



This Week at a Glance...

- Chancel Singers Rehearsal: Sunday 9:00 a.m.
- Pre-Lenten Adult Sessions: Sunday 9:10 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.
- Sunday Worship: "Alter-Notes" and Ringing Bells 10:30 a.m.
- Alter-Notes Rehearsal: Sunday 12:00 - 12:45
- Prayer Chapel: Tuesday 11:00 a.m. Meeting Room 2
- Lenten Series: Wednesday 5:30 p.m.
- Pastor's Bible Study: Thursday 9:30 a.m.
- Bell Choir Rehearsal: Thursday 11:00 a.m.

FROM THE PASTOR

As we continue our Lenten journey, Sunday's text is Mark 8:31-38. Jesus tells his disciples to deny themselves, take up their cross and follow him. Tough talk, but Mark's gospel pulls no punches when it comes to discipleship. The Dietrich Bonhoeffer quote about Christ calling us to come and die comes to mind. What would it mean for spoiled Americans to take up our cross? Many might have the view of the little boy in Sunday school class who answered the question about taking up one's cross by saying: "My mom says my dad is her cross to bear." We will wrestle with this command Sunday and find some modern applications. Don't worry, it's not all gloom!



Grace & Peace,
Jay

Sermon Notes

Mark 8:31-38 "The Paradox of Taking Up Our Cross"

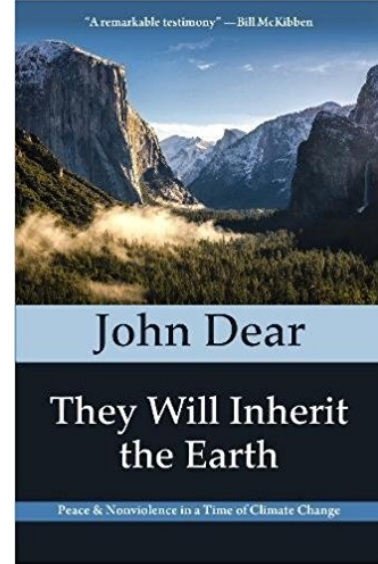
- Taking up cross is not denying our person, being abused or victim
- Taking up cross heard differently by men and women
- Taking up cross heard differently by first century Jews and modern Americans
- Taking up cross is something you choose to do
- Taking up cross is connected to following Jesus
- Taking up cross is aligning ourselves with Jesus' Reign - against other rulers
- Taking up cross begs the question: when does our faith cost us something?
- Paradox of cross like the paradox of life The Apostle Paul's testimony in Galatians 2:20

Prescott Peacebuilders Book-signing

Mar. 3, 2018, 3:00 PM - 04:30 PM

Granite Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation | Prescott,
86301

Prescott PeaceBuilders present an afternoon reading, reflection and book-signing with longtime activist, priest and author John Dear as he introduces his new book, "They Will Inherit the Earth" on Saturday, March 3rd at Granite Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 882 Sunset in Prescott. Talk and book signing 3 to 4:30 followed by a potluck meal. For more



information, prescottpeacebuilders@gmail.com.

<https://www.dcourier.com/events/2018/mar/03/an-afternoon-with-john-dear-ec5d90c2/?et=2730>

WHITE PRIVILEGE SERIES WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30 PM AND WILL INCLUDE A SOUP MEAL!

LENTEN SERIES STARTS WENESDAYS AT 5:30 PM AND INCLUDES SOUP MEAL

Second Gathering - February 28
"Talking About Race and America"

Third Gathering - March 7
"Talking About Race and Church"

Fourth Gathering - March 14
"The Cash Value of Whiteness"

Fifth Gathering - March 21
"Spiritual Autobiographies Told Through the Lens of Race"

Sixth Gathering - March 28
"On Becoming an Ally"



SPRING FLING & SEMI FORMAL



Would anyone be interested in attending a Spring Fling Semi-Formal social dance in Perkins Hall in May? It would be ballroom type music supplied by a D.J. or a small dance

band. The per person cost would be set to cover expenses. Don't know how to ballroom dance? Not a problem. Free weekly lessons would be offered long before the actual dance. Before we contract for the music we need to be confident we can cover the cost with attendance. This dance would be opened to the public as well. So - we'd love to have you respond to this survey. Text [207-391-3276](tel:207-391-3276) or email mgates716@gmail.com. All we need is a yes and how many would probably be coming with you, or a no. Thanks.

