

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

FROM PASTOR JAY

*King David in Augsburg Cathedral,
stained glass window, early 12th century*

This Sunday we continue our series on King David (2 Samuel 5). David is anointed as king over all Israel. What? How many times has he been anointed king? Three times! It finally all comes together in 2 Samuel 5. But here is the long process of getting there:

- For 7 ½ years he was king of the single tribe of Judah at Hebron
- 2 years before that the leader of a guerilla band of 600 men at Ziklag
- For close to 8 years before that a fugitive in the wilderness running from King Saul
- Before that a musician in King Saul's court
- Before that a famous killer of Goliath as a teenager
- And before that pulled out of sheepfold as 8th son of Jesse and anointed king by Samuel the prophet

Once again the David story reminds us of our human story. Most of the time there is patient plodding and organic growth. And anything of worth often takes time to develop. David models perseverance, faith, and hope through the ups and downs of his journey. The American way is to settle on a technique to bypass the process. The "David way" is to ask what God is doing and seek to join in. And not take any human shortcuts.

See you Sunday,

Jay

2 Samuel 5	Discerning God's Direction and Timing
2 Samuel 6	Encountering the Holy
2 Samuel 7	When God Says No
2 Samuel 9	David and Mephibosheth
2 Samuel 11-12	A "Me Too Moment" - Abuse of Power
2 Samuel 14-15	Family Troubles
2 Samuel 16-18	When You Are at Your Lowest
2 Samuel 22	David: Fully Alive to God
2 Samuel 23	The Blessing of Communion
1 Chron. 28-29	Facing Death



TALENT, WILLING PARTICIPANTS, HUMBUGites AND HOLIDAY LOVERS NEEDED!!

AUDITIONS FOR EBENEZER SCROOGE RADIO DRAMA
TO BE HELD
NOVEMBER 10TH 10 a.m. - 12:00

SIGN UP SHEET IS IN PERKINS HALL

NEEDED:
VOICE CHARACTER ACTORS

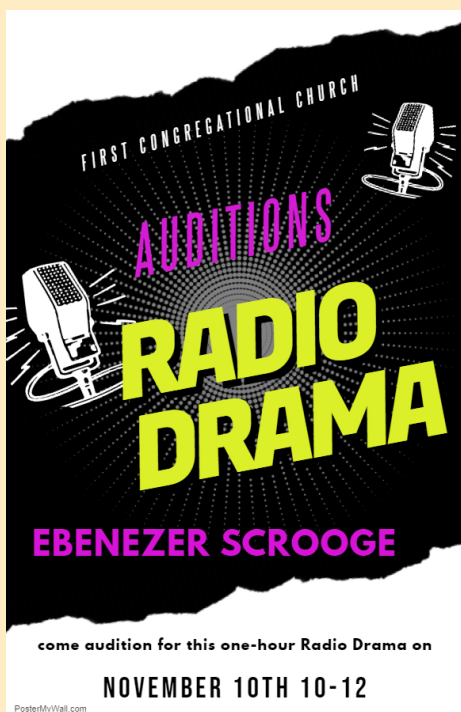
BEHIND THE SCENES AND SOUND EFFECTS

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

September 30 – Church Picnic

October 26 – Join our Jewish friends for temple worship service

October 28 – Welcome our Jewish friends for worship



WITNESS AT THE BORDER

A week long UCC event attended by Gary and Patty Gard in late August. Their experience included:

1. witnessing the en masse trial of undocumented migrants standing

- before a federal judge in Tucson.
2. crossing the Mexican border to visit a shelter and a food kitchen serving migrants recently deported and migrants still arriving from southern Mexico and Central America.
3. celebrating holy communion at the Mexican side of the border wall.
4. walking a portion of the trails frequently travelled by migrants as they approach Nogales, Mexico
5. peacefully gathering in front of the U.S. Border Patrol headquarters witnessing to our belief in a God who loves us all, and who desires compassion and justice for all.
6. met migrant families to hear stories recounting the life-threatening circumstances causing them to engage the perils of migrating across miles of hot-n-desolate Sonoran desert.



