

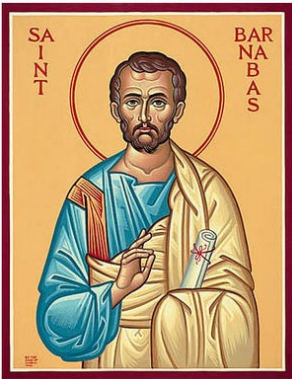


# The Parish Caller

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 9, 2017



## IN THIS ISSUE

### Page 1

- ◆ This Week at a Glance
- ◆ From the UCC.org

### Page 2

- ◆ Summer Music Schedule
- ◆ Pancake Breakfast
- ◆ Paving Project
- ◆ FCC Stewardship

### Page 3

- ◆ Announcements
- ◆ Outreach and Missions
- ◆ Van Ministry

### Page 4

- ◆ From the UCC.org continued
- ◆ Contact Us

### This Week at a Glance...

- ◆ **Sunday Worship:** 10:30 a.m. **WELCOME HOME PASTOR JaY!**
- ◆ **Alter-Notes Rehearsal:** Sunday 12:00 p.m. in the Hazeltine Room

### LION'S CLUB ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST — TOMORROW

Saturday the 10th from 7-10, the Lion's Club will be here in our church parking lot hosting their annual benefit. Show your support and come and get pancakes!

### CONFERENCE MINISTER REVEREND BILL LYONS

will be meeting with the Cabinet in Perkins Hall on Saturday, June 17, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. for leadership training. Anyone interested in joining the meeting is welcome! Then on Sunday the 18th, Rev. Bill Lyons will be preaching on Father's Day.

## With roots in the UCC, U.S. Institute of Peace faces an uncertain future

June 07, 2017

Written by Anthony Moujaes

When the White House released a proposed budget for 2018, scores of progressive faith leaders from the United Church of Christ and beyond voiced their opposition to the potential cuts to human needs programs, such as Medicaid funding and social service programs that assist the poor — all while benefiting the military and high-income households.



But buried within the budget proposal, on page 104, is a suggestion to phase out the U.S. Institute of Peace within the next two years. The Institute of Peace, an independent institute founded by Congress in 1984, traces its roots back to the UCC — particularly the former members and pastors of Rock Spring UCC in Arlington, Va.

UCC leaders believe a move to shutter the USIP would be short-sighted, should Congress authorize it in a spending bill.

The Rev. Michael Neuroth, international policy advocate for the UCC's office on Capitol Hill, believes the Institute for Peace "plays a critical role in strengthening the peacebuilding work in the U.S. and around the world," he said. "The unique space USIP occupies between the government and civil society allows both policy experts and peace practitioners to come together and envision ways forward in some of the most intractable conflicts."

Continued on page 4

## 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

June	July
11 Joell Gall	2 Alter-Notes
18 Alter-Notes	9 Song of the Pines
25 Denise Nasso	16 Joell Gall
	23 John Huff
	30 Bound For Glory

## Parish Stewardship

Offerings		
	June	YTD
Offerings	\$2,276	\$48,080
Facility	\$970	\$4,938
Foundation		\$29,453
Other	\$-	\$5,507
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,246</b>	<b>\$87,979</b>

Expenses		
	June	YTD
Expenses	\$7,817	\$126,326

Famine Relief	
Received	\$795.00

Church World Service	
Received	\$233.00

Our Great Hour of Sharing	
Received	\$1,183.00

Attendance; Monthly Average	
January	102
February	89
March	89
April	108
May	101
June	85

### ANNIVERSARIES

<b>Melissa &amp; Elizabeth Gates</b>	3-Jun
<b>Al &amp; Barbi Beeson</b>	23-Jun

### BIRTHDAYS

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

## WE ARE ENTERING INTO OUR TIME OF PANCAKES

For 61 years we have celebrated our community's involvement in Prescott. Each year we come together in fellowship to provide pancakes for a large number of people, 600 last year. Again this year, on parade day, we will serve pancakes to our Prescott community—with our proceeds in support of Prescott Community Cupboard, who provide food to those in need.

