First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller May 27, 2022

A Message From Pastor Jay SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

MASK WEARING IS NOW OPTIONAL AS WE FOLLOW THE LATEST CDC UPDATED GUIDELINES. REFRESHMENTS AND FINGER FOODS ARE BACK NOW AFTER WORSHIP IN PERKINS HALL

SUNDAY TOPIC:

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Rev. Bill Linson is our guest preacher. Bill is a retired United Methodist pastor. He and Carole Sue have been part of our church family for over a decade. Bill tended to the needs of our buildings for years - we gave him the title "Minister of the Building" - and Carole Sue was our organist for thirteen years. Melissa serves as liturgist; Alter-Notes provides music; Mark is organist; Sandy does the children's time; and Sandy's daughter Robin plays the trumpet for TAPS as we remember and honor our soldiers.

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.

ZOOM FAITH FORUM SATURDAY 10AM

The Zoom Forum is taking a summer break - will return in September

Watch Worship Services Here

NEEDED: CHURCH SECURITY TEAM MEMBERS

We really would like to have one or two more people to help with church security. Of course, it would be great if you (male or female) had/have military, law enforcement or security experience but, certainly NOT necessary. If interested, please contact Melissa Gates, 207-391-3276, <a href="majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-majorage-

NEEDED: VOLUNTEER OFFICE HELP – FLEXIBLE HOURS

Help needed to learn how to produce the Sunday bulletin, create and post the newsletter on Constant Contact, and post items to our webpage. Your service will be needed during pastor vacations and emergency situations.

NEEDED: GREETERS AND HOSPITALITY HOSTS

A new schedule of dates and 'empty' spaces are ready for all of you who would enjoy serving as a GREETER or HOSPITALITY HOST. The sign up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

> New Members will be received soon. Let Pastor Jay know if you are interested in joining the church

Musical Guests Sunday - Alter-Notes

Office Open by Appointment - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

MAY MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Each month we highlight a different mission outreach project/program. For the month of May, our featured program is Frontera de Cristo (FdC).

Frontera de Cristo is an ecumenical border ministry in Agua Prieta, Mexico—across the border from Douglas, AZ working in partnership with several Aqua Prieta churches and local social service organizations to help meet the needs of migrants arriving at the border. Frontera de Cristo provides shelter, counseling, food/clothing assistance, education classes, and job training for migrants choosing to remain in Mexico.

Frontera de Cristo works to build relationships and understanding across borders. From their website (fronteradecristo.org): "People often see borders as nothing more than division, but at Frontera de Cristo we see a place of encounter. Discerning God's will for us, we serve migrants and community members on both sides of the border." Donations can be made by making your check payable to the church with the memo: FdC.

Mission donations which do not specify a particular project will be disbursed as determined by our Mission team members. To date in 2022, mission disbursements have been made to: Prescott Community Cupboard (\$545); Prescott Area Shelter Services (\$755); and Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity (\$350). Collections for One Great Hour of Sharing and the Southwest Conference's special collection for Ukraine Humanitarian Relief will be disbursed and reported shortly.

As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

In May, the Mission Outreach ministry collected and donated \$335 to UCC's One Great Hour of Sharing (an annual national special offering with donations supporting denominational programs of Health, Education, Agriculture, Disaster Relief, and Refugee Camp initiatives) and \$3,735 (!) to the Southwest Conference's special Ukraine Humanitarian Relief fund.

Mission Outreach Committee members are Gary & 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.

STUDY OPPORTUNITY

ZOOM FAITH FORUM

Our Zoom Forum is on summer break and will return in September.

SUNDAY BULLETIN

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 29, 2022

10:30 a.m.

