## First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller August 5, 2022

## A Message From Pastor Jay

## SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

# MASK WEARING IS NOW RECOMMENDED AS WE FOLLOW THE LATEST CDC UPDATED GUIDELINES. YAVAPAI COUNTY IS IN THE HIGH TRANSMISSION CATEGORY.

Jesus tells us not to worry in Luke 12:22-34. At the end of last week's service, I previewed this text by saying, Jesus will tell us not to worry, and we will choose to worry, thank you very much! Jesus does offer medicine for our worries and anxieties. We will consider them Sunday. Alter-Notes provides music and liturgy. Ziggy is worried about JJ.

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**

One night only, you have the chance to hear Micki Shelton's (Michele McFadden's) inspirational *play La Posada* live at Prescott Center for the Arts.

August 10, 2022, 7:30 PM, Tickets \$5 now at <u>pca-az.net</u>

Part history, part fantasy *La Posada* takes us into the minds of artist Tion Mion and preservationist Allan Affeldt and their

improbable journey of restoring Mary Colter's magnum opus in Winslow, Arizona.

PRESCOTT – CABORCA SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION SISTER CITIES 50<sup>TH</sup> 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 - Alter-Notes**

The Office Will Be Closed During Times When The CDC Has Our County In The High Transmission Category - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066 As Needed

## **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.

## **DOING JUSTICE**

New webinar series focuses on how churches can embrace justice covenants by <u>Staff Reports</u> | published on Jul 11, 2022

A yearlong series of United Church of Christ webinars is underway, highlighting Christian social justice programs available to local churches. The monthly "Just World Covenants" program kicked off during Pride month with "Open and Affirming: The Power of Covenant." A recording of it is now available at the <a href="UCC YouTube channel">UCC YouTube channel</a>.

This was the first webinar in a yearlong series on the many social-justice emphases that local churches can embrace. Coming episodes are listed below. The very existence of the series signals how justice issues are connected, said the Rev. Brooks Berndt. He's the UCC environmental justice minister who helped introduce a new UCC Just World Covenants website at the 2021 General Synod. That site collects, in one place, links and information to various UCC justice-related programs." Justice does not stay in neat, separate boxes when it comes to the lived realities of our world," Berndt said. "Neither should our ministries. There is a lot of strength and vitality to be found in coming together."

#### Series schedule

The Just World Covenants webinars are set for the third Thursday of each month. They're part of the UCC's weekly Thursdays for the Soul series. Here is the schedule, with links to further information and registration:

- July 21: <u>Our Faith Our Vote 2022: Faithful Engagement in a Time of Increased Voter Suppression</u>
- Aug. 18: <u>Accessible-to-All Churches and Disabilities Justice</u>
- Sept. 15: Just Peace Churches and the Disruptive Power of Peace
- Oct. 20: <u>Immigrant Welcoming Congregations Working for Human Rights</u> and <u>Dignity for All</u>
- Nov. 17: <u>Becoming a Creation Justice Church</u>
- Dec. 15: WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for Mental Health
- Jan. 19, 2023: <u>Our Whole Lives and Sexuality and Our Faith: Dismantling Shame and Stigma about Bodies and Relationships</u>
- Feb. 16, 2023: Be A Global Mission Church
- March 16, 2023: Join the Movement Toward Racial Justice
- April 20, 2023: Mind the Wealth Gap: Ways the UCC Economic Justice Movement lives in Churches and Conferences
- May 18, 2023: <u>Refugee Sponsorship, Asylum Accompaniment, and Sanctuary Church: How Can My Church Practice Responsible Hosting?</u>

#### 'Core dimensions of faith'

Berndt said each webinar will emphasize ways that local churches can be deliberate and public about Christian social justice. "Through General Synod resolutions and the dedicated efforts of numerous local churches, the UCC has developed over the years a number of designations that encourage and recognize specific ministries of justice," he said. "These designations express a core dimension of our faith. They represent our commitment to building a just world for all. Those of us involved in these programs realized it made a lot of sense to bring them together through an online hub and through collaborative endeavors like this webinar series." Content on ucc.org is copyrighted by the National Setting of the United Church of Christ and may be only shared according to the guidelines outlined.

### **SUNDAY BULLETIN**

#### NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 7, 2022

10:30 a.m.

\*Those who are able may stand

#### **GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD**

Prelude: "It is Well"--arr. Fred Bock

Mark Achuff

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!" Alter-Notes

\*Hymn: "In the Bulb There is a Flower" New Century Hymnal #433

Call to Worship Alter-Notes

Leader: Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God.

People: We come in search of help and hope.

Leader: Come, you who are acquainted with grief or oppression.

People We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.

Leader: Come, you who are in need of good news.

People: We come in search of joy, truth, and light.

Leader: Come and find refuge in God your Rock.

All: Let us again praise the One who is our help and our hope!

Opening Prayer

Alter-Notes

Loving God, there are times when we are besieged by doubts and troubles. We thank you for giving meaning and shape to our faith in Jesus Christ. There are times of testing ahead for all of us, but we can face the future with courage in the knowledge that you have been – that you are – and that you will forever be – our help, our refuge, and our Rock. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

#### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Luke 12:22-34 Alter-Notes

\*Hymn: "Taste and See" Sing! Prayer and Praise Songbook #86

Sermon: "Jesus Said Not to Worry!" Pastor Jay

#### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Pastor Jay

We come to the Lord's Table. All are invited to come forward down the middle aisle and return to your seat by the side aisle. We receive communion by intinction – please take a piece of bread and dip it into the cup and partake immediately. As you pour out your Spirit upon this Table abundant with the gifts of the Bread and of the Cup, shed your grace upon your children gathered in this place. We often forget those who hunger for freedom. But eating the Bread of life, we can go, carrying a harvest of hope to them. We forget the injustices imposed upon those seeking freedom. But drinking from the Cup of grace, we can go where you intend to go, inviting everyone we meet to join us in your new creation of peace, mercy, and wonder. And when all that holds us back is gone, when the freedom of your eternity is given to us, we will gather and forever sing your praises, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

Communion Music: "Come, Share the Lord"--arr. Fred Bock Mark Achuff

Anthem: "They'll Know We Are Christians", arr. Lloyd Larson, Alter-Notes djambe - Elizabeth Gates

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

Pastor Jay

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Pastor Jay

Offertory: "Take Time to Be Holy"--arr. Dorothy Wells

Mark Achuff

\*Doxology (tune: Old Hundredth)

Mark Achuff

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

Alter-Notes

From our present abundance, we offer our gifts to you, generous God, so that the hungry might be fed, so that the broken might find healing, and so that the grieving might be comforted. Amen.

\*Hymn: "When Peace, Like a River"

New Century Hymnal #438

\*Benediction

Pastor Jay

\*Postlude: "The Soldier of the Lord"--Robert J. Hughes

Mark Achuff

## 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



United Church of Christ

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