



The Parish Caller

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

This Week at a Glance...

- Acker Night is TONIGHT! (Dec. 8): We are hosting "South of Winslow" 5:30 p.m.
- Chancel Singers Rehearsal: Sunday 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
- Alter-Notes Rehearsal: Sunday 12:00 p.m.
- Tuesday Prayer Chapel: 11:00 a.m. Meeting Room 2
- Pastor's Bible Study: Thursday 9:30 a.m. Chapel
- Bell Choir Rehearsal: Thursday 11:00 a.m. Hazeltine Room
- Thursday Chancel Singers Rehearsal: 5:00 p.m. Chancel

FROM THE PASTOR

From the Pastor

Saint John the Baptist, Archbasilica
of St. John Lateran, Rome

What a great start to Advent last Sunday - 141 in attendance! And lots of visitors! Thank you all for your welcoming spirit. Newcomers always tell me how welcome they felt at our worship. I am impressed each week that visitors will join us in Perkins Hall for fellowship after the service. There was certainly a vibrant spirit in the hall after worship.

The second Sunday of Advent brings us face to face with John the Baptist each year. He prepares the way for Jesus with his message of repentance. The word "repent" seems ancient to us, but would it not be refreshing to witness some repentance from all the men in the news lately? It seems denial or slow acknowledgement is the order of the day. The biblical meaning of repentance is to turn or change one's mind and actions. We all need to repent throughout life if we are to grow and mature. Even a toy can repent (Woody in Toy Story). So, on our Advent journey toward Christmas, maybe encountering John the Baptist is the best preparation for a meaningful Christmas.



Barbara Kay Vendelboe Beck McClure



Barbara Kay Vendelboe Beck McClure died Nov. 17, 2017, in Prescott, Ariz. She was born in Mason City, Iowa, March 5, 1936. She graduated from Clarion High School in Clarion, Iowa, and went on to earn a nursing degree from University of Iowa in Iowa City. She later completed a Master's degree at the University of Iowa and went on to teach at Northern Arizona University. In the later 1970's, she earned a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Degree from the University of Iowa. She accepted a position as Director of Public Health for Flagstaff and later became the Nursing Director for Tucson Unified School District.

While a student at the University of Iowa, Barbara married Robert A. Beck who was the father of her five children, Steven, Susan, Patricia, Michael and James. She later brought up Mark McClure, the son of her second husband, Douglas B. McClure, and three grandchildren, Alyssia McClure, Desiree McClure Longstreth, and Bradlee Connor Beck, Warrant Officer, U.S. Army.

In her leisure time, Barbara loved to knit, bake and read. She was a faithful member of the First Congregational Church, UCC, in Prescott, Ariz., where she loved to play the bells in their bell choir. She also found great pleasure in their Monday night discussion group. During her final days, she was at home, surrounded by her loving extended Family.

There will be private family memorial service in Tucson, Ariz.



Church Attendance is up!
December 3rd we had 141 in attendance and we had . November attendance averaged 102.

ACKER NIGHT MUSICAL SHOWCASE IS TONIGHT!
FEATURING "SOUTH OF WINSLOW", AN EAGLES TRIBUTE BAND
Dec. 8, 5:30 - 8:30



You won't want to miss this, we are hosting "South of Winslow" a tribute to the Eagles... Possibly the most widely known and universally loved band of the last 40 years. Young or old, guy or gal, cowboy or city slicker, their music strikes a chord in everyone. Five musicians have formed South of Winslow as a tribute to the Eagles, and they invite you to share in their love for this music.

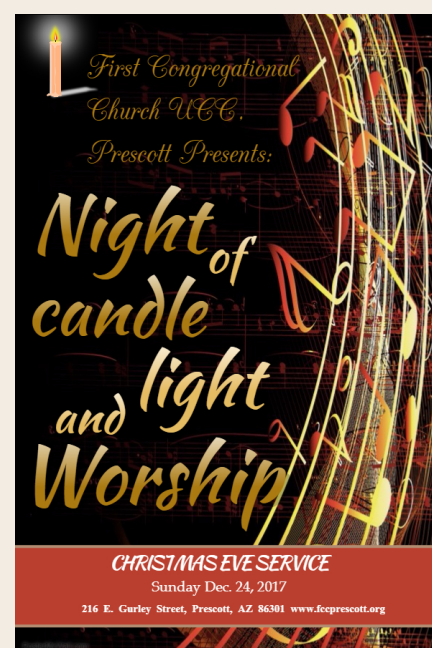


[Download your Acker Night Music Schedule Here](#)



Christmas Potluck
December 17th after worship service

Bring a dish to share!
Sign-Up Sheet in Perkins Hall
RSVP 445-4555



This year Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service -- Sunday
Dec. 24th, 7:00 p.m.

