

## A Message from Pastor Jay

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

This Sunday we will have our regular Zoom fellowship gathering at 10am and also a limited attendance sanctuary worship at 10:30am. Communion will be offered. Masks and social distancing will be observed. No congregational singing. Call the church office for details.

Next Sunday, November 15, we will be joining a recorded worship service from the UCC conference of ministers. Our conference choir from annual meeting will be singing. The Parable of the Talents will be the scripture focus. This will be good timing for the stewardship season. Details for watching the service will be in next week's Parish Caller.

This Sunday's recorded worship service will feature musical selections by Brian, Tom, and Deana, a sermon on the cities of refuge from Joshua 20, and JJ hiding in a box for refuge.

### ZOOM BOOK STUDY NOVEMBER 8

**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 11<sup>th</sup>  
And ending on November 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**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.**

### Wednesday Zoom Bible Study at 10am

Stay safe, and give and receive grace,

## BULLETIN

### TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 8, 2020

10:30 a.m.

#### GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Words of Welcome – Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Stewardship Minute – Tom  
Macy

Opening Prayer – Sue Hodge-  
Parker

**O God of steadfast love, we entered this space today to worship you in gladness. We come into your presence singing your praises. You are our creator; we are your people. Be with us, O God, as we celebrate all of creation: We give thanks for the sun, water, air and winds that nourish your earth which provides the bounty we enjoy. Bless us as we bless your name. Amen.**

“When Peace, Like a River” by Spafford/Bliss – NCH #438

#### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

A Time for Children of All Ages -  
JJ

Scripture Reading: Joshua 20 – Sue Hodge-  
Parker

Sermon: "Refuge" – Pastor  
Jay

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

Anthem: "Dwelling in Beulah Land" Deana Wilson

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer (use trespasses)

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication – Sue Hodge-Parker

God, we thank you for this place we have to worship you. We so easily take for granted the church building, the members who keep things clean and who keep things going, the lights and plumbing and all the other things it takes to hold our worship services each week. Help us to realize that while it may not be what we consider to be an exciting cause, it is one that is important to your cause. Bless this offering. Amen.

"Great is Your Faithfulness" by Thomas Chisholm/Runyan NCH #423 (OneLicense)

\*Benediction – Pastor Jay

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

216 E. Gurley Street

Prescott, AZ 86301

[www.fccprescott.org](http://www.fccprescott.org)

[www.facebook.com/FccUccPrescott](https://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  
Worship Leader Sue Hodge-Parker  
Alter Notes Director Melissa Gates  
Organist Brian Moore  
Bell Choir Director Carole Sue Linson  
Moderator Rev. Ralph Wagner

## NOVEMBER MISSION NEWS

### **Mission Outreach Update:**

As we do throughout the year, each month we offer an opportunity to support a particular new mission project. November's mission emphasis project/program is the Coalition for Compassion and Justice (CCJ). Transitioning from primarily being an emergency shelter for those who are homeless, CCJ is now focused on helping clients find permanent affordable housing. Once housing 45-55 homeless clients a night, CCJ now averages about a dozen clients. At present, 26 clients who were previously homeless now have permanent housing in 21 units; including sleep cottages, mobile homes, and lodge style facilities. Visions for 2021 included building two more lodge style facilities. In addition to offering permanent housing opportunities, CCJ works with other agencies to disburse Rental Assistance funds. Early in 2021, CCJ will complete a renovation project at their Madison Ave facility. The present CCJ Thrift Store on Fair Street will be closed and moved into the Madison Ave. location. The Madison Ave location will then be home to the "Second Glance" thrift store, shelter space for those needing emergency shelter, and office space for staff and programming. Seeking to help clients establish work opportunities, CCJ offers [1] "Wheels for Work," a program matching a client with a vehicle gifted by local donors and [2] "Prescott Worker's Progress Agency," a program providing the community with CCJ clients being trained as landscape workers. Further information may be obtained by calling the CCJ Director, Jessi Hans [928-445-8382]. We are proud to note that our pastor, Jay Wilcher, is the chairperson of the CCJ governing board. Donation checks can be made payable to the church, with the memo, "CCJ."

**In response to this year's historic fire storms**, particularly in the states of Colorado and California, the UCC headquarters is receiving donations to help those trying to survive these devastating times. Your check can be made payable to the church, with the memo, "Fire Relief."

**Community Cupboard food bank:** Throughout the year, volunteers continue to pack food bags for those families living at/below the Federal Poverty guidelines. We remain grateful for our volunteers and to our team captain, Angela Imbierowicz. Contact Angela if you would like to volunteer.

### **Prescott Area Shelter Services [PASS]**

The shelter guests always look forward to the monthly Wednesday evenings when our church family brings dinner. We received a lovely note of appreciation and a wooden spoon inscribed with the following: "Thank You, Meal Providers -

PASS" when their evening meal was delivered last week. Their note will be posted on our Mission Outreach bulletin board in Perkins Hall and our special spoon will find a new home in the church kitchen. The content of Katee's note follows:

***Dear FCC-UCC,***

***Thank you so very much for being a monthly meal provider at PASS and for your years of dedication and support! We truly appreciate your generosity and kindness, more that we could hope to express. At a time in our guests lives when they need shelter and guidance, a warm delicious meal can make all the difference in their day. They feel cared for, noticed, and valued. Thank you for caring about and helping women and children in need.***

***Katee***

Katee also referenced the following quotes:

- ***"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart."***
- ***"No one is more cherished in this world than someone who lightens the burden of another."***
- ***"There is nothing more beautiful than someone who goes out of their way to make life more beautiful for others."***

Our team of monthly contributors have already completed the sign-up sheet for November's PASS dinner. THANK YOU, ONE AND ALL! This ministry would not be possible without so many dedicated "helping hands." Thank you for the blessings you bring. Patty Gard, PASS coordinator.

