

The Parish Caller July 30, 2021

A Message from Pastor Jay

WELCOMING EVERYONE BACK TO WORSHIP AT 10:30 AM!

**PER CDC GUIDELINES, WE WILL RETURN TO WEARING MASKS
STARTING THIS SUNDAY IN THE SANCTUARY AND PERKINS HALL.**

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

The "Watch Worship Services Here" tab on the front page of our website includes worship services that go back to January of 2020. During our year of shutdown, we enjoyed recorded music each week. Starting in September, we often had singers from around the world join Deana on her Smule program that allowed for that. We even had a Roman Catholic priest in Spain join her a time or two. You could use these recorded services as daily devotionals! Check them out.

This Sunday, August 1, we begin a sermon series on the Psalms of Ascent with a focus on Psalm 120. Alter-Notes provides music. Melissa is worship leader. Mark is our organist. JJ shares communion with the children.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY SATURDAY 10AM

ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 2:00 PM

Let us know if you want to be added to these Zoom invitations

BULLETIN

10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 1, 2021

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Spirit of life and love, we have gathered in this sacred place, again. May we create here a circle of love, ever expanding, ever growing. A place of wisdom. A place of connection. A place of hope. Amen.

Prelude: "Prelude on an American Folk Hymn"--Gilbert M. Martin Mark Achuff

A Time for Children of All Ages - JJ

(children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after communion)

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gather song: "Come on In!"

Alter-Notes

Gathering Prayer

Melissa Gates

Leader: God, you see us.

People: You see our struggles, you see our difficulties.

Leader: You see our possibilities, you see our promise.

People: Connect the dots for us, O God. Soften the hard spots with your blessing.

Leader: Satisfy our longings as with loaves and fish and manna from heaven.

People: For you are a good God, a God present in the struggles of life.

Leader: For this and so much more, we give you thanks, through Jesus Christ.

All: Let us worship God!

*Hymn: "Let Us Break Bread Together"

New Century Hymnal #330

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Call to Confession

Melissa Gates

God is present to us, but we don't always feel it. God is good to us, but we can't always accept it. There are things within and around us that attempt to step between us and our relationship to God's goodness. There are things that we think, things that we do, that act to separate us from God. Let us confess our sins to God.

Prayer of Confession

Melissa Gates

God of all mercy: we confess that sin grips us and we cannot break free. The sins in our mind, on our lips, in acts done or even ignored. Our entire heart is not always yours. Our love of neighbor falls short. In the name of Jesus, Have mercy on us. Grant us your renewing forgiveness. Lead us on your paths of righteousness; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Melissa Gates

Through Christ, our sins, every one of them: the sins of commission, the sins of omission, the sins we confessed with contrition – all are forgiven.

All: By the grace of God, we are forgiven. Alleluia!

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 120

Pastor Jay

Anthem: "Trust in Jesus" by Mark Hayes

Alter-Notes

Sermon: "The World is Too Much with Us"

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*Hymn: "As We Gather at Your Table" New Century Hymnal #332

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Communion is open to all)

Communion Music: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"--arr. Mark Hayes Mark Achuff

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer Pastor Jay

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication Melissa Gates

May our gifts quench the thirst of those who desire hope; may our lives be spent in feeding those whose hunger is all too real; may we always give away the blessings you have given to us, God of Compassion. Amen.

*Hymn: "Come, We That Love God's Name" New Century Hymnal #379

*Benediction Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "Praeludium in E Minor"--J. S. Bach Mark Achuff

**First Congregational Church of Prescott
United Church of Christ**

216 E. Gurley Street

Prescott, AZ 86301

www.fccprescott.org

www.facebook.com/FccUccPrescott

928-445-4555

Founded September 26, 1880

AUGUST MISSION NEWS

Mission Outreach Update: Our Mission emphasis for the month of August is our **DACA Fund**. The Federal government has granted registered DACA enrollees legal status and the right to obtain a work permit. These rights are subject to a two year time period, which can be renewed. Donations to our DACA Fund support (1) Franceny Gardea, a DACA registrant who is pursuing her Master's Degree at Prescott College and (2) The Freedom Education Fund, a DACA scholarship program at Prescott College. Donation checks may be made payable to the church, with the memo, DACA. Checks marked simply, "mission" will be used at the discretion of our mission team.

