
A Message From Pastor Jay

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS -
SATURDAY AT 7:00 PM

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM
NO NURSERY OR SUNDAY SCHOOL

NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM
NO NURSERY OR SUNDAY SCHOOL

COMMUNION WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE WORSHIP STARTING AT 10AM
AND AFTER WORSHIP AS WELL ON CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 10AM - ZOOM FAITH FORUM
THE BOOK OF ACTS - INVITATION FORTHCOMING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 9AM
HELP TOM TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 10AM
MLK, JR. MARCH AROUND SQUARE
ASSEMBLE AT PRESCOTT COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 5:30PM PERKINS HALL
MLK, JR. WEEK EVENT WITH DEWEY CHURCH

VIEWING OF "THE COLOR OF FEAR"

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29
CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

**TWO DONATION BOXES ARE ALWAYS PRESENT AT THE FRONT OF THE
SANCTUARY FOR THE COMMUNITY CUPBOARD AND DISCOVERY
GARDENS PRESCHOOL**

CALL FOR HELP

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are issuing a call to join in prayers and generosity for Pastor Tulafono Maga (pastor of First Samoan CCCTOLT of Wittman AZ) and his family (a total of 12: including children and grandchildren, plus Pastor Tula and wife Tuli).

On Sunday, Dec. 11, the Maga family spent most of the day at church until evening when they returned home to find their rental home engulfed in flames! Their home and contents were severely damaged by the fire that evidently was caused by a faulty bathroom ceiling fan in the attic, and subsequent smoke and water. Fortunately, they received some assistance for a hotel during the first week by the Red Cross, and their landlord will be working on reconstruction and renovation so they will eventually be able to return. They feel grateful to God that no one was hurt.

We are grateful to the Rev. Bill Utke from Desert Garden UCC, Sun City West, who has been helping during the first week to coordinate immediate fundraising efforts with the Sun City churches. While it is still difficult at this point to have a firm estimate of what the Maga family might need over the next months in terms of housing costs and replacement of contents/clothing/etc., we are working with a ballpark figure of \$15,000. We already have an estimate of a little over \$6,000 committed.

The Maga family has spent the week dealing with the trauma of the loss, plus trying to recover what they could of their belongings. They did not have rental insurance. They are hoping to find temporary accommodations in an Air BnB in the vicinity of the kids' school in Surprise, at least until the end of February when their landlord hopes to be finished with the reconstruction and renovation work.

Any donations from our churches or individuals may be made by sending checks to the SW Conference office: P.O. Box 44968, Phoenix, AZ 85064, or by making a donation online by going to www.uccswc.org and clicking on the "Donate" button. Please be sure to leave a memo on checks or online indicating this is a donation to "Maga Fire Assistance."

Thank you for your covenantal generosity to the pastoral family of our newest UCC congregation!

Blessings,
Barb

Rev. Dr. Barbara Doerrer-Peacock (she, her)
Acting Conference Minister / Associate Conference Minister
Cell: 480-243-2796
Email: bdoerrerpeacock@uccswc.org

DECEMBER MISSION NEWS

DECEMBER MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Each month throughout the year, our mission outreach team identifies particular mission programs to which we might choose to donate. This month we're highlighting the Christmas Fund—an annual UCC special offering. The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees. If you would like to show your continued gratitude to our UCC clergy needing support, please make your check payable to the church, with the memo of Christmas Fund. Mission donations which do not specify a particular project will be disbursed as determined by our Mission team members.

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 or beckybryant2255@gmail.com.

July 4th pancake breakfast
Small group get-togethers for dinner or other meet ups
More activities for kids, music, performances, Christian education, youth group, Sunday school for older elementary age
Sandbags for 2 downstairs classrooms, fallout shelters, water and snacks for 7-10 days for 20 people- JD
Sponsor an immigrant family
Adult class at 9:30am Sunday mornings
Sandbags for basement windows
More involvement with CCF and PCCFP
Consider partnering with Great Hearts school in rural communities- Aimee Anderson (573) 298-5466
Christmas Pageant with kids
Painting workshop and/or art tour
I'm wanting to re start a prayer group that meets maybe twice a month/ no financial impact – Sandy Z.
In home small group bible study
½ day retreats for women, men and kids
More mid-week gatherings
Rent kitchen to local people for use as commissary
I'd like to see more Christian in the form of weekly classes. Subject matters like forgiveness, spirituality, grieving
More outreach to find ways to invite more kids/ young people/families
Secret Santa – people can sign up if they want to participate and then get assigned to get someone a gift. Andrea will organize!
Outreach focus and organization through volunteers
Find ways to connect with people in need to offer help directly (food, clothing, housing)
I would like to have communion before Sunday school so kids can have communion- Winnie
More small group/weeknight fellowship or study discussions/ or just for fun
Start looking forward to the kids growing. More education/service based activities
Game night

SUNDAY BULLETIN

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2022

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "Do You Hear What I Hear?" by Regney/Shayne

Brian Moore

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Christmas Wreath

One: Today the Christ is born!

Many: Today salvation has appeared! Alleluia!

One: Today on earth choirs of angels are singing!

Many: Today in heaven archangels are rejoicing!

One: Today we rejoice and say,

Many: Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!

