

The Parish Caller

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Prescott Established 1880

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

July 7th, 2017

This Week at a Glance...

- Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
- Alter-Notes Rehearsal: Sunday 12:00 p.m. in the Hazeltine Room
- Pastor's Bible Study: Thursday 9:30 a.m. in the Maggie B. Room

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From the Pastor

As if perfectly timed, Jesus offers us rest! Post pancake breakfast and July 4th celebrations, we are in the heart of the summer season, and things typically slow down on our personal and church calendars.



Matthew 11:28-30:

28"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The sermon Sunday will consider this promise of rest from Jesus. The importance of rest is part of God's design from the beginning. God rested on the "seventh day" of creation. The rest of God even included refreshment (Exodus 31:17). Jesus took times for rest and refreshment (Mark 6:45-47; Luke 6:12; 9:28). Jesus told his disciples to rest (Mark 6:31). Sabbath was instituted so that we rest one day in seven and set aside time for worship. Rest reorients our values, making time for spiritual realities. Biblical rest leads to freedom from anxiety – relinquishing our self-assertion and trusting in God.

Come Sunday and learn about this rest that Jesus offers. A timely message for all of us who live in the "age of anxiety."

Jay

Pastor's Bible Study

We had a good start on our weekly adult Pastor's Bible Study. We meet on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the old library downstairs, the Maggie B. room. The group will decide on topics— Lectionary readings for Sunday; a study of Revelation; a study of the life of David; etc.



Jewish— Christian Fellowship

Members of our congregation and Temple B'rth Shalom will visit each other's worship services in August: August 12 at 10:30 a.m. here and August 18 at the temple.



All who are interested are invited to join us.

ANNIVERSARIES Karla & Bobbi Sue Golay 14-July Harry & Anna Strong 14-July BIRTHDAYS Staci Lee Robbins 1-July Patsy Jo Huff 13-July

10-July

Martie Dial



Jean Woodburn 16-July

Monday Prayer Chapel at 11:00 am in the Church Library

ALTER-NOTES

Alter-Notes, an alternative music group, singing on occasional Sundays, needs singers and instrumentalists. Folk, pop, Celtic, spirituals and anything else. Rehearsal at noon on Sundays. Contact Melissa Gates, 207-391-3276

Summer Choir and Music Schedule

July

- 2 Alter-Notes
- 9 Song of the Pines
- 16 Joell Gall
- 23 John Huff
- 30 Bound For Glory

Coalition of Compassion and Justice

Dear Supporters and friends,

As most of you know, the Stagger Straight Emergency Shelter on Miller Valley, next to Napa, opened in November 2016. We serve 45 meals per night, 7 nights per week, 365 days per year. Since we opened at the end of 2016, our budget for our food program was already set. That means that CCJ does not have a budget for this nightly meal. We rely on donations solely to feed our shelter guests. Also, we rely solely on guests volunteers to prepare the nightly meal, so it needs to be easy and quick for them.



Coalition for Compassion & Justice

Could you help?

We need prepackaged, prepared meals or easily heated or prepared food.

- Cooked meats ham, deli meats (not sliced) we can slice it and it will preserve longer than the sliced meats
- · Cooked sausage like kielbasa, etc.
- Frozen vegetables that can easily be heated in our heated servers – we don't have a stove or oven
- · Large bags of salad mix and dressing
- · Gallons of Milk
- Butter
- Cheese
- Coffee
- · Dry Creamer
- · Sugar

Gail Haugland
Assistant to the Director
Coalition of Compassion and Justice

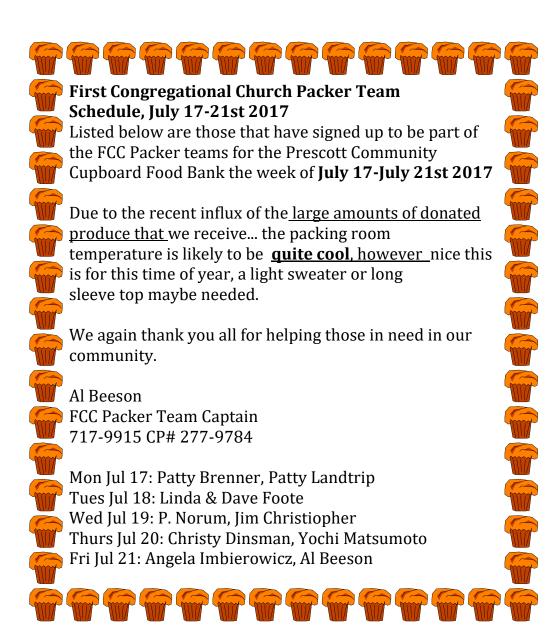
July Missions Focus

With schools starting in early August, the Coalition for Compassion and Justice is once again holding it's annual "Fair Start" event. Local impoverished families family's having children in grades K-12 will be able to receive free backpacks and school



supplies. "Fair Start" is our mission emphasis for July. There is a need for backpacks and classroom items. A donation box is in the front of the sanctuary with a list of needed items can be found on the literature table in Perkins Hall. If you prefer, a check can be written to the church, with the memo line, "Fair Start" Thank you for your support of our church's outreach to ministries of compassion and justice. Also, a check is being issued to the UCC headquarters earmarked for their "Strengthen the Church" program in the amount of \$280. These donation funds help support new church development and programs which reach out to youth and young adults. Thank you for your support of our church's outreach to ministries locally, nationally and globally.

