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# CONNECT

January  
2012

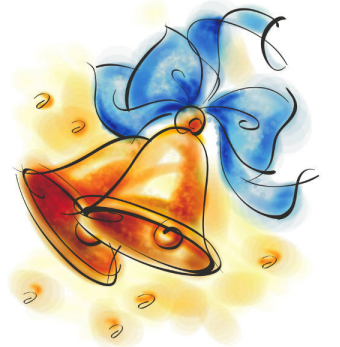
The newsletter of First United Methodist Church, Tucson, Arizona - Connecting people to each other and to the church.



## Ringling in the New Year at First

### Worship at First Church in January

- January 1  
10 a.m. Ringing in the New Year-- with bells & whistles  
*"What's Up for You in 2012?"*
- January 8  
10 a.m. *"The Coming of the Very Wise Men"*  
Children's Music & Drama  
Ringing of the bells - In Memory January 8, 2011
- 1 p.m. Ecumenical Worship. In Memory of January 8, 2011  
St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Cathedral  
92 South Stone Avenue
- January 15  
10 a.m. *"The Colors of God's Family"*  
Celebration of MLK Day with excerpts from  
"The Great Debate" (great movie!)
- 11:30 a.m. Movie with Denzel Washington,  
"The Great Debate" showing at First Church  
Peanut Butter sandwich treats
- January 22  
Concluding Moses' Top Ten: The  
Commandments for  
Contemporary Life  
*"You Got Great Stuff; I Want It"*
- January 29  
Grand Finale of Moses' Top Ten  
*"Liar, Liar, Pants on Fire"*



### Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Lujet McCullough
Administrative Assistant	Carla Howle
Bookkeeper	Sue Smith
Building Manager	Paul White

### Volunteer Program Staff

Children's Ministry Coordinator	Martha Preston
Youth Ministry Coordinator	Anne Huth
Financial Coordinator	Bruce Billings
Membership Secretary	Carol Nelson

### Connectional Staff

Amy Barron-Gafford	Deacon in Connection, TMC Hospice
Michael Pearson	District Superintendent
Minerva Carcaño	Resident Bishop

Campus Minister Rev. Dee Dee Azhikakath

520-623-7575

[deedee@email.arizona.edu](mailto:deedee@email.arizona.edu)

[www.tucsonwesley.com](http://www.tucsonwesley.com)

### First United Methodist Church

Giving ourselves fully  
to God's Will and Spirit

915 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tucson, AZ 85719  
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web: [www.firstchurchtucson.org](http://www.firstchurchtucson.org)

Office Hours  
Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Sundays at First Church  
8:45 am Pathfinders Adult Sunday  
School  
9:00 am Adult Sunday School  
9:00 am Children's Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship  
11:45 am Korean UMC Worship

**First United Methodist Church of Tucson**

520 622-6481 [www.firstchurchtucson.org](http://www.firstchurchtucson.org)



# Happy New Year

As I have said each year, New Year's Day is one of my favorite non-church holidays. I like the phrases that represent a new start in a new year. Such phrases as *clean slate*, *fresh start*, *new beginning*, *do over* resonate with me.

When Rex and I get in a tiff, which, of course, is very rare, we have a phrase that we use. One of us will ask, "Could we try a 'do over'?"

This means that we will go back to the place where the argument began. We go back to the first sentence of the exchange that went bad, went sour. There always are those first two sentences that took us to a bad place with each other. Then we do the "do over." We start over with brand new sentences.

This is not always easy to do. First it takes a willingness to set aside the anger long enough to think about where things went wrong. Then it takes a desire for reconciliation that motivates us to figure out how we might express ourselves differently. Sometimes we just want to stay mad and have to defer any attempt at reconciliation. That choice can ruin a morning or a whole day for us. The good news is that we are not alone in trying to salvage a morning, a day, our relationship.

A do over is simply a modern term for repentance, which classically has meant turning and going in a different direction. The words of the Communion liturgy, when the cup of wine is lifted up are these: "Drink from this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins." In those words I hear the promise of Jesus' power to help us in moving away from behavior and words that separate us from God and others. Jesus' power is right there to help with the willingness and the capacity to begin again. Thanks be to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Happy clean slate, happy fresh start, happy new beginnings, happy do over for 2012!!

