



# The Parish Caller

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Prescott Established 1880

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

## Weekly News and Updates

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

- Sunday Chancel Singers Rehearsal: 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
- Pastor's Bible Study: Thursday 9:30 a.m.
- Bell Choir Rehearsal: Thursday 11:00 a.m.
- Thursday Chancel Singers Rehearsal: 5:00 p.m.

### FROM THE PASTOR



The Embarkation of the Pilgrims (1857)  
by American painter Robert Walter Weir at the  
United States Capitol in Washington, DC

It is only appropriate that our stained-glass window contain a pane for the Mayflower since we are faith descendants of the Pilgrims. Forgive the history lesson, but it is essential that we differentiate Puritans from Pilgrims:

**Source: PILGRIM AND PURITAN: A DELICATE DISTINCTION** by **Richard Howland Maxwell**  
**Pilgrim Society Note, Series Two, March 2003**

Near the end of his term as president of the United States, Ronald Reagan delivered an address in which he sought to call the American people back to the values of - in his words - "that old Pilgrim, John Winthrop." Reagan's successor in office, George Bush - who, according to some, ought to have known better because he is a descendant of Mayflower passenger John Howland - compounded the historical error in his 1992 Thanksgiving proclamation by saying, "This Thanksgiving... let us renew the solemn commitment that John Winthrop and his fellow Pilgrims made more than 100 years ago." Mr. Bush not only had the Pilgrims and Puritans confused; he missed their dates by more than two centuries! And a bit more recently, the November 1994 issue of the *Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine* suggested that we include in our Thanksgiving that year "the Puritans in Plymouth, Massachusetts from whom most of our traditions come." The same article later described the "first Thanksgiving" as "the 1621 feast to celebrate the first long winter the Puritans survived in the New World." These illustrations of the apparent ignorance of many Americans concerning at least some parts of our own history have produced among some of us Mayflower descendants an emotional reaction. We become highly incensed if someone refers to the Plymouth settlers as "Puritans," and we become downright angry at the thought that Winthrop might be called a "Pilgrim." The purpose of my presentation today is to examine with as little prejudice as possible the shared history, similarities, and differences between the two groups we commonly call Pilgrims and Puritans.

Let's start with some basic definitions. The *American Heritage Dictionary* defines a Puritan as "A member of a group of English Protestants who in the 16th and 17th centuries advocated strict religious discipline along with simplification of the ceremonies and creeds of the Church of England." The Puritans, in short, were people who wanted to reform or purify their church. A pilgrim (spelled with a lower-case "p"), is defined in that same dictionary as "A religious devotee who journeys to a shrine or sacred place, or one who embarks on a quest for something conceived of as sacred." A pilgrim is one who makes a journey for a religious purpose. In America, we've added specific references to those two terms. We apply the name Pilgrim (with a capital "P") to the small band of English people who came here in 1620 on a vessel called the Mayflower and settled in Plymouth. We use the name Puritan to refer to a much larger group of English immigrants, led by John Winthrop, who came here ten years later and started Massachusetts Bay Colony. Both groups were motivated by their religious convictions. Both groups wished to purify their church by applying the principles of the Protestant Reformation.

So, on Sunday we will consider the small band of Pilgrims who survived the Mayflower journey and landed at Plymouth Rock. Those are our folks. Space does not permit all the reasons we do not want to claim the Puritans, but the old joke about them might suffice: "puritanism: The haunting fear that someone, somewhere, may be happy." — H.L. Mencken.

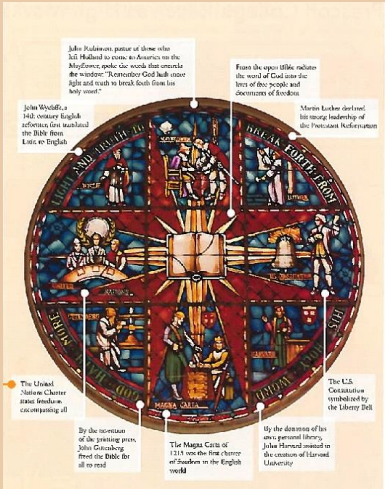
The Pilgrims remind us of our own spiritual pilgrimage and our search for freedom from church hierarchy and church laws. They were simple people who made a covenant to live as a community together.

