



# 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."

February 17, 2017



## ***This Week at a Glance...***

- ♦ **Choir Rehearsal:** Sunday 9:00 am
- ♦ **Sunday Worship Service and Fellowship time:** 10:30 am
- ♦ **AltarNotes Rehearsal:** 12:00
- ♦ **Bell Choir Practice:** Thursday 11:00 am
- ♦ **Cabinet Meeting:** Thursday 6:00 pm (moved to Hazeltine room)

## **We have rescued all of the paving brick!**

Thanks to many eager and helping hands, we could save several pallets loads of paver bricks!

Thank you, Mac, Mark, Melissa, Elizabeth, Austin and James!



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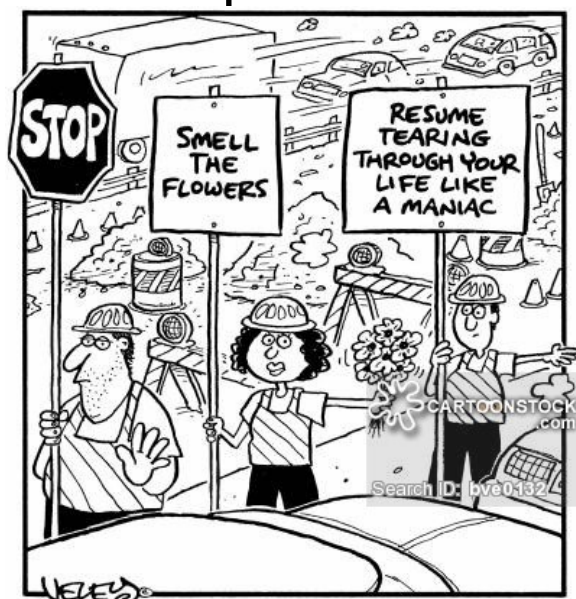
- ♦ From the UCC.org

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- ♦ Learn about our website

Despite the road work right in front of our church, we had 87 attend worship service this past week!

Don't let the road work keep you from attending services this week, you may still park in the parking lot, just enter using the alley off Gurley street.







**EVERYWEEK  
COMMUNION 10:00—  
10:25 SUNDAYS  
OTHER THAN FIRST  
SUNDAYS OF THE  
MONTH  
10:00– 10:20 PRAYER  
CHAPEL  
10:20 IN PERKINS  
HALL**



**CALLED TO CARE  
NEW WEEKLY  
PRAYER CHAPEL  
OPEN FOR PRAYER**

Called to Care is meeting for weekly prayer at 10:00 am Mondays in the Prayer Chapel (downstairs). This is open to whomever wishes to pray with us. Please see the Prayer Box in Perkins Hall for open or anonymous requests. You may also contact Pastor Jay, Marilyn Kerstine, Rev. Shirley or another Called to Care minister to add your request.

## OUTREACH

This month's mission emphasis is the Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS). PASS provides emergency shelter for homeless women with children and for homeless families. Additionally, they help to network clients with area social services, and help clients meet their goals of finding employment and permanent housing. In addition to our monetary support of PASS, our church provides a monthly evening meal. We need more volunteers. If you can help, please contact our PASS meal co-captains, Andrea ([928-710-5427](tel:928-710-5427)) or Tawnya Worthington ([928-533-0046](tel:928-533-0046)). It is our joy this morning to welcome Carman Frederic to provide further comment to the work of PASS. Monetary donations can be made by making your check payable to the church, with the memo line note of, "PASS".

### JAZZ VESPERS

Cool Azul will be entertaining us here as we enjoy another evening filled night of Jazz and wine! Join us Wednesday evening Feb 22 at 6:30 pm.

### CABINET MEETING

Thursday evening, 6:30pm Feb 23rd.

### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

5:30 pm, March 1st –Rev Harry Strong.

### STUDY GROUP FOR SUNDAYS IN LENT, STARTING MARCH 5

Meet in the downstairs large meeting room (former library), 9:30-10:15. Topics from the Series "Great Figures of the New Testament" by Amy-Jill Levine.

- March 5: Judas Iscariot
- March 12: Pilate
- March 19: Barabbas
- March 26: Centurions

These topics (parallel to those to be given the following Wednesday evenings by Rev. Harry Strong) are scheduled for those who prefer the Sunday morning time.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT LENTEN SERIES BEGINS MARCH 8

Each Wednesday we will gather at 5:30 pm for a soup meal and then watch a video of Rev. Harry Strong portraying a character from the passion narrative – Judas, Pilate, Barabbas, Simone of Cyrene, and the Centurion. Discussion will follow.

### NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED EASTER SUNDAY

Please let Pastor Jay or Moderator Marti know if you have interest in joining others as new members on this special day, April 16.

