



First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

First United Methodist Church
915 E 4th St, Tucson, AZ 85719
www.firstchurchtucson.org

10.13.2021

First Church Tucson is an inclusive multi-ethnic faith community and a reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church.

Established in 1879 as the first Protestant church in our city, First Church Tucson continues to pave the way in creating a faith community that embraces all peoples into the grace of God.

As a courageous family of faith, we celebrate the diversity of all God's children, welcome everyone to share in God's love and grace, and offer a sanctuary of hope.

We seek to be in ministry with all God's people, regardless of gender, race, age, class, ethnicity, culture, country of origin, ability and disability, and sexual orientation.

We welcome you to join in our journey of faith through worship, prayer, Bible study, and service for social justice and ministries of compassion.

At First Church Tucson,
You have a home.

At First Church Tucson,
You have a family of faith.

At First Church Tucson,
You belong.



"From the Office of Bishop Grant"

By Bishop Grant

With the life-changing reality of COVID-19 and the effects it has had on our United Methodist Church, I write this introductory reflection to the churches, laity, and clergy of the Desert Southwest Conference. First, let us remember all those we have lost across the world to the ravages of the global pandemic. Most of us know someone we have lost to COVID-19, and we continue to pray for their surviving families and loved ones.

The direct effect that the global pandemic has had on our United Methodist Church is what has brought me to be in relationship with all of you. We had to cancel our 2020 General Conference, and the Western Jurisdictional Conference, where we would elect new bishops. Instead of retiring, I will continue for a short interim until we can hold the 2022 General and Jurisdictional Conferences. Since Bishop Hoshibata preferred to move to a much-deserved retirement, I will be serving until we can elect new bishops. I will continue to serve both the California-Pacific Conference and the Desert Southwest Conference during this interim period.

I know you realize what a huge responsibility this is, and I ask for your continued prayers during this period. Fortunately, I have had experience in taking on an additional annual conference in my history. I was serving the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference and the Alaska Missionary Conference, when in 2012, our Western Jurisdiction lost one bishop, and we decided to combine the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference into one region called the Greater Northwest Area. So, I know a bit about what

(cont. pg 2)

From the Office of Bishop Grant (cont.)

this means and, hopefully, have had some experiences that will help us navigate this change.

First of all, there is no ulterior motive to merge the annual conferences or Episcopal areas. We were once one annual conference, and with the strength of the Arizona and southern Nevada areas, you formed the Desert Southwest Conference, and have thrived in the process. With a smaller footprint, I believe that Cal-Pac has also thrived. I believe that for future growth and prosperity, we should have two independent annual conferences and Episcopal areas. However, we can enhance each other by sharing programming, leadership, and vital resources. My vision is that we can provide cross-conference resourcing to each other and becoming [sic] stronger by sharing vital ministries.

Second, I will only be here in the Desert Southwest for a short season of time, yet, we cannot stand still waiting. We must actively move forward in ministry: improving, innovating, and creating new forms of ministry that will evangelize new people into our churches. Now is not a time to hunker down and wait out this interim period. Instead, it is a time of dynamic outreach and growth where we aim to expand our ministries. I hope to serve as a catalyst for this growth, but all of us as local leaders must also enter this mindset and commit to such action. If we have learned anything from COVID-19, it is that we can continue to do life-giving ministry, even with limited physical access. I am challenging all of us to step up our commitment to creativity and innovation and find new ways of doing the ministry of Jesus Christ!

Finally, my style of leadership is one of transparency and trust. I always have an open door in terms of communication, and by extension, the Cabinet and staff will also model this openness. Trust, of course, has to be earned, and the best way to reach this is through consistent and integral actions. I pledge to give my all toward earning such trust, and I pray that you will join me in the active reshaping of ministry in our Desert Southwest Conference.

I do not believe it is just fate that has brought us together, but the providence of God is a mighty factor in all of life, and I pray that there is a divine reason for our time together. I relish the gift of this time with all of you!

Be the Hope,

Bishop Grant

IN LOVING MEMORY

We are sad to announce the recent passing of Randy Ford.

Randy had been a member of First Church since October 1981.

A funeral service is tentatively scheduled to take place at First Church on Monday, October 18th at 2 PM.

Please keep his wife Peggy and son Toby in your prayers.



