



# First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

4.12.2022

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.

## "It Is the Holy Week and a Time to Celebrate Easter!"

By Pastor Ko



Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ,

It is hard to believe that we are in the Holy Week and heading toward Easter now. Also, I see real spring in Tucson lately with lots of light green colors, flower buds, and yellowness everywhere. Much better than I expected! I hope and pray that our Easter experience this year would be the same, which means it would be much better than we expected. But, spring always comes after winter. Easter comes after the Holy Week, which lets us participate in the suffering on the cross with Jesus Christ.

"Peace be with you," Jesus said to the disciples after he rose from the dead (Luke 24:36). When he found them, they were racked with grief for the loss of their Beloved and despondent about the loss of their dreams and hopes through the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus told them that he would rise from the dead and that didn't even register with them. After Christ's torture and death, their souls were probably torn with guilt for turning away from him. But Jesus, having conquered death, came to fill them with new life.

He told them, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21). Jesus gave his disciples purpose and mission, not retribution or penance. He filled them with his Spirit, presence,

(cont. pg 2)

## It Is the Holy Week and a Time to Celebrate Easter! (cont.)

and grace; he reminded them of God's unwarranted, unearned, unconditional, ever-abiding love that desires to unite all things. The disciples were to go back into their world "and proclaim the Good News to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

How could the disciples, as simple people, hope to tell this story and live it? Jesus told them, "I am with you always, until the end of time" (Matthew 28:20). It was not what they were able to do, but what God was able to do through them, with them, and in them that would carry the disciples forward. During the Lenten season on our journey with the Gospel of John, we took a look at ourselves and remembered we are disciples of Jesus.

Hopefully and more importantly, we have perhaps experienced Christ more fully. If we have come once again to a greater experience of God in our lives, we will be filled with the peace, dignity, strength, and hope that will enable us to Do God's Work in the World. Unlike the disciples hiding in the room out of mourning and fright, we must realize now that the question is not "How can we be saved?" Rather the question for us is, "Now what?"

I suggest that the first thing to do is celebrate! I would like to invite all of you to our Easter Celebration at 10:00 am, April 17th, 2022.

Holy and Happy Easter to all!

Peace,

Pastor Ko

### HOLY WEEK EVENTS

**April 14th, Maundy Thursday** - Spiritual Journey stations from 4PM-6PM:

- Station 1: Holy Communion - Pastor Raven will be there and help each participant to take it.
- Station 2: Foot or hand washing - Pastor Ko will be there and do it for each participant.
- Station 3: Labyrinth spiritual discipline - there will be a printed Labyrinth and guidance of the Labyrinth
- Station 4: Prayers and spiritual journal - each person will be guided to do some prayers and write spiritual journals with meditation.

**April 15th, Good Friday** - Evening Worship Service at 7PM

### Lenten Bible Reading Challenge 2022

10 <b>Palm Sunday</b>	11 John 15-16	12 John 17	13 John 18-19	14 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> John 20	15 <b>Good Friday</b> John 21	16
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THIS WEEK'S  
ANNOUNCEMENTS & GATHERINGS

**7:30AM SUNRISE WORSHIP SERVICE**

Please join us in person for this early-morning service. We will gather in the courtyard around the fountain.

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**8:15AM EASTER PANCAKE BRUNCH**

We invite you to our pancake brunch! Coffee, juice, sausage, and pancakes will be provided by the church in addition to the potluck dishes brought by the congregation.

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**10AM ENGLISH/KOREAN JOINT  
EASTER CELEBRATION WITH  
CANTATA AND BAPTISM**

Join us in person, or watch the service Live at <https://www.youtube.com/c/TucsonFirstUMC!>

We will have an Easter cantata presented by the FUMC choir with narrators and accompanied by an ensemble; don't miss it!

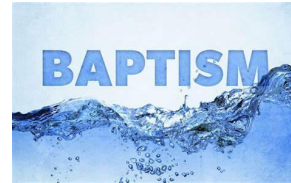
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한국어 예배는 4월 24일 다시 11시 30분에 시작됩니다.

