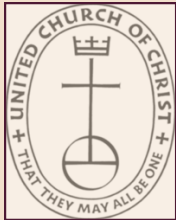


The Parish Caller

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

October 21, 2016



First Congregational
Church, United
Church of Christ,
Prescott

FEATURED THIS ISSUE

PAGE ONE:

- ◆ This Week at a Glance
- ◆ Open Gates from Elizabeth Gates

PAGE TWO:

- ◆ Open Gates from Elizabeth Gates continued
- ◆ Announcements
- ◆ Restoration Update

PAGE THREE:

- ◆ Advent Devotional
- ◆ Outreach Ministry

PAGE FOUR:

- ◆ Living the Questions
- ◆ Warm For Winter
- ◆ Bulletin Board

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
- ◆ **Jazz Vespers:** Wednesday 6:30 pm Road 1 South "Rare Blues Well Done"
- ◆ **Bell Choir:** Thursday 11:00 am
- ◆ **Cabinet Meeting:** Thursday 6:30 pm

Open Gates by: Elizabeth Gates

Some moments in your life stick to your memory like thick honey on a spoon lazily dipped. Looking back to the long-ago magical 1970's summers I spent as first a camper, then a counselor at a church camp in Maine, the honey remains on the spoon as if I had just dipped it in the sweet jar of memories yesterday. Bishopswood was (is still is) located on the edge of Maine's Lake Megunticook. Cold, fresh lake water laps relentlessly on the gray, jagged rocks and splash the birch trees and pines that line the shore. Run by the Episcopal Diocese of Maine, Bishopswood had as an integral part of its program a rotation of priests from various parishes around the state. Each priest enjoyed a week with the campers and staff, and led the services on Saturday night and Sunday morning. Sometimes the wisest lessons are the simplest ones. Sometimes a short "sermon" during a kid-geared service in the Maine woods stays with you forever, and when you think about it, it never gets old. Father Lindsay gave me a gift one Sunday morning, one that I try to live by to this day.

Father Lindsay had with him a grocery bag. As we watched with curiosity, he removed a package from the bag. He held it up. It was jellybeans. "Who likes jellybeans?" he asked. Hands shot up around the chapel. "Of course we like candy! We don't eat it every day, but it sure tastes good when we want a treat, doesn't it." We nodded. "So candy makes us feel good." Yes. Father Lindsay took the next item out of his bag. It was a bottle of cough medicine. "Why do we take medicine?" he asked. "When we don't feel good," answered a camper. "Right," he responded, "when we don't feel good. When something isn't right. When we need help to feel better." The third and final item emerged from the bag. We stared at a loaf of bread in a plastic wrapper. "When," asked Father Lindsay, "do we eat



bread?" "Every day!" we all shouted. "Absolutely," beamed Father Lindsay, "every day. We need bread to be strong, to have energy, to work and play. Without bread every day, we wouldn't be nourished properly. We might even be grumpy. We just wouldn't be able to live

Continued on page 2

Open Gates: By
Elisabeth Gates
continued

very good lives, would we?”

He paused a moment, and then continued: “How do you treat God in your life? Do you treat God like candy, and only pray when you feel good or grateful? Or do you turn to God when you feel bad and want to feel better, like using medicine?” Father Lindsay put the bread down on the small pine altar and walked closer to us. “Perhaps the wisest way to invite God into our lives is to treat God like bread. Bread – God -- is yours for the taking, every day, morning, noon, and evening. With God being invited into your heart every day, no matter if things are good or bad, you will have the strength to live a loving and thoughtful life. Let God be your daily bread.”

Father Lindsay has passed on. Yet his words, spoken so gently in the deep pine woods of Maine that sunny Sunday morning, live on in my heart. Thank you, Father Lindsay, for the lasting blessing you gave me, and one I still do my best to live by.

Announcements

JAZZ VESPERS OCTOBER 26 AT 6:30 PM

Road 1 South will be our musical guests. Jazz will give way to the blues on this night. And Jazz Vespers will give way to Christmas music on Wednesday, November 30 as we welcome Song of the Pines as our musical guest. Remember them in your prayers this next week as they compete in Las Vegas – and open the event as the selected group for this honor!



2ND ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

Dig out that favorite chili recipe for our second annual chili cook-off to be held Wednesday, November 9th. We will have a sign up sheet in Perkins Hall for those who want to bring chili, or any other side dishes. More information to follow.



HEALING SERVICE — Communion

Wednesday, November 16th - Led by Called to Care Team. More information to follow.