PASS Update: Thanks to our team of volunteers, on July 21 dinner and sundries were provided to 22 guests at the PASS shelter for women and children. We do

this on the third Wednesday of each month. If you would like to help, contact our PASS team captain, Patty Gard at gpgard7963@gmail.com or phone 928 460 3042.

Prescott Community Cupboard (PCC): Both Angela Imbierowicz and Lee Danaher serve on the PCC Board of Directors. The PCC provides food bags/boxes for impoverished individuals and families living in the Prescott area. On scheduled dates throughout the year, our team of volunteers sort food donations and pack food bags. You can deposit your canned food items in our donation box located in the front of the church sanctuary. If you would like to help sort and pack food bags, contact our PCC team captain, Angela Imbierowicz at angelaprescottaz@gmail.com or phone 708 712 1448.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Per CDC guidelines, we are returning to mask wearing on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary and Perkins Hall.

**Video Tech Needed
\$50.00 per Sunday
Let Pastor Jay know if you are interested**

New members will be received August 29. If you would like to join the church, please speak with Pastor Jay

Office Open by Appointment - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

AUGUST WORSHIP

AUGUST SERMON SERIES PSALMS OF ASCENT

Many scholars believe the title indicates that these psalms were sung by worshippers as they ascended the road to Jerusalem to attend the three pilgrim festivals in Jerusalem (Deuteronomy 16:16). Others think they were sung by the Levite singers as they ascended the fifteen steps to minister at the Temple in Jerusalem. Either way, these psalms give us a glimpse of the faith of those who worshiped God in the past. As we ascend our own spiritual journey, insights may be found in these Psalms. We will look at 5 of these Psalms during August.

August 1 - Psalm 120

August 8 - Psalm 121

August 15 - Psalm 122

August 22 - Psalm 123

August 29 - Psalm 126

TREASURER REPORT

Income as of June 30 is \$79,570.
Total expenses are \$70,512.
Net income is \$9,058.

Year-to-date income is at 65% of the income budget of \$122,450.
Year-to-date expenses are at 48% of the expense budget of \$146,905.

In addition to the regular financial support from our congregational members and friends, we have received \$5,000 from the Southwest Conference UCC in grant funding for videography and other expenses for providing “hybrid worship services,” both online and in person.

GOT QUESTIONS? WE GOT ANSWERS!

**Everything you’ve ever wanted to know about us but were afraid to ask
Two one-hour sessions are being offered, right after church in the
sanctuary:**

**Sunday August 15 and Sunday August 22.
Pick one session**

How THIS church is governed

**How we relate to the Southwest Conference of the United Church of
Christ**

How we relate to the General Synod of the United Church of Christ

What are our beliefs

What are our sacraments

A little about our history

What is the Foundation

Membership vs. non-membership

Opportunities to participate in THIS church

Awesome for those who want to become members Helpful for those who don't know if they want to become members Just a simple, good refresher for all others. If you want to come but you can't make either session, let Pastor Jay know.

**COME ONE, COME ALL!
ALL ARE WELCOME HERE**

A History of First Congregational Church Prescott, Arizona, By Jay Eby

A History of First Congregational Church By Jay Eby

Second on each list of members is Theodore Weld Otis. He was a descendent of our Patriot father James Otis of New York. He was a graduate of Oberlin College, had served in the Army, and was a school teacher. He came with his family to Prescott in 1874 from New York and established a grocery. His business building at Union and Cortez Streets as well as his home at 112 North Pleasant Street are still with us. He and others on our list had belonged to a Presbyterian congregation in Prescott that had not survived. It was to Brother Otis that this Presbyterian Congregation left the deed to the property on Gurley Street where the first of our church buildings was built facing the Territorial Capital Building. Brother Otis served his community as Judge, Coroner, and Postmaster and in 1895 he and Rev. McLean began a school for the Chinese men in our town. We have a photograph of some of the participants in this school taken inside the white frame church building. The school building was down on Granite Street near the creek. There was a Mrs. Elizabeth Clark Fisher that taught with them at the school as well as Rev. McClain's sons who read to these men each evening after their school was out. Brother Otis also donated to the community a portion of the land that is now Citizens Cemetery. Stay tuned for more. Jay Eb

SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH!

- Online – go to our website: www.fccprescott.org and look for the tab on the front page
- You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.
- Use your credit card and get some points!
- Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank mail will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.
- Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Visit our website

Watch Services
Here