



First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

6.28.2021

First Church Tucson is an inclusive multi-ethnic faith community, a reconciling congregation of the United Methodist Church.

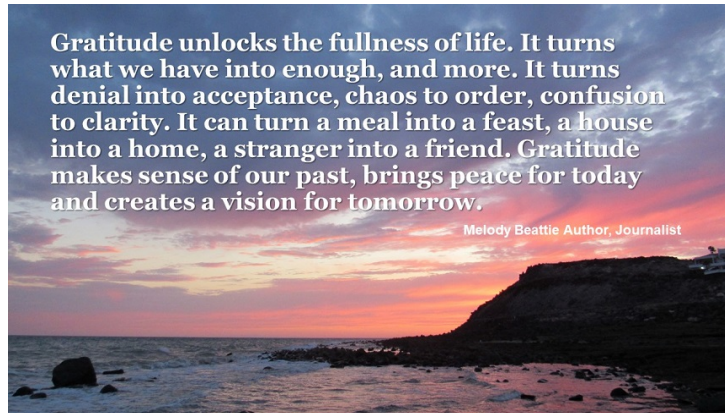
Established in 1879 as the first protestant church in our city, First Church Tucson continues to pave the way in creating a faith community that embraces all peoples into the grace of God.

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.



Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.

Melody Beattie Author, Journalist

“With Thanksgiving”

By West District Superintendent Rev. Nancy Cushman

Colossians 3:15 calls us to be a thankful people. As I leave this season of ministry as your district superintendent, I have so many reasons to be thankful. I thank you, the people of the west district, for your love and support throughout this season. I am thankful for the opportunities to come to know so many of you well as we seek to serve Christ and his church together. I am so grateful for Carla Whitmire who has been such a wonderful administrative assistant and partner in ministry. I thank God for Jeannie Ward, our district lay leader and our associate district lay leaders, Joyce Trevolt, John Huie, and Sandy Kerr. They have been such a blessing to me and will continue to lead you and assist with the transition to Rev. Javier Olivares. I thank God for all the clergy leaders and leaders from the laity who have served and are serving on our district boards and committees and for Betty Stewart who leads our Lay Servant Ministry. I am grateful for the clergy in our district and the ways we have supported and cared for each other especially through the pandemic. It has been such an honor to be part of the calls to ministry of so many pastors. I leave with cherished memories that I will treasure and with peace. Javier brings his own special gifts and graces to the district that will be a blessing in this next season of ministry.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.

With gratitude,

Nancy

QUEER VOICES

IN MEMORIAM

By Tripp Gordon

Just over 5 years ago, on June 12, 2016, 49 people were gunned down and another 53 were injured in a horrifying terrorist attack at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, FL. It was the deadliest incident ever in the history of violence against LGBTQ+ people in the US, and the deadliest terrorist attack in the US since September 11, 2001. The gunman, who doesn't deserve to be named, was motivated by revenge for American airstrikes in Iraq and Syria.

Because Pulse was hosting "Latin Night" that Saturday, more than 90% of the victims were Latino, and they ranged in age from 20 to 50 years old. So many lives cut short!

We solemnly remember each of them by name:

