The Parish Caller

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

April 22, 2016

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Prescott This Week at a Glance...

- ◆ Choir Practice Sunday 9 am
- ◆ Exploring Faith Sunday 9 am
- ◆Jazz Vespers Wednesday 6:30 pm
- ◆Bell Choir Rehearsal Thursday 11 am
- ◆Cabinet Meeting Thursday 6:30 pm



FEATURED THIS ISSUE

PAGE ONE:

- This week at a glance
- Sunday's Guest Speaker

PAGE TWO:

- From Pastor Jay
- Mike Vax Quartet— Jazz Vespers
- ♦ Woman's Song

PAGE THREE:

- April Announcements
- ♦ Jazz Vespers
- Pastor Jay's 1 Year Luncheon Reception
- Women's Fellowship

PAGE FOUR:

- Peace of Mind workshop
- ♦ Bulletin Board

Wear your "ISLAND" attire this Sunday!!



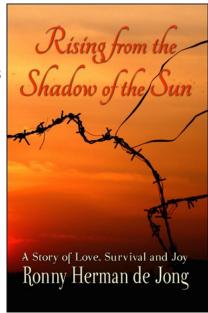
While Jay is at the Southwest Conference annual meeting this weekend, we welcome our own Ronny de Jong to lead the service and share the message. It is **PAAM SUNDAY** - Pacific Islander & Asian American Ministries (PAAM). PAAM was organized in 1974 at a gathering in San Francisco, California, of representatives from different regions throughout the United States. The vision was to unite and move forward at the national, regional, and local levels as Pacific Islanders & Asian

Americans in the United Church of Christ, sharing our unique gifts with one another. The 18th General Synod passed a resolution designating the last Sunday of April as PAAM Sunday when all UCC churches recognize and celebrate the gifts and contribution of Pacific Islanders & Asian Americans in the life of the UCC.

PAAM has initiated, sponsored, supported and participated in many activities at all levels of the conference, worked for greater PAAM representation on all levels of the conference boards, committees, and staff. PAAM continues to address institutional racism within the church and society, is concerned with issues of human rights and justice, and helps to support and strengthen clergy and lay

leadership at the local level.

Ronny Herman de Jong is a survivor of the World War Two Japanese concentration camps on the island of Java. A member of the Professional Writers of Prescott and the Society of Southwestern Authors, Ronny holds a BA in English Literature from Leiden University in the Netherlands. She has authored four books: a 1992 World War 2 memoir *In the Shadow of the* Sun; two editions of a sequel *Rising from the*Shadow of the Sun; plus an anthology, published on August 3, 2014: Survivors of WWII in the Pacific.



From the Pastor

From Pastor Jay

I am pleased to share that the Mike Vax Jazz Quarter will be here for Jazz Vespers on Wednesday, April 27, from 6:30-8:00 PM. It has been interesting to watch the steady growth during our first three months of offering this to the community, and to see the continuing growth of attendees outside of our church family. Mike Vax is well known in the Jazz community of Prescott, so it should be a good crowd for this one—plan to join us!

THE MIKE VAX QUARTET

Mike Vax and his Quartet bring dynamic excitement to audiences wherever they appear. Their music knows no boundaries of time or style. The group attains a swinging feel, while playing tunes from the early years of the 20th century through today.

Members of the band have performed with some of the greatest names in jazz and swing music, including: Stan Kenton, The Glenn Miller Orchestra, The Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra, The Harry James Orchestra, Terry Gibbs, Al Hirt, Pete Fountain, Mel Torme', Maxine Sullivan, Anita O'Day, June Christy, Joe Williams, Bob Florence, The Four Freshmen, and the Dukes of Dixieland in New Orleans.

The MV Quartet has been performing their own brand of jazz and swing music for over 40 years. The groups have performed for jazz festivals, conventions, cruise ships, hotels, resorts, high school and college concerts and dances, dance clubs, and jazz societies all over the United States.

Leader Mike Vax is very active in the music education field. He has performed concerts and workshops in both the classical and jazz idioms at over 2500 high schools, colleges and universities all over the world, over the past 46 years. He is an international performing artist for the Getzen Musical Instrument Company.

Mike is also the director of the Prescott Jazz Summit, a successful jazz festival and concert promotion group that has been in existence for the past 16 years, in Prescott, Arizona.

