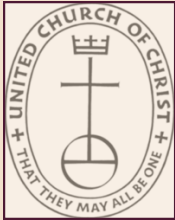


The Parish Caller

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

November 18, 2016

First Congregational
Church, United
Church of Christ,
Prescott



FEATURED THIS ISSUE

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This Week at a Glance...

- ◆Choir Rehearsal: Sunday 9:00 am
- ◆Worship Service and Fellowship time: Sunday 10:30 am
- ◆Living the Questions: Monday 6:30 pm
- ◆The Church will be closed Thursday and Friday in observance of Thanks Giving

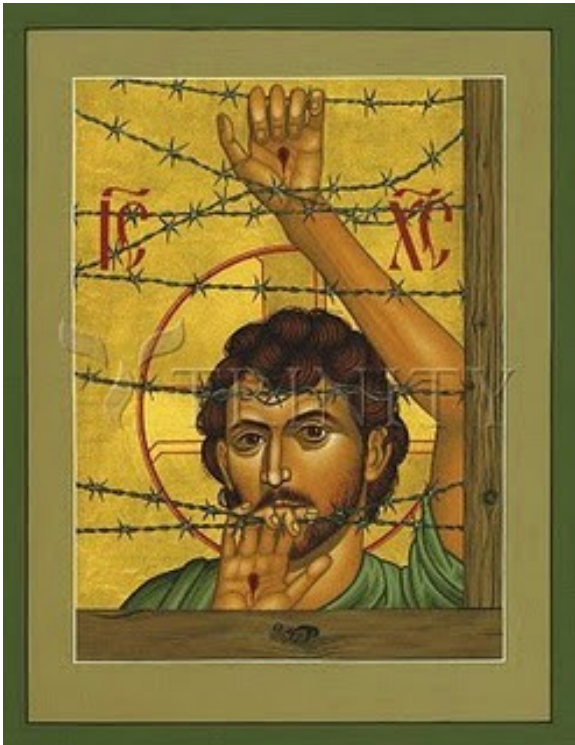
From the pastor

An icon from Br. Robert Lentz, OFM.

Here is what Br. Robert says about this image:

“The icon does not make clear which side of the fence Christ is on. Is he imprisoned or are we? Through our cultural institutions and personal lives we all place barriers between ourselves and true happiness. We and our institutions also try to imprison Christ in various ways, to tame him...” —Br. Robert Lentz, OFM, September 11, 2002.

This Sunday is “Christ the King Sunday” or “Reign of Christ Sunday.” A little known or understood day on the church calendar, but I think an important chance to reflect on how this hidden reign of Christ impacts us and awakens us to what is real and lasting. The sermon title is “The Paradox of Living in Two Worlds.” See you Sunday!



From Pete Norum:

Introduction: In thinking about the esteem and position that our leadership and congregation members have had here in our world, our place, our current efforts to restore our building would lead to more than redecoration. I believe we are on our way to doing that.

In late-night TV listing manner, I propose we pledge that:

5. As our physical spaces become again the historic downtown Prescott location for life-changing meetings and events
4. As a continuing role being a patron of local arts, visual and performing
3. As a model for Prescott known for extravagant welcome, inclusiveness and generosity
2. As a respected voice for reform and action in Arizona
1. As a persistent supporter for compassion and justice in the world.

**Message from our
Moderator, John
McCurdy**

Friends,

We have found a home.

A place to develop our relationship with God. A place to get and give encouragement in our efforts. A community of hope, of love, of life.

We are a self-determined congregation. We provide the human power, the gifts and the funds to operate our church.

Each time we interact with another we are building upon our relationship with God and each other. Each time we use our gifts, our talents, we are expanding the creation which we are a part of. Each time we spend money we are in support of what we bought.

I ask that you consider spending some of your time within the organization of our church. There are many areas that need attention. Some are simple and some are complex. But each develops our community, furthering our relationship with each other and with God.

Perhaps you have a talent that you would like to share with this community. We each have different gifts and abilities. Those talents are always in need and always appreciated!

Money is why I write this letter today. There are many expenses that cannot be covered by time and talent. We have used some money from past members who have dedicated funds for specific areas, such as the Ashenfelters' support of the physical needs of our community. But these funds do not support the expense of operations.

We, the current friends and members, support the operation of the church. It is our funds that go to offset the cost that we incur being a community. Join me on November 27, 2016, in pledging my financial support of this community that has supported me in building my relationship with God and with you.

In faith,
John McCurdy
Moderator



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Small painting projects: outside railings

Artistic painting: finishing the mural on the stage wall

Cory Room: Historical photos and documents need organization

If you are interested in any of these projects, please see Marilyn Skovgard or Tom Macy.

“GO AND DO THE SAME”

November is Stewardship month. We will be talking a little each week about the financial needs and the many volunteer options for the church. This is the time to prayerfully consider how you can be a part of the many important ministries here at the First Congregational Church.

INTERESTED FOLKS WANTED—TOMORROW

There will be a meeting to discuss coordinating a team of interested folks in planning wildlife/ecosystem corridors in the Prescott area. We will be discussing strategies for developing corridors and the tasks needed to bring them to fruition. **November 19th at 11AM at the Embry Riddle Library.** — Chuck Budinger

ADVENT “MUSING” DEVOTIONALS AVAILABLE IN PERKINS HALL

Thanks to Ronny, Angela and Shirley and all who contributed— one per family please.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

November 27th after worship service.

JAZZ VESPER: Wed., November 30th 6:30-8:00 PM Song of the Pines

WORLD AIDS DAY 2016 December 2nd

6:00 pm here at the FCC, please join in Northland Cares and Greater Yavapai LGBTQ Community Coalition in marking World AIDS day in Prescott!