Join Gary and Patty to hear more, and to see a screening of pictures taken at the various venues they visited. Be with us on Wednesday, September 12th, 6:00 PM in Perkins Hall. Desserts and beverage will be served.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC, BRUNCH



ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC SEPTEMBER 30TH AFTER A SHORTENED WORSHIP SERVICE.

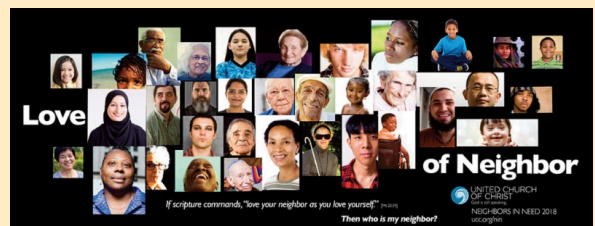
This year will will have a brunch potluck in Perkins Hall. We are so grateful for the heavy rains during this year's monsoon season, so we decided to bring it indoors.

Signup sheet is in Perkins Hall.

Bring your favorite
breakfast casserole and potato dish
CHURCH PROVIDES BREAKFAST HAM AND JUICE

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH NEWS

- Our mission emphasis for September is the Neighbors in Need (NIN). Our UCC headquarters has designated a newly forming border ministry (Hope Station) in Nogales, Mexico as an approved NIN project. Our NIN donations will help support this ministry to migrants. Those helped will include recently deported migrants, including DACA students whose renewal request was denied.
- This Wednesday at 6:00 P.M., Gary and Patty Gard will share what they experienced at a UCC week-long border immigration event in August. The evening will include a pictorial presentation, information packets regarding immigration policies and practices, and desserts/beverage.
- Following last month's mission emphasis, -thanks to your giving,- a check for \$840 was sent to the Discovery Gardens Preschool Scholarship Fund. This fund will help enable the attendance of 3 year old children whose families are living at/below the federal poverty level.
- We provide a hot meal on the 3rd Wednesday of each month to the Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS). PASS provides shelter and services to women, and women with children. If you can help provide part of a meal, please sign the PASS sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall. For more information, contact our PASS meal coordinator, Patty Gard (928-460-3042).



Thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2). Gary Gard, chairperson 928 910 2455

MARDEL'S BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE

Stop by Las Fuentes Saturday, September 15, at 1:00 pm for Mardell's birthday celebration. It will be in the lounge down the hall from her room on the second floor in assisted living (around back to end of building)

BORDER MISSION TRIP UPDATE - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 6PM, PERKINS HALL

Rev. Gary and Patty Gard will give an update on their trip to the border with our conference group.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED DURING WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 16

If you are interested in learning more about joining the church, please see Pastor Jay or our co-moderators: Patty Lantrip and Rev. Marti Garrison

CHURCH PICNIC SEPTEMBER 30 AFTER CHURCH

Given our active monsoon season, we decided to move our picnic to Perkins Hall this year. And this year it will be a brunch! The worship service will be 10:30 until 11:00 and include music, sermonette, and of course - an offering! At 11:00 we will move to Perkins Hall for the brunch. The church will provide ham, coffee, and orange juice. A sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall for pot-luck items to bring to the brunch. Come join us for this fellowship opportunity and a chance to get to know new people!



PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES (PASS) OPEN HOUSE OCTOBER 17, 1-4 PM

PASS will welcome the community to an open house October 17. PASS is a women and children shelter for women in crisis or homeless. The address is 336 North Rush Street.

LOCATION CHANGE: PASTOR BIBLE STUDY EVERY THURSDAY, 9:30-10:30 AM

Pastor Jay leads a weekly Bible Study on Thursdays at 9:30 am in the conference room in the church office.

LOWER LEVEL RENOVATION COMPLETE

Thanks to all who helped paint and make the new flooring possible in the hallway and bathrooms. If you would like to contribute toward this project, please reference “basement renovation” on your check or envelope. Thank you.

