

First United Methodist Church
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www.firstchurchtucson.org

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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/disability, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

We continue to work towards building a loving and faithful community in Tucson. We welcome all of you to be part of it.

“Movement of the Spirit of God!”

By Pastor Ko

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

I am delighted to notice that our church is getting busier this year. It means that our church has been available and open to the community. It also brings the movement of the Spirit of God. The NA group began to use the Arizona room every Monday evening. The flute choir had been using our church for their weekly rehearsal, and then presented an amazing flute concert on Mother's Day at 3PM in our sanctuary.

When they contacted us to use our church for their rehearsal and promised to offer their talents to play music for our worship services, they did so in December 2021 and did their second time performing on May 1st at our English worship service. They played the prelude and offertory songs.

Not only that, the men's choir sang a song for Mother's Day worship in the Korean service. It has been a long time since they last sang. Our new member, Youngshik Lee, was a great addition to the choir.



Flute Choir members performing at our worship service on May 1st

I am so grateful that we were able to offer Graduation Sunday on May 15th for four graduates. I wish we could include students from Wesley Foundation. But, we can work it out next year. Nonetheless, we had four graduates: Halla Kang from Sunrise

(cont. pg 2)

Movement of the Spirit of God! (cont.)

Drive Elementary school; Josh Williams from University high school; Eunmo Kang from graduate school at U of A; Sanghoon Jun from Doctorate program at U of A.

It is hard to still our souls when we are so busy. Lots of graduates are in town, which makes us feel busier as well. However, if we focus on the movement of the spirit among us, we couldn't be happier in spirit. I admit that it is still a long way to go. Nevertheless, we need to praise our Lord with all the blessings and additions we have had and accomplished at our church. It is because we are witnessing the movement and the work of the Holy Spirit among us.

Theologian Jurgen Moltmann points out that *"The salvation of the world has been brought about in Christ and in therefore already existent, the work of the Holy Spirit can only be recognition of this salvation."* (Jurgen Moltmann, *The Spirit of Life: A Universal Affirmation*, p.150)



Men's choir singing at our Korean worship service on May 8th

God's ultimate goal for us is to complete the salvation journey among us, for us, and through us. We will take a moment to take a deep breath during summer, recharging us to get ready for the new school season and fall. I pray and bless all of you who are already gone, planning to be gone, and will be gone in this time because we all need this. Sabbath is a time for us to take a renewal of our spirit and body. You come to the church and worship on Sunday taking your Sabbath. Now, you need to take some time off from the ministries you are involved in taking your Sabbath this summer.



Left: Pastor Ko, Nan, graduates in English service
Right: Steve, graduates, Pastor Ko in Korean service on May 15th

Movement of the Spirit of God! (cont.)

I can't wait to see you all after you come back from your renewal time in spirit and body. Church will still exist and welcome all of you anytime you come back.

"5 He saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. 6 This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life." (Titus 3:5-7)

"우리를 구원하시되 우리가 행한 바 의로운 행위로 말미암지 아니하고 오직 그의 긍휼하심을 따라 중생의 씻음과 성령의 새롭게 하심으로 하셨나니 우리 구주 예수 그리스도로 말미암아 우리에게 그 성령을 풍성히 부어 주사 우리로 그의 은혜를 힘입어 의롭다 하심을 얻어 영생의 소망을 따라 상속자가 되게 하려 하심이라." (디도서 3장 5-7절)

If you have any concerns or suggestions, feel free to contact me at pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com.

With God's blessings,

Pastor Eun Young Ko

Congratulations Graduates!!!

CONGRATULATIONS **GRADUATES!**



Halla Kang

Graduating school:
Sunrise Drive Elementary School

Entering school:
Orange Grove Middle School

CONGRATULATIONS **GRADUATES!**



Josh Williams

Graduating school:
University High School

Entering school:
Northern Arizona University

CONGRATULATIONS **GRADUATES!**



Eun Mo Kang

Graduating school:
University of Arizona
(Master of Science in Optical Sciences)

Entering school:
University of Central Florida
(The college of optics and photonics, Ph.D)

CONGRATULATIONS **GRADUATES!**



Sang Hoon Jun

Graduating school:
University of Arizona
(Ph.D in Civil and Architectural Engineering and Mechanics)

After graduation:
He will work at Korea University as a postdoc in the fall.

