

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.



Sunday Adult Classes Between Services at 10 a.m.

Faith for Today

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.

The Table

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

The Upper Room class is now doing a detailed study of the Gospel of John. Our leader is Dr. Pat Dickerson who has recently moved to Texas so we meet via Zoom. We invite you to join us in the Epworth Room. Bring your tablet, laptop or phone. A benefit of our Zoom sessions is that it is also possible to participate from home. Call Peggy Ward at 623-533-7381 if you have any questions.

First Church Logo Shirts

We will be placing an order soon for First Church logo shirts. These high-quality poly knit golf shirts are embroidered with the First Church logo and are available in various colors and sizes for men and women. The cost is \$35 for men and \$32 for women. Please contact the church office to learn more about sizes and colors at info@firstchurch.church or 602-263-5013.

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.

Happening This Week

Today

- 9 a.m. Worship - Contemporary
- 9 a.m. Children's Sunday School (Rooms 220, 221, 223)
- 10 a.m. Jr. and Sr. High Youth Sunday School (Room 103)
- 10 a.m. First Kids Choir (Room 106)
- 10 a.m. The Table Adult Class (Room 116)
- 10 a.m. Faith for Today Adult Class (Centennial Room)
- 10 a.m. Upper Room Adult Class (Epworth Room)
- 11 a.m. Worship - Traditional
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir (Room 106)
- 5:30 p.m. Jr. and Sr. Youth Dinner and Program (Room 103)
- 6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Asbury Hall)

Monday, April 20

- 8 a.m. Men's Monday Meet Up (Room 102)
- 12 p.m. Admin Prep (Conference Room)
- 2 p.m. Covenant Sisters - Monday (Virtual)
- 4 p.m. Foundation Investment Committee (Virtual)

Tuesday, April 21

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga (Not Meeting)
- 6 p.m. Finance Committee (Epworth Room)
- 6 p.m. Worship Committee (Room 116)
- 7 p.m. Axios (Room 102)

Wednesday, April 22

- 9 a.m. Weekday School Chapel (Sanctuary)
- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilting (Epworth Room)
- 10 a.m. Dressmakers Sewing (Epworth Room)
- 2:30 p.m. Cherub Choir (Room 106)
- 5:45 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6 p.m. Boy Scouts #41 (Asbury Hall)
- 6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Wesley Lounge)
- 7 p.m. Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
- 7:30 p.m. Al-Anon (Room 116)
- 8 p.m. Community Chorus

Thursday, April 23

- 9:30 a.m. Congregational Care Team (Library)
- 4:30 p.m. Yoga (Room 114)
- 6 p.m. Praise Choir (Choir Room)
- 7 p.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary)

Friday, April 24

- 7 a.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Wesley Lounge)

Saturday, April 25

- 2 p.m. Memorial Service - Willard "Buzz" Stevens

Next Sunday, April 26

- 9 a.m. Worship - Contemporary
- 9 a.m. Children's Sunday School (Rooms 220, 221, 223)
- 10 a.m. Jr. and Sr. High Youth Sunday School (Room 103)
- 10 a.m. First Kids Choir (Room 106)
- 10 a.m. The Table Adult Class (Room 116)
- 10 a.m. Faith for Today Adult Class (Centennial Room)
- 10 a.m. Upper Room Adult Class (Epworth Room)
- 11 a.m. Worship - Traditional
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Choir (Room 106)
- 5:30 p.m. Jr. and Sr. Youth Dinner and Program (Room 103)
- 6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Asbury Hall)

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.

April 19, 2026 • 11 a.m.



*If you need assistance at any time, please notify a host (usher). They are here to help ensure you feel welcomed and supported.

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 | Beckie Humphrey - Director of Weekday School |
| Javier Olivares - District Superintendent | Russ Morrow - Business Administrator |
| David Rennick - Senior Pastor | Cathy Fuentes - Office Manager |
| Don Campbell - Lay Leader | Christine Kyhn - Organist |
| Joshua Elder - Minister of Music | Dr. Elizabeth Leyva - Children/Youth Choirs |
| Sammi Burkhart - Director of Church Communication, Growth and Marketing | Dan Hawkins - Campus Superintendent |
| Julie Cochran - Children's Ministry | Calvin McGruder - Associate Campus Superintendent |
| Patricia Magyar - Congregational Care Coordinator | Karissa Morales - Custodian |
| | Ryan Newberry - Media Booth |

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

*Allemande from Suite V
Jesus Loves Me / Amazing Love
Christine Kyhn, organ*

J.S. Bach
C. Kyhn

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Patricia Magyar

One: God calls us to be holy and set apart.

All: In doing so, we will live lives shaped by His love.

