

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



Eastern Orthodox fresco in Nativity of the Theotokos Church, Bitola, Republic of North Macedonia

From the Pastor

Palm Sunday is here! We will consider Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem as a planned political protest against the empire of Rome (Mark 11:1-11). The children will march around with palm fronds during the opening hymn. JJ & Ziggy will lead the way! Music will be provided by Brian, Thomas, Linda, Dave, and Carole Sue; liturgy and scripture readings done by Linda, Dave, and Pastor Jay.

VIDEO SERIES

"When Black Female Preachers Speak - Seven Important Discussions with Black Female Theologians" A part of our decentering whiteness efforts (not to mention patriarchy)

The next gathering will be today at noon in the church office conference room. Bring your own lunch / snack and drink.

When black female preachers speak, we should all listen. The insight and intention provided by black theologians illustrate their ability to bring the history of black culture and religious experience into the life of Christians and the liturgical life of the church. For centuries black mothers have passed on wisdom – in the white world, in the black community, and with men. This wisdom has illustrated how God reveals prophetic word and action for Christian living.

We have brought together some important themes coupled with visionary insights from Rev. Jacqui Lewis, Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown, Rev. Dr. Kelly Brown Douglass, Rev. Traci Blackmon, Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, and Bishop Yvette Flunder.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

TUESDAY: ARIZONA POWER AND LIGHT – 6:00 PM, PERKINS HALL

THURSDAY: MAUNDY THURSDAY 5:30PM PERKINS HALL

GOOD FRIDAY - NOON - SANCTUARY; COFFEE HOUSE - 4:00PM PERKINS HALL

RECORDED GOOD FRIDAY PLAY APRIL 2, 2021 (PAST WORSHIP SERVICES TAB ON WEBSITE) PLAY BY MICKI SHELTON

MAUNDY THURSDAY – MARCH 28 – 5:30 PM

We will gather on Maundy Thursday for our traditional observance of the Lord's Supper along with a communal meal. - and Tenebrae readings

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – MARCH 29 - NOON

Taize Service with Seven Last Words of Jesus

Come one, Come all, to our FCC COFFEE HOUSE! Last Friday of every month - March 29 - 4 to 6 pm - Perkins Hall - Serving: good conversation, light beverages and snacks, lots of games, music of all kinds, dancing if you want it, and any other creative ideas you can come up with. Please use the Alarcon St door to enter. See you then!

EASTER SUNDAY MARCH 31 10:30am

SCAM ALERT! THE PASTOR WILL NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, EVER ASK YOU FOR GIFT CARDS OR MONEY OR A FAVOR IN ANY FORM!!!!!!

WELCOMING MINISTRY NEWS

The Church is having a Potluck this Sunday March 24 (Palm Sunday). The congregation is asked to bring something to share.

Those planning to attend the Maundy Thursday service March 28 and light meal are asked to bring the food (soup, chili, sub sandwiches) to share together in Perkins Hall. The Welcoming Ministry committee will not be providing food for this event.

CONTINUING A SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

Sundays, 9:15-10:15, during Lent (Feb 18 – Mar 24, Palm Sunday) in the meeting room downstairs, **up to 3 more participants are invited** to join us to view and discuss selections from the “Living the Questions” video series.

Topics:

February 25 - - Cherokee Creation Story

March 3 - - Incarnation
10 - - Prayer
17 - - Creative Transformation
24 - - Embracing Mystery

Each session is self-contained, come for one, a few, or all of them!

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

**SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE UCC ANNUAL MEETING –
APRIL 25-27
SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS UCC – PHOENIX
IN-PERSON AND ZOOM OPTIONS
SEE CO-MODERATOR SANDY IF INTERESTED IN
ATTENDING**

**MINISTRY OF PHYSICAL RESOURCES NEEDS ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO HELP TAKE
CARE OF OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS – SEE ED ZNETKO FOR DETAILS**

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING
RECEIVED IN MARCH**

One Great Hour of Sharing® is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Wider Church Ministries.

CARING FOR CREATION EVENTS

**ARIZONA POWER AND LIGHT – SACRED EARTH, COMMON GROUND
TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 6:00 PM
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Local artists and musicians celebrate the beauty of creation and inspire our own stories of sacred connections.

Sacred Earth: Common Ground

A Storytelling Event that Connects Us with the Earth and with Each Other.

Sacred Earth: Common Ground is a creative, engaging way to bridge the cultural-political-religious divides that threaten democracy, devastate Creation and divide communities. Our strategy is to take advantage of the bridge-building capacity of the ancient art of STORYTELLING. We believe that “the shortest distance between two people is a story” and “you cannot hate someone whose story you know.”

We invite you to join us as we create a Sacred Earth: Common Ground event in your community. With your help we will invite people from a diversity of perspectives together for a time of personal storytelling about experiences we’ve had standing on Holy Ground. Our definition of Holy Ground is simple: any time or any place where you have felt DEEPLY CONNECTED with yourself (body, mind spirit), with your neighbor, with the wider natural world, with the Divine.