God Bless



## Please Pray

Each month churches in the South District pray with and for each other. Please pray for the pastors, congregation and community of the following churches:

*San Pedro Valley UMC, Benson*  
*First UMC of Bisbee*  
*Trinity UMC, Bisbee*



## In Our Prayers

Please remember all these whose attendance in worship may be limited by their health or circumstances. If you know of someone who needs our prayers, please call the church office.

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Rafael Arvizo     | Ferne Lees       |
| Walter Blakeslee  | Onnolee Mosher   |
| Walter Brightwell | Patricia Murphy  |
| Ann Cole          | Le Wanda Nietula |
| Sondra Cooper     | Carroll Rinehart |
| Ann Erwin         | Marilyn Rinehart |
| Nellie Fernandez  | Grace Roland     |
| Jo Haney          | Edward Roland    |
| Cora Hunt         | Edna Rosenberger |
| Irene Hutcherson  | Eunice Santos    |
| Ruby James        | Ann Truex        |
| Herb Langen       | Joan Wolfe       |
| Linda Langen      | Marilyn Wright   |
| Kris Larsen       | Ruth Ann Wright  |
| Fred Latta        | Tracy York       |
| Diane Leadlove    | Travis York      |



## January Birthdays

- 1/3 Christiana Ageh
- 1/4 Maxine Hall
- 1/5 Marjorie Williams
- 1/5 Larry Mars
- 1/7 Eunice Santos
- 1/8 Le Wanda Nietula
- 1/8 Linda Langen
- 1/11 Beatrice Humphrey
- 1/12 Jo Haney
- 1/13 Kristian Smith
- 1/16 Richard Rodriguez
- 1/18 Cindy Curtis
- 1/22 Glen Murray
- 1/23 Bill Bensema
- 1/23 Antonio Peralta
- 1/25 Emily Kallal
- 1/26 Jim Goff
- 1/27 Linda Stead
- 1/31 Kris Larsen



## January Anniversaries

- 1/3 Tamra & Mark Myers
- 1/3 Gaila & Peter Smith
- 1/10 Helen & Jim Wilson
- 1/10 Jean & Bob Morse
- 1/12 Linda & Herbert Langen
- 1/29 Joneen & Mike Sigette

*If your name isn't on this list (or you know of someone who should be), please call the church office and let us know. We don't want to leave anyone out.*

## Meet 'n Eat Group



Start the new year right with food fun and fellowship with friends from 1st UMC. The Meet 'n Eat lunch group will gather at 12:30 pm on Friday, January 13, at the Golden Corral Buffet at 6865 N. Thornydale on the west side between Ina and Orange Grove.

The price for a senior lunch is \$7.29 and regular lunch is \$7.99, not including beverage and tip. The buffet is very extensive and the dessert section features a chocolate fountain!

If you have never joined the group for lunch or if you are a regular attendee, you'll be most welcome. For questions regarding location, transportation or to RSVP, please email the Murrays at [gsmurray56@comcast.net](mailto:gsmurray56@comcast.net) or call them at 297-4796. See you there!

## Regularly Scheduled Events

### Sundays

#### Pathfinders

The Pathfinders multi-generational class meets Sunday mornings in the Carillon Room. All are welcome to participate.

#### Child Care

Childcare is available during the worship service for children five and under.



### For Your Information

#### Bulletin Announcements due by Wednesday of each week

Please submit information by e-mail: either typed into the body of the e-mail message or as an attachment to: [office@firstchurchtucson.org](mailto:office@firstchurchtucson.org)

#### Newsletter Deadlines

**January 18**  
**For February 2012 Issue**

Please submit information by e-mail: either typed into the body of the email message or as an attachment to:

## 12 - Step Support Groups

Each week at First Church we host meetings of 12-step groups. If you need support from any of these, please feel free to show up at a meeting.

#### Alcoholics Anonymous ~ (aka Campus Nooners)

Monday - Friday 12:00 pm in the Carillon Room.

