



First Congregational Church

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

ANNUAL Report

[Download your copy of the 2018 Annual Report above.](#)

[It is that time again, to get ready for the Annual Meeting for Members. This year it will be on the 27th of January. Join us for a potluck lunch right after the Worship service.](#)

Congregational Meeting



A LOOK *at the* BUDGET

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

The Cabinet would like to provide a special time, other than our scheduled January 27th Annual Meeting, for members to bring up questions about our 2019 Budget. We have many changes for next year, along with employee revamping, in part because of David's job duties in exchange for his apartment rent. We are trying to lessen an abundance of questions during the actual meeting Jan 27th which may or may not happen concerning the Budget.

So...after you download THE ANNUAL REPORT 2018 and 2019 Budget please spend some time to review the budget specifically and IF you have any questions, join us January 20th, right after our service. We will do the best we can to explain anything requested.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED

Good as new microwave oven for David, our new apartment tenant. See Julie or Jay in the office. 928-445-4555

SERVICES

Memorial Display Artist wanted to create a Memorial Display honoring the huge contribution Woman's Fellowship has made to this church. See Julie in office. 928-445-4555

RENTAL AGENT
If you desire quality for a personal mortgage through the bank, NO PROBLEM!

TWO BEDROOM for \$595
Beautiful 2 bed/2 bath open floor covered double doors with a lovely kitchen, charming living room w/ fireplace and balcony.

HOUSE FOR SALE

WANTED

One set of glass and a third hand house home inspection. Call now for 2000.

MORTGAGE BROKERAGE
We provide complete mortgage service. Call now for 2000.

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Wanted, Facebook & Social Media volunteer to post church events on our Facebook page. See Julie in the office. 928-445-4555

THANK YOU

TO ALL HOW
DONATED
THEIR NEW
AND USED
ITEMS FOR
DAVID.

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MISSIONS OUTREACH FOR JANUARY

This month's mission emphasis project is the Prescott Area Community Cupboard. Last year 14,629 families and those who are homeless received food bags containing protein, vegetable, and dairy items. Volunteers are always needed to help pack the grocery

bags. For the last several years, Al Beeson has served as our team captain. There is now a need for a co-captain to serve with Al. If you are interested in helping to pack or to serve as co-captain, please contact Al at 928-717-9915.

For donations, a check may be made payable to the church with the memo, Community Cupboard. In Perkins Hall there is a box for donated canned food items. Thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing [Genesis 12:2]. For any questions or comments, members of our Mission Outreach team are always available. Bill and Becky Bryant, Patty Gard, Staci Robbins, Gary Gard, chairperson.



Adult Opportunities for Learning and Sharing

Meeting in the Church Library, downstairs below Perkins Hall

Our Spiritual Journeys, Monday, Jan. 21; Feb. 4 and 18, 12-1:00 is for us to share individual and unique spiritual journeys through life. Questions we have, doubts, joys, changing beliefs through life stages: learning from each other. Materials as guides are UCC's *A Discernment Travelogue* and *The Jesus Diaries—Who Jesus is to Me*.

Social Justice, Sunday, Jan. 13 (the 27th cancelled for annual meeting), Feb. 10, 12-1:00. We will look briefly at the foundations of current social justice movements. The history includes the Social Gospel of 1910 and its impact on reform. Walter Rauschenbusch and Jane Addams were important figures. After that we'll share how our church and how we personally enact social justice. What are our hopes and intentions? What injustices and suffering do you see around you? How is God calling you to rise up and act?

"God is Still Speaking," What Does that Mean for Us? Wednesday, Feb. 10, 4:30-5:30, and ongoing. Why does "God is Still Speaking," end with a comma? "Never place a period where God has placed a comma" (Gracie Allen). Using UCC Still Speaking Bible studies and Robert Chase's book (in the library) *Life at the Intersection: Beyond the Comma*, we'll share what this means to each of us. What will you do this year to slow down and make space for God so you can be more engaged with your spiritual self and with our church?

Embracing an Adult Faith Today, Thursday, Jan. 17 and 31, 12:30-1:30. What are the stages of faith? Where have we grown and changed over time? Pete Norum will lead this discussion using DVDs featuring Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan and other theologians. This is sure to be stimulating and relevant!

The Bible and the United Church of Christ, Sunday, February 24 and March 3, 9:15-10:15. We will use UCC materials as well as selected readings from our library to delve into how our church, part of the national UCC, opens the Bible for us.

Coming up: Saturday, March 16, **Parables Perusal**, led by several ministers in our midst. Each will select a parable to get us wondering: what *did* Jesus mean? Lunch provided.

Women's Retreat in April. Get ready for lively times and deeper looks into how women are presented in the Bible. Who are they? How do we relate...or not?



First Congregational Church Library

Now in the church library: heat, light (non-fluorescent), a comfy chair, and attractively arranged books! Find your interest from scholarly to light-hearted, from biblical commentaries to how we live now with God.

The library is always open, except during service for security reasons, so do come down and browse, maybe borrow a book or two. Carol Dosse, retired professional librarian, and Marti Garrison, director of Christian education, have been diligently working away separating the dust from the treasures.

In last week's "Caller" I recommended books by Karen Armstrong and Barbara Brown Taylor, both of whom I love. Their works are readable and inspiring; they deepen our knowledge of the Bible and faith and how we worship and praise God by immersing ourselves in the natural world.

This week I recommend *The Sacred Journey* by Frederick Buechner, a prolific theologian and writer. This slim volume is subtitled "a memoir of early days." From his introduction: "I think of my life and of the lives of everyone who has ever lived, or will ever live, as not just journeys through time but as sacred journeys." Buechner carries us through his turbulent childhood and tragedies into his years at seminary and in ministry.

Another book in our library is *The God Who Smokes: scandalous meditations on faith* by Timothy J. Stoner. From the back cover: "Filled with humorous insights and challenging ideas, *The God Who Smokes* imagines a twenty-first-century church where hope hangs with holiness, passion sits next to purity, and compassion can relate to character." Stoner is part of the Emergent theology movement that some embrace as "the true spirit of the gospel, trading tired religion for authenticity and relevance. Others dismiss it as a heresy that compromises the gospel in the name of tolerance and dilutes the truth to attract a jaded generation." Stoner writes that there is room for a middle ground.



First Congregational Church Packer Team Schedule, January 7-11, 2019
TODAY! Fri Jan 11: Pete Norum, Yoichi Matsumoto

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 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.

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.

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 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

CHANCEL SINGERS

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