

# First Congregational Church

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



This Sunday we have two scripture passages, Luke 18:1-10 and Genesis 32:22-31, that teach us that faith means persistence, tenacity, and not losing heart. We accomplish this through prayer. The title of the sermon comes from the late Fred Craddock, professor of preaching: "Faith with Bloody Knuckles." Jesus presents us with a parable about a widow who keeps pestering an unjust judge until he grants her request. One of those "how much more will God respond" parables of contrast. Still, we all know the reality of knocking until our knuckles bleed and still no answer. But sometimes like Jacob we wrestle with God(?) all night and walk away with a blessing and a new name. What is the Christian life? It's wrestling with God! I like that. So, this Sunday no easy answers or "prosperity gospel" but true to life persistence, tenacity, and faith.



*Jacob Wrestling with the Angel,  
Marc Chagall, 1887-1985*

Last century there was a tavern being built in a town that had previously been dry. In opposition to the tavern, a group of Christians gathered for an all-night prayer meeting and asked God to intervene. Lightning struck the tavern and it burned to the ground. The tavern owner brought a lawsuit against the Christians, holding them responsible. The Christians hired an attorney and denied responsibility. In the courtroom, the judge responded to this unusual scenario: "No matter how this case comes out, one thing is clear. The tavern owner believes in prayer and the Christians do not!"

*It's a  
Wonderful  
Life*

## RADIO PLAY SCHEDULE

Friday Oct. 25, 6-7 pm

&

Saturday Oct. 26 10-noon

Introduction to  
**Compassionate Communication**  
Find your voice, speak your truth & listen deeply

Would you like to be able to hear others and speak your mind in a clear and kind way without needing to be defensive or go on the attack? Find more ease in everyday conversations. Stay focused on what really matters to you and listen for the concerns behind others' words.

**Saturday, October 19th**  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

at the  
First Congregational Church  
216 E. Gurley Street  
Prescott

Facilitators Rachel Garmon and Sharon Seymour have been immersed in Marshall Rosenberg's Nonviolent Communication practice since 2004, attending workshops and retreats, and facilitating classes and practice groups. They bring a lively, 'jump right in' style to their teaching. Take home skills you can use right now.

Donations to support the work of the facilitators welcomed.

Stay informed about this and other such events at [nvcarizona.org](http://nvcarizona.org)

## Coffee Fellowship

We are having amazing contributions of all kinds of TREATS for our FELLOWSHIP TIME! Everyone is enjoying the 'spread.'

PLEASE remember that we are in **need of volunteers** to come a little early and get things set up or clean up. If you don't want to sign up because you don't know if you are going to be there, then just come early and do your thing in our kitchen to prepare for our time together.

The same people don't need to be there every week.....HELP!!!

**THANK YOU**

We have enthusiastically accepted and nominated Julie McCurdy to fill our 2020 position of Treasurer (upon approval at Annual Meeting). We have a meeting set to talk with another potential volunteer as Co-Moderator who will serve with Co-Moderator Rev. Ralph Wagner. Please speak to a Cabinet member if you are interested or so inclined to pursue. Also, Tom Macy will be added to the nomination list to serve as Member at Large with Sandra Johns and Natalie Brummer.

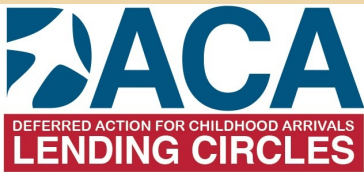


Thank you.



Our mission outreach emphasis for October is the denomination's "Our Church's Wider Mission" (OCWM). Donations to OCWM will help support; new church development, innovative programs reaching out to young adults, regional administrative support for local churches, and ecumenical relationships. Please make your check payable to the church, with the memo note, OCWM.

Thanks for remembering that we have been blessed to be a blessing. (Genesis 12:2) Our mission team members are: Becky & Bill Bryant, Helaine Berman, Patty Gard, Linda Moore, Staci Robbins, and Gary Gard, chairperson.



Throughout the year, we continue to help documented immigrant students needing assistance to meet their educational expenses. Most of our aid has been to assist Franceny Gardea, a junior at Prescott College, Francisco Gardea, a senior at the U of A. Donations to our DACA Fund are always welcome.

The immigration event we helped to plan and present September 21 at the Methodist Church was attended by over 200 people. Panelists addressed current government immigration laws, policies and practices. Guest speakers included an immigration attorney from Phoenix, an ordained Methodist immigration worker, the Humbolt-Dewey School Superintendent, and an area immigrant. Although they chose to decline, local law agencies were invited to be a part of our panel.

Monthly we provide a hot meal for women, and women with children staying at the Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS). If you would like to help, please sign your name to our sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall. PASS is hosting an Open House on Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> from 1-4:00 P.M. Questions can be directed to Patty Gard, our PASS meal coordinator. In addition to PASS, we are exploring the possibility of helping to provide a meal to those staying at the CCJ Shelter. If interested, please see the sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall.



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

PH=Perkins Hall, S=Sanctuary

- AUDITIONS: Fri, Oct 25, 6-7 pm and Sat, Oct 26, 10:00 am - Noon (S)
- Sat, Oct 26, by 4pm Call/Email to actors "will you accept this role?"
- Sun, Oct 27, 10:30 am Roles announced at church; (SCRIPTS available to actors with directions for dramatic reading)

• [Schedule times to rehearse with SFX live, SFX recorded & audio, & organ]

- Sat, Nov 2, 10am - Noon, Script and directions to actors - First read-through (PH)
- Sat, Nov 9, 10am - 12 Noon Scripts to actors -read through (S)

[change this to Sanctuary and practice with Microphones & assigned seats]

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 (S)
- Sat, Nov 16, 10:00 am - Noon FULL REHEARSAL (S)
- Sun, Nov 17, 12:30 pm DRESS REHEARSAL with Audience (S)
- Tue, Nov 19, 6 - 7pm, FULL REHEARSAL, IF NEEDED (S)
- Wed, Nov 20, 7pm: PERFORMANCE (pls be in Perkins Hall 6:30) (S)



### ANNIVERSARIES

Janet & Ritch Steven  
11/23

### BIRTHDAYS

Elizabeth Gates 10/21

### 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.

Harold Lobaugh 10/22  
Suzy Lobaugh 10/23  
Patty Lantrip 10/25  
Marilyn Eby 10/28  
Marti Garrison 11/01  
Sandra Johns 11/01  
Julie Mccurdy 11/01  
Debbie Staats 11/01  
Carolyn Prohaska 11/10  
Judy Ely 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  
Randy Jay Wilcher 12/17  
Pete Norum 12/18  
Jay Eby 12/24  
Dillan Osborn 12/25  
Don Stephens 12/25

#### **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".