

# 2020

# First Congregational Church

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

## 2020 budget:

As you may have noticed, the budget provided with your 2020 Stewardship package had several changes. As a result of input from the Long-Range Planning Committee and the Foundation Board, the budget committee was tasked with preparing a proposed budget based on significantly reduced funds from the Foundation.



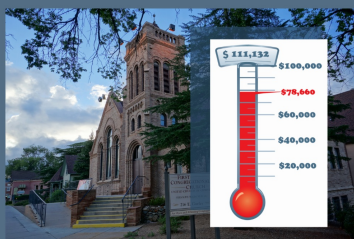
Do you have questions or would you like clarity about the proposed budget prior to voting at the Annual Meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup>? If so, please join members of the committee and cabinet in the Sanctuary after Service this Sunday to have your questions answered or your thoughts heard.

We hope to minimize the amount of time spent on this topic at the annual meeting by having maximum participation at the meeting this Sunday.

If you have a copy of the proposed budget, please bring it. If not, there will be some copies available at the meeting.

Thank you, Staci Robbins

### 2020 Estimated Gifts Goal



### 2020 Stewardship

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Pledge Units (individuals & couples)	38	46	64	33
# of Members that Pledged	55	54	47	37
# of Friends & Regular Attendees that Pledged	8	12	17	10
Total Amount Pledged	\$ 65,462	\$ 97,020	\$ 97,274	\$ 78,660

## 2020 ANNUAL MEETING

**JAN 26 @ 11:30  
BRING A  
DISH  
BRUNCH**



2019 GIVING STATEMENTS ARE WAITING FOR YOU IN PERKINS HALL. HELP US SAVE ON POSTAGE BY PICKING UP YOURS THIS SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE. THANKS! JULIE

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR MARILYN EBY SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 4TH AT 2:00 P.M.**



I became pastor of our church in April of 2015. My contract included granting me a three-month sabbatical after five years of service. This is customary in our UCC conference and some variation is also part of other denomination's policies. The wisdom of sabbaticals at around the five-year mark is related to studies of clergy burnout and the benefit to a congregation of longer pastorates. Studies show that cycling through pastors every 3-5 years is not healthy for the success of a church. And

studies also show that clergy tend to wear down and not perceive the spiritual, emotional, and psychological toll of ministry. Loss of creativity is also a byproduct. The insidious nature of burnout leads one not to perceive its effects - until bad consequences appear.

I am grateful for the opportunity to take a sabbatical during the months of June, July, and August of this year. A sabbatical committee has begun planning for the tasks of preaching and pastoral care during these months. We are blessed with retired clergy and lay leaders who can help us through this time.

**My sabbatical plan includes:**

- A trip to Michigan with my son to visit family.
- A trip with my wife to New England and New York.
- A personal spiritual retreat for renewal and reflection.
- A chance to visit different church worship services each week for gathering ideas.
- A time for worship and church-year planning for the next year.
- A time of rest and recreation to revive creativity.

I think of the sabbatical as a chance to step off the treadmill - what I call a chance to step back from the relentless return of Sunday. My continual focus is on the next Sunday's sermon and worship service. I lack time to look at things from a larger perspective.

My hope and prayer are that this will allow all of us to get out of some ruts and go down some new paths. One of our Cabinet members likened it to driving down the interstate at high speed and missing most of what could be seen, but by taking an exit and slowing down, new landscapes come into focus. May the Spirit make it happen!

Once again, thank you for this opportunity! Pastor Jay

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**New Members will be received January 26th**

Those that are interested in joining our church and have received a new member packet, please email or have a hand written small biographical description of yourself. Please send to [palantrip@gmail.com](mailto:palantrip@gmail.com) or the church at [fccprescott@gmail.com](mailto:fccprescott@gmail.com)



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**Mission Update:** Thanks to your generous contributions, during the month of December checks were distributed to support multiple mission projects. Those included:

1. Christmas gifts for local low income families
2. low income retired clergy
3. Operation Deep Freeze for the homeless
4. The Launch Pad, tutoring and programming for teens
5. School supplies for low income families
6. Border ministries for migrants; including shelter, food, clothing, counseling, and legal services.



Monetary totals will be reported in our Annual Report this January.

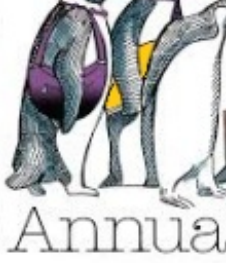
This month's mission outreach emphasis is the **Prescott Community Cupboard [PCC]**. PCC provides non-perishable food for low income families and for those who are homeless. You may deposit your donated items throughout the year in the box found in the front of the sanctuary. Checks may be made payable to the church, with the memo, Community Cupboard. For many years, Al Beeson has served as captain of our church's team of volunteers who help to pack the food bags. While Al recovers from his treatment of cancer, our co-captain, Angela Imbierowicz has assumed Al's duties. If you would like to volunteer as a food bag packer, please contact Angela [708-712-1448 ].

