



Arizona Mission Center

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the AZMC,

“Community of Christ,” your name, given as a divine blessing, is your identity and calling. If you will discern and embrace its full meaning, you will not only discover your future, you will become a blessing to the whole creation. Do not be afraid to go where it beckons you to go. -D & C 163:1

These words challenge us to examine who we are and can yet become. They were the basis of the **Discovery** theme for World Conference, and provide the foundation for the October MC retreat, “**Discover** and Live Your Future”. There is so much to embrace in this challenge, and I encourage you to rest in the words. For me, I am particularly drawn to, “...not be afraid...”. You see I continuously find myself in **discovery** mode as I navigate the mission center and I want to share just how much I have found increasing comfort in identifying you as my brothers and sisters over recent months.

Growing up, I was a part of a very tight-knit family. Of my dad’s 9 brothers and sisters, all but one reached adulthood to have their own families, so when we gathered, as we did every World Conference and at many family events between, we shared our gifts and grew in relationship that come from table ministry, story telling and dwelling in all that love. You are extending that kind of connectedness to me now and I am **discovering** a great source of energy, and courage as Mission Center President. Thank you for that, with all my heart.

In recent months the Leadership Team **discovered** the value of expanding to include Brinks Austin, and as Chair of the Whispering Pines Board, his voice brings insights into the ministry potential of our camping program. Thank you, Brinks, for agreeing to add this role to your many others. With the commitment of last fall’s conference to dedicate more resources to WP, we are **discovering** revived opportunities. For all of the hours of sweat, time, talent, and treasure, the grounds have undergone a face-lift and we are experiencing an increase in camper days. If you were a part of that effort, from all of us who use the grounds in and outside the church, THANK YOU!

Having said that, have you **discovered** Reunion? The Harper clan is once again preparing a camping experience to refresh our souls and engage our community in worship, fellowship, and spiritual formation. If you are on the fence about attending, consider the benefits of having your meals prepared each day, the pleasure of good company, powerful worship, an escape from the July heat, and the ministry of Apostle Ron Harmon. What more can I say, but I hope to see you there?

Come, fearlessly embrace our identity, let us discern our call and **discover** what it truly means to be Community of Christ.

Your sister in Christ,
Sara Tubbesing
Mission Center President, Arizona