
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM
NURSERY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30AM

A Message From Pastor Jay

This Sunday we reflect on the reality that in worship as in life we experience ups and downs. After the joy of Easter and the fun of holy humor Sunday, this Sunday's story is the Emmaus road encounter of Jesus with two disciples who think all is lost. The theme will be dealing with disappointment (Luke 24:13-35). The Sunday after Easter is known for low attendance, but ours was great! Alter-Notes provides music along with Mark and Linda; Sue is liturgist; and JJ and Ziggy let us know their hearts are "burning." We welcome Beth as a new member.

EARTH DAY SATURDAY
CARE FOR CREATION!

Interfaith Service — Earth Care amidst Climate Change

The Prescott area Interfaith Climate Action Team (ICAT) invites you to come together to pray and praise the love of our Earth, the importance of the Environment, recognizing that Climate Change is happening and must be addressed locally and beyond. This is done in the spirit and unity of all faiths. Where: First Congregational Church 216 E Gurley Street - **When: Thursday April 27, at 5 pm.** Several spiritual leaders representing different faith traditions will each give a brief message. The service will include Song and Prayer, Peace and Reflection. We humans do not live in a vacuum. Our planet is fragile. We need to honor and protect the Earth for a more just and sustainable future.

For more information on Earth Day and Earth Week visit - <https://prescottearthdav.org>

ORDER OF SERVICE:

Welcome: Patrick Grady, Chair, Interfaith Climate Action Team

Opening Prayer: Jay Wilcher, Pastor, First Congregational Church

Message: Kendra Hobson, Pastor, St. Luke Ebony Christian Church

Message: Tricia Lowe, Pastor, Emmanuel Lutheran Church

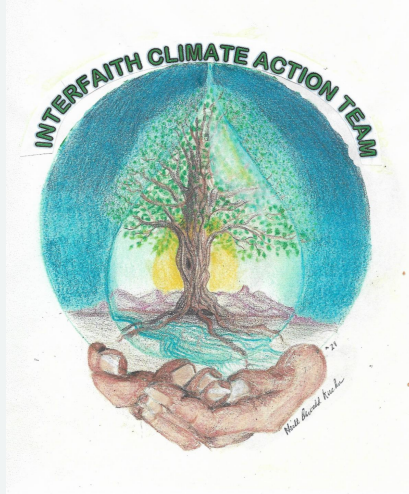
Musical Selection: TBD

Message: Susan Schanerman, Rabbi, Temple B'rith Shalom

Message: Manuel Lucero, Executive Director, Museum of Indigenous People

Musical Selection: TBD

Closing: Char Hoffman, Interfaith Climate Action Team



[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

PICTURE DIRECTORY OF CONGREGATION

We are taking photos for our directory - every Sunday after church in Perkins Hall from Easter through first Sunday in May

KNIT WITS MEET THIS THURSDAY AT 1PM AT THE CHURCH OFFICE

ZOOM FAITH FORUM RETURNS SAT. MAY 6 FOR 3 WEEKS
BEFORE A SUMMER BREAK

TOPIC – THEODICY – HOW DOES A GOOD GOD ALLOW EVIL AND SUFFERING?
EMAIL CHURCH OFFICE TO RECEIVE ZOOM LINK – fccprescott@gmail.com



CHURCH PAINTING ON DISPLAY THIS SUNDAY IN PERKINS HALL

It's an Original Pastel 18 x 24, painted by Jenny Willigrod from Fountain Hills,

AZ.

It's a gift to the church from Coco Lanigan, David Pifer, Sandy and Ed Znetko.

Cards will be available for purchase (\$2.00 per card) by the congregation with proceeds going to the church. (Coco Lanigan)

AED TRAINING

OUR THANKS TO MORGAN AND THE 24 PARTICIPANTS IN THE TRAINING LAST SUNDAY!

FACEBOOK UPDATE

"We have a new Facebook group, First Congregational Church Prescott FCC - which you can join. We will be posting events, and meetup information for the community, as well as exploring ways to bring back our outreach partners; the LGBTQ community youth, AA, etc. and other groups who have used the church pre-Covid for meeting spaces. Please join the group, and join in the discussion! If you have any questions, you can email Brit and Mike Flores at bafwriter@gmail.com, our current group admins. All event questions and suggestions should be directed to the church email at FCCprescott@gmail.com.

RELAY FOR LIFE JUNE 2 (CANCER AWARENESS)

THE 29th RELAY FOR LIFE of the Quad Cities is scheduled June 2nd 2023.

Anyone interested in creating a team representing FCC can contact the church email at FCCprescott@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

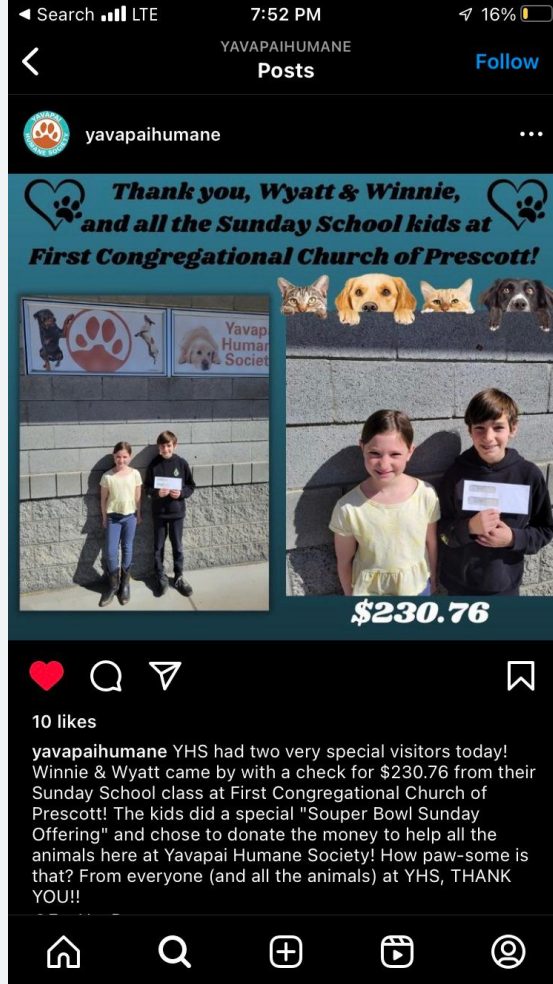
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL BE HELD THE WEEK OF JULY 19

