

## A Message from Pastor Jay

### SUNDAY MARCH 7

The Third Sunday in Lent focuses on Jesus "cleansing the Temple" in John 2:13-22. Jesus enters the Temple and finds it has been turned into a marketplace. Animals for sacrifice are sold and money is exchanged into the proper currency to pay for the animals or pay the Temple tax. Corruption is rampant. The poor are exploited. His anger at this situation leads him to disrupt business in the Temple. When the church becomes comfortable with injustice; when the church and its pastors are silent regarding racism; when the church and its pastors are comfortable with white supremacy, perhaps we should ask what Jesus would do to disrupt our focus on ourselves. Music is provided by Brian, Tanner, Carole Sue, Ann & Caleb, and on Smule - Deana, Helen from New Zealand, Jeanine from Austin, and Father Jaime - a Roman Catholic Priest in Spain. Rev. Bill serves as worship leader. JJ "cleanses the sanctuary."

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY SATURDAY 10:00 AM

ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 10AM

let us know if you would like to be added to these email invitations

### EMAIL SCAM

Our church and others are experiencing fake emails being sent with an email just a little off from what it ought to be - for example, adding a 1 or deleting another letter. Information is taken from the website and not a personal email. They are not getting into my personal email but creating one close to mine. **I will never ask you for a favor or money!** Check the email closely for the right address.

## BULLETIN

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

## **GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD**

Prelude: "Shepherd Me – Gathering Rite by Marty Haugen verse  
3

Words of Welcome – Announcements - Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship – Henry Dahlberg

O come, let us sing to our God;  
let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!  
Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving, singing joyful  
songs of praise! O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel  
before our Maker! Yes! God is our God, and we are God's people O  
that today we would listen for the Lord's voice! Today, we re-dedicate  
our hearts to you and strain our ears to hear your voice. Speak now,  
Still-Speaking God, for your people are listening!

Song: "Canticle of the Sun" Brian & Tanner 2-1-21

## **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

A Time for Children of All Ages = JJ

Prayer of Confession – Henry Dahlberg

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your people. For the many  
opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused, show us  
what it means to love again, O God. For our silent sins, and our  
indifference to the suffering around us, forgive us, Loving One, and  
cleanse us with your grace; remake us into vessels of tenderness and  
compassion. Amen.

Words of Assurance (based on Romans 5) - Henry Dahlberg

Because of God's great love for us, we have peace with God and  
access to God's grace all through Jesus Christ who, while we were still  
sinners, died to free us from sin. Know you are forgiven!

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Communion is open to all)

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

Communion Music: "Remembrance" Deana & Helen

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22 - Henry Dahlberg

Song: "Hosea" by Norbert Brain, Ann & Caleb 6-7-21

Sermon: "How Does Race Shape the Lives of White People? Pastor Jay

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

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication - Henry Dahlberg

Receive these gifts, Holy One, sanctify them by your Spirit. Drive away any ill motives and accept, we pray, our humble offering. Amen.

Song: "Shout to the Lord" Deana & Group on Smule

Benediction - Pastor Jay

Postlude: "Ah, Holy Jesus"

### **Serving the Church**

Ministers All the People of the Church  
Pastor Rev. Dr. Jay Wilcher  
Pastor Emeritus Rev. Robert Bradstreet  
Worship Leader Henry Dahlberg  
Alter Notes Director Melissa Gates  
Organist Brian Moore  
Co-Moderators Melissa Gates & Bill Bryant  
Minister of the Building Rev. Bill Linson  
Facilities Coordinator Tom Macy  
Video Technician James Logsdon

### **First Congregational Church of Prescott**

#### **United Church of Christ**

216 E. Gurley Street

Prescott, AZ 86301

[www.fccprescott.org](http://www.fccprescott.org)

[www.facebook.com/FccUccPrescott](https://www.facebook.com/FccUccPrescott)

928-445-4555

**Founded September 26, 1880**

# MARCH MISSION NEWS

## Mission Outreach Update for March:

Each month we highlight a different mission outreach project/program. For the month of March, our highlighted program is the **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity [PAHH]**. Affordable housing continues to be a problem across America. Our Tri-City area is no exception. In Arizona, one in seven households spends half or more of its income on housing. Low income families are finding it more-n-more difficult to move from paying rental fees to home mortgages. PAHH provides qualified applicants a pathway to investing in their own home. Families approved by PAHH contribute “sweat equity” and pay a monthly mortgage based upon their income. If you'd like to contribute to the mission of the PAHH, please make your check payable to the church, with the memo “PAHH”.

## PASS Update:

If you would like to participate in the next PASS meal, March 17, please contact Patty Gard at 928-460-3042. We still have a need for one salad and one dessert.

The following, written by Carmen Frederic, PASS Executive Director, is excerpted from the February PASS newsletter:

*Hello Everyone,  
Today is Random Act of Kindness Day, but here at the Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS) we feel that every day is random act of kindness day because of you! Each day volunteers give their time and talents to the shelter and people we serve. We receive donations, phone calls, meals and more! Each day we are in awe of the support given to serve homeless women and children in need. Thank you, SO very much, for all that you do! If you would like more information about PASS, please give us a call at 928-778-5933.  
Carmen Frederic  
Executive Director you would like more information*

## You're Invited to Tea

**After much consideration, discussion, and a community poll we completed, we have decided to change our 2021 tea to a virtual event. It will still be a fun time, and bonus, it is FREE for anyone to join! Register to attend [HERE!](#)**

**Please join us at 1 pm on Saturday, April 24th to hear from a PASS guest, get a tour of the shelter, for the drawing of our amazing raffle prizes and more! A zoom link invite will be on all PASS social media, sent through our newsletter, on our website and sent to your email after you register!**

Thank you for remembering that we have been blessed to be a blessing [Genesis 12:2]  
Your mission outreach team: Helaine Berman, Becky & Bill Bryant, Gary and Patty Gard.

