

### 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., in Room 109, and welcomes infants through 3 years old. Ask any host for directions to the nursery.

### Summertime...and the livin' is easy...

*Love to sing?  
Love to make music with others?  
Love air conditioning?*

If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, then you should join us for...

### Summer Choir!

Beginning June 14, we will hold regular Sunday morning Summer Choir rehearsals from 10:10 to 10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary. During this time, we will put together anthems that are simple and straightforward – easy enough to sing at the 11 a.m. worship service!

In addition to the Sunday morning rehearsals, we will come together for 3 special Wednesday night rehearsals. These rehearsals will take place at 7 p.m. on June 10, July 8, and August 5. These supplementary rehearsals will give us a chance to look at the pieces for the coming Sundays. Even if you cannot make Wednesday night rehearsals, you are encouraged to participate in Summer Choir!

Come sing with us!

For more information, please contact Joshua Elder:  
[Joshua@firstchurch.church](mailto:Joshua@firstchurch.church)

### Strategic Plan

Church leaders have developed a comprehensive Strategic Plan to guide the next few years. It is centered around our vision of being an inclusive community of faith where ANYONE can experience the goodness and grace of God. Built from congregational input, it outlines key goals to help our ministries grow in a sustainable and vibrant way. The plan will be actively monitored, with regular updates and adjustments to ensure we're not just creating a plan, but truly living it. Please scan this QR Code to read the Strategic Plan document.



### 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](mailto:info@firstchurch.church) or 602-263-5013.

### 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, June 23**. The book for June is *The Keepers of the House* by Shirley Ann Grau. We welcome all who love to read and discuss and travel the world through books.

### 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!

### 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 Burkhardt or search @axiosunaltered on social media for more information.

### Happening This Week

#### Today

9 a.m. Worship - Contemporary  
9 a.m. Summer Kids and Youth Sunday School (Room 221)  
10 a.m. Children's and Youth Crafts (Room 222)  
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  
5:15 p.m. Sunday Night Bookworms (Centennial Room)  
6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Asbury Hall)

#### Monday, June 22 - no church events

#### Tuesday, June 23

9:30 a.m. Yoga (Room 114)  
1:30 p.m. Afternoon Book Club (Room 116)  
5 p.m. Trustees (Epworth Room)  
6 p.m. Church Council (Epworth Room)  
7 p.m. Axios (Room 102)

#### Wednesday, June 24

9:30 a.m. Prayer Quilting (Epworth Room)  
10 a.m. Dressmakers Sewing Group (Epworth Room)  
6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Wesley Lounge)  
7:30 p.m. Al-Anon (Room 116)

#### Thursday, June 25

9:30 a.m. Congregational Care Team (Library)  
4:30 p.m. Yoga (Room 114)

#### Friday, June 26

7 a.m. AA-Solution on Central (Room 102)

#### Saturday, June 27 - no church events

#### Next Sunday, June 28

9 a.m. Worship - Contemporary  
9 a.m. Summer Kids and Youth Sunday School (Room 221)  
10 a.m. Kids and Youth Crafts (Room 222)  
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 p.m. Summer Youth Program (Room 103)  
5:15 p.m. Sunday Night Bookworms (Centennial Room)  
6:30 p.m. AA Group - Solution on Central (Asbury Hall)

### Summer Schedule Update – Kids & Youth Ministries

Kids, Jr. High and Sr. High have moved to summer hours for June, July, and August. All-ages Sunday School will be meeting 9-10 a.m. in room 221. Kids and Youth crafts and games will be available between services 10-11 a.m. in room 222.

There will be no regular evening Youth Group meetings over the summer, but there are lots of fun activities and service events planned. Please contact [julie@firstchurch.church](mailto:julie@firstchurch.church) with any questions or to be added to the invite list. And finally, save the date for Sunday, August 30, for our End of Summer/Back to Sunday School kick-off celebration to be held from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the grassy courtyard area. Kids Church, Youth Sunday School, and evening Youth Group will return to regular school-year hours.



First United Methodist Church of Phoenix  
5510 N Central Avenue  
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**FIRSTCHURCH**  
UNITED METHODISTS OF PHOENIX

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

### June 21, 2026 • 11 a.m. Father's Day Sunday



\*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 Burkhardt - Director of Church Communication, Growth and Marketing	Dan Hawkins - Campus Superintendent
Julie Cochran - Director of Next Gen Ministry	Geoff Barkley - Morning Custodian
Patricia Magyar - Congregational Care Coordinator	Karissa Morales - Evening Custodian
	Ryan Newberry - Media Booth

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Children of the Heavenly Father* D. Wood  
*Faith of Our Fathers* C. Kyhn  
Christine Kyhn, organ

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

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist: Sam Thumma

One: Come, all who have wandered. God still calls your name.

**All: Come, all who have run from hardship. God's grace is deeper than our fear.**

One: We have chased comfort, distraction, and escape. Yet God continues to pursue us in love.

**All: Even at the edge of the world, even in the middle of the storm, God does not abandon His people.**

One: We come to worship the God who never stops pursuing us.

