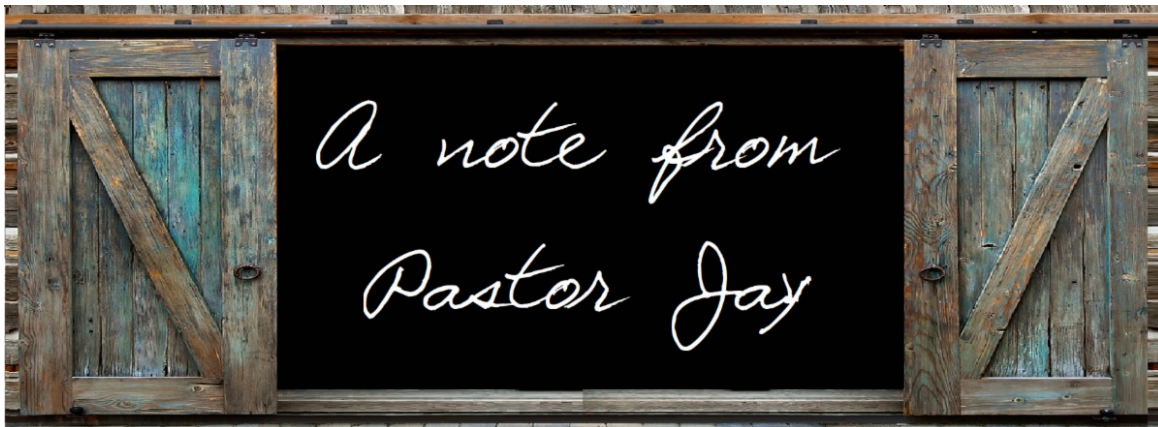


First Congregational Church

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



One of my favorite Sundays of the year is All Saints Sunday - a worship service to remember those who have passed from this life to the next. I imagine the balcony of the saints - loved ones and friends joining us for worship (Hebrews 12:1-2). The following paragraphs are from our denomination's website:



The Forerunners of Christ with Saints and Martyrs (about 1423 - 24)
Tempera on wood, National Gallery, London Author: Fra Angelico

Who Are the Saints?

Honoring the saints has been a feature of Christian worship from the origins of the church, when names of local martyrs were included in the Sunday eucharistic prayer. Soon, special days were set aside for remembering martyrs and other exemplary Christians whom individual Christian communities proclaimed to be saints by consensus. When the church became centralized, local saint making was replaced by a more universal and controlled process called "canonization." Eventually, only the "official saints" were liturgically commemorated as models of faith. Many seemed too lofty to imitate, however, and a gulf opened between saints and "ordinary" Christians.

Because the saints were thought to share Christ's saving work, Christians relied heavily on their intercession, praying to them and venerating their relics. In the late medieval church, the influence of the saints was enormous. When Protestant reformers shaped new churches, they democratized sanctity, retrieving Paul's teaching that saints are all whom God justifies through grace by faith alone. Rather than a posthumous honor for the extraordinary few, sainthood is the common calling of all who are baptized. This was a favorite insight of the Puritans, who routinely called each other "saints."

All Saints Day

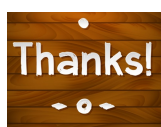
As early as the fourth century, days were set aside to commemorate all the saints at once. This was done to honor unknown saints and to remedy deficiencies in people's observance of a particular saint's day. The most enduring of these commemorations in the Catholic Church falls on November 1. All Saints Day is now celebrated on or near this date by many Protestants, too. We do not canonize or pray to saints, but we look to these towering figures of our heritage for inspiration and encouragement in our own Christian pilgrimage. Some churches use All Saints Day as an opportunity to learn more about these great saints. Others focus broadly on the "great cloud of witnesses," living and dead, whose seemingly humdrum lives glow with everyday virtues. Still others observe the day as a memorial for members who died during the year. All these emphases are in the spirit of the day, but worship planners could minimize the parochialism and sentimentality that can result if a community focuses exclusively on local loved ones. All Saints Day should challenge us by presenting us with a variety of figures from different times and places whose often contradictory styles of faithfulness enlarge our notion of what it means to be a disciple and a saint.



