



First Congregational Church UCC

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

The Parish Caller Weekly Newsletter April 26, 2019

SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

As I arrived in central Phoenix, near the tram on Central and McDowell, I saw a Church steeple. I thought, "Wow, it's rare to be able to see a Church steeple in the middle of a city!" That steeple belonged to the Church where I was a delegate from Prescott to the Annual South West Conference of the United Churches of Christ along with Pastor Jay Wilcher and Patty Lantrip on April fourth through sixth of this year.

The theme for the Conference was growth. All kinds of growth were considered, not just growth in numbers but also spiritual growth, growth in reaching the disenfranchised and growth in widening the table (welcoming). We were able to meet the leaders of the only UCC Church that exists solely on line and we were also introduced to the "bl" social media network being developed by the UCC for all congregations to use as a way to see what other churches are doing.

Three of our members serve on committees in the conference, Rev. Harry Strong was elected to fill an unexpired term on the Committee on Church and Ministry-Section B, Patty Lantrip is on the Nominating Committee and Rev. Dr. Jay Wilcher is on the Committee on Church Ministry-Section A. Also Pastor Jay was recognized at the Friday night banquet for 30 years of ordained ministry.

Here are a few of the statements made at the conference worth repeating: "'Jesus is Lord' is not a sexist statement but a political one." "If you want to be an authentic Church you also have to be a vulnerable Church." "Give space for new people to find their passion, not yours." "If you want to be a multicultural Church you have to be intentional about it." "We need to unite humility with stewardship." Rev. Ralph Orlo Wagner



- April 28 Holy Humor Sunday
- May 5 Cinco de Mayo
- May 12 Mother's Day
- May 19 Beatles Sunday
- May 26 Alter-Notes in Worship
- June 15 Art Fair

KATE CORY

Kate Cory and her induction ceremony on Wednesday, May 1, 2019. If they want to attend this ceremony - here is the link to register <https://www.azwhf.org/> - Tickets cost \$10.00 and food and music is served.

HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY SERMON: "THE TAO OF POOH"

"Tao" is a Chinese word meaning "way" or "path" or principle. Winnie-The-Pooh personifies the principles of *wei wu wei*, the Taoist concept of effortless doing, and *pu*, the concept of being open to, but unburdened by, experience, and it is also a metaphor for natural human nature.

SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE - \$4974

T-Mobile purchased the 600 MHz range of our wireless system which caused us to have to buy new wireless receivers. If you would like to contribute to the sound system upgrade, please reference "sound system" in the check memo line – thanks!

ART FAIR JUNE 15th 10: – 5:00

Meeting for all Artists and anyone who would like to help or be involved in the Fair will be April 28th right after church service in the back portion of the Sanctuary. Artists/exhibitors please bring a sample or photo of what you will be displaying. We will discuss Perkins Hall Layout, your individual spaces, your particular needs and your responsibilities We have 18 Artists so far!!

Just a reminder – THERE ARE NO ENTRANCE FEES OR COMMISSIONS FOR EXHIBITORS
We are hoping the Fair will be a wonderful Event for the Exhibitors and Community.
QUESTIONS – call Barbara McCollough 951-297-8311

MISSIONS NEWS

Our Mission Outreach emphasis for April is the denomination's One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). Almost daily we read about the plight of people uprooted from their homes by the violence of storms, famine, or social unrest. We read of families needing tools to rebuild their lives. The foundation stones of our faith call us to respond with compassion. OGHS funds are used to support education programs, health initiatives, agricultural development projects, natural disaster relief, and aid for refugee camps worldwide. You may make your donation payable to the church, with the memo "OGHS". Following your response to last month's mission emphasis, a check for \$482 has been sent to the Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity.

Just a reminder, - on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, volunteers from our church family provide a hot meal for women and children staying at the Prescott Area Shelter Services facility (PASS). There is a volunteer sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall. Questions can be directed to our PASS meal coordinator, Patty Gard. Anyone from our Mission Outreach team would be glad to address any of your comments or questions. Thank you for remembering that we have been blessed to be a blessing. (Genesis 12:2) Becky and Bill Bryant, Patty Gard, Staci Robbins, and Gary Gard, chairperson.



CELEBRATING GOD'S GIFT OF ART SATURDAY, JUNE 15 10AM-5PM PERKINS HALL

We will have an art fair for our resident artists and some others from the community. We have a good number of artists in our midst! Plan to come and bring your friends. No entry fee. Artists may have items for sale.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMMING

Anniversaries

Don & Kathy Stephen 05/20

Deana & Susan Wilson 05/27

Melissa & Elizabeth Gates
06/03

Neely, Bill & Sylvia 06/11

Al & Barbi Beeson 06/23

Harry & Anna Strong 07/14

Wilson, John & Sonya 07/23

Birthdays

Deana Wilson 04/27
Tom Lloyd 04/28
Gerri Lyons 05/03
William Bryant 05/05
Ritch Steven 05/17
Nancy Blevens 05/18
Anne Solt 05/18
Joanne Lussier 05/25
Sarah Huff 05/26
Sarah Andrews 05/28
Anna Strong 05/28
Gary Gard 06/04
Alice Kring 06/08
Sylvia Neely 06/13
Linda Foote 06/18
Sylvia Staats 06/19
Bill Neely 06/24
Staci Lee Robbins 07/01
Linda Moore 07/02
Jennifer Cortez 07/05
Martie Dial 07/10
Patsy Jo Huff 07/13
Jean Woodburn 07/16
Mary Lloyd 07/22
Bruce Jordan 07/25
Ann Flanagan 07/29



PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Conference 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.



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 Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.



THE RINGING BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

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 9:00 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 on the Chancel 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).

ADMINISTRATION

Monday - Thursday: 9:00-4:00

Friday 9:00-1:00

928-445-4555

fccprescott@gmail.com

juliefccprescott@gmail.com



PASTOR JAY

Monday - Thursday: 9:00-1:00

928-899-9066

Jayfccprescott@gmail.com