

First Congregational Church, UCC Prescott

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

FROM JAY'S DESK

*Lord's Prayer, Albani Psalter,
Cathedral Library of the
Cathedral of St. Godehard,
Hildesheim, Germany*

This Sunday Jesus will teach us how to pray (Luke 11:1-13). Most of us are in elementary school when it comes to the subject of prayer, so any help from Jesus will be much appreciated! Maybe a childlike faith is best since prayer is such a mystery. Too much analysis leads to paralysis. I have spent hours this week researching one Greek word in this text: "anaideia." Most of our Bible versions translate it as "persistence" or "boldness." The Greek word occurs only here in Luke in the Bible, but every other time it is used in Greek literature it is translated "shamelessness." Why am I in the weeds with this word? Not just to validate years spent learning New Testament Greek, but also to dispel a common misinterpretation of Jesus' parable of the Friend at Midnight - persistent prayer will finally wear God down to give us what we ask. No, giving the Greek word the proper translation of "shamelessness" leads us to a much better view of God and ourselves. Come Sunday to find out!



Jay

PS: GIFT OF ARTWORK: "JESUS OF THE PEOPLE" BY JANET MCKENZIE

Last Sunday the church was presented a unique piece of art, courtesy of Michele McFadden, Harry and Anne Strong. They had attended a conference in Albuquerque this spring that was truly inspiring and featured (at the Center for Action and Contemplation) Father Richard Rohr, Rev. Jacqui Lewis and John Dominic Crossan. The picture was how Jesus would have been depicted with consideration of the times, the region, and ethnicity. It will be hung as soon a decision has been made of where it should be. Right now, it will sit in Perkins Hall. THANK YOU, Michele for the idea and Harry and Anna for backing you up. (Unfortunately, someone took the brochure that describes the painting - if you have it, please return!)

.....

sunday
brunch

.....

September 29th 2019

139th anniversary annual

.....

PICNIC

.....



First Congregational Church Library

OUR CHURCH LIBRARY

Please stop by the library in Perkins' lower level, near the children's rooms. To check out a book is simple: just borrow it and return it. If you particularly enjoyed it, note the title and leave in the library. I will include it in our "Library Offerings," an upcoming column. If you notice how the library might be easier to access, let me know. And, if you know books to recommend, I will look into ordering them. For security, our library is locked during service, but open immediately after and every day of the week. This week, I will recommend *Writing the Sacred, a Psalm-inspired path to appreciating and writing sacred poetry* by Ray McGinnis which I will use for an adult education class in the fall. I also recommend anything by Marcus Borg and Barbara Brown Taylor. You will find shelves for women-focused spiritual literature as well as LGBT books. The library has books old and new that address wide-ranging theological topics. I am looking for current books and topics so I welcome your suggestions.

Marti Garrison

EDUCATION DISPLAY IN PERKINS HALL

Take a few minutes to look at the illustrated map on the education table showing the journey of the First Congregationalists and the United Church of Christ. This large map has been hanging in the library but now is more noticeable. It is very interesting!

Marti Garrison

YOUTH EDUCATION

I will report in August how the teachers are using the curriculum and leading Bible-related projects. Suggestions and questions are always welcomed.

Marti Garrison

ADULT EDUCATION ACTIVITIES (DATES AND TIMES tba)

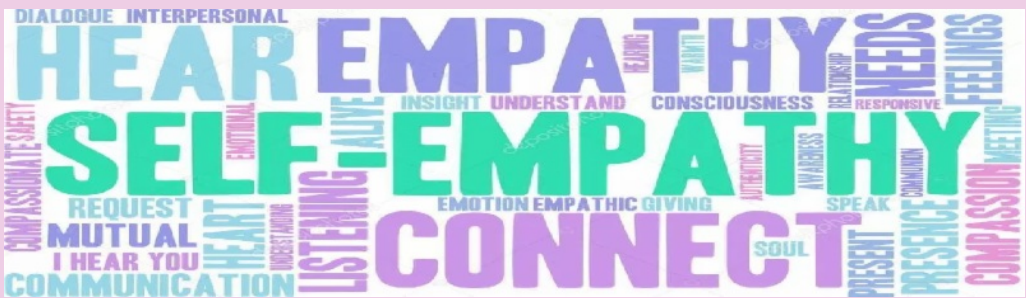
Adult Education Ideas for the coming months. Do any of these spark a fire in you?

