



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."

June 2, 2017

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This Week at a Glance...

- ◆ **Sunday Worship:** 10:30 am
- ◆ **Alter-Notes Rehearsal:** Sunday 12:00 pm in the Hazeltine Room
- ◆ **Knit Wits:** Tuesday 1-3 pm in the church Conference room
- ◆ **Bells Rehearsal:** Thursday 11:00 am
- ◆ **Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast — NEXT WEEK SATURDAY the 10th**

MESSAGE FROM JOSH TAYLOR

Hi everyone! I hope you all had a GREAT Memorial Day weekend! So, we are at LESS than 80 days till homecoming WOOHOO! I might be a little excited! On to the update....

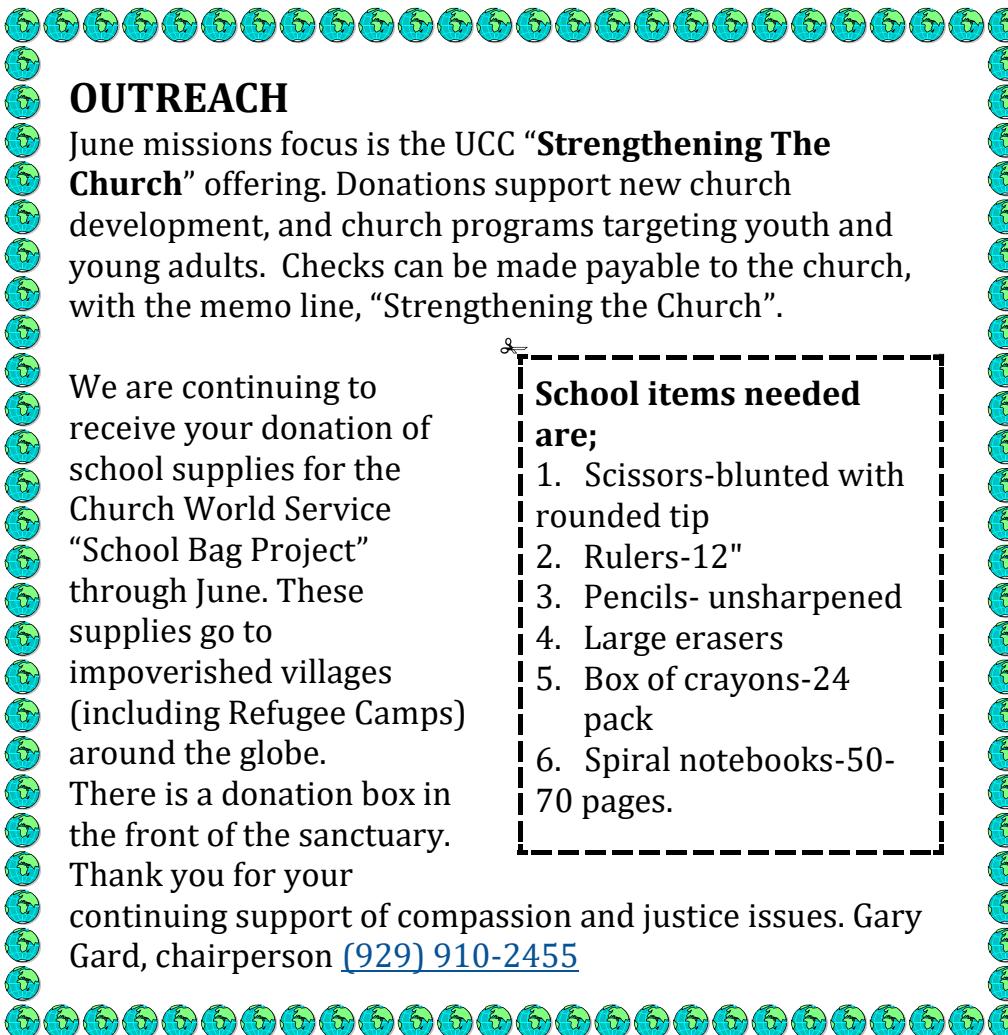
This Marine is also counting down the days. I am now on swing shift which starts at 4pm (earlier if needed) and ends sometime after midnight (however late they say). Then I try to sleep in the daytime but the air conditioning in the tent blows hot air after 9. We had their big "death run" and I lived, "barely" 6+ miles, packed up in the sand. We do these runs at 5:30 am then shower and I try to sleep before work. There's a Sergeant Major who's into less sleep, more pain. You can see how much I have been working out with my friends and Sergeant by the picture I've included. My girlfriend, in an effort to better herself and her kids lives, joined the Air National Guard. She left for basic almost a month ago and, unfortunately, won't be back in time for my homecoming, in fact won't be back until September.

