First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller June 30, 2023

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

WE REMEMBER THE HOTSHOTS TODAY WE PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES

Last Sunday was PRIDE Sunday. Molly from Prism Network gave a testimony of her own experience plus our city's current reality of LGBTQ safety challenges. I encourage you to watch it under our "watch worship services" tab on the website: fccprescott.org.

This Sunday we celebrate our freedom in Christ and in our nation. Alter-Notes provides music; Linda is liturgist; and communion is shared with the children. JJ & Ziggy are on vacation.

Hans Küng said this: "The illusion of freedom is to do what I want. The reality of freedom is to want what Almighty God does."

Galatians 5:1 - *it is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.*



From 1902 Puck magazine

1902 American cartoon about celebrating the Fourth of July - Caption: "A False Alarm on the Fourth" Uncle Sam tells Lady Peace: "It's all right. There's no fighting. The noise you hear is just my family celebrating!"

NEW ROOF GOING ON THIS WEEK! SANCTUARY AND OFFCE









MUSICAL GUESTS COMING IN JULY

JULY 9 - DAVE RUSSELL ON SAX AND FLUTE JULY 16 - DENISE NASSO ON PIANO AND VOICE JULY 23 - JEFF WIESEL ON PIANO AND VOICE

LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH SUMMER FELLOWSHIP 5:00 PM 7/26; 8/30

Watch Worship Services Here



Come One, Come All To the Grand Opening of our first ever COFFEE HOUSE Friday June 30 4 – 6pm Perkins Hall

PLEASE ENTER BY THE LOWER ALARCON DOOR

Light beverages and snack food, socialize, nibble, play board games, listen or dance to a wide range of music. Even more entertainment possibilities should this become a monthly occurrence.

MARTI DIAL PASSED AWAY JUNE 24

Marti was a faithful member of the church, attending as long as her health allowed. She volunteered her time playing the piano in the local hospital lobby and also at Margaret T. Morris Center for the guests there. Marti requested that no celebration of life service be held, but rather that friends do something they enjoy and remember her - she loved Denver sports and Lemon Meringue pie. We can all use one of her favorite sayings this week: "It is what it is."

PICTURE DIRECTORY OF CONGREGATION

Photo taking has concluded and photos are now being added to the directory. Make-up photos will be available throughout the year on Sundays when we welcome new members.

AFTER CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

- July 2 and Sept 24 we will host an ice cream social after church with lactose free options, sherbet and all the trimmings for making sundaes.

- We plan congregation involved potlucks for the **fifth Sunday** of each month that has one - **July 30, Oct 29 and Dec 31**

- **Dec 17**, birthday celebration Sunday, we plan a Christmas cookie share and exchange involving the whole congregation.

The rest of the time will remain as it is with congregants signing up to provide something substantial for sharing and the church providing salty snacks, cookies and fruit as needed.



CHURCH PAINTING ON DISPLAY IN PERKINS HALL

It's an Original Pastel 18 x 24, painted by Jenny Willigrod from Fountain Hills, AZ. It's a gift to the church from Coco Lanigan, David Pifer, Sandy and Ed Znetko. Cards will be available for purchase (\$2.00 per card) by the congregation with proceeds going to the church. (Coco Lanigan)

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>.

SAVE THE DATE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL BE HELD THE WEEK OF JULY 17

Registration for our Vacation Bible School is Now Open!

THERE ARE STILL OPENINGS FOR VBS CHILDREN! LET MORGAN KNOW OF POSSIBLE ATTENDEES

Dates: July 17-21, 2023
Times: 9:00 to 3:00
Location: First Congregational Church: 216 East Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301
Cost: Free!
Age Range: Potty-trained Preschoolers through Sixth Graders
Description: During our morning session, kids will engage in our VBS curriculum with our beloved Sunday School teachers, Ms. Jeni and Ms. Audra! Our curriculum is

entitled <u>"Hero Hotline"</u>. The goal of this VBS is to help children learn to work together and share their gifts as they answer God's call on their lives as they strive to bring peace and build each other up in this world. There will be art and music components and some outdoor activities as well. The morning session will be followed by a lunch break. Please bring a bag lunch and water each day.

