

### 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:

(6 months to 3 years old) - Room 109 (8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)  
 (Pre-K to Kinder) - Room 220  
 (1st to 2nd grade) - Room 221  
 (3rd to 5th grade) - Room 223



### Blood Drive!

- Sunday, June 14, 2026
- 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 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](http://www.donors.vitalant.org) (Blood Drive code: firstunited)

### Blue Prayer Cards

As we pray, we give up control of our life and give it to God. Pray and have patience for the answer as we wait upon the Lord.

### 4-Week Book Study: *The Alchemist*

Join Pastor David for a four-week journey through *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho—a timeless story about following your dreams, listening to your heart, and discovering the deeper meaning of life's journey.

Together, we'll explore themes of purpose, faith, courage, and the ways God can work through our hopes and longings. Whether you've read the book before or are encountering it for the first time, this will be a meaningful space for reflection, conversation, and connection.

- **Duration:** 4 weeks, Wednesday, May 27 through June 17, 10-11:30 a.m.
- **Book:** *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho (available through your favorite distributor)
- **Format:** Group reading with discussion and guided reflection.
- **Register:** Call the church office at 602-263-5013.

Come ready to share, listen, and grow as we consider how this story speaks into our own lives and journeys of faith.

### Pentecost Sunday, May 24

Please join us in wearing **red** to celebrate Pentecost.

### Annual Conference Mission Project 2026

#### The Solidarity Fund

Grounded in our United Methodist call to love our neighbor and seek justice, the Desert Southwest Conference has established a Solidarity Fund to support immigrants facing financial hardship amid increased immigration enforcement.

In many of our communities, detention and deportation leave family members behind. Those families still need to pay rent and other important bills, while they work to understand ways that they will continue to support themselves. Additionally, the fear of detention and deportation is keeping people from work, school, medical care, and essential services, placing immediate strain on families who are already vulnerable.

This fund offers direct, short-term assistance for basic needs such as rent, utilities, food, transportation, and medical expenses. By sharing our resources, we bear one another's burdens and offer a tangible witness to God's compassion and care for immigrants among us. Your generosity is a faithful act of solidarity with our immigrant siblings and neighbors, affirming the sacred worth of every person.

Our May Communion Rail Offering benefits The Solitary Fund to share our generosity in gratitude for God's compassion to others.

### Happening This Week

#### Today

- 9 a.m. Worship - Contemporary
- 9 a.m. Children's Sunday School (Rooms 220, 221, 223)
- 10 a.m. New Member Class (Wesley Lounge)
- 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. Graduation Celebration (Asbury Hall)
- 6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Wesley Lounge)

#### Monday, May 18

- 8 a.m. Men's Monday Meetup (Not Meeting, until further notice)
- 12 p.m. Admin Prep Group (Conference Room)
- 2 p.m. Covenant Sisters - Monday (Virtual)

#### Tuesday, May 19

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga (Room 114)
- 6 p.m. Finance Committee (Epworth Room)
- 6 p.m. Worship Committee (Room 116)

#### Wednesday, May 20

- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilting (Epworth Room)
- 2:30 p.m. Cherub Choir (Room 106)
- 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, May 21

- 9:30 a.m. Congregational Care Team (Library)
- 1 p.m. Power Up Lounge with Pastor David (Zoom)
- 4:30 p.m. Yoga (Not Meeting)
- 6 p.m. Praise Choir (Choir Room)
- 6 p.m. Knitty Witty Chain Gang (Wesley Lounge)
- 7 p.m. Compassionate Friends - The Greater Phoenix Chapter #1157 (Centennial Room)
- 7 p.m. Praise Band (Sanctuary)

#### Friday, May 22

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

#### Saturday, May 23 - no church events

#### Next Sunday, May 24

- 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
- 6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Asbury Hall)



FIRSTCHURCH  
UNITED METHODISTS OF PHOENIX

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

First United Methodist Church of Phoenix  
5510 N Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85012  
602-263-5013  
[www.firstchurch.church](http://www.firstchurch.church)

May 17, 2026 • 9 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                                     | Geoff Barkley - Morning Custodian            |
| Patricia Magyar - Congregational Care Coordinator                       | Karissa Morales - Evening Custodian          |
|   | Ryan Newberry - Media Booth                  |

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### \*Call to Worship

Liturgist: Robin Spencer

One: In the presence of God,  
**All: Toes tap to some heavenly chorus.**

One: Tears emerge from a hidden ache.  
**All: Silence descends like a gentle mist.**

One: Joy ascends like a rocket in the sky.  
**All: God is here ...**

One: Glad hearts are refreshed.  
**All: Sorrowing hearts find comfort.**

One: Broken hearts discover healing.  
**All: Searching hearts find home.**

One: Here in the presence of God,  
**All: We are made whole and sing our joyful songs of praise.**

### \*Opening Song *Praise*

### \*Sharing the Peace of Christ

**Welcome and Announcements** Rev. David Rennick  
(Please register your attendance on the *Church Center* card found in your pew or *Online*.)

