

September 8th 2017



The Parish Caller

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Prescott Established 1880

"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

Weekly News and Updates



This Week at a Glance...

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- **Sunday Chancel Singers Rehearsal:** 9:00 a.m.
- **Sunday Worship:** 10:30 a.m.
- **Alter-Notes Rehearsal:** Sunday 12:00 p.m.
- **Pastor's Bible Study:** Thursday 9:30 a.m.
- **Bell Choir Rehearsal:** Thursday 11:00 a.m.
- **Thursday Chancel Singers Rehearsal:** 5:00 p.m.

FROM THE PASTOR

This Sunday we begin our sermon series on the stained-glass window in our sanctuary. We begin with the Magna Carta (Great Charter), not exactly familiar to most of us. We vaguely remember it had something to do with rich barons and the king, and that our founding documents contain some of its principles. But some will have no knowledge of it - as joked comedian Tony Hancock (1924-68) in *Hancock's Half Hour* back in the 1950s:

I hoped each of the subjects in our window would lend themselves to a connection with scripture and to the practical living out of our faith in the world. The Magna Carta certainly does. The early principles of freedom found there had their origin in the writings of theologians of that time, chiefly the Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephan Langton (near the site of the original signing of the Magna Carta in 1215 stands the Stephan Langton pub J).

Langton challenged the laws of his day through scripture. The beginnings of the principles of freedom found in the Magna Carta can be found in Deuteronomy 16:18-20 and 17:8-20. Justice, due process of law, checks and balances of power, and the role of religious faith can all be found there. Notice how God understood the three temptations of kings/leaders – power, sex, and money – would that all leaders followed the advice offered!

So, this coming Sunday we will reflect on how far we have come in the living out of freedom; how as individuals we navigate our freedom living in the politically charged atmosphere of today; and how our church offers to Prescott a freedom of conscience, belief, and extravagant welcome.

God bless,

Jay





LOVE AND UNITY MARCH

The Love and Unity March is being organized with the mission to celebrate and promote diversity and inclusiveness in a growing climate of division. We believe that Prescott has a strong sense of community that is welcoming to all and supports equality. We ask this community to show that heart by gathering at the Prescott College Crossroads Center at 9am September 16, 2017. We will enjoy hearing from a few inspiring, local speakers and be lead in song by local musicians. The march will then proceed from Prescott College to the Prescott Courthouse Square. This will be a peaceful, sidewalk march and we encourage posters that are appropriate even to our young participants. There will be an 11:00 wrap-up meeting in order to organize further efforts to support equality in the Prescott area.

Facebook link to the Event:

[Facebook -- Love and Unity March](#)

MISSION NEWS

I Prescott Area Shelter Services [PASS]

On the 3rd Wednesday of each month, volunteers from our congregation provide an evening meal for PASS. PASS shelters homeless women, and women with children, as they seek to find employment and housing. Can you help by providing a portion of the meal? Maybe you could help provide a main dish. Or perhaps a salad, a vegetable, or a dessert. There is a volunteer sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall. Our PASS food coordinator, Patty Gard (928) 460-3042 can provide more details and answer questions.

II Prescott Community Cupboard [PCC]

Periodically throughout the year, volunteers from our church family help to fill grocery bags for distribution to local impoverished families. Because PCC is a program supported by several local congregations, our volunteers serve only on dates identified by the PCC. Our congregation's team captain, Al Beeson (928) 717-9915, contacts and schedules volunteers. Al is in need of a co-captain. Contact Al for more details. We have located a donation box in the front of the sanctuary to receive your donation of canned/boxed food items.

III Neighbors in Need [NIN]

NIN is one of our denomination's annual national offerings. Two thirds of donated funds are used to support justice and compassion ministries throughout the United States. One third of donations support service/advocacy projects identified by the UCC Council for Indians Ministries. Checks can be made payable to our church, with a memo line of, "NIN".

Each month we identify a particular mission project needing our support. Last month, in addition to class room supplies, we gifted the Discovery Gardens Preschool with a \$210 gift card.

As always, thank you for your support of ministries of compassion and justice. Gary Gard, (928) 910-2455

Concerning the relief efforts following Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Hurricane Irma in Florida, the UCC congregations nationwide are making contributions for the relief effort. Our UCC headquarters staff have already begun funneling dollars and supplies to the areas hit by Hurricane Harvey. If you would like to donate, please make your check payable to our local church, with a memo line note, "Hurricane Relief".