#### Gamblers Anonymous ~

Saturday morning 9:30 am in the Carillon Room

#### Mid Town Nooners ~

Daily Narcotics Anonymous Meetings 12:00 pm in the Underground

#### Narcotics Anonymous ~

Monday, Thursday, and Friday nights 7:30 pm in the Underground

#### Overeaters Anonymous ~

Monday night 5:30 pm in the Carillon Room

#### Divorce Recovery

Tuesday afternoon 1:00 pm in the Library

#### Please Note

There will be no Administrative Council meeting in January.

## Especially for Women

### Women on a Spiritual Quest

The WSQ meets Mondays, 5:30 pm in the Arizona Room for study and service. Call Eunice Santos at 623-4118 or Anita Lange at 325-9196 for more information.



### United Methodist Women

#### United Methodist Women Begin a New Year with Fellowship and Reflection

Tuesday: January 10, 11:00 am, Arizona Room

Program: *Sharing Faith Journey Stories*

12 Noon: Potluck salad and dessert luncheon

### Church Women United State Assembly Comes to Tucson

February 10 - 11

St Andrews Presbyterian Church

Bishop Minerva Canaño preaching:

*God's Renewed Creation: Call to Hope and Action*

All are welcome

For more information about the Assembly check the church website or contact Carolyn Redmore, CWU in Arizona President, (520) 319-1319 or [cdredmore@aol.com](mailto:cdredmore@aol.com)



### Seasons Greetings to our Church Family

It is with joy and gratitude that you are greeted. We thank God for all who contributed in getting shoes for our children in Agua Prieta, Mexico. May our Lord bless you and give you a great holiday season and many blessings for our new year.

Three people that we need to recognize for all their work in this project and for delivering the shoes to Agua Prieta are Margo Kahler, Glen Murray and Gail Kamaras.



## Don't Forget Project Hospitality

First UMC is again participating in Project Hospitality, a city-wide project for helping the homeless, sponsored by the Interfaith Council for the Homeless. First Church provides dinner, sleeping arrangements at the church and meals for approximately 14 men every Tuesday night through February.

Please consider putting action by becoming a part mission project. For more John Olbert at 297-5326 [johnattu@yahoo.com](mailto:johnattu@yahoo.com).



Some of our volunteers: Darlene Watson, Kathryn Sovie, Alice Johnson, Jeanne Bensema

your faith into of this vital information, call or

Some of our volunteers: Darlene Watson, Kathryn Sovie, Alice Johnson, Jeanne Bensema

## Know Anyone Who's Stressed?

Maybe you? Have we got the solution for you. Gentle Yoga will not require any wild contortions or feats of super strength. It will be a gentle stretching and releasing of muscle tension, accompanied by breathing that calms body, mind and spirit.

# Hatha Yoga Class

Wednesdays @ 5:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church

915 E. Fourth Street

Room 206 (Fireplace Room)

