



First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

3.1.2022

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.

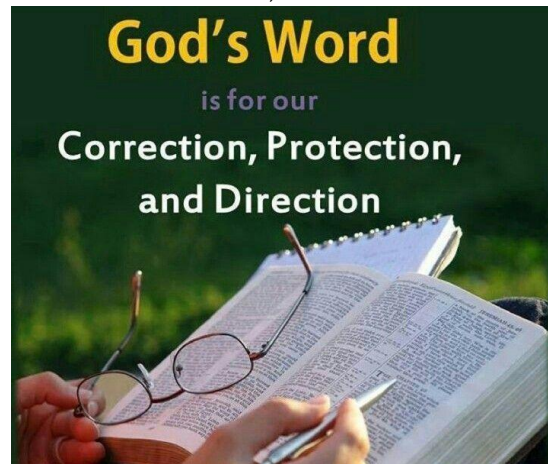
We welcome you to join in our journey of faith through worship, prayer, Bible study, and service for social justice and ministries of compassion.

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

“Bible Reading Challenge!”

By Pastor Ko

The Lenten season begins tomorrow. I will distribute Ashes in the church parking lot from 8:30AM to 10AM and lead an Ash Wednesday service at 7PM. Our Lenten journey will begin and continue to move forward from getting ashes. This year, I would like to invite all of you to experience and learn about a new way of meditation and prayers through Tuesday Labyrinth spiritual formation time. Also, as we already made an announcement and sent you in our last weekly digest, I challenge you to be part of the Bible Reading Challenge during this Lenten season. You can follow the schedule in the calendar to read the four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John).



It is not easy to commit your time to read the Bible in your busy daily schedule but it is worthy to be part of it because God will be with you and pour out a special blessing in your reading journey.

The Gospel begins with four gospels which is the story of Jesus Christ who was sent from God to “seek and to save those who are lost” (Luke 19:10). Three out of four gospels are Matthew, Mark, and Luke. They are referred to as the synoptic Gospels because they have many of the same stories and similar sequences and viewpoints. John is quite different.

The term synoptic (Latin: synopticus; Greek: συνοπτικός, romanized: synoptikós) comes via Latin from the Greek σύνοψις,

(cont. pg 2)

Bible Reading Challenge! (cont.)

synopsis, i.e. "(a) seeing altogether, synopsis." I hope and pray that you will find out those similarities of the stories and perspectives while reading the three synoptic Gospels.

You will read the gospel of Matthew first from March 2nd to March 14th. I challenge you to read two or three chapters a day, which might be too much for some of you. However, there are so many ways for us to participate in this season of abstinence by fasting and restricting our favorite coffee or food or social media, and so forth. Lent is a time for us to re-focus on God and a God-centered life by limiting our freedom and being willing to be restricted from our own pleasures.

You can name them in your own lives. However, those are great ways to be part of the Lenten Spiritual Journey by committing a certain time of reading Gospels, meditating the Words of God, and praying for the peace of the world and for the ministry.

"As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God, My soul thirsts for God, for the living God." Psalms 42:1-2a

"하나님이여 사슴이 시냇물을 찾기에 갈급함 같이 내 영혼이 주를 찾기에 갈급하니이다. 내 영혼이 하나님 곧 살아 계시는 하나님을 갈망하나니." (시편 16편 11절)

As the Psalmist mentioned, we need to remember that our soul thirsts for God and God's Spirit.

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.

With God's new plan and blessings,

Pastor Eun Young Ko

LENTEN BIBLE CLASS - MARCH 9TH

Lent is a time to look at Jesus, to know him better and find direction and peace in our lives. **Look at Jesus** will be the theme for a Bible class Wednesday mornings in Lent, beginning March 9th through April 13th at 10AM-11AM. Nan Rollings will lead us in the cozy Tea House chapel off the hall to the Sanctuary.

If you cannot attend all classes, you are still very welcome. We assume those present are feeling well. Questions? Call Nan at 520-975-4528.

How did John the Baptist look at Jesus or the faithful senior citizens Simeon and Anna? For March 9th we will explore Luke 2:22-38 and Mark 1:1-12.

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>.

NOTICE: Due to the new COVID-19 variant cases that are emerging, our safety guidelines have been updated. Please see below:

- Masks are required to be worn by everyone 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, or if you are not feeling well, we very strongly recommend that you watch the YouTube livestream rather than attend in person.
- Choir members are required to be fully vaccinated and masked in order to sing for 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](#)

WEEKDAY GATHERINGS

Women on a Spiritual Quest (WSQ)

-WSQ is back to meeting on Mondays at 4:30PM in the church library. The current book is "Living a Chocolate Life" by Deb Burma.

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."

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

Chancel Choir

-No practice this Wednesday due to the 7PM Ash Wednesday service.
-Rehearsal is at 9AM on Sunday before the service.
-Join our choir for the upcoming Easter Cantata!