RINGING BELLS REHEARSAL TIME IS MOVING TO 9:00 THURSDAYS

We are looking for new ringers that would like to come and try with us. It is necessary that you read treble clef music. Call if you are interested. Director Carole Sue Linson M.M. 928 717 4494

PRAYER CHAPEL - TUESDAY

On Tuesdays at 11:00 A.M. in meeting room #2, Called to Care continues a weekly Prayer Chapel open to whomever wishes to pray with us.

PASTOR BIBLE STUDY EVERY THURSDAY, 9:30-10:30 AM

Pastor Jay leads a weekly Bible Study on Thursdays at 9:30 am in the conference room in the church office.

WE WELCOME JENIFER TUCKER AS OUR NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER!

Jenifer is from Gilbert, Arizona. She has worked with children for 14 years. She is currently attending school for a degree in early childhood education. She comes to us from Discovery Gardens Preschool. Jenifer also has a photography business.

SECURITY TEAM

Do you have an interest in security matters? We are looking for new team members to help with our churches security protocol each Sunday.

ACTIVITY BAGS

To help your little ones pass the time before the Children’s Time, you will find colored activity bags hanging on the entry doors of the sanctuary for the children to enjoy. Please leave these activity bags in the pews when the children leave for Sunday school.

An on-line resource for deepening faith within the United Church of Christ

What Matters

Think about it, pray about it,
talk about it, act on it!

Connect with what
matters to the
United Church of Christ.



WHAT MATTERS TO YOU SERIES

- In what ways do you typically express your thanks to God?
- Recently, what local or global situation especially concerns you?
- How might God be calling you to

respond to that concern?

- To what other concerns might God be directing you?

"To believe is to care. To care is to act." Several years ago, this slogan was printed on bumper stickers to describe the United Church of Christ. Critics found the slogan lacking because it didn't mention God at all. For others close to the heart of the UCC, they knew God is at the heart of, and all wrapped-up in, our caring and acting.



God creates. God loves. God's hope for all that God made is one of a peaceable reign of love and justice. Filled with gratitude for all God's good gifts, God's hope is our hope. Our hope connects with God's hope. We share in both God's vision and work for the entire world.

The Bible describes this vision in a variety of ways that includes paradise (Isaiah 11:6-9) and a peaceable realm (Isaiah 2:2-4), a great banquet (Luke 14:15-24), and a new heaven and earth (Revelation 21:1-5). We see it in God's delivery of those from slavery and hear it in the justice-loving voices of prophets. We especially see it in Jesus. In him, the realm of God drew near (Luke 17: 20-21). He taught about it, proclaimed it in prophetic stances, and lived it through offering his life for others. We glimpse God's reign even now, and look for the fulfillment of God's love and justice in the future.

Look around and it doesn't take long to discover, however, that the vision isn't fully realized. We see a world where violence, discrimination, and hunger are weapons of greed and fear. We notice those who are ignored are often victims of other's self interest—left in poverty with little hope. We wonder how long the world, our environmental home, can take the stress and depletion of human want. We scratch our heads in amazement that nations war against nations and religions against religions—destroying the lives of the world's children.

Yet God's vision breaks through in the bold witness of God's people. By God's grace, we extend our hands to others through generous acts of service and compassion. We reach across cultural, racial, and religious divides reconciling ourselves to one another. In solidarity with those who are most vulnerable in our world, we do justice. God comes in moments of healing, peace, and deliverance.

The UCC connects caring and acting, gratitude and giving, peace and justice, service and advocacy in a life of prayer and justice. We don't usually settle for things to just merrily-roll-along when our world is hurting. Instead, we follow Christ's lead and seek to address a broad range of concerns. In 1959, soon after the founding of the UCC, we first outlined the broad arena of global concerns in the "Call to Christian Action in Society" (LTH, Vol 7, article 15, 81-85). Today, we encourage both individuals and congregations to link with both local and global concerns. With thanks to God, we call upon our congregations to network together and participate in God's reign of love and justice. Imagine another world is possible.

