First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller February 3, 2023

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM NURSERY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30AM

Remember Godspell? Here are some of the words from one of the songs: You are the light of the world! You are the light of the world! But if that light is under a bushel, It's lost something kind of crucial You've got to stay bright to be the light of the world You are the salt of the earth You are the salt of the earth But if that salt has lost it's flavor It ain't got much in its favor You can't have that fault and be the salt of the earth! You are the light of the world You are the light of the world But the tallest candlestick Ain't much good without a wick You've got to live right to be the light of the world. Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-20) are known in the culture and in the church. Salt and light are images easily understood in Jesus' time and our own. The challenge is to figure out the ways we can be salt and light, so on Sunday we will consider how to live the "tasty, lit-up life!" Aron and Henry are liturgists. Group du jour is back to provide music. JJ and Ziggy are "hiding under a bushel" and then lead the children in "this little light of mine."

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

FACEBOOK UPDATE

We have a new Facebook group, First Congregational Church Prescott FCC - which you can join. We will be posting events, and meetup information for the community, as well as exploring ways to bring back our outreach partners; the LGBTQ community youth, AA, etc. and other groups who have used the church pre-Covid for meeting spaces. Please

join the group, and join in the discussion! If you have any questions, you can email Brit and Mike Flores at <u>bafwriter@gmail.com</u>, our current group admins. All event questions and suggestions should be directed to the church email at <u>FCCprescott@gmail.com</u>.

Spanish Lessons Tuesday, February 7 6:45 - 7:45

Perkins Hall - enter by the Alarcon Street door

No text necessary but we will be taking material from the following 2 books that you may purchase.

Yavapai College bookstore Puntos en breve (for Spanish 1) Amazon Living Language Conversational Spanish Hope to see you there!

COMMUNION WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE WORSHIP STARTING AT 10AM AND AFTER WORSHIP AS WELL

PASS MEAL WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 AT 5:00PM

The PASS meal delivery is Wednesday, February 15 at 5:00 pm. Our church provides a monthly meal for Prescott Area Shelter Services, a home for women in transition. We need several items of food for that Wednesday. The meal items are brought to our parking lot at 5:00 pm. A sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 10AM - ZOOM FAITH FORUM THE BOOK OF ACTS – HOLDING THE CHURCH TOGETHER (13-15) EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO BE ADDED TO THE ZOOM INVITE FCCPRESCOTT@GMAIL.COM

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 15 -	PASS MEAL 5:00PM
FEBRUARY 16 –	CHURCH FOUNDATION MEETING VIA ZOOM AT 5:15PM
FEBRUARY 19 -	JAZZ SUNDAY – MUSICAL GUESTS MOOD SWING
FEBRUARY 22 -	ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 5PM
FEBRUARY 26 -	FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 27 -	CABINET MEETING 5:30PM
MARCH 2-3 -	MOVIE SHOOT / MOVIE EXTRAS
APRIL 2-	TEACHING SEDER WITH RABBI SUSAN – PERKINS
APRIL 6 -	MAUNDY THURSDAY

- APRIL 7 GOOD FRIDAY
- APRIL 9 EASTER SUNDAY NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED
- APRIL 16 HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY
- April 27 EARTH DAY EVENT IN PERKINS HALL

TEACHING SEDER WITH RABBI SUSAN SCHANERMAN SUNDAY, APRIL 2 AT 1:30PM PERKINS HALL RESERVATIONS REQUIRED – SIGN UP SHEET IN PERKINS HALL

There will be seating for 60. After the end of February, The UU church and Temple members will be invited to fill remaining spots.

"KNIT WITS" REVIVAL

Before COVID, we had a group that would meet once a week to knit, crochet, etc. items that would be given to those in need. There is an interest in reviving this weekly gathering at the church. Please let Pastor Jay know if you are interested.

SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 27-29 IN EL PASO, TEXAS

The Southwest Conference staff, along with Annual Gathering Coordinator Karen Richter, have the planning well underway. Hosting the Annual Gathering in El Paso will require most delegates to travel for the inperson event. As a border city in Texas, El Paso gives us the opportunity to highlight the uniqueness of the geographical region, our local churches and their work and outreach, and the intersectionality of advocacy for social justice, humane immigration, and reproductive liberty.

Thursday, April 27 will be a travel day with a banquet dinner.

Friday, April 28 will be a day full of worship, workshops, reconnecting, and other meaningful experiences. Saturday, April 29 will be the business day, closing worship, and the day for departure. New this year, we'll be hosting virtual meetings in advance of the in-person dates to work on hearings and resolutions.

The business session on Saturday will be the only portion of the event that will be hybrid (available online to delegates who are not able to travel). Pricing is as follows:

\$199 early registration per person closes March 1\$250 regular registration closes March 24

\$275 late registration closes March 31 All meals are included except for Friday dinner (includes Thursday dinner, Friday breakfast & lunch, Saturday breakfast & lunch).

All worship, meetings, and workshops will be held at the Radisson-El Paso Airport, where we have a room rate of \$129 per night.

Travel reimbursement is available for \$225 for airfare or driving. Other scholarships may become available. If your church would be interested in carpooling with another church or two, please indicate that on the survey. We can help coordinate.

Let Pastor Jay know if you are interested in being one of our five delegates.

FEBRUARY MISSION NEWS

FEBRUARY MISSION OUTREACH UPDATE

Each month throughout the year, our Mission Outreach team identifies particular mission programs to support. Our emphasis for February is Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS).

Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS) provides shelter for local women and children in need. Volunteers from our church family also provide a monthly hot meal, along with miscellaneous snacks, personal hygiene items, and laundry supplies for those sheltered there.

