

Lent
a season of reflection, preparation & renewal

First Congregational Church UCC, Prescott

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

The Parish Caller Weekly Newsletter March 8, 2019



Taizé

Wednesday March 13, 6:30 pm

Soup dinner 5:30 before

*Join us for a special time of quiet meditation
and praise.*

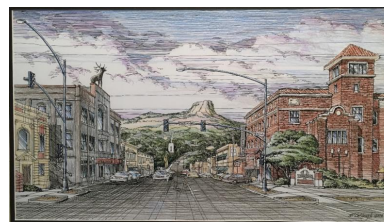
THANK YOU AGAIN

Many thanks go out to Suzzane Broussard for all of the many volunteer hours she has put in the last few weeks getting adjusted to her new roll as Church Secretary. She also is my faithful Friday office volunteer! Thanks again Suzzane!!

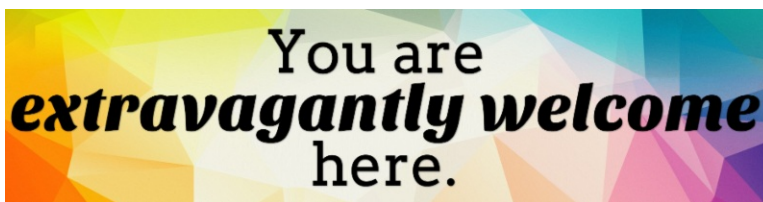


"Celebration of God's Gift to Art"

The Church is planning an Art Fair here on June 15th and would like to invite any members interested in showing their work. Pastor Jay has organized similar events in the past and is enthusiastic about opening the Church to the community for the event. Pastor Jay suggested the theme to be "Celebration of God's Gift to Art"



Anyone interested in participating in "ART" and showing your work may contact Julie at the Church office or Barbara McCollough at cbmc4re@gmail.com , 951-297-8311



The fellowship time after our service is an extension of our "Extravagant Welcoming". We all agree that Debbie Staats does a wonderful job. But, we are needing a rotation of men

or women (1) to help set up/clean up each Sunday just to help Debbie a bit. Please sign up to be there by 10am and leave or not by 12pm. Sometimes she may not need your help, it's up to her. THANK YOU.

Pancake Breakfast lovers are encouraged to be on the committee to organize the Annual Pancake Breakfast.

This is a FCC UCC tradition. The first meeting would be to decide if this will continue/change and when etc. An informational binder was made last year to follow.

A SIGN UP SHEET will be available or you can call or email Co-Moderators Patty Lantrip (480-227-2170, palantrip@gmail.com) or Rev. Ralph Wagner (585-733-

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

March 10, 2019

“Take nothing with you for your journey: no staff, no bag, no bread or money, not even an extra tunic.” (Luke 9:3)

“When we enter an inner journey, a journey into the core of our suffering or Jesus’ suffering, or just plain old suffering, we often take things with us. We take the past, our triggerable history of suffering. We take interpretive frameworks, including scriptural.

We take questions and doubts. Is this suffering my fault? What could I have done to avoid it?

Am I part of the suffering of migrant children still in detention? Do I recognize in their suffering who Jesus said he is? Did I do enough? Or just not the right thing?

Jesus gave remarkable advice about what to take on a physical or spiritual journey. ‘Take nothing on the journey with you.’ What does an unencumbered journey look like? Can we dare to reflect on suffering without our baggage, without our frameworks?

Does it mean that all we think we need, but really don’t, is burdening us? Do we dare look at our journeys anew for these few days of Lent, without [extra] suitcases?

Let’s find out together.

Prayer: Jesus, your words startle. Do you really think we can live with fewer props? Can you liberate us from luggage for Lent? Amen.”

By Donna Shaper, introduction to “Take Nothing with You,” 2019 Lenten Devotional, United Church of Christ.



MISSIONS NEWS



Update:

Following our mission emphasis for February, a check for \$370 is being sent to the Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS). Thank your support of this ministry. In addition to what we donate financially, each month we prepare/deliver an evening meal for the women and children staying at the shelter. Thank you, again, to our “helping hands” who provide this meal ministry. Without you, this ministry would not be possible. We have posted a “Thank You” note in Perkins Hall from the PASS staff, which reads: “Dear FCUCC meal provider volunteers; volunteers do not necessarily have time, they just have the heart. Thank you for all your nutritious meals for women and children in need. You make a huge difference and we are so grateful for your support. Carmen (Director) and Katee.”

PARABLES PERUSAL!



March 16, 11-3, Meeting room 1, below Perkins Hall.

Lunch included

Come to a round table discussion of these parables led by august members in our midst, although we are all theologians: we think about God, right? And we study the Bible...

- Bill Linson: Matthew 20: 1-6, The laborers in the vineyard
- Ralph Wagner: Luke 10: 25-37, The Good Samaritan
- Harry Strong: Matthew 25: 14-30, The parable of the talents
- Marti Garrison: Luke 6: 39-41, Judging Others

Everyone’s voice is welcome! Come for a stimulating Saturday!

Questions: see Marti or

Our mission emphasis for March is the Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity (PAHH). Since its founding in our area in 1989, over 90 low income families have been helped into their own homes. Presently, there is a new PAHH home under construction in Chino Valley with another one on the drawing boards. There is a home being rehabbed in Prescott Valley, and two new homes here in Prescott. You may make a donation by making your check payable to the church, with the memo line, PAHH. Additionally, if you would like to participate in a home construction project, contact Gail Martin at 928-445-8003.

garrisonmarti@gmail.com

Women's Gathering in April. Get ready for lively times and deeper looks into how women are presented in the Bible. Who are they? How do we relate...or not? Date, time, and place TBA.