When homecoming arrives I am supposed to get 4 days off, but the Sgt. Major thinks it might be too long before the mandatory training so he may be cut to 2 days. I will try to get some time off after the training. That's all for now. Please be safe this summer. Josh Taylor



SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Parents may take children to Sunday school downstairs before the service begins, or they may wait until the children's time with the pastor and then go to Sunday school. Children are also welcome to stay in the worship service at the discretion of the parent(s).



OUTREACH

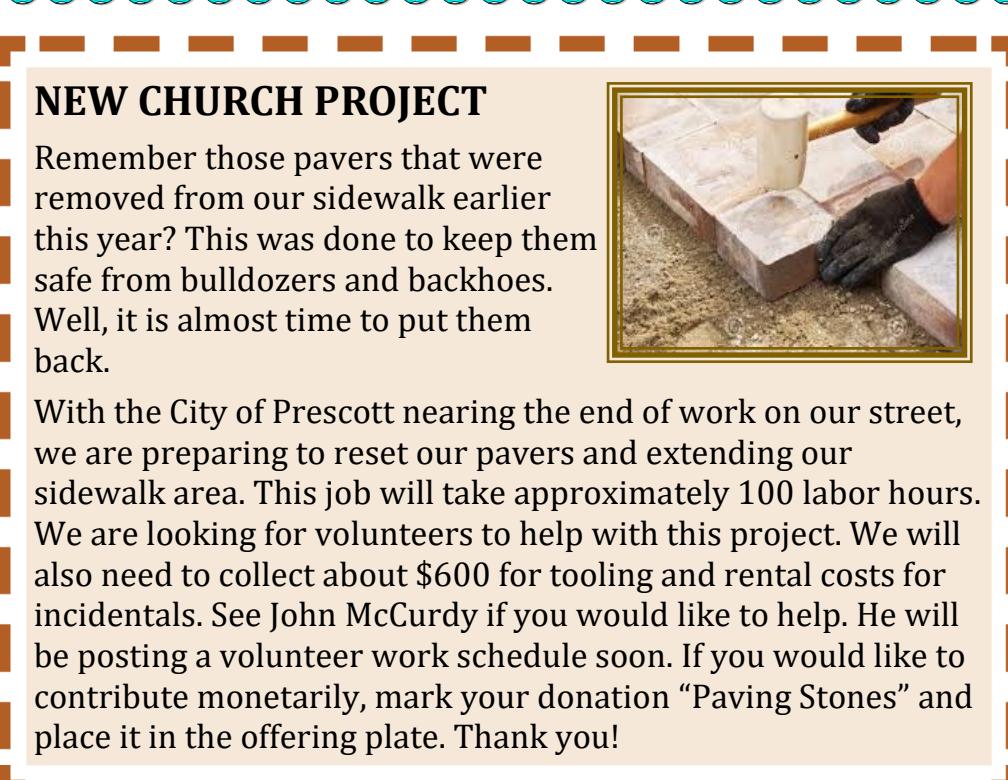
June missions focus is the UCC “**Strengthening The Church**” offering. Donations support new church development, and church programs targeting youth and young adults. Checks can be made payable to the church, with the memo line, “Strengthening the Church”.

We are continuing to receive your donation of school supplies for the Church World Service “School Bag Project” through June. These supplies go to impoverished villages (including Refugee Camps) around the globe. There is a donation box in the front of the sanctuary. Thank you for your continuing support of compassion and justice issues. Gary Gard, chairperson [\(929\) 910-2455](tel:(929)910-2455)

School items needed

are;

1. Scissors-blunted with rounded tip
2. Rulers-12"
3. Pencils- unsharpened
4. Large erasers
5. Box of crayons-24 pack
6. Spiral notebooks-50-70 pages.



NEW CHURCH PROJECT

Remember those pavers that were removed from our sidewalk earlier this year? This was done to keep them safe from bulldozers and backhoes. Well, it is almost time to put them back.