**All: Let us worship God together.**

\*OPENING HYMN - No. 400 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Liturgist: Sam Thumma

**Merciful God, You call us toward surrender, toward trust, toward obedience, and so often, we resist. Sometimes we run loudly and dramatically. Sometimes we run quietly within our hearts. We distract ourselves. We numb ourselves. We choose comfort over courage and avoidance over faithfulness. We choose ourselves over You. Forgive us for the ways we turn away from Your heart. Forgive us for the days we'd rather flee than follow. Please convict us about the things we run from and run to, and please continue pursuing us back to Your heart always. In the name of the God who commands the land, the sky, and the sea. Amen.**

ACT OF PRAISE *I Am Resolved* Hartsough, arr. Pethel  
Summer Choir

SCRIPTURE READING *Jonah 1* Liturgist: Sam Thumma

SONG OF REFLECTION - No. 402 *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

SERMON *Avoiding the Assignment* Sammi Burkhart

SHARING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *The Love of God* Mullins  
Joshua Elder, soloist

\*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. 398 *Jesus Calls Us*

\*BENEDICTION Sammi Burkhart


POSTLUDE *Rise Up, O Men of God* S. Bingham  
Christine Kyhn, organ


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\*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 in your pew.

 **Electronic Giving Made Easy**  
Use the new Church Center mobile app to give to First Church with convenient and secure electronic methods, including credit card, debit card, bank transfer from savings or checking, and Apple Pay. Scan this QR code to get started. Thank you!



### NEXT SUNDAY'S SERMON

**Preaching:** Sammi Burkhart  
**Sermon Title:** *On the Hook*

You're invited to read **Jonah 3 and 4** each day in preparation for next Sunday.

### Communion Offering

Our Communion Offering for the month of June is in honor of **Peace with Justice** ministries. This fund supports United Methodist ministries that work toward social justice locally and globally. They work for the justice and dignity of all people, peaceful solutions to problems, and help train leaders to create social transformation within our world.

### Thank You to Our Weekday School Director

With deep gratitude, we announce that Beckie Humphrey will retire on July 10 from her role as Director of the Weekday School, following thirty years of dedicated service. We give thanks for her faithful leadership and the lasting impact she has made in the lives of students and their families.

Expressions of appreciation and gratitude may be sent to the church office.

### PRAYERS TO THE CONGREGATION

#### PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

A prayer quilt displayed in the narthex this morning is for **Sally Coughanour**. Sally is a friend of Marcia Boyer. We invite you to stop, tie a knot, and pray for healing, grace and comfort.

#### PRAYERS FOR OUR SPECIAL CARE

Bill Carpenter, Ruth Clark, Mary Anne Cooper, Laura DeNinno, Yvonne Fischer, Barbara Harvey, Barbara K. Johnson, Vickie Johnson, Ronda Klein

#### WEEKLY PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Jim Hyde and Tom Rice

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

Larron and Karen Horton 6/22

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

Ann Flaherty 6/25 Lyn Warder 6/27

#### HOSTS

Audrey Clayton, Stephanie Grainer, and Geoff Boadu

#### PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCHES

Haven UMC, Jerome; Lakeview UMC, Sun City; Liberty UMC, Buckeye

### UMCOR Trip in September

One final trip to the Sager Brown UMCOR Depot is planned for September 20-25, 2026. This adult mission trip to Baldwin, Louisiana, is the "next time" you've been waiting for! Come along to the hub of relief supply operations, which responds to disasters in the U.S. We are headed back one last time before the depot closes at the end of 2026. Volunteer opportunities include working on relief kits and serving in the local community. Thanks to Janet Spiker's leadership and our Foundation for approving coverage of some expenses, this is an experience you don't want to miss! Spaces are limited, and the July 14 registration deadline is approaching. Interested or just want to learn more? Contact the church office today!

### Blue Prayer Cards

Pray daily. It is the starting place for everything in our life. Have patience and wait for God's nudging. And always know that God has a plan to give you a future with hope.

### Summer Voice Class for Adults

Do you love to sing? This class is free of charge and appropriate for all skill levels, whether you've never sung before or are already an accomplished singer. No prior experience or training is necessary. The class begins Thursday, July 9, and will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-7:30 p.m., in room 106, through Tuesday, August 11, for a total of 10 sessions. To sign up, or if you have questions, contact Dr. Elizabeth Leyva at [elizabeth@firstchurch.church](mailto:elizabeth@firstchurch.church) or call the church office to leave a message. Space is limited so sign up today!!



### Blood Drive!

The results of the blood drive are in! On Sunday, June 14, we had 9 signed up to begin the blood drive, then 12 ended up signing in.

A total of 4 folks were deferred for varying reasons, with 5 successful whole blood donations and 3 power red donations.

And there were 10 blood products yielded and up to 16 lives saved. Next blood drive is August 16.

### Here's the Scoop on Our Incoming Pastor, Mike Wilkerson - Part 2

Pastor Mike's call to ministry began while serving in various roles at Song of Life UMC in Queen Creek, Arizona. He discerned a deeper calling and became an ordained elder. In 2018, Mike attended Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, completing his studies over three years. Upon graduation, he was appointed pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Yuma, where he served for two years.