

THE DESERT DISCIPLE

Volume 69 Issue 6

First Christian Church - Tucson, AZ

(520) 624-8695

June 1, 2018

Worship this Month: A Life-Giving God

Sunday, June 3 “Keeping Sabbath” Deuteronomy 5 & Mark 2:23-3:6

Sunday, June 10 Pulpit Swap with Rev. Owen Chandler Psalm 23

Get ready for the Tucson Disciples Pulpit Swap! On Sunday, June 10, four Disciples Pastors in Tucson will preach at a church other than their own. FCC is excited to welcome Rev. Owen Chandler, pastor of Saguaro Christian Church! Pastor Ailsa will preach at Community Christian Church in Marana.

Sunday, June 17 Refugee & Immigrant Welcome Sunday with Marge Pellegrino of Owl & Panther

We are honored to welcome Marge Pellegrino of Owl & Panther, a nonprofit working alongside refugees in our city. The mission of Owl & Panther is to “provide meaningful and healing expressive arts experiences in the community and the natural world for refugee families resettled in Tucson who have been impacted by trauma, torture and traumatic dislocation. To help educate the community and beyond, about refugees in order to foster acceptance. And to honor the efforts of our volunteers who make this work possible.” The Owl & Panther office is housed at First Christian, and we are grateful to partner with this important organization.

Sunday, June 24 “More” Job 38:1-11 & Mark 4:35-41

Forward Together:

A Process of Christian Spiritual Discernment



Thanks to everyone who was able to attend the first session of our Forward Together process for Christian spiritual discernment. Our facilitators, Teresa Blythe and Greg Essenmacher, wonderfully laid the foundation for our process. **Through this process, our congregation will seek to identify both our call in this time and unity in what path we choose regarding our building (specifically, will our ministry remained housed in this location or move to another location).**

We greatly appreciate everyone who attended the first session. Our time was enjoyable and fruitful. We spent time identifying the questions on which we will focus, which are “Who are we as a church?” “What is our specific call from God in this time and place?” and “How does this physical campus fit into our sense of calling?” We also reflected on what is prayer and explored ways we have experienced God’s guidance. Though our conversation, we discovered the powerful influence of a community of faith—through relationships and conversation— in our experiences in prayer and receiving guidance from God. We affirmed that it takes the combined gifts of every person for us to hear

Continued on page 2



Sunday Worship
10:30am

Church School
9:00am

Church Office
(520) 624-8695

Pastor

Rev. Ailsa Guardiola González
fccailsa@gmail.com

Moderator

Paul DeArman

Office Manager

Jenna Hosler
TucsonFCC@gmail.com

The Desert Disciple
(USPS 154-880)
June 1, 2018

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

better, see better, and understand better as we move forward together. We will depend on these gifts as we explore our questions and make our plan for our next steps as a congregation. Teresa and Greg gave us the homework of collecting information for our next session: our historical timeline, demographic & financial data, and core values & identity. We will use this information in our visioning for our future.

Anyone unable to attend the first session, but interested in attending the second session needs to contact pastor Ailsa prior to the second session for more information. Due to the nature of the process, those unable to attend both the first and second session will not be able to join the process for a later sessions. We will, however, keep the congregation informed of the work taking place in the discernment group. **The next session will take place Saturday, June 23, 9am-Noon in the chapel.**

You can read more about our facilitators in the Weekly Email, or by visiting their website:

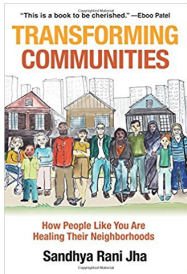
www.sacredtransformationgroup.com

Church Office Summer Schedule

During the summer, the church office will be open Tuesday – Friday, 9:00am – 1:00pm.



Sunday Evening Book Group



Do you have time to read a book this summer?

The FCC Book Group would like to recommend a book for everyone in the congregation to read--or as many as are willing. It's published by Chalice Press and is being read and discussed in many congregations.

The book is *Transforming Communities: How People Like You are Healing their Neighborhoods*. The author, Sandhya Rani Jha, is an ordained Disciples minister who serves as director of the Oakland Peace

Center.

The book contains a series of stories about examples of community change initiatives, some begun by congregations or faith-based groups, as simple as community gardens or recovery cafes to helping create a Soul Repair Center for veterans.

You don't have to be part of the Book Group to participate. Just read the book. We will schedule some opportunities during the summer for people who are reading the book to get together and share reflections and ideas, or you can join us at one of our meetings. (Our usual time is Sunday afternoons at 4, but during the summer months we meet irregularly because of vacations.) We will announce meeting times in the weekly FCC emails, or you can call Susan or Ann.