Has that big and wonderful stage in Perkins Hall been calling out to you? It is just waiting to be brought back to life! Our afternoon session will give the kids a chance to shine on the stage by learning and rehearsing a play throughout the week, which will culminate in a performance on Friday. This performance will be open to the public and will give our kids the chance to learn some acting skills and perform in front of an audience. Andrew Greenwald and Britt Flores will be working together to create the play.

Registration: To register, please contact our Education Ministry Cabinet Member, Morgan Greenwald at <u>morgan.greenwald@gmail.com</u>. Feel free to contact Morgan (570-660-2227) with any questions. Our maximum number of participants will be 16, so sign up soon to secure your spot!

Volunteers: If you are interested in volunteering to help with our VBS program, thank you! Please contact Morgan soon as well so that we can make sure to complete the necessary background checks.

PASS - PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES

PASS, our local women's shelter, serves as a place for women and children experiencing homelessness. The **third Wednesday of every month (July 19)** our church provides dinner for the guests at the shelter. Meal items are brought to the church parking lot at 5:00 pm and then taken by one of our members to the shelter. Carolyn Christians has taken over this role from Patty Gard. We need new members to sign up to help each month. The sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 1ST AT 6PM CHURCH PARKING LOT NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY A POLICE OFFICER WILL JOIN US

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes policecommunity partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August.

EMBRY-RIDDLE CHAPEL OPEN HOUSE OUR THANKS TO MELISSA AND ELIZABETH FOR ATTENDING AGAIN THIS YEAR!

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University Fred and Fay Haas Memorial Interfaith Chapel will be hosting its annual Open House on Saturday, August 26, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. As has been done in previous years, we are inviting local religious and spiritual organizations to participate in this event. This event will allow for Embry Riddle Aeronautical University parents and students to become acquainted with the different faith and spiritual organizations represented in the Prescott area.

Each organization participating should have 1-2 representatives present to engage with incoming students and their parents to help them become acquainted with your organization. You are encouraged to bring pamphlets, memorabilia representing your group, and a calendar of anticipated activities that your organization has planned for the upcoming months that the student may wish to attend. Each group will have a table and chairs set up in our main chapel space, unless otherwise requested. If you have any special requests or accommodation needs, please do not hesitate to contact us as soon as possible.

CHURCH CALENDAR

JUNE 30 - COFFEE HOUSE; 4-6PM IN PERKINS HALL JULY 19 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL BEGINS JULY 24 - CABINET RETREAT 4:30PM JULY 26 - PASTOR JAY & CHERIE HOST RECEPTION PERKINS HALL JULY 30 - 5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK AFTER WORSHIP AUGUST 1 - NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 6PM CHURCH PARKING LOT AUGUST 26 - EMBRY-RIDDLE CHAPEL TO GREET NEW STUDENTS

GUEST MUSICIANS IN JULY WORSHIP

JULY 9 - DAVE RUSSELL (SAX AND FLUTE) JULY 16 - DENISE NASSO (PIANO AND SOLO) JULY 23 - JEFF WIESEL (PIANO AND SOLO)

SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETIN

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 2, 2023

10:30 a.m.

*Those who are able may stand

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "Be Still, My Soul"--arr. Jay Rouse

Mark Achuff

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gather Song: "Love and Justice"

Alter-Notes

A Time for Children of All Ages (Communion)

Call to Worship

Linda Foote

L: The whole law is summed up in a single commandment,

All: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

L: Live by the Spirit;

All: For we are led by the Spirit into the world.

L: We belong to Jesus;

ALL: We do not belong to this world.

L: Let us love and serve one another, as led by the Spirit;

ALL: May we worship God, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the love of Jesus Christ.

