



First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

3.15.2022

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.

“Good News from the Korean Congregation!”

By Pastor Ko

Nowadays it is the Spring break season. Spring break at the University of Arizona was last week. Some school districts' spring break is this week and Halla's school district's is next week. I would like to share some good news about our Korean congregation. We had a nice 3-hour trail hike at the Saguaro picnic area near the Desert Museum on March 7th in the morning, thanks to their spring break. Most of them are graduate and doctorate students from South Korea, plus one undergraduate student. I already dream of being in ministry with young adults, either Korean or American. In South Korean culture, there are rarely female pastors. But, thanks to the United Methodist Church and its openness, I was able to be ordained as an elder and serve all of you. It means that I can present myself to our Korean students as a new model of female leadership in Christianity.



Above: Students after the trail

Below: Students at the top of the mountain trail



Not only that, but I also learned that several of them didn't grow up Christian. It gives me more burning passion and motivation to help them to receive the grace of God and authentic faith in the Methodist Church regardless of which church they attend where they will settle down after finishing their study.

Isn't it amazing that we can plant seeds of faith in those who came to us?

I also would like to share more good news. As you know, the United Methodist

(cont. pg 2)

Good News from the Korean Congregation! (cont.)

Church is connected at the state level and throughout the United States and across the world. There is also a jurisdictional conference covering West districts' annual conferences.

Our church belongs to the South District of the Desert Southwest Annual Conference and Western Jurisdiction. Our church is chosen as one of the partnership churches from "Partnership in Ministry, Western Jurisdiction Korean UMC." We will have **A** church as our ministry partner, which means we will be **B** church. **A** church will help our church in many ways, such as special gifts, prayers, resources, and others from 2022 to 2025.

Through this partnership, I love to dream big with our strong and faithful bonding with our student ministry at the University of Arizona. Please, remember our exciting news and pray for our Korean congregation. Even though we don't have many chances to see each other, we are strongly connected as one body of Christ in our faith community.

In addition, our dedicated and gifted pianist, Young Kim, has been giving private piano lessons for years. Carol Koo is also our church member and a student of hers. She participated in the annual recital of the Tucson Teachers' Association. Korean church families showed their support, love, and cheers for her and Young Kim, who worked hard to be there. It was held at the auditorium on campus on Saturday, March 12th.



(Left: right after they finished their performance, Right: Chang Koo, Young Kim, Carol Koo, Byung Kim)

Halla and I were so touched and moved by so many pianos (maybe 12 pianos on the stage) and all the performers from kindergarten ages to the adults and their teachers. I experienced more spirit of Tucson through it. Tucson is both a small and a big city, which sounds paradoxical but is so true thanks to the connectionalism of the association. I found treasure in being connected, which also reminds me of the connectionalism of the United Methodist Church. We can't do it by ourselves, but together with the guidance of God.

“¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.” (1 Corinthians 12:12)

“몸은 하나인데 많은 지체가 있고 몸의 지체가 많으나 한 몸임과 같이 그리스도도 그러하니.” (고린도전서 12장 12절)

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

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 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 family groups).
- 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.

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 ONLINE GATHERINGS

Women on a Spiritual Quest (WSQ)

-WSQ is back to meeting on Mondays at 4:30PM in the church library. The group's 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

-Practice is on Wednesdays at 6:30PM in the Sanctuary.
-Rehearsal is at 9AM on Sunday before the service.
-Join the choir for our 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 surgery, and for Carol V. who was 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).

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

Joe Kimbro (Mar 15)
Stephanie Kang (Mar 16)
Min Hahn (Mar 20)

Esther Lee (Mar 20)
Janet Ageh (Mar 21)
Ozzie Nelson (Mar 24)

Peggy Ford (Mar 26)
Don Rollings (Mar 28)

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

EASTER FLOWERS



Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with flowers! Potted lilies, hyacinths, and tulips will adorn the altar for Easter Sunday. For anyone interested in contributing, order forms will be available as bulletin inserts starting Sunday, March 27th. Please place both the order form and your payment (cash or check) in an offering envelope and specify "Easter flowers" on the Special Cause line, then place the sealed envelope in the offering box or bring it to the office Monday-Thursday 10AM-2PM.

Contributors may take their flowers home after the service.

TUESDAY

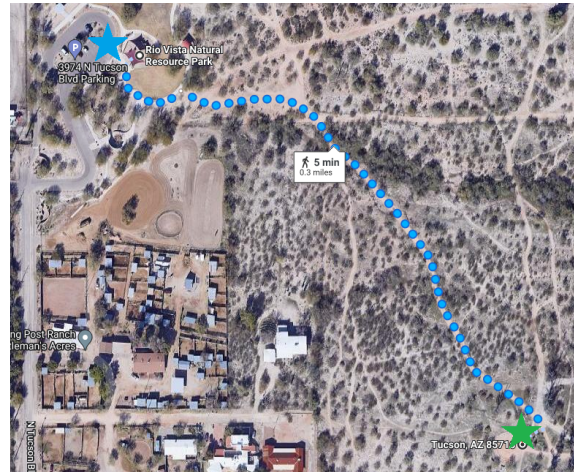
From March 8th through April 12th, Pastor Ko will facilitate a spiritual program with prayer and meditation at Rio Vista Natural Resource Park at 10AM. Carpooling will be available from the church at 9:45AM.

