



# First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

First United Methodist Church  
915 E 4th St, Tucson, AZ 85719  
[www.firstchurchtucson.org](http://www.firstchurchtucson.org)

1.18.2022

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 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.

## “Flexibility and Resilience!”

By Pastor Ko

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

What a surprise you have heard from the church that we switched our worship service on Sunday from Hybrid (in-person and online) to online-only until this Sunday! We already have learned how to be flexible and resilient over the Pandemic era. I thought it wouldn't happen in our church in case our church had to switch to online service only. However, I admit that it was only my idea. We can't control everything even related to the ministry, which means that we lean on God again in God's plan, which requests us to be flexible and resilient.

Also, I am so grateful for how easier and more comfortable we accept the sudden change in the church even though we couldn't imagine this smooth of a transition before Pandemic.



Left: Pastor Ko offering thanksgiving over the water.

Right: Pastor Ko baptizing Konrad.

(Photos by Esther Lee)

As I shared my concerns in my sermon with you on Sunday, I worried about the possibility of cancelling the baptism of Konrad Smith. Thankfully, I was able to preside over his baptism in the

(cont. pg 2)

## Flexibility and Resilience! (cont.)

sanctuary with his family and a few members needed for the live streaming.

Even though the United Methodist Church doesn't practice private baptisms, we offered baptism like a private baptism without our intention. However, Covid threat and any other condition couldn't stop us from offering the holy moment and celebrating Konrad's baptism. It means much more than we can take it in general.

Before arriving in Tucson, I met Konrad's parents (Kristian and Katlyn) for the baptism class via Zoom. It was a great time for us to get to know each other, confirm their willingness to raise Konrad in faith and try to do their best to be a model of faith to Konrad. In the midst of Chaos during the week, God gave us to overcome all the obstacles or fears we might be occupied with.



Left: Pastor Ko, Konrad, Katlyn, Kristian

Right: Pastor Ko, Kristie, Katlyn, Kristian, Carol, Konrad, and Ozzie

Mark Moore wrote in his book "Core 52" about humility, "Nothing reflects the life of Jesus more than using power for the powerless. So practice 'Associate with the lowly as if they were dignitaries.'"

I humbly admit that we can live in our daily lives by the power of Jesus Christ for those who are powerless. So, continue to practice to be humble in Christ. Amen.

<sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are."

**(Romans 12:13, 16)**

“성도들의 쓸 것을 공급하며 손 대접하기를 힘쓰라. 서로 마음을 같이하며 높은 데 마음을 두지 말고 도리어 낮은 데 처하며 스스로 지혜 있는 체 하지 말라” (로마서 12장 13절 & 16절)

Also, please check out the order of worship in this weekly digest since we haven't printed out our bulletin every Sunday. If you have any concerns or suggestions, feel free to contact me at [pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com).

With best regards and blessings,

Pastor Eun Young Ko

THIS WEEK'S  
ANNOUNCEMENTS & GATHERINGS

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**

This Sunday, our worship service will be online-only. Please join us Live! on **YouTube**:  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/TucsonFirstUMC>.

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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  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/TucsonFirstUMC>

[Meeting ID: 998 6112 0822](#) [Passcode: 6226481](#)

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**ORDER A COVID-19 HOME TEST KIT**

Starting January 19<sup>th</sup>, you can order at-home COVID-19 test kits online. Please visit [www.covidtests.gov](http://www.covidtests.gov) for more information.

The tests available for order:

- Are rapid antigen at-home tests, not PCR
- Can be taken anywhere
- Give results within 30 minutes (no lab drop-off required)
- Work whether or not you have COVID-19 symptoms
- Work whether or not you are up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines
- Are also referred to self-tests or over-the-counter (OTC) tests

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days.

**WEEKDAY ONLINE GATHERINGS**

**Women on a Spiritual Quest (WSQ)**

-WSQ meets on Mondays at 4:30PM in the church library. The group's new book is "Living a Chocolate Life" by Deb Burma.

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**All God's Creation (AGC)**

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

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

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**Chancel Choir**

-Temporarily on hold.  
-Will resume on Wednesday, January 26th at 6:30PM.

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**Progressive Book Study (PBS)**

-If you like challenging your understanding of the meaning of life, join our book study on Thursdays at 2:30PM. Our current book is "The God You Didn't Know You Could Believe In" by Dr. Jeffrey Frantz. We will continue to meet online for a while, hoping to eventually meet in person.  
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](mailto:pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com)

## **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](http://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:

Duncan UMC  
San Pedro Valley UMC, Benson  
UMC of the Good Shepherd, Kearny

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### UPCOMING

### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Michi Michalsky (Jan 18)  
Chang Koo (Jan 20)

Bill Bensema (Jan 23)  
Jim Goff (Jan 26)

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

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### **Sprucing Up the Garden**

The cold snap meant changes were needed in our church courtyard. The exuberant (but frost-sensitive) yellow-green vine is gone. Now we can enjoy yellow and coral petunias and ivy in the square planter.

*Photo by Nan Rollings*

**COIN SUNDAY**  
JANUARY 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2022

Every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, we do a special offering collection for a worthy cause. January's Coin Sunday offering will go to Subuiga Methodist Church in Kenya, Africa to support its congregation and its HIV/AIDS ministry.

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Last week, we ran an article by Shirley Murray describing how she first learned about this church and met the "Servant Evangelist," Daniel. Below is a recent email from Daniel describing his congregation's activities in 2021. (*Lightly edited for brevity*)

**Dec 20, 2021**

**Dear sister Shirley Murray,**

Once again, I take this opportunity to thank God Almighty for taking us this far despite challenges bad weather conditions and Covid-19 pandemic.

