

A Message from Pastor Jay

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

This Sunday we will have our regular Zoom fellowship gathering at 10am and also a parking lot gathering at 10am. The weather may be a bit chilly Sunday morning, but we will plan to be there for any hearty souls who wish to come. Communion will be shared.

Sunday's recorded worship service will feature Ann and Caleb with musical selections, Ann as liturgist, a sermon on Joshua 6, and JJ acting out the battle of Jericho. Refresh your memory of "Joshua Fit The Battle of Jericho" for Sunday.

Stay safe, and give and receive grace,

Jay

ZOOM BOOK STUDY OCTOBER 11

You are invited to join in a book study of

"White Too Long" by Robert P. Jones

To be held every Sunday Evening at 5:30
For six weeks beginning on October 11th
And ending on November 15th.

The Study will be by Zoom
And led by Ralph Wagner
If you are on the Church email list
You will receive a weekly invitation

You may purchase the book on Kindle for 13.49 and hard cover for 20.91. The book is also available on audiobook for free and can be purchased on audio CD on Amazon.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 11, 2020

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Holy God, please release in us that spirit of joyful thanks which is too often cramped down by our work and worries, or ignored by our trivial pleasures and entertainments. Release the real joy of Christ in us, that with adoring gratitude we may link our little spirits with your majestic Spirit, and find that inflow of health which rejuvenates our whole being.

Words of Welcome – Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Responsive Call to Worship (Psalms 66:1-2,5,8)
Ann & Caleb Flanagan

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name; give to God glorious praise.
All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name.
Come and see what God has done:
God is awesome in deeds among us.
Bless our God, O peoples,
let the sound of God's praise be heard this morning!
Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer – Ann Flanagan

Almighty God, the journey of faith is not easy. Our world groans and cries with the weight of injustice and oppression. Faith seems foolish, even insulting to express to others who have suffered so much. But faith is what gives us hope. Strengthen our faith, O God, and give us the courage to express that faith in the midst of suffering and pain. Grant us wisdom to share our faith in ways that encourage and build up others rather than make ourselves feel good. Most of all, call us into ways of living

out hope in our lives: to do justice, to practice kindness, and to walk humbly with you. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Song: “Banner of Hope” by Mary Susan Gast
Ann & Caleb Flanagan

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

A Time for Children of All Ages - JJ

Scripture Reading: Joshua 6 – Pastor Jay

Song: “Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho” – Ann & Caleb Flanagan

Sermon: "When God Doesn't Make Sense" Pastor Jay

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication – Ann Flanagan

Most Gracious God, you provide for us in ways that we do not always recognize. In this moment, we pause to express our gratitude for your provisions. We accept this invitation to offer our gifts as an opportunity to say thank you for your many blessings. Amen.

Song: “Spirit Blowing Through Creation” by Marty Haugen –
Flanagan’s

Benediction – Pastor
Jay

Postlude

**First Congregational Church of Prescott
United Church of Christ**

216 E. Gurley Street

Prescott, AZ 86301

www.fccprescott.org

www.facebook.com/FccUccPrescott

928-445-4555

Founded September 26, 1880

Serving the Church

Ministers All the People of the Church
Pastor Rev. Dr. Jay Wilcher
Pastor Emeritus Rev. Robert Bradstreet
Guest Musicians Ann & Caleb Flanagan
Worship Leader Ann Flanagan
Alter Notes Director Melissa Gates
Organist Brian Moore
Bell Choir Director Carole Sue Linson
Moderator Rev. Ralph Wagner
Minister of the Building Rev. Bill Linson
Facilities Coordinator Tom Macy

SEPTEMBER MISSION NEWS

Mission Outreach Update:

Each month throughout the year, your mission outreach team identifies particular mission project/programs to which we might choose to donate. This month's mission emphasis is our denomination's Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM). Most of what is donated to OCWM remains within our Southwest Conference. Donations support staff expenses, conference meetings, educational programs for adults and youth, summer camps, new church development, and ecumenical endeavors. Your check may be made payable to the church, with the memo line note, OCWM.