PASS - PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES

PASS, our local women's shelter, serves as a place for women and children experiencing homelessness. The third Wednesday of every month our church provides dinner for the guests at the shelter. Meal items are brought to the church parking lot at 5:00 pm and then taken by one of our members to the shelter. Carolyn Christians has taken over this role from Patty Gard. We need new members to sign up to help each month. The sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

OUR THANKS TO MORGAN AND ANDREW, EDIE, AND LAURA FOR REPRESENTING US AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE UCC IN EL PASO NEXT WEEKEND!

THE "SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" OFFERING TAKEN BY OUR CHILDREN DURING WORSHIP ON SUPER BOWL SUNDAY - TAKEN TO THE YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY - THANKS WYATT AND WINNIE! "A ROUND OF A PAWS" TO THE CHILDREN AND ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED. "PAW-SOME" INDEED!



CHURCH CALENDAR

- APRIL 27 - KNIT WITS AT THE CHURCH OFFICE - 1PM
- APRIL 27 - EARTH DAY EVENT IN PERKINS HALL
- APRIL 27-29 SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING, EL PASO
- MAY 14 - MOTHER'S DAY
- MAY 21 - WOMANSONG MUSICAL GUESTS
- MAY 28 - PENTECOST SUNDAY
- JUNE 25 - OPEN AND AFFIRMING SUNDAY
- JULY 19 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL BEGINS

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 23, 2023

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "All to Jesus"--arr. Charity Book Putnam

Mark Achuff

Words of Welcome – Announcements – Welcome New Member - *Passing of the Peace

We welcome Beth Krischke as a new member today!

From Indiana – Employed at Architects Partnership – Engaged to John – 2 Sons & 3 Grandkids

Gather Song: “You Are Holy”

Alter-Notes

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy

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

Call to Worship

Sue Hodge-Parker

L: The Risen One has come alongside us on our journey from the empty tomb.

P: He speaks to us with love and encouragement that frees us from our sorrows.

L: Christ comes through our locked doors, and turns our fear to courage.

P: For your love and goodness, we give you thanks, O God.

L: Christ comes to daily life and work, and turns our failure to new vision.

P: For your love and goodness, we give you thanks, O God.

L: Christ breaks the bread, and turns our despair to hope.

P: For your love and goodness, we give you thanks, O God.

L: Let us celebrate the promise of life, for Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

*Hymn: “Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven”

New Century Hymnal #243

Prayer of Confession

Sue Hodge-Parker

Risen One, what is it that keeps us from recognizing you? We are often so full of ourselves that it is easy to block you out of our lives. We fail to recognize you in our neighbor, in the “other.” We confess our eyes and ears are crammed with the sights and sounds of living. Forgive us, and help us empty ourselves of all that hinders our awareness of your presence. Amen.

Words of Encouragement

Sue Hodge-Parker

Friends, all evil and death have been trumped. Jesus lives among us to rescue and heal. Lift up your hearts and live with the liberty of those who have been absolutely understood, forgiven, and restored. Each of you is unique and precious, and you can dare live with the sublime confidence of the children of God. **Thanks be to God!**

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Sue Hodge-Parker

*Hymn: “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

New Century Hymnal #472

Sermon: “But We Had Hoped...Dealing with Discouragement”

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

Anthem: “We Are Not Alone” - Linda Foote, soloist

Alter-Notes

Prayers of the People / The Lord’s Prayer

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

Sue Hodge-Parker

Bless these gifts, and may they be used by the Risen Christ to reach out to all in unexpected ways. May the word of our still speaking God continue to burn in our hearts and lead us to fruitful service. Amen.

*Hymn: "Be Still, My Soul"

New Century Hymnal #488

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "Toccata Eclatante"--Thomas Chesterton

Mark Achuff

APRIL MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Each month we highlight a different mission outreach project/program. For the month of April, our highlighted program is **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)**.

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four annual special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation.

Through **One Great Hour of Sharing**, lives are literally changed daily.

If you wish to make a donation, checks may be made payable to the church with the memo: **OGHS**. Undesignated mission donations will be used at the discretion of the Mission Outreach team.

So far in 2023, our Mission Outreach ministry has delivered \$710 in contributions to Prescott Community Cupboard for January, \$594 to Prescott Area Shelter Services for February, and will shortly be sending collected March donations to Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity. We are deeply grateful to our congregation for providing the funds to so meaningfully assist these worthy organizations!

As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

Mission Outreach Committee members are Patty Gard, Carolyn Christians, and Becky Bryant, chairperson. If you would like to serve with us, or have any other outreach matters to discuss, please contact Becky at (928) 910-2820

TREASURER REPORT

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER – JULIE MCCURDY MARCH 2023

Income is \$47,653
Expenses are \$49,812
Expenses exceed income by \$2,159

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 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

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United
Church of
Christ

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