First Congregational United Church of Christ

The Parish Caller September 30, 2022

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the10:30am service

This Sunday we consider two obscure books in the Hebrew Bible - Habakkuk and Lamentations. They are gifts to us as we experience the struggles and tragedies of life, showing us ways to respond to God in our human struggle. Alter-Notes provides music and serves as liturgist. JJ & Ziggy lead the children in sharing communion on this World Communion Sunday.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SUNDAY AT 1:00 PM CHURCH PARKING LOT

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

Vision 2023: Share your ideas for our Congregation Conversations will take place two times: Church Pot-Luck October 30th after church Friday brown-bag lunch (BYO) November 18 at Noon

> MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR REV. GARY GARD SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, AT 11AM OUR SANCTUARY

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

ZOOM FAITH FORUM - SATURDAYS 10AM

October Zoom forums focus on 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 be added to the Zoom invitations

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DECEMBER 11

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 - Alter-Notes & Ellen McGowan, Flutist

The Office Is Open Most Mornings and By Appointment. Call Prior To Visiting for Confirmation: Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

OCTOBER MISSION NEWS

OCTOBER MISSION – OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION

Wider Church Ministries is most widely known for the mission outreach work of the UCC because of our disaster ministries. This arm of the church also serves congregations and other settings of the church who strive to be inclusive whether it is multicultural/multiracial, open and affirming, global or accessible to all.

In partnership with the Disciples of Christ, CommonGlobal Ministries is the ecumenical global sharing of resources and prophetic vision of a just and peaceful world order, joining with God's concern for the poor and oppressed.

All of this work – being long-term mission – is accomplished through over 70 trusting partnerships, 90 full-time deployed volunteer staff, 88 educational mission trip host sites, and shared resources for supporting those in need. We also gather mission reports from 164 UCC groups with over 5,500 members. We provide programmatic presence in disaster recovery, immersion training centers and service and learning sites to offer leverage and systemic support for wider ecumenical host sites, grassroots initiatives and mission trip participants.

A quick recap of latest activity: We collected for our DACA fund and Prescott College's Freedom Education Fund in August, and September's monthly focus has been UCC's Neighbors in Need program. In October we'll ask for congregational donations to support UCC's Our Church's Wider Mission. We've recently sent contributions to: St Luke Ebony Christian Church (\$1,700) and Ukraine Relief (\$2,020) We're heartbroken for the news of the passing of our longtime committee chairperson, Rev. Gary Gard, but hope to continue and expand our good works in his memory.

-Becky, Carolyn, Patty

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 micromanage 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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Today we celebrate World Communion Sunday, honoring the One who binds us together as one Christian community around the planet and calls us to live out our faith as One Body.

October 2, 2022 *Those who are able may stand

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "For the Beauty of the Earth" arr. Jay Rouse Mark Achuff

Words of Welcome - Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gather Song: "There's a Spirit of Love in This Place" Alter-Notes

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy (Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after communion)

Call to Worship Alter-Notes
L: Around the world, in all nations, the faithful have gathered for worship.
P: We gather in this space to worship you, O God.
L: Around the world, speaking in all languages, the faithful come to pray together.
P: We lift up our prayers to you, O God.
L: Around the world, using tortillas and pita, crackers and bread, the faithful remember your body that was given to us.
P: We share in the meal of remembrance, O Christ our Savior.
L: Around the world, we remember our brothers and sisters this World Communion Sunday.
P: We worship, we pray, we remember, and we celebrate our diversity and unity in Christ.

*Hymn: "Great Is Your Faithfulness" New Century Hymnal #423 PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Readings:

Alter-Notes

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Lamentations 1:1-6; 3:19-26

Sermon: "United in the Human Struggle"

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "One at the Feast" arr. Craig Courtney Alter-Notes; Flutist Ellen McGowan

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Communion is open to all)

God of all creation: pour out your Spirit of grace and peace upon these, your simple gifts, which become the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation for us. May our eyes be opened to the oppression and injustices the world would keep us from seeing. As the rich wine of hope and joy refreshes our hearts and souls, may we be ready to share all we have been given, to speak up for the voiceless, to gather the broken into our family. And when all time has stopped moving and we sit down at the feast prepared for all, we will join hands to sing the eternal anthem of your vision of hope and peace for all creation.

Communion Music: "In This Very Room" arr. Mark Hayes Mark Achuff

*Hymn: "Taste and See"

Sing! Prayer and Praise #86

Mark Achuff

Mark Achuff

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

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff" arr. David Paxton

*Doxology (tune: Old Hundredth)

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

Alter-Notes

Jesus Christ, you who lived in a human body, call us to community. Remind us that in you we are one. Awake in us a respect for one another, and celebrate with us the diversity within that unity. May it be so now and forever. Amen.

*Hymn: "I Want to be Ready"	New Century Hymnal #616
*Benediction	Pastor Jay
*Postlude: "Trumpet Tune and Air" arr. Henry F	Purcell Mark Achuff

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 <u>church of firsts</u>, 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

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



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