To order a copy of the book, contact Ann Nichols.



Recognizing Riley!

After 6 and a half years of faithful service, our Childcare Coordinator, Riley Johnson, will be working her last day on **Sunday, June 3**.

Join us after worship on that day to celebrate her service and thank her for caring for our children.

Mind Wholeness Ministries Support Groups



For people affected by mental health challenges

1st & 3rd Mondays

May 7 & 21

6:00 – 7:30 PM

2nd & 4th Wednesdays

May 9 & 23

3:00 – 4:30 PM

For families affected by mental health challenges

1st Wednesday

June 6 at 3:00pm

Pastor's Note

This month in worship, we celebrate the life-giving nature of God that cares for, sustains, and seeks to renew us and all the world. Recognizing this quality of God, we see the world and our lives through a different perspective. If God is a God of life and always for life, how does this guide our treatment of one another? How does it give us purpose in our daily life?

I look forward to the opportunities to celebrate our life-giving God as we welcome and hear from a couple of guests, Rev. Owen Chandler and Marge Pellegrino, and as we reflect on what it means to be an immigrant welcoming congregation. This month also will be a time of transition as we say good-bye to our Childcare Coordinator, Riley Johnson, and send off XPLOR resident, Savanna, who has worked with our youth for the past 10 months. We wish them both well in their next adventures. Finally, it will be a time of continued openness as we hold the second session of our Christian spiritual discernment process.

As you travel these summer months, visit with family and friends, and (hopefully) enjoy a more relaxed schedule, I pray you experience the powerful presence of the God of life who wishes for you wholeness and fullness that overflows like a life-giving stream to touch the lives of others.

Farewell to XPLOR



Saturday, June 16, 5-8pm: Members of all churches that sponsor the XPLOR program will gather at the home of Pastor Ailsa and Marco González for a farewell potluck to celebrate Angelica, Ingrid, and Savanna. Please bring a dish to share and a swimsuit if you wish to cool off in the pool.

Sunday, June 17: For her last Sunday in Tucson, we will say a special good-bye to Savannah both with a blessing in worship and sweet snacks following the service.

June at a Glance

Recognizing Riley—Sunday, June 3 following worship
Mind Wholeness Spiritual Support Group—1st & 3rd Mondays (6/4 & 6/18) at 6:00pm

Mind Wholeness Ministry Family Support Group—
 1st Wednesday - June 6 at 3:00pm

Elders Meeting—Thursday, June 7 at 6:30pm

Pulpit Swap, Rev. Owen Chandler—Sunday, June 10

Mind Wholeness Spiritual Support Group—2nd & 4th Wednesdays (6/13 & 6/27) at 3:00pm

XPLOR Farewell—Saturday, June 16, 5-8pm at the home of Pastor Ailsa & Marco González

Refugee & Immigrant Welcome Sunday—June 17

Farewell to Savanna—Sunday, June 17 following worship

DD Deadline—Monday, June 18

ICS Mental Health Network Meeting—Wednesday, June 20 at 10:30am

Praying Together for Peace—Wednesday, June 20 at 6:30pm, Most Holy Trinity Parish

Forward Together, Discernment Process 2—
 Saturday, June 23, 9:00am—12:00pm

Pastor Ailsa out of Office—June 26—July 6

XPLOR Workday—Saturday, June 30

Prayer Time in the Chapel—Tuesdays at 11am

Spiritual Growth Group—Thursdays at 11am

Prayer Vigils—Thursdays at 6:00pm

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

“News from the Pews”

Please be in prayer for:

- ♥ Our hospitality guests and XPLOR Residents.
- ♥ The N.A. Groups that meet in our church, and others struggling with addiction.
- ♥ The Mind Wholeness Ministry and the people & families affected by mental health challenges.
- ♥ Continued prayers for: Peggy & Marion Brady, Lily Foster, Grace Judson, Larry Kimberlin, Ron & Patti Lemke, Ruth Stokes, Jody Vanderkolk, Sally Van Slyke, and Roger White.



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 *



VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

firstchristianchurchtucson.org

CALL OUR OFFICE: (520) 624-8695



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles for the July *Desert Disciple* should be received in the office no later than **Monday, June 18.**

Praying For Our Missionaries!

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



During the week of...

June 3: Linda James, Democratic Republic of Congo

June 10: Martha Mensendiek, Japan

June 17: Fritz-Gerald Joseph, Morocco

June 24: Kearstin Bailey, Greece

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

Periodicals
Postage
PAID at
Tucson, AZ

The Desert Disciple

First Christian Church

740 East Speedway

Tucson, AZ 85719

