

THE CHURCH NURSERY IS OPEN

The nursery is professionally staffed by the Lullaby Guild, open Sunday mornings, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., and welcomes infants through 3 years old. Ask any host for directions to the nursery.

Support Our UMOM Drive, July 6–27

As part of Spirit Month, the Next Generation Ministry is hosting a donation drive to support **UMOM New Day Centers**, which serves families experiencing homelessness right here in our community.

We are collecting the following **NEW** items for children throughout the month of July:

- Diapers (all sizes)
- Socks (children’s sizes)
- Underwear (children’s sizes)

Donation Dates:
Sunday, July 6 through Sunday, July 27

Drop-off Locations:

- Designated collection buckets in the narthex
- During the week at the church office, during regular office hours

Your generosity helps meet real, tangible needs for kids in crisis. Thank you in advance for your continued support!

Kids & Youth Ministries - Summer Schedule

Kids, Jr. High and Sr. High, have moved to summer hours for June and July! We’ll be meeting Sundays from 9 - 10 a.m. only. Parents will pick up in Room 101.

There will be no evening youth group, but stay tuned—we’re planning a fun event for Jr. and Sr. High the last week of July to kick off the back-to-school season!

Let’s have a great summer together!

Spirit Month is Here!

During the month of July, each Sunday will include a special theme as part of the worship service and sermon. You are encouraged to dress accordingly to join in the fun, food and festivities of the day. They include:

July 27 - “Christmas in July” (from holiday sweaters to snazzy Christmas ties)

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.

Back to School Sunday – August 10

Join us on Sunday, August 10 from **9:00–10:00 AM** for a special **Blessing of the School Year** for all students and educators during service, and leave with a little token to start your school year off with love and blessing.

Then from **10:00–11:00 AM**, families are invited to our **Children & Youth Open House** to tour the updated rooms and preview the curriculum for the year.

While parents explore, kids can enjoy **Water Slide Fun**—so don’t forget **swimwear and towels!**

We can’t wait to see you there!

Looking for a Way to Serve First Church?

There are many ways you can get involved while serving 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 and Youth Sunday School (Room 101)
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, July 21	
6 p.m.	Staff Parish Relations Committee (Room 116)
Tuesday, July 22	
1:30 p.m.	Afternoon Book Club (Library)
5 p.m.	Trustees (Epworth Room)
6 p.m.	Summer Voice Class (Room 106)
7 p.m.	Axios (Room 102)
Wednesday, July 23	
9:30 a.m.	Prayer Quilting (Epworth Room)
10 a.m.	Dressmakers Sewing Group (Epworth Room)
6 p.m.	240 Missouri HOA (Epworth Room)
6:30 p.m.	AA Group (Wesley Lounge)
7:30 p.m.	Al-Anon (Room 116)
Thursday, July 24	
9:30 a.m.	Congregational Care Team (Library)
6 p.m.	Praise Choir (Choir Room)
7 p.m.	Praise Band (Choir Room)
Friday, July 25	
10 a.m.	Memorial Service for Earl Warner (Chapel)
Saturday, July 26 - no church events	
Next Sunday, July 27	
9 a.m.	Worship - Contemporary
9 a.m.	Kids and Youth Sunday School (Room 101)
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

Restore the Radiance of Christmas at First Church!

Our beloved sanctuary, a symbol of faith and beauty, needs your help to replace its worn-out Christmas decorations. Imagine the stunning grandeur of fresh garlands, new ribbons and bows, and vibrant ornaments adorning our sacred space this holiday season. Your generous gift will help us create a truly magical Christmas for all who visit, preserving the timeless tradition of festive beauty in our gorgeous sanctuary.

Details about this project and how you can donate to the First Church Christmas Decoration Fund will be announced on Sunday, July 27.

Young Adult Small Group

Join our young adult ministry! Teens who are out of high school, twenties and thirties are invited to this 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!

