The Parish Caller

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

April 8, 2016

Prescott |

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

- ♦ Woman's Fellowship Friday 12 pm TODAY!
- ◆ Choir Practice Sunday 9 am
- ◆ Exploring Faith Sunday 9 am
- ◆Bell Choir Rehearsal Thursday 11 am



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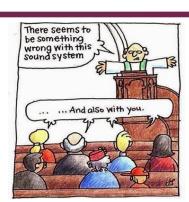
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From Pastor Jay

We had fun on Holy Humor Sunday last week! We will make it a yearly tradition for the Sunday after Easter. Thanks for the help with jokes.

This week we will look at one of my favorite passages in the Bible – John 21 – the rehabilitation of Peter by Jesus.



On Thursday I attended a press conference at CCJ with some students from Prescott College announcing a student led scholarship fund for

undocumented students. I have known "dreamers" who find themselves in our country through no fault of their own. They work and study here like everyone else, but they have to pay out of state tuition rates.

Some people consider them "illegal aliens" and want to deport



them. So, I guess it should not surprise us that the college was barraged with hateful and racist denunciations and threats on social media and from callers to the college. If you get a chance, share your support for what the college is doing through a phone call to the college (928-350-4506), talking to students or staff, or by a positive note on the Prescott College Facebook page.

God bless, Jay

From The Phoenix New Times

Prescott College

From: Phoenix New Times

"The majority of students attending the private school signed a petition in support of paying a \$30 student fee to go into the newly created Freedom Education Fund, which will award full-ride scholarships to undocumented students who want to attend Prescott College. On-campus students will begin paying the fee this fall.

An estimated \$15,000 will be raised every year through the new student fee. The first full-ride scholarship will be given out this upcoming academic year. College officials say they hope to raise additional funds to support more scholarships.

Prescott College Continued

Prescott College is the first institution of higher education in Arizona to implement a scholarship fund for undocumented students that's supported with money from student fees.

Loyola University in Chicago became the first in the nation in February. Students there voted to pay a \$2.50 student fee per semester to create a scholarship fund for undocumented students approved for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, federal program, which allows qualified undocumented youth to stay and work in the United States."

Outreach

Outreach for April

In addition to these monthly meals, we are now helping to provide needed items, such as: toilet tissue, toothbrushes, toothpaste, paper towels, deodorant, dish & laundry detergent, and bar soap. This will be a year-round effort, and a donation box will remain in the sanctuary.

For those desiring to support this outreach by a financial donation, checks should be written payable to the church, with the memo line defining your wishes. For the women's shelter, write "PASS" on the memo line. For the men's shelter, write "Project Aware" on the memo line. For the homeless, write "Open Door" on the memo line. Questions can be directed to the Outreach Committee chairperson, Gary Gard (928-910-2455).

One of our on-going local mission outreach projects has been to prepare a monthly evening meal for women living in Prescott's women's shelter (PASS). It you are interested in helping with this outreach, please notify either Tawnya Worthington (928-533-0016), or our office Administrator, Julie Jaquette (928-445-4555).

Thank you —Outreach

Invitation for CCJ Partners's Luncheon

FIRST ANNUAL COALITION FOR COMPASSION AND JUSTICE (CCJ) PARTNERS' LUNCHEON

As a board member of CCJ, I invite you to join me on May 10, 2016 at the Prescott Resort for a luncheon and program from 11:45 am - 1:15 pm. The lunch is free but we must RSVP. And there will be an invitation to join with CCJ by becoming an ongoing donor. Please see me if you are interested in attending. Thanks, Jay

Jason Solt Wins First Price in Recycled Art Contest

Jason Solt's Recycled Art piece won Grand Prize

Jason entered a recycled art competition and won the grand prize for all of the Flagstaff elementary students. So proud of this amazing boy!



Peace of Mind Workshop with Marilyn Skovgard

May 18th at 5:30

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.

LET'S GET IT DONE!

Have you ever lost or couldn't find an important document? Is all personal, household, financial, benefits, final wishes

recorded at your fingertips? Would someone else know where to find this information should you not be able to speak for yourself without sifting through boxes, computers and file cabinets? Author Marilyn Skovgard has a simple and easy solution to document storage information. Must attend class to help you be better organized once



and for all. Let's resolve to get this very important project done in 2016! Workbooks will be available for purchase for \$46.95 plus tax and are for two people.

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

LET'S GET READY TO BE PREPARED!

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.

CALLED TO CARE TRAINING APRIL 14 AT 1:00 PM: CHURCH OFFICE

- Pastor Jay and Marilyn Kerstine would like to invite each of you to share our call and role as caregivers in our Called To Care program. Come to refresh and strengthen your skills and begin further training toward becoming Official First Congregational Church Caregivers. Pastor Jay will commission us during worship upon completion of this training, quite like Pastoral Care classes in Seminary and worth our time.
- Please RSVP to Marilyn Kerstine (771-1452 or mkerstine@icloud.com) so we have all the resources available for you.
- Bring your questions and experiences as we learn more together with God's love and help. If you prefer to audit the class without becoming official caregivers, we encourage that also!

April Announcements Continued

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED SUNDAY, APRIL 17

This church welcomes into its fellowship any person who subscribes to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Membership is open to all without regard to age, race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender identity, faith, marital status, and personal ability. Members may participate in any activity of this church and may serve in an elected or appointed position of leadership. Members have the right to vote at any Annual or Special Meeting. Full rights and privileges of membership are granted to those members wishing to retain membership with other Christian Churches.

JAZZ VESPERS MIKE VAX QUARTET, 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.

JOHN HARPER MEMORIAL SERVICE - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2PM

PASTOR JAY'S ONE YEAR LUNCHEON RECEPTION, MAY 1

Help us celebrate Pastor Jay's one year anniversary here with us at FCC! Fellowship begins after the worship service on May 1st. Sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall.

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

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

KNIT WITS meets

the 1st & 3rd

Tuesdays of every

month from 1-3

pm in the Office

Conference Room.

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. ~And~ Worship Service is also held 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.

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

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