*Those who are able may stand

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "I Need Thee Every Hour"—arr. George Brandon

Mark Achuff

A Time For Children Of All Ages Sandy Znetko
(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace Melissa Gates

Gathering Music: "You Are Holy" Alter-Notes

Call to Worship (John 14:23-29) Melissa Gates

One: We have been invited to know God Many: Let us enter the knowledge of God

One: We have been invited to bear God's justice

Many: Let us enter the justice of God

One: We have been invited to enter God's truth

Many: Let us enter the truth of God

One: We have been invited to enter God's unity

Many: Let us enter the unity of God

*Hymn: "In Christ There is No East or West" New Century Hymnal #394

Prayer for Memorial Day (from Reformed Judaism) Melissa

Gates

One:God of Life and Death, Service and Sacrifice, Courage and Compassion.

All: On this Sabbath, we gather together to remember those who died while serving our nation.

One: And to recognize the veterans who served, whether decades ago or only yesterday.

All: We are internally conflicted on the cost of our conflicts.

One:As idealists, we wish there were never any need for defense forces.

All: Yet as pragmatists, we know there will always be a need for them.

One: As dreamers, we pray for a day when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, nor ever again study war."

All: Yet as realists, we accept that there are circumstances where force must be met with force.

One:Torah teaches us to "seek peace and pursue it."

All: Yet, it also declares that there are enemies that must be destroyed.

One: We thank our soldiers, sailors, and pilots, for doing that which we wish never needed to be done.

All: And we pray for a world where time and talent, strength and intellect, can be spent in fighting disease, defeating poverty, and defending the downtrodden without having to take up arms.

One:God of Peace and War, Concord and Conflict, Hope and Heartbreak;

All: We pray that the sacrifices of our fallen will forever be remembered, and that recognition of our veterans not merely convey thanks but demonstrate it.

One: May we not merely "proclaim peace to those near and far" but bring peace by doing the work required to realize it. May this be our blessing and let us say:

All: Amen.

(BY RABBI DAVID WIRTSCHAFTER)

Gospel Reading: John 17:20-26 Rev. Bill Linson

*Hymn: "You Walk Along the Shoreline" New Century Hymnal #504

Sermon: "That They May Be One" Rev. Bill Linson

Anthem: "Blades of Grass and Pure White Stones" arr. Keith Christopher

Alter-

Notes - Followed by TAPS; Trumpet – Robin Znetko

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer Rev. Bill Linson

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts Melissa Gates

Offertory: "A Crown for Me"--arr. James Southbridge Mark Achuff

*Easter Doxology (tune: Old Hundredth) Mark Achuff

Let trumpets sound and voices sing! Let all on earth their praises bring! For Christ has conquered sin and death, and given life eternal breath.

Prayer of Dedication Melissa

Gates

Come, Holy Spirit. Remind us of your home in us. Discern with us too, as you did with the apostles. Explain truths to us. Be fire that never dies, wind that lifts us, and wings that set us free. May these offerings help make it happen. Amen.

*Hymn: "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies" New Century Hymnal #594

*Benediction Rev. Bill Linson

*Postlude: "Festal March"—James Mansfield Mark Achuff

TREASURER REPORT

Income as of the end of April is \$56,896. This is 38% of the income budget. Expenses to-date are \$50,084. This is 32% of the expense budget. Income exceeds expenses by \$6,812.

Julie McCurdy, treasurer

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 10:30am Nursery & Sunday School 10:30am

CHURCH CALENDAR

May 30 Memorial Day June 5 Pentecost Sunday June 12 Trinity Sunday June 19 Father's Day

The Church of Firsts

Since 1957, the United Church of Christ has been the church of firsts, weaving God's message of hope and extravagant welcome with action for justice and peace. Together, we live out our faith in ways that effect change in our communities. The UCC's many "firsts" mean that we have inherited a tradition of acting upon the demands of our faith. When we read in Galatians: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus"—a demand is made upon us. And so we were the first historically white denomination to ordain an African-American, the first to ordain a woman, the first to ordain an openly gay man, and the first Christian church to affirm the right of same-gender couples to marry. We were in the forefront of the anti-slavery movement and the Civil Rights movement. Our response to the demands of our faith is woven into the history of our country.

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



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