FAITH UNITED COMMUNITY UCC, DEWEY ANNUAL SALAD CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Monday Dec. 5th at 11:30 Please RSVP 928-772-8257, 1061 Old Chisholm Trail, Dewey

ACKER NIGHT

December 9th 5:50 pm, we are hosting Prescott Apry & Wester Swing Music Association.

CONGREGATION CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

December 18 we will be gathering in Perkins Hall after worship service for our Annual Christmas Potluck. Sign up sheet will be in Perkins Hall soon. Don’t miss it!

PASS MEAL

The PASS meal is Wednesday, December 21st at 5:00 pm. Our church provides a monthly meal for Prescott Area Shelter Services, a home for women in transition. We need several items of food for that Wednesday. The meal items are brought to our parking lot at 5:00 pm.



Making America 'A Just World For All' more important after presidential election
November 09, 2016 Written by **Anthony Moujaes**

In the hours after the end of a divisive and bitter U.S. presidential election, United Church of Christ pastors and ministers began the challenging work of offering a pastoral response to a fractured nation. Today, their message is one of moving past their anger and grief, and getting back to the work of pushing for love and justice for all.

"Grieve quickly. Hold on to one another today. Cry. Feel all of the fear that is rumbling around in you. And then," said the Rev. Cameron Trimble, "Rise up."



"As we begin our day today, remember that we are all in this together," [wrote](#) Trimble, CEO of the Center for Progressive Renewal. "We are bound by love, and we are stronger than we could ever imagine. So, be the Body of Christ in the world. Embody kindness, do justice, and walk humbly. For that sake of all that is good, keep the faith and keep moving. Feel the pain of this day, but don't let it define our future. Our best days are still ahead."

Conference Minister the Rev. Mike Denton, of the Pacific Northwest Conference, believes that the deeply-divided nation suddenly feels less safe, but the church can still be a place of refuge. "The idea of providing sanctuary is not a new one — it is the idea of opening up our churches and making them a safe space for people who are feeling threatened by the world," Denton said. "Over the coming hours, days, weeks, months and years, more and more people are going to be asking for us to provide some sort of sanctuary; everything from providing a space for prayer and a listening ear to a place where they can find physical safety from a world that endangers them. We need to start the conversation about how to do that within and between our churches, now."

Continued from
page 3
From the UCC New
Group, UCC.ORG

Written by **Anthony
Moujaes**

The Rev. George Miller, pastor of Emmanuel United Church of Christ in Sebring, Fla., was among the scores of pastors calling on their congregation to continue its justice work.

"There are those filled with great hope; there are those filled with great fear. There are those that feel fully alive; there are those that feel utterly numb," Miller [wrote](#) to his members. "My request today is that no matter how we voted, no matter where we stand or where we rest on the results, that we, as a church stay united. That we honor and respect one another; that we honor and respect one another's voices, opinions, thoughts."

"I also continue to hold true to what I have come to know about Emmanuel UCC — that we are a congregation full of loving, welcoming folk, with a superb spirit of hospitality and inclusion, always growing, always moving ahead, always becoming the people in Christ we were called to be."

The Rev. Dwayne Royster, political director of PICO Network in Washington, D.C., a national network of faith communities, believes that the path will be hard, but [possible](#) if people of faith continue to embrace love for all.

"I am reminded that Jesus tells us that we must go the narrow way," he said. "I believe the narrow way is the way of love. I believe the essence of our faith is about love that embraces all that this election wants us to hate. I believe the narrow way is not about fear and condemnation but about the love of God. I believe the narrow way calls us to truth telling and confession that creates healing and wholeness. I believe the narrow way calls us to care deeply about the other."

"Tonight, I renew the call I offered some months ago to gather those who would be prophets in this generation," Royster continued. "Not just those that want to give a word, but those that will do a work, put their hands to the plow and not look back. Right now we need Prophets that will speak truth to power unequivocally and will speak truth to the people as well."

The Rev. Jim Antal, conference minister and president of the Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ, sent out a message Wednesday morning to the 12,000 UCC members in his conference, noting that "our personal vocation and our collective calling to make God's love and justice real is being tested like never before."

WHATS HAPPENING AT FCC
Try our SignUpGenius on our website: www.fccprescott.org

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

PASS MEAL is a once-a-month ministry where we provide a meal for the Prescott Area Shelter Services the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:30 pm. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

Funky Friday Game Night
Hosted by PFLAG
Everyone Welcome!
7-9 pm
1st Friday of every Month

KNIT WITS meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month from 1-3 pm in the Office Conference Room.

CHOIR PRACTICE
9 am before worship on Sundays. See Jane Osborn if you would like to join the choir!
BELL CHOIR PRACTICE
at 11 am on Thursdays

PFLAG SUPPORT GROUP
meets the 3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Church Library. See Julie J. for more details.

LAS FUENTES
1035 Scott Dr., Prescott
SPIRITUAL LIVING Class is held the 3rd Thursday of every month at 10 am, led by Called to Care Ministry.
~And~
Worship Service is also held the 2nd Sunday of every month at 3 pm, led by Pastor Jay.

EXPLORING FAITH
Living the Questions Study Group
Looking into new topics, please let Pastor Jay if you are interested
~And~
Monday Evening Discussion Group
6:30 pm in the Church Library

CALLED TO CARE MINISTRY meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 12:15 pm in the Office Conference Room. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, see Marilyn Kerstine.

CABINET MEETING meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Office Conference Room.