THIS WEEK'S
ANNOUNCEMENTS & GATHERINGS

SUNDAY MORNING HYBRID SERVICE

There are two ways for you to participate in our 10AM hybrid online/in-person Sunday Service.

YouTube: Join us Live! on our channel. Visit bit.ly/fumcYouTube

In-Person: For those of you who are well and fully vaccinated, join us in person.

NOTICE: Due to the rise in Delta-variant COVID-19 cases, our safety guidelines have been updated. Please see below:

- Masks are required to be worn inside the church building, and social distancing is still in effect (min. 6 ft between family groups).
- If you are not yet fully vaccinated or are immuno-compromised, it is strongly recommended that you watch the YouTube livestream rather than attend in person.
- Choir members are required to be fully vaccinated in order to sing in front of the congregation during the service.

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한국어 사역

주일 오전 11시 30분에 한국어 예배가
현장예배와 온라인예배로 진행됩니다.
기도와 참여 부탁드립니다.
금요일 저녁 7시에 성경공부 모임이 줌으로
진행됩니다.

Youtube 주소는 bit.ly/fumcYouTube
Meeting ID: 998 6112 0822 Passcode: 6226481

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WEEKDAY ONLINE GATHERINGS

Women on a Spiritual Quest (WSQ)

-A classic UM Bible study group with accountability and fellowship, in the church library on Monday afternoons at 4:30PM.

All God's Creation (AGC)

-A time of scripture reading and reflection with a focus on living creatures, now on Tuesday afternoons at 3PM.

Meeting ID: 994 3610 1655 Passcode: 6226481

Chancel Choir

-Practice is held in-person in the Sanctuary on Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM.
-There will be a rehearsal on Sunday mornings at 9AM before the service.

Meeting ID: 929 7830 4567 Passcode: 6226481

Progressive Book Study (PBS)

-Meets on Thursdays at 2:30PM. Book title:
"God's Politics—Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It" by Jim Wallis.

Questions? Call Rev. Gaston at (520) 323-1611

Meeting ID: 980 1573 8087 Passcode: 6226481

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Not seeing something of interest?
We'd love to hear from you. Let's talk.
Contact pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com



PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

We offer our prayers for those in our community who are suffering, who are physically, mentally, & emotionally unwell, and those caring for them.

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We offer our prayers for these sister faith communities:

Vista de la Montana UMC, Tucson
UMC of the Good Shepherd, Kearny
Willcox UMC, Willcox

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GIVING TO FIRST CHURCH TUCSON

When you attend Sunday services in person, the offering box is in the narthex for your generous giving. Head to our website www.firstchurchtucson.org/give to give online. As always, you can mail in checks to the church office at the address printed on the front page. Alternatively, have your IRA advisor automatically make payments from your IRA.



When we give to God from our hearts, it is always enough. We see you, and we thank you for your commitment to making a difference in our community.

UPCOMING

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Martha Morgan (Oct 12)
Tina Todd (Oct 15)
Joyce Holloway (Oct 16)
Gail Snyder (Oct 19)
Maxwell Musgrove (Oct 20)

Suzanne Van Ort (Oct 21)
Jounghwa Namgung (Oct 23)
Jeanne Jensen (Oct 24)
Caroline Fish (Oct 25)

(If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know so we can update our records!)

SUNDAY COFFEE/SOCIAL TIME

We have fellowship time with coffee and snacks after the English worship service. Please observe the following rules:

1. Masks are to be worn when not seated at a table.
2. Tables have been set up with **only 5** chairs to ensure there is social distancing and **must** remain this way.
3. Food will be limited to finger foods like cookies, doughnuts and crackers or chips. Utensils must be used to pick up food, **DO NOT** use your fingers.
4. Coffee and bottled water will be the beverages for now.

If these rules are observed, we will continue until COVID conditions change and we must reconsider the circumstances. Welcome back to social time and enjoy responsibly.

Charge Conference reminder!

The Charge Conference date is Thursday, October 14th at 7PM.
SPRC will meet with District Superintendent Matt Ashley at 6PM.

Local Lay Servants

Min Hahn, Sam Haney, Nan Rollings, Diane Russell

Certified Lay Servants

Jessie Hansen, Margo Kahler, Bonnie Steel, Ian Steel, Tina Todd

Certified Lay Speaker

Anita Lange



All Saints Sunday, November 7th at 10AM and 11:30AM

We will remember those who became saints and separated from us here on Earth. If you have lost your loved one in the last ten years, we would love to remember them. Please send their pictures to the office, including their name, relationship with you, and the dates of birth and death.

