



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.

Children's Sunday School and Music (PreK–6th Grade)

Children age 3 yrs. through 6th grade are invited to Sunday School after the Children's Sermon in Worship, followed by Children's Music for children 4 and up. (3 year olds will go to the nursery following Sunday School.) Child Pick Up (for ages 4+) is in Room 202 at 12:00 p.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.

APRIL 23, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / EARTH DAY / NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

GATHERING TOGETHER

Welcome to Worship. We are so glad that you are joining us today. We worship God in ways that are both ancient and modern, steeped in church tradition and open to God's ongoing call in our lives. 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.

TOLLING THE BELLS

As the bell tolls, we invite you to simply pause as we center our hearts, our spirits, and our bodies in God's presence.

PRELUDE

Prelude on "For the Beauty of the Earth" Andrew Fletcher (b. 1950)

+ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

God comes to us in unexpected places.
In our isolation, when our fears keep us locked behind closed doors.
God comes to us on dusty roads, as we go from place to place.
God comes to us in casual conversations with friends,
and the beauty of Creation that calls us beyond ourselves.

God, You come bringing us peace, where there is no peace
God, You come bringing us hope when everything seems hopeless
God, You come bringing us courage when we are afraid.

**Come and be among us now, in every place where we are.
Open our eyes to see you, open our hearts to know you, open minds to recognize you in our lives and in all of Creation.**

+ OPENING HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth UMH 92 (vs. 1-4)

+ 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.

Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halle, Halle, Halleluja!
Halleluja! Halleluja!

IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Newly Added: John Evans, Zina Figilis

For Healing: Patricia Bruce, Lorraine Chavez, Phil Chavez and Family, Mary Davis, Joyce Dorn, Juliette De Guzman, Ivonne Munguia, Gail Nance, Ann and Neal Dougherty, Brett Hain, Sofia and Woody Hain, Rob Hayes, Sallie Higginbotham, Norman Jensen, Janice Jones, Stephen Kastner, David Kinel, Tom Kosakowski, Jocelyn Medina, Kaz Mousavi, Johnathan Nieto, Carol Nunemaker, Kirsten Oh and Family, Tommy Parham, Crystal Powers, Jim Prior, Celina Romero, Wayne Schenck, Ha-yeong Shin, Donna Shook, Jill Shook, Phyllis Underwood and family, Wendy Stiver, Deb and Gary Webster, Jan Wentz, Sonya 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 in each pew. 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 boxes near the back and parking lot doors to the sanctuary. If you are part of the Connected (Online) Campus, send an email to connect@fumcpasadena.org.

GATHERING OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

CENTERING SONG

Holy Ground (TFWS 2272)

We are standing on holy ground,
and I know that there are angels all around;
let us praise Jesus now;
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

Moment for Silent Meditation

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

GOSPEL READING

Luke 24: 13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES @ FIRST UMC

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

TODAY

Earth Day Celebration! Today we will celebrate the Earth and how we can be kind to it by weaving positive practices into our daily lives.

We will have lots of activities on our Colorado Blvd. patio celebrating the earth and sharing ways we can take better care of our environment. This year's theme is "Buy Less, Use Longer, Upcycle."

We will also have our Blessing of the Animals event. Friendly pets are welcome to join us for worship, or be retrieved and brought back to the church for a blessing.

Movie Night at 5:45 p.m. in the Church Lounge - We'll be watching "The Mission" featuring Jeremy Irons and Robert De Niro with exquisite music composed by Ennio Moricone and beautiful cinematography including Iguacu Falls.

COMING UP

Earth Day Follow-up Sunday Conversation - Earth Day Sunday can bring a number of things into our awareness that are challenging; everything from what we eat, how we prepare food, what we wear, and the overall issue of sustainability and stewardship. For further conversation, we will have a Sunday Conversation after worship on May 7 at 11:15 a.m. in Room 205.

Messenger Magazine - We want to share your FUMC story in the Messenger! How and when did you decide to come to FUMC? What is important to you about this community? Share your thoughts and stories with us. Email Ashley by May 8.

Please join the **Turn-A-Page Book Group** on May 21 at 11:30 a.m. in the Church Lounge to discuss this month's Choice: *The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom.

Corrie ten Boom and her family became leaders in the Dutch Underground, hiding Jewish people in their home in a specially built room and aiding their escape from the Nazis. For their help, all but Corrie found death in a concentration camp. *The Hiding Place* is their story.

Even if you haven't read the book, please feel free to join the discussion.

There is a **Camp Committee Meeting** on Tuesday, April 25 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Please contact Danny Carrera for more information.

No Vacation Bible School this Summer - We are taking a little vacation from Vacation Bible School this summer! Due to staff transitions and a lack of available lay leadership, we will not be able to have VBS this summer. If this is a program you love, be thinking about how you might be able to support the program next year!

A memorial service will be held for Howard Underwood on May 20 at 10:00 a.m. in our church sanctuary with a reception to follow. The Underwood family requests donations be made to First UMC in honor of Howard's 71 years of friendship and faithful service at the church. We hope you will join us in celebration of his life.

TODAY AT FIRST UMC

- 10:00 a.m.: Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00: Earth Day Celebration
- 12:00 p.m.: Youth Bell Choir (rm 204)
- 12:45: Adult Bell Choir (rm 204)
- 4:30: Youth Choir (Choir Room)
- 5:30: Youth Group & Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:45: Movie Night

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Earth Day and the birthday of Rosalie Niemann.

FIRST UMC STAFF AND LAY LEADERSHIP

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Amy Aitken

Director of Intentional Faith Development:

Rev. Jennifer Chapman

Minister of Hospitality & Congregational Care:

Rev. Connie Tamkin

Director of Music Ministries:

Scott Lehmkuhl

Organist:

Aaron Shows

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

Today's Worship Leader:

Stone Ma