

The Parish Caller

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here”.

July 10, 2015

First Congregational
Church, United
Church of Christ,
Prescott



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This Week At First Congregational Church...

- ◆ This Sunday we are welcoming our new members during the service.
- ◆ Worship Service at Las Fuentes next Sunday at 3:00 pm.
- ◆ Exploring Faith Monday night discussion class meets at 6:30 pm.
- ◆ PASS Meal, Wednesday July 15th.

From The Pastor

We are a diverse congregation! That presents a challenge to all of us to listen to and respect each other. It is a special challenge to preach each week knowing that my views may not be yours. I try to be as balanced as I can, but in the end I have to be true to myself. I have a high Christology – the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus inform and shape all of my ministry. I found a UCC church in Somerville, MA. that I think does a good job of expressing the wide range of beliefs in the congregation and the beliefs of the pastors. Rev. Molly Baskette is the pastor, and she writes on their web page: <http://www.firstchurchsomerville.org/who-we-are/staff/molly-baskette/>

What We Believe: No tests of faith, just testimonies

Folks at First Church believe many different things about God and about the person of Jesus Christ. The pastors and others, for example, are self-identified Jesus freaks. We believe Jesus Christ was the son of God, that his resurrection was a real event, and that it mystically “put Death to death” so that we could experience an expansion of our own lives—not just length of life (life after death) but breadth of life (the biggest kind of life, the Kingdom of Heaven, here and now).

While some of us were raised UCC, the majority of us were raised in other Christian traditions. We sift through our childhood faith to decide what is true for us now as critically thinking adults.

More and more of us are part of the ever-growing demographic known as the Nones: we were raised without any religion at all. As adults we are self-identified agnostics or even atheists who are nonetheless attracted to genuinely loving community, religious testimony that uncovers deep meaning in our stories, and engaging theological dialogue.

This all makes for an interesting mix! All of us, believing and doubting, bring our questions, our criticism, our willingness to ask hard questions, lean into faith and love and serve each other, which makes our lives better and better.

I like this statement and think it speaks to where we are as well. By the way, what an amazing weekend at our church! Approximately 750 guests at the pancake breakfast and \$2652.00 to be given to the Community Cupboard! And Sunday morning worship with 75 in attendance and many visitors. Thanks be to God! God bless, Jay

Check out Pastor Jay on the radio with DJ Fone

www.kqna.com/programs/local-talk/qa-with-dj-fone

Type this link into your web browser, (or search: DJ Fone, radio interview Jay Wilcher) then click on the 7/1/2015 show. Pastor Jay’s interview starts about 33 minutes into the show.

**59th Annual
Pancake
Breakfast**
Guests Served:
 750, approx.
Pancakes Flipped:
 2250
Funds Raised:
 \$2,652

Batter-Up!

Pastor Jay arrived early to mix up the very first batch of pancake batter.



Jay Eby poured coffee to those waiting in line.

A Huge Thank-
 You to John Huff
 for making it all
 happen...even
 providing music
 for the hungry
 crowd!



Al Beeson,
 Roland Wood and
 Carolyn Daly-
 Wood greeting
 guests and selling
 tickets



Guests enjoying hot coffee and delicious pancakes in the church parking lot.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Dorhauer’s Farewell Service to be held at Church of the Red Rocks

Pastor Installation Reception

Meet the Pastor Lunch at Las Fuentes

Join a “Meet the Pastor Dinner or Lunch”

Environmental Education and Action Group being formed

July Food Donations

Announcements and Ways to get Involved

Farewell Service for John Dorhauer...
Everyone is invited Thursday, July 16th at 7:00 pm at the Church of the Red Rocks in Sedona. This will be an opportunity for our SW Conference, UCC congregations to get together and be part of Pastor Dorhauer’s send-off to our National Headquarters. **Let Julie know in the office if you want to carpool.**

Pastor Installation July 18th at 11:00
This Saturday we will be welcoming Pastor Jay as our new minister in a special Installation Service.

