



First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

10.19.2021

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/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.

“A Precious Moment for All!”

By Pastor Ko

When I took two days off for Halla's fall break, Halla and I were out of AZ last Tuesday. And, I learned our beloved member of First Church, Randy Ford went to heaven on Oct 11, 2021. Unfortunately, I never met him in person, but we had a funeral service for him yesterday in our sanctuary.

I learned a lot about Randy, how adventurous, passionate, and creative he had been in his professional career and the family. Pastor Raven and his son, Toby, and his in-law shared about who he was for more than 30 minutes. It was never dull because his personality and his life journey were thoroughly adventurous.

Afterwards I heard from Peggy, his wife, that she had never heard a story that Toby had shared in the service. His dad (Randy) took him to Mexico for a vacation during one of his spring breaks. Even though many people might expect to relax and enjoy near the beach for fun, the reality was the opposite. They went to the rural area riding buses. Later their money ran out which made things even worse. When they were on the bus returning to the US, it snowed, and the bus driver couldn't go further. He wanted to turn around on the top of hills next to a cliff, and people screamed and cried that they were afraid they were going to die.



Left: Plant arrangement dedicated for the service.

Right: Decorated photos of Randy for the service

(cont. pg 2)

A Precious Moment for All! (cont.)

I saw Toby's tears, and he took a break while he was sharing about his daddy's scary vacation with him. Even though it was not a fancy vacation for him nor his happiest memory, Toby knew that he would miss his daddy, and he respected his adventurous and passionate character. Randy's legacy would continue to Toby and his next generation in a different form but still lively.



(Left: Decoration of his pictures. Right: Pastor Raven, Toby, and Peggy)

I believe that I had a very precious moment celebrating his life and meeting people who are family and friends of Randy and Peggy. Some of them used to come to our church years ago.

For example, I had a chance to meet Beth Walkup, who came to the funeral service. She is one of our members but can't drive anymore and can't come to the church. However, I heard about her amazing ministry at our church years ago. Some others showed their presence for the funeral service. Thus, a funeral service is a special gift for the deceased and survivors and for those who come to the celebration of the person's life. It is not easy to keep in touch with all our old friends and neighbors but a funeral service makes it happen to get everyone together.

God allowed us to have a precious moment for all! We came together to comfort the survivors, get some comfort ourselves, and be reminded of good memories of the person.

I believe Randy lived in faith and these verses: "We desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promise" (**Hebrew 6:11-12**).

우리가 간절히 원하는 것은 너희 각 사람이 동일한 부지런함을 나타내어 끝까지 소망의 풍성함에 이르러 게으르지 아니하고 믿음과 오래 참음으로 말미암아 약속들을 기업으로 받는 자들을 본받는 자 되게 하려는 것이니라 (**히브리서 6장 11-12절**)

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 pastor Eun Young Ko (pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com).

With blessings and prayers,

Pastor Eun Young Ko

All Church Conference Launches Us with Encouragement

Submitted by Lay Leader, Nan Rollings.

Gathering [on October 14th] at 7 pm in our social hall was District Superintendent Matt Ashley and his wife Felida, Pastor Ko and Pastor Raven, along with Cindy Turnbull (recording the minutes) and Art, Anita (Lange), Carol (Nelson), Diane and Victoria (Russell), Howard (Velzy), Jessie (Hansen), Margo (Kahler), Min (Hahn), Nan, Sam (Haney), and Steven (Yoo). It was great to see these faces on an autumn night and to hear much good news.

Pastor Ko's report called ours a "Spirit-empowered congregation" and affirmed us as a reconciling church "to welcome and embrace all in the body of Christ." She appealed for us to dream with her about what our church can do and be.

- "I dream that we will have a Sunday School, newborn babies, and new students and their parents."

Faithful giving, wise investing, and a bequest from Gordon Cheeseman mean that ministries can be supported financially. We have paid all our apportionments.

- Superintendent Matt said, "I don't know of another church in the Conference that has the opportunity that exists at FUMC." This brings great responsibility to put our faith into service for others. Let's find our passion and use it as a gift from God.

The DS encouraged us to embrace the church that we are in the present moment, 120 members strong—and to continue to be a model of cultural diversity for other churches.

- Innovate and view failed efforts as learning opportunities.
- Put NEW wine into NEW wineskins. As Jesus said in his parable (Matthew 9:14-17, Mark 2:18-22, and Luke 5:33-39) if put in old wineskins, the skins split.
- Using Steve Kerr's talent for setting 4 objectives for his basketball team each year, DS Matt is asking us and the rest of the South District to be guided by:

JOY, COMPASSION, INNOVATION, and FAITHFULNESS

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

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.

