

# The Parish Caller

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

September 1, 2016



First Congregational  
Church, United  
Church of Christ,  
Prescott

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***This Week at a Glance...***

- ◆Choir Rehearsal Sunday 9:00 am
- ◆Worship Service and Fellowship time Sunday 10:30
- ◆Knit Wits Tuesday 1-3 pm
- ◆"Mind Fit" Workshop Wednesday 12:00 pm
- ◆Bell Choir Rehearsal Thursday 11:00 pm
- ◆Called to Care Thursday 12:15
- ◆Mission Statement Meeting Saturday 10:00 am

**From the Pastor**

I feel good about the church! I mentioned last Sunday that the church is a divine and human institution. Divine help keeps it going, and the human side of things causes it to wax and wane due to our human foibles. So, when things are going good, we should celebrate. Here are at least three reasons to feel good:



**1) I want to thank our board for a productive retreat!**

The Cabinet (our leadership team pictured above) met last Saturday from 9:00-2:00 for a retreat and planning session. Led by moderator John McCurdy, we spent a lot of time discussing how important communication is in the church and ways we can improve getting information to the congregation. You will begin to see those efforts soon. We also discussed budget and stewardship timelines, and a strategy for nominations to fill our Cabinet and other ministries of the church. The period from just after Labor Day to Christmas is such a busy time. It is hard for me to keep up with it all, and I realize a challenge for you as well. We shall do our best – we are only human. Thank God for divine help!

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From Pastor Jay  
continued

2) I want to celebrate 8 new members received this past Sunday!

What a wonderfully diverse group to enrich our congregation. I did not have a group picture as of this writing, so as a way of getting to know them, see if you can match the person with a brief note about them. The first person to email me the correct answers will win the prize – it is huge!

<b>Sandra Johns</b>	<b>Mac MCalister</b>	<b>Rev. Harry Strong</b>	<b>Anna Strong</b>
<b>Martie Dial</b>	<b>Sarai Payne</b>	<b>Sandra Palacios</b>	<b>Suzy Lobaugh</b>

- A landscape contractor
- Born in a farmhouse in Kansas
- A former contract negotiator at Penn State
- Loves Barbershop style music
- Born in Mexico and is a Yaqui Indian
- Collects windmills
- Worked as a sign language interpreter
- Medical office managing education



3) I want to celebrate that we have our van! Ask and you shall receive! As part of our extravagant welcome, we wanted to provide transportation to church for those unable to drive themselves. It will be available for other church group outings as well.

God bless, Jay

Announcements

**OUTREACH MINISTRY**

This month's mission emphasis is the Discovery Gardens Preschool. There is a needs list found on the box located at the front of the sanctuary. If you prefer writing a check, please make a note on the memo line, "Discovery Gardens".

**“Mind Fit” WORKSHOP**

Rev. Marti Garrison will offer six one-hour presentations starting Wednesday, September 7 at noon, “Brain Fitness and Healthy Minds” or Cognitive Therapeutics. Each session includes overviews and activities for those who want to strengthen memory, focus, and attention. Marti is a Cognitive Therapeutics coach at Home Care Assistance of Prescott.  
([www.homecareassistanceprescott.com](http://www.homecareassistanceprescott.com))

**NATIVE AMERICA—THEN AND NOW**

On September 15 at 4:00 pm, Manuel Lucero of the Cherokee Nation, addresses the treatment of Native Americans from the landing of Columbus to the present day. Cooperatively sponsored by: Temple B’rith Shalom; Granite Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation; First Congregational United Church of Christ. Meeting held at the Granite Peak UU on 882 Sunset Avenue. Those that attend will receive a free pass to the POWWOW September 23-25 at Watson Lake Park.

**JUSTICE AT THE BORDER**

October 7-10: Nogales Arizona. See page 3 for more details. See Julie in the office if you have an interest in participating.

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### **PARDON OUR DUST!**

As we work through our restorations to the church property, you may be inconvenienced somewhat with machinery, tools, dust and a coating of mess.

To keep the Congregation up to date, you can look at the rolling white board in Perkins Hall to see what has been accomplished and what is scheduled. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know!