FLOAT IN CITY PARADE ON VETERANS DAY
Please see John Huff if you would like to participate on our float on Monday, November 11, 10:30am-1:00pm



Coffee Hour Hosts, just a "Friendly Reminder" goes to Angela, Marti, Walter and Linday K. for this coming Sunday, November 3rd.



Thanks goes to Jane Cheek and Murl Preble who volunteered and hosted last week Sunday's Coffee Hour. Thanks you!!



During the holidays, do you find yourself reminiscing about your past Christmas traditions? Do you share these memories with your children and grandchildren with a wish that they continue these traditions in your family for years to come? Our Church family has grown over the past several years, and we would like to learn a little more about each of you. Please share these memories with us, and we will compile them into a booklet which will be available during the holidays. Write about your favorite memories, family traditions, funny/interesting happenings, favorite meals, Christmas songs, prayers, recipes, etc. It can be as short or as long as you like (but not the first great American novel, please). Send it by e-mail to Angela Imbierowicz at angelaprescottaz@gmail.com, and Rev. Marti - Garrison and I will edit it (if you so desire) and include it in what we believe will be a wonderful treasury of our congregation's Christmas memories. Thank you.



HANNAH'S HEART

The Second Annual Showing of a play based upon a book published by local author, Diane Iverson, Hannah's Heart will be performed at the Prescott High School Auditorium on December 6th & 7th at 7:00 PM, along with December 8 at 3:00 PM.

Proceeds support local family programs here in Prescott. Tickets are available through www.hannahsheartaz.org or may be purchased from Gary Gard.



Prescott's Coalition for Compassion (CCJ) is this month's mission outreach emphasis. CCJ's goals focus upon those who are homeless. This happens in multiple ways. (1) Provide a safe place of shelter for those whose lives have endured the trauma of life

on the streets. (2) Provide counseling and job training to help stabilize and empower those who have known mostly despair and defeat. (3) Provide tools necessary to secure employment. Nightly attendance at the shelter has been greatly reduced. This year over 30 people have experienced the joy of moving into their own safe space. A place to call home. If you'd like to help, please make your check payable to the church, with the memo, "CCJ".

Last month's mission emphasis, Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM), received \$363 in donations. This amount will be coupled with the \$3600 already committed in our Church's Operation Budget.

DACA family update (the Gardea family) Because of your faithfulness in support of our on-going DACA Fund, we have been able to help Franceny meet DACA renewal expenses and Prescott College tuition installment payments, and help her brother, Francisco (U of A) meet his tuition installment payments. After years of pursuit, Francisco has just been granted "Legal Permanent Status" by an agency of the US government. Hallelujah! Here's a note we received from Franceny. From her heart and from her family, she wrote: -- "*We are so very grateful God crossed our paths! You and your church family have been a true blessing, and we are so thankful. You have been a huge part of our family's journey. Many blessings have been because you have given us your unconditional love and support. We are forever grateful, and are very happy to share all of these incredible blessings with you. Love you all.*" [Our DACA Fund welcomes donations year around.]

Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS) meals: Thanks again to those who are helping provide a monthly hot meal to homeless women and children staying at the PASS shelter. If you would like to help provide this meal on the 3rd Wednesday monthly, please sign your name to the PASS list found in Perkins Hall. Questions? Contact our PASS meal coordinator, Patty Gard.

Aware that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2), our church is making a difference. Thank you. Our mission outreach team is: Becky and Bill Bryant, Helaine Berman, Patty Gard, Linda Moore, Staci Robbins, Gary Gard Chairperson

Looking  ahead



Schedule for "It's a Wonderful Life" Radio Play

Schedule times to rehearse with SFX live, SFX recorded & audio, & organ
 Sat, Nov 2, 10am - Noon, Script and directions to actors - First read-through
 Sat, Nov 9, 10am - 12 Noon Scripts to actors -read through

Offer that anyone who wants additional help can meet Monday, Nov 11, 6pm

- Wed. November 13, 6pm - 7pm Live & Recorded Sound Effects & music
- Sat, Nov 16, 9:30 am LIVE & RECORDED SFX QUICK RUN-THROUGH
- Sat, Nov 16, 10:00 am - Noon FULL REHEARSAL
- Sun, Nov 17, 12:30 pm DRESS REHEARSAL with Audience
- Tue, Nov 19, 6 - 7pm, FULL REHEARSAL, IF NEEDED

• Wed, Nov 20, 7pm: PERFORMANCE (pls be in Perkins Hall 6:30)




Judaism for Non-Jews, meeting on Thursdays at 11 am in Perkins Hall. Coffee and snacks supplied. All are welcome, even if you haven't come before for previous classes



Veterans Day
Parade Nov. 11
11:00 a.m.