* * *

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.

* * *

We offer our prayers for these sister faith communities:

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

* * *

GIVING TO FIRST CHURCH TUCSON

When you attend Sunday services in person, the offering box is in the narthex for your generous donations before or after the service. 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

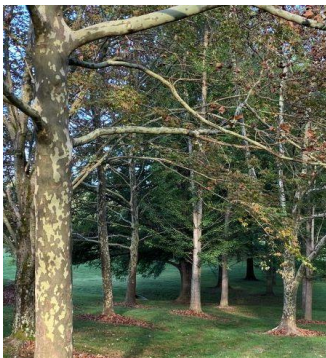
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

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)
Jessie Hansen (Oct 26)
Carol Nelson (Nov 1)

Chuck & Judi Brandt (October 28)

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



Color-Changing Trees

On Nan Rollings's recent trip to Potomac, MD, she snapped this photo of a plane tree (left side of photo; genus *Platanus*, species unknown) in the process of shedding its leaves.

Plane trees have scaling patchwork bark and dangling seedballs (that are great fun for kids to throw at each other).

Photo by Nan Rollings



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.

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.

SOUL KITCHEN

Best Homemade Alfredo Sauce

<https://thesaltymarshmallow.com/best-homemade-alfredo-sauce/>

Note from Tripp: "I made this the other day--it's rich, tasty & filling! I substituted half-and-half + a pinch of GF flour for the heavy cream, and used only about 1 ½ cups of the Parm, and it still came out amazing."

Ingredients

½ c butter
1 ½ c heavy whipping cream
2 tsp garlic, minced
½ tsp Italian seasoning
½ tsp salt
¼ tsp pepper
2 c freshly grated Parmesan cheese ("shaker" style container grated cheese will make your sauce grainy)

Directions

1. Add the butter and cream to a large skillet.
2. Simmer over low heat for 2 minutes.
3. Whisk in the garlic, Italian seasoning, salt, and pepper for one minute.
4. Whisk in the parmesan cheese until melted.
5. Serve immediately.

COMMUNITY NEWS

2021 CROP HUNGER WALK

You can help make a difference in local AND global hunger by walking in our CROP Hunger Walk this year. With less than three weeks to go, our congregation has two Walkers so far. Won't you join them? If you can't walk, please sponsor our Walkers and encourage your friends to walk and/or be sponsors as well.

To sign up to be First Church's Team Captain, a Walker or a sponsor, please contact the church office at (520) 622-6481 or office@firstchurchtucson.org. Need Hunger Walk resources

and guidance? Want to find out how to do your own virtual Walk? Just ask the office for assistance!



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)

Start 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
520-954-4057

Betty Lu Holland
520-579-2895

*"You cannot do a kindness too soon."
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*

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

By Diane Russell



October 20 - International Sloth Day

This day was created in 2010 by AIUNAU (an animal group from Columbia) to celebrate and raise awareness about these slow moving animals of which some are critically endangered.

October 21 - National Pets for Veterans Day

This day was created in 2009 by Clarissa Black, from “Pets for Vets” whose goal is to help veterans transition back into civilian life. Their mission statement is “Helping Veterans and Saving Pets.”



October 21 - Reptile Awareness Day

This day is to promote education, conservation, and to be made aware of the threats that reptiles are facing. There are more than 10,000 species of reptiles that live all over the world--except in Antarctica.

October 22 - Wombat Day (a.k.a. Hug a Wombie Day, Wombats of the World Unite)

This day was created in 2005 to bring awareness to the three species of wombats. They are marsupials that live in Southeastern Australia and in Tasmania. Often this day is celebrated with chocolate and wine gums (chewy candy).



October 23 - International Snow Leopard Day

This day was created in 2014 to raise awareness about the conservation and protection needs of the endangered snow leopards. According to the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN) they are listed as “Vulnerable” with about 4,000+ left in the wild.

Baptism in the United Methodist Church

What happens when we are baptized? In baptism, we acknowledge and celebrate the grace of God, freely offered to us before we were even aware of it. We confess our sin, accept membership in the family of Christ, and vow to trust in and serve Jesus Christ as our Lord. Baptism is the outward and visible sign of our covenant (holy agreement) with God to accept God’s gifts of freedom and power and to grow in faith through the constant efforts of the Holy Spirit and the lifelong practice of prayer, study, service, witness, and worship. In The United Methodist Church, baptism is a communal celebration; the congregation vows to nurture and support those being baptized--adults or infants. These United Methodist services are called Baptismal Covenants in recognition of the sacred nature of our holy agreements with God, as individuals and as a community of faith.

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**

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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