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE RESUMES

Carol Sue Linson is sufficiently recovered from her recent shoulder surgery! Our Bell Choir will resume practice on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at 11:00 am.

RESTORATION PROJECT UPDATE

The sanctuary is getting a new coat of paint. Work is progressing in a downstairs room with the new flooring. Community Cupboard and Discovery Gardens donation boxes are located in the new wicker baskets on the Chancel. Thank you for your donations!



LOST AND FOUND AND RECYCLY BINS are located on top of coat rack. Please throw your bulletins, if not keeping, in the recycle bin on your way out, thank you! In addition, Marilyn Skovgard, Angela Imbierowicz, or Tom Macy can answer questions for you.

PICTURE DIRECTORY Rev. Shirley is taking pictures of everyone for a pictorial directory. This will help us all get to know each other—Thanks Rev. Shirley!



Restoration
Project Update

Advent Devotional

OUR 2016 UCC ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

This year once again, our church is putting together an Advent Devotional: a work of love *by* our members *for* our members and friends, a booklet with favorite stories, personal memories of a Christmas past, poems, favorite recipes, all relating to Christmas while we wait for the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Also, we will need a title for this booklet. Please submit your entry to the people below.

Handwritten, typed or emailed entries may be handed or sent to:

Angela Imbierowicz: 708-712-1448 angelaprescottaz@gmail.com

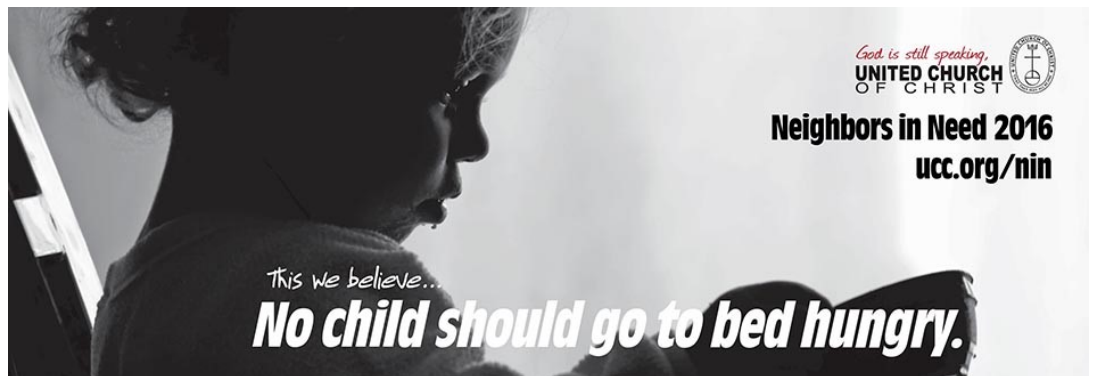
Ronny de Jong: 928-541-7743 ronnyhermandejong@gmail.com

Absolute deadline: Sunday October 30, 2016

Interested in volunteering to put this together? Let us know!

OUTREACH MINISTRY

On the national/international scene, October's mission emphasis will be the denomination's Neighbors in Need (NIN) program. Two-thirds of donated receipts to NIN will support ministries of justice and compassion. One-third will support the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries. For those desiring to contribute to our October project offerings, a check may be made payable to the First Congregational Church, with a note on the memo line specifying which project you desire. Or, you may simply write "Mission" on the memo line, and the Outreach Committee will use your donation at their discretion.



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry(CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries(JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.

Living the Questions

LTQ? discussion group meets on Monday at 6:30 pm downstairs.

Many of you have expressed a desire to attend "Living the Questions" however can't make it on Monday night. If you are interested in attending a Sunday Morning discussion group for Living the Questions, Let Julie in the office know. 445-4555

This is a beautifully produced DVD series that promotes group discussions in a relaxed intimate setting.

Join us and journey into a way of life that contradicts the way of the world.



At Prescott United Methodist Church
Winter Wear for Low-income Families and Individuals

October 29, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

505 West Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Information: Diane.Iverson@YavapaiCJ.org or 928-445-8382

A Project of Coalition for Compassion and Justice



Donation sites:

Open Door, Prescott United Methodist Church,
C J Thrift Store, Windermere Real Estate
Prescott and PV, Xhale Convenience and Smoke,
Bloomtree Realty, Republican Women of Prescott,
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints



You may also donate any warm wraps for this project through our church. There is a box in the front of the sanctuary for this purpose.

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

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.

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.

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

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