The labyrinth is located at the southeast corner of the park, about a 5 minute walk from the parking lot (marked with a blue star on the map to the right). Candace and Lisa will escort you from the parking lot to the labyrinth (green star).

Driving directions to the parking lot: From Prince Rd, go north on Tucson Blvd until the road ends, then turn right onto a short curving drive that leads to the parking lot.

If you would like to skip the walk, you can instead park outside the entrance on Cactus Blvd.

Driving directions to the entrance near the labyrinth: From Prince Rd, go north on Cactus Blvd a short distance past Allen Rd, then park on the shoulder near the entrance. (Be aware that, as of March 9th, the shoulder is not in very good condition; please use caution when parking.)



WEDNESDAY

LENTEN BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

A Bible class at 10AM in the “Tea House” Chapel (tea served) will continue this Wednesday, March 16, led by Nan Rollings. Pastor Ko will be with us as well.

What have you experienced this Lent in your Bible reading? We probably have had both insights and struggles as we endeavor to explore the Gospels. The class will give you a chance to share! As we **Look and Listen to Jesus** on this Bible reading journey, what did he say that surprised or angered his listeners? Did He say the unexpected?

By the time we meet March 23, we will have experienced the book of Mark. For this class, let's think about how Jesus emphasized compassion over following the letter of the law. Take a look at His healings on the Sabbath. See you in class. Any questions, call Nan at 520-975-4528.

Lenten Bible Reading Challenge 2022

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 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

Support the humanitarian response in Ukraine Give Now

<https://umcmission.org/umcor/how-to-assist-the-ukrainian-people/>

March 1, 2022 | ATLANTA

United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country may contribute to Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries.

Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:



- Online at <https://umcmission.org/advance-project/982450>
- By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174
- By check made out to Global Ministries/UMCOR with “**Advance #982450-Ukraine**” written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 or given at or through any United Methodist church

One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause.

The United Methodist community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church’s leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from violence in Ukraine.



Our Story

Our story continues thanks to all of you. The Inn began in 2016, in a local Methodist Church. Today we operate as a nonprofit, cherish more than 100 volunteers, and have welcomed well over 14,000 guests. Despite changing policy at the border, our focus continues to be the wellbeing of the asylum seekers we serve.

RSVP by Calling

Cindy Rinehart at
520-465-0399 or
email clrmusic@cox.net

OR Click Here:

<https://theinnofsouthernarizona.breezechms.com/form/178398>

**OR Scan Here using
smart phone camera:**



**RSVP no later than
March 22, 2022**

You Are Invited

Please join us for the
Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Celebration,
hosted by The Inn Board of Directors. A
wonderful time with friends, live music, and
sweet treats. Hear what makes our volunteers so
passionate and learn about exciting updates from
our Site Director. Art from children at The Inn
will be displayed and greeting cards made
available for purchase.

This Celebration is in honor of YOU!

Indoor and outdoor gathering spaces are provided with your
comfort in mind. Masks recommend, not required.



**We appreciate
the 'Thyme' you
share with the
Inn guests**



**Sunday, March 27, 2022, 2 to 4 pm
St. Francis in the Foothills Church
Community Center
4625 E. River Rd, Tucson, AZ 85718**

Animal Holidays - A Week at a Glance

By Victoria Russell

March 15 - International Day of Action for the Seals

Every year there is a cruel and unnecessary seal hunt. They hunt and kill primarily baby harp seals for their fur. Adult seals are also targeted. There is a call to action to stop this inhumane act. Some ways to get involved include signing petitions to stop the seal hunting and to boycott the seal products; like fur, etc.



March 16 - National Panda Day

Pandas are native to China; but they are loaned out to zoos worldwide. They can be seen eating bamboo sticks and playing around. According to the World Wildlife Fund, pandas are listed in the vulnerable category. The World Wildlife Fund even uses them as their logo. Ways to celebrate include watching documentaries, wearing panda apparel, or symbolically adopting a panda.

March 19 - National Poultry Day

Fowls (birds) listed in the poultry category are chicken, turkey, ducks, geese, quail, and pheasant. Try to honor them by not eating poultry today.



March 19 - National Aardvark Day

Aardvarks are nocturnal mammals from sub-Saharan Africa. Their diet includes ants and termites. Aardvarks are listed in the least concerned category. They resemble several different animals from pigs to rabbits, but are surprisingly closely related to elephants.

March 20 - World Frog Day

Frogs are amphibians that can be found on land, in water, and in trees. There are over 5,000 known species of frogs worldwide. Frogs mostly eat insects, but some bigger frogs can eat smaller creatures. Nearly 900 species are listed as endangered and over 500 as critically endangered. Frogs face threats to habitat loss due to human activity, pollution, and a fungus spread called chytrid.



SUNDAY COFFEE/SOCIAL TIME

We will again have fellowship time with coffee and snacks after the 10AM worship service. Please observe the following rules, which are in place to help minimize the spread of COVID-19:

1. Masks are no longer required to be worn, but are still recommended.
2. Tables have been set up with **only 5 chairs** and must remain this way.
3. Food will be limited to finger foods like cookies, crackers, and chips. Utensils must be used to pick up food from serving trays, please **do not** use your fingers.
4. Coffee and water will be the beverages for now.

Lunch will be served after the 11:30AM Korean worship service.

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



www.firstchurchtucson.org

Pastor Ko 847-345-8070 pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com

Office 520-622-6481 office@firstchurchtucson.org