



This Week at a Glance...

- Chancel Singers Rehearsal: Sunday 9:00 a.m.
- Worship Service: Sunday 10:30 a.m.
- Alter-Notes Rehearsal: Sunday 12:00 - 12:45
- Prayer Chapel: Tuesday 11:00 a.m. Meeting Room 2
- Lenten Series: Wednesday 5:30 p.m.
- Pastor's Bible Study: Thursday 9:30 a.m. Chapel downstairs
- Bell Choir Rehearsal: Thursday 11:00 a.m.

FROM THE PASTOR

Sunday's emphasis is on International Women's Day (March 8). Joell Gall and Jen Harvey will join us to sing "Pearls" by Sade. The plight and progress of women the world over will be highlighted and lifted up in prayer. The scripture is Psalm 107 -- it was used by our spiritual ancestors as a litany for worship. God's people shared the full range of their emotions with God. This refrain is repeated in similar ways:



*Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and God saved them from their distress;
God sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction.
Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind.
And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.*

We will cry out for safety, justice and equality for women worldwide, hoping that God will respond.

This year, the theme for International Women's Day is #PressForProgress. The theme comes in response to the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report, which measured gender inequality. The report found that we are still 200 years away from gender parity in the four main themes studied: Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment.

See you Sunday, Jay

[Listen to Jay's Sermons](#)

Mar. 11 International Women's Day Emphasis --
Joell Gall to sing Sade's "Pearls"
Mar. 18 Alter-Notes Provide Music
Mar. 23 Fundraiser for "Sugar and the Mint" 6:30pm
Mar. 25 Palm Sunday
Mar. 29 Maundy Thursday, 6:30 pm
Apr. 1 Easter Sunday
Apr. 8 Holy Humor Sunday



MISSIONS AND OUTREACH NEWS

Our mission emphasis for March is the Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity [PAHH]. Four new home building projects are underway, two in Chino Valley, and two in Prescott. Since its founding in 1989, by the end of this year, 90 poverty-level families will have become first-time home owners. Volunteers are always needed to help with: (1) construction projects (2) office needs (3) ReStore Used Items Store, and with (4) Committees... such as the Family Selection Committee, Family Support Committee, and Land Acquisition Committee. If interested, contact the PAHH Volunteer Coordinator Gail Martin at 928-445-9003. For monetary donations, checks may be made payable to the church, with a memo line of "PAHH".

Thanks to your contributions to last month's mission project, the Prescott Area Shelter Services, PASS, will be receiving a check for \$320. Our thanks again to those who have been helping provide a monthly hot meal to the women's shelter at PASS. In addition to meals, there is always a need for new cleaning items: Pine Sol, Lysol All Purpose Cleaner, Comet, Window Cleaner, etc. Any questions may be directed to our PASS coordinator, Patty Gard, [928-460-3042]. See our volunteer sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall.

Thank you for your support of our outreach ministries of compassion and justice.
Gary Gard, Outreach Ministries Team chairperson, 928-910-2455.

#MeToo and #TimesUP: More than Harassment

March 07, 2018

Written by Sandra Sorensen

In recent months, we have seen, felt and heard the power of women claiming their voices and speaking their truth as part of the #MeToo movement and resistance against sexual harassment and violence. The incredibly courageous acts of women from all backgrounds telling their stories and breaking the silence that protects abusive behavior led Time magazine to name as its person of the year the voices that launched the #MeToo movement.



I was particularly struck by the words of Juana Melara, a housekeeper at a luxury hotel and one the voices of the MeToo movement. Describing the behavior of hotel guests she has encountered, she said, "They think because they go to luxury hotels and they pay a certain amount of money, that they have the right to get the housekeepers' bodies too."

Her words point to a reality that has not had much visibility in the #MeToo conversation -- and that is the way that unjust policies and workplace practices contribute to a climate that gives tacit approval to harassment and violence against women. As a people who profess to believe in the full personhood of women as people created in the image of God, we need to break the silence around policies and practices that allow women to be treated unequally, or even as problems to be solved, in the workplace.