NEWS FROM THE INN OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA



Dear Volunteers, Donors, and Friends,

Attention! We are experiencing larger numbers of guests on a daily basis. In March 462 guests and in April 505 guests were served. As we anticipate the repeal of Title 42 we are expecting the number of guests to increase. If you can spend a few hours providing hospitality on a shift, please help fill those empty shifts. Each shift has room for two persons, so bring a friend!!! It's always more fun with two! **AND we really need you!!**

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU goes out to all who **have** signed up to help with hospitality shifts and/or driving. Your work is invaluable and is what keeps the Inn's doors open to welcoming our guests. For those who have not yet filled out a volunteer form and have any extra time for a hospitality shift, to help with meal prep and delivery, to help with fundraising, or to drive guests to the (Inn) hotel, bus station or the airport, we need and would greatly appreciate your assistance! Providing hospitality, with guidance from the Inn staff, is rewarding and satisfying, whether delivering support onsite or helping with transportation. Guests have been screened and are Covid-19 negative before proceeding to our hotel site. In addition, we follow all Covid protocol while transporting and on premises. **Please consider volunteering!**

As a new volunteer, or if you have never registered, the first step is to fill out some information at www.theinnofsa.org under the Volunteer tab. After completing the registration form, Gretchen, the Inn director, will send a link to Signup Genius so you can see the various on-site and driving shifts and sign up for any that suit your schedule.

Signup Genius tabs include:

- Hospitality shifts to help on site from **8 AM-1 PM, 1 PM-5 PM, 5 PM-9 PM** and overnight from **9 PM-8 AM** daily, including weekends.
- Driving guests to the Inn (hotel) from Casa Alitas Welcome Center, about 20 minutes away
- Driving guests to the airport or bus station.

Those interested in other areas of volunteer work off-site will be contacted by the person overseeing your area of interest.

Shout out to Donors and Potential Donors. We also want to thank those who donated to The Inn. Due to Covid restrictions regarding congregant sheltering, we have been serving guests from a hotel well-suited to our needs. A donation of \$50 provides an entire family a clean, comfortable room and meals for a night. Please give a night's stay for one family or a gift of more nights if you are able. The Inn's costs are at least \$600 a day for shelter alone. We are especially grateful for those who sustain giving every month; this helps greatly in planning for the future.

To give online, please go to <https://dscumc.org/secure/ip-donation/>.

If writing a check is easier or more convenient, please mail to:

The Inn of Southern Arizona, Inc.
P.O. Box 43332
Tucson, Arizona 85719

Thank you to all those amazing people who donated to The Inn this past month of July! We are grateful for all the supplies that have made our guests feel welcome and have the clothing and supplies needed for the next leg of their travel!

At this time, we could use donations of:

- Underwear for men (small & medium), women (Small) and children, both boys and girls (all sizes (2T to size 16)
- Men's pants, especially joggers, sweatpants, jeans, and shorts.
- Children's clothing, all sizes (especially 2T-size 5) both boys and girls
- Leggings for Women: small, medium, and large.
- Backpacks and/or larger reusable shopping bags
- Boxes of Fruit Loops or Cornflakes (or non-name brand cereal of the same type).
- Juice boxes, Capri Sun, squeezable yogurt, healthy, kid-friendly, prepackaged snacks, granola bars, individually packaged chips, Goldfish, Cheese-its, animal crackers
- Carseats

Please call Diane at 520-272-4341 to schedule a time and location to drop off donations.

Please note that, at this time, we **are** accepting clean clothing in good repair, especially those items noted above.

Our new website is: <http://www.theinnofsa.org>. When you have a chance, please check it out. We recommend the excellent video about *The Inn: What We Do and Who We Serve*. The donate button makes it easy to give to The Inn or to access the Amazon wish list for The Inn.



Chancel Choir - Upcoming **Summer** Schedule

You may join our summer schedule even if you're not a regular choir member. Beginning June 12th through July 31st, we won't have weekly rehearsals at night, so please come to the church with your spirit and love of music by 9AM on Sundays before the worship service.

THIS WEEK'S
ANNOUNCEMENTS & GATHERINGS

10AM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us in person, or watch the service Live at
<https://www.youtube.com/c/TucsonFirstUMC>.

한국어 사역

주일 오전 11시 30분에 한국어 예배가
현장예배와 온라인예배로 진행됩니다.
기도와 참여 부탁드립니다.

매주 금요일 저녁 7시, 성경공부가 줌으로
진행됩니다.

