
A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

This Sunday we have two scripture passages, Luke 18:1-10 and Genesis 32:22-31, that teach us that faith means persistence, tenacity, and not losing heart. We accomplish this through prayer. The title of the sermon comes from the late Fred Craddock, professor of preaching: "Faith with Bloody Knuckles." Jesus presents us with a parable about a widow who keeps pestering an unjust judge until he grants her request. One of those "how much more will God respond" parables of contrast. Still, we all know the reality of knocking until our knuckles bleed and still no answer. But sometimes like Jacob we wrestle with God(?) all night and walk away with a blessing and a new name. What is the Christian life? It's wrestling with God! I like that. So, this Sunday no easy answers or "prosperity gospel" but true to life persistence, tenacity, and faith. Last century there was a tavern being built in a town that had previously been dry. In opposition to the tavern, a group of Christians gathered for an all-night prayer meeting and asked God to intervene. Lightning struck the tavern and it burned to the ground. The tavern owner brought a lawsuit against the Christians, holding them responsible. The Christians hired an attorney and denied responsibility. In the courtroom, the judge responded to this unusual scenario: "No matter how this case comes out, one thing is clear. The tavern owner believes in prayer and the Christians do not!"

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
Conversations will take place two times:
Church Pot-Luck October 30th after church
Friday brown-bag lunch (BYO) November 18 at Noon

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR REV. GARY GARD
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, AT 11AM
OUR SANCTUARY

The family requests those who wish to express their sympathy to consider donating to Maggie's Hospice in the name of Gary Gard. Donations can be made online at Maggieshospice.com or by check sent to: Maggie's Hospice 801 Miller Valley Road Prescott, AZ 86301. The service will be recorded and available on our website a few hours later on the 22nd.

THE FAMILY REQUESTS THAT MEMORIAL GIFTS FOR MURL PREBLE BE SENT TO OUR CHURCH

ZOOM FAITH FORUM - SATURDAYS 10AM
October Zoom forums focus on feminist theology

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

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DECEMBER 11

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.

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 AND DISCOVERY GARDENS PRESCHOOL

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2023
PATTY LANTRIP WILL BE LEADING THIS COMMITTEE
WE ARE SEEKING NEW CABINET MEMBERS
LET PATTY KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED

WOMANSONG WILL BE OUR MUSICAL GUESTS SUNDAY, NOV. 6

PASS (PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES) MEAL OCTOBER 19 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 sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

Musical Guests Sunday - Joyful Noise

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

OCTOBER MISSION NEWS

OCTOBER MISSION – OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION

OCTOBER 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. This month's mission emphasis is an annual UCC special offering, Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM).

Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) funds the work the UCC does in its Associations and Conferences, and in the national and global church. OCWM funds are invested in programs, resources, and tools needed to keep local UCC churches strong, effective, and growing.

Most of what is donated to OCWM remains within our own Southwest Conference. Your donations make it possible to live out the vision of the United Church of Christ: United in Christ's love, a just world for all.

Your check may be made payable to the church, with the memo line note OCWM. Checks marked simply "Mission" will be used at the discretion of our mission team.

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

A quick recap of latest activity: We collected for our DACA fund and Prescott College's Freedom Education Fund in August, and September's monthly focus has been UCC's Neighbors in Need program. In October we'll ask for

congregational donations to support UCC's Our Church's Wider Mission. We've recently sent contributions to: St Luke Ebony Christian Church (\$1,700) and Ukraine Relief (\$2,020) We're heartbroken for the news of the passing of our longtime committee chairperson, Rev. Gary Gard, but hope to continue and expand our good works in his memory.

—Becky, Carolyn, Patty

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 micro-manage 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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 16, 2022

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "Abide With Me" arr. by Frances Callahan The Ringing Bells

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gather Song: "Here in this Place" by Ann Flanagan Joyful Noise

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy
(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

Responsive Call to Worship (Psalms 66:1-2,5,8) Dr. Linda Mast

One: Some of us wonder what this faith is all about,

All: And come hoping to learn things useful and heart-full.

One: Some of us are confident in "what we have learned and what we have believed."

All: And come longing to share our heart-full knowledge.

One: We have all come to learn from each other and from the words of scripture:

**All: You write your sacred texts, O God, in scripture and on our hearts;
you welcome us into depths of understanding.**

One: Meet us here and lead us deeper into you; equip us for every good work.

Join our desire to learn with your willingness to teach us your ways of justice and joy.

For this purpose we gather, O Holy One. Amen.

*Hymn: "Not My Brother, nor My Sister" New Century Hymnal #519

Opening Prayer Dr. Linda Mast

God of Steadfast Love, you have loved us into creation, into being. You have raised us up to be people of life, and life is not without struggle, without doubts. Grant us courage and strength to persevere through the difficult times and help us to encourage others along the journey. Remind us that we are part of a community; wherever two or three are gathered, you are among us. You call us to be community, to lift up one another and to bear one another's burdens. Grant us the endurance needed to give to others, and to receive blessing and help when we need it. In the name of Christ, our companion on this journey of faith, we pray. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Genesis 32:22-31 Dr. Linda Mast

*Hymn: "Be Still, My Soul" New Century Hymnal #488

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8 Pastor Jay

Sermon: "Faith With Bloody Knuckles" Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "The Lord is my Shepherd" by Dennis Jernigan
Ann Flanagan and Marty Cotton

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

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "Pray" by Stephen Nix

Joyful Noise

*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

Dr. Linda Mast

Most Gracious God, you provide for us in ways that we do not always see. In this moment, we pause to express our gratitude for your provisions. We accept this invitation to offer our gifts as an opportunity to say thank you for your many blessings. Amen.

*Hymn: "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

New Century Hymnal #505

*Postlude: "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" African-American Spiritual

TREASURER REPORT

UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER

Financial Activity as of **September 30, 2022**

Contributions and other revenue: \$117,883

Expenses: \$114,309

Contributions exceed expenses by \$3,574

Julie McCurdy, treasurer

ABOUT THE CHURCH

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 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](#)



United
Church of
Christ

T: 928-445-4555

E: FccPrescott@gmail.com



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

[Unsubscribe fccprescott@gmail.com](mailto:Unsubscribe_fccprescott@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by fccprescott@gmail.com in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!