- **Reading and writing sacred poetry:** *Writing the Sacred, A Psalm-inspired path to appreciating and writing sacred poetry* by Ray McGinnis
- Studying the faith journey of **Barbara Brown Taylor**: how do we relate to her...or not? (four weeks)
- **"Living in Covenant"** using the UCC guide from *The Present Word*: Mark, Matthew, Hebrews, Ruth, and 1 Samuel (four weeks)
- **"Discipleship and Mission"** using the UCC guide from *The Present Word*: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Romans (four weeks)
- Consider the book **"One Day I Wrote Back"**: interacting with scripture through creative writing," by Jane Herring



RELATED

- **Taize service** in October or November
- **Nine 'n Dine** late September-October
- **Women's retreat** in fall or spring, hoping for an overnight in a retreat center or Airbnb
- **Introduction to Non-violent communication** presented by Rachel Garmon and Susan Seymour community NVC leaders; suggested by our Lauren Edwards. October 19, 1-3, meeting room 1



COMPASSIONATE COMMUNICATION:

Find your voice, speak your truth & listen deeply:

- Would you like to be able to hear others and speak your mind in a clear and kind way, without needing to be defensive or go on the attack? Find more ease in everyday conversations. Stay focused on what really matters to you and listen for the concerns behind others' words.
- Rachel Garmon and Sharon Seymour have been immersed in Marshall Rosenberg's Nonviolent Communication practice since 2004, attending workshops and retreats, and facilitating classes and practice groups. They bring a lively, 'jump right in' style to their teaching. Take home skills you can use right now. Open to all; freewill donations welcome.
- **Presentation** led by Michele McFadden on **Matthew Fox** (founder of Creation Spirituality) and **Meister Eckhart** (German mystic, 1260-1328). Michele attended a conference focused on these two spiritual leaders and wants to share her enthusiasm.

See me, Marti if you want to be a part of the growing movement of "Compassionate Communication".

MISSIONS OUTREACH NEWS

We have two mission projects which we are supporting this month.

1. "Start Right", is an outreach of the Yavapai Food Bank, and will be providing backpacks with school supplies for impoverished families with students in K-12. School supplies will be distributed July 27. The last date for contributions to this project will be Sunday, July 21st. If this is your choice, please write "Start Right" on the memo line of your check.

2. Discovery Gardens Preschool [DGP] The DGP enrollment includes students with special needs. Donations will be dedicated to their three year old scholarship fund. If this is your choice, please write, "Discovery Gardens" on the memo line of your check.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST	Amount
Pre Sales Donations	391.00
After Leftover Food Sales	49.00
Ticket Sales	2,516.00
Raffle Tickets	701.00
Silent Auction	255.00
	3,912.00
Pancake Breakfast Expenses	-440.28
	3,471.72

In addition to our monthly PASS meals, we are exploring the possibility of providing a monthly dinner for the approximate 33 homeless people sheltered by the Coalition for Compassion & Justice. If you are interested in helping, please contact our Mission Outreach chairperson, Gary Gard (928-910-2455).

Please remember our ministry providing a monthly hot meal to the women’s Prescott Area Shelter Services (PASS). There is a volunteer sign-up list in Perkins Hall. Questions may be directed to our PASS coordinator, Patty Gard (928 460 3042).

Questions regarding any of our mission projects may be directed to our Mission Outreach Team. Becky & Bill Bryant, Patty Gard, Linda Moore, Staci Robbins, Helaine Berman or Gary Gard, Chairperson. Thank you for remembering that we have been blessed to be a blessing. (Genesis 12:2)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FOUNDATION

The FCC Foundation was formed in the 1990’s to help and assist the FCC Church growth and to support our wonderful Church. A recent example of Foundation support is the funding of the Minister’s Salary and the Christian Education programs. Long term support from the Foundation can be used to help fund any major building maintenance projects when they are needed. Those interested in providing financial support through legacy gifts [endowments] to the Foundation are encouraged to contact the FCC Fdn BOD members.

WARM FOR WINTER

We have a barrel in the front of the sanctuary for donations to the “warm for winter” program. New items for children / gently used items ok for adults. Coats/jackets, scarves, gloves, and blankets. Items will be distributed on October 17, 9am-2pm at First United Methodist Church on Gurley, and on October 19, 9am-2pm at Prescott Church of the Nazarene on Willow Creek Road.



A LOOK AHEAD.....

- July 28

August 4

August 11

August 18

August 25

September 2

Sept. 29
- Song of the Pines

Camp Song Sunday

Chancel Singers

Gospel Music Sunday

Rev. Harry Strong Guest Preacher

Labor Day

Church Picnic (139th Anniversary)



<p>★ PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY An informal study group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Conference room. All adults are welcome.</p>	<p>★ 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 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays.</p>
<p>★ EVERY WEEK COMMUNION "Every Sunday Communion" takes place in the sanctuary after worship on Sundays. Communion is open to all.</p>	<p>★ 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.</p>
<p>★ ONCE A MONTH COMMUNION Our regularly scheduled communion is held the first Sunday of each month. Communion is open to all.</p>	<p>★ 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</p>
<p>★ 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.</p>	<p>★ 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).</p>
<p>★ CABINET MEETING Meets the 4th Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm in the Office Conference Room.</p>	

OFFICE HOURS

ADMINISTRATION

MONDAY - THURSDAY

9:00 - 4:00

PASTOR JAY

9-12

