

We are happy to share the good news that the Rev. David Chavez began as the new diocesan Missioner for Border Ministries this week!

Born in Douglas, Arizona, Rev. Chavez was raised in Pirteville and Sierra Vista AZ., and in National City and Chula Vista, CA. David is the son of Honduran and Mexican parents, a collaborative bilingual bi-cultural leader, a learner at heart, a father to two wonderful boys, an avid reader.

David is foremost a disciple of Jesus Christ called to love God and the neighbor and to serve, la Iglesia, que es una, santa, católica y apostólica as an ordained priest of The Episcopal Diocese of Arizona. After 12 years of ministry with Presbyterian Church (USA), he completed the local formation process of the Diocese of Arizona and was ordained a transitional deacon and subsequently ordained to the priesthood.

More recently, David served as Curate of Hispanic Ministries at Trinity Cathedral/La Trinidad and as the Priest-in-Charge at Iglesia Episcopal Santa Maria, a Hispanic mission community. David's service to the local and wider church includes serving on the diocesan Anti-racism Committee, as a member on the Council of Advice for the Hispanic Latino Ministries of The Episcopal Church, and as a founding board member with the Arizona Service Project.

He is a Fellow of the Institute of Pastoral Leadership at Princeton Theological Seminary and a Preaching Fellow with Virginia Theological Seminary. David completed Master in Divinity and Master in Theology degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ.

Bishop Reddall says, "I am so thrilled that the Rev. David Chavez is joining our staff. David is a connector. He connects people with ministries; non-profits with churches; advocacy with prayer; and he bridges cultures. Now he will be able to share those gifts with our diocese and the wider world on behalf of those in need."

David's duties will include coordinating our diocese's border ministry efforts, working with the leadership of Cruzando Fronteras, coordinating onsite visits for those wishing to visit the border, advising Bishop Reddall on changes in border policy and laws, and determining how the diocese can best utilize our efforts to be a voice for others. David is available to preach and teach in your congregations; please speak to him directly to schedule a visit.

David will split his time between Dio House and being in the field. He can be reached at david@azdiocese.org.