# First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller February 18, 2022

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30 am service

WE ARE WEARING MASKS IN THE SANCTUARY &
PERKINS HALL
AFTER WORSHIP REFRESHMENTS AND FINGER
FOODS ARE SUSPENDED
SOCIAL DISTANCING IS ENCOURAGED
CASES ARE DECLINING SO HOPEFULLY
ADJUSTMENTS TO OUR COVID PROTOCOLS ARE
FORTHCOMING!

#### **SPAM ALERT!**

After a long quiet spell, it looks like spammers are at it again. Both texts and emails may come to you as if sent by me, asking for a favor or money. Do not open them or click on links. The phone number will not be mine and the email address will be slightly different. The bottom line is I will not ask you for a favor or money!

As if the blessings and woes were not challenging enough, Jesus continues his Sermon on the Plain in Luke 6:27-36 with words such as "love your enemies" and the Golden Rule - "do to others as you would have them do to you." A dangerous sermon challenging the patronage system of his day. Some would suggest this sermon led to his crucifixion. It is impossible to live out and would totally disrupt the culture. We may feel like checking out after hearing the sermon as well. What is life without challenges? Alter-Notes and The Ringing Bells provide music; Linda Foote is liturgist, and JJ shows us the way of compassion.

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** 

**ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 2:00 PM** 

Watch Worship Services Here

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Musical Guests Sunday - Alter-Notes** 

# A NEW SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE (for Lent)

Beginning Sunday, March 6, twice: 9:30-10:15 and 11:35-12:10, in the Maggie B room downstairs, small groups will be meeting to view and discuss the popular and valuable "Living the Questions" video series.

- · Coffee and donuts
- · Child care
- With spacing and masks, group of 12 max.

## Topics:

## March

6 an invitation to journey

13 - - taking the bible seriously

20 - - thinking theologically (about God)

27- - stories of creation

## **April**

3 lives of Jesus

10 a passion for Christ: Paul

Questions? and child care needs: Pete Norum at handle32pan@gmail.com.

Office Open by Appointment - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

Due to COVID spread in Prescott, outside groups are still not able to meet in the church

## FEBRUARY MISSION NEWS

This month's mission outreach project is the Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS). PASS began as an emergency shelter in 2007, providing shelter during inclement weather for women and women with children. It's doors are now open year round. Guests (usually a maximum of 30) may stay for up to 90 days. During this time, various resourse programs assist our quests to evaluate their goals and how they might achieve them. With the assistance of PASS staff, almost 90% of our guests have found permanent housing.

Local churches and organizations help provide evening meals, sundries needed by our guests and supplies used to clean the several rooms of the PASS shelter. Thanks to our loyal crew of volunteers, our PASS team provides a monthly hot meal and other sundries/supplies.

If you are interested in joining our team, contact our PASS team captain Patty Gard 928 460 3042 or at <a href="mailto:gpgard7963@gmail.com">gpgard7963@gmail.com</a>. If you would like to serve on our Mission Outreach Committe, please contact Becky Bryant 928 910 2820 or at <a href="mailto:beckybryant2255@gmail.com">Beckybryant2255@gmail.com</a>.

As always, thanks for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing. [Gen 12:2].

### STUDY OPPORTUNITY

#### **ZOOM FAITH FORUM**

The new faith forum will allow a variety of faith issues to be explored. Call or email the church office to be added to the weekly Zoom invitation: 928-445-4555; fccprescott@gmail.com.

February 19: Yale Series - Women of the Bible: Tamar

February 26: Yale Series - Women of the Bible: Women Warriors

### **SUNDAY BULLETIN**

#### SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 20, 2022

10:30 a.m.

\*Those who are able may stand

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

Gracious God, we bow in gratitude for all the ways we have met you in the week that is past. We pause in this quiet moment to remember with gratitude: a word of encouragement, an insight of truth, an answer to prayer, calm in the midst of stress, the people you have sent to us who support or challenge us; the work you have given us to do; moments of rest and relaxation. Thank you loving God for all these signs that you love us, understand us and come to us.

Prelude:

The Ringing Bells

A Time for Children of All Ages - JJ (Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

Words of Welcome – Announcements - \*Passing of the Peace

Gathering Song: "This is My Commandment"

Alter-Notes

\*Hymn: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

New Century Hymnal #4

**Gathering Prayer** 

Linda Foote

Jesus, break into our busy lives today and draw us to yourself. Open our lives to receive all that you have to offer: a healing touch, an enlightening word, a call to do your work of justice in the world. Shake up our lives so that we may enter your reign of beatitudes, where the poor are fed, the excluded are welcomed, the sorrowing consoled and the lost find a home among us. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith / Prayer

Linda Foote

Inspired by and Drawing deeply from MLK's sermon, "Loving Your Enemies"

How do you go about loving your enemies?

We desire to love our enemies and love those persons that hate us whether in collective life or individual life by looking at ourselves.

Love is the only way.

We seek to discover the element of good in all people, acknowledging the image of God in everyone.

Love is the only way.

We wish to end the chain of hate and evil and replace it with the strong and powerful element of divine love.

Love is the only way.

We ask for hearts free of the distortions of hatred:

"For the person who hates, the beautiful becomes ugly and the ugly becomes beautiful. For

the person who hates, the good becomes bad and the bad becomes good. For the person who hates, the true becomes false and the false becomes true. That's what hate does. You can't see right. The symbol of objectivity is lost. Hate destroys the very structure of the personality of the hater."

Love is the only way.

We aspire to live and serve with loves redemptive power. May we be instruments of your power through love.

Love is the only way.

Oh God, help us in our lives and in our attitudes, to work out this controlling force of love, this controlling power that can solve every problem that we confront in all areas.

Amen.

#### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

\*Hymn: "Come Sweet Justice" Sing! Prayer and Praise #137

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:27-38 Linda Foote

Sermon: "Love Your Enemies" Pastor Jay

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

Anthem: "Give Thanks to the Lord" by Marty Parks

Alter-Notes

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer Pastor Jay

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts Pastor Jay

Unison Prayer of Dedication Linda Foote

Generous God, we have received from you more than our share of your gifts. We thank you. Now increase and multiply our gifts, we pray, that others may feast of your goodness through our witness. Amen

\*Song: "Children of God" by James F. D. Martin Sing! Prayer and Praise #195

\*Benediction Pastor Jay

\*Postlude: "I Was Glad" Central American Tune Thomas Porter & Brian Moore

## TREASURER REPORT

The income for January is \$13,724. Expenses are \$13,100. Net income is \$624.

Julie McCurdy, treasurer

## CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 10:30am Nursery & Sunday School 10:30am

On Zoom:

Feb. 28 Church Cabinet Mtng. 5:30 pm

In-Person

March 2 Ash Wednesday Service 5:00pm April 14 Maundy Thursday Service 5:30pm April 15 Good Friday Service Noon April 17 Easter Worship 10:30am

New Members Received on Easter Sunday

#### 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



### T: 928-445-4555 E: FccPrescott@gmail.com



First Congregational Church Prescott, UCC | 216 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

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