



This Week at a Glance...

- Chancel Singers Rehearsal: Sunday 9:00 a.m.
- Pre-Lenten Adult Sessions: Sunday 9:10 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.
- Sunday Worship: "Womansong" 10:30 a.m.
- Alter-Notes Rehearsal: Sunday 12:00 - 12:45
- Prayer Chapel: Tuesday 11:00 a.m. Meeting Room 2
- Lenten Series: Wednesday 5:30 p.m.
- Pastor's Bible Study: Thursday 9:30 a.m.
- Bell Choir Rehearsal: Thursday 11:00 a.m.



The Temptations of Christ, 12th century mosaic at St. Mark's Basilica, Venice

FROM THE PASTOR

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent. We will look at Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness (Mark 1:9-15). Lent is often thought of as a somber season of giving up something for God. Lent is a time for repentance, to be sure, but repentance means to turn, so repentance can be a positive turning toward God's intentions for us. And God's intentions for us are for our own good. So, think of Lent as a time to evaluate our lives and turn toward more positive paths and habits. Our spiritual path requires continual repentance/turning as we stumble, dust ourselves off, and begin again. The cycle is captured in the following exchange:

"The Road to Holiness."

A seeker after truth came to a saint for guidance.

"Tell me, wise one, how did you become holy?"

"Two words."

"And what are they, please?"

"Right choices."

The seeker was fascinated. "How does one learn to choose rightly?"

"One word."

"One word! May I have it, please?" the seeker asked.

"Growth."

The seeker was thrilled. "How does one grow?"

"Two words."

"What are they, pray tell?"

"Wrong choices."

Grace & Peace,
Jay

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED DURING WORSHIP ON THIS SUNDAY, FEB 18. Join us as we the members of the First Congregational United Church of Christ express our welcome to Lauren Edwards and Ann Flanagan and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

SERIES STARTS ON FEBRUARY 21ST, AT 5:30 PM AND WILL INCLUDE A SOUP MEAL!



This Lenten series is based on a curriculum developed and distributed by the United Church of Christ: "White Privilege." Clearly, our society is in need of racial healing, every bit as much today as in the past. The UCC and First Congregational Church of Prescott believe that people of faith have a special role to play in working to heal racial divides and advance the cause of justice. One place to focus this important work is on understanding and recognizing how deeply,

and often invisibly, white privilege permeates our society, standing in the way of equity and justice for people of color. The aim of the "White Privilege" curriculum is to help participants understand that disapproving of the systems that privilege whites will not be enough to change the system. Racism will not simply end if white people change their attitudes, because racism is racial discrimination coupled with societal power. The systems that benefit white people in obtaining jobs, housing, healthcare, education, etc. must themselves be challenged, disempowered, and changed. While individual acts can help, they cannot by themselves end these systemic problems.

Therefore, addressing the problems of racism requires first seeing the systems of power in place and their colossal unseen dimensions that create and perpetuate privilege for some and injustice for others.

The curriculum is intended to help people to "see" race-based power and privilege, their manifestations and their impacts. Only after getting honest about how white privilege has functioned and continues to be perpetuated can there be dialogue about how to address its causes and make strides toward the necessary reparations and redistribution of power and opportunity. Bill Bryant is a member of First Congregational Church United of Christ of Prescott. He is Founder and CEO of BetterRhetor, an educational resource company aimed at better preparing students for college-level academics, regardless of income or background. He earned a PhD in American Studies from the University of Iowa.

“Embracing an Adult Faith”

ADULT SESSIONS

We will be using Marcus Borg’s “Embracing an Adult Faith”.

Schedule:

- Feb. 18 - - What about Practice?
- Feb. 25 - - What about Community?

Each session stands alone, so attend those you can.

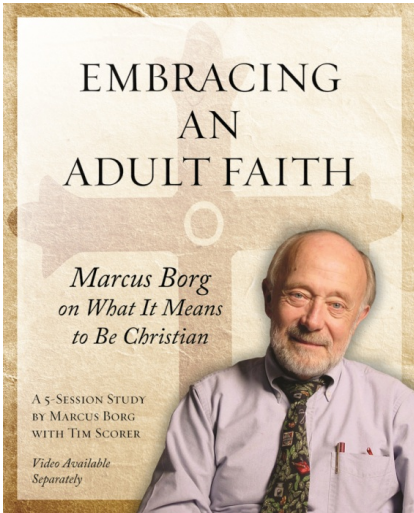
Sessions will be offered twice

- 9:10 - 10:10 before worship
- 11:45 - 12:45 after worship

Get your coffee and bring it!

Place: Maggie B. room downstairs.

Format: watch a DVD of Marcus, then discuss what we saw ourselves.



