
A Message From Pastor Jay

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

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

SPANISH LESSONS WILL BE OFFERED BY MELISSA GATES AND RALPH MORA ONE DAY A WEEK HERE AT THE CHURCH.

THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET IN PERKINS HALL FOR THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED. PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME, PHONE NUMBER AND TELL THEM WHAT DAY THAT IS BEST SUITED FOR YOU.

FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE FORTH COMING AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE.

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.



CHURCH VISION 2023

What do you wish us to be:

I love the Sat. classes, but don't have time right now. Linda Moore
 Always still be open to all- James Olney
 The sermons are awesome- keep up the good teaching
 Loving, open community
 Continue to be open to all. Maybe host community events with live music in Perkins, soup kitchen, coffee house, coat/clothing drive
 Continue "before church" Sunday School for adults
 Find ways to welcome young people from Launch Pad intentionally/ Plan activities & gatherings with other churches

What do you want us to do:

Service opportunity, Vibrant prayer ministry, Some newer & more contemporary worship songs- more variety of old and new
 Nurture relationships with other/minority congregations or other faiths (eg Jewish, Muslim, Indigenous
 Does CCJ need support in furnishing the living spaces they find for folks?
 Coffee House- Melissa
 Rent out rooms to outside groups
 Car wash
 More community involvement, better use of kitchen- use more often for various groups
 Rummage sale/donate what is left
 Clothing drive
 Pancake breakfast
 Do we support any local social worker or social service groups with giving critical times off like Christmas, Birthday, or the children of families
 "Eat with Eight" where couples/individuals sign up to host dinners- David and Edie, Linda and Laura

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

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
NEW YEARS DAY**

JANUARY 1, 2023

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "Your Light Will Come, Jerusalem" by Bob Hurd Brian Moore

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace Edie Diel

Gathering Song: "Psalm 96: Today Our Savior Is Born" by Jamie Cortez
Brian Moore

Invocation Edie Diel

God of wonder and mystery, today we remember how you surprise us in every age. Into the gloom of fear and want, you bring light; into emptiness, you bring abundance; into the cold, you bring warmth. Into the hardness of the world, you bring the greatest power we have known, in the seemingly powerless form of an infant. Enter now, Holy One, among us and within us, and move us to joyful adoration of your mystery and wonder.

Hymn: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" New Century Hymnal # 129

Prayer of Confession Edie Diel

God of love and mercy, we confess the hustle and bustle of the holiday season has left us tired and out of sorts. Forgive us when we misuse or waste the gifts of our days and weeks and years. Teach us to order our days in the new year before us, that we might walk in your way; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 103:8-12 Edie Diel

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

*Hymn: "The First Nowell" New Century Hymnal # 139

Scripture Reading: Philippians 4:4-9 Edie Diel

Sermon: "The Pastor and the Cat" Laura Gartner

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "Angels of Glory" by JoAnn LaFleur Faber Alter-Notes

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer Edie Diel

Christ, for whom there was no room in the inn, give courage to all who are homeless; in your mercy, **hear our prayer**. Christ, who fled into Egypt, give comfort to all refugees; in your mercy, **hear our prayer**. Christ who fasted in the desert, give relief to all who are starving; in your mercy, **hear our prayer**. Christ, who hung in agony on the cross, give strength to all who suffer; in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Loving Jesus, you were born in a stable but worshipped by the angels. Be with all who are lonely, and with all who feel distant from celebrations. Be for us a living hope that lightens their hearts. Jesus, as you healed the sick, bring healing to those in our families who are ill today. Jesus, Lord of love, **in your mercy, hear us**. Jesus, Savior, son of Mary, you know us and love us, you share our lives and hear our prayer. Glory to you forever.

May God, who has called us out of darkness into this marvelous light, bless us and fill us with peace; through Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying, Our Father...Amen.

*Hymn: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" New Century Hymnal #154

*Benediction Laura Gartner

*Postlude: Calypso Noel by Gordon Krunfusz Brian Moore

TREASURER REPORT

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER – JULIE MCCURDY

Treasurer's Report on financial activity as of **November 30, 2022**

Income vs Expense:

Income is \$141,660

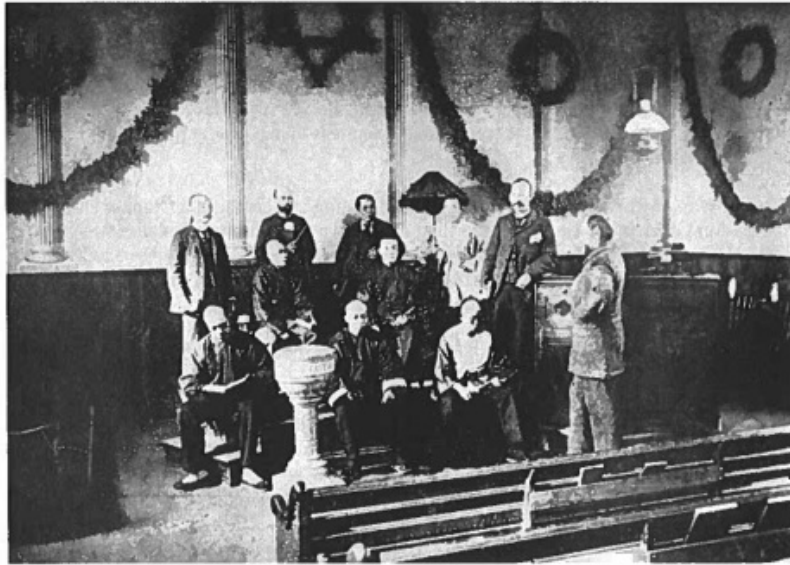
Expenses are \$140,218

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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