We also need volunteers to arrive early to receive the food in the kitchen and to clean up and put away.

Elkanah Riley's graduation



Elkanah Riley's graduation ceremony from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University will be held Saturday, December 16, 10:00 AM, at the Prescott Valley Event Center. Elkanah is extending an open invitation for anyone from our church family to attend. Elkanah has been a beloved and active member of our congregation. We pray for God's guidance as his future unfolds.

We have several sign-up sheets that need your attention!



- Coffee Hour goodies
- P.A.S.S. meal
- Christmas potluck

2018 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



[DOWNLOAD YOUR PLEDGE CARD HERE](#)

- NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE PLEDGED: 57
- TIME AND TALENT SHEET: 9
- TOTAL FUNDS PLEDGED: \$79,420

No pledge is too small -

- Help us plan the 2018 budget.

KEY DATES

- Elkanah Riley Graduation: Dec. 16th
- Christmas Potluck: Dec. 17th after worship service.
- P.A.S.S.: Dec. 20th
- Annual Reports Due: Dec. 31st
- Annual Meeting: Jan. 28th after worship service.

CALLED TO CARE HEALING SERVICE

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 11:30 am Sanctuary

This special worship service for healing will include prayer and the opportunity to be anointed with oil. There are many types of healing: physical, mental, emotional, relational and spiritual. You are invited to come either to ask God for healing for yourself or to be a channel of God's healing for someone else. Or come just to soak in the healing Presence of God and to pray for those seeking God's healing power.

CHURCH SAFETY & SECURITY

The Cabinet is reviewing our security in light of the Texas church shooting.

- Entry doors may be locked - please come to the Gurley Street sanctuary entrance door after worship begins.
- We are looking into **ALICE** (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) security training for our church. If you are interested in being part of a team, let Julie J. in the office know. 928-445-4555

ORDER YOUR 2017 ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

Check out Watch: 2017 Advent Devotional from the Stillspeaking Writers' Group. These devotions will satisfy your need for something different while providing a fulfilling Advent journey you won't soon forget.



[CLICK HERE FOR THE ADVENT COLLECTION.](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE STILL SPEAKING WRITERS' GROUP COLLECTION.](#)

[800-537-3394](tel:800-537-3394) | uccresources.com

To have a "Daily Devotional" like this one in your inbox, click here.

GREETERS FOR DECEMBER

Yoichi Matsumoto

Chuck Budinger

John, Sonja and Amy Wilson

If you would like to become a greeter, see Anne Solt.

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 1 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. We also practice on Thursday evenings at 5:00. You may attend one of both of these times, depending on what suits you.

For more information, please contact the Music Director, Jane Osborn, at [928-713-4752](tel: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.

ALARCON LANDSCAPING

Our thanks to John McCurdy for coordinating the finish to our landscaping on Alarcon Street!

MISSION NEWS

We have identified both local and national Mission Outreach projects for December.

- **LOCALLY**, we are participating in the CCJ's "Family Christmas" project for children K-12.A donation box is in place to receive new toys, gift cards, new clothing items, etc. (a take-home list of items can be found in Perkins Hall). If you prefer to write a check, please do so by December 17th and make it payable to our church with the memo line " Family Christmas".
- **NATIONAL project is "The Christmas Fund"**. This fund aids retired clergy families living on very restricted retirement income. Checks written for this fund will be received through December 31st.

PASS MEAL--Prescott Area Shelter Services provides shelter for homeless women and women with children. On the third Wednesday of each month, volunteers from our church provide a hot meal with side dishes and dessert. If you have questions, contact our PASS MEAL coordinator, Patty Gard ([928 910 3042](tel:928-910-3042)). There is a volunteer sign-up list in Perkins Hall.

