

First Church Tucson Weekly Digest

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

9.28.2021

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.

"We had a special guest!"

By Pastor Ko

Greetings in Jesus Christ,

Last Sunday, I was passing the social hall on my way to the sanctuary in a rush as always, and I met a tall gentleman I had never seen before. I greeted him, and he told me that he visits our church whenever he is around Tucson. I assumed that he was a student of the University of Arizona and asked him. But, surprisingly, he responded to me, "No, I was attending this church 60 years ago," (pointing his hand to the height of his knee). And he continued, "I want to check out this church where my parents were devoted and loved whether this church is still functioning or not."

Even though I was in a hurry to get to the sanctuary, I was very impressed and touched by his presence. And his story is not the end. After the worship service, he showed me one of the stained glass windows they donated to the church in memory of his parents (Don Webb – Church member from 1945 to 1971, Jo Webb – Church member 1945 – 1997).



(Norman Webb, son of Don and Jo Webb)

What an amazing history we can share and remember! Maybe (I didn't hear from him), Norman lived here in Tucson when he was (cont. pq 2)

We had a special guest! (cont.)

5 or 6 years old until he graduated high school. And he might have left Tucson for study and jobs and doesn't live in Tucson anymore. However, I firmly believe that he has good memories of our church in his childhood and teen years. First Church in Tucson might be his spiritual hometown which he won't forget.

What kinds of memories or history are you making in your life and faith journey right now? I pray that the memories and history you are making would be great memories and history of someone else and our church.

Richard Foster, a Spiritual theologian, emphasized in his book "Celebration of Discipline," "We should never make prayer too complicated. Jesus taught us to come like children to a father. And children teach us the value of the imagination." It means that we need to seek purity and boldness in faith like a child.

I dream that I will hear the noisy laughter of children and the cranky sounds of babies during our worship services and in the church building in the future. I also dream that we can make memories and history of those next generations together.

Our church is preparing for the Charge Conference which is scheduled on Oct 14th. In the Charge Conference, we celebrate our ministries and gifts; we recognize our church leaders; we nominate our church leaders and share our ministry vision. That vision is not possible for the pastor to share alone. That vision should be collaborative with the help of the whole church and congregation. Please, pray for our church and our vision. I would like you to keep these scriptures in your heart this week.

Philippians 4:8, 13

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

빌립보서 4장 8절, 13절

⁸ 끝으로 형제들아 무엇에든지 참되며 무엇에든지 경건하며 무엇에든지 옳으며 무엇에든지 정결하며 무엇에든지 사랑 받을 만하며 무엇에든지 칭찬 받을 만하며 무슨 덕이 있든지 무슨 기림이 있든지 이것들을 생각하라 ¹³내게 능력 주시는 자 안에서 내가 모든 것을 할 수 있느니라

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 (pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com).

With blessings and prayers,

Pastor Eun Young Ko

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

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 사 역

주일 오전 11시 30분에 한국어 예배가 현장예배와 온라인예배로 진행됩니다. 기도와 참여 부탁드립니다. 금요일 저녁 7시에 성경공부 모임이 줌으로 진행됩니다.

Youtube 주소는 <u>bit.ly/fumcYouTube</u> Meeting ID: 998 6112 0822 Passcode: 6226481

WEEKDAY ONLINE GATHERINGS

Women on a Spiritual Quest (WSQ)

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

All God's Creation (AGC)

-A time of scripture reading and reflection with a focus on living creatures. (This week cancelled.)

Chancel Choir

- -Practice is held in-person in the Sanctuary on Wednesday evenings at 6:30PM.
- -There will be a rehearsal on Sunday mornings at 9AM before the service.

Meeting ID: 929 7830 4567 Passcode: 6226481

Progressive Book Study (PBS)

-Meets on Thursdays at 2:30PM. Book title: "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 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

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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:

Sanctuary UMC, Tucson Santa Cruz Valley UMC, Sahuarita St. John's UMC, Tucson

* * *

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 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.

UPCOMING

BIRTHDAYS AND **ANNIVERSARIES**

Halla Kang (Oct 1) Melanie Wallendorf (Oct 2) Insook Bae (Oct 7) Bill Snyder (Oct 10)

Blaise & Nathalie Lolika (October 5)

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

Covenant Board Meeting
October 2nd (Saturday) at 10AM



World Communion Sunday (Joint Service) on Oct 3rd at 10 AM

World Communion Sunday is a celebration of unity in Christ, taking place on the first Sunday of every October. We focus on the observance of Holy Communion through the service even though we speak different languages or ethnicities. So we can experience the unity in Christ with one another partaking in Holy Communion.

Please join our special service on World Communion Sunday!

October Meet'n'Eat

This is a fellowship time to visit with each other and see old and new friends.

All are welcome--everyone is invited!