Woman's Song



WOMAN'S SONG

Join us on Sunday,
May 1st, to hear the
Woman's Song
Acapella Choir during
the service. Don't miss
this special musical
event!

April Announcements

APRIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our newly adopted local mission outreach project, Discovery Gardens
 Preschool, is a year long outreach mission. A donation box for needed
 supplies is in the front of the sanctuary. The children like graham crackers,
 goldfish crackers, etc.
- ◆ The Sunday morning study group will start again with "Embracing an Adult Faith", with Marcus Borg presenting five topics: God, Jesus, Salvation, Practice and Community. Borg presents traditional and 21st Century views to a small group on DVD, they react, and then we discuss what we have seen. Join us at 9:00-10:00 in the Library downstairs.

Jazz Vespers

JAZZ VESPERS MIKE VAX QUARTET, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

Come and enjoy this informal event that is open to everyone of all faiths. The focus is on the music and the opportunity to hear it in an "acoustically alive" historic sanctuary. Admission is free—an offering will be taken for the benefit of the musicians.



Pastor Jay's 1 year Luncheon Reception

PASTOR JAY'S ONE YEAR LUNCHEON RECEPTION, SUNDAY, MAY 1

Come join us in the celebration of Pastor Jay's one year anniversary here at FCC!

RSVP is *required* no later than April 24th either by calling Marilyn Skovgard at 928-458-5750 or by signing the sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall. Since this is a catered affair we will need to have the correct numbers to be able to order enough meals from Prescott Station. Your help with this is greatly appreciated. Please sign up, we have a wonderful program planned!

Women's Fellowship

The next meeting of the Women's Fellowship Group is scheduled for Friday, May 6th. *PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE - 10:00 am to Noon.*Bring your red notebook and your enthusiasm and ideas for upcoming events!

Peace of Mind Workshop with **Marilyn Skovgard**

SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 5:30 PM PERKINS HALL

Marilyn Skovgard will be presenting her workbook that brings peace of mind to families by helping them prepare all the necessary information is one place:

Household Matters A-Z" helps organize it all.

You will learn simple solutions and tips to help you accomplish this task.



IMAGINE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION COMPLETELY ORGANIZED

Technology has changed the way we keep personal, household and financial information. Where to find it? Is it in the computer, the filing cabinet, in boxes, a safe deposit box, the office, a closet, under the bed? Sound familiar? Come and learn why it is necessary to solve the information clutter. You will learn about a simple common sense system to organize this very important information. Your family will love you for it! Class is being offered by Marilyn Skovgard owner of Peace of Mind Workbooks and author of Household Matters A-Z. Workbooks will be available for purchase.

ongoing & Weekly Events

CHOIR PRACTICE meets Sundays at 9 am in the Sanctuary. See Jane Osborn if you would like to join the choir!

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE at 11 am on Thursdays

First Congregational Church, UCC 216 E. Gurley Street Prescott, AZ 86301 928-445-4555 fccprescott@gmail.com Administration Office Hours Mondays: 9:00 - 4:00

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 - 1:00 **Pastor Jay** Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00 Other times by appointment Cell: 928-899-9066 jayfccprescott@gmail.com

KNIT WITS meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month from 1-3 pm in the Office Conference Room.

PFLAG SUPPORT GROUP meets the 3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Church Library, See Julie J. for more details.

> PASS MEAL is a once-amonth ministry where we provide a meal for the Prescott Area Shelter Services the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:30 pm. Signup sheet is in Perkins

LAS FUENTES 1035 Scott Dr., Prescott SPIRITUAL LIVING Class is held the 3rd Thursday of every month at 10 am, led by Called to Care Ministry. Worship Service is also held ~And~ the 2nd Sunday of every month at 3 pm, led by Pastor Jay.

> **Funky Friday Game Night** Hosted by PFLAG **Everyone** Welcome! 7-9 pm 1st Friday of every Month starting in November

EXPLORING FAITH Living the Questions Study Group Sunday Mornings at 9 am in the Church Library ~And~ Monday Evening Discussion Group 6 pm in the Church Library

CABINET MEETING meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Office Conference Room.

CALLED TO CARE MINISTRY meets the 4th Tuesday of every month from 2-4 pm in the Office Conference Room. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, see Marilyn Kerstine.