Here's a recent thank you note to our congregation from Katee Norris, Director of Programs at PASS:

"It is hard to put into words how much it means to the guests we serve to have a delicious meal to come back to each evening. Being homeless and living in a shelter brings about many challenges, but the things we can do to provide some comfort truly make a difference. Thank you so much for providing a meal on the 3rd Wednesday of the month over the years! We wish there were more ways to express our gratitude, thank you does not feel like enough, but THANK YOU."

If you wish to contribute financially, please make your check payable to the church, with the memo of PASS. Mission donations which do not specify a particular project will be disbursed as determined by our Mission team members. We are thankful for all of our PASS volunteers. If you would like to volunteer to help with the PASS meal once a month, please reach out to our PASS lead contact, Carolyn Christians, at 505-500-0533. (Also, a special note here to honor Patty Gard's many years of dedicated service as PASS Team Captain—Patty, we are deeply grateful for all your good work!)

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 <u>beckybryant2255@gmail.com</u>.

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

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, sprituality, 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

BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 5, 2023 *Those who are able may stand

10:30a.m.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" French Melody

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gathering Song: "Gather Us In" by Marty Haugen

Call to Worship

You are the salt of the earth: L:

We make the world full of flavor! **P:**

L: You are the light of the world;

We will shine our light for all to see! **P:**

And we follow Jesus Christ, whose light shines in us. L:

P: Come, worship God, follow Jesus, and may the Spirit guide us in our daily lives.

*Hymn: "We Worship You, God"

New Century Hymnal #26

Henry Smith

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

Prayer of Brokenness/Confession

Loving God, we come before you, confessing that we are not consistent in your ways. We say one thing and do another. We say we love, then act out in hate. We say we care for our neighbors, but then we are silent when racism, sexism, and homophobia persist. Shine your light in us. Call us back to your ways. For it is in losing ourselves that we gain our lives. For it is in fully loving you that we become all you have intended us to be. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen. Hear these words of forgiveness from Micah 7: Where is the god who can compare with you—wiping the slate clean of guilt, Turning a blind eye, a deaf ear, to the past sins of your purged and precious people? You don't nurse your anger and don't stay angry long, for mercy is your specialty. That's what you love most. And compassion is on its way to us. You'll stamp out our wrongdoing. You'll sink our sins to the bottom of the ocean. (The Message translation)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-20

*Hymn: "You Are Salt for the Earth, O People" New Century Hymnal #181

Sermon: "Living the Tasty, Lit-Up Life"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Music: "Gather 'Round This Table" by Marty Haugen Brian and Thomas

Aron Smith

Pastor Jay

Aron Smith

Groupe du Jour

Ringing Bells

Anthem: "You Are the Seed" by Cesáreo Gabarain [NCH#528]

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

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "Sing Out, Earth and Skies" by Marty Haugen Brian Moore and Thomas Porter

*Epiphany Doxology (Tune: Old Hundreth)

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

Pastor Jay

*Hymn: "This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3x) Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. Ev'ry where I go, I'm gonna let it shine (3x) All around Prescott, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)

*Benediction

*Postlude: "Come to the Feast" by Marty Haugen Brian Moore and Thomas Porter

TREASURER REPORT

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER – JULIE MCCURDY

INCOME is \$18,100 EXPENSES are \$17,158 Net INCOME is \$942

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING FEBRUARY 12

During the children's time on Sunday, Feb. 12, the kids will be coming around with soup pots to collect dollar bills for Souper Bowl of Caring. This is a chance for them to participate in giving to those in need. It should be fun and instructive for the kids.

Brian Moore

Pastor Jay

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In 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

Since then, more than \$170 million has been generated for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that transforms the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and caring for those in need.

Through this mission, people learn they can make a positive difference in the world as they collect food, raise money and serve at hunger-relief charities and show caring and compassion in local communities across the country.

Share in God's love for our neighbors in need and give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday. All of the donations collected will go directly to our Tackle Hunger Charity of Choice:

OUR CHILDREN WILL DECIDE!

To learn more, visit: TackleHunger.org

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED ON EASTER SUNDAY -APRIL 9. A NUMBER OF PEOPLE ARE ALREADY PLANNING TO JOIN ON EASTER - LET PASTOR JAY KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER!

From our church bylaws:

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

This church welcomes into its fellowship any person who subscribes to the teachings of Jesus Christ. Membership is open to all without regard to age, race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender identity, faith, marital status, and personal ability. Members may participate in any activity of this church and may serve in an elected or appointed position of leadership. Members have the right to vote at any Annual or Special Meeting.

Membership may be determined as follows: 1. By satisfactory and public profession of the Christian faith as evidenced by the covenant of this church with the United Church of Christ. 2. By the rite of Confirmation in this church. 3. By a letter of transfer from another Christian Church. Members covenant to participate fully in the life of the congregation by: 1. Attending worship, 2. Celebrating Communion, 3. Seeking to learn about and understand Holy Scripture and its implications for our lives as Christians, 4. Sharing time and talent dedicated to church work, 5. And supporting the financial and spiritual welfare of the membership and community to the best of their ability.

Full rights and privileges of membership are granted to those members wishing to retain membership with

other Christian Churches. Members shall be granted, on request, a letter of transfer to another church. Church membership rolls will be updated periodically by members of the Cabinet. 3 We recognize as friends those who are active in the life of First Congregational Church, but who choose not to join as members. They share fully in the spiritual life of this church and may participate in all its programs and activities. Friends may serve with the Ministries, but are ineligible to serve on the Cabinet or be elected an Officer. Friends are also granted the privilege of voice without vote at any Annual or Special Meeting.

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





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

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

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