We’ll invite “community artists” to spark our imaginations with a poem, a song, a dance, or a

work of art on the theme of "Sacred Earth." Then we divide people into small, mixed groups, and invite them to tell a 3-minute story about sometime when they stood on Holy Ground.

**INTERFAITH CLIMATE ACTION TEAM
CARING FOR CREATION EVENT – APRIL 25 – 5PM
TEMPLE BRITH SHALOM
PASTOR JAY IS ONE OF THE SPEAKERS**

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 (**April 18**) 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.

**SATURDAY FAITH FORUM OPEN TO ALL
SATURDAYS AT 10AM ON ZOOM
A NEW TOPIC EACH WEEK - BIBLE, CURRENT EVENTS,
THEOLOGY, ETC.
A LIVELY DISCUSSION
LET PASTOR JAY KNOW TO BE ADDED TO THE ZOOM INVITE**

[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

MARCH MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Each month we highlight a different mission outreach project. For the month of March, we're supporting **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity**. Seeking to put God's love into action, **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity** brings people together to build houses, communities, and hope. Every donation helps a family build a safe and affordable home and fosters strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.

Your contributions are so helpful for these families in need! If your own family has the ability and desire to provide a donation, checks can be made payable to the church with the memo: **PAHFH**.

Mission donations which do not specify a particular project will be disbursed as determined by our Mission team members.

In February, due to your generous support, the Mission Outreach team distributed \$475 to Prescott Community Cupboard from our January collection focus. Thank you! As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

Mission Outreach Committee members for 2024 are Patty Gard, Carolyn Christians, Roxanne Matthews, Bill Bryant, 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.

ENNEAGRAM WORKSHOP COMING MAY 18

We did this workshop back in 2016. Participants enjoyed getting to know themselves better and understanding others better. An Enneagram instructor will be leading the workshop. There will be a fee for attending – scholarships will be available if needed.

From The Enneagram Institute:

What is the Enneagram?

Don Riso has defined the Enneagram as “a geometric figure that delineates the nine basic personality types of human nature and their complex interrelationships.” While the Enneagram suggests that there are nine basic personality types of human nature, there are, of course, many subtypes and variations within the nine fundamental categories. Nevertheless, the assertion of Enneagram theory is that these nine adequately map out the territory of “personality types.”

The Enneagram is also a symbol that maps out the ways in which the nine types are related to each other. This is the aspect of the Enneagram most people are familiar with because it offers them a framework for understanding themselves and everyone they deal with. As a psychospiritual typology, the Enneagram helps people to recognize and understand an overall pattern in human behavior. External behaviors, underlying attitudes, one’s characteristic sense of self, conscious and unconscious motivations, emotional reactions, defense mechanisms, object relations, what we pay attention to, our spiritual potentials and much more—are all parts of a complex pattern that forms each personality type. Therapists, business counselors, human resource directors, and spiritual seekers from around the world are all finding the Enneagram to be immensely useful for self-understanding and personal growth. Always remember however, that the Enneagram does not put you in a box; it shows you the box you are in and the way out!

What use is the Enneagram? How can it help me?

The Enneagram can be extremely useful to everyone as a source of self-knowledge because it acts as a kind of “mirror” to reveal features of our personality that normally

are invisible to us. Most of the time, people function habitually, as if on “automatic pilot,” according to the pattern of their basic personality type. Usually this allows people to get along well enough in their lives, but when their normal routines break down or the stresses of their lives increase too much, their normal way of coping also tends to break down or become dysfunctional. Seeing clearly what our habitual patterns are—seeing what we are doing and why we are doing it, and at what cost to ourselves and others—holds the key to our liberation. By knowing your type correctly, you are able to see yourself—to “catch yourself in the act”—as you move throughout the day. With this increased self-awareness, you are also able to avoid reacting in negative and potentially dangerous ways.

Once real balance has been restored to the personality structure, the Enneagram can help us to orient ourselves to the higher spiritual and psychological qualities that each type has in abundance. Thus, at its highest, the Enneagram invites us to look deeply into the mystery of our true identity. It reveals that we are not our personality, but something more—a spiritual being who has lost contact with his or her true nature. Living out of this realization shifts completely how we see ourselves, others, and the world, bringing liberation, freedom, and joy. (See pages 27-48 in *The Wisdom of the Enneagram* or pages 11-17 of *Understanding the Enneagram (Revised Edition)* for more about the psychological and spiritual context of the Enneagram.)

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 bafwriter@gmail.com, our current group admins. All event questions and suggestions should be directed to the church email at FCCprescott@gmail.com.

SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETIN

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

March 24, 2024

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: “Change My Heart, O God” by Eddie Esponosa

Brian and Thomas

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gather Song: "Jerusalem, My Destiny" by Rory Coone Linda, David, Brian, and Thomas

Call to Worship

Linda Foote

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work on earth, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his suffering, we may share his risen life.

Proclamation of the Entrance into Jerusalem: Mark 11:1-11

Linda Foote

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy

(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

*Processional Hymn: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

New Century Hymnal #216

Call to Confession

Linda Foote

Jesus rode into Jerusalem not as a conquering king but in humility, the Servant King, ready to complete the task for which he had walked this world. Let us humbly confess our sins:

Prayer of Confession

Linda Foote

Holy God, forgive us those times when we think too highly of ourselves, and remind us that you ask from us dedicated service to you and to our neighbors, wherever and whoever they might be. Enable us to take off our cloaks of self-righteousness and lay them down at your feet. Forgive our sins of omission and commission; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Linda Foote

Hear the good news: "Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave...and became obedient to the point of death --even death on a cross." (Philippians 6,7a,8b) Through his obedience we are therefore freed from whatever enslaves us.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Mark 15:1-15

Pastor Jay

Jesus, Remember Me, When You Come into Your Kingdom (2X)

Gospel Reading: Mark 15:16-32

David Foote

Jesus, Remember Me, When You Come into Your Kingdom (2X)

Gospel Reading: Mark 15:33-47

Linda Foote

Jesus, Remember Me, When You Come into Your Kingdom (2X)

Duet: "Ah, Holy Jesus" David Foote & Brian Moore; Carole Sue Linson, piano

Meditation: "Palm Sunday: Planned Political Theater"

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Special Music: "O Sacred Head"

Linda Foote, Bells

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

Pastor Jay

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Pastor Jay

Offertory: "Ani M'amin" Traditional Jewish Song

Brian and Thomas

Lenten Doxology (Tune: NCH #17) by Pete Norum (2013)

Praise the Creator for each day, thanks for our Guide who leads the way. Preparation. Meditation. Bathe in discovery, Spirit led, and live anew in days ahead.

In remembrance. Crucifixion. Easter promise! Resurrection! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Linda Foote

We cast these gifts before you, O God, as palms were cast before Jesus long ago. We lay them on your altar in praise, thanksgiving, and joy. Receive them back from our hands, that they may become a greater blessing in your hands. Amen.

*Hymn: "What Wondrous Love is This"

New Century Hymnal #223

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "Were You There" African-American Spiritual

Brian and Thomas

AMAZON SUPPLIES TO PROVIDE FOR JENI AND AUDRA IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

This QR code will take you to the supplies that can be ordered and provided:



TREASURER REPORT

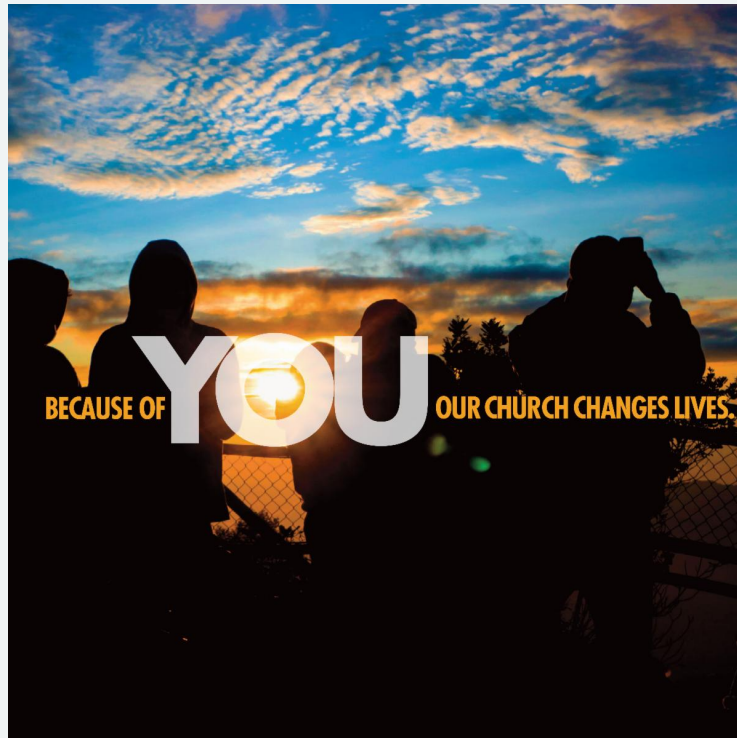
Reporting on finances as of February 29, 2024:

Income: \$32,515

Expense: \$31,634

Net income: \$881

Julie McCurdy, Treasurer



Because of You our church changes lives.

**THANKS TO ALL WHO PROVIDED ESTIMATES OF
GIVING FOR 2024!**

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

Use the QR Code below:



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United
Church of
Christ

T: 928-445-4555
EMAIL: fccprescott@gmail.com



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

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