

The Parish Caller

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

February 19, 2016

First Congregational
Church, United
Church of Christ,
Prescott



FEATURED THIS ISSUE

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This Week at a Glance...

- ◆ **Choir Practice** Sunday 9 am
- ◆ **Exploring Faith** Sunday 9 am
- ◆ **P.I.E. (Play, Inspire, Eat)** Wednesday 5:30 pm
- ◆ **Jazz Vespers** Wednesday 6:30 pm
- ◆ **Cabinet Meeting** Thursday 6:30 pm
- ◆ **Woman's Fellowship Group** Friday 12:30 pm

"Sign-Up Genius"

Several of you started using the "Sign-Up Genius on our website! It is a fun and effective way to sign up for many of the different needs of the Church! In our campaign to introduce this method, I have offered to reward the first the first 5 people to use the website by taking them to lunch. There are still 2 slots open. To add your name, go to www.fccprescott.org/waystoserve/ Then click on the area of interest you have where you would like to be of service. After you have signed up, the system will automatically send my office a notification of your volunteering. You will also receive confirmation of your sign-up as well as an email reminder a few days before your scheduled date to volunteer. It is fast and easy and helps us in the office so much!


Julie Jaquette—Office Administration

First Congregational
United Church of Christ


HOME VISITORS CALENDARS SERVING

We Need Volunteers!


If you are able to share your time and talents,
please sign up for one of the following ministries.




Sign Up to Be a Greeter




Sign Up to Be an Usher




Sign Up to Serve Communion



Sign Up to Prepare Food for Our PASS Meal



Sign Up to Bring Goodies for Coffee Time



Sign Up to Be a Lay Reader

From Pastor Jay

From Pastor Jay

Sunday we consider the deadly sin of gluttony. I am not sure how many more weeks we can take these images from the creative mind of Dante in the 1300's! Can you imagine the fear they evoked back then? Gluttony does not get much attention these days, but consider how much money is made in our culture off both ends of the gluttony spectrum – fast food loaded with calories and the weight loss industry. Sunday we will consider gluttony in a much larger context beyond just food and drink. The early monks were not as focused on a flabby waistline as they were on a flabby soul.



Dante's Inferno (1300's)

The "great worm" [Cerberus](#) guards the [gluttons](#), who are forced to lie in a vile slush produced by ceaseless, foul, icy rain

The gluttons lie here sightless and heedless of their neighbors, symbolizing the cold, selfish, and empty sensuality of their lives

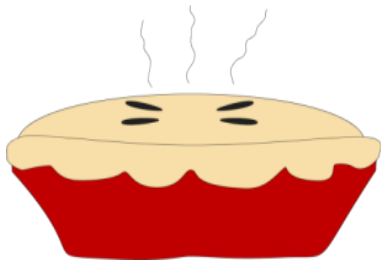
The third circle, illustrated by [Stradanus](#)

Lenten Sermon Series: The Seven Deadly Sins

- Feb. 28 – Deadly Sin of Sloth
- March 6 – Deadly Sin of Envy
- March 13 – Deadly Sin of Greed

P.I.E.
(Play, Inspire, Eat)

TIME FOR SOME P.I.E.
(Play, Inspire, Eat)
5 Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 PM



- **Feb. 24:** Bring Your Own Food (& byob :)) 5:30 meal / 6:30 jazz vespers with Opus Jazz Ensemble
- **Mar 2:** Congregational “Get Acquainted” Potluck Fellowship
A chance to get to know those people you worship with on Sundays
- **Mar 9:** Agape Soup Meal & Directed Discussion On Church Future.
Developing A Mission Statement: Who Are We And Who Do We Want To Be?
- **Mar 16:** Green Food Night! Wear Green! Learn of St. Patrick

Special Events

Ladies Auxiliary Friday

Ladies you are invited to the first meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary Friday, February 26th at 12:30 pm in Perkins Hall. Bring your own lunch and we will provide dessert, coffee, tea. Please rsvp to the office at [928-445-4555](tel:928-445-4555). Bring your ideas/suggestions of how you might like to move forward. Hope you can join us, all are welcome.



