# First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller January 27, 2023

## A Message From Pastor Jay

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

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

Our annual congregational meeting is this Sunday after worship. The meeting is open to members and all who wish to attend. We will be voting on approving the minutes of last year's meeting, a slate of officers for 2023, and a budget for 2023. You may find the annual report on the website under resources. If you cannot attend in person, you may join the meeting by Zoom this year. The meeting will begin at 12:15 pm. after our potluck meal. (Zoom does not allow 15 minute intervals, but you may wait until 12:15 to join). The Zoom invite:

Jay Wilcher is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Annual Meeting

Time: Jan 29, 2023 12:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9288999066? pwd=by9PN1RLRjBTVDdxbIRCM0lkWGZTdz09

Meeting ID: 928 899 9066

Passcode: 580317 One tap mobile

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+16699009128,,9288999066#,,,,\*580317# US (San Jose)

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- +1 309 205 3325 US
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- +1 360 209 5623 US

Meeting ID: 928 899 9066

Passcode: 580317

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbZFKQy6oq

Sunday's texts rank up there as some of the most familiar and quoted in scripture. The beatitudes of Jesus (Matthew 5:1-12) and Micah 6:8 ("do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God") provide some of our foundation for Christian living. We could reduce them to commands and test ourselves against them. A sermon could show us how far short of these texts we live, and then call us to the altar for repentance. I prefer the way of inspiration! I like how Cameron B.R. Howard chose to treat these texts as poetry. She quotes Emily Dickinson: "I dwell in possibility---A fairer House than Prose." Poetry inspires us by "showing" rather than "telling." The beatitudes certainly have an eschatological component to them. I think this Sunday we will enter the poetic world of Micah 6 – the mountains and trees are called into the jury box – Israel is called to the witness stand – and the prosecutor is called to present the case – God! Bring your poetic imaginations...

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**

Spanish Lessons Starting Tuesday, January 31 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

#### INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY JANUARY 27

#### 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, JANUARY 21, 10AM - ZOOM FAITH FORUM
THE BOOK OF ACTS – GENTILES JOIN THE MOVEMENT (9-12)
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**

JANUARY 29 - ANNUAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

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

APRIL 2-TEACHING SEDER WITH RABBI SUSAN – PERKINS HALL 1:30PM

**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.

## JANUARY MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: This month's Mission Outreach project is our local**Prescott Community Cupboard (PCC)**. Individuals and families receive nutritionally balanced bags of food packed by volunteers from various churches and organizations in the surrounding areas.

We are grateful for our team members from First Congregational Church who faithfully serve for appointed dates throughout the year. Angela Imbierowicz is our team captain. If you are interested in volunteering as a packer, please contact Angela (708) 712-1448.

**Prescott Community Cupboard** "recognizes the innate worth of every human being and accepts people as they are and seeks to assist them in receiving necessary food to support their daily nutritional needs. Our support is designed to provide supplemental food to residents in Yavapai County experiencing food insecurity."

Seven local churches founded the **Prescott Community Cupboard** in 1973 as a temporary food source for the Prescott area. It was designated as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in 1981. Six of the original founding churches continue to support Community Cupboard after more than 45 years.

Donation checks can be made payable to the church, with the memo**PCC.** 

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 4<sup>th</sup> 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, 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**

#### **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

January 29, 2023

10:30 a.m.

\*Those who are able may stand

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

Prelude: "His Eye is On the Sparrow"--arr. Robert J. Hughes Mark Achuff

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

Gathering Song: "Welcome to This House" Alter-Notes

\*Hymn: "Lead On Eternal Sovereign" New Century Hymnal #573

A Time for Children Of All Ages (Jesus Loves Me, This I Know) (Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after communion)

Call to Worship Morgan Greenwald

L: Jesus, Teacher, your teaching surprises us!

P: Not the world's wisdom, but God's.

L: You move us with sorrow for the sorrow of the world

P: And make us strong through our tears.

L: You offer us humility to admit our failures

P: And plant seeds of hope in the ashes.

L: You make us hungry for justice

P: And give us food that lasts.

L: You invite us to practice what we preach

P: And offer joy in that challenge.

L: You support us in standing firm for truth, even when it costs

P: And promise the truth will make us free.

**Opening Prayer** 

Morgan Greenwald

God of our lives, you are always turning the world upside down, calling us to follow you into new ventures, new challenges, new ways to care, new ways to touch the hearts of all. When we get tired, or feel disappointed, remind us that you can bring change and hope out of the most difficult situations, so that we may do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you always. Amen.

#### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Micah 6:1-8

Morgan Greenwald

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

Morgan Greenwald

\*Hymn: "Amazing Grace"

New Century Hymnal #547

Sermon: "In the Courtroom with God"

Pastor Jay

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

Anthem: "Ha-la-lelujah, Raise Your Song" – Pepper Choplin.

Alter-Notes

Djembe Elizabeth Gates

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

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "Just As I Am"--arr. Dale Wood

Mark Achuff

\*Epiphany Doxology

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. (Tune: Old Hundreth)

\*Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Jay

\*Hymn: "For the Healing of the Nations" (Alternate Tune) New Century Hymnal #576

\*Benediction

Pastor Jay

\*Postlude: "Lead On, O King Eternal"--arr. Franklin Ritter

Mark Achuff

## TREASURER REPORT

#### A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER – JULIE MCCURDY

2022 Year-End Report from the Treasurer

Year-end total contributions: \$154,023 Year-end total expenses: \$151,149 Net Income for 2022: \$2,875

## 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.

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

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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