\$9.00 per class

or

\$40 for package of 5 classes

~~~~~

Classes begin Wednesday, January 11

Instructor: Eveli Sabatie

Contact the church office for further information

(622-6481)



## A Message From "Brother" Daniel at Subuiga, Kenya

Dear Brother Rev. Glen;

I send you these Christmas greetings and prosperous new year for your family and Tucson FUM sisters and brothers.

My family and entire Subuiga church congregation, we are well, enjoying God's love. Though we have suffered drought for many years, our God has remembered and rain is now plenty. We expect good harvest.

The building work is still on, the contractor is working on inner walls and face. The funds are completely exhausted and we shall be glad if you can send us more money for construction. Also, we are planning to have a fundraiser next year in March, for we expect harvest by then and this will take us far.

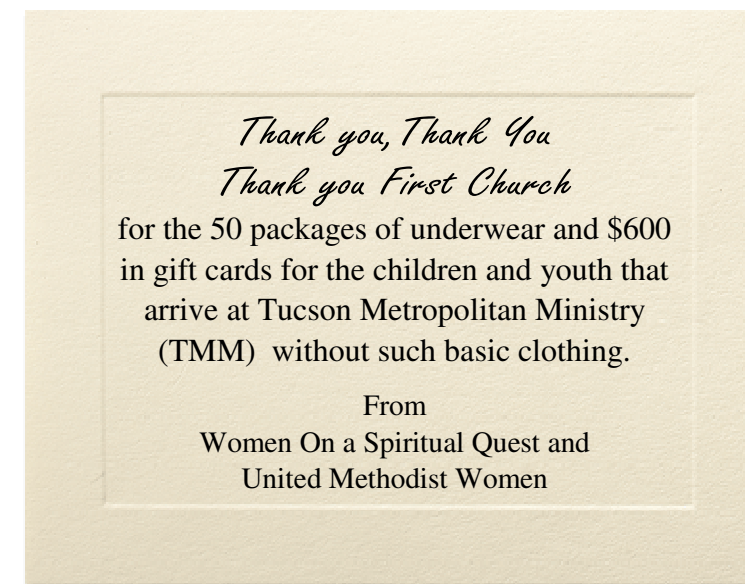
During the last few years our currency has been badly hit and dropped in value. The building materials raised by high percentage on market price which made us unable to meet our target of completing the church with what we budgeted.

Pass on our love to your family and all the brethren in Tucson First United Methodist Church.

Yours in Christ service.

Brother Daniel Kaumbuthi

Note: Anyone wishing to make a commitment toward the Subuiga fund may do so by writing a check to Tucson FUMC and mark "Subuiga" on the memo line. The first \$1,000 has already been contributed.





# Youth News

## Sunday School and Youth in Action Activities for December and January

The Sunday School kids will be performing for Epiphany this year, complete with songs and costumes! We'll have the 3 Kings starring in the show and all the merriment that compliments that wondrous visit to witness the Baby Jesus' birth. We celebrate Epiphany on January 6<sup>th</sup> — the twelfth day of Christmas. Don't miss it, and a big thanks to Miss Lucinda for putting this together!

Meanwhile, both Sunday School and Youth classes have been doing activities for Advent, in connection with the Monday-night Advent class curriculum that the adults are studying. Pat Clark has been leading the younger kids during Monday evening Advent classes, doing arts and crafts, acting out plays, dressing as angels and shepherds, reading stories, and singing songs to learn about the impending birth of Jesus.

Finally, by the time you read this, the Youth in Action class will have hosted Project Hospitality on Tuesday evening, December 20<sup>th</sup>. Our meal this year included several hearty pot roasts with potatoes, onions, and carrots, fresh breads, salad, fried cabbage, sparkling cider and lemonade, and a yummy dessert and cookies for 14 men plus all our helpers. We would like to make this a tradition for our youth, as it gives us so much joy to prepare and serve the meal and to meet all the men, young and old, who come to join us for dinner.

As always, feel free to visit our blog at: [azyouth.blogspot.com](http://azyouth.blogspot.com)

### WORD SEARCH BY NEW-YEARS-DAY.COM

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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BALL  
CLOCK  
FIREWORKS  
HOLIDAY  
MIDNIGHT  
RESOLUTIONS

CALENDAR  
COUNTDOWN  
FIRST  
JANUARY  
NEW  
YEAR

CELEBRATE  
CRYSTAL  
HAPPY  
KISSES  
PARTY  
YEARS

### A Prayer for Now . . . and Beyond \*

*Lord of all creation, help me hear  
Your call to service, loud and clear.  
Lord of all creation, help me see  
The vision you have set for me.*

*God of Love, help me know  
That only in love are we able to grow.  
So much to do, so much to learn  
Your love a gift, nothing to earn.*

*Lord of all creation, help me to hear  
Your call to service. Be ever near.*

\* Written by Dr. Carroll Rinehart in 2003 for the publication of "And Beyond," a sequel to the "12 Decades..." history of First Church. Carroll, and his wife Marilyn, have been associated with First Church since 1952.

### Help Feed Families--Not Landfills

Have a citrus tree with more fruit than you can use? Iskashitaa Refugee Harvesting Network will come and harvest that excess fruit and distribute it to refugee families. Any leftovers go to the Community Food Bank.



### Year End Giving

All gifts received during December, or postmarked by December 31, 2011, will be credited to 2011 giving records. If you plan to make a gift of appreciated assets such as stocks or bonds, please initiate the gift early in December to ensure completion of the transfer by the end of the year. Contact Bruce Billings, Financial Coordinator, at the church for making such a gift.

### Beth Walkup to Lead Leadership Retreat: Laying A Foundation for First Church's 2012 Marketing and Outreach

Saturday, January 28, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

*Lunch will be included*

Sahuaro Girl Scout Resource Building Conference Room  
4300 E. Broadway, Tucson