### PLEASE SHOWER JOSH TAYLOR WITH LOVE, CARDS AND LETTERS

Josh is now a Marine Corporal deployed to Saudi last December. For anyone who doesn't know him, Josh was our beloved staff Childcare provider for years, our dedicated staff security guard who lived in the church parsonage and our compassionate one who was always "there" with a smile and a hug whenever any of us had a need. Now he needs, not our care packages, but our caring notes, letters and cards from home to cheer his "Mail Call" moments! Just let him know how you are doing, what's happening, or introduce yourself! Fun cards are great too! Military rules are strict so please address all mail like this with first class postage:

CPL TAYLOR, JOSHUA R  
SPMAGTF 17.1 CE  
UNIT 89033  
FPO AP 96610-0001

## Commentary: It's our government. Let's take it back!

February 09, 2017  
Written by **Edith Rasell**

***Edith Rasell  
is Minister of  
Economic  
Justice of the  
United  
Church of  
Christ.***

A number of President Trump's nominees to key positions in his Administration seem like odd choices. Many of them have in the past condemned the very agencies and missions they are now selected to lead. Betsy DeVos, nominated to head the Department of Education, is a foe of public education. Rick Perry, named to lead the Department of Energy, has called for the elimination of the Department. Scott Pruitt has been nominated to head the Environmental Protection Agency but as Oklahoma's attorney general, he repeatedly sued the EPA to block regulations that, if confirmed, he would be expected to enforce.

These nominations and others suggest the current role of government is to destroy itself. But is this really what we want? Our shrunken federal government and the stunted role it plays in society are directly related to many of our major problems including the growth in inequality, lack of good jobs, and inadequate response to climate change. Without a strong government -  
- of, by and for the people --  
our society is weaker and the common good is thwarted.

**WITNESS<sub>for</sub>  
JUSTICE**

We all need the services that good government provides. As individuals we face an inevitable power imbalance when we have a conflict with a large corporation. Think about your experience trying to address a problem involving a cable or phone company, bank, airline, or insurance company. How did that work out for you? Sometimes things turn out well. Too often they don't. What about the many workers, especially in low-wage jobs, who try to get fair deals from their employers? As consumers and workers, much of the (very limited) power we have in these situations derives from the rules and regulations put in place by excellent policymakers acting to further the interests of *all* the people.

But our regulatory framework is eroded. Moreover, while this country is extremely wealthy, too many of us are barely getting by. Our public policies are diverting too many resources to corporations and the wealthy through wasteful privatization schemes, tax breaks for the rich, corporate tax loopholes, the failure to raise the federal minimum wage or require paid sick days for all workers, and our huge expenditures for national security made under the influence of the military/industrial/national-security complex.

Yes, we the people have lost control of our government and money is now driving legislation. But the one force that can defeat the power of organized money is the power of organized people!

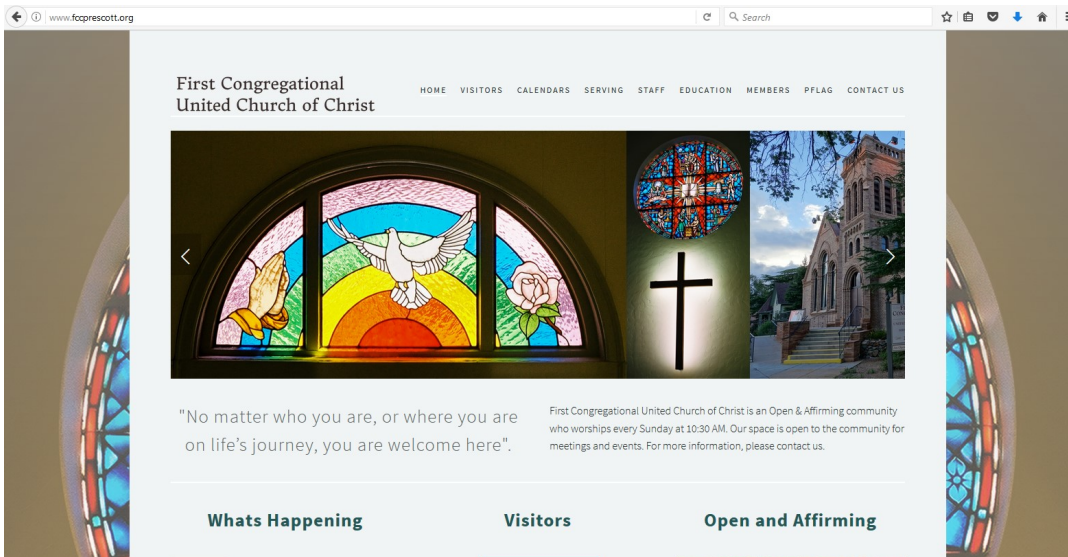
Friends, don't just mourn or moan, but organize and turn out. This is not the time to shrink government or dismantle it. It's time to reclaim government, to "occupy" government. The good news is this process has already begun with the Black Lives Matter movement, massive women's marches, demonstrations in opposition to the ban on immigrants and refugees, and the huge volume of phone calls urging Congress to oppose the confirmations of unqualified cabinet nominees. Get in the streets and in the face of your elected representatives either by phone, email, in person, or all the above.