### Scholarship Recipients Recognition

**Freshman:** Abby Goodman, Colby Rynders, Blake Standridge; **Sophomore:** Christopher Boadu; **Junior:** Ian Elder, Skye Goodman; **Senior:** Josh Boadu, Grace Cooper, Mattie Cork, Morgan Pinkerton, Mary Ellen Shaver;  
**Graduate Student:** David Whitaker

**The Sailor's Bible (abridged) by Tom S. Long and Allen Pole**  
Presented by First Youth Singers and FirstKids Choir

### Chapter 1: The Story of Jonah and the Great Fish

### Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings *Promises*

### Chapter 2: The Story of Paul's Shipwreck

**Scripture Reading** *Luke 24:50-53* Rev. David Rennick

**Reflection** *Witness to the World* Rev. David Rennick

**Pastoral Prayer** Rev. David Rennick

### 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 *My Lighthouse*

**\*Benediction** Rev. David Rennick

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\*For those who are able, please stand.

## PRAYERS TO THE CONGREGATION

### PRAYER QUILT IN THE NARTHEX

A prayer quilt displayed in the narthex this morning is for **Susie Salyers**. Susie is a friend of Susan Sneathen. We invite you to stop, tie a knot, and pray for healing, grace and comfort.

### PRAYERS FOR OUR SPECIAL CARE

Bonnie Rheame, Susan Secrest, Jim Unsworth, Elizabeth Vick, Selena Alderman, Carolyn Allen, June Becker, Bill Carpenter, Ruth Clark, Mary A. Cooper

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES (Celebrating 50 or more years of marriage)

Grier and Carolyn Cooper 5/13 William and Dana Devine 5/22

### SENIOR MILESTONES (Celebrating 80 or more birthdays)

Jack Sneathen 5/16 Gael Edwards 5/19  
Jean Hamsher 5/21 Bonnie Rheame 5/22

### HOSTS

Lance Scott, Jane Scott, and Janet Spiker

### PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCHES

First UMC, Yuma; Fort Yuma UMC; Gila Mountain UMC, Yuma

## 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.

## New Member Class Today, 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](mailto:cathy@firstchurch.church), so that we can prepare your new member packet.

## NEXT SUNDAY'S SERMON

**Sermon Series:** *Risen*  
**Sermon Title:** *Spirit-Filled Life*

You're invited to read *Acts 2:1-21* each day in preparation for next Sunday.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE VAN DRIVERS NEEDED

Van drivers are needed during the Annual Conference in Sun City to shuttle delegates to and from parking and the conference. If you are interested in learning more, please email [info@firstchurch.church](mailto:info@firstchurch.church). Various times Thursday through Sunday, June 18 - June 21.

## 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 26**. The book for May is *The Lost Bookshop* by Evie Woods. We welcome all who love to read and discuss and travel the world through books.

## POWER UP LOUNGE WITH PASTOR DAVID

*(Online Zoom Gathering)*

Join Pastor David each Thursday, **1:00–2:00 PM**, through June 11.

This is a time to connect for support and care, share and prayer, getting a head start on Sunday, and more.

### Join the gathering using the link below:

<https://dscumc.zoom.us/j/88689272753?pwd=CR2R5vLbgObdtDbBxfrEL6Z6PhTsT.1>

**Meeting ID:** 886 8927 2753

**Passcode:** Pastor

## THE SAILOR'S BIBLE (abridged)

By Tom S. Long and Allen Pote

Presented by First Youth Singers and FirstKids Choir

Directed and Accompanied by Dr. Elizabeth Leyva



### "The 30-minute Tour"

CHAPTER 1: THE STORY OF JONAH AND THE GREAT FISH

### "No Way, Not Me"

Soloists: Savannah Nieman, Greer Gentz, Trio: Alice Elder, Emma Jean Elder, Ruth

### "Jonah's Prayer"

Soloist: Abby Goodman

### "Nineveh Repents"

Soloists: Emma Jean Elder, Abby Goodman, Alex Rennick

CHAPTER 2: THE STORY OF PAUL'S SHIPWRECK

### "Good News"

Soloists: Abby Goodman, Alice Elder, Emma Jean Elder, Ruth

### "Paul's Shipwreck"

Angel descant: Scarlet Balila, Emma Jean Elder

### "Romans 8"

Soloists: Ruth, Alice Elder

### "Good News, Reprise"

## Cast

Storyteller 1	Abby Goodman
Storyteller 2	Emma Jean Elder
Sailor 1	Savannah Nieman
Storyteller 3	Paige Pinkerton
Jonah	Abby Goodman
Storyteller 4	Seth
First Mate	Alice Elder
Storyteller 5	Ruth
Sailor 2	Greer Gentz
Sailor 3	Alex Rennick
Sailor 4	Scarlet Balila
Cast Member 1	Blake Standridge
King of the Ninevites	Alex Rennick
Ninevites	Scarlet Balila, Savannah Nieman, Greer Gentz
Storyteller 6	Alice Elder
Paul	Paige Pinkerton
Storyteller 7	Blake Standridge
Religious Leaders	Scarlet Balila, Greer Gentz, Savannah Nieman, Alex Rennick
High Priest	Seth
Prison Guard	Ruth
Governor Festus	Emma Jean Elder
Ship's Crew	Abby Goodman, Greer Gentz
Ship's Captain	Seth
Centurion Julius	Ruth
Angel	Scarlet Balila
Storyteller 8	Abby Goodman
Storyteller 9	Paige Pinkerton

*Special Thanks to:* Joshua Elder, Ryan Newberry, Julie Cochran, Caitlynn Pulley & ALL OF OUR CHOIR PARENTS!