One: God's guidance is not meant to be restrictive or controlling.

All: It's an act of love, and we will gratefully receive that love.

One: We will obey God, and in doing so, we will return God's love back to Him.

All: We obey, not out of obligation or legalism, but out of relationship with a God we intimately love, know, and trust.

One: Let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN - No. 111 *How Can We Name a Love*

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Patricia Magyar, Congregational Care
(Please register your attendance on the **Church Center** card found in your pew or **Online**.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist: Patricia Magyar

Dear Lord, You call us to be a people set apart, to be a reflection of You in how we live our everyday lives. Yet we know that what we claim to believe and the way we live are often at odds. We say we belong to You, but we are shaped by fear, culture, and other influences instead of by Your teachings. Help us see the heart behind Your guidance of us, not as control but as love, dedication, and designation. Help us to see You and pursue You the way You pursue us.

ACT OF PRAISE

Whoever Would Be Great Among You
Chancel Choir

Nelson

SCRIPTURE READING

Leviticus 19
(New International Version)

Liturgist: Patricia Magyar

SONG OF REFLECTION - No. 480

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

SERMON

Love Letters from Leviticus

Sammi Burkhart

HEARTFELT GIVING

Anne Bettis

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus
Chancel Choir

Parker

*DOXOLOGY

PASTORAL PRAYER

Sammi Burkhart

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. 384 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

*BENEDICTION

Sammi Burkhart

POSTLUDE

O Love, How Deep
Christine Kyhn, organ

P. Manz

*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 **Church Center** card found in your pew.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERMON

Sermon Series: Risen

Sermon Title: Risen: Hearing the Good Shepherd's Voice

You're invited to read **John 10:1-10** each day in preparation for next Sunday.

Men's Monday Meetup

Mondays at 8 a.m. in Room 102

Faith, Conversation, and Camaraderie

This week our theme is today's passage.

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, April 28**. The book for April is **North Woods** by Daniel Mason. We welcome all who love to read and discuss and travel the world through books.

Thank You to Girl Scout Troop #3462

We are very thankful to Girl Scout Troop #3462, led by Stevi Shearer, for restocking our food pantry shelves with much-needed supplies for our Friday Food Bags. Troop #3462 also makes hygiene kits for us to give away with our food bags. All of this is part of the troop's service to our church and our community.

PRAYERS TO THE CONGREGATION

PRAYER QUILT IN THE NARTHEX

A prayer quilt displayed in the narthex this morning is for **Lynda McCoy**. Lynda is a long-time member of FUMC. We invite you to stop, tie a knot, and pray for healing, grace and comfort.

PRAYERS FOR OUR SPECIAL CARE

Bob Young, Selena Alderman, Carolyn Allen, June Becker, Bill Carpenter, Ruth Clark, Mary Anne Cooper, Laura DeNinno, Yvonne Fischer, Barbara Harvey

IN MEMORY

First Church is saddened to announce the death of **Willard "Buzz" Stevens**, who passed on February 27. Services are scheduled for Saturday, April 25, at 2 p.m., at FUMC.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (Celebrating 50 or more years of marriage)

Jack and Susan Sneathen 4/22

SENIOR MILESTONES (Celebrating 80 or more birthdays)

John Ward 4/20 John Harapiak 4/24 Al Asendorf 4/25

HOSTS

Stephanie Grainer, Geoffrey Boadu, Ernie Shaver, and Dawn Torres-Rivas

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCHES

First UMC, Glendale, First UMC, Phoenix; First UMC, Sun City

Community Yoga Class at First Church

First United Methodist Church offers two weekly yoga classes to our community. Classes meet Tuesdays, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., and Thursdays, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$12 per class or four classes for \$40. Email the church office for more information: info@firstchurch.church.

New Member Class

Sunday, May 17, 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.

**INTO THE WILDERNESS AT
MINGUS SUMMER CAMP 2026**

June 14-19: Sr. High Beach Camp

July 1-3: Mini Camp

June 28-July 3: Elementary, Junior High, Senior High

July 12-17: Elementary Night Owls *NEW, Junior High Night Owls, Sr. High Night Owls

Registration is open now!
Scan the QR code for more information!

Street Festival at Iglesia Aliento

Iglesia Aliento invites you to a street festival on Sunday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., which will feature tacos, burgers, hot dogs, games, and face painting, as well as various booths that provide social services, including domestic violence counseling, and free clothing for those who need it. This is a great opportunity to support their ministry, have some fun, as well as socialize with other UMC churches who have been invited. Come join in!

*If you are also interested in volunteering at this event, please contact Dan Cox-Gonzalez at dcoxgonzalez@gmail.com or at 602-463-2197.