

First Church Kids

Come and join the fun at Kids Church during the 9 a.m. service! Children start with worship in the Sanctuary at 9 a.m. Then after the children’s message, our incredible leaders will guide them to their groups by age. Parents are welcome to walk with us. At the end of the service, children can be picked up from:
Nursery House (6 months to 3 years old) - Room 109 (8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)
Cubby House (3 years old to Pre-K) - Room 222
Fun House (K-2nd grade) - Room 221
Light House (3rd grade to 5th grade) - Room 223

MOSTLY MUSIC SUNDAY

Sunday, May 18


Join us for a day of musical celebrations!

9 AM - Follow U - a light-hearted musical presented by the FirstKids Choir and First Youth Singers.

11 AM - Best of the Year - an musical exploration of the church calendar, featuring Chancel Choir and Rejoicing Handbells.

Honoring Central United Methodist Church

This month is the anniversary of the closure of Central United Methodist Church, and we wanted to take a moment to honor the long-standing ministry and impact that church had over the course of 154 years. Central was a special place in our community, as well as to many local individuals. To all of our congregants who have come to call our church home after the closure of Central, we recognize that this may be an emotional and reflective time for you, and we want you to know we are available if you need anyone to talk or pray with. We love each of you so much, and want to support you any way we can.




Reserve your Niche, Wall Plaque or Patio Brick

First Church has spaces available for you to reserve your single or companion niche. The cost includes your urn and the face plate of your niche. Wall Plaques and Patio Bricks do need to be ordered with your dedication or the name you wish. If you have questions or are interested, please contact Cathy Fuentes at cathy@firstchurch.church or call the church office at 602-263-5013 x100.

Donate Altar Flowers on Sunday Mornings

In honor or in memory of loved ones, you can call Cathy Fuentes in the church office at 602-263-5013 x100 or stop by the church office when you are on campus. Every week we have two arrangements for Sunday services. Each arrangement is \$37. You may donate 1 or 2 arrangements. Call to reserve a day to honor a loved one or special friend.



Axios

Axios Unaltered is our resident queer small group that meets every week here at the church for a time of discussion, Bible study, prayer, as well as service projects to support the community. If you are LGBTQ+ please join us Tuesdays at 7 p.m. to connect with other like-minded individuals and grow in your faith. Contact Sammi Burkhart or search @axiosunaltered on social media for more information.

Looking for a Way to Serve First Church?

There are many ways you can get involved while serving your First Church. Some require very little time. Consider hosting and assisting in the **church office** during 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. worship services, or helping **fill pew pockets** during the week in preparation for Sunday services. **Hosts** are always needed for memorial services to prepare for receptions. If you are interested, please contact Cathy Fuentes at cathy@firstchurch.church or 602-263-5013 ext. 100.

Happening This Week

Today

9 a.m. Worship - Contemporary

9 a.m. Kids Sunday School (Upstairs - Rooms 221, 222, 223)

10 a.m. First Kids Choir (Room 106)

10 a.m. Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School (Room 101 and 103)

10 a.m. The Table Adult Class (Room 116)

10 a.m. Faith for Today Class (Centennial Room)

10 a.m. Upper Room Class (Epworth Room)

11 a.m. Worship - Traditional

Monday, May 12

11 a.m. MS Support Group (Epworth Room)

2 p.m. Covenant Sisters (Zoom)

6 p.m. Future Planning Committee (Zoom)

6 p.m. Sounds Academy Recital (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, May 13

9:30 a.m. Yoga (Room 114)

6:30 p.m. Mission Committee (Zoom)

7 p.m. Axios (Room 102)

Wednesday, May 14

9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilting (Epworth Room)

5:45 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)

6 p.m. Boy Scouts #41 (Asbury Hall)

6:30 p.m. AA Group (Wesley Lounge)

7 p.m. Chancel Choir

7:30 p.m. Al-Anon (Room 116)

Thursday, May 15

9:30 a.m. Congregational Care Team (Library)

1p.m, Knitty Witty Chain Gang (Wesley Lounge)

2 p.m. WDS Cherub Choir

4:30 p.m. Yoga (Room 114)

6 p.m. Girl Scouts #3462 (Epworth Room)

6 p.m. Praise Choir

7 p.m. Praise Band

Friday, May 16

10:30 a.m. Church Women United (Centennial Room)