금요 성경공부 모임은 5월 6일 디모데전서 공부가 시작됩니다.1

**BAPTISM ON EASTER SUNDAY!**

It is so exciting to share this Good News. Sanghoon Jun and Eunmo Kang will be baptized on April 17th. Please, be there to support and be the witness to their commitment and promise as followers of Jesus Christ for the rest of their lives.



**WEEKDAY GATHERINGS**

**Women on a Spiritual Quest (WSQ)**

-WSQ meets 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**

-Our Easter Cantata is this coming Sunday!  
-Dress rehearsal is this Wednesday at 7PM in the Sanctuary, and again at 9AM on Sunday before the worship service.

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**Progressive Book Study (PBS)**

-No meetings during the month of April.

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:

Christ Church UMC, Tucson  
Community UMC, Bowie  
Campus Ministry, U of A, Tucson

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**

Kelly Lee (Apr 16)  
Jae Hammond (Apr 19)  
Nancy Vorres (Apr 20)

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

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### **Spring Cleaning - Volunteers Needed!**

This Wednesday, April 13th, at 11:30AM we will be tidying the sacristy, kitchen, and Arizona room.

Many hands make light work! We would appreciate all the help we can get.

# Animal Holidays - A Week at a Glance

By Diane Russell

## April 12 - World Hamster Day

This day was created after Israel Aharoni, a Zoologist and Professor from Jerusalem, went to Syria in 1930 and discovered wild hamsters. These discovered hamsters were the ancestors of today's pet hamsters. There are 24 different species of hamster worldwide and come in a variety of sizes. They can make wonderful small pets for children. The most popular breed of hamster is the Syrian Hamster.



## April 14 - National Dolphin Day



This day is celebrated to bring awareness to this highly social and intelligent mammal. There are 36 species of dolphin ranging in size from 4' to over 30' long. They navigate and communicate through echolocation using clicks and whistles. Dolphins are at risk for endangerment due to poaching and excessive hunting, global warming, and climate change.

## April 16 - Save the Elephants Day

This day was created in 2012 by the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand. The goal of this day is to raise awareness of the plight of elephants caused by poaching, human conflict, and habitat loss. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) includes the African Forest Elephant as Critically Endangered. The African Savanna Elephant and the Asian Elephant are listed as Endangered.



## April 17 - International Bat Appreciation Day

This day was created by the Bat Conservation International (BCI) to help conserve the more than 1,400 species of bats worldwide, with 47 of the species found in the United States. This day also brings awareness of how beneficial they are to the ecosystem and to also help eliminate the myths associated with them.

## April 19 - National Cat Lady Day

This day was created by CatCon Founder Susan Michals in 2017 to get rid of the common stereotype that a cat lady was a single woman who liked cats. Gone is the outdated notion. Be proud of owning a cat or two. Since 2017, the hashtag #NationalCatLadyDay has been used over 5,000 times to share cat pictures.



## April is Pet First Aid Awareness Month



This month is dedicated to teaching pet owners the basic knowledge to help save their pets life if the need arises. According to the American Animal Hospital Association, about 25% more animals could be saved if First Aid was performed before seeking professional vet help. Prepare and have emergency contact numbers ready, purchase/make a Pet First Aid Kit, take a Pet First Aid course or purchase books.

## SUNDAY SERVICE ORDER OF WORSHIP

### **English and Korean Joint Service at 10AM**

영어, 한국어 연합 예배 오전 **10시**

Welcome & Announcements	환영 및 인사
Call to Worship	예배의 부름
Opening Hymn	여는 찬양
Opening Prayer	여는 기도
Baptism	세례식
Scripture Reading	성경봉독
Message	설교
Time for Joys and Concerns	기도제목 나눔
The Lord's Prayer	주기도문
Offertory Prayer	봉헌기도
Easter Cantata	부활절 칸타타
Benediction	축도
Postlude	후주
Passing of the Peace	평화의 인사

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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