



# First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

8.24.2021

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 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.

## “A Beauty of Nature and People in Tucson!”

By Pastor Ko

May God continue to bless and guide you every day!

Before I visited Tucson, I didn't imagine much greenness in Tucson, I didn't expect that green grass would be present. But, I can see lots of green trees, grasses, and even mountains here in Tucson, thanks to the monsoon season.

When I visited one of our church members, Joyce Garcia's house the other day, I admired her garden. The garden was very green and beautiful with flowers, trees, and grasses. Her garden was the kind of garden I never imagined seeing here in Tucson. I felt so welcomed and comfortable seeing those flowers, trees, and grasses in a person's backyard, not in the garden at an expensive hotel. I am starting to like it here more and more.



*Clockwise from top left: the backyard of Joyce's garden; flowers; and key lime tree*

(cont. pg 2)

## A Beauty of Nature and People in Tucson! (cont.)

Along with this experience, I have met visitors or church members from different states such as Boston, New Jersey, Indiana, and so forth. Those areas have four vivid seasons and enough rain making it possible to have lots of greenery. Even though I didn't ask them whether or not they expected lots of green here in Tucson before they moved in, I think that some of them were surprised by the beautiful flowers and greenness we have.

I believe that faith and living in faith are the same as this. Before we experience and witness, we can't imagine what it looks like and what it brings to us in living in faith. However, once we have it, once we experience the grace of God, then we know what it looks like and what it brings to us in our lives with joy, peace, and abundant grace. I hope and pray that anybody who comes into our church building can feel and experience the love and grace of God through the channels like us. God works through people of faith.

I would like to remind you of the scripture of Ephesians 2:19 : "10 For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life."

10 우리는 하나님의 작품입니다. 선한 일을 하게 하시려고, 하나님께서 그리스도 예수 안에서 우리를 만드셨습니다. 하나님께서 이렇게 미리 준비하신 것은, 우리가 선한 일을 하며 살아가게 하시려는 것입니다. (에베소서 2:19절)

Also, please check out the order of worship in this weekly digest since we haven't printed out our bulletin every Sunday. If you have any concerns or suggestions, feel free to contact pastor Eun Young Ko ([revko@firstumctucson.org](mailto:revko@firstumctucson.org))

With blessings and prayers,

Pastor Eun Young Ko

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### MEMORIAL SERVICE



We will give thanks for the life of our beloved sister in Christ, Helen Asay, at First United Methodist Church this Saturday, August 28th, at 10AM.

Notes of sympathy for the whole family can be directed to Helen's daughter:

Alice (Genie) Over  
4646 Iroquois Ave.  
Tucson, AZ 85705

Helen was a donor to The Inn of Southern Arizona, the shelter our church has supported since 2016. The ministry is continuing during this pandemic in a new setting where asylum seekers have been screened for COVID and have necessary health protections.

The family suggests that those who would like to give a gift in her memory, send a check payable to First United Methodist Church at 915 E. Fourth St, Tucson, AZ 85719 and indicate The Inn on the memo line. Another option is to send a check payable to The Inn of Southern AZ, to PO Box 43332, Tucson, AZ 85719.

# FRONTERA WESLEY

## Kick-Off Celebration Thursday Evening!



6:00 pm in the garden of First UMC (corner of Park & Fourth St behind the rainbow cross sculpture) ~ food, fun and fellowship will be provided!

We hope that you had an amazing first day of classes! Whether this is your first semester or your seventh, we are so excited about what this year holds for you and for our community. Our student leadership team has been hard at work this past weekend planning and preparing for the great semester that lies ahead!

**THIS THURSDAY**, we will be having our catered kick-off celebration in the garden of First UMC - the building right next to the Campus Christian Center on Park... it shouldn't be hard to find because there is a giant steel rainbow cross sculpture right in front of it (see picture). Just a block beyond Maingate Square. We'll be having authentic Tucson Mexican food catered by a local family, a chance to meet new friends, and an introduction to our community and what is important to us as we strive to love God and love our neighbors better.

**BIBLE STUDIES** will begin next week! If you are a returning student and have not sent your schedule to Caitlin yet, please do so. If you're a Freshman and want us to take your schedule into consideration in planning our Bible Study times, feel free to send your schedule along too to the number below. (We also have a student GroupMe, so if you'd like to be added, let us know).

Call or text (520) 484-3902.