## Wedding Coordinator Needed

First Church is in need of a Wedding Coordinator. Help will be given on any questions you might have. This is not a volunteer position. If you are interested or know of someone who is, please call the church office at 622-6481. Staff Parish will be looking at all applications.

### Job Description:

**Purpose:** To support the ministries of the Church by providing direction and assistance to all couples getting married at the Church.

To inform the couple of church policies concerning weddings

**Immediate Supervisor:** Senior Pastor

### Responsibilities:

- Make initial contact with bride and groom
- Set time and place of wedding and get on church calendar
- Determine which pastor will perform ceremony; communicate with pastor as needed
- With couple plan elements of wedding; liturgical elements to be determined with pastor
- Set time and facilitate rehearsal
- Make sure all elements for wedding are in place on wedding day
- Determine time of arrival for wedding party on wedding day.
- Be at the wedding to assist families in ways needed
- During wedding, cue participants
- Immediately after wedding, get marriage licensed signed, copied & distributed
- After ceremony, facilitate family photos with photographer;
- Remain at the church until all parties leave
- Work with building manager to make sure building locked
- Handle monies, accounting for wedding fund
- No receptions to be held at the church

### Qualifications:

- Warm, friendly, personable
- Patience
- Organized and communicates well with couple, family, vendors
- Physically able to be on one's feet 4-5 hours on wedding day
- Knowledgeable or willing to learn wedding information quickly

**Pay:** \$200 per wedding

**Hours:** Varies depending on size of wedding

**Benefits:** Not eligible, as this is a part-time position.  
Former wedding coordinator available for initial mentoring.



## Is the Bible Always Right?

This question will be the focus of a new six week Adult Education class beginning at 8:45 on Sunday, January 8 and running through February 12.

The class will be led by Rev. Howard Velzy using the study book by Donald Kraus, Executive Editor for Bibles at Oxford University Press. Contemporary Christians often pick and choose among the Bible's moral rulings, taking some as absolutes but ignoring others they find unacceptable. Are there areas where we can ignore what the Bible says? Is the Bible actually wrong about some things? Are we free to argue that we understand things better than the Biblical writers did? Or must we accept what the Bible tells us, no matter how difficult it might be to put it into practice?

With this in mind, Kraus explores Biblical questions of vengeance, enemies, the death penalty, social marginalization, economics, social justice, sexual behavior, and authority.

There will be a sign up table in the Social Hall after worship to register in advance for the class and to purchase a copy of the study book.



## January 23 Service Begins Prayer for Christian Unity Week

All are welcome when clergy and members of Tucson and Southern Arizona churches mark the worldwide Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at a special ecumenical service at 7 p.m. Monday, January 23, at Casas Adobes Congregational United Church of Christ, 6801 North Oracle Road, Tucson. A reception in McNear Hall will follow.

The Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer, Conference Minister of the UCC's Southwest Conference will preach. Other participants will include the Most Rev. Gerald F. Kicanas, D.D., Bishop of Tucson; the Rev. John Kitigawa, Rector of St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church, the Rev. Lee Milligan, Senior Minister of Casas Adobes Congregational, UCC; and local clergy of various denominations. Rev. Raven Gaston, Associate Pastor, Catalina United Methodist represents United Methodists on the planning committee.

An offering will be taken for the Giffords Center at the Tucson Community Food Bank.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity brings together Protestant, Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches, encouraging them to exchange pulpits or hold joint services. It is traditionally celebrated between January 18-25 in the northern hemisphere or at Pentecost in the southern hemisphere.

This year's theme, "We will all be changed by the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ" (cf. 1 Cor 15:51-58), came from ecumenical partners in Poland. The text is jointly published by The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and The Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches.

Those attending the January 23 service will be given a sheet of suggested prayers for each day of the week, with daily scriptures and prayer guide. For more information contact Carolyn Redmore, [cdredmore@aol.com](mailto:cdredmore@aol.com) or (520) 319-1319.