative body of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and receives and acts upon proposed policy and program, reports and resolutions, and other items of business presented during business sessions. You can see the reports and resolutions coming before the assembly here: <http://ga.disciples.org/business/>



Sunday Worship
10:30am

Church School
9:00am

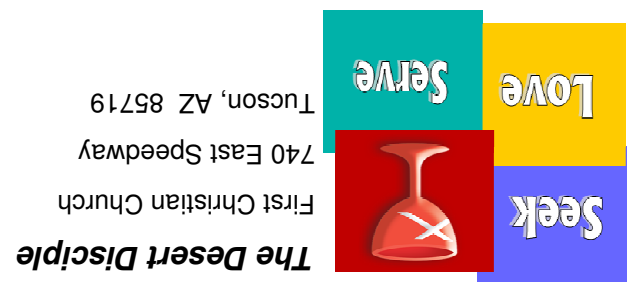
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Continued on page 2

General Minister and President Nominee continued from page 1...



General Assembly also offers lay leaders and clergy opportunities for education, sharing ideas with others, and participating in meaningful and resource-building discussion. Learning tracks focus on Justice, Stewardship & Resources, Worship, and Transformative Leadership & Innovation. In addition, the children and youth programs ensure that Disciples of all ages have opportunities for learning and service.

This year, the General Assembly will vote on a new General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The General Board voted to forward the name of Rev. Teresa (Terri) Hord Owens to the 2017 General Assembly as the nominee to serve in this ministry. Learn more about Rev. Owens here: <http://disciples.org/ogmp/meet-the-gmp-nominee/>

Pastor's Note

Maya Spector's poem, "Jailbreak," is a beautiful poem for Spring, but it also fits with the change of pace we tend to experience in summer. Summer can be a time for taking a break from our typical routine. Certainly this is the case for anyone in school, whether a teacher or a student. The change of pace can make us realize how stuck we sometimes are in the way we do things, the way we think, and even the way we see the world. It can remind us that God does not want us stuck in the place we are, but always growing. Growing in understanding, love, and compassion. Growing in wisdom and courage. Growing in seeing what it means for God's will to be done "on earth as in heaven."

This growth means change—a sometimes slow, but potentially constant transformation into the likeness of the One we worship. "Lose your determination to remain unchanged," Spector writes. Summertime pushes us in this direction. The direction to "break out," to "stop holding back the blossoming," to be open to the "gentle nudge" that "carries behind it the force of a flash flood." Are you ready? Are you ready to acknowledge the gentle nudge and put aside fear? Are you ready for the adventure of the flash flood—the quick moving, forceful waters—that will come?

Jailbreak

It's time to break out—
Jailbreak time.
Time to punch our way out of
the dark winter prison.
Lilacs are doing it
in sudden explosions of soft purple.
And the jasmine vines, and ranunculus, too.
There is no jailer powerful enough
to hold Spring contained.
Let that be a lesson.
Stop holding back the blossoming
Quit shutting eyes and gritting teeth,
curling fingers into fists, hunching shoulders.
Lose your determination to remain unchanged.
All the forces of nature
want you to open,
Their gentle nudge carries behind it
the force of a flash flood.
Why make a cell your home
when the door is unlocked
and the garden is waiting for you.

-Maya Spector

Marisa Werner's Ordination

Saint Michael Ecumenical Catholic Church
Reverend Delores J. Kropf, Pastor
Joyfully invites you to join us in celebrating the
ordination of

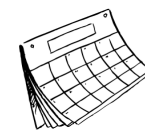
Marisa Julia Werner

To the Priesthood of Christ through Imposition of
Hands and Prayers of Ordination

Led by The Most Reverend Francis Krebs
Presiding Bishop of the Ecumenical Catholic
Communion

Saturday, July 22, 2017

Ordination Mass at 10:00am, Reception to follow
First Christian Church
Please RSVP by July 14 to
(520) 419-2006 / mwerner@iliff.edu



July at a Glance

Mind Wholeness Spiritual Support Group—1st &
3rd Mondays at 6:00pm (7/2 & 7/17) and 2nd
& 4th Wednesdays at 3:00pm (7/12 & 7/26)

July 4th Celebration —Tuesday, July 4 at 7:00pm

**Mind Wholeness Ministry Family Support
Group**—1st Wednesday (7/5) at 3:00pm

No Elders Meeting in July

FCC Outing: Tucson Botanical Gardens—Friday,
July 7 at 6:00pm

Primavera Meal – Friday, July 7 at 6:00pm
(Contact Sharon Sorensen if you'd like to
help!)

July Dinner Group —Friday, July 21 at 5:30pm.
Kelly Strachan hosts at Tucson Racquet Club

FCC Outing: Bowling—Sunday, July 23 at 1:00pm

Marisa Werner Ordination —Saturday, July 22 at
10:00am, FCC Sanctuary

Rev. Denny Williams' Retirement—Saturday,
July 29 at 2:00pm, Tempe, AZ

Prayer Time in the Chapel – Tuesdays at 11am

Small Group Bible Study – Thursdays at 11:00am

Prayer Vigils—Thursdays at 6:00pm

Book Study – Sundays at 4:00pm in the parlor

Rev. Denny Williams' Retirement Party

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Arizona
invites you to join in celebrating the ministry of Rev.
Dr. Dennis L. Williams, Regional Minister and
President.

A service of celebration will be held

Saturday, July 29, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

Community Christian Church of Tempe
1701 S College Avenue, Tempe, AZ 85281

Guests from near and far will honor Denny's 19+ years
of service with a program starting at 2:00 p.m.,
followed by a reception with light refreshments.

RSVP to the regional office by emailing
(lsaint-erne@azdisciples.org) or
calling the office at (602) 468-3815.



"News from the Pews"

- ♥ **Our hospitality guests**
- ♥ **Prayers for Matt DeFer, the N.A. Groups that meet in our church, and others** struggling with addiction.
- ♥ **Prayers for The Mind Wholeness Ministry and the people & families** affected by mental health challenges.
- ♥ **Continued prayers for:** Peggy Brady, Lily Foster, Grace Judson, Bea Kimberlin, Ron & Patti Lemke, Jody Vanderkolk and Sally Van Slyke.
- ♥ **Alicia Marin is back from Summer Camp!** She had a great time and was even told by Allen Cunningham that he gave her the hard Bible questions which she answered correctly to get "out of jail" in the capture the flag (or in this case, capture the glow stick) game. Alicia has asked to get the dates and place for the next Retreat. She made friends of different ages and thoroughly enjoyed herself at camp. She even did the Zip line.
- ♥ **Jenna will be out of the office July 10-14.** Volunteers will be in church office to answer phone and take messages.
- ♥ **Pastor Ailsa will be out of the office July 5-20** to attend General Assembly and for vacation. In the case of pastoral emergency, please contact Elder Chair, Ann Nichols.