First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller November 4, 2022

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30 am service

SCAMMERS AT IT AGAIN!
I WILL NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, SEND YOU A TEXT OR
EMAIL ASKING FOR HELP WITH A GIFT CARD OR ANYTHING
ELSE. NEVER, NEVER, NEVER! (IS THAT ENOUGH NEVERS?) PLEASE
IGNORE AS IT IS NOT MY PHONE NUMBER.
IT HAPPENS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TO PASTORS AND
CHURCHES

WE WELCOME WOMANSONG AS OUR MUSICAL GUESTS IN WORSHIP SUNDAY!

I will be in Colorado Springs on Sunday. My wife is attending a pysch. conference for her continuing education requirement, and I will be working on my required continuing education as well. Rev. Bill Linson will be the guest preacher. He is a retired United Methodist minister. Bill was the caretaker of our church building and parish house for many years. When he retired from that ministry, we named him the "minister of the building." Tom is liturgist; Womansong provides special music; Brian is the organist; and JJ and Ziggy take a vacation Sunday.

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.

Watch Worship Services Here

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vision 2023: Share your ideas for our Congregation: Place your ideas in the offering plate on Sundays

Friday brown-bag lunch (BYO) November 18 at noon for a visioning discussion.

ZOOM FAITH FORUM - SATURDAYS 10AM

November Zoom forums focus on the two creation accounts in Genesis and their two ways of understanding what it means to be human.

Let Pastor Jay know if you would like to be added to the Zoom invitation

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DECEMBER 11 DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE - 10 MINUTES OR SO

SHARING TOGETHER WITH THE DEWEY CHURCH AND PASTOR KENDRA

In support of our black brothers and sisters at St. Luke Christian Center in Dewey, we are planning two opportunities to join together:

Wednesday, November 9 at 6:30pm – join them at their church for study and fellowship. The church address is 12191 East Turquoise Circle in Dewey.

Tuesday, January 17 at 5:30pm – welcome their members here as we watch "The Color of Fear." This will take place during the activities offered during MLK, Jr. week.

TWO DONATION BOXES ARE ALWAYS PRESENT AT THE FRONT OF THE SANCTUARY FOR THE COMMUNITY CUPBOARD AMD DISCOVERY GARDENS PRESCHOOL

PASS (PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES) MEAL NOVEMBER 16 AT 5PM

Every month on the third Wednesday, we provide a meal to the women's shelter for their guests – around 30 women and children. Carolyn Christians has taken over leadership from Patty Gard – thanks to Patty for her faithful service! A signup sheet is in Perkins Hall.

Musical Guests Sunday - Womansong

The Office Is Open Most Mornings and By Appointment. Call Prior To Visiting for Confirmation: Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

NOVEMBER MISSION NEWS

NOVEMBER MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Each month throughout the year, our mission outreach team identifies particular mission projects/programs to which we might choose to donate.

As the holiday season approaches, this month our focus turns to the **Coalition** for Compassion and Justice (CCJ) AND Yavapai Food Bank.

CCJ has transitioned from primarily being an emergency shelter for those who are homeless to now helping clients find permanent affordable housing. **CCJ** has helped dozens of clients into mobile homes, cottage homes, apartments and lodge style facilities. Additionally, they work with other agencies to help provide rental assistance and programs for job opportunities.

The **Yavapai Food Bank (YFB)** provides food boxes for approximately 400 families weekly. Serving the area since 1992, **Yavapai Food Bank** is the largest food bank in our county, distributing tons of food each year to thousands of families and individuals living in poverty.

If you would like to donate to either project, please make your check payable to the church, with the memo of **CCJ** or **YFB**. Mission donations which do not specify a particular project will be disbursed as determined by our Mission team members.

Recent mission disbursements have been made to: Ukraine Relief (\$2,020); St Luke Ebony Christian Church (\$1,700); Prescott College's Freedom Education Fund (\$350); and UCC's Neighbors in Need (\$505).

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 beckybryant2255@gmail.com.

