



The Parish Caller

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Prescott Established 1880

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

August 4th,
2017

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This Week at a Glance...

- ◆ **Sunday Worship:** 10:30 a.m. **Alternotes Performs**
- ◆ **Alter-Notes Rehearsal:** Sunday 12:00 p.m. in the Hazeltine Room
- ◆ **Alarcon Street Completion Celebration:** Wednesday 10:00 a.m.
- ◆ **Pastor's Bible Study:** Thursday 9:30 a.m. in the Maggie B. Room

FROM THE PASTOR

This Sunday we will look at the story of the feeding of the multitude by Jesus (Matthew 14:22-33). This is the only miracle story that occurs in all four gospels so it was a very important story in the early church. The challenge they had to find enough daily food may be part of the answer, but the theological themes in the story have resonated from then until now.

The compassion of Jesus for the hungry multitude; the blessing, breaking, and giving of the bread (The Lord's Supper); the abundant supply of food; and the calling of the disciples to feed the hungry. It's hard to beat a story about God's compassion, God's abundance in the midst of our scarcity, and how God uses us to be a blessing to others.



Lambert Lombard (1505-1566) The Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes, Rockox House, Antwerp

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ALARCON STREET RIBBON CUTTING & CELEBRATION

This Wednesday on August 9th at 10:30 we will be gathering in our parking lot to join with the City of Prescott, for the Alarcon Street Ribbon Cutting and street opening celebration. The Mayor and others will speak. There will be refreshments and music from the "Wicky Wacky Woos" Ukulele Players! We will move to Perkins Hall in the case of rain.



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Everyone is enjoying the welcome statement I have been putting in the bulletin. I found it online and have tried to research its origin to give credit to the author, but to no avail. Let me know if anyone can find the author:



NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

All are welcome here. But, we extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, gay, lesbian, transgender, filthy rich, dirt poor, yo no habla Ingles. We extend a special welcome to those who are crying newborns, skinny as a rail or could afford to lose a few pounds. We welcome you if you can sing like Andrea Bocelli or like our pastor who can't carry a note in a bucket. You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up or just got out of jail. We don't care if you're more Catholic than the Pope, or haven't been in church since little Joey's Baptism. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion," we've been there too. We endorse all people but we make it a point not to promote any particular politician. If you need a church that does or a minister who screams and yells from the pulpit about how everybody who doesn't believe as he believes (or, she believes) is going to hell... well, you're probably not going to like this church. Here, you can be Democrat, Republican, Independent... heck, even a Socialist. You'll understand, we're sort of struck with Jesus and, especially, his teachings. The way we figure it — if we follow his teachings, the world will be a happier and healthier place for everybody. Healthier and happier, too, for those not interested in religion, not even ours. If you blew all your offering money last night at the dog track, tough luck for us. You're still welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church. We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake. We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts ... In short, we welcome you!

See you Sunday, Jay

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Erin Walch	08/01
Al Beeson	08/03
Muri Preble	08/08
Jim Christopher	08/10
Angela Imbierowicz	08/11
Jane Osborn	08/12
Mike deJong	08/21
Lillian Morales	08/21
Tarah Jones	08/22
Sharon Larson	08/26
Tawnya Worthington	08/26
Paul Sandstrom	08/30

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

We are continuing to enjoy the weekly adult Pastor's Bible Study. We meet on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the old library downstairs, the Hazeltine room. The group will decide on topics— Lectionary readings for Sunday; a study of Revelation; a study of the life of David; etc.

CHANCEL CHOIR

If you like to sing, the choir is eager to increase its membership. Contact Jane Osborn 928-713- 4752

ALTER-NOTES

Alter-Notes, an alternative music group, singing on occasional Sundays, needs singers and instrumentalists. Folk, pop, Celtic, spirituals and anything else. Rehearsal at noon on Sundays. Contact Melissa Gates, 207-391-3276

EVERYWEEK COMMUNION

Communion is available in the front of the sanctuary after worship on Sunday's other than the first Sunday of the month where it will be served during our regular congregational communion service.



Monday Prayer
Chapel at
11:00 am in the
Church Library

OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

In June we sent twenty five tote bags filled with educational supplies to the Church World Service for students living in global impoverished villages and/or refugee camps.

In July, we reached out to local impoverished families with children in grades K-12. Thanks to your contributions of materials and dollars, our donations to this year's "Fair Start" included: 40 backpacks, over 400 boxes of crayons, pencils and pens and erasers, notebooks and note paper, composition books, rulers, and binders. With congregational monetary donations and money from our Outreach budget, over \$420 was expended. The thankful and joyful beneficiaries were local students in grades K-12. This year over 1400 students living in impoverished families were served. "Fair Start" is a program sponsored by the Coalition for Compassion and Justice.

Now, in August, we are helping our local Discovery Gardens Preschool. Education can help build a more robust society, a society wherein everyone may find greater opportunity to realize their dreams. You may use our donation box in the front of the sanctuary, or make a monetary donation for the purchase of supplies. Thank you for your participation in helping young people build a brighter tomorrow. Gary Gard, Outreach Chairperson

This year's Discovery Gardens "Wish List" is:

1. Construction paper

2. Washable colored pencils

3. Washable Markers

4. Washable paints

5. Washable crayons
6. Scissors (blunt)

7. Glue sticks

8. Facial tissue and

9. Hand sanitizer.

Dear Super Greeters,

We are going to begin a new plan for greetings which may entail more responsibility, but it will also assure that all who enter our doors are warmly welcomed.