Afternoon Book Group

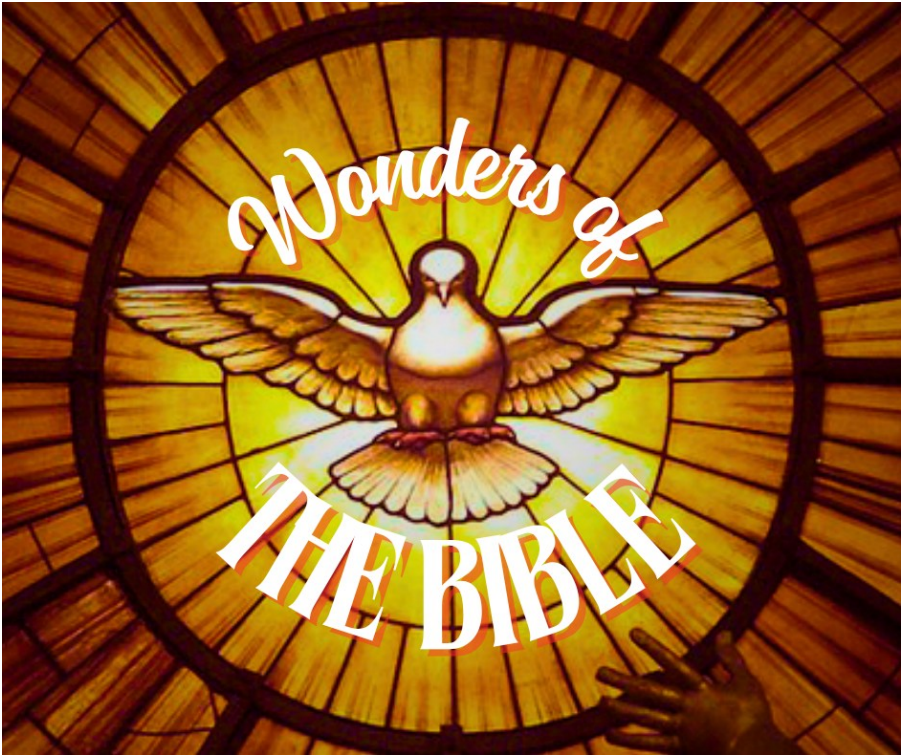
The Afternoon Book Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of most months at 1:30 p.m. in the Library. The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 22**. The book for **July** is *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* by **Carson McCullers**. We welcome all who love to read and discuss and travel the world through books.



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.

July 20, 2025 • 11 a.m.



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	Deby Campbell - Assistant Care Team Coordinator
Javier Olivares - District Superintendent	Becky Humphrey - Director of Weekday School
David Rennick - Senior Pastor	Russ Morrow - Business Administrator
Patricia Rodriguez - Lay Leader	Cathy Fuentes - Office Manager
Jason Nolander - Lay Leader	Ron Rhode - Organist
Joshua Elder - Minister of Music	Dr. Elizabeth Leyva - Children/Youth Choirs
Jessica Morris - Next Generation Ministry Director	Dan Hawkins - Campus Superintendent
Sammi Burkhart - Director of Church Marketing, Growth, and Communication	Geoff Barkley - Associate Campus Superintendent
Julie Cochran - Children’s Ministry	Derrick Sewell - Custodian
Patricia Magyar - Congregational Care Coordinator	Ryan Newberry - Media Booth

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Pastorale in F Major
Ron Rhode, organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Betty Cornish

One: O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.
Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.
All: For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

One: Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!
All: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

One: O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.
All: O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

*OPENING HYMN - No. 57

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*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*.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist: Betty Cornish

Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know the old heartaches that still pain me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up. You know the rest-less worries that rob me of rest, the fears that drive me. You discern my thoughts from afar. You know what I attempt to conceal from everyone else. You know why I do what I do, when I don't even know myself. You are ac-quainted with all my ways. You see the good things I do in secret, as well as the sinful things.
Forgive me and help me, gracious God. Help me lay aside my faithless fears. Forgive my inability to trust you in all things. Help me overcome the hurts of the past, and help me give up using them as excuses for my present situation. I am the work of your hand; fulfill your purpose for me. For the sake of Jesus Christ, Amen.