They claimed Hebrews 11:13-16 as their guiding principle:

**Hebrews 11:13-16, The Geneva Bible - 1560-**  
**(Bible of the Pilgrims) (13)** All these dyed in faith, and received not the promises, but sawe them a farre of, and beleved them, and received them thankefully, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgremes on the earth. **(14)** For they that say suche things, declare plainely that they seke a countrey. **(15)** And if they had bene mindeful of that countrey, from whence they came out, they had leasure to have returned. **(16)** But now they desire a better, that is an heavenlie: wherefore God is not ashamed of them to be called their God; for he hath prepared for them a citie.

As pilgrims on our own journeys, we will reflect on how we have moved toward Light and Truth.

Jay



Sermon Series Continues...

- Oct. 1 The Mayflower
  - Oct. 8 Harvard
  - Oct. 15 The U.S. Constitution
  - Oct. 22 The United Nations
  - Oct.29 Martin Luther
- (October 31 - the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation)

**CALLED TO CARE PRAYER CHAPEL: DAY CHANGE**  
Beginning next week, 10/3, we will meet at 11:00 for Prayer Chapel downstairs on Tuesdays instead of Mondays.

MISSION NEWS

Outreach Mission Update: Thanks to your generous donations, we are sending a Hurricane Relief check to the denominational headquarters in the amount of \$4500. We are also sending a check for \$495 to support the projects of Neighbors in Need.

This month’s mission emphasis is “Warm for Winter”, a project of the local Coalition for Compassion and Justice. The last Saturday of this month, free warm clothing will be made available to those who are homeless or living in an impoverished family. New or gently used coats, sweaters, blankets, gloves, socks and hats are needed. If you would like to make a check donation, please make your check payable to the church with a memo note of “Warm for Winter”.



NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED  
OCTOBER 22

Do you want to learn about our church’s long and fascinating history, both as First Congregational then United Church of Christ, Prescott? And would you like to share in a discussion on how our church is valuable in our Prescott/Prescott Valley area and share why you are joining or why you joined?



Whether you are becoming a member now or have been a member for any length of time, please join Rev. Marti Garrison and Julie McCurdy to learn about who we are and our core beliefs. We will show new members around the church too.

Next week on **Sunday, October 8th**, Marti will lead the discussion on the Congregational/United Church of Christ history and how we operate as a church family. On **Sunday, October 15**, Julie will open up a conversation on how this particular church is so needed and valued in our community. We will meet after service in the big meeting room downstairs, about 11:45.

Our new member Sunday is October 22nd. It’s wonderful to welcome new members!

THE CHOIR IS NOW CALLED  
"THE CHANCEL SINGERS"

You do not have to be able to read music or be a great singer to join us! The Chancel Singers are seeking people who love to sing. Anyone interested is invited to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the Chancel. We also practice on Thursday evenings at 5:00. You may attend one of both of these times, depending on what suits you.

For more information, please contact the Music Director, Jane Osborn, at 928-713-4752 or [prescottsong@hotmail.com](mailto:prescottsong@hotmail.com).

October Birthdays	
Melissa Gates	13-Oct
David Foote	17-Oct
Elizabeth Gates	21-Oct
Harold Lobaugh	22-Oct
Suzy Lobaugh	23-Oct
Patty Lantrip	25-Oct
Buz Duffy	26-Oct
Marilyn Eby	28-Oct

GREETERS FOR OCTOBER

- Patty Lantrip
- Angela Imbierowicz
- Susan Lemons/Ralph Wagner
- Elkanah Riley -- Substitute

If you would like to become a greeter, see Anne Solt.

LOVE AND UNITY MARCH SEPTEMBER 16

SIZABLE CROWD SHOWS UP FOR  
PRESCOTT'S FIRST LOVE AND UNITY  
MARCH

By [Max Efrein](#) Daily Courier

Originally Published: September 18, 2017

For some within the Prescott community, Saturday, Sept. 16, was a day to celebrate love, unity and diversity.



At least 100 people came out for Prescott’s first Love and Unity March .

