

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.

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 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.

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.

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.



Prayer
Prayer is useful in all ways of our life. There is no need, distress, or dilemma in our lives in which prayer will not be found to be a very present help and comfort. It has the power to bring our spiritual life into greater balance.

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)

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!

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

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](https://www.instagram.com/axiosunaltered) on social media for more information.

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!

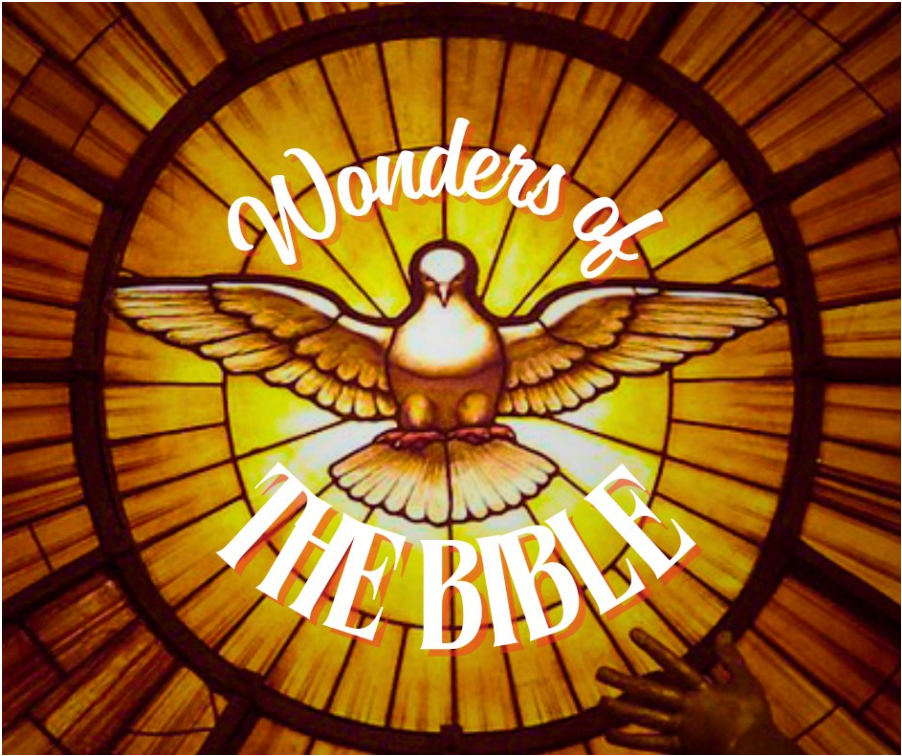


First United Methodist Church of Phoenix
5510 N Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85012
602-263-5013
www.firstchurch.church



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

July 20, 2025 • 9 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		
*Call to Worship	Liturgist: Brenda Schrader	
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 Song	Psalm 150 (Praise The Lord)	
*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	Sammi Burkhart, Communications Director	
Following the Children's Message, children ages pre-K to 5th grade are invited to follow the leaders to Kids Summer Class, located in Room 101 for fun, friendship and faith. Children are combining for weekly themed games, arts, crafts and more. At the end of the service, please pick children up from Room 101.		
*A Time of Praise	He Is Among Us (The Least of These) As It Is In Heaven	
Scripture Reading	Luke 10:18-20 (Common English Bible)	Liturgist: Brenda Schrader
Sermon	Wonders of the Kingdom	Rev. David Rennick
Mission Moment	Jr./Sr. High Mission Trip Report	
Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings		
Special Music	Healing Is In Your Hands Derick Claes and Mark Thomas	Carson/Nockels
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 Wonders
*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 complete the <i>Online</i> attendance form or the <i>I'm Here</i> card found in your pew.

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON
Sermon Series: <i>Wonders in the Bible</i> Sermon Title: <i>The Virgin Birth of Jesus</i> You're invited to read <i>Matthew 1:18-25</i> 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.

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.




Kids and Youth Ministries - Summer Schedule
Kids, Jr. High and Sr. High, have moved to summer hours for July! We'll be meeting Sundays from 9 - 10 AM 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!

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 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 Jeff Schrader, Steve Haehl, Patricia Magyar, and Janet Spiker
PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCHES Mission Bell UMC, Glendale; Mountain View UMC, Cottonwood

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.

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!

 Blood Drive!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sunday, August 17, 20258:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.Bloodmobile will be in the north parking lotAppointments are recommended!
Contact Stephanie Espinoza at 602-284-1258 or visit www.donors.vitalant.org (Blood Drive code: firstunited)	