It's a Wonderful Life **NOVEMBER 20 @7pm**

FREE ADMISSION




Free Celebration of Thanks
Children and Adult Choirs, Reflections on Gratitude, Singing and Refreshments!

This Sixth Annual Celebration of Thanks brings together all faiths in our community for a night of song and shared reflection. Everyone is invited to attend.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate to Prescott Community Cupboard. Donation opportunities will also be available to help support Operation Deep Freeze.

Sponsored by the Quad-City Interfaith Council.
For more information, contact Molly Freibott at azfaithbridge@gmail.com

**6:00 p.m. Thursday
November 21, 2019**
Sacred Heart Catholic Church • 150 Fleury St., Prescott





ACKER NIGHT

DECEMBER 13th 2018

To Be Determined

First Congregational Church, 216 E. Gurley St.
December 13th @ 5:30 pm



Christmas Potluck

DECEMBER 22ND

After Worship service

Bring a dish to share

Food. Fellowship & Fun!

Sign-Up Sheet in Perkins Hall

Made with PosterMyWall.com

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

12-24-2019 @ 7:00 PM

Lessons and Carols by candle light

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Christmas Pageant

December 22nd during Worship Service

Adult and Children's Participation
Volunteers needed!
email Melissa Gates: mgates716@gmail.com

Music by: *Alternotes and the Chancel Singers*

ANNIVERSARYS

Jane & Alex Osborn 11/11
Linda & Charles Kaul 11/16
Janet & Ritch Steven 11/23
Dennis & Barbara Mccollough
11/27

BIRTHDAYS

Marti Garrison 11/01
Sandra Johns 11/01
Julie Mccurdy 11/01
Debbie Staats 11/01
Nancy Gale 11/03
Deborah Lyons 11/03
Carolyn Prohaska 11/10
Judy Ely 11/11
Eddie Hoitt 11/11
Bill Rouse 11/15
Andrew Wallace 11/18
John Huff 11/23
Fay Wilson 11/24
Bob Bradstreet 11/28
Bill Linson 11/28
Patti Cichon 12/03
John Mccurdy 12/03
Carole Sue Linson 12/08
Sandra Talbot 12/08
Helaine Berman 12/13
Randy Jay Wilcher 12/17
Pete Norum 12/18
Jay Eby 12/24
Dillan Osborn 12/25
Don Stephens 12/25
Christopher Hoitt 12/27
Ralph Wagner 01/01
Don Hull 01/09
Brent Walker 01/10
Darcy Walker 01/10
Nitaray Thomas 01/15
Katie Bradstreet 01/19
Jane Cheek 01/25
Julie Jaquette 01/28



Contact Us

Administration 928-445-4555
iccprezscott@gmail.com
M-TH 9:00-4:00 & Fri. 9:00-1:00

Pastor Jay Wilcher
928-899-9066
JayFCCPrezscott@gmail.com

EVERY-WEEK COMMUNION

We have communion each week right after worship at the front of the sanctuary, everyone is welcome to participate.

MONTHLY 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 Prescott Area Shelter Services, the third Wednesday of the month.

CABINET MEETING

Meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Office Conference Room unless otherwise announced.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

We will train you! We meet for rehearsal at 9:00 am. On Thursdays in the Hazeltine Room downstairs.

CHANCEL SINGERS

We meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. before worship service to rehearse. All are welcome.

ALTER-NOTES

We meet at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday after Coffee Time in the Sanctuary Chancel. Contact Melissa if you are interested in joining: 207-391-3276

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children may participate with Sunday School downstairs after "Children's Time".