



# First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

3.29.2022

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.

## “Being Humble and Equipped by God!”

By Pastor Ko

As I have announced previously, there are several spiritual challenge practice programs during this Lenten season. One of them is to walk in the Labyrinth at Rio Vista Park. I was so glad that I didn't need to worry about rainy days in Tucson, AZ, between March and April. Instead, I needed to consider the hot days sometimes. However, I became humble from yesterday until today, worrying so much about why it doesn't rain opposite to the weather forecast because I switched the place of spiritual prayer from Rio Vista Park to the Tea House Chapel in the church.

Unfortunately or fortunately, there was very little rain here in Tucson today. While I was driving to the church, I thanked God for the sprinkling rain because I didn't want to be a person who made a wrong decision. Also, I admit we can't control the weather at all; it entirely depends on the will of God.

How little control we have, and how helpless we as human beings are! How great and amazing our God is!



Left to right: Halla, Landon, Joyce, Lisa, Candace, Jessie, Diane, Victoria, Anita, and Margo

Since we met this morning at Tea House Chapel, we were able to compare our experience of the spiritual practice inside with being outside walking the Labyrinth at the park. We won't experience this unless we gather inside and practice like today. What a powerful and profound moment we have had this morning! I would like all of you to walk the Labyrinth when

(cont. pg 2)

## Being Humble and Equipped by God! (cont.)

available. The Labyrinth is often found at hospitals, retreat centers, prisons, churches, and many other places.

“The Labyrinth is a sacred place set aside for you to reflect, look within, pray, negotiate new behavior. The rhythm of walking, placing one foot in front of the other, empties the mind, relaxes the body, and refreshes the spirit. Unlike a maze, a Labyrinth has no blind alleys or dead ends” (Rev. Heesoon Kwon) because the Labyrinth has only one path, which leads us to the center.



*Group photo at the park*



*Walking the Labyrinth*

Spiritual direction is about “holy listening,” presence, and attentiveness (from the book ‘Holy Listening’ by Margaret Guenther). Spiritual direction is not psychotherapy nor an inexpensive substitute for pastoral counseling. Spiritual direction is the way for us to be driven to God, from wandering around to being intimate with God. Practicing spiritual direction is a way of seeking the expression of great trust and the immediate reaction to the person or situation to be reminded of the trust God has in us.

You and I are not trained spiritual directors. However, God loves all the amateurs. I hope and pray that all of you continue to claim yourself as an amateur seeking God’s help and guidance in spiritual formation. It doesn’t mean that we are useless or helpless. Rather, it means that we can help others at any time with the help and wisdom of God as long as we are humble and try to grow in spirituality.

Let us continue to have a journey exploring more spiritual practice and direction!

“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.” (Romans 8:26)

“이와 같이 성령도 우리의 연약함을 도우시나니 우리는 마땅히 기도할 바를 알지 못하나 오직 성령이 말할 수 없는 탄식으로 우리를 위하여 친히 간구하시느니라.” (로마서 8장 26절)

Also, please check out the order of worship at the end of this weekly digest. If you have any concerns or suggestions, feel free to contact me at [pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com](mailto: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 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.

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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 [bit.ly/fumcYouTube](https://bit.ly/fumcYouTube)

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

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**WEEKDAY 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.

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**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](#)

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**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!

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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. 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](#)

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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:

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](mailto:office@firstchurchtucson.org) or (520) 622-6481.

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### UPCOMING

#### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Carol Velzy (Mar 30)  
Martha Preston (Mar 31)  
Aydrien Chavez-Lokey (Apr 2)

Justin Havins (Apr 2)  
Beth Walkup (Apr 7)  
Denise Grzywacz (Apr 9)

*(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. 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 (and memo line, if paying by check), then place the sealed envelope in the offering box or bring it to the office Monday-Thursday 10AM-2PM.

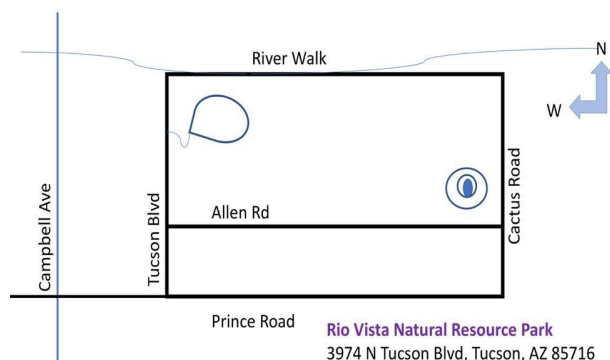
Contributors may take their flowers home after the service.

## TUESDAY

### SPIRITUAL PROGRAM

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. Candace and Lisa will escort you from the parking lot to the labyrinth, unless you would prefer to park near the alternate entrance on Cactus Rd. (Be cautious when parking on the shoulder, as it is not in good condition.)