Questions and Suggestions: see Marti Garrison in church or at garrisonmarti@gmail.com



"MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND KEEP THE OLD"
Here's how at First Congregational: We are initiating a new fun way to make friends with congregants you may not know well---yet!

NINE 'n DINE FOR MARCH, 2019

This is a great opportunity to share hospitality and meet congregants both recent and established over an informal meal at a host's home. Your host will contact you about a convenient date and ask that each person bring a side dish. The host will provide the main dish.

Sign up in Perkins for an evening (or brunch) of good food and good discussion at this get-to-know-you. It's sure to be fun! Please sign up before the end of February. Questions? See Marti at church or email garrisonmarti@gmail.com.

GREETINGS!

Yea! Our DUCC (Disciples-Ucc-Church-Camp) registration is now live! I want to give you some initial instructions to use and/or pass on to the person in your church who is responsible for camp registrations.



- **All registrations will be online.** All participants - youth and adults - will fill out the same registration form. If you have families in your church who cannot fill out an online form, please assist them (i.e. set up a laptop after church one Sunday to walk them through the registration process). The signature of a parent or guardian is required on forms for all campers (including High School youth and graduates).
- The **REGISTRATION FORM** is **ADAPTIVE**. That means that depending on what box you check, new items pop up. So, if you just scroll down without checking a box, you won't see all the options. If you make a mistake you can go back and uncheck something.
- Our website has info, FAQs, and link to the registration form: <http://www.uccswc.org/camp>
- **WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING RIGHT NOW** for you as a church camp registrar? Understand what are scholarship and gift codes. Campers registering for camp who are being scholarshiped by either/both the Conference and/or your church will need codes to put in their payment section which will reflect the reduction of costs. Gift codes are also the way that other family and friends can pay a camp registration fee for someone. The tricky part is that the registrant needs the codes BEFORE they register in most cases.
- **THE 1/3 SW CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP CODE: SWCCAMP** This is the code you can give to camper families requesting the conference scholarship. This code will reduce the full-

week fee by \$137, and the Sprouts Camp half-week by \$82. We're not requiring any description of need, or that your church needs to be paying another third, but we ask that you don't just automatically give out the SWC scholarship code to everyone. Make sure families are asking for it or you know they need it. We were very pleased last year that even though on the registration form last year, it only took a click to get a scholarship, less than half the families requested one. So, that really helps reserve our Sow the Seed fund to serve families who really need it. **This code will only reduce the fee by either \$137 or \$82, regardless of if campers are registering after the early bird deadline and have a higher fee.

- **HOW TO DO CHURCH SCHOLARSHIPS:** Use the registration form and read the instructions carefully. You will put in your name and click on what you are doing. You will be "*Paying for one or more campers.*" Then, you are "*A church paying for one or more campers.*" After that, you can purchase as many one-third scholarships as you want by adding the camper's name and the parent's email just by clicking on "add a voucher" after each person. You can then pay by credit card. If you don't yet know the specific campers, purchase as many gift registrations as you want, using the church's or pastor's email. The codes will then be sent automatically to the email indicated. Each church's code will be unique.
- *Since space is limited and time is of the essence*, you might want to begin purchasing some gift codes as the church if you know you will be giving out scholarships, so you will have the codes when people ask. You also can limit the amount you purchase now, and add more at any time later if needed or when you receive donations to cover them.
- *Individuals can also purchase guest registrations for specific campers.* Instruct interested donors to go the the registration form. They are "*paying for one or more campers,*" and "*I am wanting to purchase one or more gift registrations.*" They put in the amount they want to purchase, and the recipient's email. The gift code will be emailed to the camper family to use on their registrations.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, you are welcome to call me: (602) 468-3830 office, 480-243-2796 cell. or Matthew Clark in the DOC office (602) 468-3815. (Matt is the one who is coordinating all registrations and also set up the form, so if I'm not available, don't hesitate to call him for help).

I hope this is not too daunting! Once we get use to it, I think it promises to really help streamline our registration process!

In recent years, I know participation in camp from New Mexico and El Paso has dwindled. But, I'm sending you folks these instructions as well just in case there is interest. Please know that in the past, we've arranged for chaperones to pick-up campers at the airport and take them to the camp bus to and from camp and return to the airport. Talk to me!

Thanks for your efforts!

Blessings, Barb

Rev. Dr. Barbara Doerrer-Peacock
Associate Conference Minister, Southwest Conference United Church of Christ
917 E. Sheridan St., Phoenix, AZ 85006

602-468-3830 (office) 480-243-2796 (cell)
bdoerrerpeacock@uccswc.org

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PROGRAMMING

Anniversaries	
Geri Lyons	02/03
Suzanne Brouard	02/12
Suzy & Hal Lobaugh	02/19
Birthdays	
Susan Lemons	02/04
Brian Moore	02/04
Phil Prebble	02/11
Dan Bradstreet	02/12
Harry Strong	02/19
Barbie Beeson	03/02
Betty Corn	03/13
Kathy Stephens	03/13
Any Wilson	03/15
Patty Gard	03/18
Bret Ely	03/26
Andree Shrimpton	03/28

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in

Conference 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.

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.

THE RINGING 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 9:00 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 on the Chancel 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).

ADMINISTRATION
Monday - Thursday: 9:00-4:00
Friday 9:00-1:00
928-445-4555
fccprescott@gmail.com
juliefccprescott@gmail.com



PASTOR JAY
Monday - Thursday: 9:00-1:00
928-899-9066
Jayfccprescott@gmail.com