- ♦ Many of our community faith leaders have been invited along with the Southwest Conference ministers. We would love our congregation to make a strong showing of support!
- ♦ We will be serving cool finger sandwiches, relish trays, veggie and fruit trays and cupcakes. If you would like to help with providing these, *there is a sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall. Thank you!*

“Meet the Pastor” Luncheon at Las Fuentes Retirement Community!
Friday, July 24th at Noon
Judy Daly is hosting a luncheon at Las Fuentes. Come and visit with our member residents and “Get to Know the Pastor”. See Judy Daly for details 928-237-9577 or 858-883-9596; Email: jdaly59@gmail.com. *Sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall*

Join in a “Get to Know the Pastor Lunch/Dinner”
Many thanks to the Krings and McCurdys who hosted an enjoyable “Meet the Pastor” meal! As an ongoing effort for everyone to participate, we have some new dates set in August and September. If you would like to attend one of the events or host one of your own, please sign up in Perkins Hall after church, or contact Judy Daly (Phone: 928-237-9577 or 858-883-9596; Email: jdaly59@gmail.com).

Environmental Education and Ministry Opportunity...
Join us on Wednesday, July 29th at 6:00 pm to hear Chuck Budinger speaking on what is happening in the Prescott area with our local environmental issues. This is an opportunity to get involved with setting our church on a more sustainable course. **Caring For Our Creation Action Group** being formed! See flyer in Perkins Hall for more information.

July Prescott Pantry Food Donations...
Our food drive for the Prescott Food Pantry this month is spaghetti sauce. Please leave your donations in the basket by the front door Thank you!

July Missions Focus:
“Fair Start Program”

Called to Care is seeking
interested and
compassionate people.

ONGOING AND
WEEKLY EVENTS
AT THE CHURCH

Ways to Subscribe to
the Weekly Parish
Caller:

- Send the office an email verifying your email address
- Fill out the Weekly Caller Subscribe Sheet in Perkins Hall

First Congregational Church
of Prescott, UCC
216 E. Gurley Street
Prescott, AZ 86301
928-445-4555
fccprescott@gmail.com

Administration Office Hours
Mondays: 1:00 - 4:00
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 - 4:00

Pastor Jay
Monday - Thursday
9:00 - Noon
Other times by appointment
Cell: 928-899-9066
jayfccprescott@gmail.com

July Missions Focus:

Our mission focus for July is the local Coalition for Compassion & Justice (CC&J): Fair Start program. With Prescott area schools starting in early August, on Saturday, July 25, CC&J will host its annual outreach to students from Kindergarten through grade 12. Last year over 1300 backpacks were filled with grade-appropriate school supplies and distributed to children in our community. The needs are great.

A list of items needed is posted on the bulletin board in Perkins Hall. Please help however you are able. Drop off donations in the Fair Start box in the fellowship hall before July 23. Checks can be made out to our church and designated for “CC&J Fair Start” on the memo line. Money received will be used to purchase additional school supplies. Thank you, again, for being the hearts and hands of a caring community to faith.

Called to Care is seeking interested people...

Group needs caring and compassionate individuals to participate in our Ministry. Please see Marilyn Kerstine.

EXPLORING FAITH GROUPS

Sunday morning class is **currently on Summer Break and will resume after Labor Day.**
~But~

Monday evening discussion group continues to meet weekly at 6:30 pm in the Church Library. DVD Series on Genesis with Bill Moyers. All are welcome!

CHOIR PRACTICE SUMMER SCHEDULE CHANGE: Sunday 9:30 am in the Sanctuary. See Jane Osborn if you would like to join the choir!

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE is held Thursday mornings at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary but is **currently on Summer Break**. See Carole Sue Linson for details.

OUTREACH MINISTRY meets the 3rd Thursday of every month at 10:30 am in the Office Conference Room.

CALLED TO CARE MINISTRY meets the 4th Tuesday of every month from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the Office Conference Room. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, see Marilyn Kerstine.

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.

KNIT WITS meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month at 1:00 to 3:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.

LAS FUENTES SPIRITUAL LIVING SERVICE is held the 3rd Thursday of every month at 10:00 am, led by Called to Care Ministry.
~And~

Service is also held the 2nd Sunday of every month at 3:00 pm, led by Pastor Jay. Address: Las Fuentes Resort Village 1035 Scott Dr. Prescott.

AGAPE SOUP SUPPER meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 5:30 pm in Perkins Hall. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

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. See Julie J. for more details.

LADIES’ FRIENDLY goes out to dinner after church the 2nd Sunday of every month. **Currently on Summer Break.**