MUSICAL INVITATION

Join our music groups at First United Methodist Church!
You are welcome to participate, whether you can read music or not.

FUMC Choir

Our rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 6:30PM and Sundays at 9AM in the Sanctuary.

FUMC Ensemble

If you play keyboard, drums, guitar, bass, woodwind, brass, or strings, or if you sing, contact us and join this ensemble for worship services and special occasions.

FUMC Handbell Choir We will prepare music for the Christmas Season!

Contact information:

Music Director Lorena Suárez (218) 409-3783 / suarezmolina@email.arizona.edu
First Church office (520) 622-6481 / office@firstchurchtucson.org

COMMUNITY NEWS

2021 CROP HUNGER WALK

What are you doing Sunday, November 7th? Would you like a way to visit with friends, make new friends, enjoy the outdoors, get exercise AND help to change the world? Come walk with us in the CROP Hunger Walk to raise funds to fight hunger in our community and around the world.

If you want to be a Team Captain, or to sign up to be a Walker or a sponsor (or both!), please contact the church office at (520) 622-6481 or office@firstchurchtucson.org.



CROP Walk date:

11/7/2021, Sunday

Gathering/Registration:

2 PM

Walk starts:

2:15 PM

Walk distance: <2 miles (wheelchair accessible; dogs on leash welcome)

NEW LOCATION!

Trinity Presbyterian Church
400 E. University Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85705

(We will gather in the church courtyard. North entrance off of University Blvd.)
Free parking in lot on East side of the church.

Contacts:

Sherry Letson	Betty Lu Holland
520-954-4057	520-579-2895

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention."
~ Oscar Wilde

Animal **Holidays** - A Week at a Glance

By Diane Russell



Oct 13 - National Pet Obesity Awareness Day

Pets, just like people, can sometimes weigh more than they need to. This can lead to health problems. It is often hard to deny our fur babies treats and snacks. This day is to raise awareness about pet obesity and to promote healthier diets and lifestyles.

Oct 15 - National Pug Day

This day was created in 2012 to help promote the adoption of pugs from Pug Rescues or from shelters. According to the American Kennel Club, they are ranked at the 29th position for Most Popular Dog Breeds of 2020.



Oct 16 - National Feral Cat Day (a.k.a. National Global Cat Day)

This day was created by Alley Cat Allies in 2001 to raise awareness about using non-lethal feline programs such as the Trap, Neuter and Release (TNR) Program for feral and stray cats. Adoption doesn't always work with feral cats that have never had human contact.

Oct 17 - National Fetch Day

This day was created in 2018 in honor of Chester the retriever, whose toy "Chuckit" the ball launcher was created. Most dogs are born with a natural instinct to retrieve or fetch. Playing fetch with your dog gives both you and your dog exercise for a happier and healthier lifestyle.



Picture of the Day

Anna the Grevy's Zebra and her healthy foal at Reid Park Zoo.

Ethereal Beauty in the Park

I spotted these pure white, delicate blossoms on a bush in a park (plant type unknown). The flowers are in the process of drying out, which makes them appear handmade from tissue paper.

Photo by Tripp Gordon



SUNDAY SERVICE ORDER OF WORSHIP

English Worship Service at 10AM

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading

Anthem (Choir)

Message

Song of Response

Sharing joys and concerns

Prayers of the People

Offertory Prayer

Closing Song

Benediction

Postlude

Passing of the Peace

한국어 예배 오전 **11시 30분**

환 영 및 인사

조용한 기도

예배의 부름

찬양

여는 기도

성경봉독

설 교

응답찬송

알리는 말씀 (광고)

목회기도

봉헌기도

결단찬송

축 도

후 주

Please contact the church office if you have any questions, need information, or want to submit an article or put an announcement in the weekly digest.

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 10AM-2PM

Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Rev. Eun Young Ko

Visiting Pastor: Rev. Raven Gaston

Music Director: Lorena Suarez

Worship Video Team: Sumin Lee & Juyeon Lee

Office Assistant: Tripp Gordon

Bookkeeper: Sue Smith



www.firstchurchtucson.org

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