

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

This Sunday's parable in Luke 16:1-13 is generally considered the most difficult to interpret. A shrewd manager outwits his master. Jesus seems to suggest we should be shrewd in a positive sense in our use of money to further the realm of God. I will use the parable to suggest the teens visiting us Sunday were shrewd in a positive sense to seek an answer to the racist men shouting at them on the town square during a "black lives matter" gathering. Elizabeth is liturgist; Joyful Noise provides music; and JJ & Ziggy receive a blessing along with their friends.

TEENS FROM THE LAUNCH PAD TEEN CENTER WILL BRING SURVEYS FOR US TO FILL OUT ON THIS SUNDAY, THE 18TH, AND SPEAK BRIEFLY ABOUT THEIR "BETTER TOGETHER" INITIATIVE

JJ & ZIGGY INVITE YOU TO A BLESSING OF STUFFED ANIMALS DURING THE CHILDREN'S TIME ON SUNDAY

Many children are not able to have pets because of allergies or family situations. However, the vast majority of children of every age have a favorite stuffed animal or comfort toy. By including these inanimate creatures, we offer that invitation of blessing, inclusion, and respect to every member of God's family. It shows children that the church cares about the things that they care about. And, since stuffed animals are highly portable and very low maintenance, kids can bring them on a Sunday morning to church. This invitation of blessing can be extended to the whole church community. It is likely that some teens and some adults will present stuffed animals for blessing and that same message of inclusion and love will be amplified. (From "Building

Faith" A Ministry of Virginia Theological Seminary)

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

**NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED ON SEPTEMBER 25
AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 142ND ANNIVERSARY!
IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE 10 JOINING SO FAR
JOIN THE PARTY!
LET PASTOR JAY KNOW OF YOUR INTEREST**

WE WILL HAVE A POT LUCK MEAL AFTER THE SERVICE ON THE 25TH
Sunday September 25 our annual Potluck will be held in Perkins Hall following church service. We have a sign-up white board available in Perkins Hall, but for your convenience you can also contact Mary Davidson at jomarprskit@gmail.com or Helen Barnard at helenbarnard1941@yahoo.com to indicate your intention to attend. Please include your name, phone number and dish you wish to share. Look forward to seeing you!

FAITH FORUM SATURDAYS 10AM
September Zoom forums focus on Native American Spirituality
October's focus will be feminist theology

ZOOM SERMON PREP FRIDAYS 10AM
Join Pastor Jay for a discussion of Sunday's sermon text/topic

Let Pastor Jay know if you would like to receive the weekly Zoom invite

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

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DECEMBER 18
Time to plan for the brief pageant during worship on December 18. See Melissa if interested. Roles Needed: costume/actor manager, angel, Mary, Joseph, 3 kings, 2 shepherds

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2023
PATTY LANTRIP WILL BE LEADING THIS COMMITTEE
PLEASE LET HER KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP HER IN THIS EFFORT**

**REV. LLOYD EVANS NEW ADDRESS
2889 SAN PASQUAL STREET
PASADENA, CA 91107**

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

SEPTEMBER MISSION NEWS

MONTHLY FOCUS: Our September Mission Outreach will be directed toward **Neighbors in Need (NIN)**. This is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Through a network of justice advocates, work is accomplished to address such issues as: voting rights, hate crimes, health care, immigration, and environmental pollution.

Neighbors in Need (NIN) grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

Donation checks may be made to the church with the memo **NIN**. Checks marked simply "Mission" will be used at the discretion of our mission team.

Last month, thanks to your generous giving, the Mission Outreach team was grateful to send out the following donations to these organizations:

Discovery Gardens Preschool (\$535)
Habitat for Humanity (\$1,700)
Prescott Community Cupboard (\$1,750)

We also bought and delivered \$145 worth of back-to-school supplies for our amazing Sunday School teachers, Ms. Jeni and Ms. Audra, who work at Discovery Gardens themselves.

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

Mission Outreach Committee members are Gary & 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.

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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 18, 2022

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "Peace" by Judy A. Rose

Joyful Noise

Words of Welcome – Announcements - Launchpad Teen Center - *Passing of the Peace

Gather Song: "Sing to God" by F.D. Martin

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)

The Blessing of Stuffed Animals

"You Are Salt for the Earth, O People"

New Century Hymnal #181

Opening Prayer

Elizabeth Spence

Loving God, you are the source of all that is worth living for - give us clear goals, lofty values, transparent motives, and enough love-courage to put our faith into practice. Help us to turn our ears towards those who are different from us. Help us to listen in the light of your love to understand, and to be filled with empathy and compassion. For we do not know the sufferings that others have experienced; we do not understand the pain that has been caused; we do not know what it is like to be in another's shoes. But you, O Christ, have become one of us, living the human life, and through your love and compassion we can see one another as our kindred. Help us to have that same love, understanding, and empathy towards others, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Luke 16:1-13

Elizabeth Spence

"Lead Us from Death to Life" (World Peace Prayer) New Century Hymnal #581

Sermon: "Shrewd Saints"

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "Peace Prayer" by John Foley

Joyful Noise

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

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "Evening Prayer" by Humperdinck

Brian Moore

*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

Elizabeth Spence

Generous God, we are grateful for your blessings, for we have enough to share. Help us to be faithful and shrewd in our use of the resources you give us. We return a portion of your bounty for the blessing of others. Amen.

*Hymn: "Let there be Peace on Earth" by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as Creator, we are family.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

“Peace I leave with you, my friends” by Ray Repp Joyful Noise and Congregation

**Peace I leave with you, my friends.
Shalom, my peace in all you do.
Peace I leave with you, my friends.
I give to you so you can give to others, too.**

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

Postlude: “Children of God” by James F. D. Martin

Brian Moore

TREASURER REPORT

UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER

Financial Activity as of **August 31, 2022**
Contributions and other revenue: \$109,340
Expenses: \$100,307
Contributions exceed expenses by \$9,003

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

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United
Church of
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