

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL & NURSERY 10:30 AM

From the Pastor

The passage for Sunday contains words that have confused and divided the church for millennia. Is the church built on Peter? What are the keys of the Kingdom? Does the church have the power to bind and loose?

Matthew 16:18-19 "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Looking at these verses from a practical level, we will consider how we are "loosing" people while other churches in town are "binding" people.

Joyful Noise are our musical guests; David is liturgist; JJ and Ziggy are all bound up.

**Come one, Come all, to our FCC
COFFEE HOUSE!**

Last Friday of every month

August 25 - 4 to 6 pm - Perkins Hall

Serving: good conversation, light beverages and snacks, lots of games, music of all kinds, dancing if you want it, and any other creative ideas you can come up with.

Please use the Alarcon St door to enter. See you then!



CHURCH CALENDAR

**AUGUST 25 - COFFEE HOUSE - 4 TO 6 - PERKINS HALL
SEPT. 5 - WOMEN OF COURAGE - INTERFAITH CHOIR - 7 PM TRINITY PRESB.**

CHURCH -

SEPT. 9 – RETURN OF ZOOM FAITH FORUM 10AM

SEPT. 24 – CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY WITH CONFERENCE STAFF

SEPTEMBER 29 – COFFEE HOUSE – PERKINS HALL, 4-6PM

OCTOBER 4 – BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – PARKING LOT – 4:00 PM

OCTOBER 19 – HALLOWEEN OPEN HOUSE – WILCHERS – 2-4PM

**OCT. 28 - PRESCOTT COMMUNITY CUPBOARD 50TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION –PERKINS HALL 1:00-4:00 PM**

[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

MOVIE FILMED AT CHURCH NOW AVAILABLE TO VIEW

**LOOK FOR PATTY, ANDY, WYATT, AND WINNIE IN THE FILM
OUR SANCTUARY AND PERKINS HALL ARE IN SEVERAL SCENES
I FOUND IT BY SEARCHING ON FUBO**

At long last, the movie that was filmed in Prescott with many scenes filmed in our facilities has premiered. Saturday evening July 30 the movie was shown for the first time. It has a new name, **The Abigail Mysteries.**

It was on Great American Family. You can check their website for information on where you can find their channel.

It also can be streamed on Pureflix.com. They are now a division of Great American Family. They have been offering a free week of Pureflix.

Very interesting to see our beloved church in a movie!

Tom

**“SUP WITH SEVEN” IS PLANNING ANOTHER ROUND OF DINNERS
IN HOMES.**

A SIGN UP SHEET IS IN PERKINS HALL

**ZOOM FAITH FORUM WILL RETURN SEPTEMBER 9 AT 10AM
LET PASTOR JAY KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN
PARTICIPATING**

We have 17 who have signed up to participate. We are planning initial gatherings into small groups at this time.

A small group of people (family unit, friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc.) will schedule a day to come together once per quarter (every three months) to have a meal and discuss one of the topics in the TAC Better Together Guidebook. We also ask that you share your experiences by checking in with a teen from the Teen Advisory Council or completing a short survey after each meal.

The goal is to practice speaking and listening techniques outlined in the Guidebook around issues our community (through our Better Together Survey) deemed challenging to discuss. The goal is to have conversations in a respectful manner NOT to change people's perspectives, opinions, or ideas. The Teen Advisory Council hopes to allow everyone to share their point of view and to feel heard and valued, even around issues that sometimes cause friction or division.

LAUNCH PAD TREK FOR TEENS

Andrew Greenwald is participating in the Launch Pad's Trek for Teens fund raising campaign. The Launch Pad is an all-inclusive teen center in Prescott that provides space and opportunity for Prescott youth. The youth are very involved in every aspect of its operation and it is an excellent organization that promotes community development, youth entrepreneurship, and guidance.

Andrew has committed to hike the Grand Canyon rim to rim, 24 miles, on **October 7th** in an effort to support the youth by raising money for The Launch Pad. If you would like to contribute to support this event and this important local resource for teens, please visit Andrew's team's website using this link or <https://give.thelaunchpadteencenter.org/fundraiser/4795850>

FACEBOOK UPDATE

"We have a new Facebook group, First Congregational Church Prescott FCC - which you can join. We will be posting events, and meetup information for the community, as well as exploring ways to bring back our outreach partners; the LGBTQ community youth, AA, etc. and other groups who have used the church pre-Covid for meeting spaces. Please join the group, and join in the discussion! If you have any questions, you can email Brit and Mike Flores at bafwriter@gmail.com, our current group admins. All event questions and suggestions should be directed to the church email at FCCprescott@gmail.com.

