



First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

4.12.2021

First Church Tucson is an inclusive multi-ethnic faith community, 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 and disability, 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.



“Tides of Easter”

By Rev. Paul Cho

The Season of Easter, or Eastertide, spans the 50 days from Easter Sunday through Ascension Day just before Pentecost. The word comes from the Old English for *ēastor* and *tīd* (time). It is literally, the time of Easter, a time to live into the hope that is actualized in the Risen Christ Jesus.

Eastertide is also fitting to think in terms of the other kind of tides. Just as the oceans roll in and out, our spirit also oscillates between times of highs and lows. There are moments of Easter highs perhaps through new life sprouting in our gardens. There are moments of Easter low when we are faced with continued violence fueled by racism and hate.

What aids my spiritual formation is to recognize that something greater than myself is at work. Just as the moon is responsible for the changes in tides, the Holy Spirit is also at work in our lives. This is **not** to say that God has somehow caused violence and suffering. It is to say that the Spirit of God moves us to have compassion for others and compels us to transform this world through the wisdom and strength God provides.

Recognizing the Spirit, allowing Her to challenge us, to be pushed, pulled, stretched, molded, and remolded is how we live in Eastertide. I pray that we become mindful of how the Spirit connects us to the people around us, and the issues we face in our world.

QUEER VOICES

HELPFUL VOCABULARY

By Tripp Gordon

You may be confused by all the labels people have for themselves these days. The handy infographic below, from www.WannaLearnMore.com, explains many terms.

The infographic features a central silhouette of a human figure with a brain, a heart, and a star. Lines connect these elements to various text boxes. A thought bubble with a question mark is above the brain. A small figure with exclamation marks is below the heart. A QR code is in the bottom right corner.

GENDER IDENTITY
A person's sense of self in relation to gender

TRANSGENDER
Person is not the gender assigned at birth

CISGENDER
Person is the gender assigned at birth

METAGENDER
Person identifies as neither cisgender nor transgender

NON-BINARY
Person is neither exclusively a man nor exclusively a woman. Non-binary people may or may not identify as transgender

AGENDER
Person does not experience a gender

GENDERFLUID
Person whose identity varies over time (man, woman, and/or any other identity)

ASSIGNED GENDER/SEX AT BIRTH
The gender/sex assigned at birth based on a person's genitals

ASSIGNED MALE AT BIRTH (AMAB)/ ASSIGNED FEMALE AT BIRTH (AFAB)
Generally this assignment is made based on a visual assessment of the baby's genitalia

INTERSEX
A naturally occurring variation of sex characteristics, reproductive organs, and/or chromosomes that do not fit the typical definition of male or female (although many intersex people are assigned male or female at birth)

NOTE: Assigned gender/sex at birth is different than sex, which is based on many variable factors

GENDER EXPRESSION
How a person presents themselves (such as style, actions, demeanor, and more)

FEMININE
Expresses qualities and characteristics typically associated with femininity

MASCULINE
Expresses qualities and characteristics typically associated with masculinity

ANDROGYNOUS
Expresses both typically feminine and typically masculine qualities ambiguously, or expresses typically neither

NOTE: Gender expression may change over time or in different situations

SEXUAL ORIENTATION
Who a person is sexually attracted to

HETEROSEXUAL
Sexual attraction to people of a different gender than your own

HOMOSEXUAL
Sexual attraction to people of a similar gender to your own

BISEXUAL
Sexual attraction to people of more than one gender

PANSEXUAL
Sexual attraction regardless of gender

ASEXUAL
Experiences little to no sexual attraction

DEMISEXUAL
Experiences little to no sexual attraction until a close emotional bond is formed

ROMANTIC ORIENTATION
Who a person is romantically attracted to

HETEROROMANTIC
Romantic attraction to people of a different gender than your own

HOMOROMANTIC
Romantic attraction to people of a similar gender to your own

BIROMANTIC
Romantic attraction to people of more than one gender

PANROMANTIC
Romantic attraction regardless of gender

AROMANTIC
Experiences little to no romantic attraction

DEMIROMANTIC
Experiences little to no romantic attraction until a close emotional bond is formed

These definitions are commonly accepted but not absolute. Some of these terms have some overlap. That's okay! Just describe yourself with whatever terms you're comfortable with, and respect the terms other people use for themselves.

There are so many more identities, orientations, expressions, and definitions that aren't shown here. Ask your teacher for more resources or visit the link in the QR Code if you have questions!

WannaLearnMore.com

**APPRECIATION GIFT
FOR REV. PAUL CHO**

Due to the pandemic, we cannot collect as we usually do by giving a “Money Tree”. Instead, we will be collecting donations through the mail to:

Nan Rollings
5795 W. Sweetwater Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85745

If you would like to donate, you can:

1. Send a check made out to Paul Cho if you don't mind being recognized for your gift. Send the check to Nan.
2. Send a check made out to Nan Rollings who will exchange the check for cash, so you can remain anonymous.
3. Send cash in the mail to Nan. (If you are hesitant to send cash in the mail, you can call Nan and she will pick up the cash at your house.)

Cards with well wishes may be sent to Paul at the church BUT you must address the card as:

Rev. Paul Cho
% Office @ FUMC
915 E. 4th St.
Tucson, AZ 85719

We will be collecting until May 14th, 2021. We will use the time to exchange checks for cash, collect all the cards, and then present them to Paul as one gift.

