

# The Parish Caller

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

October 9, 2015

First Congregational  
Church, United  
Church of Christ,  
Prescott



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**This Week at First Congregational Church of Prescott...**

- ◆ **New Membership Class** This Sunday after Worship Service
- ◆ **Las Fuentes Worship Service** Sunday at 3 pm
- ◆ **Exploring Faith** Monday Night Discussion Group at 6:30 pm
- ◆ **P.I.E.** at 5:30 pm Wednesday
- ◆ **Las Fuentes Spiritual Living Class** Thursday at 10 am
- ◆ **Bell Choir Rehearsal** at 11 am Thursday
- ◆ **Choir Practice** at 9 am before Worship Service next Sunday

**From Pastor Jay**

The Caller will be going into “survivor mode” for the next two weeks as Julie goes on a much deserved vacation. We will try to get something out each week, but probably not as nice as this one! Thanks to Julie, our Parish Caller has exceeded my expectations and vastly improved our communication within the congregation. The bulletin may not look quite the same either. We just got a new copier – we shall see if it cooperates with us. It’s good to change things up anyway and not get in a rut.



Regarding changing things up, we now have several Wednesday night slices of P.I.E. (Play, Inspire, Eat) under our belt (pun), and I think it has been a success. Our attendance has been in the 20’s each week, and we have had new attendees each week. We have seen new people find this to be a comfortable entry into our church family. Tawnya, Linda, and I will be going to Flagstaff in a few weeks for a meeting to evaluate how it is going and what changes we might want to make. There are a lot of possibilities for the Wednesday night program and we want to try different things...and not get in a rut (sense a theme?)

We will have a jazz quartet join us for worship on All Saints Day, November 1. I am looking forward to singing “When the Saints Go Marching In” and marching down the aisles with all of you. Well, I can dream.

My thanks to Cory Piotrowski for helping me demo the office floor recently. If you need help around the house, Cory is looking for odd jobs to supplement his income.

I am in the process of a complete makeover of my office at the church. When it is done, I will have an open house after worship for you to check it out. I view this renovation as a metaphor for what is possible in the church – a vision for what could be and energy for the task creates new realities. May it be so. God bless, Jay



Julie Jaquette

Going on Vacation

I have been scurrying around getting ready to leave you for two weeks and go on vacation. My youngest daughter Sarah and I will be in Santa Cruz California visiting my birth mother and sister for a week. My oldest daughter Dianna will be joining us there where she will get to meet her grandmother for the first time. Then we are off to Oregon for a week to see my brother. We will be staying a couple of days with Linda Donsky and Lynn Green in the Portland area. It will be great seeing old friends and former members of the First Congregational Church in Prescott!

I can sometimes forget how much there is to do to keep things running smoothly at the church. I have been making notes for Connie Vandre who will fill in for me part time while I am gone. I have been making sure all the keys and passwords work and outlining for her what has to be done. Pastor Jay will be sending you email blasts to keep you informed as to what is going on, so you won't be receiving the Weekly Caller until I return.

Pastor Jay has been hinting to everyone that he won't let me go, but I am confident that things will run smoothly in my absence! If you want to check in with him to see if he needs anything I am sure he will appreciate it!

If you have anything you need, contact the church and leave a message for Pastor Jay and Connie.

I appreciate your prayers for our safe travels and that we will find time to relax during this busy "vacation." God Bless, Julie Jaquette

October 05, 2015  
Written by Barb  
Powell

Historic document paves way for renewed relationship between Boy Scouts, United Church of Christ

The United Church of Christ and the Boy Scouts of America re-established a formal relationship today (Oct. 5) with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding regarding local UCC congregations chartering Scout troops.

Signed by Michael B. Surbaugh, BSA chief scout executive, and the Rev. John C. Dorhauer, UCC general minister and president, the document affirms the recently-adopted BSA resolution that removed the restriction on gay adult leaders and employees, and formally states that UCC congregations chartering BSA units can conduct scouting programs according to their own values of inclusion and extravagant welcome for all.

"As a former Boy Scout growing up, and one committed to the open and affirming ministry of the United Church of Christ, it brought me a great deal of pride and satisfaction to be able to sign my name to that memorandum of understanding," said Dorhauer. "I am grateful to Mike Schuenemeyer for the hard work that he did over the last few years to bring this historic document to us, to help the Boy Scouts understand how important this is."

The memorandum follows several months of renewed efforts by a UCC working group, headed by Schuenemeyer — UCC executive for health and wholeness advocacy — and the Boy Scouts of America to re-establish a partnership. The negotiations began in earnest following the July 2015 BSA policy change.

In the July policy change, Robert M. Gates, national president of the BSA, said, "Everyone associated with scouting agrees to follow national policies and comply with BSA's behavioral standards; no youth may be denied membership to our organization on the basis of sexual orientation; and no council can deny a charter to a unit that is following the beliefs of its religious chartering organization."



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October 05, 2015  
Written by Barb  
Powell continued

The UCC had pulled back from any formal ties and had withdrawn its letter of endorsement in 2001 because of BSA policies of excluding boys and men based on sexual orientation. The BSA changed its policy regarding youth in 2013.

