First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller October 8, 2021

A Message From Pastor Jay

This Sunday we return to the gospel of Mark and consider the encounter between Jesus and a rich young man. "Possessed by Possessions" is the sermon title. Alter-Notes provides music. Julie Pindzola is the worship leader. JJ is possessed by his possessions!

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. 10 - ALTER-NOTES

2022 CHURCH OFFICERS AND MINISTRY MEMBERS

We are beginning to plan for 2022. If you are interested in serving the church in a leadership position or on one of the ministries (Called to Care, Physical Resources, Outreach, Education, and Welcoming), please speak with one of our Co-Moderators Melissa Gates or Bill Bryant. The appointments are made at our annual congregational meeting at the end of January 2022.

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

There is a newly formed Interfaith Climate Action Team in Prescott. If anyone would like to represent our church on the team, please let Pastor Jay know.

OCTOBER MISSION NEWS

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.)

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 will likely meet by zoom or in person, as conditions allow, once a month. Dates and times to be figured out with all who express an interest in this book study. Please send a note to the church office if interested in joining in this discussion.

Lisa Barnes

SUNDAY BULLETIN

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 10, 2021 *Those who are able may stand 10:30 a.m.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "Immortal, Invisible"--arr. Dale Wood

Mark Achuff

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

Words of Welcome - Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

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

Julie Pindzola

New Century Hymnal #1

Opening Prayer

O God, you sowed the seeds of justice when you created this world. Though your bountiful creation has enough for everyone, it is hardly divided fairly. There are those who struggle to get their daily bread each day, and then there are those who have more than they can use in their lifetime. May we remember that all we have comes from you and that you have entrusted to us all that we have. May we take your commandments to heart so we can do as Jesus asks of us. Grant that we, O God, use this hour to pray to end this disparity. Amen.

Special Music – "Simple Gifts" (Copland) duet: Sandy Znetko & Carole Sue Linson; piano: Mark Achuff

Mark 10:17-22

Julie Pindzola

One idolized wealth, another hungered for fame, so they went sadly away. One loved career, one the latest fashion, and they went proudly away. One lived through her children, one lived for his farm, so they went busily away. One fed on the adulation of fans, sport was another's passion, so they went impatiently away.

One had the gambling lust, another lusted for sex, so they went madly away. One wanted to be waited on, one wanted to lie about, so they went sluggishly away. One was hooked on sport, one on the next drug fix, so they went hurriedly away. One lived for human honors, one for power and clout, so they went blindly away.

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Prayer:

Julie Pindzola

Loving God, as we wind our way through this market place of life, may we keep our eyes

fixed on Christ Jesus. Let nothing tawdry distract us, no cheap value seduce us, no voice bully us, and no threat frighten us. Inspire us to keep our commitment to the way of Jesus; through the same Jesus Christ, whose grace is made perfect in human weakness. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Mark 10:17-31

Anthem: "The Times They Are A-Changin'/This Land Is Your Land" (Dylan/Guthrie) Alter-Notes

Sermon: "Possessed By Possessions"

*Hymn: "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, we thank you for all that we have for all of it comes from you. We gratefully return a portion of what we have to you. May our offerings sustain and support the work of this church to close the disparity between those who have much and those who have little in this community. Amen.

*Hymn: "Change My Heart, O God"

Sing! Prayer and Praise Song Book #128

Julie Pindzola

*Benediction

*Postlude: "All Creatures of Our God and King"--arr. George E. Beverst Mark Achuff

(Communion is Available at the Front of the Sanctuary)

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.

Pastor Jay

Pastor Jay

Pastor Jay

Pastor Jay

New Century Hymnal #42

Julie Pindzola

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, Prescott, AZ 86301

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



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