Saturday, May 17 - no church events

Next Sunday, May 18

8 a.m. Covenant Sisters (Library)

9 a.m. Worship - Contemporary

9 a.m. Kids Sunday School (Upstairs - Rooms 221, 222, 223)

10 a.m. New Member Class (Wesley Lounge)

10 a.m. First Kids Choir (Room 106)

10 a.m. Jr. and Sr. High Sunday School (Room 101 and 103)

10 a.m. The Table Adult Class (Room 116)

10 a.m. Faith for Today Class (Centennial Room)

10 a.m. Upper Room Class (Epworth Room)

11 a.m. Worship - Traditional

1 p.m. Violin Recital (Sanctuary)

2 p.m. Phoenix Guitar Society (Wesley Lounge)

3 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study (Room 102)

4:30 p.m. Youth Choir (Room 106)

5:30 p.m. Graduation Celebration (Asbury Hall)

Afternoon Book Group

The Afternoon Book Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of most months at 1:30 p.m. in the Library. The next meeting is scheduled for *Tuesday, May 27*. The book for *May* is *The German Girl* by *Armando Lucas Correa*. We welcome all who love to read and discuss and travel the world through books.



FIRSTCHURCH

UNITED METHODISTS OF PHOENIX

First United Methodist Church of Phoenix
5510 N Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85012
602-263-5013
www.firstchurch.church

First Church is an inclusive community of faith where **ANYONE** can experience the goodness and grace of God.



Thank you for silencing phones before the service begins.

Our Ministry Together

The ministers of this church are its members; those who assist them are:

Carlo A. Rapanut - Bishop

Javier Olivares - District Superintendent

David Rennick - Senior Pastor

Patricia Rodriguez - Lay Leader

Jason Nolander - Lay Leader

Joshua Elder - Minister of Music

Jessica Morris - Ministry Director of Children/Jr. High Youth, Community Engagement and Outreach

Sammi Burkhart - Ministry Director of Sr. High Youth/Young Adults, and Communication

Julie Cochran - Children’s Ministry

Deby Campbell - Congregational Care Coordinator

Beckie Humphrey - Director of Weekday School

Russ Morrow - Business Administrator

Cathy Fuentes - Office Manager

Ron Rhode - Organist

Dr. Elizabeth Leyva - Children/Youth Choirs

Dan Hawkins - Campus Superintendent

Geoff Barkley - Associate Campus Superintendent

Derrick Sewell - Custodian

Ryan Newberry - Media Booth

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Call to Worship

Liturgist: Bonnie Hicks

One:

We gather today to honor and celebrate the mothers among us, for they are clothed with strength and dignity.
They are persons who face the future with courage and grace.

All:

We give thanks for the wisdom and guidance mothers offer, for the faithfulness that leads them to speak with wisdom and instruct with love.

One:

Mothers watch over their homes, tending to both the physical and spiritual needs of their families. Their hands are busy with care, their hearts are full of love.

All:

We thank God for their tireless work, their prayers, and their unshakable love. May we rise up and call them blessed.

One:

Today, we remember that a mother’s worth is beyond measure, and her influence extends far beyond the walls of her home. Her children honor her, and her actions speak of God's love.

All:

Let us worship God today, celebrating the gift of motherhood, and lifting up all women who reflect the heart of God in their care, wisdom, and love.

One:

As we gather in worship, may we be reminded of the strength and dignity that God has given to all women, and may we honor and support them today and always.

All:

We worship you, Lord, for you are the giver of life, the source of wisdom, and the heart of love. Amen.

*Opening Song

Thanks and Praise

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Welcome

Rev. David Rennick

(Please register your attendance on the *I'm Here* card found in your pew or *Online*.)

Children’s Message

Rev. David Rennick

Following the Children’s Message, children ages 3 - 5th grade are invited to follow the teachers to Children's Sunday School located upstairs. Children may return to their parents in the pews, or childcare is available for infants through age three in our nursery, Room 109. First-time visitors are encouraged to accompany their children to the Sunday School room.

*A Time of Praise

May the Peoples Praise You
O God Who Shaped Creation

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 31:25-28
(Common English Bible)

Liturgist: Bonnie Hicks

Sermon

Wonder Woman

Rev. David Rennick

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings		
Special Music	Christus Victor (Amen) First Praise Choir	Getty/Papa
Pastoral Prayer	Rev. David Rennick	
Silent Prayer and Reflection		
The Lord’s Prayer		
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.		
*Closing Song	God of All People	
*Benediction	Rev. David Rennick	

*For those who are able, please stand.		