If you have any questions, you may call Nan at (520) 975-4528 or me, Margo Kahler at (520) 401-6393.

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SOUL KITCHEN

Chocolate Covered Date Nut Bars

<https://www.fitmittenkitchen.com/3-ingredient-chocolate-date-nut-bars/#tasty-recipes-13400>

Ingredients

11-12 medjool dates (1 cup packed), pitted and soaked for 5 minutes, drained
1 ½ c mixed nuts
1 c quality dark chocolate chips, about 6 oz

Directions

1. Line a 9×5 loaf pan with parchment paper, or use a silicone pan and place on baking sheet, set aside. *You may also use an 8×8 square pan, your base will just be thinner.*
2. In a food processor add drained/pitted dates and nuts. Process until dates and nuts have broken down, and only small pieces of nuts can be seen. Mixture should be sticky.
3. Transfer mixture to prepared pan, pressing evenly into all corners and press down flat.
4. Using stovetop and small saucepan over low heat, melt chocolate, stirring frequently until smooth. Pour over bars and spread evenly.
5. Place bars in freezer for 10 minutes to allow chocolate layer to set, or fridge for about 30 minutes. Remove bars from pan and place on cutting mat for easier slicing. Using knife, gently slice into bars.

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

By Diane Russell

April 14 - National Dolphin Day

A day to recognize and bring awareness to these intelligent and social aquatic mammals. A picture of Winter and Hope from Clearwater Aquarium.

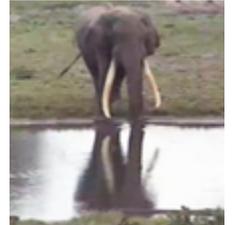


April 15 - Biomedical Research Awareness Day

A day to honor, raise awareness of research, and to promote support for the compassionate care of animals needed for research.

April 16 - Save the Elephants Day

A day to raise awareness about the dangers elephants face. Two main problems elephants face are habitat loss and ivory trade caused by humans.



April 17 - International Bat Appreciation Day

This is a day to bring awareness to this nocturnal flying mammal. There are 25 critically endangered species of bat that need to be protected.

April 18 - National Velociraptor Awareness Day

The first discovery of the velociraptor fossil was in 1923 in the Gobi Desert in Mongolia.



April 18 - Pet Owners Independence Day

This is a whimsical holiday for pet owners. Take off work and relax with your pets. (Do this at your own risk)



Beauty in our south garden

Left: A Cleveland sage (*salvia clevelandii*) in front of the pastor's window.

Below: A dragonfly in silhouette perched delicately on the tip of an aloe stalk.

Photos by Tripp Gordon



THIS WEEK'S
ANNOUNCEMENTS & GATHERINGS

SUNDAY MORNING LIVE!

Join us this Sunday morning at 10am on Youtube followed by a time of fellowship on ZOOM at the link below.

[Meeting ID: 972 7492 7766](#) [Passcode: 6226481](#)

Visit our Youtube channel. bit.ly/fumcYouTube

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한국어 사역

주일 오전 11:30에 Youtube에서 말씀 묵상과 이후 Zoom에서 나눔과 교제의 시간이 있습니다.

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

Youtube 주소는 bit.ly/fumcYouTube

금요일 오후 7시에 시편 묵상과 나눔의 시간은 위에 주소에서 진행되고 있습니다.

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WEEKDAY ONLINE GATHERINGS

Women on a Spiritual Quest (WSQ)

-A classic UM small group accountability and fellowship on Monday Evenings at 4:30PM.

[Meeting ID: 920 5951 9248](#) [Passcode: 6226481](#)

All God's Creation (AGC)

-A time of scripture reading and reflection with a focus on living creatures, on Wednesday Mornings at 10AM.

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

Chancel Choir

-Meet with the choir online from the comfort and safety of your home on Wednesday Evenings at 6:30PM.

- Join the choir in the parking lot on Saturdays at 2PM and sing in an ensemble with directing.

[Meeting ID: 929 7830 4567](#) [Passcode: 6226481](#)

Progressive Book Study (PBS)

- Would you like to be part of a book study? If you'd enjoy reading with us, join Progressive Christian theology on Thursday Afternoons at 2:30PM. The new book is titled: "Eternal Life – A New Vision" by John Shelby Spong.

[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 pastor@firstchurchtucson.org*

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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 those caring for them.

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We offer our prayers for these sister faith communities:

St. Mark's UMC, Tucson
Catalina UMC, Tucson
Campus Ministry, U of A, Tucson

Nifty Needlecrafts wants YOUR inspiration!

Our sewing ministry is still looking for more members and input on our first group project. Contact Tripp Gordon at rainbowlavender99@gmail.com if you are interested in attending the next Zoom meeting to collaborate or just hang out while you work on your own projects.

SUPPORT FIRST CHURCH TUCSON

Head to our website www.firstchurchtucson.org 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.
We thank you for your commitment to making a difference in our community.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Doug Wright (Apr 5)
Beth Walkup (Apr 7)
Denise Grzywacz (Apr 9)

Angelica Lange (Apr 15)
Kelly Lee (Apr 16)

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



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