

The Parish Caller

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

July 3, 2015

First Congregational
Church, United
Church of Christ,
Prescott



FEATURED THIS ISSUE:

PAGE ONE:

- ◆ This week at FCC
- ◆ From the Pastor
- ◆ July Birthdays

PAGE TWO:

- ◆ Dorhauer Elected UCC General Minister

PAGE THREE:

- ◆ Dorhauer Elected UCC General Minister
- ◆ Weekly and Monthly Events

PAGE FOUR:

- ◆ Dorhauer Elected UCC General Minister
- ◆ Announcements
- ◆ Ongoing Weekly and Monthly Events
- ◆ Ways to Get Involved
- ◆ Contact Us

This Week At First Congregational Church...

- ◆ Pancake Breakfast Saturday, July 4th at 6-10 am.
- ◆ Exploring Faith Monday night discussion class meets at 6:30 pm in the church library.
- ◆ Knit Wits meet Tuesday, July 7th at 1-3 pm in the church conference room.
- ◆ Agape Soup Supper gathers on Wednesday evening, July 8th at 5:30 pm.

From The Pastor

Two months have flown by and I continue to listen and learn. My apologies as I stumble with names and faces. My constant refrain is “have we met before?” Thanks for your patience. I am so grateful for the gifts and talents of our congregation. I thought I would share with you some first impressions and things I think should be considered as we move forward. These are just my thoughts. In church, we do not always get our way and neither does the pastor (a good thing!).

First Impressions

- ◆ Appreciative of the gifts and talents of congregation
- ◆ Long history of church – connects to so many people in some way
- ◆ Change is hard and emotional
- ◆ Thankful for all the work that has been done on the exterior of the building (and now the inside)

First Considerations

- ◆ Handicap Access – extravagant welcome - new lift, van to pick up members
- ◆ Outside signs to take advantage of our location for free publicity – native plants around signs
- ◆ Changes to choir area to move piano behind organ
- ◆ Web page update
- ◆ Facebook - person to update
- ◆ Church “atmosphere” most important – life is too short to be unhappy in church

Future Focus

- ◆ Expand outreach to LGBTQ community
- ◆ Stewardship of environment focus
- ◆ Boy Scout 100th next year – have special Sunday where all are invited back
- ◆ Our own church homecoming each year
- ◆ Cabinet retreat next year – annual planning and visioning event
- ◆ Nursery & Youth room upgraded - C.E. person & Program put in place
- ◆ Enneagram workshop during Lent
- ◆ Jazz vespers
- ◆ “Bless a Business” ministry
- ◆ Begin using “Sign Up Genius”

More to come—and share your ideas with me also. God Bless Jay.

July Birthdays

Miriam Bowers	07/04	Jean Woodburn	07/16
Lynn Green	07/06	Mary Alice Sanberg	07/19
Linda Donsky	07/11	Maryanne Schlichting	07/21
Irene Warren	07/12	Mary Lloyd	07/22
Patsy Jo Huff	07/13	Donna Bauman	07/28
Caleb Chambers	07/14	Howard Kerstine	07/29

**Dorhauer
Overwhelmingly
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And President**

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**June 30, 2015
Written by Micki Carter**

The Rev. John C. Dorhauer was elected general minister and president of the United Church of Christ with 89 percent of the vote during General Synod 2015 Monday, June 29 at the Cleveland Convention Center — but not without voices of dissent.

Frustration with a nomination process that brought yet another straight white male candidate for leadership of the church spilled over on the plenary floor during the vote.



The contentious debate was further aggravated by the need to use paper ballots that were required because the electronic voting system proved balky in the cavernous hall. Delegates milled around, tossing balls over the delegation tables and checking their cellphones during the lulls while the 700-plus ballots were counted by hand by a team of five tellers.

As soon as the debate on Dorhauer opened, the first speaker set the tone. The Rev. Graylan Hagler of Plymouth Congregational UCC, Washington, D.C., charged that the nomination speeches for Dorhauer were "the most misjudged and misguided I've ever heard. . . . I don't need a white male to advance me. I have my own worth — without the need of someone with white privilege to give me value.

"I ask that Rev. Dorhauer consider apologizing to this assembly for any hurt or pain he might have caused."

The Rev. Anna Humble, an association minister in the South Central Conference, added, "I cannot, I will not, I do not believe there is not one among us a woman who is qualified to lead this denomination. What face are we projecting to the world about who we are?"

The Rev. Alice Hunt, president of the Chicago Theological Seminary, then took the floor. "I served as one of eight women on the search committee. . . . Our committee was tasked to find the very best person to serve as the next General Minister and President for our beloved United Church of Christ.

"The call for applications was not a call for all women who sensed a call to this important work. The call was for applications from all persons who sensed a call. We received applications from a diverse and interesting pool of applicants. We followed a predesigned and transparent process following our credo, which we had agreed upon in advance.

"Just because our committee selected a straight white man does not mean our work

Continued on page 2

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Dorhauer Elected UCC General Minister continued from page 2

was sexist or racist or hetero-normative. The eight women on this committee have spent a lifetime overcoming institutional male privilege. We fully support the nomination of John C. Dorhauer."

The testiness of the delegates reached a point where one asked the current leader of the church, the Rev. Geoffrey Black, to offer a prayer to bring the discussion back to a spiritual footing. He reminded the assembly, "We are on holy ground, in sacred space."

After the result of the balloting was announced, Dorhauer and his wife, Mimi, were invited onto the stage to receive the applause of the delegates. As they walked through the hall, receiving handshakes and hugs, he stopped long enough to evaluate all that had transpired that afternoon.

"I am grateful to be part of the United Church of Christ where voices of dissent are heard — with love and compassion — and where all voices are welcome!"

Earlier in the afternoon, the Rev. Jim Moos was re-elected to a second term as executive minister for Wider Church Ministries and co-executive for Global Ministries with 94 percent of the vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements and Ways to get Involved

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. 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.

June 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!

Meet the Pastor Lunch
at Las Fuentes

Lunch 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

Host a “Meet the
Pastor Dinner or
Lunch”

Host Your Own Get to Know the Pastor Lunch/Dinners...

Many thanks to those who have volunteered to host a lunch or dinner with Pastor Jay! We are now looking at dates 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). Sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall

Receiving New
Members

We will be receiving new members on Sunday, July 12...

A special service is planned to welcome new members of our church.

Pastor Installation
Reception

Special Reception Planned for the Pastor Installation July 18th at 11:00 am

Cool finger sandwiches, relish trays, veggie and fruit trays, and cupcakes are planned for this reception. If you would like to help with providing these, there is a sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall. Thank you!

John Dorhauer’s Farewell Service to be held at Church of the Red Rocks, Sedona July 16th at 7:00 pm

Facebook

Summer Choir

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 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.*

Do You Like Social Media...
We are looking for members of our church community who want to help us build a Facebook following. You don’t have to be too tech-y for this, just willing to log onto the church’s Facebook page a few times a week and post interesting articles and memes to our page. See Julie in the office for details.

Do You Enjoy Singing? Then SUMMER CHOIR is for you! July and August, the Chancel choir invites you to join us for Sunday morning worship. We will meet at 9:30 before Sunday Service for a half hour practice and sing two responses and an easy hymn for the anthem. No choir robes! Just come and enjoy singing with us. For more information, please contact Jane Osborn, 713-4752 or prescottsong@hotmail.com.

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

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