## WEDNESDAY

### LENTEN BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

Only 3 more chances to join in this informal Bible class! It takes place on Wednesdays at 10AM in the Tea House Chapel (tea served). It is led by Nan Rollings, and Pastor Ko will be with us as well.

Read the gospels in the translation that is most meaningful to you, then come and share your thoughts. Participants will get to know each other better, as well as the Bible. This week the focus is on Luke chapters 11-24 (see calendar on next page for full schedule).

Any questions, call Nan at 520-975-4528.

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

### April 13th, Wednesday

- "Spring Cleaning" of sacristy, kitchen, and Arizona room at 11:30AM after the Bible Reading Challenge

### April 14th, Maundy Thursday

- Spiritual Journey stations from 4PM-6PM

### April 15th, Good Friday

- Evening Worship Service at 7PM

### April 17th, Easter Sunday

- Sunrise Worship Service at 7:30AM
- Pancake Brunch at 8:15AM
- Easter Celebration Joint Service at 10AM with Cantata titled "Here is Love" accompanied by Ensemble, with Fellowship time after the service



## Lenten Bible Reading Challenge 2022

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

### April 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 **April 8<sup>th</sup> 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, April 6<sup>th</sup> so she can reserve enough tables at the restaurant.

### 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 while chatting, but it is still encouraged.
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.



The nonprofit The Inn of Southern Arizona is still seeking to love migrant families in the spirit of Christ when they are released by government agencies. About 40 people a day are being cared for by Inn staff and volunteers before traveling to the location of their asylum hearings. The website to learn more is [www.theinnofsa.org](http://www.theinnofsa.org).

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Ko and several church members heard about The Inn's current wishlist while attending a volunteer event:

- Bags of dry rice
- Cans of black beans
- Boxes of dry spaghetti
- Adult-sized backpacks ( used or new)

FUMC has had a helping role since The Inn was begun by United Methodists in 2016, and many of you may remember when guests sheltered at our church. We have been a blessing, and we receive blessings through helping these brothers and sisters who have very little.

To hand off a donation, please contact Inn board member Diane Everhart at 520-272-4341 or ask our church office 520-622-6481 ext 10. Thank you!!



**Marilyn Dunbar** has been moved to a new care facility and would love visitors and cards. You might not know—Marilyn has 5 sons, was a special education teacher in TUSD, made glazed pottery in beautiful colors, and grew African violets. She also was deeply involved in the Wesley Foundation as a UA college student!

Her new address is: Mountain View Care Center  
1313 W. Magee Rd.  
Tucson, AZ 85704

Phone: (520)797-2600

# Animal Holidays - A Week at a Glance

By Diane Russell

## March 30 – Manatee Appreciation Day



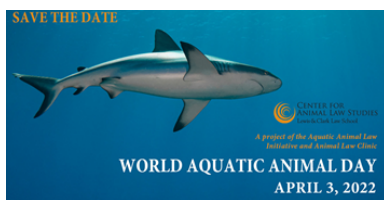
This day was created by the conservation organization “Save the Manatee Club” founded by Jimmy Buffet and former senator Bob Graham. This day is celebrated to bring awareness for the endangered manatee through education and protection. They are endangered due to pollution, loss of habitat, global warming, boating accidents, and hunting. Ways to get involved include learning about them and donating to manatee rescue groups.

## April 2 – National Ferret Day

This day was created by Carol Roche of the American Ferret Association (AFA) in 2014 to celebrate these wonderful domesticated pets. They have long slender bodies and are about 20 inches long and can weigh up to 4 lbs. Ferrets only have one breed and can come in seven different colors or patterns. Ferrets are legal as pets in all states except California and Hawaii.



## April 3 – World Aquatic Animals Day



This day was created in 2020 by the Animal Law Clinic at the Lewis & Clark Law School to raise awareness of the importance of aquatic animals and how to protect them. The goal of this day is to have worldwide involvement in creating laws, policies, and education to help protect aquatic animals for future generations. Ways to get involved include watching documentaries on sea life, donating, or writing letters to representatives to change laws.

## April 4 – World Rat Day

This day was created in 2002 by rat enthusiasts who wanted to change the way people viewed rats in the world. This day celebrates them in a positive and respectful way to promote their care and welfare as pets. They are clean and sociable animals that can make great pets. There are more than 60 species of rats in the world, with only seven types of rats considered to be pet rat breeds.



## April 4 – World Stray Animals Day



This day is to educate and bring awareness to the overwhelming problem of stray animals around the world. The World Health Organization estimates that there are more than 200 million stray dogs around the world, and CAROcat estimates more than 480 million stray cats in the world. In the US there are more than 70 million stray dogs and cats. Some of the ways to help include adopting or fostering a stray; donating; volunteering; getting animals spayed/neutered; and keeping your pet for life.



## 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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