Sept 10: Staci Robbins, Elkanah Riley, Patti and Gary Gard
Sept 17: The Gards and the Gilges
Sept 24: The Gilges, Staci Robbins, and Bill Rouse
Sept 30: The Gilges and the Gards

CHANCEL SINGERS NEEDED!

The Chancel Singers are seeking people who love to sing. The Chancel Singers provide an important element in worship and this is your opportunity to serve our congregation as a worship leader. Anyone interested is invited to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the Chancel. If case you need one more reason to join...the early bird gets the worm (or, in this case, a closer parking space!) For more information, please contact the Music Director, Jane Osborn, at 928-713-4752 or prescottsong@hotmail.com.

DISCOVERY GARDENS PRESCHOOL

Volunteers are always needed at Discovery Gardens Preschool. Please see Yoichi or Pastor Jay if you are interested in volunteering, whether it be for an hour a week or more.

PREACHING SERIES ON OUR STAINED-GLASS WINDOW

How does our church and scripture relate to the scenes in our window?
Sept. 10 - Magna Carta; Sept. 17 - Gutenberg; Sept. 24 - Wycliffe; Oct. 1 - Mayflower; Oct. 8 - Harvard; Oct. 15 - U.S. Constitution; Oct. 22 - United Nations; Oct. 29 - Luther

VAN MINISTRY

Our Van Ministry is up and running! Bill Rouse has volunteered to head up this vital ministry. If you need a ride to church, please give him a call by Saturday. Bill Rouse: 602-769-5770. Our many thanks to Bill for this ministry!

USHERS NEEDED

We need more volunteers as ushers. Please volunteer. See Jay Eby, Tom Macy, or call the office 445-4555

SUNDAY GOODIES WANTED

We need more goodies for coffee hour. Goodies provide greater fellowship. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

CONTACT US:

First Congregational Church Prescott, UCC

216 E. Gurley Street

Prescott, AZ 86301

928-445-4555

ADMINISTRATION

Monday - Thursday

9:00 - 4:00 and

Fridays 9:00 - 1:00

fccprescott@gmail.com

www.fccprescott.org

PASTOR JAY

Monday - Thursday

9:00 - 1:00, other times by

appointment

Jayfccprescott@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:00 A.M.

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Hazeltine room. All adults are welcome.

CHANCEL SINGERS

If you like to sing, the Chancel Singers are eager to increase its membership. We meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. before worship services and Thursday nights at 5:00 p.m.

VAN MINISTRY

If you need a ride to church on Sunday mornings, please let Bill Rouse know by the Saturday before. 602-769-5770

PFLAG SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Chapel downstairs.

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

If you would be interested in playing with us, we will train you! We meet for rehearsal at 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

PASS MEAL

Once a month we provide a meal for the Prescott Area Shelter Services the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:00 p.m. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

CABINET MEETING

Meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.

ONCE A MONTH COMMUNION

Our regularly scheduled communion is held the first Sunday of each month.

EVERY WEEK COMMUNION

We hold an "Every Sunday Communion", it takes place in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays.

PRAYER CHAPEL

Called to Care holds a weekly prayer time at 11:00 am on Mondays in the Chapel downstairs. Place your prayer requests in the prayer request box in Perkins Hall.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Anniversaries	
Ralph Wagner & Susan Lemons	09/05
William & Rebecca Bryant	09/22
Birthdays	
Christy Dinsman	09/07
Tom Macy	09/14
Mardell Hull	09/17
Yoichi Matsumoto	09/18
Terri Gamble	09/21
Arlene Reth	09/22
John Wilson	09/28
Destiny Holt	09/29
Dave Chatfield	09/30
Marilyn Kerstine	09/30

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPTIONS

Parents may take children to Sunday school downstairs before the service begins, or wait until the children's time with the pastor and then go to Sunday school. Children are also welcome to stay in the worship service at the discretion of the parent(s).

ALTER-NOTES

Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal in the Hazeltine Room after worship services each Sunday. If you like to sing or can play an instrument, we are looking for new members. We play folk, pop, Celtic, spirituals and anything else. Contact Melissa Gates phone: 207-391-3276

STAY CONNECTED



God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