CHURCH FOUNDATION

The Foundation was formed as a separate non-profit Corporation by the Church back in 1993 as a way to focus management of large donations and gifts for the benefit of the Church. Currently the Foundation manages financial assets and owns the building leased by our new tenant, Red, White and Brew. The majority

of the financial assets are invested with United Church Funds in Balanced Mutual Funds. The funds are a result of Endowments and Memorial Gifts to the Foundation from past members of our Church or their families. The restaurant building was also a gift to the Foundation. In many cases the gifts list how the donors wanted the monies to be used. Some examples are Christian education needs of the children, the youth, and young families of the Congregation and for capital needs of the Church. The Foundation By-Laws explain how the Foundation Board is to act in managing the funds for the benefit of the Church. When a need arises, typically the Church Cabinet will make a written request for funds and the Foundation Board will act on that request. The Board does not look to micromanage Church finances, but it needs to determine which fund may be the most appropriate fund to provide the funding request. The Board also is responsible for taking a long-term view of the use and sustainability of the endowments for the future benefits of the Church. Substantial donations to the Foundation can be complex financial transactions involving donor taxes, restrictions on the use of the donations by the Foundation and may take several different legal forms. The United Church Funds has several very good brochures and videos on their web site that give good explanations of the process and choices that can be used to donate to the Foundation – ucfunds.org

SUNDAY BULLETIN

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

November 6, 2022 stand

10:30 a.m. *Those who are able may

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "O Morn of Beauty......Jean Sibelius

Womansong

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Rev. Bill Linson

A Time for Children of All Ages

Rev. Bill Linson

(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after communion)

Gather Song: "Thuma Mina".....South African Traditional Hymn

Womansong

Call to Worship (Adapted from Psalm 145)

Tom

Macy

L: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

P: Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

L: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised: God's greatness is unsearchable.

P: One generation will laud your works to another and declare your mighty

L: On the glorious splendor of your majesty and your wondrous works I will meditate.

P: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless God's holy name forever and ever.

Opening Prayer

Tom Macy

Our gracious God, we your children invoke your blessing upon us in this hour of worship. We adore you, whose name is love, whose nurture is compassion, whose presence if joy, whose word is truth, whose spirit is goodness, whose holiness is beauty, whose will is peace, and whose service is perfect freedom. Unto you be all honor and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

New Century Hymnal #1

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

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

We come to the Lord's Table. All are invited to come forward down the middle aisle, take the elements back to your pew, and return to your seat by the side aisle. Please wait until all are served, and we will partake together.

The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast. Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul. We receive the bread and wine connected to the ages: to the saint of old who felt unworthy, □to the seeker eager to know God, □to the teenager who wonders what it's all about, to the child who eats with unburdened faith. Woven into this time, the hopes and tears of generations. There is great joy here. No one is turned away for God is the host! Open yourself to the nudging God. Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table, to taste the feast, the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.

ALL: We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances. You are everpatient, always faithful. For the One this meal remembers: for the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For those who have gone before us, whose hands touched the bread, whose lips embraced the cup, we worship you. And we remember those who have gone before us this past year: John Davidson, Murl Preble, and Rev. Gary Gard. (bell tolls)

God of all, send your Spirit to this place so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment, may know your presence. As we eat the bread and drink of the cup, make us one with the saints, and with our sisters and brothers in faith around the world. Amen. This is the feast prepared for you. Come and share for all is ready.

The Sharing of Communion

*Hymn: "God of Grace and God of Glory" New Century Hymnal #436

The Hebrew Lesson: Haggai 1:15b-2:9 Rev. Bill Linson

Sermon: "Take Courage" Rev. Bill Linson

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Music: "Steal Away"....Arr. Janer Eldridge Womansong

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

Stewardship Minute Dr. Linda Mast

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts Rev. Bill Linson

Offertory: "Perfect Light"....Haydn, text Anon. Womansong

*Doxology (tune: Old Hundredth) Brian Moore

Let earth and heaven's saints proclaim; the pow'r and might of God's great Name; Let us exalt on bended knee; now and throughout eternity. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication Tom Macy

God, we thank you for this place we have to worship you. We so easily take for granted the church building, the members who keep things clean and who keep things going, the lights and plumbing and all the other things it takes to hold our worship services each week. Help us to realize that while it may not be what we consider to be an exciting cause, it is one that is important to your cause. Bless this offering. Amen.

