



# The Parish Caller

Established in 1880

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

## FROM THE PASTOR

Lucas Cranach the Elder, 1526,  
Staatliche Museen zu Berlin,  
Gemaldegalerie, Berlin, Germany

This week we come to the story of David and Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11-12). An ancient "Me Too" story that sadly sounds very modern. Our historic treatment of Bathsheba sounds very modern as well. This picture of Bathsheba "bathing" is about the only one I could find where she is not totally naked. Research into "bathing" practices of her time do not suggest a bathtub but rather a towel and bowl and not total nudity. But she is portrayed that way to help make her complicit as a temptress.



So a story of sexual assault by David becomes a mutual affair. One male commentator even suggested that when King David sends for her...she went! And that shows her mutual desire for David. Really? The king calls for you and you can respond with a no? We never hear from Bathsheba because as a woman she is silenced. Sound familiar? The cover of the weekly New Yorker magazine usually relates to what is going on in our culture. This week's cover has a picture of a woman's face with a red hand over her mouth. Bathsheba hardly gets a name in our reading this week - she is "the wife of Uriah the Hittite." Even being in the genealogy of Jesus (through her son Solomon) does not justify a name. She is only "Uriah's wife." (Matthew 1:6)

The subordination of women continues in our day and contributes to ongoing sexual misconduct and assault. Sadly, the church is often silent or complicit. Large portions of the Church teach that it is God's will for women not be ordained as pastors of churches. The use of our scriptures to subordinate women, justify slavery, and condemn the LGBTQ community demands a biblical response - and I will give it Sunday.

See you then,

Jay

## DAVID SERMON SERIES CONTINUES

2 Samuel 11-12	A "Me Too Moment" - Abuse of Power
2 Samuel 14-15	Family Troubles
2 Samuel 16-18	When You Are at Your Lowest
2 Samuel 22	David: Fully Alive to God
2 Samuel 23	The Blessing of Communion
1 Chron. 28-29	Facing Death



## WITNESS FOR JUSTICE

## COMMENTARY: AMERICA IS IN PAIN

People who have suffered sexual trauma, who have spent significant effort shielding themselves from public shame, and who have sought healing from deep wounds, now find their stories painfully reflected on very public and highly politicized stages. Those who tell their stories, men and women alike, face derision, shame, humiliation, and death threats in order to let the world know what the men in their lives are capable of. Yet repeatedly those who have threatened them, abused them, told them to keep quiet, and dismissed them, remain in positions of power.



Further contributing to the pain of those affected, our elected and other high-profile leaders willingly filter the truth in order to expedite their personal or party-first ends. Political parties push ideological narratives with little to no regard for those affected in the process or for our shared humanity. The message received is that the cost of victims' truth is too high and not one we are willing to pay.



This is the message received by our children, too. It teaches boys that they can get away with a lot more than they might think, and it teaches girls that unmasking a male abuser can come at great personal risk. We watch this message play out on the public stage, and some of our nation's most revered leaders are reinforcing this message again and again.

I learned a long time ago how much courage it takes for a woman to break her silence. I learned as a pastoral counselor how critical it is for a victim's health and recovery that she be heard, trusted, and believed when she breaks her silence. Many women have been threatened by their abusers, and many times the threats come at a cost not only to them but to the people they love. Threats are as real as the trauma of abuse. If, when women find the courage to speak, they are ignored, dismissed, ridiculed, or become targets of public rage, we re-traumatize them and make far less likely they will speak up again.

America is in great pain.

Too many women are living in bodies that have been abused by men with power. Too many men are living in a world where their abuse of power is accepted, excused, and protected.

I believe.

I don't doubt any woman, no matter how long it has taken to tell her story, when she speaks of her abuse and trauma.

I refuse to respect the authority of any man, or woman for that matter, who has used his or her power to subdue a woman against her will.

I call upon people of faith to find their voices and speak out about the sexual abuse, trauma, and assault that have become far too common.

I call upon people of faith to find their voices and speak up in order to create a world where women who dare to tell their stories and break their silence are cared for, heard, and nurtured, a world where the men who look to us to shame their victims do not get the audience they need to protect them.

I call upon men of faith, men in power, and men in political offices to adopt a position of radical and deep listening to the voices of those who experience our use and abuse of power as a threat.

These are important steps we must take to heal the wounds we have all had a hand in creating. Healing will not happen immediately, but we must begin immediately to act. Anything short of this guarantees the wound will fester and grow.