Here in Meru as we started 1st December World Aids Day, I have been busy visiting schools and distributing sanitary towels to teen girls, also advocating to the parents on early child pregnancy which has been increased in our areas leaving majority of this young girl's pregnancy and out of school also. HIV infections rate is going up on the young adults and teens.

You will see some of the activities in the attached photos.

The other activity every end of the year, we organize a party for orphan children, People Living With HIV virus and their care givers. Where I appeal to the churches and well-wishers to support with donations and this has been going well. I have attached a circular I send to them for support.

The HIV program is doing well we campaign timelessly with a few Health Volunteers in our Synod as attached in one of the pictures will see us distributing items with them to the girls.

My wife Susan and my youngest daughter who is in a Technical College joined me in sending you these Christmas greeting and wishing you and your family and TFUMC congregation abundant love of God enjoyable and Merry Christmas.

May God be with you.

**Yours in Christ Service**

**Ev. Daniel**



# Animal Holidays - A Week at a Glance

By Diane Russell



## January 18 - Winnie the Pooh Day

This day was created to honor the birthday of A. A. Milne, the author of "Winnie the Pooh." The stories were inspired by Winnipeg or Winnie, a black bear who was rescued and finally sent to the London Zoo during World War I. Winnie was frequently visited by Christopher Robin and his father A. A. Milne. Christopher had a teddy bear named after Winnipeg and he named it "Winnie." The name "Pooh" was from a swan they met.

## January 20 - Penguin Awareness Day

This day was created to raise awareness and conservation efforts to help protect these aquatic and flightless birds whose numbers are being reduced. There are about 20 known species of penguins. Ways to celebrate include visiting your local zoo or aquarium; and also watching documentaries about their lives and habitats.

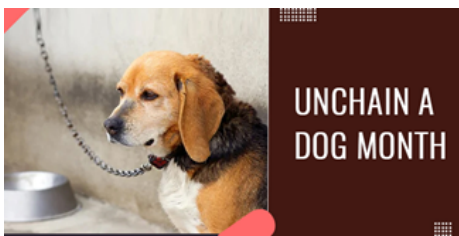


## January 21st - Squirrel Appreciation Day

This day was created in 2001 by Christy Hargrove, a wildlife rehabilitator from North Carolina. It encourages people to be nice to squirrels instead of considering them to be pests. They are beneficial to the environment by storing nuts and seeds which eventually grow into trees.

## January 22 - National Answer Your Cat's Questions Day

Did you know your cat has questions for you? This is the day to answer all their pressing questions. They wonder, where do you go when you leave the house? They wonder, why is their food bowl not filled up with food? Spend some time and talk with them and answer each meow with some special treats.



## January - Unchain a Dog Month

This month is dedicated to bring awareness of the dogs chained up with no escape from the elements or danger. Many dogs are chained up with no shelter, water, or are on a short chain in extreme weather conditions. Dogs are social animals and need the company of loving care takers. After all, they are considered to be "Man's Best Friend" and should be free.

# SOUL KITCHEN

## Lemon & Dill Chicken

<https://www.eatingwell.com/recipe/252591/lemon-dill-chicken/>

### Ingredients

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (1 to 1 ½ lbs)  
Salt & freshly ground pepper, to taste  
3 tsp extra-virgin olive oil, or canola oil, divided  
¼ c finely chopped onion  
3 cloves garlic, minced  
1 c reduced-sodium chicken broth  
2 tsp flour  
2 Tbsp chopped fresh dill, divided  
1 Tbsp lemon juice

### Directions

1. Season chicken breasts on both sides with salt and pepper. Heat 1 ½ teaspoons oil in a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat. Add the chicken and sear until well browned on both sides, about 3 minutes per side. Transfer chicken to a plate and tent with foil.
2. Reduce heat to medium. Add the remaining 1 ½ teaspoons oil to the pan. Add onion and garlic and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Whisk broth, flour, 1 tablespoon dill and lemon juice in a measuring cup and add to pan. Cook, whisking, until slightly thickened, about 3 minutes.
3. Return the chicken and any accumulated juices to the pan; reduce heat to low and simmer until the chicken is cooked through, about 4 minutes. Transfer the chicken to a warmed platter. Season sauce with salt and pepper and spoon over the chicken. Garnish with the remaining 1 tablespoon chopped fresh dill.

*Note from Tripp Gordon:* I just made this recipe the other day, and it goes great with pasta! I doubled the amount of sauce I made, adding an extra tsp of flour so it would thicken up a bit more and an extra squeeze of lemon juice for increased tanginess.

## SUNDAY COFFEE/SOCIAL TIME

On January 30th, we will resume having fellowship time with coffee and snacks after the in-person 10AM English worship service. Please observe the following rules:

1. Masks are to be worn when not eating or drinking—please stay masked while chatting.
2. Tables have been set up with **only 5** chairs to ensure there is adequate 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 from serving trays, **DO NOT** use your fingers.
4. Coffee and 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.

## SUNDAY SERVICE ORDER OF WORSHIP

### **English Worship Service at 10AM**

Welcome & Announcements  
Call to Worship  
Opening Hymn  
Opening Prayer  
Scripture Reading  
Special Music  
Message  
Song of Response  
Sharing joys and concerns  
Prayers of the People  
Offertory Prayer  
Closing Song  
Benediction  
Postlude

한국어 예배 오전 **11시 30분**

환영 및 인사  
조용한 기도  
예배의 부름  
찬양  
여는 기도  
성경봉독  
설교  
응답찬송  
알리는 말씀 (광고)  
목회기도  
봉헌기도  
결단찬송  
축도  
후주

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



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