*Music: "Lead With Love.....Melanie DeMore Womansong

*Benediction Rev. Bill Linson

*Postlude: "Processional" by Richard Rodgers Brian Moore

TREASURER REPORT

UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER

Financial Activity as of **October 31, 2022**Contributions and other revenue: \$130,145
Expenses: \$128,693
Contributions exceed expenses by \$1,452

Julie McCurdy, treasurer

STEWARDSHIP

Let us enter stewardship time prayerfully and with grateful hearts. Loving God, thank you for this opportunity to participate in the on-going mission of this church, your church. Help me to remember that everything I have comes from you. Open my heart and hands with generosity as I promise my support. Use my talents and financial commitments to continue your work in this church and in the world. Amen.

RIPPLES OF GENEROSITY STEWARDSHIP SEASON IS HERE!

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 20 ESTIMATES OF 2023 GIVING WILL BE RECEIVED THESE ESTIMATES ARE NEEDED TO PREPARE A CHURCH BUDGET FOR 2023

WHAT IS A STEWARD? WHO IS A STEWARD? HOW DO I BECOME A STEWARD?

The answers to these questions are easy: A steward is a person who, with regard to a property both physical and functional, keeps it, cares for it, watches over it. As to who is a steward, well, we're hoping YOU are, or that YOU will want to become one. How you become a steward involves the act of you giving to our church of your time, your skills and/or your finances.

There is another question to be answered. Why give to our church? First Congregational Church occupies a unique position in Prescott. We are the only historically rooted and progressive congregation in the city that follows the way of Jesus. We are both open and affirming to all. Our sanctuary evokes historic church connections and the presence of God. The God one finds here is the One Jesus modeled for us – a God of love and grace. Many have given testimony to finding healing here from other church experiences, where God was presented as judgmental and exclusionary. Other churches have retreated to locations out of town. We have remained here on Gurley Street, downtown, easily seen, accessible and welcoming to all.

IMMEDIATE NEED

Another answer to why you would want to give to your church revolves around need, both yours and this Church's. You obviously have any number of personal reasons or needs that lead you into church participation here, where you find those needs met. Your church also has needs and right now those needs are financial. We are in unprecedented times. How do we create a church budget for 2023 with so many unknowns? How do you decide what to give to this church for 2023? These questions have no immediate answers, so our church budget and your offer of financial giving are not set in stone. They are estimates. Your estimate of giving for 2023 will help us begin to understand what might be possible for the next year. So, with a thankful heart full of hope we are asking you

to help us right now, to get through our 143rd year here in Prescott.

LEGACY ANSWERS THE LONGTERM NEED

Our church is blessed to have THE FOUNDATION as a safety net. It was formed in 1992 to manage legacy gifts from our members and friends. Legacy giving is not about death. It's about giving and continuing life. It's an affirming experience that celebrates the people, values, and goals that you cherish most. You don't have to be rich to make a bequest or legacy gift. With a will or legacy gift you can give the way you want to live, by making a better or sustained future for your loved ones and a lasting impact on your faith community. If you are interested in leaving a legacy to our church, or have questions or concerns, you can send a note to the church office and a member of the Foundation will contact you.

IT'S ALL ABOUT STEWARDSHIP - PLEASE BE OUR STEWARD!

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



T: 928-445-4555 E: FccPrescott@gmail.com



Unsubscribe fccprescott@gmail.com

Update Profile |Constant Contact Data Notice

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Sent by fccprescott@gmail.comin collaboration \\ with \\ \end{tabular}$