WELCOME GUESTS!
Thank you for visiting First Church today. We are so glad you chose to worship with us! Please stop by our Welcome Table in the Narthex and take a gift bag. We also encourage you to share your contact information so we may formally welcome you. Please fill out the <i>I’m Here</i> card in your pew or <i>Online</i> .

New Member Class Sunday, May 18, 10 a.m.
Rev. David Rennick welcomes prospective members, answers any questions you may have, and shares expectations of membership. If you plan to attend, please call Cathy Fuentes at 602-263-5013 x100 or email cathy@firstchurch.church , so that we can prepare your new member packet.

Young Adult Small Group
Join our young adult ministry! Teens who are out of high school, twenties and thirties are invited to this new group meeting each week on Sundays at 3 p.m. for a time of Bible study, prayer, and connection. Prepare to be challenged and dive deeply into the Word of God. Let's take our faith to the next level!

Consider Prayer Quilting
Whether you have a few sewing skills or you’re an accomplished quilter, we have room for you! We meet weekly on Wednesdays in Epworth Room from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Your schedule may bring you in later, or if needed, you may leave earlier. We enjoy fellowship, laughter and end with prayers for quilt recipients. Come join us!

PRAYERS TO THE CONGREGATION
PRAYER QUILT IN THE NARTHEX A prayer quilt displayed in the narthex this morning is for Peggy Hansen . Peggy is a friends neighbor of Susan Sneathen. We invite you to stop, tie a knot, and pray for healing, grace and comfort.
PRAYERS FOR OUR SPECIAL CARE Ray McFarland, Shirley Myer, Gerry Oliver, Jean Oliver, Mark Pettit, Mary Price, Bonnie Rheahme, Mary Lou Salyer, Susan Secrest, Buzz and Liv Stevens
WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (Celebrating 50 or more years of marriage) John and Vicki Beaver 5/2 Grier and Carolyn Cooper 5/13 William and Dana Devine 5/22
SENIOR MILESTONES (Celebrating 80 or more birthdays) Merle Wessel 5/12 Jack Sneathen 5/16
ALTAR FLOWERS Given by Merrill Davison, in memory of Scott Ritchey who showed us how to live.
HOSTS Lance Scott, Jane Scott, and Mindy Smidt
PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCHES First UMC, Yuma; Fort Yuma UMC; Gila Mountain UMC, Yuma

Congregational Care Team
We are a dedicated team of First Church members that meets weekly to share the needs of First Church members, neighbors, relatives and friends. We receive information about the need for prayer from many sources: the blue prayer cards in the pew pockets, visits or phone contacts with Pastor David and staff, contact with Team members, or visits to individual’s place of residence. In addition to praying for individuals, we visit members and make phone calls to those in need. If you are aware of a need for prayer, please complete a blue prayer card and place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. You can also submit a prayer request on our First Church web page, or call the church office. Your prayer request can remain confidential if you prefer. This is another way First Church connects to members and friends.

Food Pantry Items Needed
The shelves of our food assistance pantry are in need of the following items: cases of bottled water, Vienna sausage, packaged or canned tuna, canned soup, small jars of jelly and peanut butter (plastic jars please), fruit cups, apple sauce, granola bars, hard or chewable candy. For all canned goods, please provide only pop top cans. If you are able to help with any of these items, please drop them off to the church office.

First Church Foundation – Did You Know?
Ms. A: That was quite a meeting I just attended.
Mr. J: Was that the First Church Foundation meeting?
Ms A: It was. We have seven scheduled meetings a year to stay on top of managing the Foundation’s business.
Mr. J: Only seven times a year? That doesn’t seem like a lot.
Ms A: Well, throughout the year various committees like the investment, budget, financial development and scholarship committees meet regularly to make sure we are meeting our goals and honoring those who made (and make) the Foundation possible.
Mr. J: How many people are involved?
Ms A: There is a board of 24 church members plus the chairs of each of the church’s administrative committees and the senior pastor. It’s a large group and an important commitment.
Mr. J: I think I might like to be part of that some day.
Ms A: We’d love to have you! It’s a great place to serve First Church. Just let any Foundation board member or the pastor know you’re interested.