



500 East Colorado Boulevard
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STATEMENT OF INCLUSION



All people are welcome at First United Methodist Church. We are proudly part of the Reconciling Ministries Network and welcome all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, and education, socio-economic or marital status.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME HERE!

Nursery Care

(Infant–4 years old)

Nursery care is available every Sunday from 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

No Sunday School Today

Questions? Early Pick Up? See the Children's Ministry Superintendent in the Children's Ministry Office.

INDIGENOUS LAND

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We, acknowledge that the land upon which we worship was the ancestral homeland of the Tongva People for thousands of years. Approximately two thousand Tongva people still live in the Los Angeles area. We honor their connection to this region and give thanks for the opportunity to live, work, worship and learn on this sacred land.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING TOGETHER

Welcome to Worship. We are so glad that you are joining us today. We invite you to open your spirit to this time of worship, song, prayer, inspiration and challenge.

In consideration of others, please silence electronic devices.

“+” indicates to stand in body or spirit as you choose.

PRELUDE

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

+ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

All things bright and beautiful,

God created for our enjoyment.

All things wrenching and hard,

God holds with tender care.

You and I, neighbors and strangers, friends and enemies,

God loves without condition.

So let us worship God.

+ OPENING HYMN

This is My Song

UMH 437

+ WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

This Little Light of Mine

UMH 585

Children are invited to come forward or remain seated.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

CENTERING SONG

Be Thou My Vision

UMH 451

Be Thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Moment for Silent Meditation

IN OUR PRAYERS...

As a community of faith, let us hold these persons in our prayers:

Newly Added: Gerry Poulin

For Healing: Joyce Breslin, Lisa Brown, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Patricia Bruce, Albert Davis, Mary Davis, Juliette De Guzman, Joyce Dorn, John Evans, Zina Figilis, Brett Hain, Sofia Hain, Muriel Henderson, Sallie Higginbotham, Norman Jensen, Stephen Kastner, Helen Kinel, Veronica Kung, David Madrid, Charif Masri, Jocelyn Medina, Aidan Millsap, Gail Nance, Carol Nunemaker, Katherine Olivas, Leslie Parham, Tommy Parham, Paula Anderson Peacock, Crystal Powers, Jim Prior, Donna Shook, Frances Smith, Jeffrey Stephens, Tim Sun, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Nadine Wittry and family, Sonia Wittry, Richard Zeiss.

Prayer requests may be shared via connect@fumcpasadena.org and we will gladly add them.

LET'S CONNECT!

Connect cards are located at the back of the chapel. Please use a Connect Card to provide or update your contact information, for information on church programs, make a prayer request or communicate a message to our pastors. Place completed cards in the offering plate near the back of the chapel. If you are part of the Connected (Online) Campus, send an email to connect@fumcpasadena.org.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 96: 1-9

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord; bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.
Worship the Lord in holy splendor;
tremble before him, all the earth.

The Word of God, for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

HYMN SING!

Join us as we sing a selection of favorite hymns.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

OFFERTORY

How Can I Keep From Singing

Robert Lowry

Soloist, Cynthia Crass

+PRESENTATION MUSIC *Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above* UMH 96

God, in whom they move and live,
let every creature sing,
glory to their Maker give,
and homage to their King.
Hallowed be thy name beneath,
as in heaven on earth adored;
praise the Lord in every breath,
let all things praise the Lord.

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, your creative presence makes the earth abundant.
In your love, You provide us with what is needed.
Through this offering, we participate in your work.
May our lives and this church bear witness to your love, justice and compassion,
for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN

The Trees of the Field

TFWS 2279

BLESSING OF A PRAYER QUILT

Today we tie prayers of appreciation and gratitude into a quilt for Cynthia Crass for her 25 years of dedication to the Music and Drama Ministry.

+BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!