As we mark Women's History Month, we would do well to think about the work we still have to do to bring about justice for women. Consider for instance the gap in pay equity, which grows significantly larger when we look at the disparity in pay for women of color. Or lack of affordable childcare and family-friendly workplace policies like paid sick leave and family leave, which disproportionately affect women as primary caregivers. Consider the failure of Congress to close the loopholes that continue to allow domestic abusers access to guns. Or the fact that the Administration has yet to appoint anyone as head of the Department of Justice's Office of Violence Against Women. Funding for programs under the Violence Against Women Act is vulnerable to budget cuts during VAWA reauthorization this year.

These are actions or inactions that speak volumes -- far beyond the well-rehearsed press quotes and public statements. The real work of the #MeToo movement must take us deeper into addressing the policies and institutional structures that provides tacit assent for harassment and create environments that allow for abusive behavior against women.

WHITE PRIVILEGE SERIES WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30 PM AND WILL INCLUDE A SOUP MEAL!

LENTEN SERIES STARTS WEDNESDAYS

Fourth Gathering -- March 14
"The Cash Value of Whiteness"

Fifth Gathering -- March 21
"Spiritual Autobiographies Told Through
the Lens of Race"

Sixth Gathering -- March 28
"On Becoming an Ally"

WHITE PRIVILEGE

let's talk



"We're halfway through our six-week Lenten Series on white privilege. In the first gathering, we laid the groundwork for recognizing white privilege in our society, and the ways in which it shapes individuals' worldviews. The second gathering focused on the American experience of race, with discussion of how the received version of our history often is shaped by a white perspective. We watched an interview with Dr. Cornel West, who spoke about the Black prophetic tradition in the US, and discussed the value of seeing American history and society through the lens of race. In the third week, we talked about race and the church, discussing the ways in which familiar dimensions of our church experience often assume a white perspective. We watched a video discussing the experience of people of color in white-dominant churches. We also discussed passages of scripture that speak to our obligation to work for inclusion and justice.

In weeks ahead, we will examine the operations of white privilege in areas such as housing, healthcare and education. We'll consider our own spiritual autobiographies in relation to race, and we'll look at ways in which white people of faith can become allies to people of color."

Bill Bryant



"SPRING FLING SEMI FORMAL"

Would anyone be interested in attending a Spring Fling Semi-Formal social dance in Perkins Hall in May? It would be ballroom type music supplied

by a D.J. or a small dance band. The per person cost would be set to cover expenses. Don't know how to ballroom dance? Not a problem. Free weekly lessons would be offered long before the actual dance. Before we contract for the music we need to be confident we can cover the cost with attendance. This dance would be opened to the public as well. So we'd love to have you respond to this survey. Text [207-391-3276](tel:207-391-3276) or email mgates716@gmail.com. All we need is a yes and how many would probably be coming with you, or a no. Thanks.

FREE CONCERT @
First Congregational Church
Friday March 23, 2018
6:00-6:30 open for silent auction
6:30-7:30 Sugar and the Mint Show
Donations accepted to cover new album & 2018 travel expenses
sugarandthemint.com
2017 Telluride Bluegrass Festival
band contest WINNERS

**sugar
& the
mint**



2018 GYCC Spring Gala

To honor those who have made significant contributions to the LGBTQ+ community.

Tuesday, March 20th, 2018
at 6pm

At Thumb Butte Distillery
400 N. Washington Ave.
Prescott, AZ 86301

Tickets are \$20
Reserve your tickets at:
gyccspringgala.hgt.me

FOOD
ENTERTAINMENT
NETWORKING
& MORE!



Keynote Speaker
Mariner Cardon
"FLAP" - the loving
active people
narrative from the
past of the LGBTQ+
community in Prescott

THUMB BUTTE
DISTILLERY

Special Thanks to Thumb Butte for
hosting this event!

