First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller October 29, 2021

A Message From Pastor Jay

The video for the worship service on the 24th did not work right. We are trying to get the audio file uploaded in its place.

This Sunday is an interesting conflation of Reformation Sunday, Halloween, and All Saints Day (November 1). The sermon is based on Mark 12:28-34 and the Reformation. The title is: "Reforming Our Faith: Love God and Neighbor - Accepting Our Acceptance." Music is provided by Joyful Noise. Tom serves as worship leader. JJ is dressed for Halloween. I will try to refrain from saying he really did not need a costume.

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.

WE ARE WEARING MASKS IN THE SANCTUARY.

HOWEVER, WITH THE GOOD WEATHER NOW, WE ARE ABLE TO BE IN PERKINS HALL FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE WITHOUT MASKS AS YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE. WE ARE ABLE TO HAVE THE WINDOWS OPEN AND FANS CIRCULATING THE AIR IN PERKINS HALL.

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY SATURDAY 10AM

ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 2:00 PM

Let us know if you want to be added to these Zoom invitations

Watch Worship Services Here

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Musical Guests Oct. 31 - Joyful Noise

NOMINATIONS for 2022

If you are interested in participating in our church management or governance here are some ways you can do so.

- 1. Join one of our Ministries as a worker bee
- 2. Offer to put your name up for nomination as "chairperson" of a Ministry and thus be that Ministry's representative to the Cabinet.
- 3. Offer to put your name up for nomination as Co-Moderator of the Cabinet and work with Bill to lead our church's governance.

For any of these options, please notify Pastor Jay, Melissa or Bill, giving us your name, contact info, and what it is that you'd like to do. And of course, should you have questions about the duties of the Ministries, don't hesitate to ask us.

Ministries:

Outreach/Missions
Call to Care
Education
Physical Resources
Welcoming

A new church directory is available on our website. Please call the office for the password to access it.

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

Interfaith Climate Action Team Forming in Prescott

Our thanks to Julie Pindzola for representing us on this team. Kat Harley-Mays has also expressed interest.

"Planning for the Resilience of Our Towns, Environment, Climate and Tourism" (PROTECT)

Climate impacts are adversely affecting communities worldwide and our planet as a whole. The Southwest has been hit particularly hard with drier, hotter temperatures, wildfires, water shortages, drought and flooding affecting human health and well-being. The PROTECT campaign is a grassroots, local movement to bring the Prescott quad-cities area together and join other municipalities in Yavapai County in this effort of mitigation and adaptation.

Each month throughout the year, your mission outreach team identifies particular mission projects/programs to which we might choose to donate. This month's mission emphasis is the UCC's, OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION (OCWM). Most of what is donated to OCWM remains within our Southwest Conference (Arizona, New Mexico, El Paso, Texas). Donations support staff expenses, conference meetings, adult and youth educational curriculum/programs, summer camps, ecumenical endeavors, and new church development. Please make your check payable to the church, with the memo line note, OCWM. As always, thanks for remembering that we have been blessed to be a blessing. (Genesis 12:2.)

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

BOOK STUDY OPPORTUNITY

As a new member of Prescott UCC, I am inviting others to join me for a book read and discussion of Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: A Celtic Guide to Listening to Our Souls and Saving the World. John Philip Newell shares the long-hidden tradition of Celtic Christianity, explaining how this earth – based spirituality can help us rediscover the natural rhythms of life and deepen our spiritual connection with God, with each other, and with the earth. Newell introduces some of Celtic Christianity's leading practitioners, both saints and pioneers of faith, whose timeless wisdom is more necessary than ever. We meet Fridays at 1:00 pm. Please send a note to the church office if interested in joining in this discussion. (Lisa Barnes)

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY

Come in November to small group sessions with Marcus Borg. Via DVD, Borg uses plain language to explain basic faith topics for discussion by a small group meeting with him. We're thinking two opportunities each Sunday in November, one at 9:30 – 10:15, another at 11:45 – 12:30, here at church in the Maggie B meeting room downstairs

Nov. 7 God Nov. 14 Jesus

Nov. 21 Salvation

Nov. 28 Christian Community ontact Pete Norum at 928-776-8867 or e

Questions?? Contact Pete Norum at 928-776-8867 or email him at handle32pan@gmail.com

(We'll wear masks and 8 – 10 participating at each session will space ourselves safely)

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST REFORMATION SUNDAY / ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

October 31, 2021

10:30 a.m.