"EMBRACING AN ADULT FAITH"

ADULT SESSIONS

We will be using Marcus Borg's "Embracing an Adult Faith".

Feb. 25 - - What about Community?

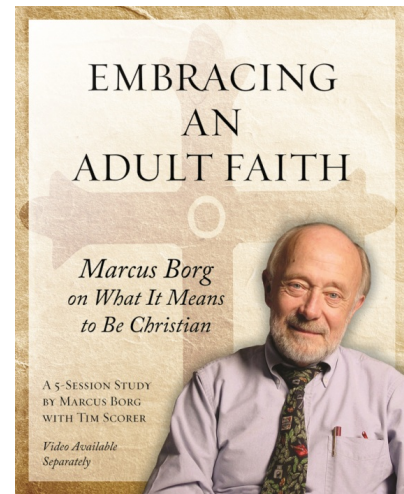
Mar. 4 -- Salvation as Transformation

Each session stands alone, so attend those you can.

Sessions will be offered twice

- 9:10 - 10:10 before worship
- 11:45 - 12:45 after worship

Place: Maggie B. room downstairs.



"Womansong with Ukes Along", a Joint Concert

March 3 @ 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm

Prescott Ukulele Guild (PUG) co-founder Will Fisher has invited us to collaborate with the Womansong Civic Choir that he directs at 3pm on March 3, 2018 at the First Congregational Church in Prescott for the "Womansong with Ukes Along" concert.



This FUN performance will feature songs from the Womansong choir alone, songs from PUG alone, songs with EVERYONE, and PUG sub-group performances.

Cost to Public: Free, with a love offering

PUG Attire: "Aloha" Wear

2018 GYCC Spring Gala



To honor those who have made significant contributions to the LGBTQ+ community.

**Tuesday, March 20th, 2018
at 6pm**

At Thumb Butte Distillery
400 N. Washington Ave.
Prescott, AZ. 86301

**Tickets are \$20
Reserve your tickets at:
gyccspringgala.bpt.me**

**FOOD
ENTERTAINMENT
NETWORKING
& MORE!**



**Keynote Speaker
Marriner Cardon**
"FLAPS"-Fun loving
active people-
narratives from the
past of the LGBTQ+
community in Prescott



Special Thanks to Thumb Butte for
hosting this event

This event is supported & sponsored by



For more information about LGBTQ+ events, check out www.az-gycc.org or contact us at gyccinfo@gmail.com

**FREE CONCERT @
First Congregational Church
Friday March 23, 2018**

6:00—6:30 open for silent auction

6:30-7:30 Sugar and the Mint Show

Donations accepted to cover new album & 2018 travel expenses

sugarandthemint.com

**2017 Telluride Bluegrass Festival
band contest WINNERS**

**sugar
& the
mint**



MISSIONS AND OUTREACH NEWS

This month's mission emphasis project is the Prescott Area Shelters Services [PASS]. PASS provides temporary shelter for women and women with children in a 17-bed dormitory setting. Guests can stay for up to 90 days. Staff support and connection to community agencies helps women regain confidence and employment. Ninety percent of clients transition into permanent housing (apartments, etc). If you would like to make a donation, please write a check payable to the church, with the line memo, PASS. On the 3rd Wednesday of each month, our congregation provides the PASS clients with an evening meal. Volunteers are always welcome to contact our PASS meal coordinator, Patty Gard at 928-460-3042.

From our response to last month's mission emphasis project, a check for \$325 is being sent to the Prescott Community Cupboard.