Progressive Book Study (PBS)

-If you like challenging your understanding of the meaning of life, join our book study on Thursdays at 2:30PM. We are reading "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](#)

Not seeing something of interest?
We'd love to hear from you. Let's talk!
Contact 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 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.

* * *

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 are praying for Maxwell M., Robert T., and April D. who have recently had or are undergoing surgery, and for Carol V. who has moved to a new care facility. We also pray for Marilyn Dunbar who would love cards and visits at Hacienda de Caring Hands (3624 E Calle del Prado, Tucson, AZ 85716).

We offer our prayers for these sister faith communities:



St. Mark's UMC, Tucson
St. Paul's UMC, Tucson
Willcox UMC

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.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Marilyn Dunbar (Mar 7)

Jong & Miwon Lee (March 6)

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

March 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 on **March 11 at 11:30 AM** at the Olive Garden on the northeast corner of Oracle/Wetmore ([300 W Wetmore Rd, Tucson, AZ 85705](http://300_W_Wetmore_Rd_Tucson_AZ_85705)).

If you're interested in coming, please call Shirley Murray at (520)297-4796 by Wednesday, March 9th so she can reserve enough tables at the restaurant.

UPCOMING LENTEN EVENTS & DATES

- **March 2nd:** Ashes will be distributed on Wednesday morning from 8:30AM to 10AM in the church parking lot.
- **March 2nd:** The Ash Wednesday worship service will take place at 7PM in the Sanctuary.
- **March 8th through April 12th:** Pastor Ko will facilitate a spiritual program at Rio Vista Natural Resource Park (3974 N Tucson Blvd, Tucson AZ 85716) at 10AM every Tuesday. Carpooling will be available from the church at 9:45AM.
- **March 9th through April 13th:** The Lenten Bible Reading Challenge will be led by Nan Rollings in our Tea House chapel every Wednesday at 10AM.

Lenten Bible Reading Challenge 2022

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Feb 27 Transfiguration Sunday	28	Mar 1	2 Ash Wednesday Matthew 1-2	3 Matthew 3-5	4 Matthew 6-8	5 Matthew 9-10
6 Holy Day First Sunday in Lent	7 Matthew 11-12	8 Matthew 13-15	9 Matthew 16-18	10 Matthew 19-21	11 Matthew 22-23	12 Matthew 24-26
13 Second Sunday in Lent	14 Matthew 27-28	15 Mark 1-2	16 Mark 3-5	17 Mark 6-7	18 Mark 8-9	19 Mark 10-12
20 Third Sunday in Lent	21 Mark 13-14	22 Mark 15-16	23 Luke 1-2	24 Luke 3-5	25 The Annunciation Luke 6-7	26 Luke 8-10
27 Fourth Sunday in Lent	28 Luke 11-12	29 Luke 13-15	30 Luke 16-18	31 Luke 19-20	Apr 1 Luke 21-22	2 Luke 23-24
3 Fifth Sunday in Lent	4 John 1-3	5 John 4-5	6 John 6-8	7 John 9-10	8 John 11-12	9 John 13-14
10 Palm Sunday	11 John 15-16	12 John 17	13 John 18-19	14 Maundy Thursday John 20	15 Good Friday John 21	16 Holy Saturday

Animal Holidays - A Week at a Glance

By Victoria Russell



March 1 - National Welsh Corgi Day

Corgis are cute dogs with short legs. They are quite popular and attract attention to themselves. They are warm, vibrant, and loyal companions. Ways to celebrate include spoiling your corgi, having a corgi party, and looking at corgi pictures or videos online.

March 1 - National Pig Day

Ellen Stanley and Mary Lynne Rave created this day in 1972 to grant pigs the right to be recognized for their intelligence and gentle domesticity. Pigs show up in all sorts of ways: in the media, in toys/stuffed animals, and piggy banks. Ways to celebrate include learning about famous pigs, visiting a farm, volunteering at a pig rescue, and finding cute pig collectibles.



March 1 - National Horse Protection Day

Horses are magnificent creatures who need our help. Sadly, some horses are deemed undesirable, abandoned, or abused. There are organizations across the nation that take in vulnerable horses and rehabilitate them, offering adoption or sanctuary. Ways to celebrate include learning about horse adoption, sharing the plight of horses with others, or donating your time or services to horse rescues.

March 3 - World Wildlife Day

Animals and plants have an important role to play in our world. This year's theme is "Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration". The goal is to spread awareness to the status of our most critically endangered animals and plants. Ways to celebrate include sharing cool facts about animals/plants, throwing a party dedicated to Earth's life forms, and getting involved by joining local events dedicated to animal/plant welfare.



Picture of the Week

Potoroo—a native to Australia enjoying their enrichment.

LOST AND FOUND

A reusable tan mask, and a pair of glasses.

If you think either of these items might be yours, please contact the church office at (520)622-6481 ext 10 or email office@firstchurchtucson.org.

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

Holy Communion

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

성만찬

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



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