*Those who are able may stand

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Gather us together this Reformation Sunday, O God, that we may celebrate the witness of our forefathers and foremothers and the courage that gave birth to the Reformation.

Teach us how to honor the saints of God in ages past as well as in our present days.

May the conviction of your grace written on their hearts be one that forms our own faith.

Inspire us in the continuing reformation of the church and be present to us in your Word.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen

Prelude: "Wisdom of Olde" by Jan Rybak

A Time for Children of All Ages (*Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*) (children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

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

Call to Worship

Tom Macy

- L: Here we stand, Lord, like Martin Luther 500 years ago.
- P: The people you have redeemed.
- L: Here we stand, Lord, giving thanks to you for you are good.
- P: We give thanks that your love lasts forever.
- L: We thank you that you free those who are oppressed.
- P: Here we stand knowing that we can cry out to you for help in times of trouble.
- L: Here we stand with those who reformed the church so long ago.
- P: And with those who still are reforming the church today.
- L: Here we stand, witnesses to your good news for all.
- P: Here we stand your servants, your followers, your children to worship you!

*Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

New Century Hymnal #439

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Reformation Litany

Tom Macy

- L: We give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit whose light brought new understanding of both the Living Word and the written Scripture.
- P: We give thanks for the reminder of consistent grace and mercy from God through Jesus Christ.
- L: We are grateful for the inspiration that led to the printing press, enabling the spread of information and the sharing of the gospel in many languages.

P: Generous God, we thank you for open hearts that were prepared to hear and receive the good news of freedom in Christ.

L: We remember the lives that were lost in the struggle to reform the church on earth- those who were martyred, those who died fighting, those who perished in hiding, and who were killed on all sides.

P: We remember also the lives that have been lost throughout history in the name of religion and for those who die today for daring to believe.

L: We thank you for the presence of Jesus Christ- in us, with us, and for us- and for the support of the Holy Spirit, ever-reforming us.

P: God of stability and change, we thank you that true reformation is always your work and always being done in us out of your love for all. We are ever reformed by the work of your love. Semper Reformanda!

We remember those who have gone before us this past year: **Joanne LUSSIER**, 12/20/2020 **Sue SAVAGE**, 01/05/2021 **Andree SHRIMPTON**, 02/06/2021 **Cindy FEUERRIEGEL**, 02/17/2021 **Laramie JARVI**, 07/17/2021 (bell tolls)

*Hymn: "For All the Saints"

New Century Hymnal #299

Gospel Lesson: Mark 12:28-34

Tom Macy

Sermon: "Reforming Our Faith: "Love God and Neighbor - Accepting Our

Acceptance" Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

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

Stewardship Minute

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

*Prayer of Dedication

Tom Macy

Reform our lives, O God, and let these gifts change the world into which we send them. Take them and multiply them to be a blessing of justice and peace in the world you love!

*Hymn: "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

New Century Hymnal #295

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "Wisdom of Olde" by Jan Rybak

TREASURER REPORT

Income as of September 30 is \$105,655. Total expenses are \$106,330. Expenses exceed income by \$675.

Year-to-date income is at 86% of the income budget of \$122,450. Year-to-date expenses are at 72% of the expense budget of \$146,905.

Julie McCurdy

OCTOBER WORSHIP THE BOOK OF JOB & MARK'S GOSPEL

The question of theodicy (God's goodness and power in view of evil and suffering) is explored in the Book of Job on October 3. The rest of the month will be spent in familiar texts in Mark's gospel.

October 3 Job 1-2; 38-42 "Why, O God?"

October 10 Mark 10:17-31 "Possessed by Possession"

October 17 Mark 10:35-45 "Radical Recentering"

October 24 Mark 10:46-52 "From the Margin to the Way"

October 31 Mark 12:28-34 "Accepting Our Acceptance"

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 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,



CONTACT US | VISITORS | RESOURCES | CALENDARS | SERVING | EDUCATION | STAFF



United Church of Christ

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