Canned food donations can be deposited in our Community Cupboard donation box found throughout the year in the front of our sanctuary. As always, thanks for your support in addressing the world's need for compassion and justice. Gary Gard, Outreach Mission chairperson. [928-910-2455].

SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION CUT OFF IS MARCH 31, 2018

If you are interested in being a delegate representing our church, please let Pastor Jay know.

**April 19-22, 2018
Tucson, Arizona**

The purposes of the Annual Meeting is to:

- Provide an opportunity for fellowship among the churches of the Conference;
- Elect Officers, Executive Board members, and other positions as provided for in these bylaws;
- Receive the reports of the Officers, staff,

OFFICIAL NOTICE
SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE UCC
— APRIL 20-21, 2018 —
ANNUAL
MEETING

AT
RINCON CONGREGATIONAL UCC
122 N. CRAYCROFT ROAD
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85711

- committees, member churches and organizations related to the Conference;
- Approve the budget of the Conference;
- Adopt the mission objectives of the Conference when presented by the Mission and Church Vitality Committee;
- Act on business forwarded to the meeting by the United Church of Christ churches, associations and the Executive Board of the Conference according to standing rules.
- Transact any other business which may be properly brought before the Conference.



FEBRUARY GREETERS

1. Staci Robbins
2. Bill Rouse
3. Anna and Harry Strong

ALTER-NOTES

Do you like to sing? Do you play an instrument? Would you like to be a part of bringing alternative styles of music to our worship service? Come join Alter-Notes! We rehearse at 12-12:45 p.m. on Sundays, after social time. Music styles vary - calypso, spirituals, folk, celtic, pop, rock, and everything in between.

Show up and/or call Melissa Gates, [207-391-3276](tel:207-391-3276).

THE CHANCEL SINGERS

You do not have to be able to read music or be a great singer to join us! The Chancel Singers are seeking people who love to sing. Anyone interested is invited to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the Chancel.

For more information, please contact the Music Director, Jane Osborn, at 928-713-4752 or prescottsong@hotmail.com.

VAN MINISTRY

Bill Rouse has agreed to be one of our van drivers to pick up and take home those needing a ride to church. If you would like the church van to pick you up Sunday morning, please let Bill know by Saturday. His number is 602-769-5770. Our thanks to Bill for this ministry.



HELP US BUILD OUR SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT WITH
OUR COMMUNITY, LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Hazeltine room. All adults are welcome.

EVERY WEEK COMMUNION

"Every Sunday Communion" takes place in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays. Communion is open to all.

ONCE A MONTH COMMUNION

Our regularly scheduled communion is held the first Sunday of each month. Communion is open to all.

PRAYER CHAPEL

Called to Care holds a weekly prayer time at 11:00 am on Tuesdays in the Chapel downstairs. Place your prayer requests in the prayer box in Perkins Hall.

PASS MEAL

Once a month we provide a meal for the Prescott Area Shelter Services the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:00 p.m. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

CABINET MEETING

Meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.

VAN MINISTRY

If you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings, please let Bill Rouse know by the Saturday before. 602-769-5770

If you would be interested in playing with us, we will train you! This is a fun and rewarding contribution to our worship.

We meet for rehearsal at 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

CHANCEL SINGERS

If you like to sing, the Chancel Singers are eager to increase membership. We meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. before worship services.

ALTER-NOTES

Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal in the Hazeltine Room each Sunday. If you like to sing or can play an instrument, we are looking for new members. We play folk, pop, Celtic, spirituals and anything else. Contact Melissa Gates phone:207-391-3276

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Parents may take children to Sunday school downstairs before the service begins, or wait until the children's time with the pastor and then go to Sunday school. Children are also welcome to stay in the worship service at the discretion of the parent(s).

CONTACT US

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PRESCOTT, UCC

216 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Office: 928-445-4555

Pastor Jay: 928-899-9066

Julie: 928-710-1379

ADMINISTRATION

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 4:00

Friday 9:00 - 1:00

PASTOR JAY

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00

other times by appointment

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 a.m.