We have all been blessed to be a blessing {Genesis 12:2}. Our Mission Outreach team members are: Becky and Bill Byrant, Helaine Berman, Linda Moore, Patty Gard, and Gary Gard, Chairperson.

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## JOSHUA SERMON SERIES

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### 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"  
November 15 - UCC Worship  
Nov. 22 - Joshua 21-24 - "Opportunities & Obstacles in Times of Change"

[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"  
Dec. 20 - Dark is Good & Godly" - "Beyond White Jesus"

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH CABINET

Dear Church Family,

In approving this year's church budget at the Annual Meeting, the Cabinet clarified that the budget reflected a significant shortfall of income vs expenses. It was noted that endowment money and Church Foundation funds would be needed to meet that shortfall. It was also noted that these funds could be exhausted within 4-5 years if we continued to draw from these funds at the current rate. Having shared that information, the Cabinet said that there would be a review of the budget after the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

By the time of our review, the Covid 19 pandemic complicated our vision of the future. Although congregational giving had thus far been encouraging, we still faced projected expenses of \$214,000 and the loss of lease income and facility usage income. Given consequences caused by Covid 19 and the hiatus from church programs and in-person worship services, the decision was made to reduce expenses from \$214,000 to \$175,000. Most of that reduction came from the reduced compensation relating to paid personnel. By the end of this year, that decision will decrease expenses by more than \$35,000.

Initially, we thought that certain Covid related Federal assistance money might be available to us. However, in follow-up communication from the government, we discovered we would not qualify for that assistance. In discovering that, we informed those of our staff whose positions would not be continuing. Our hope was that with this notice each of them would be able to submit application for

unemployment assistance.

In making the decision to adjust the church's budget we knew it was more than a matter of dollars-n-cents. Our decision would impact the lives of people we love. We remain grateful for all staff members, past and present, whose generous sharing of their gifts has blessed our church family. Our prayers for those who will now be moving forward in different directions of life, and for those of our paid staff who remain, Rev. Jay Wilcher, Brian Moore, Tom Macy, and David Tyrell (whose compensation is the rent-free use of our church office building apartment).

Grace and Peace,  
Your Cabinet

## 140TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR CHURCH

### FCC History

#### THE ROSE WINDOW.....

depicts the LIGHT OF FREEDOM, an inspirational tribute to the power of spiritual truth in the search for freedoms in the world. It was installed in the Church sanctuary in 1963 by Mary Hesla Gill and her Navy Capt. husband, Samuel Gill, as a memorial to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Hesla. Mary, a native Prescotonian, said she and her mother often went to St. Luke's Church and enjoyed the stained glass windows. Her father was a close friend and admirer of Dr. Charles Franklin Parker, the minister of 'OLD FIRST,' so they asked Dr. Parker to design a stained glass window as a memorial to her parents.

Dr. Parker chose the theme and component sections of the whole window. Assisted by Mr. Judson of the Judson Studios in Los Angeles, Dr. Parker's idea became reality after going through at least three detailed versions. The theme, The Light of Freedom, depicted by an open Bible in the center, is encircled by eight sections which reads,

"GOD HATH MORE  
LIGHT AND TRUTH TO BREAK FORTH FROM HIS HOLY WORD."

Those are the words of John Rohinson, pastor of the flock which left Holland and sailed to America to see freedom.

Starting at the upper left and moving clockwise, the following scenes are depicted:

JOHN WYCLIFFE, a 14th century English reformer who translated the Bible from Latin into English; the signing of the MAYFLOWER COMPACT by JOHN ROBINSON; MARTIN LUTHER leading the Protestant Revolution; the Liberty Bell symbolizing our

CONSTITUTION; JOHN HARVARD helping establish HARVARD UNIVERSITY (the Congregational Church's first school of higher education); the MAGNA CARTA in 1215 became the First Charter of Freedom in the English world; by the invention of the printing press, JOHN GUTENBURG freed the Bible for ALL TO READ; and the UNITED NATIONS CHARTER stating that freedoms encompass ALL people of the world.

Dr. Parker believed "ultimately those freedoms will become real and peace can abide... LIGHT, FREEDOM, AND PEACE, all from the Word of God, the CENTER OF LIFE." Dr. Parker was adamant that the window should make a statement about truth and knowledge; "free minds lead to more light.....and from those who understand the need of liberties come documents giving light and freedoms."

(Information from Sharlot Hall Museum Library and Transitions Issue 2017)

## ADVENT COMING NOVEMBER 29

Tom will be busy decorating the sanctuary for Christmas later in the month. Depending on the situation with the virus, we will try to open the sanctuary on some dates in December so you can come and enjoy the decorations. Limited attendance worship may also be held, again, based on virus spread.

[Text Link](#)

## SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH DURING CORONAVIRUS!

- Online – go to our website: [www.fccprescott.org](http://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