We are faced with many challenges as we get ready for the Pancake Breakfast. We must gather supplies, make sure all the equipment is in place, talk with the Lions and Boy Scouts (60 years of participation), publicize, and manage other operational activities.



Consider participating in these preparations for the Pancake Breakfast. There is the reward of a well-executed event, supporting Prescott Community Cupboard, and building fellowship. Look for a sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall.

John McCurdy

## 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!

## 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.

### COFFEE HOUR CALLING!

Debbie Staats, our superb coffee hour coordinator, would be greatly helped by (1) More goodies and healthy ones at that, and (2) Knowing in advance what she can plan for.

So, we are calling on everyone to bring healthy goodies to share and also sign up on the sheet in Perkins Hall. This would be very welcome and very helpful! Thank you. Marti Garrison, Moderator

## 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

### 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.

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:9299102455)

## 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



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

## With roots in the UCC, U.S. Institute of Peace faces an uncertain future — continued from page 1

### CONTACT US:

216 E. Gurley Street  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
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 Hazeltime 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.

The former pastor of Rock Spring UCC, the Rev. Sid Lovett, served on the USIP Board of Directors in the 1980s and believes it is second-to-none when it comes to peace-brokering. The USIP works to prevent, reduce and resolve armed conflict around the world and also provides analysis, education and resources to agencies working for peace. Its teams of mediators and trainers — the "boots on the ground," as Lovett calls them — work in some of the most dangerous hot spots, including Iraq and Afghanistan.

"The State Department and the Department of Defense know that the Institute for Peace can provide the leadership they don't have for peace negotiations," Lovett said. "It has effectively and carefully put boots on the ground. They've created an amazing collection of experts."

Lovett credits Milton "Mike" Mapes, a former member of Rock Spring UCC, WWII veteran and foreign affairs scholar, for raising the money and helping push Congress for the creation of the USIP. "Mike ran the National Peace Academy Campaign and not only was he a member of Rock Spring, he was a personal friend — we both grew up in New Haven, Conn.," he said. "The Peace Institute would not be here if not for Mike Mapes, and what he did to keep the Peace Academy going....That's why I went on the board of directors [under President Reagan], in his honor and to keep his vision alive."

The administration proposes a cut in funding for the Institute for Peace to \$19 million for 2018 (from \$35 million in 2017) — mostly to cover severance costs — to no funding at all in 2019. On the other side of that, the budget proposal calls for an increase of military spending by about \$54 billion — something Neuroth and peace-seeking advocates said is morally reprehensible given that it would eliminate the USIP, one of the few places the government invests in building peace.

"Through our Just Peace pronouncement 30 years ago, the UCC offered the audacious hope that 'peace is possible,'" Neuroth said. "For our war-weary world, we should be investing more, not less, in institutions like USIP to help us envision ways beyond military solutions."

The Rev. David Smock, a UCC minister and the Vice President of the USIP for 24 years, said that it would be "very unfortunate" if the institute were eliminated. "It has a strong record of facilitating peacemaking in trouble spots around the world. It has support from military leaders, the State Department and various diplomats," Smock said. "It plays a critical role in mediating peace agreements and doing research, advocating and training and serving as a peace think tank."

"The USIP had strong church support, particularly the UCC, and also from other faith traditions," Smock said. "We worked closely with various denominations, and I think it's a natural for religious organizations to be supportive."

Lovett recalled that there were always elected officials and staffers on Capitol Hill who wanted to eliminate the USIP over the years, but each time that threat came about, former military, faith and nonprofit leaders spoke up in support. In 2011, former Marine General Anthony Zinni advocated for its funding, and just last week retired Army Lieutenant General Karl Eikenberry added his voice in a piece published in USA Today.

Said Lovett, "If [funding] is going to be cut in half, we need to push harder. I'm prepared to go back and start hustling again if we're in trouble."