

Defending Immigrant Rights

The class welcomes Marcela Diaz as our guest speaker today. Ms. Diaz is the Executive Director of Somos Un Pueblo Unido, a community-based, immigrant-led organization for worker and racial justice and human rights—respecting diversity and integrating the newcomers. Learn more about Somos at <https://www.somosunpueblounido.org/somos-un-pueblo-unido.html>.

To be better prepared for Ms. Diaz' presentation, you are asked to watch the following videos:

- **“Latino Americans: Episode 5—Prejudice and Price.”** (PBS, 55 min.) Details the creation of the proud “Chicano” identity, as labor leaders organize farm workers in California, and as activists push for better education opportunities for Latinos, the inclusion of Latino studies, and empowerment in the political process. <https://www.pbs.org/video/latino-americans-episode-5-prejudice-and-pride/>
- **“Latino Americans: Episode 6—Peril and Promise.”** (PBS, 55 min.) Takes viewers through the past 30 years, with a second wave of Cubans arriving in Miami during the Mariel exodus and with hundreds of thousands Salvadorans, Nicaraguans and Guatemalans fleeing civil wars, death squads and unrest to go north into a new land — transforming the United States along the way. <https://www.pbs.org/video/latino-americans-episode-6-peril-and-promise/>

Goal for Class

The goal of this class is to recognize the problems that immigrants in Santa Fe deal with and to explore ways in which we might support immigrants in our city through individual and church actions.

Questions for Discussion

After the presentation by Ms. Diaz, the class will be able to ask her questions.

Additional Resources

- **“Immigration Nation”** on Netflix. (6 one-hour episodes) With unprecedented access to ICE operations, as well as moving portraits of immigrants, this documentary takes a deep look at U.S. immigration today. (6 one-hour episodes)

Action Items

- **The Faith Network for Immigrant Justice**, a group of 13 different Santa Fe churches, is proposing three pieces of legislation for our state legislature to consider this coming January. Please read through the following and contact any legislator asking the three questions listed. The Presbytery of Santa Fe has promoted this by sending out the information to the churches of the Presbytery. See the attached document NMILFN August Action.

Items of Interest

At our class on 8/14, Conrad Rocha gave us several titles of books he highly recommends we read:

- *How to Be an Antracist* - Ibram X. Kendi
- *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity* - Robert P. Jones
- *An Indigenous Peoples History of the United States* - Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz

COMING UP

On 8/28/20, our Friday class will be on **Voter Suppression and Disenfranchisement**. This is a critical and timely topic and deserves our utmost attention. We will have more than the usual amount of preparatory materials for you. Please allow time in your schedule to view the videos and read the articles we will be sending your way. Thank you.