WOMEN OF COURAGE

Prescott premiere of songs and storytelling inspired by 11 extraordinary women. Music by Mary Lou Prince; Words by Patty Willis. Performed by the Quad City Interfaith

Choir, singers from faith traditions including Unitarian Universalist, Latter Day Saint, Jewish, Presbyterian and Congregational Church

Tuesday September 5, 2023 7:00 PM

Trinity Presbyterian Church 630 Park Avenue, Prescott, AZ, 86303
Freewill offerings will be donated to Prescott Area Shelter Services

Women of Courage: The Unveiling of a Monument of Words and Song A friend has dedicated a wall of her living room to her heroes. Each time she walks by, she feels infused by their courage. Wanting to honor and remember the courage of their own heroes, composer Mary Lou Prince and lyricist Patty Willis have created a monument of words and song. These songs honor women, known and unknown, who have changed the world through their courageous lives. Each woman encountered seemingly insurmountable difficulties, and each used her unique talents to transform the world into which she was born. Some of our women of courage are well known.

At 74 years of age, **Eleanor Roosevelt** is traveling through the Tennessee countryside, a \$25,000 bounty on her head by the KKK, a loaded gun between her and the 71-year-old woman driving the car through the backwoods to the Highlander School to teach a workshop on civil disobedience. The FBI will not protect her. She has a commitment to keep. **Etty Hillesum**, a Jew, and brilliant Russian scholar living in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam is the beating heart of the barracks of Westerbork where Jews await transport to Auschwitz. She accompanies a reality she cannot change and dares to feel joy at lupines blooming in a muddy field. **Dolores Huerta**, co-founder of the United Farmworkers and mother of eleven children, inspired people to believe in themselves. We can speak truth to power . We can make a difference. "Sí, se puede." "Yes, we can." Viola Jimulla, at the death of her husband in 1940, became the chieftess of the Yavapai people. She said, "I had to help my people in whatever they needed." Her firm but benevolent rule brought new industry and dignity to her tribe. **Recy Taylor**, a young married black woman, gang raped as she returns home from a church service one evening in rural Alabama, will not keep the silence demanded by her violators. She continued to demand justice. Her courage inspired her advocate, **Rosa Parks**, and Recy's story was on her mind when she would not move to the back of the bus. In 2012, she finally received an apology from the state of Alabama and her town Abbeville. Mine Okubo, a gifted painter interned at Topaz in central Utah when American citizens of Japanese ancestry were rounded up during World War II, uses her gifts to express the loss and daily cruelty of a dark time of our American past. She bids us not forget and not repeat.

The authors hope that these songs will inspire listeners to courageous acts that are waiting to be born. Performances of work by Patty Willis and Mary Lou Prince have been featured at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Kanazawa Japan National Noh Theatre , Kyoto Japan International Theatre Festival, Henry Street Settlement International Theater Festival New York City, Izumi Kyoka Festival Kanazawa Japan, Tumacacori National Historic Park Arizona, Parliament of World Religions Salt Lake City, Women by Music Festival at Mississippi University for Women, Nadia Boulanger and her Students Festival University of Arizona, Tabernacle at Temple Square Salt Lake City, Matrix Theater Los Angeles, BBC Radio Scotland and NHK Television Japan. For more information, please contact Mary Lou Prince at musicdirectorgranitepeakuu@gmail.com

AFTER CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

- **July 2 and Sept 24** we will host an ice cream social after church with lactose free options, sherbet and all the trimmings for making sundaes.
- We plan congregation involved potlucks for the **fifth Sunday** of each month that has one - **July 30, Oct 29 and Dec 31**
- **Dec 17**, birthday celebration Sunday, we plan a Christmas cookie share and exchange involving the whole congregation.

The rest of the time will remain as it is with congregants signing up to provide something substantial for sharing and the church providing salty snacks, cookies and fruit as needed.

SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETIN

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 27, 2023

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "In This Very Room" by Ron and Carol Harris

Joyful Noise

Words of Welcome – Announcements

Baptism of Henry Michael Smith

**Passing of the Peace*

Gather Song: "All Are Welcome" by Marty Haugen

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)

Words of Greeting/Call to Prayer (adapted from Psalm 138)

David Pifer

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord with our whole hearts, bowing down to sing God's praise.

P: Let us give thanks to God's name for steadfast love and faithfulness.

L: We have called, and God has answered, increasing the strength of our souls.

P: Let all of us sing the ways of the Lord who is great in glory.

L: Though God is high above all, God looks with care upon the lowly .

P: God's outstretched hand will save us and complete God's purpose for us. God's steadfast love endures forever.

**Hymn: "Enter, Rejoice, and Come In"*

New Century Hymnal #73

Invocation

David Pifer

L: Loving God, we come to you in humble awe of who you are.

P: We worship you this morning with songs and voice and prayers.
L: We adore you with our love, praise and thanksgiving.
P: We thank you for all you are doing in and through your church.
L: Churches that were once dying are now alive and growing.
P: Churches that had become unhealthy are now healthy again.
L: Churches that had become turned inward are now turned outward.
P: Churches that were inhospitable have become inviting and hospitable.
L: We thank you for what you are doing in our own lives.
P: Growing us to be mature in our faith.
L: Growing us to be more like Jesus.
P: Growing us to be loving of others and especially the unloved.
ALL: Feed us in this worship service that we may continue to grow and love. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Epistle Reading: Romans 12:1-8 David Pifer
Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20 David Pifer
*Hymn: "Teach Me" Sing! Prayer and Praise # 165
Sermon: "The Keys to the Kingdom" Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Special Music: "Let it Be" by The Beatles Joyful Noise; Solo Brit Flores
Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer
Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts
Offertory: "O God beyond All Praising" by Michael Perry Brian & Thomas
*Doxology Brian Moore
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen
*Prayer of Dedication David Pifer
Dear God, you have offered us a place at the table, and you have called us to share without expectation of being repaid. You have called us to make a place for the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed. So, we ask that you bless these resources so that they might support ministries of compassion and justice until all your children have a place at the table. Amen.
*Hymn: "Go, Make a Difference" Sing! Prayer and Praise #199

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "Shine Out!" by Roger P. Miller

Joyful Noise

AUGUST MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Our August Mission Outreach will be directed toward two funds dedicated to helping local immigrant students attain degrees in higher education—our congregation's own **DACA Fund** and **Prescott College's Freedom Education Fund**.

Our **DACA Fund** has previously assisted the Gardea family—Francisco, Franceny, and Fernando—for the past several years, providing support for their educational expenses and tuition at Arizona postsecondary schools including ASU, Prescott College, and Yavapai College.

The federal government has granted registered DACA enrollees legal status and the right to obtain a work permit. These rights are subject to a two-year time period, which can be renewed. We're eager to assist additional local families achieve their educational goals with the help of your generous support.

Prescott College's Freedom Education Fund was established to grant scholarship money to students hoping to "pursue the experiential and transformative higher education of Prescott College. . .where donations have the power to truly make a difference in the recipients' lives."

Priority will be given to students with the most financial need and who are pursuing social or environmental justice work in their degree or activism. **The Freedom Education Fund** will not only provide money, but also set the foundation for future development of full-ride fellowships and more.

Donation checks may be made to the church with the memo **DACA/FEF**. 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).

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.

PASS - PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES
OUR THANKS TO THE YOUTH FOR TAKING CARE
OF THE AUGUST MEAL!

PASS, our local women's shelter, serves as a place for women and children experiencing

homelessness. The **third Wednesday of every month (September 20)** our church provides dinner for the guests at the shelter. Meal items are brought to the church parking lot at 5:00 pm and then taken by one of our members to the shelter. Carolyn Christians has taken over this role from Patty Gard. We need new members to sign up to help each month. The sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

TREASURER REPORT FOR AUGUST 2023

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER – JULIE MCCURDY

Treasurer's Report to Cabinet August 28, 2023

Activity as of **July 31, 2023**

Income vs Expense:

Income is \$122,254.

Expenses are \$113,244.

Net Income is \$9,010.

Budget vs Actual: 58% of budget year

Income is 66% of the income budget of \$185,481.

Expenses are 58% of the expense budget of \$196,763.

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



United
Church of
Christ

T: 928-445-4555
EMAIL: fccprescott@gmail.com



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

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