



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."

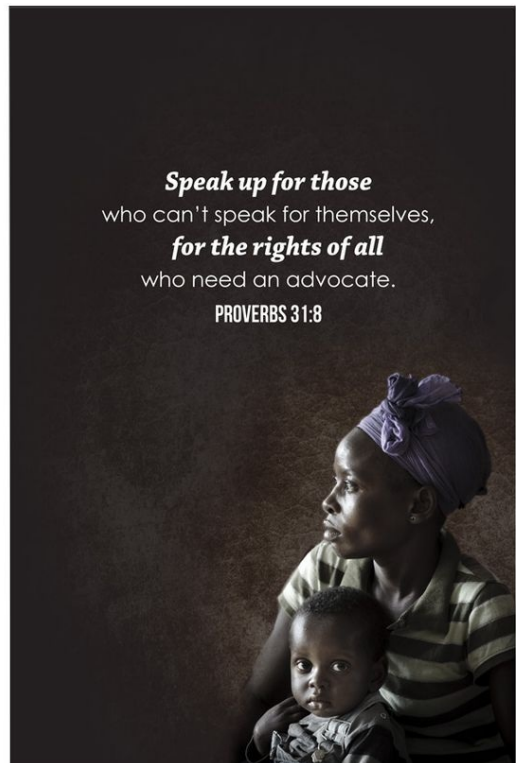
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

- Chancel Singers Rehearsal: Sunday 9:00 a.m.
- Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
- Alter-Notes Rehearsal: Sunday 12:00 - 12:45 p.m.
- Prayer Chapel: Tuesday 11:00 a.m. Meeting Room 2
- Bell Choir Rehearsal: Thursday 11:00 a.m.

We stand there with those whose dignity has been denied. We locate ourselves with the poor and the powerless and the voiceless. At the edges, we join the easily despised and the readily left out. We stand with the demonized so that the demonizing will stop. We situate ourselves right next to the disposable so that the day will come when we stop throwing people away.

Gregory J. Boyle, Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion

*Speak up for those
who can't speak for themselves,
for the rights of all
who need an advocate.*
PROVERBS 31:8



SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

SPIRITUALITY & DISERNMENT

The 2018 SW UCC Conference annual meeting was held in Tucson this year at the Rincon Congregational UCC. The workshops offered were all great; the ones I went to were "The Spirituality of Activism" led by Rev. Vernon Meyer and "Creating a Discernment Process for Your Church," led by Rev. Teresa Blythe. She is a spiritual director who teaches how a church might address the various sides of a conflict or troubling issue and work together towards a solution.

Rev. Meyer talked about naming and facing problems through spiritually based activism, which he described as a path to change. In spiritual activism training people identify concerns, such as the current dismantling of human rights and environmental protections, then commit to joining social change organizations. He said we have to listen to those who don't share our views while never abandoning our goal of transforming our world as best we can. One example he gave is the seemingly small act of observing the Sabbath by not shopping or working. This is resisting the status quo. He cited Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel: "Inner liberty depends on being exempt from domination of things as well as from domination of people."

Rev. Blythe, on one of her handouts, writes, "Your congregation has come to a fork in the road. A calm and deeply considered decision is called for. You need help with discernment, a time-tested spiritual practice of deep listening, sifting and sorting of facts, and the search for unity around which road to take."

She offered guidelines for practicing communal discernment, discerning God's desire, learning the Quaker process with a "clearness committee," and turning to biblical helps, such as Jacob's dream at Bethel (Genesis 28: 10-17), Ruth's decision to follow Naomi, and God's love for us planted in our hearts (Deuteronomy 30).

Both workshops, on spiritual activism and working together towards solutions, were thought-provoking and inspiring. How might we take time on the Sabbath to think about and act to resist evil? When hard topics come up in the church, how can we, together, discern the steps towards a solution?

Rev. Marti Garrison

IT IS TIME TO GET READY FOR OUR ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST--JUNE 30

Many of you have already volunteered to help us, a sign-up sheet will be in Perkins Hall very soon. We need every one to participate in some way with this annual event, it is a big one and we need all the help we can get.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- Join the planning committee
- Volunteer the day before to help with set up
- Volunteer the day of to help with serving, cooking and clean up
- Donate toward the overhead of this event
- Funding a portion of what is on our list

A sign-up sheet will be in Perkins Hall next week.

If you would like to be on the planning committee, please see Patty Lantrip, palantrip@gmail.com

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH NEWS

Thanks to your giving, a check for \$607 is being sent to support the work of the **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)**. OGHS funds support national/global programs which fund (1) Health, Education, and Agricultural projects (2) Disaster Relief and (3) Refugee settlements.

This month's mission emphasis project is **Rainbow Acres**, in Camp Verde. Rainbow Acres services the needs of a dult-age clients (ages 20-80) who are developmentally disadvantaged. Their campus (50 acres) hosts 95 residents and provides an atmosphere wherein each individual is given the opportunity to reach their fullest potential. This happens in multiple ways: participating in educational programs, farming and animal-care activities, arts-n-crafts programs, discussion groups, sports programs, working off-campus, etc. Your contribution will help support a client needing financial assistance to meet the cost of residency at Rainbow Acres. Presently, 38 clients (called, "Ranchers") are aided by scholarships. Mark your gift on your check or on the envelope "Rainbow Acres".



For those desiring to know more about the **DACA** (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program, please refer to the DACA information packets found on the mission display table in Perkins Hall. The packets contain facts which are not only informational, but also surprising. For example, did you know that since June 2012, DACA participants have paid approximately \$20 billion into Social Security, approximately \$4.6 billion in Medicare taxes, and approximately \$12 billion in state/local taxes. (Huffington Post.com "A Guide to read about DACA")

For questions or comments concerning any of our mission outreach projects, please contact our Mission Outreach chairperson, Gary Gard (928-910-2455)



YAVAPAI COUNTY COALITION FRIENDS AND FAMILY ANNUAL PICNIC

May 27th 11 till sun down, Watson Lake

Our church will have booth at this year's LGBTQ picnic again. Everyone is invited to attend this event, and we are looking for volunteers to help with the set-up and representing our church in the booth. Those that volunteer will receive a free entrance ticket. Volunteer schedule will stagger your help so you may attend and participate in the events.

Please see the sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall or call Julie at: 9*28-445-4555

UCC PEACE AND JUSTICE NETWORK

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE
UCC.ORG

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY IS TAKING A BREAK AND WILL RESUME MAY 17

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](tel: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.

STEWARDSHIP

Offerings			Attendance Monthly Average		Outreach Gifts					
May		YTD	January	93	January		July		Undesignated Missions	
Pledges	\$ 1,350	\$ 33,516	February	113	Prescott Comm. Cupb.	\$ 325				YTD \$ 475
Non-Pledge	\$ 388	\$ 13,966	March	101	February		August		OCWM	
Facility Use	\$ 178	\$ 4,711	April	114	PASS	\$ 320				YTD \$ 75
Foundation		\$ 53,462	May		March		September			
Memorials			June		HABITAT	\$ 275				
Total	\$ 1,916	\$105,655	July		April		October			
Expenses, Actual			August		OGHS	\$607				
	May	YTD	Sept		May		November- December			
Expenses	\$ 430	\$ 82,824	Oct		Rainbow Acres					
Annual Budget Needs			Nov		June		December			
	Annual		Dec							
Expenses	\$249,300									



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.

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 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).

VAN MINISTRY

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

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.