As we do each month, volunteers pack food bags for those served by the Community Food Bank (CFB), and prepare monthly meals for women/children staying at the PASS shelter. From the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic in March to September 25, CFB volunteers from our church and other faith communities have packed 64,675 pounds of food serving 9,345 people. Thanks also to the generous response of our PASS volunteers, all of this month's meal needs are met except for the need for desserts and bread rolls. We will deliver this month's meal on Wednesday, October 21. If you can help provide a dessert or bread rolls, please advise our PASS meal coordinator, Patty Gard (928-460-3042). Remember, there will be an Open House at the PASS shelter on October 28th, 1:00-4:00 PM. Appropriate COVID precautions will be observed.

A special word of thanks to Staci Robbins. Staci has faithfully served for years on our Mission Outreach Team. New callings in life have led her to a new home in New Hampshire. Along with missing her, our love and prayers go with her.

As always, thank you for remembering that we have been blessed to be a blessing. (Genesis 12:2) Your mission outreach team is: Becky and Bill Bryant, Helaine Berman, Patty Gard, Linda Moore, Staci Robbins, and Gary

Gard, Chairperson.

Special Request from Prescott Community Cupboard for large brown shopping bags (i.e., Trader Joes) or regular shopping bags (i.e., Frys, Safeway, etc.) It has been particularly difficult during the pandemic to obtain bags for packing purposes. Please deliver your bags directly to the Cupboard at 313 W. Goodwin Street (SE corner of Goodwin and McCormick). It's directly across the street from EL Gato Azul in the small strip mall of offices (the perpendicular building). It may be best to go there between 1:30 and 4:30, Monday thru Friday, when the packers are there. If you also have an excess of fresh fruits or veggies available, a donation would be welcome (as would a monetary gift).

**Thanks,
Angela Imbierowicz**

JOSHUA SERMON SERIES

Preaching Through Joshua

- Sept 6 - Joshua 1 - "Crossing Over
- Sept 13 - Joshua 2 - Dealing with Uncontrollable Circumstances
- Sept. 20 - Joshua 3-4 - "We Have Not Passed This Way Before"
- Sept 27 - 140th Anniversary - Rev. Bill Lyons Preaching
- Oct. 4 - Joshua 5 - "Spiritual Preparation"
- Oct. 11 - Joshua 6 - "When God Doesn't Make Sense"
- Oct. 18 - Joshua 7,8,9 - "Deceiving Ourselves"
- Oct. 25 - Joshua 10 - "Choosing to be on God's Side"
- Nov. 1 - Joshua 13-19 - "Saint Caleb"
- Nov. 8 - Joshua 20 - "Finding Refuge"
- Nov. 15 - Joshua 22 - "Opportunities & Obstacles in Times of Change"
- Nov. 22 - Joshua 23-24 - "The Importance of Conviction"

[Text Link](#)

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES THE PROBLEM WITH LIGHT/DARK AESTHETICS

DARK IS GOOD & GODLY

- Nov. 29 - Dark is Good & Godly - "The Via Negativa"
- Dec. 6 - Dark is Good & Godly - "Dealing With White Fragility"
- Dec. 13 - Dark is Good & Godly - "Light Burns & Blinds"

TREASURER'S REPORT

9/30/2020

As of the end of September, the year-to-date income is \$136,000 (which includes the generous contribution of \$51,000 from the Foundation). The impact of the pandemic has most likely reduced income by \$10,000 or more. This is due to the church being closed to outside groups.

The pandemic—and the church being closed—has also impacted expenses. Year-to-date expenses are \$131,000 and have been reduced by about \$20,000, mostly from employee wages and payroll expenses. We are on a new path to self-sufficiency through volunteerism! In summary, income has continued to be sufficient to cover expenses. Net income is nearly \$5,000. These are strange times, indeed. We can get through this together! Keep your pledges and contributions coming!