Stanley Almodovar III, 23	Mercedez M. Flores, 26	Geraldo A. Ortiz-Jimenez, 25
Amanda Alvear, 25	Peter O. Gonzalez-Cruz, 22	Eric Ivan Ortiz-Rivera, 36
Oscar A. Aracena-Montero, 26	Juan R. Guerrero, 22	Joel Rayon Paniagua, 32
Rodolfo Ayala-Ayala, 33	Paul T. Henry, 41	Enrique L. Rios Jr., 25
Alejandro Barrios Martinez, 21	Frank Hernandez, 27	Juan P. Rivera Velazquez, 37
Martin Benitez Torres, 33	Miguel A. Honorato, 30	Yilmery Rodriguez Solivan, 24
Antonio D. Brown, 30	Javier Jorge-Reyes, 40	Christopher J. Sanfeliz, 24
Darryl R. Burt II, 29	Jason B. Josaphat, 19	Xavier Emmanuel Serrano Rosado, 35
Jonathan A. Camuy Vega, 24	Eddie J. Justice, 30	Gilberto Ramon Silva Menendez, 25
Angel L. Candelario-Padro, 28	Anthony L. Laureano Disla, 25	Edward Sotomayor Jr., 34
Simon A. Carrillo Fernandez, 31	Christopher A. Leinonen, 32	Shane E. Tomlinson, 33
Juan Chevez-Martinez, 25	Brenda L. Marquez McCool, 49	Leroy Valentin Fernandez, 25
Luis D. Conde, 39	Jean C. Mendez Perez, 35	Luis S. Vielma, 22
Cory J. Connell, 21	Akyra Monet Murray, 18	Luis Daniel Wilson-Leon, 37
Tevin E. Crosby, 25	Kimberly Morris, 37	Jerald A. Wright, 31
Franky J. Dejesus Velazquez, 50	Jean C. Nieves Rodriguez, 27	
Deonka D. Drayton, 32	Luis O. Ocasio-Capo, 20	

Just hours after the attack, thousands of people across the nation began donating blood for the injured survivors. 28,000 pints were collected by the regional blood bank in the week following the shooting.

On June 25th, 2021, President Biden signed legislation designating Pulse as a national memorial. "A place of acceptance and joy became a place of unspeakable pain and loss. We'll never fully recover, but we'll remember," he said. The memorial represents "an absolute determination that we're going to deal with this every single solitary day, and make sure that we're not in a position to see this happen again."

Read the stories of the 49 victims here: <https://www.clickorlando.com/rememberingpulse49/>

THIS WEEK'S
ANNOUNCEMENTS & GATHERINGS

SUNDAY MORNING HYBRID SERVICE

We are providing 3 ways for you to participate in our Hybrid Online/In-person Agape Gathering on Sunday at 10AM.

YouTube: For those without cameras or those in public spaces, join us Live! on our channel. Visit bit.ly/fumcYouTube

Zoom: For those in private spaces with access to a camera and microphone, join us in this meeting room ([ID: 972 7492 7766](https://umcfirstchurch.org/join/97274927766) Code: 6226481) and step virtually into our sanctuary.

In-Person: For those of you who are well and vaccinated, join us in person.

Please observe the following 3 rules:

1. Masks shall be worn at all times.
2. Keep Social Distance and follow the usher's directions for seating.
3. With the exception of the agape feast, there will be no eating or sharing of food or drinks.

All guests must pass the health inventory and be checked in before you are seated.

Please arrive earlier than our service to ensure timely seating.

An offering collection box will be available in the narthex.

Note:

This Sunday there will not be a separate Korean-language Youtube livestream afterwards.

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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](https://umcfirstchurch.org/join/92059519248) 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](https://umcfirstchurch.org/join/99436101655) Passcode: 6226481

Chancel Choir

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

-There will be a rehearsal on Sunday at 9:30AM before the service.

[Meeting ID: 929 7830 4567](https://umcfirstchurch.org/join/92978304567) Passcode: 6226481

Progressive Book Study (PBS)

-PBS resumes this week! Join us on Thursday Afternoons at 2:30PM. The new book is "God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It" by Jim Wallis.

[Meeting ID: 980 1573 8087](https://umcfirstchurch.org/join/98015738087) 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.

We offer our prayers for these sister faith communities:

Bishop & Staff of the Desert Southwest Conference
Staff and Churches of the East, North, and West Districts
El Mesias UMC, Nogales
Grace UMC, Douglas
Camping Program, South District

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SUPPORT FIRST CHURCH TUCSON

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.
We thank you for your commitment to making a difference in our community.



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Reminder: Pastor Eun Young Ko, outgoing pastor of Faith Evangelical UMC of Elmhurst, IL, will become our new pastor on July 1 and will be preaching in our hybrid in-person/online service on July 4th. She is accompanied by her 10 year old daughter, Halla. We look forward to getting to know them both!