FEBRUARY GREETERS

1. Staci Robbins
2. Bill Rouse
3. Anna and Harry Strong

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH NEWS

This month’s mission emphasis project is the Prescott Area Shelters Services [PASS]. PASS provides

temporary shelter for women and women with children in a 17-bed dormitory setting. Guests can stay for up to 90 days. Staff support and connection to community agencies helps women regain confidence and employment. Ninety percent of clients transition into permanent housing (apartments, etc). If you would like to make a donation, please write a check payable to the church, with the line memo, PASS. On the 3rd Wednesday of each month, our congregation provides the PASS clients with an evening meal. Volunteers are always welcome to contact our PASS meal coordinator, Patty Gard at 928-460-3042.

From our response to last month’s mission emphasis project, a check for \$325 is being sent to the Prescott Community Cupboard.

Canned food donations can be deposited in our Community Cupboard donation box found throughout the year in the front of our sanctuary. As always, thanks for your support in addressing the world’s need for compassion and justice. Gary Gard, Outreach Mission chairperson. [928-910-2455].

Feb. 18 New Members Received; Womansong in Worship

Feb. 25 Alter-Notes

Mar. 3 Womansong with Ukes Along, a Joint Concert

Mar. 18 Alter-Notes

Mar. 23 Fundraiser for “Sugar and the Mint” 6:30pm

Apr. 1 Easter Sunday

Apr. 8 Holy Humor Sunday

Apr. 15 Beatles Sunday

Apr. 25 Jazz Night with Opus 5:30 pm, more information to come

May 20 Alter-Notes

**“Womansong with Ukes Along”, a
Joint Concert**

March 3 @ 3:00 pm - 4:15 pm

Prescott Ukulele Guild (PUG) co-founder Will Fisher has invited us to collaborate with the Womansong Civic Choir that he directs at 3pm on March 3, 2018 at the First Congregational Church in Prescott for the “Womansong with Ukes Along” concert.

Prescott Ukulele Guild



This FUN performance will feature songs from the Womansong choir alone, songs from PUG alone, songs with EVERYONE, and PUG sub-group performances.

Cost to Public: Free, with a love offering
PUG Attire: “Aloha” Wear

**FREE CONCERT @
First Congregational Church
Friday March 23, 2018**

6:00—6:30 open for silent auction

6:30-7:30 Sugar and the Mint Show

Donations accepted to cover new album & 2018 travel expenses

sugarandthemint.com

**2017 Telluride Bluegrass Festival
band contest WINNERS**

**sugar
& the
mint**



ALTER-NOTES

Do you like to sing? Do you play an instrument? Would you like to be a part of bringing alternative styles of music to our worship service? Come join Alter-Notes! We rehearse at 12-12:45 p.m. on Sundays, after social time. Music styles vary - calypso, spirituals, folk, celtic, pop, rock, and everything in

between.
Show up and/or call Melissa Gates, 207-391-3276.

THE CHANCEL SINGERS

You do not have to be able to read music or be a great singer to join us! The Chancel Singers are seeking people who love to sing. Anyone interested is invited to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the Chancel.

For more information, please contact the Music Director, Jane Osborn, at 928-713-4752 or prescottsong@hotmail.com.

VAN MINISTRY

Bill Rouse has agreed to be one of our van drivers to pick up and take home those needing a ride to church. If you would like the church van to pick you up Sunday morning, please let Bill know by Saturday. His number is 602-769-5770. Our thanks to Bill for this ministry.



HELP US BUILD OUR SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT WITH OUR COMMUNITY, LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED

PASTOR’S BIBLE STUDY

An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Hazeltine room. All adults are welcome.

EVERY WEEK COMMUNION

“Every Sunday Communion” takes place in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays. Communion is open to all.

ONCE A MONTH COMMUNION

Our regularly scheduled communion is held the first Sunday of each month. Communion is open to all.

PRAYER CHAPEL

Called to Care holds a weekly prayer time at 11:00 am on Tuesdays in the Chapel downstairs. Place your prayer requests in the prayer box in Perkins Hall.

PASS MEAL

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

CABINET MEETING

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

VAN MINISTRY

If you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings, please let Bill Rouse know by the Saturday before. 602-769-5770

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

If you would be interested in playing with us, we will train you! This is a fun and rewarding contribution to our worship. We meet for rehearsal at 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

CHANCEL SINGERS

If you like to sing, the Chancel Singers are eager to increase membership. We meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. before worship services.

ALTER-NOTES

Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal in the Hazeltine Room each Sunday. If you like to sing or can play an instrument, we are looking for new members. We play folk, pop, Celtic, spirituals and anything else. Contact Melissa Gates phone:207-391-3276

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Parents may take children to Sunday school downstairs before the service begins, or 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).

CONTACT US

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PRESCOTT, UCC

216 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Office: 928-445-4555

Pastor Jay: 928-899-9066

Julie: 928-710-1379

ADMINISTRATION

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 4:00

Friday 9:00 - 1:00

PASTOR JAY

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00

other times by appointment



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 a.m.

