

## *This Church Is A Place For You!*

A long time ago, a handful of people with God-sized dreams came together in the little farming community of Glendale, Arizona. They envisioned a place where the community could gather, where every mouth would be fed, and lonely hearts could find friendship. They dreamed of a place where broken hearts could be healed, troubles could be transformed into opportunities and unrealized dreams and visions renewed. It was a place where parents could feel the support of a community as they took up the challenge of raising children. It was a place where one's actions were as important as one's words and prejudice was checked at the door. Everyone would feel welcome in this place.



That place still exists today! The God-sized dreams that birthed this church are still being pursued today. At First United Methodist Church of Glendale,, we believe the Book (Bible) is not a weapon to throw around but a book that challenges us to be more like Jesus. We believe the church is a gift from God given to the world. We believe that goodness is stronger than evil, that love is more powerful than hate. We believe that light is more powerful than darkness, and that life is what we possess here and now. We believe God intended our world to be rich in color, language, culture and race.

This Church is a place for you! All are welcome in this place. Here children are safe and secure, to learn, explore and grow. Here you can dare to dream God-sized dreams. Here hope breaks free from hopelessness and all bear the image of God's face. Here we learn how to forgive and be forgiven, how to love and be loved. This place is an awesome place! It's God's house, God's people and it's here for you.

On behalf of the members, friends, and supporters of First United Methodist Church, I want to welcome you to our website. I invite you to look at opportunities to worship, to grow, to serve and be part of a wonderful community of faith. This Sunday I invite you worship with us. Come as you are. Come and worship. Come and pray. Come and share your hopes, your dreams, and visions. This Church is a place for you!

*Rev. Kim Gladding, Senior Pastor*