First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller August 12, 2022

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

MASK WEARING IS NOW OPTIONAL AS WE FOLLOW THE LATEST CDC UPDATED GUIDELINES. YAVAPAI COUNTY IS IN THE LOW TRANSMISSION CATEGORY.

Our text for Sunday can be a disturbing one. Jesus tells us he came not to bring peace but division. That will confuse some people! It will be a good correction to some people's view of Jesus as soft and agreeable. As one student in a Bible study class put it: "You can't read the gospels without discovering that Jesus stirred up conflict and division wherever he went!" Maybe it will make us feel better! Jesus also tells us to interpret the times. How would you interpret the times in which we live? Let's consider that on Sunday as well. Tom and Melissa provide music. Sandy is liturgist. JJ and Ziggy are mad at each other and not speaking. As a matter of fact, there is a wall between them.

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.

ZOOM FAITH FORUM SATURDAY 10AM

The Zoom Forum is taking a summer break - will return in September

Watch Worship Services Here

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FORUM RETURNS SEPTEMBER 10TH - SATURDAYS 10AM

September Zoom forums focus on Native American Spirituality October's focus will be feminist theology

ZOOM SERMON PREP FRIDAYS 10AM-BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 9 Join Pastor Jay for a discussion of Sunday's sermon text/topic

BOTH ARE ONE HOUR ZOOM MEETINGS SEND EMAIL TO BE ADDED TO ZOOM INVITES FOR ONE OR BOTH: fccprescott@gmail.com

PRESCOTT – CABORCA SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION SISTER CITIES 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA BALL SEPTEMBER 17, 5:30 HAPPY HOUR; 6:30 DINNER ROWLE B. SIMMONS COMMUNITY CENTER INDIVIDUAL SEATS \$60 – TABLE OF 8 \$400

Musical Guests Sunday - Brian and Melissa

The Office Is Open Most Mornings and By Appointment. Call Prior To Visiting for Confirmation: Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

AUGUST MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Our August Mission Outreach will be directed toward two funds dedicated to helping local immigrant students attain degrees in higher education—our congregation's own **DACA Fund** and **Prescott College's Freedom Education Fund**. The federal government has granted registered DACA enrollees legal status and the right to obtain a work permit. These rights are subject to a two-year time period, which can be renewed.

Our **DACA Fund** has previously assisted the Gardea family—Francisco, Franceny, and Fernando—for the past several years, providing support for their educational expenses and tuition at Arizona postsecondary schools including ASU, Prescott College, and Yavapai College.

Many of you have met these wonderful kids personally, and our hope is to continue to aid

them in achieving their academic goals and life's dreams. Both Francisco and Fernando have completed their studies and are now working. Franceny is still pursuing her studies at Prescott College and hopes to earn her Master's degree in December.

The **Prescott College's Freedom Education Fund** was established to grant scholarship money to students hoping to "pursue the experiential and transformative higher education of Prescott College. . .where donations have the power to truly make a difference in the recipients' lives."

Priority will be given to students with the most financial need and who are pursuing social or environmental justice work in their degree or activism. **The Freedom Education Fund** will not only provide money, but also set the foundation for future development of full-ride fellowships and more.

Donation checks may be made to the church with the memo **DACA**. Checks marked simply "Mission" will be used at the discretion of our mission team.

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

Mission Outreach Committee members are Gary & 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 or <u>beckybryant2255@gmail.com</u>.