On the third Wednesday of each month, our church provides a hot meal for homeless women staying at the Prescott Area Shelter Services [PASS]. If you would like to volunteer, please sign your name to the sign-up list found in Perkins Hall. Questions may be directed to our PASS coordinator, Patty Gard [928-460-3042].

As always, thank you for remembering that we have been blessed to be a blessing [Genesis 12:2]. Questions/suggestions may be made to our Mission Outreach committee members: Becky & Bill Bryant, Helaine Berman, Patty Gard, Linda Moore, Staci Robbins, Gary Gard, chairperson.

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Annua



FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE	2020
Hal & Ronda Hatfield	1/12/2019
Jim Christopher-Christy Dinsman	1/19/2019
<b>CHURCH MEMBERS -Pottuck</b>	1/26/2019
Henry & Linda Dahlberg	2/2/2019
Staci Robbins -Andre Shrimpton	2/9/2019
Patty Lantrip & Muri Preble	2/16/2019
Gary & Patty Gard & Kathy Stephens	2/23/2019
Paula Parker & Mike Ortegus	3/1/2019
Lloyd Evans & Alice Kring	3/8/2019
Dave Deville & Patty Lantrip	3/15/2019
Julie Jaquette & Sandra Johns	3/22/2019
Dennis & Barbara McCollough	3/29/2019

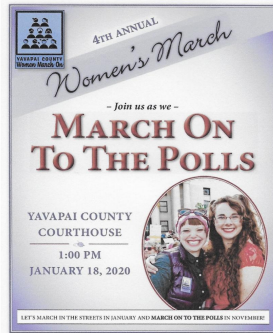


ual Meet

SUNDAY



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Sat. January 18 1pm

At 1pm we will gather near Bucky's statue, Prescott Courthouse Plaza. The songs here will be sung by the Justice Choir (find all on Youtube so you can practice), dance to "One Million Rising - Break that Chain" - read about the history of the song and what it has inspired.

Practice the dance.

Hear some "March On" words of wisdom from local speakers--short, but inspirational.

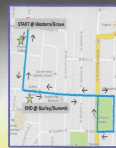
Please join us as we march around the plaza with our signs - Yavapai County Women March On to the Polls.



MLK DAY

PEACE & JUSTICE MARCH

March starts at 10am on Monday, Jan 20th  
Meet at Western & Grove  
For more info contact: kenthobi34@gmail.com  
To Donate: <http://yavapai.org/donate/>  
Choose ODF, specify MLK Committee



For info regarding AZ Serve service projects scan code:

I STILL HAVE A DREAM

SUNDAY



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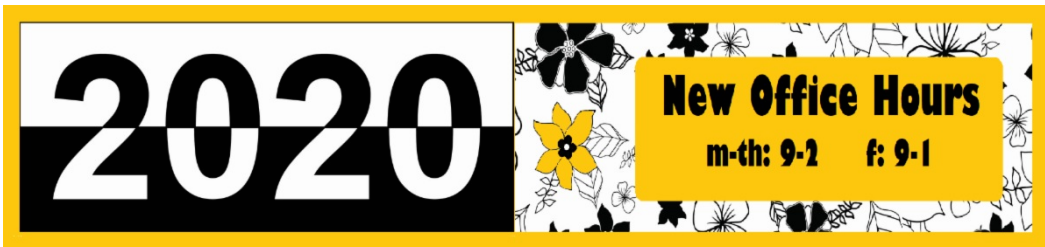


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Anniversaries

- Paul & Diane Sandstrom 02/14
- Suzy & Harold Lobaugh 02/19
- John & Julie Mccurdy 04/18

Birthdays

- Jane Cheek 01/25
- Julie Jaquette 01/28
- Rebecca Bryant 02/02
- Susan Lemons 02/04
- Brian Moore 02/04
- Phil Preble 02/11
- Harry Strong 02/19
- Barbi Beeson 03/02
- Betty Corn 03/13
- Kathy Stephens 03/13
- Patty Gard 03/18
- Bret Ely 03/26
- Andree Shrimpton 03/28
- Susan Wilson 03/30
- Janet Steven 04/08
- Deana Wilson 04/27
- Tom Lloyd 04/28

EVERY-WEEK COMMUNION

We have communion each week right after worship at the front of the sanctuary, everyone is welcome to participate.

MONTHLY 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 Prescott Area Shelter Services, the third Wednesday of the month.

CABINET MEETING

Meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Office Conference Room unless otherwise announced.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

We will train you! We meet for rehearsal at 9:00 am. On Thursdays in the Hazeltine Room downstairs.

CHANCEL SINGERS

We meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. before worship service to rehearse. All are welcome.

ALTER-NOTES

We meet at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday after Coffee Time in the Sanctuary Chancel. Contact Melissa if you are interested in joining: 207-391-3276

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children may participate with Sunday School downstairs after "Children's Time".

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