Meeting ID: 998 6112 0822 Passcode: 6226481

WEEKDAY GATHERINGS

Women on a Spiritual Quest (WSQ)

-WSQ meets on Mondays at 4:30PM in the
church library.

Narcotics Anonymous

-NA/Underground meets at 7:30PM on Monday
evenings in the Arizona room.

All God's Creation (AGC)

-AGC meets on Tuesdays at 3PM over Zoom. The
group is reusing last year's book, "All God's
Creatures: Daily Devotions for Animal Lovers
2021."

[Zoom ID: 994 3610 1655](#) [Passcode: 6226481](#)

Chancel Choir

This week:

-Practice is on Wednesday at 6:30PM in the
Sanctuary.

-Rehearsal is at 9AM on Sunday.

-Please see the announcement on the previous
page for upcoming schedule changes.

Progressive Book Study (PBS)

-PBS meets on Thursdays at 3PM. The current
book is, "The God You Didn't Know You Could
Believe In" by Dr. Jeffrey Frantz.

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

[Zoom ID: 980 1573 8087](#) [Passcode: 6226481](#)

NOTICE: Due to the current decline in
COVID-19 variant cases in Pima County, our
safety guidelines have again been updated:

- For now, wearing a mask in the church
building is no longer required, though still
encouraged. Social distancing is still in
effect (minimum 6 ft between households).
- If you are not yet fully vaccinated or are
immuno-compromised, or if you are not
feeling well, we ask that you watch the
YouTube livestream rather than attend in
person.
- Choir members are required to be fully
vaccinated in order to sing for the
congregation during the service.

*These guidelines are subject to change with Pima
County and CDC recommendations. If cases rise
again, we will have to return to masking.*

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.

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PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

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



We offer our prayers for these sister faith communities:

First UMC, Bisbee
First UMC, Eloy
First UMC, Safford

If you have a prayer request you would like to share in the Digest, please contact the church office at office@firstchurchtucson.org or (520) 622-6481.

BIRTHDAYS

Peter Ageh (May 24)
Joyce Garcia (May 26)
Carol Humphrey (May 26)

Lana Yoo (May 27)
Andrew Ageh (May 29)
Sam Haney (May 29)

Jack Dominguez (May 30)
Nahal Entezam Nia (May 30)
Howard Velzy (June 3)
Pearl Zimmerman (June 4)

ANNIVERSARIES

Ozzie & Carol Nelson (May 2)

Jim & Ann Goff (May 21)

Duk & Hae Sook Hong (June 5)

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

June Meet'n'Eat

This is a fellowship time to visit with each other and see old and new friends. *All are welcome!*

The next Meet'n'Eat is **Friday, June 10th at 11:30 AM** at the Olive Garden on the northeast corner of Oracle/Wetmore ([300 W Wetmore Rd, Tucson, AZ 85705](http://www.olivegarden.com)).

If you're interested in coming, please call Shirley Murray at (520)297-4796 by Wednesday, May 11th so she can reserve enough tables at the restaurant.

Animal Holidays at a Glance

By Diane Russell



May 20 – Endangered Species Day

This is the 17th celebration. According to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), at least 40% of animals, insects, and plants are at risk of going extinct around the world.



May 20 – World Bee Day

This is the 5th Annual World Bee Day in honor of beekeeper Anton Jansa. This year's theme is "Bee Engaged: Celebrating the Diversity of Bees and Beekeeping Systems".



May 23 – World Turtle Day

This day was started in 2000 by the American Tortoise Rescue. There are 360 known turtle and tortoise species and according to the IUCN Red List, 127 are considered to be endangered.



May 24 – World Otter Day

This day was founded by International Otter Survival Fund (IOSF) in 2009. There are 13 species of otter and according to the IUCN Red List, all 13 species are listed as endangered.



May 28 – Whooping Crane Day

This day is celebrated to honor and bring awareness of the endangered status and conservation efforts. According to the Crane Trust in 2021, there are over 800 Whooping Cranes in the world.



May 31 – World Parrot Day

This day was created in 2004 by the World Parrot Trust. There are about 350 species of parrots in the world with about half considered to be endangered due to habitat loss, hunting, and illegal trade.



June 4 – National Black Bear Day

This day was created in 2018 to raise awareness and eliminate the myths about the black bear. The black bear is the smallest and most common bear in North America.

June 5 – World Day Against Speciesism

This day was created in 2008 to remind people about discrimination of animals based on species. Speciesism refers to the different rights and values given to different animals based on their species.