“This is significant moment in the relationship between the United Church of Christ (UCC) and the Boy Scouts of America (BSA),” said Schuenemeyer. “With the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, we are entering a new time of mutual cooperation and collaboration as a direct result of the policy changes the BSA has initiated, opening their doors to full, inclusive participation of youth and adults no matter their sexual orientation.”

The MOU states, in part, that “the United Church of Christ and the Boy Scouts of America will work cooperatively with each other within the policies and regulations of each organization to establish and nurture scouting units as an expression of the nurture and outreach of the ministry of the United Church of Christ and its member congregations so that boys, young adults, and adults may grow in their relationships with God, develop into responsible citizens, serve the needs of others, and develop personal fitness to achieve their greatest potential.”

Since its founding more than 100 years ago, scouting has been important to many congregations in United Church of Christ. Today UCC congregations sponsor more than 1,000 units of scouting with nearly 28,000 participants,” Schuenemeyer said. “Our commitments to justice and the inclusion of all people in the life of the church continue to call us to engage in actions that promote a just and peaceful world that affirms the gifts and ministry of each individual. That is why we welcome this opportunity to engage with colleagues in Scouting, the UCC and other faith traditions to foster inclusive Scouting programs.”

October Mission  
Focus

What’s Happening

Outreach Ministry October Focus is NIN

Did you know that some 53 percent of 67 million children around the globe who don’t go to school are girls? Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Your support of the NIN offering provides small grants and programs that seek to address the systemic injustices.

- ◆ Two-thirds of the offering is used by UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects. Imagine a world where educating women and girls is a priority.
- ◆ One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministries.
- ◆ “Reading Changes Lives,” the UCC’s newest all-church initiative, is a program that focuses on literacy, stateside and abroad.

If you would like to contribute to the NIN, please indicate your wishes by noting it in the check memo or on your offering envelope. Thank you!

P.I.E.

P.I.E. (“Play, Inspire, Eat”) Wednesday 5:30 pm

Food, fun, fellowship, and spiritual growth is scheduled for this week’s P.I.E.

- 14th: Pasta night followed by a focus on Mark 10:35-45
- 21st: Salad night followed by a focus on Mark 10:46-52
- 28th: Chili Cook Off followed by a focus on Mark 12:28-34

Inspiration time guided by Pastor Jay. Come and have a slice of P.I.E!

P.I.E. Chili Cook Off

P.I.E. Chili Cook Off

Our P.I.E. focus on October 28 is Jesus’ command to love God and neighbor, so we thought it was a good time to invite your neighbors and friends to join us! We will have a chili cook off with trophies for the top three entries!

Jazz Worship on All  
Saints Day

Jazz Worship on All Saints Day

Sunday November 1st we will have a jazz quartet joining us that morning. The quartet has played regularly at Hassayampa Inn and El Gato Azul. Come and experience singing together “When the Saints Go Marching In!”

Prescott Community

September Food Donations to Prescott Food Pantry...

This month we are collecting canned meat. There are baskets at each entry for your donations. Thank You!



Cupboard Donations  
National Coming Out  
Day

**National Coming Out Day, hosted by PFLAG...**  
October 10th at Granite Peak U.U. Congregation from 5-9 pm

- DJ Mojave — Music and Dancing
- Free Admission
- Free Carnival Games
- LGBTQ+ History Timeline
- Fun for All Ages
- Food and Extra Games available for purchase

New Members Class

**New Members Class**  
For those who would like to join the First Congregational Church, we are having a membership class after this Sunday Worship Service. This is an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the UCC denomination and this church. Please see Pastor Jay if you are interested in attending.

Funky Friday Game  
Night

**Funky Friday Game Night Hosted by PFLAG...**  
Starting in November, the first Friday of every month at 7-9 pm, PFLAG will be hosting a **Funky Friday Game Night** here at the church. This is a night for LGBTQ+ advocates and allies to get together and have a good ol' funky time! There will be popcorn and refreshments available for a suggested donation to help raise funds for PFLAG. The first game night was a big success and a lot of fun!

Ongoing & Weekly Events

**EXPLORING FAITH GROUPS**  
Sunday Morning Class IS ON  
HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE  
~And~  
Monday Evening Discussion  
Group meets at 6:30 pm in the  
Church Library

**CHOIR PRACTICE** meets  
Sundays at 9 am in the  
Sanctuary. See Jane  
Osborn if you would like  
to join the choir!  
**BELL CHOIR PRACTICE**  
at 11 am on Thursdays

**P.I.E. (Play, Inspire, Eat) Family  
Night** meets every Wednesday  
night starting September 16th at  
5:30 pm in Perkins Hall.

**CALLED TO CARE MINISTRY**  
meets the 4th Tuesday of  
every month from 2-4 pm in  
the Office Conference  
Room. If you are interested  
in being part of this  
ministry, see Marilyn  
Kerstine.

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

**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.

**First Congregational Church, UCC**  
216 E. Gurley Street  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
928-445-4555  
fccprescott@gmail.com  
**Administration Office Hours**  
Mondays: 1:00 - 4:00  
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 - 4:00  
**Pastor Jay**  
Monday - Thursday  
9:00 - Noon  
Other times by appointment  
Cell: 928-899-9066  
jayfccprescott@gmail.com

**Funky Friday  
Game Night**  
Hosted by PFLAG  
Everyone  
Welcome! 7-9 pm  
1st Friday of the  
Month starting  
November

**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.

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

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