One: Source of all Light, we celebrate today the coming of your Word made flesh, your Light of Life to dwell among us. Bless these holy flames that in their glow we may be blessed by your grace and abiding love. As these candles grace our tables and our homes today, let them remind us of your constant presence and your unwavering care. Bless us, that we might reflect the Light of Christ in our daily lives and in our world so desperate for the love, peace, hope and joy this day brings. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world! Amen.

Hymn: "Away in a Manger"

Pilgrim Hymnal #130

This anonymous United States carol is often misattributed to Luther. The poem first appeared in a Lutheran hymnal for schools and families. The tune was most likely composed by James Murray in 1887. The original two-stanza form probably originated among German Lutherans in Pennsylvania about 1885.

*Hymn: "Joy to the World!"

Pilgrim Hymnal #130

by Isaac Watts, 1719 This carol was not taken from the birth narrative in Luke, but rather from Psalm 98.

Opening Prayer

God of light, we thank you for giving us the gift of Jesus Christ. We come before you with wonder and delight that you come to us in the child born in a manger. Be with us on this day of birth and rebirth. Come, honor us with the presence of your gracious, joyful Spirit. Fill our weary hearts with renewed hope and joy. Rekindle in our souls the light of Christ. Glory to you in the highest, O God, glory in the highest! Amen.

Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful

Pilgrim Hymnal #132

Adeste Fideles) by John Wade, 18th Century The invitation to "come, all ye faithful, . . . to Bethlehem" places the singer both among the shepherds who rushed to see the Christ child, and in the long procession of the "faithful" that have journeyed to Bethlehem in their hearts for over 2,000 years.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-20

*Hymn: "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" Pilgrim Hymnal #120
by Charles Wesley 1739 This hymn by Charles Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism, is firmly wedded to Felix Mendelssohn's music. Composed for the 400th anniversary of the invention of printing, the music was adapted to this hymn fifteen years later.

Sermon: "All the Damned Angels"

Pastor Jay

Hymn: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" Pilgrim Hymnal #129
by Edmund Sears, 1849 Edmund Sears, a Unitarian minister, wrote this Christmas hymn emphasizing the social implications of the Gospel for his congregation in Massachusetts.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Inspired by a visit to Bethlehem, Phillips Brooks, minister of Holy Trinity Church, Philadelphia, wrote this hymn for the children of his Sunday School's Christmas service.

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

"Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" original 1816 melody, by Franz Gruber

*Hymn: "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Pilgrim Hymnal #138

This beloved carol was written in 1816. Legend says the day before Christmas the organ broke down in the church in the Austrian Alpine village of Oberndorf. Other historians say the organ had suffered flood damage. A 97-year-old native of Germany pointed out that this church was in a remote village way up in the mountains ("Oberndorf" means "Upper Village"), and they could have actually been waiting for months for a repairman. We do know that the priest, Joseph Mohr, gave a new poem to the organist, Franz Gruber, to be set to music. Gruber composed the music, and it was sung with guitar on Christmas Eve. The original melody is slightly different from the one we sing today, with more embellishments, and the last two lines of each verse were repeated after Gruber. The melody lost its embellishments around 1834, when sung by groups around Europe.

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "The Snow Lay on the Ground" Traditional English Carol

Brian Moore

TREASURER REPORT

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER – JULIE MCCURDY

Income vs Expense:

Income is \$141,660

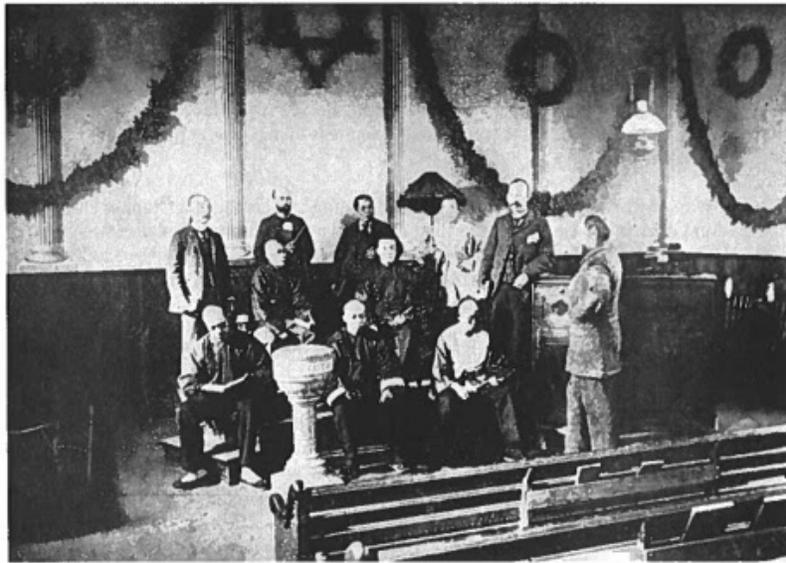
Expenses are \$140,218

Net INCOME is \$1,442

CHRISTMAS 1895

This photograph taken in 1895 is of a Christmas program presented by the young Chinese men from the school organized by Rev. McLean and T. W. Otis to teach the Chinese residents the English language.

We can also date the photo to 1895 since the baptismal font that was dedicated to Rev. Stephen Dubois Demarest was not delivered until just after the school was established. The kerosene lamps are still in place and the Women's Fellowship replaced them in 1896 with electric lamps. It is Christmas time and the greens are hung and they include a Star of David. The church pews that are still in use around our church are in the photo also.



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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