Jazz Vespers will return Wednesday, February 24 at 6:30 pm with Opus Jazz Ensemble.

From the Southwest Conference: "Celebrating Interdependence"

Celebrating Interdependence

Quoting "Interdependence" by Ernie Dunn posted on the Southwest Conference UCC website:

"I believe the task before us is to cope with, better yet, celebrate our interdependence. We should not seek to escape the necessity for beneficial care of each other. We should see ourselves reflected in every other person and to respect and honor our differences."

The Southwest Conference (SWC) United Church of Christ Widening the Welcome Team Ministry recently formulated our mission statement "We are all ministers of Jesus Christ following the vulnerable, and working for justice for all people." Our vision statement is an implementation of the SWC UCC Open and Affirming Statement: In the 2015 Annual Meeting Report Michael Curry wrote: "We covenant with God and one another to extend welcome and Christian Fellowship to all the followers and seekers of Christ without fear, prejudice, or discrimination in regard to sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, race, age, ethnicity, nationality, **physical, mental or emotional condition**, education, financial situation or biblical or theological interpretation." "We commit to educate, advocate, and gather resources and skills to equip congregations to widen the welcome, accommodate and include all God's people in the life of the church"

Education

The Widening the Welcome Team Ministry conducts monthly meetings for the purpose of education and support with representatives of Desert Palm UCC, First Congregational UCC Phoenix, Shadow Rock UCC, Scottsdale Congregational UCC, Church of the Palms UCC Sun City, Primera Iglesia, and the Multi-Functional Families Group. We invite speakers to make presentations on topics that equip us for assisting congregations to be more welcoming of people who are differently gifted such as: the aging process, substance abuse, Accessible to All, challenges faced by care givers,

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From the Southwest
Conference**

ministry to a predominantly Latino congregation, Stephen Ministry, congregational justice and witness programs, peer support counseling program, servant leadership, and fundamentals of disability ministry.

Support

Our monthly meeting encourages our Widening the Welcome participants to share stories about their experiences with overcoming personal challenges as differently abled people, care giving including raising children with special needs and senior care, teaching children with special needs in church school, reports from congregations about particular inclusion programs such as usher training, peer support counseling program, Accessible to All program, congregational justice and witness and mental health programs.

Advocacy

We utilize collaboration to bring people together to advocate with Southwest Conference UCC congregations to include people who differently abled in the full fellowship of the church. Through representatives from

Southwest Conference UCC congregational representative we plan advocacy projects ecumenically through: participation in the Arizona Faith Network including speakers in a Public Policy Commission meeting and a panel member for the Economic Inequality Community Conversation on Living Wage, Presidents' Day at the Capitol with the Unitarian Universalist congregations and the National Council of Jewish Women, the Multi-Functional Families Group consisting of seven families raising children with special needs recruited young adult members to form a panel discussion after the film, "Autism in Love," speaking engagements and workshops organized at participating congregations, led workshops and made a presentation at the Southwest Conference Annual Meeting, and publicized our advocacy projects in the "In The Loop" newsletter.

Our vision is that with our efforts the differently abled community will be able to completely access spiritual training and be a full participant in the church community. Robert Koth, Coordinator, RobertKoth1@cox.net

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

KNIT WITS meets
the 1st & 3rd
Tuesdays of every
month from 1-3
pm in the Office
Conference Room.

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.

EXPLORING FAITH
Living the Questions
Study Group
Sunday Mornings at 9
am in the Church
Library
~And~
Monday Evening
Discussion Group

**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
jayfccprescott@gmail.com

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

PASS MEAL is a once-a-
month ministry where
we provide a meal for
the Prescott Area Shelter
Services the 3rd
Wednesday of every
month at 5:30 pm. Sign-
up sheet is in Perkins
Hall.

**Funky Friday
Game Night**
Hosted by PFLAG
Everyone
Welcome! 7-9 pm
1st Friday of
every Month
starting in
November

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.