It's our country. It's our government. Let's take it back!

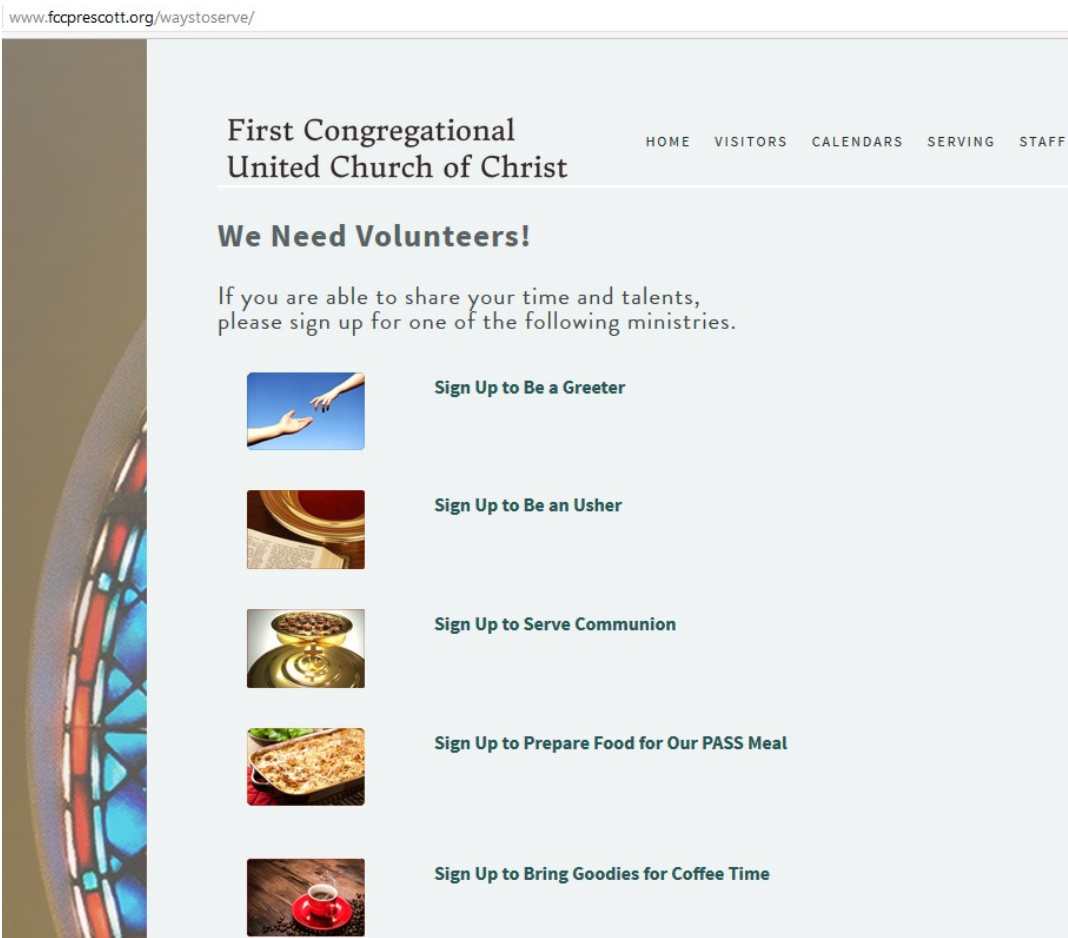
# Get to know us better, visit our website!

www.fccprescott.org

- ◆ You can access our calendar of events
- ◆ Download a membership directory



- ◆ Use our Signup Genius to volunteer!



- ◆ Browse through back issues of The Parish Caller
- ◆ Make a pledge payment
- ◆ Notify us of changes to your phone number, address or email address
- ◆ Download meeting reports
- ◆ Access 12 step meeting schedule

## CONTACT US:

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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

Meets 9 am before worship on Sundays. See Jane Osborn if you would like to join the choir!  
BELL CHOIR PRACTICE at 11 am on Thursdays

### CABINET MEETING

Meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:30 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.

### EXPLORING FAITH

Discussion Group  
Looking into new topics, please let Pastor Jay if you are interested  
~And~  
Monday Evening Discussion Group  
6:30 pm in the Church Chapel.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Called to Care  
Music  
Van Ministry  
Congregational Care  
Ministry of the Building

JUST ASK!!!