# CHURCH FOUNDATION

The congregation of the First Congregational Church established and incorporated the FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FOUNDATION (FCCF), as a separate legal entity, on March 24, 1993, as a not-for-profit corporation. The sole member of the FCCF is the First Congregational Church, and the Church granted the FCCF full authority to administer the funds of the FCCF.

As of the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Church, the following are the nine members of the Board of Directors: David Foote, Susan Lemons, James Christopher, Julie McCurdy, Patty Lantrip, Sue Hodge-Parker, Alice Kring, Tom Macy, and Rev. Jay Wilcher.

To fund the FCCF, the members of the Church made legacy gifts to provide monies for it to continue its mission into the future. There are presently eleven (11) funds, ten (10) of which are “memorial endowment funds” and five (5) of which contain restrictions relating to the usage of the funds and/or the time of each expenditure. These funds are used to support the religious, educational and charitable purposes of the church and to support the needs of the church which are not encompassed in the church’s budget. The FCCF manages these funds.

The FCCF is a vehicle for church members to invest in the church’s future. These legacy gifts may take any one of a number of forms from memorials, testamentary trusts, living trusts, charitable donations, bequests, etc. In the coming weeks, The Caller will include information on legacy gifts for your consideration.

## ZOOM LENTEN STUDIES SAT. 10AM

**DURING LENT, WE WILL USE THE BOOK "WHITE FRAGILITY" BY ROBIN DIANGELO AND AND THE BOOK "CASTE - THE ORIGINS OF OUR DISCONTENTS" BY ISABEL WILKERSON, ALONG WITH THE GOSPEL TEXTS FOR EACH SUNDAY**

**FEBRUARY 20 10AM - FACING WHITE FRAGILITY**

**FEBRUARY 27 10AM - DENYING WHITE SUPREMACY**

**MARCH 6 10AM - HOW DOES RACE SHAPE THE LIVES OF WHITE PEOPLE?**

**MARCH 13 10AM - CRIES FOR JUSTICE**

**MARCH 20 10AM - WHITE PEOPLE LISTENING**

**MARCH 27 10AM - PUTTING RACIAL JUSTICE INTO ACTION**

## SERMONS:

February 21 Mark 1:9-15 Facing White Fragility  
February 28 Mark 8:31-38. Denying White Supremacy  
March 7 John 2:13-23 How Race Shapes Lives of White People  
March 14 Psalm 107 Cries for Justice  
March 21 John 12:20-33 White People Listening  
March 28 Mark 15:1-39 Putting Racial Justice into Action  
April 4 Easter Mark 16:1-8  
Coming Forth into New, Non-Binary Life

## TREASURER REPORT

As of January 31 total income is \$8,159  
Total expenses are \$10,101.  
Total Expenses exceed Income by \$1,942.

Year-to-date income is at 7% of the income budget of \$122,450.  
Year-to-date expenses are at 8% of the expense budget of \$146,905.

### **Did you know that our church pays annual membership dues?**

As part of our promise to support operations for our Southwest Conference and the UCC in general, we are asked to make an annual payment of \$10 per member of our congregation. Wouldn't you like to help off-set this cost to our church by contributing your \$10 membership dues? If you would like to help, please include the memo "per capita" with your contribution. Thank you!

## PRESCOTT COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

Many thanks to the following church members and friends who packed at Prescott Community Cupboard during the week of January 11-15, 2021. Your generous service has been of tremendous assistance to the needy of our community:

**Don & Kathy Stephens, Patty Brenner & Marie Kissel, Sue Hodge-Parker & Patty Lantrip, Dave & Linda Foote, and Alice Kring & Barbara Frank**

**Please help the church expand its list of volunteers. Your service would consist of three (3) hours (1:30 to 4:30 p.m.) on only one day during the week assigned to the FCC, which is every seven weeks. Our next week is March 1-5. Angela Imbierowicz will call volunteers usually 10-14 days before the FCC's week and ask you on which day you will be able to pack. Whether you are available to volunteer during that week is up to you. You are NOT required to serve every 7 weeks -- just when you are available. On your first day of packing, I (or another volunteer) will work with you to show you the procedure. We do not communicate with the public directly -- we only pack the food, and it is distributed by others. We require everyone in the facility to wear masks.**

**Please contact me if you are available: Angela Imbierowicz, [angelaprescottaz@gmail.com](mailto:angelaprescottaz@gmail.com), 708-712-1448.**

**Thank you.**

## **COVID-19 UPDATE FROM CABINET**

**We will continue to worship virtually into 2021. We will monitor virus spread and vaccine distribution and decide what month we will open in 2021**

## **SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH DURING CORONAVIRUS!**

- **Online – go to our website: [www.fccprescott.org](http://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 mail 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

The church office is closed going forward, However, someone will pick up the mail on a daily basis to place checks into the safe.

[Visit our website](#)

[Watch Services  
Here](#)