First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller August 26, 2022

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the10:30am service

MURL PREBLE'S MEMORIAL SERVICE IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31 IN OUR SANCTUARY

Jesus is invited to a meal on the sabbath day. What should be a pleasant gathering becomes an occasion for another healing on the sabbath and some crazy instruction on table manners. Crazy in the sense that it is in direct opposition to the culture of honor and shame in the first century. So much for a pleasant meal! (Luke 14:1-14) Denise is our musical guest. Angela is liturgist. And JJ and Ziggy lead the children in musical chairs. One person is without a chair at the end. See who JJ and Ziggy decided that will be.

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

HOSPITALITY / WELCOMING TEAM

Wonderful and happy news!! We now have co-chairs for this Cabinet position. Mary Davidson and new member, Helen Barnard, came forward to ask what they could do to be involved at church. My prayers were answered and they assumed their leading roles for this committee! They did not know I had given my 'notice' at a recent Cabinet meeting after being in the Cabinet in some capacity since I joined FCCUCC in 2015. So, please welcome them and thank them! If you would like to participate in the duties for this important team, kindly let them know OR sign up on a new TEAM PARTICIPATION ROSTER that will be available shortly in Perkins Hall where we have our fellowship time. You will become a willing volunteer, for not only Greeting and Fellowship, but also for events that may be scheduled to take place at our church. This will include set up,

clean up and/or baking or making your favorite recipe food etc. A sign up sheet will always be out for special events so you can choose what you feel called to do. WELCOME TO MARY AND HELEN !! Thank you, Patty Lantrip Retiring as Cabinet Member Hospitality/Welcoming

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED ON SEPTEMBER 28 AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 142ND ANNIVERSARY!

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 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 - DENISE NASSO

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

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 28, 2022 *Those who are able may stand 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "Let It Be"

Denise Nasso

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

*Hymn: "Blessed Assurance"

New Century Hymnal #473

Call to Worship

Angela Imbierowicz

- L: In the midst of a world where people hunger and thirst \ldots
- P: come worship a God who feeds the hungry.

- L: In the midst of a world where people are abused and oppressed \ldots
- P: come worship a God who calls for compassion and justice.
- L: In the midst of a world filled with wars and rumors of war \ldots

P: come worship a God who desires nothing less than peace for the world.

- L: In the midst of a world of spiritual emptiness \ldots
- P: come worship a God who gives life meaning.
- L: Come worship a God whose grace and love know no end.
- L: God of Creation, Majesty and Glory
- C: We come to worship you
- L: God of Humanity, who makes us Family
- C: We come to celebrate with you
- L: God of Beauty, Wonder and Mystery
- C: We come to praise and be in awe of you
- L: God of all Nations, of all Peoples, of all Places

All: We are invited, and we in turn invite each other to worship, celebrate and praise God!

Opening Prayer Angela Imbierowicz

Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet where the last may be first, and the humble and the mighty trade places. Let us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity; let us greet strangers as angels you have sent! Send your Spirit now so that we may find a place at your table and welcome others with radical hospitality. In the name of Jesus, Guest at all our tables, we pray. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Hymn: "When Israel was in E	Egypt's Land"
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Gospel Reading: Luke 14:1-14

Sermon: "Challenging the Honor and Shame Culture" Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Solo: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Denise Nasso

Angela Imbierowicz

New Century Hymnal #572

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts Pastor Jay Pastor Jay

Offertory: "The Impossible Dream"

Denise Nasso

*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

Angela Imbierowicz

Dear God, you have offered us a place at the table and you have called us to

share without expectation of being repaid. You have called us to make a place for the poor, the outcast and the oppressed. So we ask that you bless these resources so that they might support ministries of compassion and justice until all of your children have a place at the table. Amen.

*Hymn: "Some Glad Morning"

New Century Hymnal #595

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude:

Denise Nasso

Luke 14:1-14The Message (MSG)

One time when Jesus went for a Sabbath meal with one of the top leaders of the Pharisees, all the guests had their eyes on him, watching his every move. Right before him there was a man hugely swollen in his joints. So Jesus asked the religion scholars and Pharisees present, "Is it permitted to heal on the Sabbath? Yes or no?" They were silent. So he took the man, healed him, and sent him on his way. Then he said, "Is there anyone here who, if a child or animal fell down a well, wouldn't rush to pull him out immediately, not asking whether or not it was the Sabbath?" They were stumped. There was nothing they could say to that. He went on to tell a story to the guests around the table. Noticing how each had tried to elbow into the place of honor, he said, "When someone invites you to dinner, don't take the place of honor. Somebody more important than you might have been invited by the host. Then he'll come and call out in front of everybody, 'You're in the wrong place. The place of honor belongs to this man.' Red-faced, you'll have to make your way to the very last table, the only place left. "When you're invited to dinner, go and sit at the last place. Then when the host comes he may very well say, 'Friend, come up to the front.' That will give the dinner guests something to talk about! What I'm saying is, If you walk around with your nose in the air, you're going to end up flat on your face. But if you're content to be simply yourself, you will become more than yourself." Then he turned to the host. "The next time you put on a dinner, don't just invite your friends and family and rich neighbors, the kind of people who will return the favor. Invite some people who never get invited out, the misfits from the wrong side of the tracks. You'll be—and experience—a blessing. They won't be able to return the favor, but the favor will be returned—oh, how it will be returned!—at the resurrection of God's people."

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.

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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