*Hymn: "God of the Ages, Who with Sure Command"

New Century Hymnal #592

Linda Foote

Linda Foote

Opening Prayer

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for all the blessings we experience the freedom to worship you without fear, the bounty and diversity of your creation, and the precious gift of unexpected joy. As we draw near to you this hour, may we immerse ourselves in your healing presence. Refresh us and renew us that we might become faithful laborers in your harvest of peace, justice, and joy. We pray in the name of our great Healer Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Epistle Reading: Galatians 6:1-10

*Hymn: "How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies"

Sermon: "How Do We Live in Christian Freedom?"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "Let Freedom Ring!" Ruth Gray

Alter-Notes

Pastor Jay

New Century Hymnal #594

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

We come to the Lord's Table. All are invited to come forward down the middle aisle and return to your seat by the side aisle. We receive communion by intinction – please take a piece of bread and dip it into the cup and partake immediately.

As you pour out your Spirit upon this Table abundant with the gifts of the Bread and of the Cup, shed your grace upon your children gathered in this place. We often forget those who hunger for freedom. But eating the Bread of life, we can go, carrying a harvest of hope to them. We forget the injustices imposed upon those seeking freedom. But drinking from the Cup of grace, we can go where you intend to go, inviting everyone we meet to join us in your new creation of peace, mercy, and wonder. And when all that holds us back is gone, when the freedom of your eternity is given to us, we will gather and forever sing your praises, God in Community, Holy in

One. Amen.

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

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies"-arr. Charles Callahan

Mark Achuff

*Doxology Mark Achuff Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

We give thanks to you, O God, for you have blessed us with all we need to do your work. Empower and embolden us to use our gifts in your service. May our sharing be a sign o your in-breaking realm and a source of healing and hope to a world in need. We pray this in the name of the One who sends us out, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

*Hymn: "This Is My Song"

New Century Hymnal #591

Pastor Jay

Linda Foote

*Benediction

*Postlude: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"--arr. Charles Callahan

Mark Achuff

JULY MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: **Discovery Gardens Preschool (DGP)** and the Southwest Conference's **Sow The Seed (STS)** fund are our mission projects for July.

Discovery Gardens Preschool (DGP) offers children a loving environment where they can prosper both academically and socially, regardless of their life's challenges. DGP provides child-directed, developmentally appropriate practices in a center-based early childhood environment, and is a licensed tuition-based preschool operated through the Prescott Unified School District.

Your kind donation will help provide a scholarship to the family of a three-year old in need. Please make your check payable to the church, with the memo **DGP**.

The Southwest Conference's **Sow the Seed (STS)** fund has traditionally been used for camp and youth event scholarships, but has recently been expanded to award financial grants for ministry projects undertaken by SWC congregations for, to, and with children, young adults, and families.

Our own congregation has recently been gifted with a grant from Sow the Seed to conduct our upcoming **Vacation Bible School (July 17-21)** and we're deeply appreciative of the broadening of this initiative to encourage and support our churches to think and act creatively to engage in new ministries for faith formation. Pls use the

memo **STS** if you wish to contribute to Sow the Seed to help other churches in our conference receive similar opportunities.

A memo of simply "Mission" will be disbursed at the discretion of the Mission Outreach Team.

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>.

TREASURER REPORT FOR MAY 2023

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER – JULIE MCCURDY

JUNE 2023

Income is \$96,791 Expenses are \$98,764 Expenses exceed income by \$1,971

\$53,000 has been spent from reserves in the Lummel Fund as 50% downpayment for roof replacement on the church and office. It is anticipated that the roof expense will be covered by the Foundation. Additional Reserve Funds of \$4,131 have been spent to offset some budgeted expenses.



teens run the Teen Arts Booth at the 40th Annual Prescott Rodeo Days Arts & Crafts Festival on July 1st - 3rd

For more info, please contact Courtney Osterfelt at costerfelt@thelaunchpadteencenter.or



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



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