This event is supported & sponsored by

PROGRESS LGBTQ+
PATER BRIDGE

For more information about LGBTQ+ events, check out www.at-gycc.org or contact us at gyccinfo@gmail.com

Do you have any doors you don't
need? We are looking for a collection

of doors for our colorful door project. Contact Melissa Gates phone: 207-391-3276 or the church office, 928-445-4555



SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

If you are interested in being a delegate representing our church, please let Pastor Jay know.

April 19-22, 2018
Tucson, Arizona

The purposes of the Annual Meeting is to:

- Provide an opportunity for fellowship among the churches of the Conference;
- Elect Officers, Executive Board members, and other positions as provided for in these bylaws;
- Receive the reports of the Officers, staff, committees, member churches and organizations related to the Conference;
- Approve the budget of the Conference;
- Adopt the mission objectives of the Conference when presented by the Mission and Church Vitality Committee;
- Act on business forwarded to the meeting by the United Church of Christ churches, associations and the Executive Board of the Conference according to standing rules.
- Transact any other business which may be properly brought before the Conference.



MARCH GREETERS

Sandra Johns
Lauren Edwards
Ann Flanagan
Liz Spence

VAN MINISTRY

Bill Rouse has agreed to be one of our van drivers to pick up and take home those needing a ride to church. If you would like the church van to pick you up Sunday morning, please let Bill know by Saturday. His number is 602-769-5770. Our thanks to Bill for this ministry.

ALTER-NOTES

Do you like to sing? Do you play an instrument? Would you like to be a part of bringing alternative styles of music to our worship service? Come join Alter-Notes! We rehearse at 12-12:45 p.m. on Sundays, after social time. Music styles vary -- calypso, spirituals, folk, Celtic, pop, rock and everything in between.
Show up and/or call Melissa Gates, 207-391-3276.

THE CHANCEL SINGERS

You do not have to be able to read music or be a great singer to join us! The Chancel Singers are seeking people who love to sing. Anyone interested is invited to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the Chancel.

For more information, please contact the Music Director, Jane Osborn, at 928-713-4752 or prescottsong@hotmail.com.



**HELP US BUILD OUR SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT WITH
OUR COMMUNITY, LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

REGULARLY SCHEDULED

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Hazeltine room. All adults are welcome.

EVERY WEEK COMMUNION

"Every Sunday Communion" takes place in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays. Communion is open to all.

ONCE A MONTH COMMUNION

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

If you would be interested in playing with us, we will train you! This is a fun and rewarding contribution to our worship. We meet for rehearsal at 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

CHANCEL SINGERS

If you like to sing, the Chancel Singers are eager to increase membership. We meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. before worship

Our regularly scheduled communion is held the first Sunday of each month. Communion is open to all.

PRAYER CHAPEL

Called to Care holds a weekly prayer time at 11:00 am on Tuesdays in the Chapel downstairs. Place your prayer requests in the prayer box in Perkins Hall.

PASS MEAL

Once a month we provide a meal for the Prescott Area Shelter Services the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:00 p.m. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

CABINET MEETING

Meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.

VAN MINISTRY

If you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings, please let Bill Rouse know by the Saturday before. 602-769-5770

services.

ALTER-NOTES

Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal in the Hazeltine Room each Sunday. If you like to sing or can play an instrument, we are looking for new members. We play folk, pop, Celtic, spirituals and anything else. Contact Melissa Gates phone:207-391-3276

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Parents may take children to Sunday school downstairs before the service begins, or wait until the children's time with the pastor and then go to Sunday school. Children are also welcome to stay in the worship service at the discretion of the parent(s).

CONTACT US

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PRESCOTT, UCC

216 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

Office: 928-445-4555

Pastor Jay: 928-899-9066

Julie: 928-710-1379

ADMINISTRATION

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 4:00

Friday 9:00 - 1:00

PASTOR JAY

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00

other times by appointment



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 a.m.