The next Meet'n'Eat is on **October 8th at 11:30 AM** at the Olive Garden on the northeast corner of Oracle/Wetmore (300 W Wetmore Rd, Tucson, AZ 85705).

If you're interested, please let Shirley Murray know ahead of time by calling her at (520)297-4796 so she can reserve enough space at the restaurant.



Please join us for a special Blessing of the Animals on October 10th in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of animals and the environment. He expressed his devotion to God through his love for all of God's creations. Pastor Ko will be performing the Blessing of the Animals Service. All blessings will be done from pictures provided by the animal owners.

Please submit your pictures of all the animals you would like to be blessed during the service to the church office in care of Diane or Victoria Russell.

- Please include the animal's name on the back of the picture along with your name.

For questions and concerns please contact Diane at the Animal Ministry at (562) 708–3942 and email is russelldc@live.com. Church Office email is: office@firstchurchtucson.org.

Charge Conference is approaching!

The Charge Conference date is October 14th (Thursday) at 7PM.

Local Lay Servants

Min Hahn, Sam Haney, Nan Rollings, Diane Russell

Certified Lav Servants

Jessie Hansen, Margo Kahler, Bonnie Steel, Ian Steel, Tina Todd

Certified Lay Speaker

Anita Lange

Please submit your reports to Pastor Ko by email (pastortucsonfirstumc@gmail.com) by Oct 6th. If you have already submitted them, thank you!



All Saints Sunday, November 7th at 10AM and 11:30AM

We will remember those who became saints and separated from us here on Earth. If you have lost your loved one in the last ten years, we would love to remember them. Please send their pictures to the office, including their name, relationship with you, and the dates of birth and death.

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:

Music Director Lorena Suárez (218) 409-3783 / <u>suarezmolina@email.arizona.edu</u> First Church office (520) 622-6481 / <u>office@firstchurchtucson.org</u> The following special writing was sent by Pearl Zimmerman to Rev. Raven Gaston, who in turn wanted to share it with the rest of us:

BELOVED

There is a secure feeling about that word.

When a person is beloved, it is a special kind of being. It is being-loved!

It is a past, present, future kind of word,

That surrounds one with warmth and comfort,

That nothing can break or mar.

The faults of the beloved person are smiled on by the person who loves,

And the ordinary virtues seem good out of all measure.

To be beloved is the rarest and most beautiful of gifts.

To be beloved of God should be enough to make a saint of anyone.

Gordon and Gladis DePree

SUNDAY COFFEE/SOCIAL TIME

We have fellowship time with coffee and snacks after the English worship service. Please observe the following rules:

- 1. Masks are to be worn when not seated at a table.
- 2. Tables have been set up with **only 4** chairs to ensure there is social distancing and **must** remain this way.
- 3. Food will be limited to finger foods like cookies, doughnuts and crackers or chips. Utensils must be used to pick up food, **DO NOT** use your fingers.
- 4. Coffee and bottled water will be the beverages for now.

If these rules are observed, we will continue until COVID conditions change and we must reconsider the circumstances.

Welcome back to social time and enjoy responsibly.

Animal Holidays - A Week at a Glance

By Diane Russell



September 28 - World Rabies Day

This global health observance started in 2007 to raise awareness and is dedicated to rabies prevention. The theme for this 15th annual event is "Rabies: Facts, not Fear."

October 1 - International Raccoon Appreciation Day

This holiday was started in 2002 by a young girl in California who had a love for raccoons. This day was created to bring awareness of the important role that raccoons play in the ecosystem. Raccoons are not just pests or nuisance animals.





October 1 - National Fire Pup Day

This day was created to celebrate the heroism of fire dogs who are canine firefighters. Sparky the Fire Dog is the official mascot for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

October 2 - World Farm Animals Day (WDFA)

This day was created in memory of Mahatma Gandhi, in 1983 who believed in treating all living beings with respect. This day was created to raise awareness of their suffering and to help improve their living conditions.





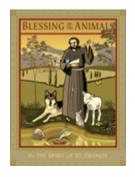
October 3 - Butterfly and Hummingbird Day

This day is to spread awareness by honoring the butterfly and hummingbird. They are small and beautiful pollinators. Ways to celebrate this day include keeping a flower garden or feeder in your yard.

October 4 - World Animals Days

In 1925, Heinrich Zimmermann organized the first animal celebration in Berlin. This day is to raise awareness about improving the welfare standards of the animals in the world. To give a voice to the animals who can't speak for themselves.





Oct 4 - Blessing of the Animals

St. Francis of Assisi (Patron saint of animals and the environment) expressed his love and devotion to God through his love for all of God's creations. This day is for blessing all God's creatures great and small.

WORLD COMMUNION 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

영어예배와 연합으로 드립니다.

환 영 및 알리는 말씀

예배의 부름

여는 찬양

여는 기도

성경봉독

성가대 찬양

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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