First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller
August 19, 2022

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30 am service

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

If you feel bent over with burdens, anxiety, shame, or other maladies, then this Sunday's gospel reading is for you! Luke 13:10-17 introduces us to a woman bent over physically (spiritually, emotionally) for eighteen years. Her encounter with Jesus leaves her liberated and praising God. Meanwhile, the leader of the synagogue was indignant that the healing was done on the sabbath day. Grace verses legalism is a constant challenge for us. Joyful Noise provides music and liturgy - it is camp ground songs day! JJ and Ziggy celebrate their healing.

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.

Watch Worship Services Here

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MURL PREBLE'S FUNERAL SERVICE IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31ST AT 11AM IN THE SANCTUARY

EMBRY-RIDDLE OPEN HOUSE AUGUST 27, 1-3PM

We will have a table for the church at this event. The school requested us to

come as they have a growing LGBTQ student group that may be looking for a welcoming church. We can have 2 persons at our table. Let Pastor Jay know if you are interested in representing us.

REV. LLOYD EVANS NEW ADDRESS 2889 SAN PASQUAL STREET PASADENA, CA 91107

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 9Join 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 - Joyful Noise With Camp Songs

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 beckybryant2255@gmail.com.

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 21, 2022

10:30 a.m.

*Those who are able may stand

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "All God's Creatures got a place in the Choir"

Joyful Noise

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: "Come On In!"

Joyful Noise

Call to Worship

One: We may be weary from worry and work

so we come into God's presence:

All: The Holy One offers us Sabbath rest!

One: We may be lost or confused so we come into God's presence:

All: The Wise One offers us welcome and guidance!

One: We may be bent over with struggle or pain

So we come into God's presence:

All: The Healing One empowers us to stand strong!

*Song "Rise and Shine"

Rise and shine and give God your glory, glory. (2x) Rise and shine and tell a brand new story. Children of the Lord.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess we are often bent over with the stress and burdens of life. You made people a priority over rules and regulations, and you graced their lives with healing and dignity. Forgive us when we fail to do likewise. Unbind us and straighten us out so that the good news of the gospel is on our lips and in our deeds, for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God did not send Jesus into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him (John 3:17). My friends, now is the time to put the past behind you. The word of Christ can be trusted to forgive and reclaim you. Take up your salvation and live with the peace and joy which nothing can take from you!

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Song: "This is My Commandment"

This is my commandment that you love one another that your joy may be full. (2x) That your joy may be full. That your joy may be full. This is my commandment that you love one another that your joy may be full.

2. Love your enemies, be kind to those who hate you that your joy may be full...

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:10-17

Sermon: "From Legalism to Grace" Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Special Music: "His Banner over Me is Love"

Joyful Noise

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "This is the Day" & "Rejoice in the Lord Always"

Joyful Noise

*Doxology

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, your grace has filled all heaven and earth with good things for us to enjoy and share. We are richly blessed. Enable us now to give freely and

generously out of our abundance. Use our gifts to touch the world with the saving love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Song: "This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3x) Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

- 2. All around Prescott, I'm gonna let it shine....
- 3. Ev'ry where I go, I'm gonna let it shine...

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "This is My Commandment"

Brian Moore

Luke 13:10-17

 10 Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11 And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12 When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." 13 When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. 14 But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." 15 But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? 16 And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" 17 When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

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 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. 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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