THERE IS MORE, [CLICK HERE](#)



Prescott PeaceBuilders Peace Festival 2018

September 15th through 21st

Prescott PeaceBuilders Mission:

To inspire our community to believe in - and
work toward - a more peaceful, livable world.

Calendar of Events

Saturday, September 15th

KICKOFF with QUEST Storytelling Theater: "The Kindness of Strangers" at Thumb Butte Distillery, 400 N. Washington St. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 16th

Peace Festival in the Park: Building a Culture of Kindness, at Granite Creek Park, 554 Sixth Street. Live Music! Games! Crafts! 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 17th

Facilitated Book Discussion: *They Will Inherit the Earth*, by John Dear at Prescott Public Library, 215 E. Goodwin, 10:00 a.m. to Noon.

Tuesday, September 18th

Compassionate Communication: A Language for Peace at Prescott Public Library, 215 E. Goodwin, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 19th

Movie Night: "The Sultan & the Saint," a true story of a historic search for peace at Prescott Public Library, 215 E. Goodwin, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Friday, September 21st

Candlelight Peace Vigil honoring the United Nations International Day of Peace on the downtown plaza, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.



For more information and a calendar of Peace Festival events,
www.prescottpeacebuilders.com

OBSERVE JUST PEACE SUNDAY ON SEPTEMBER 16: WISDOM CRIES OUT!

The Thirtieth General Synod called on the congregations of the United Church of Christ to mark the Sunday preceding September 21 (which the United Nation recognizes as the "International Day of Prayer for Peace") as Just Peace Sunday.

Just Peace is not a destination, but a path requiring awareness and constant vigilance to resolve existing and developing conflict in ourselves, our families, our communities, our institutions, and our world. This path requires non-violence when possible and even when impossible to engage in love and restraint. Just Peace envisions a renewed, vibrant, diverse, and sustainable world free of violence.

Just Peace is grounded in God's activity in creation; God's covenant patience and provision in the wilderness; in the reconciling activity of Jesus Christ; in the presence of the Holy Spirit; and in the community of reconciliation. Shalom is the vision that pulls all creation toward a time when weapons are made into ploughs and all creatures lie down together without fear; where all have their own vine, fig tree, and dwell secure from want. As Christians, we offer this conviction to the world: Peace is possible!

Wisdom cries out!

Just Peace Sunday | September 16, 2018





**TALENT WANTED
AUDITIONS FOR DECEMBER RADIO DRAMA
TO BE HELD
NOVEMBER 10TH 10 a.m. - 12:00**



**RADIO DRAMA PERFORMANCE
DECEMBER 5TH 7:00 p.m.**



ALTER-NOTES

Would you like to sing or can play an instrument in a fun and crazy group? Anything goes-- pop, folk, blues, spirituals, African, calypso, jazz and even classical. We play in full group or break-out groups, as well as instrumentalists.

Contact Melissa Gates phone: 207-391-3276
Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal on the Chancel each Sunday.

Regularly Scheduled

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

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

EVERY WEEK COMMUNION

"Every Sunday Communion" takes place in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays. Communion is open to all.

ONCE A MONTH COMMUNION

Our regularly scheduled communion is held the first Sunday of each month. Communion is open to all.

PRAYER CHAPEL

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

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.

VAN MINISTRY

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

THE RINGING BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

If you would be interested in playing with us, we will train you! This is a fun and rewarding contribution to our worship. We meet for rehearsal at 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays.

CHANCEL SINGERS

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

ALTER-NOTES

Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal on the Chancel 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

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).



CONTACT US

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
PRESCOTT, UCC
216 E. Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301
Office: 928-445-4555
Pastor Jay: 928-899-9066
Julie: 928-710-1379**

ADMINISTRATION
Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 4:00
Friday 9:00 - 1:00
PASTOR JAY
Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00
other times by appointment