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Arthur Turnbull (Jun 28)

Judi Brandt (Jul 3)

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

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

By Victoria Russell

July 1 - American Zoo Day

America's first zoo opened on July 1, 1874 in Philadelphia. There were only 813 animals in the beginning and today there are over 1,300 animals. To celebrate one could go to their local zoo.



July 1 - ID Your Pet Day

ID tags have been known to save your pets life when they are lost. This can be a collar with a tag. Some pet parents even have microchips implanted. Use this day to confirm if your pets have up to date records in case they were to go missing.

July 4 - Independence from Meat Day

On a day known for grilling and eating meat, today's challenge is to forgo that hamburger for a meal not containing any meat.



July 4 - Fourth of July

America's birthday is a fun day for humans- with all the fireworks and celebrations being had. However this day can be especially rough on our four-legged family members. Make sure your pets are safe and secure while you are home or away celebrating the holiday!

First Church Teamwork for Homelessness

Justa Center in Phoenix, established in 2006, addresses homelessness in those 55 years old and older by providing resources and a Day Center.

Our Coin Sunday effort on May 30, 2021 resulted in the collection of :

- \$236 in coins--our brother Denny would be so happy, given his faithfulness on Coin Sunday
- About 4 dozen small bottles of hand sanitizer
- Countless plastic grocery bags for distributing products to their homeless clients

A sincere thank you to everyone who participated, either on the day of the drop off or by leaving these requested items in the church office.

SOUL KITCHEN

Rainbow Cake Roll

<https://www.tablespoon.com/recipes/rainbow-cake-roll/>

Ingredients

6 eggs
1 box Betty Crocker white cake mix
¼ c sour cream
¼ c water
¼ c vegetable oil
½ tsp each red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple gel food coloring
½ c powdered sugar
1 container rainbow chip frosting
1 ½ c frozen whipped topping, thawed
2 pkgs (2.2 oz ea) Betty Crocker rainbow chips (optional)

Directions

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Line two 15x10x1 pans with cooking parchment paper.
2. In large bowl, beat eggs with electric mixer on high speed until thick and lemon-colored, about 6 minutes. Add cake mix, sour cream, water and oil. Beat on low speed 30 seconds, then on medium speed 1 minute.
3. Divide batter into 6 small bowls, about ¾ cup batter per bowl. Add red, orange, yellow, green, blue and purple gel food colors, one to each bowl; mix. Pour each colored batter into a decorating bag or resealable food-storage plastic bag, and cut one corner off each bag. For better control with cake batter, be sure to cut a small opening on the end of each resealable bag.
4. Starting with purple batter, carefully squeeze a thin diagonal line of colored batter onto each pan; repeating with blue, green, yellow, orange and red to make a rainbow-striped pattern. Continue until all batter has been used and pans are equally filled. It's ok to leave small spaces in between colors, as batter will fill in during baking.
5. Bake 8-10 minutes or until top springs back when touched. Meanwhile, sprinkle powdered sugar over two clean kitchen towels. Remove cakes from oven. Run metal spatula around edges of pans; carefully turn one on to each kitchen towel. Peel away parchment paper. Immediately roll up cake and towel from the narrow end. Allow cakes to cool 30 minutes.
6. In medium bowl, mix frosting and whipped topping. Mix in rainbow chips, if desired.
7. Carefully unroll cakes; spread half of the filling over each cake. Roll cakes up into logs; refrigerate at least 1 hour before serving.
8. Cut into slices to serve. Store covered in refrigerator.



www.firstchurchtucson.org

(Office) 520-622-6481
office@firstchurchtucson.org

- Through June 30th -
(Pastor Paul) 520-850-4547
paulcho@dscumc.net

- Effective July 1 -
(Pastor Ko) 847-345-8070
revko@firstchurchtucson.org