



500 East Colorado Boulevard
Pasadena, California 91101
(626) 796-0157
www.fumcpasadena.org

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.

Children's Sunday School and Music (PreK–6th Grade)
We will have One Room Sunday School in Room 201 during worship. Child Pick Up (for ages 4+) is in Room 202 at 11:00 a.m.

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.

AUGUST 20, 2023

TWENTIETH 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

Meditation on "The Servant Song"

Richard Gillard (b. 1953)

+ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

As we gather this morning, let us proclaim:

We are people of God's peace,

Seeking the path of Christ.

We are people of God's peace,

Longing to live in peace with everyone.

We are people of God's peace,

Praying and acting for peace in our world.

We are people of God's peace,

Gathered together in this place.

Let us worship with joy.

+ OPENING HYMN

The Servant Song

TFWS 2222

+ WELCOME AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Halle, Halle, Halleluja

TFWS 2026

Children are invited to come forward or remain seated.
Sunday School begins after the Time for Young Christians.
As the children gather, we sing together.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

CENTERING SONG

Lord, Be Glorified

TFWS 2150

In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In our lives, Lord, be glorified, today.
In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified, today.

Moment for Silent Meditation

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Newly Added: Joyce Breslin, David Madrid, Paula Anderson Peacock

For Healing: Lisa Brown, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Patricia Bruce, Albert Davis, Mary Davis, Juliette De Guzman, Joyce Dorn, John Evans, Zina Figilis, Brett Hain, Muriel Henderson, Sallie Higginbotham, Norman Jensen, Stephen Kastner, Helen Kinel, Veronica Kung, Charif Masri, Jocelyn Medina, Aidan Millsap, Gail Nance, Carol Nunemaker, Katherine Olivas, Leslie Parham, Tommy Parham, 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.

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Galatians 5:13-15, 5:22, 6:2

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things, there is no law.

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

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

SERMON

The Sacred Ordinary: Passing the Peace Pastor Amy Aitken

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AMONG US

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious Lord,
you created the whole world and called it good,
but we look out at your world and see division and suffering.
You call us to maintain the unity of spirit in the bond of peace,
but we choose division over diversity, confrontation over civility,
conflict over peace born from justice.
You call us to love the least of these among us,
but we hear the cries of the oppressed and choose our own comfort.
We allow senseless suffering rather than sacrifice for our neighbors. Forgive us.
Grant us fresh vision to see one another as siblings in Christ. Rekindle in us your gifts — the spirit of power, love and self-discipline — that with faith in Christ, we might be made new and be part of bringing forth your peaceable kingdom. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

His Eye is on the Sparrow arr. Mark Hayes
Eleen Hsu-Wentlandt, soloist

+PRESENTATION MUSIC

Holy, Holy, Holy UMH 64

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Creating God, you call us to join in your work of love in the world, and you equip us with all we need to follow your lead. Now make us generous of hand, heart, and mind, as you are. As we return to you a portion of your gifts, we pray you would receive them as a sign of our gratitude for your unending love, and guide us as we offer our whole selves in your service, seeking your abundant life for all. Amen.

GOING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

+CLOSING HYMN

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace TFWS 2171

+BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata in G Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND PRACTICES TO ENGAGE

What are some times in you day or seasons in your life when you've had to wait?

What is waiting like for you—What do you feel as you wait?

What relationship do you see between waiting, hope, and celebration? How have you seen these related in your own life?

Notice your reaction to times where you are forced to wait this week. Reflect on what your response reveals about your view of time.

**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.



UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

TODAY

Turn-A-Page Book Group will meet today at 11:30 a.m. in the Church Lounge to discuss *The World in a Grain* by Vince Beiser.

All are welcome to join in the discussion, even if you haven't read the book.

COMING UP

Family Promise - We will have our final Family Promise hosting the week of 9/17 – 9/23. If you missed out on the last opportunity, would like to volunteer again or are interested in participating for the first time, we'd love to have you! Sign up at Fellowship Hall Sundays in August or if you have questions or need more information, please contact Beth Gerber at beth@lighttext.com.

Hymn Sing - On Sunday, September 3 we want YOU to choose the music! What is your favorite hymn? Send your selection to connect@fumcpasadena.org and we will try to include it in worship.

Rally Day Fiesta! - Join us for worship, tacos, and a ministry fair on Sunday, September 10. Find study groups, fellowships, and ministries to join. Celebrate the new season with us!

Register for All Church Labor Day Camp - Join us for a fun weekend at Camp Sky Meadows, Sept. 1-4. Information and registration will be available after in Fellowship Hall and the church office.

The deadline for registering for camp is August 20. If you are planning to attend, please register soon!

Are you a registered nurse? We are looking for a nurse to travel to camp with us and attend for FREE! Please contact the church office if you are interested: 626-796-0157

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:

- The Orientation meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 pm.
- Day 1 of daily study will be September 14.
- Our 90 minute weekly meeting will take place on Wednesday evenings starting a 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)
- 11:30: Turn-a-Page Book Group (Church Lounge)

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:
Eleen Hsu-Wentlandt

Today's Worship Leader:
Randy Godshall