



# 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."

January 27, 2017



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

- ♦ **Choir Rehearsal:** Sunday 9:00 am
- ♦ **Worship Service and Fellowship time:** Sunday 10:30 am
- ♦ **Restoration Open House:** 11:00 - 2:00 am

## FROM THE PASTOR

This Sunday we gather to celebrate our renovation project. So much was done to upgrade our buildings: sanctuary, Perkins Hall, and parsonage. We will acknowledge the work of our renovation committee and all the volunteers and vendors that worked on the project. And we will acknowledge the "gift" that has been entrusted to us by those who came before us. These buildings are a gift to the community. So many people I run into tell me about weddings, funerals, group meetings that they have attended here. Annual pancake breakfasts, 100 years of Boy Scouts, and the number of people touched in some way by our buildings is amazing.

Just this past week, we had a memorial service for a young man who passed away much too young. He had been a part of one of the recovery groups that meet at our church. His parents flew in from England and his brother came from California. They were grateful to hold the service in a church where their family member had been. Thousands have been touched by the sanctuary during powerfully emotional times of funerals, weddings, baptisms, Eagle Scout ceremonies, etc.

While it may not sound important, our church has a history of providing people "a soft place to land." That is the title of the sermon Sunday. I will make the case for our importance in Prescott as a soft place to land – for those who have often found church to be hard – rigid, judgmental, and unwelcoming. We will continue to uphold the values of Jesus (Micah 6:1-8; Matthew 5:1-12).

There was a nice turn out for the Woman's March on the Prescott Square this past Saturday the 21st. Findley and Roscoe seen here with Pastor Jay and Cherrie.



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## Woman's March on the Prescott Square

Woman's March on the Prescott Square this past Saturday the 21st. Findley, our budding young activist is front and center.



### OPEN HOUSE



**First Congregational Church** will have an Open House Sunday, January 29, from 11:30am - 2:00pm to celebrate the restoration project recently completed on the church structures. All are invited to stop by and view the changes to the historic sanctuary, fellowship hall, and parsonage. During the 10:30 a.m. worship service, acknowledgements will be made for those who volunteered on the project and the Prescott vendors who did the work.

**216 East Gurley Street**  
(Double blocks east from Court House Square,  
corner of Gurley & Alarcon Streets)



### CHURCH RENOVATION PROJECT OPEN HOUSE – JANUARY 29

This Sunday will celebrate our renovation project with all who helped make it happen and the public on January 29, from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. During worship from 10:30 – 11:30, acknowledgements will be made for all involved, and the time before and after worship allows the public to come by and see what has been accomplished.

Church Renovations Committee: Marilyn Skovgard, Tom Macy, Pete Norum, and Angela Imbierowicz.



THIS IS THE WIFE OF HATE T. GORY.

CAMERA WORK OF  
LEROY E. ESLOW  
BREMEN, ILLINOIS

1952

# Officers and Ministries— January 2017

## Officers

Moderator	Marti Garrison
Vice Moderator	Angela Imbierowicz
Treasurer	Julie McCurdy
Clerk	<i>Vacant *</i>
Members-at-Large	Sarah Andrews
	Shirley Mahlberg
	Tawnya Worthington

## Church Staff

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Dr. Jay Wilcher
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Julie Jaquette
<b>Director of Music</b>	Jane Osborn
<b>Organist</b>	Leslee Amenta
<b>Bells Director</b>	Carole Sue Linson
<b>Building Minister</b>	Bill Linson
<b>Janitorial</b>	Debbie Staats
<b>Child Care</b>	Sarah Andrew
	Maria Janca
	Donna Farrington
<b>Coffee Coordinator</b>	Debbie Staats

## Foundation

Dave Foote, President  
 Christy Dinsman, Vice President  
 Angela Imbierowicz, Secretary  
 Al Beeson, Treasurer  
 John McCurdy, Trustee Chair  
 Harry Gamble  
 Charlie Skovgard  
 Julie McCurdy  
 Pastor Jay Wilcher

## Congregational Care

Tom Macy, Chair  
 Patty Brenner, Pew Supplies  
 Randy Cook, Pew Supplies  
 Sandra Johns, Communion  
 Marilyn Skovgard, Fellowship  
 Anne Solt, Greeters

## Called to Care

Marilyn Kerstine, Chair  
 Ronny de Jong  
 Patty Lantrip  
 Yoichi Matsumoto  
 Barbara McClure  
 Wendy Michaels  
 Kathy Stephens  
 Rev. Shirley Williams  
 Pastor Jay Wilcher