CHURCH FOUNDATION

The Foundation was formed as a separate non-profit Corporation by the Church back in 1993 as a way to focus management of large donations and gifts for the benefit of the Church. Currently the Foundation manages financial assets and owns the building leased by our new tenant, Red, White and Brew. The majority of the financial assets are invested with United Church Funds in Balanced Mutual Funds. The funds are a result of Endowments and Memorial Gifts to the Foundation from past members of our Church or their families. The restaurant building was also a gift to the Foundation. In many cases the gifts list how the donors wanted the monies to be used. Some examples are Christian education needs of the children, the youth, and young families of the Congregation and for capital needs of the Church. The Foundation By-Laws explain how the Foundation Board is to act in managing the funds for the benefit of the Church. When a need arises, typically the Church Cabinet will make a written request for funds and the Foundation Board will act on that request. The Board does not look to micromanage Church finances, but it needs to determine which fund may be the most appropriate fund to provide the funding request. The Board also is responsible for taking a long-term view of the use and sustainability of the endowments for the

future benefits of the Church. Substantial donations to the Foundation can be complex financial transactions involving donor taxes, restrictions on the use of the donations by the Foundation and may take several different legal forms. The United Church Funds has several very good brochures and videos on their web site that give good explanations of the process and choices that can be used to donate to the Foundation – ucfunds.org

SUNDAY BULLETIN

August 14, 2022 *Those who are able may stand 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: Minuet in G by Johann Sebastian Bach

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy (children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

Words of Welcome - Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gathering Music: "Awake! Arise, and Rejoice" by Marie-Jo Thum

*Hymn: "Enter, Rejoice, and Come In"

New Century Hymnal #73

Brian Moore

Call to Worship Sandy Znetko L: Sing for our God, who sang the world into creation! All: We sing of God's love, through ancient poems into today's hymns. L: Shout for our God, who calls out for justice! All:We shout out proclaiming God's justice, speaking up for the marginalized. L: Lift up your hands for God, who raised up Jesus! All: We lift up our hands, knowing that the world cannot keep us down. L: Pray for God's Wisdom, guiding creation into fruition. All: We enter this time of worship in song, praise, and prayer; L: For God's steadfast love endures in us forever. Amen!

Opening Prayer

Sandy Znetko

Most Gracious God, we greet you once again in this sacred space. We have come because we need to be reminded of your love and your expectations for our living. We know in our hearts that we need and desire your presence in our lives. So, we come in prayer and to listen for your Word. Creative God, you have instilled in us your divine image. Made in Your image, may we be creative in our own lives, working to make something new. Turn our brokenness into a new hope. Turn our sadness into a new joy. Turn our mourning into dancing. Turn us into a new creation, and may our work instill creativity and new life in others. In the name of Christ, who makes all things new, we pray. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Luke 12: 49-56

Sandy Znetko

*Hymn: "O Day of God, Draw Near" New Century Hymnal #611 (tune: ST THOMAS)

Sermon: "Jesus Was Stressed" Pastor Jay RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "Fantasia on Brother James' Air" by Donovan D. Klotzbeacher Melissa Gates Flute; Brian Moore Piano

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

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "Tallis' Cannon" by Thomas Tallis

Melissa Flute, Brian Organ

Pastor Jay

*Doxology (tune: Old Hundredth) Brian Moore **Praise God the source of life and breath; Praise Christ, now born to conquer death; Praise Holy Spirit's mystery: One God, pure grace, who sets us free. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication Sandy Znetko Merciful God, from whom comes all that is good, we praise you for your mercies, for your goodness that has created us, your grace that has sustained us, your discipline that has corrected us, your patience that has borne with us, and your love that has redeemed us. Help us to be thankful for all your gifts by serving you and delighting to do your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn: "Standing at the Future's Threshold" New Century Hymnal #538 (tune: HYMN TO JOY)

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "Alla Hornpipe from Water Music" by George Frederick Handel Brian Moore

TREASURER REPORT

UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER

Contributions and other revenue are \$96,896 as of July 31. Expenses are \$89,305. Contributions exceed expenses by \$7,591.

Julie McCurdy, treasurer

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The Church of Firsts

Since 1957, the United Church of Christ has been the <u>church of firsts</u>, 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. And 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 man, 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.

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

CONTACT US | VISITORS | RESOURCES | CALENDARS | SERVING | EDUCATION | STAFF



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