Gary Gard, Chairperson (928-2455)



Three Great Loves initiative launched to 'embody love and incarnate justice' to build a just world

July 03, 2017
Written by **Connie Larkman**To follow God's call to build a just world for all as a united church, United Church of Christ General Minister and President John C. Dorhauer is calling the entire denomination to pull together under a new, shared mission — the Three Great Loves initiative.



"What is Three Great Loves? It is a call to the love of children, to the love of neighbor, and to the love of creation," Dorhauer told the gathering on Saturday morning, July 1. "During the next biennium, we want to discover what an entire denomination committed to Three Great Loves can do to change the world."

Launching today at General Synod and continuing until the 2019 gathering in Milwaukee, Three Great Loves seeks to build on and amplify the sacred work UCC churches are already doing in their communities to care for children, reach out in welcome to their neighbors, and act as good stewards of the earth and all creation. Dorhauer invited participation around this shared mission, urging congregations and other ministerial settings to explore new ways to

Parish Stewardship Offerings June YTD Offerings \$9,574 \$55,378 Facility \$631 \$5,381 Foundation \$29,453 Other \$5,507 Total \$10,205 \$95,719 **Expenses** June YTD \$21,663 \$140,649 Expenses **Famine Relief** Received \$795.00 **Church World Service** Received \$233.00 **Our Great Hour of Shareing** Received \$1,683.00 **Outreach Gifts** 2016 Prescott Comm. Jan Cupb. \$490 **PASS** Feb \$140 March **Habitat for Humanity** \$165 One Great Hour April Share \$1,183 **Church World Service** May \$319 Strengthen the June Church \$280 **Undesignated Missions** \$475 Total \$3,052 Attendance; Monthly Average 102 January February 89 March 89 108 May 101 June 79



CONTACT US:

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Administration Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9:00 - 4:00
Friday: 9:00 - 1:00
Pastor Jay
Monday - Thursday
9:00 - 1:00
Other times by appointment
Cell: 928-899-9066
jayfccprescott@gmail.com

Regularly Scheduled

PASS MEAL

Once a month we provide a meal for the Prescott Area Shelter Services the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:00 pm. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

CHOIR PRACTICE

On Summer Break

ALTER-NOTES

Meets at 12:00 for rehearsal in the Hazeltine Room after worship service.

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

Meets for rehearsal at 11:00 am on Thursdays

PRAYER CHAPEL

Called to Care weekly prayer group meets at 11:00 am on Mondays in the Chapel

CABINET MEETING

Meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.

PFLAG SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Church Library/Chapel. See Julie J. for more details.

KNIT WITS

Meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month from 1-3 pm in the Office Conference Room.

COMMUNION

An informal "Every Sunday Communion" will be in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays except the first Sunday of the month which is our regular communion time.

Three Great Loves initiative launched to 'embody love and incarnate justice' to build a just world continued

embrace those commitments with a clear intent and shared purpose in a dedicated call to action over the next two years.

"There will be three significant requests of you: three occasions in which we invite us all to participate as one in a collective effort," Dorhauer said. "Each of the Three Great Loves will have a dedicated call to action with three components: an invitation to give, an invitation to act, an invitation to connect."

He outlined three initiatives — in the winter of 2017, a denomination-wide drive to provide basic human needs items to shelters housing refugees or the homeless; next fall 2018, there will be a denomination-wide school supplies drive to address inequalities in our education systems, and at Synod in 2019, a sponsored 5K walk to raise money and awareness for the earth.

Over the course of the two years, on the Three Great Loves <u>website</u>, the national setting will be collecting stories from commitments to the love of children, the love of neighbor, the love of creation, and how those ministries have had an impact. The UCC is also looking to lift up Three Great Loves Heroes, and will be taking nominations, looking for members who have made a difference in the world.

"Our hope is to be able to document 50 percent congregational participation by Synod 2019; to collect 3,000 stories from across the denomination about how we are building a Just World for All through love of children, love of neighbor, and love of creation; to collect 100 stories from other covenant partners, like our CHHSM agencies; and we want to name 300 Three Great Loves Heroes, asking you to nominate somebody who is working to care for children, for neighbor, and for creation."

He urged Synod participants to get started on this mission today, signing up in the exhibit hall to be part of the Three Great Loves online community.

"Three Great Loves is an invitation to act as one and to deepen our impact by pulling together in love, for justice, and with purpose," Dorhauer said "As disciples of the Risen Christ, we call ourselves to embody love and incarnate justice."