Be the Church. Believe. Listen. Teach. Heal.

John C. Dorhauer is General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE MINISTRY POSITIONS

We are now upon that time of year when we reach out to the congregation and request three to four volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee. Their challenge will be to find 'willing and able' members to fill the positions of current officers whose cabinet term is coming to an end. Some have spent years in their position because they have felt the call to do so. But now we need to fill some.

This is not only a request for several volunteers but also a plea to actually consider serving in one of these ministries OR giving us some feedback as to who you know that may be interested. We can't do this without your help.

*Here are the Ministry/Officer positions open for 2019:*



## OCTOBER

This month's mission emphasis we will be focusing on two missions. first is our denomination's national "Our Church's Wider Mission" (OCWM). Donations to the OCWM help support education, mission, and administrative planning and programing. Second, our local "People Who Care". Donations to PWC enable the ministry of local volunteers who help those in need with such services as; transportation, shopping, doctor/dental appointments, home repair, and fellowship. Checks may be made payable to our church, with the memo line designating your preference.If you note only "mission", donations will be used at the discretion of our Mission Outreach committee. If you would like to explore being a PWC volunteer, please phone the Prescott PWC at [928-445-2480](tel:928-445-2480).

For the month of September, your mission contributions enabled us to send a \$1,718 check to our denomination's "Neighbors in Need". Among the NIN projects is the "Hope Station", a newly forming border ministry with a planned shelter in Nogales, Mexico for immigrants arriving

**Co-Moderator** - Attend Cabinet Meetings, recommend formation of committees, appoint non-elected Ministry members as necessary, with cabinet approval, communicate regularly with Minister

**Treasurer** - Creator of Budget and maintains accurate account of funds received, disbursed, or invested in the name of the church

**Ministry of Physical Resources** - maintaining, preserving, and improving the church facilities and grounds

**Clerk** - Records business at Cabinet Meetings and distributes

**Members-at-Large** - maintains open dialogue with congregation and reports to Cabinet

Need those interested in service on the following committees:

**Nomination Committee** -  
**Welcoming Committee** -

Thank you for any consideration you may have in filling a position.  
Please email or call for ANY QUESTIONS you may have.

Your Faithful Co-Moderator  
Patty Lantrip 480-227-2170 [palantrip@gmail.com](mailto:palantrip@gmail.com)  
Marti Garrison - 928-231-7664  
Gary Gard 928-445-7763

from the south and immigrants newly deported from the United States (including DACA students whose renewal applications were denied). As always, thank you for your support of ministries reaching out to those in need of love, justice, and compassion. We have been blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2). For information about any of our mission projects, contact our Mission Outreach chairperson, Gary Gard at 928-910-2455.

On the third Wednesday of each month volunteers from our church provide a hot meal for women and children staying at the Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS). If you would like to help, there is a sign-up sheet on the round table in Perkins Hall. Thank each of you who so faithfully participate in this ministry. For more information or questions, please contact our PASS meal coordinator, Patty Gard at 928-460-3042.

**Birthdays**

WILSON, John September 28  
HOITT, Destiny September 29  
KERSTINE, Marilyn September 30  
GILGES, Ralph October 9  
GATES, Melissa October 13  
MONSKA, Paul October 13  
FOOTE, David October 17  
GATES, Elizabeth October 21  
LOBAUGH, Harold October 22  
LOBAUGH, Suzy October 23  
LANTRIP, Patty October 25  
DUFFY, Buz October 26

**TALENT, WILLING PARTICIPANTS,  
HUMBUG--ites AND HOLIDAY LOVERS NEEDED!! BE  
PART OF THE HOLIDAY MAGIC THIS SEASON**

**AUDITIONS FOR EBENEZER SCROOGE RADIO DRAMA  
TO BE HELD  
NOVEMBER 10TH 10 a.m. - 12:00**

**SIGN UP SHEET IS IN PERKINS HALL**

**NEEDED:  
VOICE CHARACTER ACTORS**

**BEHIND THE SCENES AND SOUND EFFECTS**

**FOR MORE DETAILS, CHECK THE SIGNUP SHEET IN PERKINS HALL OR  
SEE BRIAN MOORE**



**OCTOBER**

Andree Shrimpton and Randy Cook will be at the Alarcon Street entrance.



Paul Monska and James Olney will be at the front door.