Thank you,
Julie McCurdy, treasurer

140TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR CHURCH

FCC History

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
CELEBRATES 140TH ANNIVERSARY
FOUNDED SEPTEMBER 26, 1880**

First Congregational Church was founded September 26, 1880. The first building was dedicated on November 27, 1881, at a cost of \$3200. The current building – 216 East Gurley Street - was dedicated on June 26, 1905. The congregation has always sought to follow Jesus in caring for and about those on the margins of society. In 1900, members of this congregation taught English to the Chinese railroad workers here in Prescott after the completion of the transcontinental railroad. Our commitment to education led our pastor and members to help in the founding of Prescott College. The congregation joined the United Church of Christ denomination after its formation.

Since 1957, the United Church of Christ has been the church of firsts, weaving God's message of hope and extravagant welcome with action for justice and peace. Together, we live out our faith in ways that effect change in our communities. The UCC's many "firsts" mean that we have inherited a tradition of acting upon the demands of our faith. When we read in Galatians: "There is no

longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus"—a demand is made upon us. So, we were the first historically white denomination to ordain an African - American, the first to ordain a woman, the first to ordain an openly gay person, and the first Christian church to affirm the right of same-gender couples to marry. We were in the forefront of the anti-slavery movement and the Civil Rights movement. Our response to the demands of our faith is woven into the history of our country.

CHURCH CLOSED THROUGH OCTOBER

CHURCH CLOSED THROUGH OCTOBER

The church Cabinet decided at its September 24 meeting to remain closed through October and continue to worship virtually. Parking lot gatherings may continue as weather permits. Check the Parish Caller each week for details. Toward the end of October, decisions will be made based on the spread of the virus.

[Text Link](#)

SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH DURING CORONAVIRUS!

- Online – go to our website: www.fccprescott.org and look for the tab on the front page
- You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.
- Use your credit card and get some points!
- Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank mail will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.
- Mail a check out to the church and mail it to 216 East Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

The church office is closed going forward, however, someone will pick up the mail on a daily basis to place checks into the safe.

Visit our website

Watch Services
Here



Celebrating YOU!!!

Anniversaries

WAGNER, Ralph & Susan Lemons	09/05
GILGES, Ralph & Cheryl	09/09
BRYANT, Bill & Becky	09/22
JAQUETTE, Julie & Sandra Johns	09/24
FONE, DJ & Marita Callaway	09/28
GESSERT, Jeni & Ben	10/21
JORDAN, Bruce & Jennifer Cortez	11/11
OSBORN, Alex & Jane	11/11
STEVEN, Ritch & Janet	11/23
MCCOLLOUGH, Dennis & Barbara	11/27

Birthdays

BROUSSARD, Suzanne	09/06
DINSMAN, Christy	09/07
MCCOLLOUGH, Dennis	09/09
MACY, Tom	09/14
MATSUMOTO, Yoichi	09/18
RELTH, Arlene	09/22
WILSON, John	09/28
KAUL, Linda	09/29
GILGES, Ralph	10/09
GATES, Melissa	10/13
MONSKA, Paul	10/13
DEVILLE, Dave	10/15
FOOTE, David	10/17
GATES, Elizabeth	10/21
LOBAUGH, Hal	10/22
LOBAUGH, Suzy	10/23
MCFADDEN, Michele	10/24
LANTRIP, Patty	10/25
GARRISON, Marti	11/01
JOHNS, Sandra	11/01
MCCURDY, Julie	11/01
STAATS, Debbie	11/01
GALE, Nancy	11/03
PROHASKA, Carolyn	11/10
ELY, Judy	11/11
ROUSE, Bill	11/15
WALLACE, Andrew	11/18
HUFF, John	11/23
WILSON, Fay	11/24
TAYLOR, Josh	11/25
BRADSTREET, Bob	11/28
LINSON, Bill	11/28
CICHON, Patti	12/03
MCCURDY, John	12/03
WILDMAN, Tommie	12/06
LINSON, Carole Sue	12/08
BERMAN, Helaine	12/15
WILCHER, Jay	12/17
NORUM, Pete	12/18
EBY, Jay	12/24
STEPHENS, Don	12/25