You would greet at your favorite door for a month. This would give you a better opportunity to become recognized as well as TO recognize those entering.

If you were unable to be in church on one of your Sundays, you will have a list of possible substitutes or you would contact me and I'll try to do a fill in. Bear in mind that Sylvia, Pete, Tom, and I are usually available in case of a last-minute emergency.

O.K. Here's your promised "compliment" for greeter teams:

Cheers, Anne

August Teams:

1. Andy Wallace

2. Christy Dinsman

3 Andree Shrimpton

4. Chuck Budinger

September Teams:

1. Cheryl and Ralph Gilgis

2. Gary and Patty Gard

October Teams:

1. Jim Christopher

2. Alice Kring

3. Angela Imbierowicz

4. Yoichi Matsumoto

November Teams:

1. Randy Cook

2. Patty Lantrip

3. Mac MacAlister

4. Paul Monska

Substitutes

- ♦ Eric and Rita Day

♦ Suzy and Hal Lobaugh

♦ Julie Jaquette

♦ Nitaray Thomas

♦ Bill & Sylvia Neely

♦ Sandra Johns

♦ Sarai Payne

♦ Connie Vandre

♦ Marilyn Kerstine

♦ Gary & Patty Gard

♦ Linda and David Foote

♦ John and Patsy Jo Huff

♦ Marti Dial

♦ Paul & Diane Sandstrom (first Sunday only)

♦ Ralph Wagner and Susan Lemon

♦ Melissa and Elizabeth Gates

Parish Stewardship

Offerings		
	July	YTD
Offerings	\$8,845	\$9,463
Facility	\$1,477	\$8,240
Foundation	\$13,423	\$42,876
Other		\$5,509
Total	\$23,745	\$66,088

Expenses		
	July	YTD
Expenses	\$24,574	\$170,086

Famine Relief	
Received	\$795.00

Church World Service	
Received	\$233.00

Our Great Hour of Sharing	
Received	\$1,683.00

Outreach Gifts		
	2016	2017

Jan	Prescott Comm. Cupb.
	\$490

Feb	PASS
	\$140

March	Habitat for Humanity
	\$165

April	One Great Hour of Sharing
	\$1,683

May	Church World Service
	\$319

June	Strengthen the Church
	\$280

July	Pancake Breakfast
	\$2,995

Undesignated Missions	
	\$650

Total	\$3,227
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Attendance; Monthly Average	
January	102
February	89
March	89
April	108
May	101
June	79
July	96

SUMMER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

VAN MINISTRY

Our Van Ministry is up and running! Bill Rouse has volunteered to head up this vital ministry. If you need a ride to church, please give him a call by Saturday. Bill Rouse: 602-769-5770 Our many thanks to Bill for this ministry!



JEWISH — CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

On Friday evening, August 18th, our congregation is invited to join with members/friends of Temple B'rith Shalom. Beginning at 5:15 there will be a Oneg ("Original Sabbath" also known as "Sabbath Delight"). The Oneg features appetizers and fellowship. Immediately afterwards there will be a worship celebration, which usually concludes around 7:00 PM. The Temple address is 2077 Brohner Way, Prescott. Brohner Way is a short street located behind the Hughes Supply Building at the roundabout intersection at Hwy 89 and Willow Lake Road.



Members of our congregation and Temple B'rith Shalom will visit each other's worship services in August: August 13 at 10:30 a.m. here and August 18 at the Temple. All who are interested are invited to join us.

USHERS WANTED

**We need more volunteers as ushers. Please volunteer.
See Jay Eby, Tom Macy, or call the office 445-4555**

SUNDAY GOODIES

We need more goodies for coffee hour. Goodies provide greater fellowship. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

ELY GRANDCHILDREN!

Congratulations to Grandma Judy & Grandpa Bret
Luke David Steele born July 17th in Prescott
Miles Scott Ely born May 31st in California

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.

PRAYER CHAPEL – MONDAY

On Mondays at 11:00 A.M. in the church library, Called to Care continues a weekly Prayer Chapel open to whomever wishes to pray with us.

EVERY WEEK COMMUNION AFTER WORSHIP IN FRONT OF SANCTUARY

Communion is available in the front of the sanctuary after worship on Sundays other than the first Sunday of the month. The first Sunday of the month is our regular congregational communion service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Parents may take children to Sunday school downstairs before the service begins, or they may 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:

216 E. Gurley Street
Prescott, AZ 86301
928-445-4555
fccprescott@gmail.com

Administration Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9:00 - 4:00

Friday: 9:00 - 1:00

Pastor Jay

Monday - Thursday
9:00 - 1:00

Other times by appointment
Cell: 928-899-9066
jayfccprescott@gmail.com

Regularly Scheduled

PASS MEAL

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

CHOIR PRACTICE

On Summer Break

ALTER-NOTES

Meets at 12:00 for rehearsal in the Hazeltine Room after worship service.

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

Meets for rehearsal at 11:00 am on Thursdays

PRAYER CHAPEL

Called to Care weekly prayer group meets at 11:00 am on Mondays in the Chapel

CABINET MEETING

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

PFLAG SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Church Library/Chapel. 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.

COMMUNION

An informal "Every Sunday Communion" will be in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays except the first Sunday of the month which is our regular communion time.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

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