Aaron Shows (b. 1989)

**OFFERING TO GOD OUR HEARTS,
OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS**

Giving supports all of the ministries of the church, making it possible for us to offer ministries of hope, hospitality, service and compassion in Pasadena, and around the world.

If you'd like to partner with us and make a financial gift today, you may use your phone to scan the QR code below.



**JOIN US IN SUPPORT OF
THOSE AFFECTED BY THE
WILDFIRES IN HAWAII.**

We are praying for those impacted by the recent wildfires in Maui. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is coordinating with the California-Pacific Annual Conference (Cal-Pac) to help. You can donate to their efforts by scanning the QR code below.



FLOWERS

Altar Flowers are given today to the glory of God by the First UMC Music Ministry and Congregation in celebration of Cynthia Crass.

We thank Cynthia for over 25 years of dedication to the Music and Drama Ministry.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

For more information, email us at connect@fumcpasadena.org

TODAY

Sunday Potluck and Swim -

Roger and Marilynne Wilander are hosting a potluck and pool party at their home for those who have RSVPd. Hope to see you there!

COMING UP



Get Your Old Sneakers Ready for Rally Day on Sept. 10 -

The Drama Committee continues to collect used sneakers to recycle both for the environment and to earn a little money for the summer musical program. Please bring used sneakers (no other shoes or sandals) to Rally Day and drop them in the recycling box near the Drama table. On other Sundays, the recycling box sits on the table in the southeast corner of Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, contact [Pam Marx](#). Thank you.

New Spirit Seekers Class September 17 from 8:45 to 9:50 a.m. in the Church Lounge -

The first text to be covered this season is the book *Life Worth Living: A Guide to What Matters Most* by Miroslav Volf, Matthew Croasmun, and Ryan McNally Linz (all professors and scholars at the Yale Center of Faith and Culture). There are copies available for \$23 in the church office (limited availability).

Family Promise - We will have our final Family Promise hosting of the year on the week of 9/17 – 9/23. Overnight hosts are still needed for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. A dinner host is needed for Wednesday night. Sign up at Fellowship Hall Sundays. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Beth Gerber at beth@lighttext.com.

New Disciple Bible Study Course -

This Fall, Pastor Amy will be leading *Disciple Bible Study: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study*.

This small group Bible study is a completely virtual, app-based version of the internationally-known, transformative DISCIPLE Bible Study. There are 24 sessions covering Genesis to Revelation (12 covering the Old Testament and 12 covering the New Testament).

You do not need to know anything about the Bible to participate. Simply commit to the 30 minutes needed five days a week to complete assignments and participate in community discussion threads and commit to joining your small group on the weekly 90-minute online meetings.

Important dates:

- Day 1 of daily study will be September 14.
- Our 90 minute weekly meeting will take place on Wednesday evenings starting at 7:00 pm and ending at 8:30 pm.

Pastor Amy can have up to 15 people join her study group. Priority will be given to those who have never taken Disciple Bible Study before.

To learn more about the study and the app, visit BeADiscipleApp.com and be sure to watch both videos.

See this week's News@First email for more details on how to join the group.

TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Worship (Chapel)
- 11:00: Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)

FIRST UMC STAFF AND LAY LEADERSHIP

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Amy Aitken

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Mina Nau-Mahe

Director of Music Ministries:

Scott Lehmkuhl

Organist:

Aaron Shows

Ministry Coordinator:

Dori Fotsch

Facilities Manager:

Aisha Williams

Finance Manager:

Tim Sun

Communications Director:

Ashley Slade

Lay Leader:

Kevin Lussier

Intentional Faith Development Lay Leader:

Mikala Rahn

Extravagant Generosity Ministry Lay Leader:

J.P. Harris

Risk-Taking Mission Ministry Lay Leader:

Rosalie Niemann

Passionate Worship Lay Leader:

Paul Audley

Director of Media Ministries

Dave Lohr

Guest Vocalist

Cynthia Crass

Today's Worship Leader:

Sue Sun