**Welcome Statement:** Frontera Wesley welcomes and celebrates people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, abilities, ethnicities and nationalities. We join Jesus in standing in solidarity with all marginalized communities. We believe that our location close to our nation's border requires great soul-searching as we seek to be faithful to our Indigenous community, the Undocumented community and all those most impacted by injustice.

THIS WEEK'S  
ANNOUNCEMENTS & GATHERINGS

**SUNDAY MORNING HYBRID SERVICE**

There are two ways for you to participate in our 10AM hybrid online/in-person Sunday Service.

**YouTube:** Join us Live! on our channel. Visit [bit.ly/fumcYouTube](http://bit.ly/fumcYouTube)

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

**NOTICE:** Due to the rise in Delta-variant COVID-19 cases, our safety guidelines have been updated. Please see below:

- Masks are required to be worn 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, it is strongly recommended that you watch the YouTube livestream rather than attend in person.
- Choir members are required to be fully vaccinated in order to sing in front of 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](http://bit.ly/fumcYouTube)

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

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**WEEKDAY ONLINE GATHERINGS**

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

-A classic UM Bible study group with accountability and fellowship; now meeting in the church library on Monday afternoons at 4:30PM.

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**All God's Creation (AGC)**

-A time of scripture reading and reflection with a focus on living creatures, now on Tuesday afternoons at 3PM.

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

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**Chancel Choir**

-Practice is held in-person in the Sanctuary on Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM.

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

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

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**Progressive Book Study (PBS)**

-On break through August; will resume Tuesday, September 7 at 2:30PM. The book is "God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It" by Jim Wallis.

Questions? Call Rev. Gaston at (520)323-1611

[Meeting ID: 980 1573 8087](http://Meeting ID: 980 1573 8087) [Passcode: 6226481](http://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)

## **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:

New Hope UMC, Tucson

St. James UMC, Tucson

St. Francis in the Foothills UMC, Tucson

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## **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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### UPCOMING

#### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Juyeon Lee (Sept 1)  
Diane Russell (Sept 3)

Leonard Santos (Sept 5)

Gretchen & Pedro Lopez (September 1)  
Randy & Peggy Ford (September 2)

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

### **MUSICAL INVITATION**

Join our music groups at First United Methodist Church!  
You are welcome to participate, whether you can read music or not.

**FUMC Choir** Our rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 6:30PM and Sundays at 9AM in the Sanctuary.

**FUMC Ensemble** If you play keyboard, drums, guitar, bass, woodwind, brass, or strings; or if you sing, contact us and join this ensemble for worship services and special occasions.

**FUMC Handbell Choir** We will prepare music for the Christmas Season!

#### **Contact information:**

Lorena Suárez (218) 409-3783 / [suarezmolina@email.arizona.edu](mailto:suarezmolina@email.arizona.edu)  
First Church Office (520) 622-6481 / [office@firstchurchtucson.org](mailto:office@firstchurchtucson.org)

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

By Victoria Russell



## August 26 - National Dog Day

Dogs are a big part of people's lives. They work hard to protect and keep their families safe. This is a day to honor all the dogs and recognize there are dogs to be rescued. Colleen Paige (the creator) chose this day to honor the anniversary of her first rescue "Sheltie" when she was ten.

## August 27 - World Day for the End of Speciesism

Speciesism is the belief that all other species besides humans are inferior. This feeling is used to justify using them for our own benefits. Here are a few things we can do to honor this day: organize/participate in a protest, spread awareness, and write a letter to your local newspaper or local representative.



## August 28 - Rainbow Bridge Remembrance Day

This day celebrates our beloved pets who have passed before us. A place where our beloved pets go to frolic with other pet family members until everyone can be reunited. A place filled with rainbows, love, and light.

## August 30 - National Holistic Pet Day

There have been benefits from adopting a holistic lifestyle. The idea behind "holistic" is taking care of our mind, body, and spirit. This is a day to share this approach to life with our pets. This can be shown by reading up on the benefits of holistic care, making homemade pet food, and exposing your pets to new experiences.



## August 30 - International Whale Shark Day

Whale sharks are sharks. They are gentle and are fascinating to learn about. Their population is declining. They are listed as the most vulnerable marine animal by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Take this day to celebrate and spread awareness about the help they need

## 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**

환 영 및 인사

조용한 기도

예배의 부름

찬양

여는 기도

성경봉독

설 교

응답찬송

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



[www.firstchurchtucson.org](http://www.firstchurchtucson.org)

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