First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller September 17, 2021

A Message From Pastor Jay

This Sunday we continue our series on the letter of James. James 3:13 to 4:17 is the text. James describes a wisdom from above and a wisdom from below. The wisdom from below sounds very contemporary. The sermon is entitled "Critical Thinking Welcome Here." Brian Moore and Joell Gall provide music. Sue Hodge-Parker is liturgist. JJ shows us wisdom in action.

Our past worship services are now on the website! Click on the "past worship services" link on the opening page of the website and you will find all the services back to January of 2020! Thanks to Jim for letting us use his Youtube channel for easy access.

PER CDC GUIDELINES, WE HAVE RETURNED TO WEARING MASKS IN THE SANCTUARY AND PERKINS HALL.

After church social time with refreshments and finger foods has been suspended until COVID cases decline.

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY SATURDAY 10AM

ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 2:00 PM

Let us know if you want to be added to these Zoom invitations

Watch Worship Services Here

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Musical guest September 19 - Joell Gall

Per CDC guidelines, we are returning to mask wearing on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary and Perkins Hall. Our after-worship fellowship time in Perkins Hall is on pause until COVID cases decline in our community.

New members will be received in coming weeks. Let

Pastor Jay know if you would like to join.

Office Open by Appointment - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SEPTEMBER 26 SEPTEMBER 26, 1880 – SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

Please plan to join our Anniversary Celebration after worship services on September 26 in our parking lot. This will be a chance to get acquainted with our new members and visit with church friends. If you would like to bring a refreshment or light snack to share, that would be great, but not necessary. Join us for this time of fellowship. The church basement rooms and the church office next door will be open after worship to tour.

SEPTEMBER MISSION NEWS

Our September Mission Outreach will be directed to two Special UCC offerings. [1] Ida Hurricane Relief (IHF) and [2] Neighbors in Need (NIN). With the devastation left by Ida, there will continue to be on-going rebuilding, repairs and infrastructure work needing to be done well into the future. If you choose this project, please mark your check's memo line, IHF. Our second offering, Neighbor's In Need, supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Through a network of justice advocates, work is accomplished to address such issues as; voting rights, hate crimes, health care, immigration and environmental pollution. If you choose this option, please mark your check's memo line, NIN.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We will be welcoming more new members on September 26 during worship. Let Pastor Jay know if you are interested in joining the church.

SUNDAY BULLETIN

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 19, 2021 *Those who are able may stand

10:30 a.m.

Prelude: "Prière" from Suite Gothique by Leon Boëllmann

Brian Moore

A Time for Children of All Ages - JJ

(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

*Hymn: "How great thou art" by Stuart K. Hine

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed!

REFRAIN:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.

(REFRAIN)

Call to Worship

Sue Hodge-Parker

One: We gather to proclaim that God is the God of all things.

Many: The God of economics and art; the God of history and science; the God of politics and drama; the God of music and psychology.

One: We gather to praise the God that sees beyond what we can see.

Many:The infinite possibilities of global interdependence, faithful stewardship, and meaningful engagement to usher in God's Shalom.

One: We gather to sing the joy of the God whose vision can hold more than we can fathom.

Many: Our sight is limited, but God's sight is not. Let us worship God!

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" by Sebastian Temple

Joell Gall

Opening Prayer

Sue Hodge- Parker

Ever-calling, truth-telling, life-giving God, we give thanks that we are able to gather together, as one body, in this place. We present ourselves to you seeking instruction and guidance to learn and to grow, to be shaped and formed. Breathe your truth among us. We seek your wisdom, awareness, illumination of vision and revelation for this beloved community. Breathe new sight among us. We explore the amazing gifts you have given us and those you have given to others around us. Where one of us lacks, may another rise up. Breathe your Spirit among us. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: James 3:13-4:17

Sue Hodge-Parker

Sermon: "Critical Thinking Welcome Here"

Pastor Jay

Solo: "Ave Maria" by Franz Schubert

Joell Gall

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Jay

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Pastor Jay

Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Jay

*Song: "Let there be Peace on Earth" by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as Creator, we are family.

Let us walk with each other, in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow.

To take each moment, and live each moment with peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

"The Irish Blessing" by Joyce Eilers Bacak

Joell Gall

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

(From the words of Reinhold Niebuhr, Elmhurst College Class of 1910)

Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime; it is by hope that we are saved. Nothing which is true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; it is by faith that we are saved. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; it is by love that we are saved. No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint of our friend or foe as it is from our own standpoint; therefore, it is by the final form of love which is forgiveness that we are saved.

*Postlude: "Sing of the Lord's Goodness" by Ernest Sands

(Communion is Available at the Front of the Sanctuary)

TREASURER REPORT

Income as of August 31 is \$99,248.

Total expenses are \$93,198. Net income is \$6,050.

Year-to-date income is at 81% of the income budget of \$122,450. Year-to-date expenses are at 63% of the expense budget of \$146,905.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP - THE WISDOM OF JAMES

The Letter of James may be the earliest of the New Testament writings (maybe Galatians is earlier?) James was the brother of Jesus and the leader of the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15). The Letter is practical in nature and contains helpful applications to modern day problems - facing trials in life; treatment of the poor; faith and deeds go together; taming the tongue; proper wisdom; the power of prayer; and patience in suffering.

September 5 - James 2:1-17

September 12 - James 3:1-12

September 19 - James 3:13-4:8

September 26 - James 5:13-20

SUPPORT THE CHURCH

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.

Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301



T: 928-445-4555 E: FccPrescott@gmail.com



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