

Mayor's Book Club Launches in Tucson

The Mayor's Book Club launches to provide an opportunity for groups to read books related to compassion, civility and understanding of human diversity.

"The book club's purpose is to bring the community closer across traditional divides and grow our capacity for compassionate, civil relationships" said Teresa Cowan Jones, executive director of Sacred Space, a non-sectarian interfaith community co-sponsoring this program with the Mayor's Office. "By inviting people to read and discuss together matters of personal import, we hope to provide a mechanism for trust building," said Jones.

"Book clubs are a great way to bring the community together to discuss meaningful subjects and help people find common ground," said Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, who participated in a Civility Book Club in 2016, led by Jones and Peter Woods, a Tucson counselor in private practice. "This city-wide book club is one way our community can act upon the Compassion Resolution, (LINK: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/sirepub/cache/2/mizkley433trt4uhggmwfhrj/682900101302018012759721.PDF>) which restores compassion as a central civic ethic and which the City Council unanimously passed a couple of years ago."

The first book will be "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life" by Karen Armstrong. Participation is free, with discussion agendas provided. Books can be checked out at Pima County Library branches and purchased at Antigone Books (411 N. Fourth Ave.) and Mostly Books (6208 E. Speedway).

To join a group, contact the facilitator of the group closest to you; a list of groups can be viewed below and at www.sacredspacetucson.org and www.mayorrothschild.com. If interested in hosting or facilitating a group, contact Rev. Teresa Cowan Jones at tc@tcjonescoaching.com to be a part of the first community read.

Sacred Space
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Ben's Bells
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