

The Parish Caller

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

July 17, 2015

First Congregational
Church, United
Church of Christ,
of Prescott



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This Week At First Congregational Church...

- ◆ Welcome Pastor Jay Installation Service tomorrow at 11:00 am.
- ◆ Exploring Faith Monday night discussion class meets at 6:30 pm.
- ◆ Knit Wits meet Tuesday July 21st at 1 in the church conference room.
- ◆ Cabinet Meeting held Thursday July 23rd at 6:30 pm.
- ◆ “Meet the Pastor Luncheon” Next Friday, July 24th at Noon.

Pastor Installation this Saturday at 11:00 am

Join us as we welcome Rev. Dr. Jay Wilcher and officially install him as the 28th Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Prescott, Arizona, UCC! We would love our congregation to make a strong showing of support!

Invited Guests Include:

- Our Congregation
- Southwest Conference Church Leaders
- Prescott Area Interfaith Community Leaders
- Pastor Jay’s friends and family

Thank you to the many people who have volunteered to participate and help with the planning and service positions needed to make welcoming Pastor Jay a success!

From John Dorhauer

My seven years here as your Conference Minister have proven to me the value of living in an interdependent, we-need-each-other kind of way. I have spent a good deal of time over the last weeks reflecting on all that you made happen while I was here as a witness to those good works. What is so amazing is how you find a way to build those partnerships across such great distances.

One pastor holds up a sign in front of a New Mexico Court House that says that she will perform same sex marriages, and a year later Arizona becomes a marriage equality state and 150 clergy are seen holding the same signs and in one day do over 200 marriages.

A church in Yuma, AZ gets a call in the middle of the night letting them know that a group of women and children have been abandoned by border patrol agents at a Walmart parking lot, and a coordinator in Silver City, NM organizes churches in Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and Washington to provide resources to help them.

The Arizona legislature passes a regressive Immigration bill, and Southwest Conference leaders gather overnight to write a resolution calling to boycott the State of Arizona. One church in Sun City, AZ agrees to wait two years to host an annual meeting while another in Albuquerque, NM steps up to host the next annual meeting so we can honor the boycott. The boycott works, and a year later three new bills are introduced to the Arizona legislature, even more regressive than the first. Every single one of them is defeated – all on the same day.

I could go on. This is what you do; over and over again. You have helped me understand the value of these relationships and the strategic value of adding together a conglomerate of disparate pieces whose total is always greater than the sum of their parts.



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From John
Dorhauer

From John Dorhauer

Continued from page 1

As I leave for another setting in ministry, I have a challenge for you. Help me help the denomination play this game. Or, to borrow more biblical language – let your light shine!

See the Wider Church and its vast array of partnerships as players on this field with you.

There is no Marriage Equality resolution in 2005 without a vast network of Open and Affirming churches affecting the way the body thinks, moves, and has its being; without the Bill Johnson scholarship fund a decade before that; without Bill’s ordination by a courageous Association in San Francisco 25 years before that.

We are a complex multiplicity of peoples and places struggling to find common cause, common voice, and common purpose. Our failure to see not only the beauty of these connections, but the impact of their collective energy is a lingering impediment to our future success.

Take what you do so well and dream bigger dreams with wider horizons. You are among the few who do this so well. Let’s play this game on a bigger stage. Let’s establish partnerships that broaden and deepen your impact.

I will be watching, and looking for those places where your gifts will serve others; where new partnerships will create new opportunities; and where new visions will inspire new hope.

Thank you for the time we have shared, the work we have done, and the roads we have traveled together. I leave with a clear, strong sense of what a better future looks like thanks to you.

History of the
Church Part 5

A History of First Congregational Church, Prescott, Arizona Part 5

By Jay Eby

Pamela Libby Foss Otis was born December 31, 1835 in Limington, York County, Maine. Pam attended Parsonfield Seminary in Maine and taught for twelve years at Westside High School in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1869 she married Theodore W. Otis in Ohio. Their only child Mary Kate was born in New York in 1870. With her new baby they moved to California in 1872 and on to Prescott in 1874.

It was at her home on North Pleasant Street that the meeting was held with Dr. Warren to begin the Prescott’s Congregational Society in the fall of 1880.

A young Chinese woman Jun Moy escaped from her owner and ran to Pamela Otis for refuge. The Otis’ made her a part of their household. The Women’s Fellowship at First Congregational Church collected clothing and funds to help get her started in her new home. The Otis’ put away funds to provide for her education when she came of age or was able to function on her own.

The local newspaper said of Pamela “Mrs. O. is said to be one of those noble ladies who never tire of doing good things”. She organized the local WCTU was active in the Arizona Federation of Women’s Clubs and Prescott’s Monday Club.

Mrs. Otis died September 19, 1911 and is buried in Mountain View Cemetery.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join a “Meet the
Pastor Dinner or
Lunch”

Caring for Creation
Education and
Action Opportunity

PFLAG Awareness
Forum

Church Office
Volunteer Needed

Announcements and Ways to get Involved

“Meet the Pastor” Dinner and Lunch

We have had great success with participation and a lot of fun with the “Meet the Pastor” Dinners and Lunches. Get to know Pastor Jay and his wife Cherie in a more intimate setting.

2 More Dates Set!

Saturday, August 15th, 5:30 pm

Hosts: Ronny and Mike de Jong
Six seats for Dinner

Saturday, August 16th at 1:00 pm

Hosts: Anne and Ron Solt
Six seats for Lunch

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). *Sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall*

Caring for Creation Education and Action Opportunity

Tuesday, July 28th, 6:00pm Perkins Hall

Chuck Budinger Speaking

Chuck works for the Department of Transportation as their Environmental Coordinator. He will be speaking on what is happening in the Prescott area with our local environmental issues. He will guide us as we form an Action Group, providing insight and education that will set our church on a more sustainable course.

Topics Presented

- What are the issues on the upcoming ballot
- Discuss ways the Church can implement a program for Action

Caring for Creation Action Group

- Form a Focus Group
- Explore our Church options
- Facilitate a plan for Action

This is an opportunity to learn more about what is happening in our local community and to get involved with setting our church on a more sustainable course. **We invite you to join us that will expand your awareness!**

PFLAG Awareness Forum September 23rd

Our church is hosting a PFLAG Forum to build awareness. This event will be promoted to the community

PFLAG Vision: PFLAG envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

PFLAG Mission: By meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG realizes its vision through:

- Support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ
- Education for ourselves and others about the unique issues and challenges facing people who are LGBTQ
- Advocacy in our communities to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ

MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

Church Office Volunteer Needed...

In the upcoming weeks, Julie Jaquette will be periodically out of the office to care for her Daughter Sarah Andrews who will be undergoing extensive neurological tests. We need someone who can answer the church phones, greet walk-in traffic and assist Pastor Jay. If you would like to more information about helping in this way, please contact Julie Jaquette in the church office: 928-445-4555 or her cell phone: 928-710-1379. Thank you!

July Food Donations

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!

Called to Care

Called to Care is seeking interested people...

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

July Missions Focus:
“Fair Start Program”

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. 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.

ONGOING AND
WEEKLY EVENTS
AT THE CHURCH

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.**

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

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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