## Ministry of Education

*Chair, vacant*

## Ministry of Outreach

Gary Gard, Chair  
 Donna Bauman  
 Judy Ely  
 Patty Gard  
 Barbara McClure  
 Staci Robbins  
 Sarai Payne

## Ministry of Physical Resources

John McCurdy, Chair  
 Al Beeson  
 Mark McGough

## Stewardship

Julie Jaquette

## Nominating

Barbara McClure  
 Sandra Johns

*\* Anne Solt will be assuming the role of "Membership Clerk," keeping membership records until this Officer position is filled.*



**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.



**First Congregational Church**  
**Minutes of the 137th Annual Meeting**  
**January 22, 2017**

**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**

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!!!**

After worship service everyone was invited to gather in Perkins Hall for our Annual Meeting, followed by a potluck meal. At 11:45, Moderator John McCurdy called to order the 137th Annual Meeting of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Prescott, Arizona. A quorum was established, with 53 members in attendance.

Pastor Jay opened the meeting with a prayer. He then led us in remembering those of our congregation who have passed in 2016: John Harper, Betty Gehring, Craig Pitcher, Ruth Auchenbach, and Irene Warren.

The minutes from the 136th Annual Meeting on January 24, 2016, were approved.

Julie McCurdy presented the 2017 proposed budget for the congregation's approval, explaining that we do anticipate spending about \$52,000 more than will be covered by anticipated income from contributions and funding from the Foundation for minister salary and education expenses. The deficit will be covered by reserve funding in the Payne and Ashenfelter Funds. Our congregational challenge is to reduce and eliminate our need for relying on reserves within the next four years. The motion to accept the budget as presented was approved.

Pete Norum shared some history of Kate Cory, a past-member of First Congregational Church, and her painting which she gave to the church and which has hung in Perkins Hall for several decades. The painting is valued at \$10,000 and is considered an important representation of Hopi Life. The painting is currently on loan and on display at the Phippen Museum. The challenge is to provide a way to display the painting that will secure it from theft or vandalism and protect it from adverse climate conditions. Pete submitted a motion to safely display the painting. The motion was seconded. In discussion, it was decided, moved, seconded, and approved to amend the motion. The amended motion states:

Considering that the original painting titled "Migration of the Hopi Tribe in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century" painted and given to First Congregational Church of Prescott UCC by Kate Cory cannot be displayed safely within our building premises, this annual meeting of the congregation approves digitally photocopying and printing a full-size reproduction on canvas and framing it for display.

This congregational annual meeting further approves providing the original on loan to an appropriate local museum, to be determined by the cabinet.

The amended motion was approved.

Having noted that the reports of the Ministries are provided in the Annual Report booklet, John McCurdy invited the congregation to ask any questions about the Ministries. Dave Foote spoke on the financial condition of the Foundation, stating that although the Foundation has provided significant financial support to the church and has undertaken extensive improvements to the HVAC system at the restaurant, financial assets have increased in the past year by more than \$50,000. Dave also pointed out that there are currently no vacancies on the Foundation board as all seven elected members have agreed to serve in 2017 and the other two positions are filled by the Pastor and the chair of Physical Resources.

The slate of nominations for church leadership was presented and it was moved to elect Marti Garrison as Moderator; Angela Imbierowicz as Vice Moderator; Julie McCurdy as Treasurer; Tawnya Worthington, Sarah Andrews, and Shirley Mahlberg as Members-at-Large; John McCurdy as chair of Physical Resources; and Anne Solt as Membership Clerk. The motion to accept these nominations was approved. Barbara McClure pointed out that there are still several positions that need to be filled. Discussion followed, and nominations were accepted from the floor. It was moved, and approved, to elect Julie Jaquette to oversee Stewardship and Tom Macy to chair Congregational Care.

In looking to the future, John McCurdy expressed his confidence in our congregation and our continuing commitment to investing in our people and our facility and to building our relationship with God.

Pastor Jay then presented a thank-you gift to John McCurdy for his service as Moderator for the past four years. John was not able to turn over the leadership to our new Moderator, Marti Garrison, as she was away for the Women's March in Denver. Pastor Jay stated that the installation of new officers and leadership will be observed during worship the following Sunday.

In closing, Pastor Jay shared a prayer. John McCurdy adjourned the meeting at 1:00, inviting all to share in fellowship and potluck lunch.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie McCurdy, clerk