COMMUNITY CUPBOARD has an on-going need for canned food donations. We maintain a donation box throughout the year in our sanctuary. If you would like to help pack food bags periodically, contact our project coordinator, Al Beeson ([928 717 9915](tel:928-717-9915)).

As always, thank you for your support of our outreach to people in need. We are blessed to be a blessing. Gary Gard, Chairperson ([928 910 2455](tel:928-910-2455))

| DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------|
| | John Mccurdy | 12/03 |
| | Mac Macalister | 12/05 |
| | Tommie Wildman | 12/06 |
| | Carole Sue Linson | 12/08 |
| | Sandra Talbot | 12/08 |
| | Richard Unkenholz | 12/11 |
| | Rodger Payne | 12/13 |
| | Randy Jay Wilcher | 12/17 |
| | Pete Norum | 12/18 |
| | Charlie Hille | 12/19 |
| | Jay Eby | 12/24 |
| | Dillan Osborn | 12/25 |
| | Don Stephens | 12/25 |
| | Christopher Hoitt | 12/27 |

STEWARDSHIP

| Offerings | | | Attendance Monthly Average | | Outreach Gifts | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|---|-----------------------|--------|
| December | | YTD | January | 102 | January | | | July | | Undesignated Missions | |
| Offerings | \$ 3,294 | \$ 99,818 | February | 89 | Prescott Comm. Cupb. | \$ 590 | Pancake Breakfast | \$ 1,337 | | YTD | \$ 975 |
| Facility Use | \$ 593 | \$ 11,818 | March | 89 | February | | August | | OCWM | | |
| Foundation | \$ 6,500 | \$ 67,798 | April | 108 | PASS | \$ 140 | Discovery Gardens | \$ 65 | | YTD | \$ 350 |
| Other | | \$ 5,511 | May | 101 | March | | September | | Coalition for Compassion and Justice | | |
| Total | \$ 10,387 | \$184,945 | June | 79 | Habitat for Humanity | \$ 165 | Neighbors in Need | \$ 495 | | YTD | \$ 354 |
| Expenses, Actual | | | July | 96 | April | | October | | Famine Relief | | |
| | December | YTD | August | 91 | One Great Hour Share | \$ 1,683 | Warm for Winter | \$ 160 | Special Offering | \$ 795 | |
| Expenses | \$ 6,245 | \$268,188 | Sept | 90 | May | | November- December | | Hurricane Relief | | |
| Annual Budget Needs | | | Oct | 91 | Church World Service | \$ 319 | CCJ Family Christmas | \$ 445 | Special Offering | \$ 4,600 | |
| | Annual | | Nov | 103 | June | | December | | Fire Relief | | |
| Expenses | \$ | 254,276 | Dec | 141 | Strengthen the Church | \$ 280 | UCC Christmas Fund | | Special Offering | \$ 200 | |

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



REGULARLY SCHEDULED

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| <p>PASTOR’S BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Hazeltime room. All adults are welcome.</p> <p>EVERY WEEK COMMUNION</p> <p>“Every Sunday Communion” takes place in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays. Communion is open to all.</p> <p>ONCE A MONTH COMMUNION</p> <p>Our regularly scheduled communion is held the first Sunday of each month. Communion is open to all.</p> <p>PRAYER CHAPEL</p> <p>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.</p> <p>PASS MEAL</p> <p>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.</p> <p>CABINET MEETING</p> <p>Meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.</p> <p>VAN MINISTRY</p> <p>If you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings, please let Bill Rouse know by the Saturday before. 602-769-5770</p> | <p>BELL CHOIR PRACTICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>CHANCEL SINGERS</p> <p>If you like to sing, the Chancel Singers are eager to increase its membership. We meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. before worship services and Thursday nights at 5:00 p.m. Come when you can.</p> <p>ALTER-NOTES</p> <p>Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal in the Hazeltime 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</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS</p> <p>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).</p> |
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CONTACT US

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| <p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH</p> <p>PRESCOTT, UCC</p> <p>216 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301</p> <p>Office: 928-445-4555</p> <p>Pastor Jay: 928-899-9066</p> <p>Julie: 928-710-1379</p> | <p>ADMINISTRATION</p> <p>Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 4:00</p> <p>Friday 9:00 - 1:00</p> <p>PASTOR JAY</p> <p>Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00</p> <p>other times by appointment</p> |
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30

