

Other Outreach Ministries

Wesley Giving Tree

The Wesley Center is a ministry in south central Phoenix to a barrio where 70% live in sub-standard housing. They are beset by extreme poverty, social problems, high crime rates, and 42% school dropout rate. Each year church members purchase Christmas gifts for the children in Wesley's programs.

Backpacks for Homeless Teens

During the year, we collect backpacks for homeless teenagers. This is through the program Crewsn' Healthmobile.

Sleeping Mats for Homeless Teens

Volunteers create sleeping mats using plastic recycled grocery store bags.

Youth Missions

Our Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups participate in missions throughout the year. Information is shared with the youth as it becomes available.

Habitat For Humanity

Several times a year there are opportunities to be involved with Habitat for Humanity. Project dates and times will be shared as they become available.

The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:40

To be involved in any of the missions listed please email info@firstchurchphx.org or call 602.263.5013.

Our Vision: Uniting our lives with God's dream for the World

Our Purpose: Uniting new faces as followers of Christ

Our Journey: Uniting head, heart and hands for God

Uniting God's People

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**Missions and Outreach
at
First United Methodist
Church**

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The Church in Service

International Health - "Imagine No Malaria"

The United Methodist Church has partnered with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to raise funds for pesticide-treated bed nets for Africans.

These nets cost \$10. Globally, the Methodist goal is to raise 75 million dollars by 2015.



International Missions - Adults and Families

International Missions are planned periodically to construct or repair homes and church buildings, or donate furnishings. In 2013, a team went to San Luis, Mexico and in 2014 they will go to Guatemala.

Food Ministries

Feed My Starving Children

In 2010, 2012 and 2014, approximately 500 volunteers (1/3 First members and 2/3 visitors) pack over 100,000 meals of freeze dried vegetables, chicken flavored soy and rice. 50 First Church members volunteer to organize the event. \$24,000 is raised to pay for ingredients and transportation to famine areas around the world.



Watkins Food Preparation and Service

Every other Thursday afternoon, volunteers cook and serve about 160 people temporarily living in the Watkins Emergency shelter. We will be back up to 106 - 170 or more in February when the families return.

Canned Food Pantry/In Christ's Way

Foods such as peanut butter, crackers, and Vienna sausage are collected weekly for individuals who come to the church office and are hungry. They are given food bags for ready to eat or place to cook.

Meals for First Members in Need - "Caring Ministry"

Approximately 15 First Members who have recently been ill, bereaved or shut-in are provided meals. Volunteers prepare and deliver meals.

Disaster Relief-United Methodist Committee on relief (UMCOR)

Annually, 10-15 members travel to Salt Lake City for 5 days to pack approximately 3,500 personal emergency kits for people surviving disasters. They collect school supplies during the summer. First Church supports UMCOR with our annual "One Great Hour of Sharing" offering and volunteer time to prepare emergency supplies.

Clothing and Sewing Ministries

United Methodist Committee on Relief-Sewing Group

The UMCOR sewing group meets the fourth Thursday of the month to cut and sew school book bags to be sent to countries that have experienced a disaster requiring school supplies in emergency situations. There is a box on the patio on Sunday mornings that has patterns, directions and fabric which can be picked up and sewn at home which some prefer. Approximately 100 bags are sewn annually by about 10 women.

Prayer Quilts

Prayer quilts are sewn each year by First members who are in need. Quilts are displayed in the Narthex and members are encouraged to "tie knots" and pray for the recipient.

New Baby Blankets

Blankets are knitted by First members for new babies. Blankets are delivered to new babies of First families or presented on the day of infants baptism.



Back to School Sewing

Several First Church members join sewers throughout Maricopa County who sew new school clothes each year for 5,000 low-income children in Metro Phoenix.

Gently-Used Clothing Drive

Three times a year (Fall, Winter and Spring) First members are asked to donate gently used clothes, particularly for children, and new socks and underwear. About 300 - 350 clothing items are donated each time and are delivered to refugees.

Senior Services and Collections

JUSTA Center

An offering for the JUSTA Center is used to contribute to the daytime resource center for area homeless and low income seniors. Assistance is provided for health screening, job applications, and veteran's benefits. Many people often move into a permanent living situation.

Just One

First United Methodist Women collect useful items for the JUSTA Center Senior each month such as toothpaste, Kleenex, and shampoo.