ACT OF PRAISE

Healing Is In Your Hands
Derick Claes and Mark Thomas

Carson/Nockels

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:18-20
(Common English Bible)

Liturgist: Betty Cornish

SONG OF REFLECTION - No. 382

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

SERMON

Wonders of the Kingdom

Rev. David Rennick

MISSION MOMENT

Jr./Sr. High Mission Trip Report

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

There Is a Balm in Gilead
Summer Choir

Helvey

*DOXOLOGY

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 HYMN - No. 701

When We All Get to Heaven

*BENEDICTION

Rev. David Rennick

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C Major
Ron Rhode, organ

*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 complete the *Online* attendance form or the *I'm Here* card found in your pew.

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON

Sermon Series: Wonders in the Bible
Sermon Title: The Virgin Birth of Jesus
You're invited to read *Matthew 1:18-25* each day in preparation for next Sunday.

New Member Information

Are you interested in learning more about First Church and/or becoming a member? Please contact the church office at 602-263-5013 or email cathy@firstchurch.church.

2025 Annual Conference Mission Project

This year, the Mission Project for the Desert Southwest Conference focused on feeding hungry individuals through local food pantries in Nevada. During the June Annual Conference, a total of **\$28,524.40** was collected!

Thank you for your incredible support and generosity. Your contributions are bringing hope and transformation to the lives of people in southern Nevada.

PRAYERS TO THE CONGREGATION

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

DEATH AND SERVICE

First Church is saddened to announce the death of **Earl Warner**, who passed on July 15. Services are currently pending.

First Church is saddened to announce the death of **Nancy Beck**, who passed on July 1. Nancy was a long-time member of First Church. Services: August 22 at 10 a.m. at FUMC.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (Celebrating 50 or more years of marriage)

Cliff and Rita Hotchkiss 7/21 Steve and Suzanne Haehl 7/28
Dennis and Barbara Rogers 7/31

SENIOR MILESTONES (Celebrating 80 or more birthdays)

Don Richardson 7/22 Liv Stevens 7/24 Grant Clayton 7/26

HOSTS

Marilyn Seese, Stephanie Grainer, Audrey Clayton, and Patricia Magyar

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCHES

Mission Bell UMC, Glendale; Mountain View UMC, Cottonwood

Volunteers Needed for First Church Tutoring Program

Please join a group of First Church tutors who assist and support students, kindergarten - 4th grade, in the Madison School District OASIS Intergenerational Tutoring Program. For more information, please contact Marie Morais Garber at 602-448-0419.



Sunday Adult Classes

Faith for Today Sunday School Class


Our class is a friendly, welcoming group. We meet to enhance our Christian beliefs and practices and how we can apply them to our everyday living. Our goals include outreach to fulfill local community needs and even beyond. We meet in Centennial Room between services.

The Table Sunday School Class

This class is a diverse, casual and welcoming group of people. It's a great class whether you're new to your faith journey or a seasoned veteran. Our discussion topics are always changing, class is loosely structured and no homework is required. We meet outside of class socially and have a goal of volunteering to serve the community quarterly. Join us in room 116!

The Upper Room Sunday School Class

In this class, we do detailed study of scripture. Currently, we are studying Colossians. Dr. Pat Dickerson, a New Testament scholar, leads us as we look at context, authorship, intended audience, specific words and how they are translated from the original text, and what was happening in the world in general. We meet in Epworth Room from 10 to 11 a.m. If you have questions please call Peggy Ward at 623-533-7381.



Blood Drive!

- Sunday, August 17, 2025
- 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Bloodmobile will be in the north parking lot
- Appointments are recommended!

Contact **Stephanie Espinoza** at 602-284-1258 or visit www.donors.vitalant.org (Blood Drive code: firstunited)