### **You won't want to miss this picnic!**

- Picnic RSVP sheet in Perkins Hall (please let us know if you plan to attend)
- Food Sign-up sheet in Perkins Hall!
- Free Parking
- Car Pool Available (let us know if you need a ride)

## **BE THE CHURCH**

*Protect the environment. Care for the poor. Forgive often. Reject racism. Fight for the powerless. Share earthly and spiritual resources. Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.*

The Outreach and the Mission/Vision Statement committees has put together great visuals of all the ways we are "being the church" in mission. Look for it on the bulletin board in Perkins Hall!



### **Mission/Vision Statement Meetings:**

September 10, 10:00 am

September 18, after worship service

September 25, at the church picnic



## **Church Picnic**

Where: Heritage Park Garden Ramada

When: September 25th

Time: 12:00 pm — after worship service

**Menu:** \*Fried & Baked Chicken will be provided  
 \*Grill available for Vegetarian Burgers/Dogs  
 \*Lemonade and iced tea provided

Please contribute your dish on the sign up-sheet for salads, chips and desserts

**Let's Play!!**  
**Oldies Music**  
**Church History Game**  
**Mission/Vision Connections**



# LIVING THE QUESTIONS

Our Church is growing in numbers and with growth comes a desire for spiritual growth. We will be restarting our “Exploring Progressive Christianity” group discussion this fall beginning with “Living the Questions” with an “Invitation to Journey” into a way of life that contradicts the way of the world. \*\*\* Let Julie know in the office if you would like to attend. We will be picking a day and time based on the desires of the attendees. 928-445-4555

## LIVING THE QUESTIONS

Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves like locked rooms and like books that are written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will find them gradually, without noticing it, and live along some distant day into the answer.

**Themes:**

- 1. An Invitation to Journey
- 2. Taking the Bible Seriously
- 3. Thinking Theologically
- 4. Stories of Creation
- 5. Lives of Jesus
- 6. A Passion for Christ: Paul
- 7. Out into the World: Challenges Facing Progressive Christians

**Honoring Creation**

- 8. Restoring Relationships
- 9. The Prophetic Jesus
- 10. Evil, Suffering & A God of Love
- 11. The Myth of Redemptive Violence
- 12. Practicing Resurrection
- 13. Debunking the Rapture
- 14. Honoring Creation

**Call to Covenant**

- 15. A Kingdom without Walls
- 16. Social Justice: Realizing God's Vision
- 17. Incarnation: Divinely Human
- 18. Prayer: Intimacy with God
- 19. Compassion: The Heart of Jesus' Ministry
- 20. Creative Transformation
- 21. Embracing Mystery

## WHATS HAPPENING AT FCC

Try our SignUpGenius on our website: [www.fccprescott.org](http://www.fccprescott.org)

Contact Us:  
216 E. Gurley Street  
Prescott, AZ 86301  
928-445-4555  
[fccprescott@gmail.com](mailto:fccprescott@gmail.com)  
Administration Office Hours  
Mondays: 9:00 - 4:00  
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 - 1:00  
Pastor Jay  
Monday - Thursday  
9:00 - 1:00  
Other times by appointment  
Cell: 928-899-9066  
[jayfccprescott@gmail.com](mailto:jayfccprescott@gmail.com)

**PASS MEAL** is a once-a-month ministry where we provide a meal for the Prescott Area Shelter Services the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:30 pm. Sign-up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

**Funky Friday Game Night**  
Hosted by PFLAG  
Everyone Welcome!  
7-9 pm  
1st Friday of every Month

**KNIT WITS** meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of every month from 1-3 pm in the Office Conference Room.

**CHOIR PRACTICE** 9 am before worship on Sundays. See Jane Osborn if you would like to join the choir!  
**BELL CHOIR PRACTICE** at 11 am on Thursdays

**CALL TO CARE MINISTRY** meets the 2th Tuesday of every month from 2-4 pm in the Office Conference Room. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, see Marilyn Kerstine.

**PFLAG SUPPORT GROUP** meets the 3rd Friday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Church Library. See Julie J. for more details.

**LAS FUENTES**  
1035 Scott Dr., Prescott  
**SPIRITUAL LIVING Class** is held the 3rd Thursday of every month at 10 am, led by Called to Care Ministry.  
~And~  
Worship Service is also held the 2nd Sunday of every month at 3 pm, led by Pastor Jay.

**CABINET MEETING** meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Office Conference Room.

**EXPLORING FAITH**  
**Living the Questions Study Group**  
Looking into new topics, please let Pastor Jay if you are interested  
~And~  
Monday Evening Discussion Group 6 pm in the Church Library