With the City of Prescott nearing the end of work on our street, we are preparing to reset our pavers and extending our sidewalk area. This job will take approximately 100 labor hours. We are looking for volunteers to help with this project. We will also need to collect about \$600 for tooling and rental costs for incidentals. See John McCurdy if you would like to help. He will be posting a volunteer work schedule soon. If you would like to contribute monetarily, mark your donation “Paving Stones” and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

EVERYONE DESERVES A SAFE RIDE TO CHURCH!

The church has a van! This vehicle, parked in the back of our lot, holds ten and has a wheelchair lift. It is available for those who want a ride to and from worship and other church events. At least four home-bound congregants are needing rides. I hope we hear from more who would love to join us in worship and other activities, but cannot get themselves here.

We have several volunteer drivers but we could use a few more. Getting certified as a driver is easy and quick: an on-line review required by our insurance company and a check of driving history.

The Cabinet is calling for those who want a ride to call the office and tell Julie Jaquette. And please call her if you are interested in becoming a driver.

Everyone deserves a safe ride to church! Thank you. Marti Garrison, Moderator

ANNIVERSARIES

Melissa & Elizabeth Gates	3-Jun
Al & Barb Beeson	23-Jun

BIRTHDAYS

Gavin Worthington	1-Jun
Gary Gard	4-Jun
Kelli Jo Bradstreet	6-Jun
Laramie Jarvi	6-Jun
Alice Kring	8-Jun
Linda Foote	18-Jun
Sylvia Staats	19-Jun

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER— JULIE MCCURDY

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



PAVING STONE PROJECT

Now that the Cory Replica stewardship project is complete, we embark on a new focus: **The Paving Stone Project.** This project will require a minimum of 100 labor hours and \$600 in supplies and tool rental. If you are interested in helping, let John McCurdy know!

"Financial Health of Congregations," a workshop presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest Conference in Albuquerque, May 5 and 6

The emphasis of the workshop presented by Nancy Ackley, Commissioned Minister for Faith and Money in the Southwest Conference, was on how churches receive financial support.

Although Americans are extremely generous in their financial giving, the portion that goes to religious groups has been decreasing in recent years.

WHY ARE WE GIVING LESS to our churches?

Decline in church attendance as well as formal institutional membership

Generational shifts in religious practice, participation and styles of giving

Dominance of large congregations: the larger the congregation the greater number of **"free riders"**

The **silence** of religious leaders and congregations in talking and teaching **about the faithful use of possessions**

The failure to adapt best fundraising practices to congregational life, leaving congregations dependent on an **outmoded, one-dimensional approach to giving**

It's time to think differently about the way we encourage financial stewardship.

NEW AWARENESS for stewardship:

Approach **stewardship as a year-round ministry**, not as a fall fund raising activity and an unfortunate necessity.

Cultivate a theology of **SUFFICIENCY**, instead of a lens of SCARCITY. When we **acknowledge how much we have received, then we can give generously.**

People give most joyfully and generously when the **focus is on the mission and ministries**

We are children of a giving God and are created in God's image to be givers

FOUR TYPES OF GIVING:

On-going Giving for **on-going mission and ministries** (Annual Fund)

Major Gifts for **special programs, projects**

Capital Campaign Giving for **occasional larger investment needs and opportunities**

Planned Giving for **building endowments**

DIFFERENT MOTIVATIONS INSPIRE GENEROUS GIVING:

Compassion

Community

Reasonability

Commitment

Challenge

NEW METHODS FOR STEWARDSHIP FUND-RAISING:

A **mission spending plan**, which gives a visual representation of a **narrative budget**, needs to reach the entire congregation and must

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CONTACT US:

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928-445-4555
fccprescott@gmail.com

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 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.

involve face-to-face visits, to educate and motivate, presented in language communicating "compassion" and "community."

The **narrative budget** may focus on one or more themes:

- Reaching Out in Mission
- Inviting Others to Share our Life
- Serving our Community
- Teaching and Nurturing our Members
- Caring for our Church Family
- Supporting Worship and Music
- Maintaining and Equipping our Facility

And don't forget to consider including your church in your will. First Congregational Church is prepared to receive, manage and benefit from bequests, endowments, annuities or trusts.

Julie McCurdy

EVERY WEEK COMMUNION AFTER WORSHIP IN FRONT OF SANCTUARY

Communion is available in the front of the sanctuary after worship on Sundays other than the first Sunday of the month. The first Sunday of the month is our regular congregational communion service.

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Parents may take children to Sunday school downstairs before the service begins, or they may wait until the children's time with the pastor and then go to Sunday school. Children are also welcome to stay in the worship service at the discretion of the parent(s).