**CHURCH PARKING**

Discovery Gardens preschool parents use our parking lot weekdays as they pick up and drop off their children. We are ok with this since we use the school lot on Sunday mornings. Please use the school lot as you are able - this allows those who need our spaces to be able to find one. Thanks!

**TEMPLE B'RITH SHALOM**

Our joint activities with Temple B'rith Shalom have been Postponed to the Spring due to Rabbi Holly going on leave of absence due to a fall resulting in her braking her fibula and tibial plateau. Pray for her.

**RADIO DRAMA - EBENEZER SCROOGE**

**TALENT WANTED - AUDITIONS FOR DECEMBER RADIO DRAMA TO BE HELD**



NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> 6:00-7:00 PM SANCTUARY  
NOVEMBER 10TH 10 AM - 12:00PM SANCTUARY  
RADIO DRAMA PERFORMANCE: DECEMBER 5TH 7:00 p.m.

**PRAYER CHAPEL - TUESDAY**

Prayer chapel is transitioning at this time and not meeting at the church - prayers continue at homes - please leave your requests in the box in Perkins Hall.

**PASTOR BIBLE STUDY EVERY THURSDAY, 9:30-10:30 AM**

Pastor Jay leads a weekly Bible Study on Thursdays at 9:30 am in the church office. Continuing our series on David, the text will be 2 Samuel 11-12.

**PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES (PASS) OPEN HOUSE OCTOBER 17, 1-4 PM**

PASS will welcome the community to an open house October 17. PASS is a women and children shelter for women in crisis or homeless. The address is 336 North Rush Street.

**RINGING BELLS REHEARSAL TIME IS MOVING TO 9:00 THURSDAYS**

We are looking for new ringers that would like to come and try with us. It is necessary that you read treble clef music. Call if you are interested. Director Carole Sue Linson M.M. 928 717 4494

**SECURITY TEAM**

Do you have an interest in security matters? We are looking for new team members to help with our churches security protocol each Sunday.

**ACTIVITY BAGS**

To help your little ones pass the time before the Children’s Time, you will find colored activity bags hanging on the entry doors of the sanctuary for the children to enjoy. Please leave these activity bags in the pews when the children leave for Sunday school.

**DONORS DESPERATELY NEEDED!**

Alan Michael needs a bone marrow transplant from someone whose DNA is an acceptable match to him. So far, in the entire world, that’s right, WORLD, there is not one person on any national or international bone marrow registry who is an acceptable match for him. That’s why we need YOU, and all your family and friends, no matter where they are geographically, and we need you NOW!

The test is simple. It’s a cheek swab done through the mail, followed by a local blood sample should you be a tentative match to someone needing bone marrow, such as Alan, and should your blood show you as an acceptable match to that person, you donate your marrow at your local hospital.

If you are between the ages of 18 and 44 this process is free for you. If you are between 45 and 60 years of age the cost of the cheek swab would be \$100. If you want to donate but can’t afford the cost, let me know and we may be able to find some financial assistance. So, if you’re interested in donating, call me, Melissa Gates at 207-391-3276 and I can give you the information you need and answer any questions you may have. Don’t forget to spread this word far and wide to all your friends and family because no matter where they are they can access the internet, get the testing done, become a member of the bone marrow registry and hopefully someone will match Alan.

For those over the age of 60, like me, the only way to try to donate is to use a private clinical lab for the cheek swab and that costs about \$195. The one thing about using the private lab is that results are returned between 3 and 5 business days whereas with the registry it takes 7 to 10 weeks for results. Again, call me if you’re interested. LET’S ALL HELP ALAN MICHAEL!

Melissa Gates

**ALTER-NOTES**

Would you like to sing or can play an instrument in a fun and crazy group?Anything goes-- pop, folk, blues, spirituals, African, calypso, jazz and even classical. We play in full group or break-out groups, as well as instrumentalists.

Contact Melissa Gates phone:207-391-3276  
Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal on the Chancel each Sunday.



**Regularly Scheduled**

**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

**VAN MINISTRY**

If you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings, please let Bill Rouse know by the Saturday before. 602-769-5770

**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 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

**CHANCEL SINGERS**

If you like to sing, the Chancel Singers are eager to

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.

**PRAYER CHAPEL**

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.

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

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).



# CONTACT US

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
PRESCOTT, UCC**

216 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Office: 928-445-4555

Pastor Jay: 928-899-9066

Julie: 928-710-1379

**ADMINISTRATION**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 4:00

Friday 9:00 - 1:00

**PASTOR JAY**

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00

other times by appointment