Holding signs in favor of peace and equality, the crowd gathered at the Crossroads Center on the Prescott College campus to listen to several speakers before marching their way through the heart of Prescott.

Among the speakers were John Morris, Chief Officer of Yavapai County Adult Probation , Jessi Hans, assistant director for Coalition for Compassion and Justice, and Karina Ruiz, a ‘Dreamer’ and president of the Arizona DREAM act Coalition .

“We are gathered to declare a challenge,” Morris said. “That today in Prescott, Arizona, we as citizens of Prescott will truly live up to its name as Everybody’s Hometown .”

Hans originally came up with the idea for the march. Leading up to it, she was often asked why she felt such a march was necessary.

“I have to say I can’t identify one moment, but many,” Hans said. “The division in this country has become more and more clear as recent events have unraveled.”

One that has stirred much emotion on all sides of the spectrum was President Trump’s decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA).

To speak about this, Ruiz traveled up from her home in the Phoenix area. She is one of the nearly 790,000 young unauthorized immigrants who have received work permits and deportation relief through the federal government program. When she was 15, her parents came to the U.S. in search of more opportunity and a better quality of life. Ruiz followed them a year later.

“When I came here, I didn’t know we were breaking the law,” she said. “My parents actually didn’t know that we were going to come through the means that we did. All that was pictured to them was the American dream. That success that people have here because there are more opportunities.”

Now, 18 years later, Ruiz, 32, has three children and a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from Arizona State University.

“I see America as my home,” Ruiz said. With her ability to stay in the U.S. now threatened, she has joined a movement of DACA recipients and their supporters to have permanent legislation, such as the Dream act, passed that would allow them to continue living the lives they have become accustomed to.



“We want a path to citizenship,” Ruiz said. If such an act does not pass within the six-month window the executive branch has given Congress to do so, she does not believe it will be the end of the fight.

“I think our movement is just going to get stronger, because people are going to see that they aren’t going to work or school,” Ruiz said. “If you’re not able to go to school or work, the only other thing you can do is join the movement. There will be more urgency and opportunity for us to come together with other communities and put more pressure. We have come out and started to have a normal life - or close to a normal life - and once you are given those opportunities, it’s very hard to let go of them. The only thing you can do is fight for it.”



Karina Ruiz, a “Dreamer” and president of the Arizona DREAM act Coalition, spoke during Prescott’s first Love and Unity March. (Max Efrein/Courier)



As many as 17 of our congregation participated in the Peace and Unity March, September 16th.

STEWARDSHIP

Offerings		
	September	YTD
Offerings	\$ 7,642	\$ 78,119
Facility Use	\$ 589	\$ 8,884
Foundation	\$ 5,000	\$ 47,876
Other		\$ 5,509
Total	\$ 13,231	\$ 140,388
Expenses		
	August	YTD
Expenses	\$ 14,232	\$ 205,792
Annual Budget Needs		
	August	YTD
Expenses	\$ 254,276	\$ 200,531

Attendance; Monthly Average	
January	102
February	89
March	89
April	108
May	101
June	79
July	96
August	91
Sept	90
Oct	
Nov	
Dec	

Outreach Gifts			
Jan		July	
Prescott Comm. Cupb.	\$ 510	Pancake Breakfast	\$ 3,027
Feb		August	
PASS	\$ 140	Discovery Gardens	\$ 65
March		Sept	
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 165	Neighbors in Need	\$ 295
April		Undesignated Missions	
One Great Hour Share	\$ 1,183	YTD	\$ 825
May		Famine Relief	
Church World Service	\$ 319	Special Offering	\$ 795.00
June		Hurricane Relief	
Strengthen the Church	\$ 280	Special Offering	\$ 4,500

REGULARLY SCHEDULED

PASTOR’S BIBLE STUDY

An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

If you would be interested in playing with us, we will train

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

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 its membership. We meet Sundays at 9:00 a.m. before worship services and Thursday nights at 5:00 p.m. Come when you can.

**ALTER-NOTES**

Alter-Notes is an alternative music group that meets at 12:00 for rehearsal in the Hazeltine Room 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



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30

