



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Parish Caller

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Cub Scout Pack #1

Pine Wood Derby

The annual Pine Wood Derby with our very own, Al Beeson, officiating as one of the judges.



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Blue & Gold Banquet



Gavin Sampson and Colin Hicks who received their Arrow of Light awards at the Blue and Gold Banquet. The Arrow of Light is the highest award a Cub Scout can earn.

From the Pastor's Desk by Pastor Jane Cheek



The Care and Feeding of Your Pastor

Since we have gone through two years together, and several of you have commented on how busy I am (you express worry that goes with my being too busy!), I thought it might be a good idea to communicate some insights to you as to just who serves you in the role of pastor of FCCUCC.

First and foremost, I am a “Type A” person, who needs to be active and wear herself out in order to sleep at night. I usually begin my work day around 5:30 in the morning when I’m fresh, (reading or studying or answering emails), go through the day’s activities, then crash and burn around 10 pm. I also spread the work I do for our church throughout the week; some days, I’m in the office full-time – other days, only for an hour or two, because I do some of my work at home or off-site. I don’t know why I’ve been gifted with way more abilities than a person should have, but since I’ve learned to accept them in my 57 years, I’ve come to understand that God blessed me with them to be able to use all my talents to serve in God’s church. And since I’ve lived in my own skin for all these years, long ago I realized that I need to pace myself, which means I have been known to take “mental health” days. I can tell when I’m getting low on my limits of performance, and so I will disappear when it’s time to recharge (which is why I take a few days off once in a while).

Next, because we are a smaller church with a few core and active members, I elect to do some things to help you, since I believe I can effectively do them and it

gets done. This doesn’t mean I don’t want to share responsibility – it just means that so many of you are also overloaded, and if I’m around and I can do something, there’s no earthly reason why I can’t and shouldn’t. So, yes, I do soup nights and yes, I clean up after myself if I offered to sponsor some meeting. I hope I communicate enough that any of you are welcome to help (as in the Blue and Gold Banquet), but if I don’t, feel free to tell me or ask me. I bet I’ll say, “Absolutely!”

Along these lines of communication, I’m also the type of person who is emotional, but not in a crippling way. Yes, I show my feelings – I think in many ways, it’s one of my strengths, because you always know where you stand. But, even though it might make you feel uncomfortable to confront me face-to-face, I would *much prefer* hearing a constructive criticism from someone directly than via a representative – and while I can’t guarantee I’ll sit there and just show no emotion, I promise that I’ll chew on it a while and then get it straight in my own head to follow through. I don’t hold grudges, and I don’t remember much of anything that hurts me from the past – you can ask my husband about that. Life is too short...

So, in light of these revelations about me, here’s what I am asking of you:

Please trust that I can take care of myself, and allow me to feel free to be my “best me.” I don’t want to “burn out” either, and I will do my best to monitor my actions and time to prevent that.

Please, speak to me directly if I’m doing

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Moderator's Message by Gordon Berghold, Moderator

The month of March was a challenge for me as I visited my sister Sally during her last days. She had asked me to come and say goodbye twice and on March 16 I travelled once more to California with the idea of seeing her for the last time. However, I was informed through her companion Dena that she'd said goodbye several times and I didn't need to make the trip again. About 5pm I decided to sing Amazing Grace, out loud and alone in the car, as I headed north from Bakersfield to Visalia. It sounded so good, at least to me, that I decided to call Dena and have her put the phone up to Sally's ear so that I could sing it to her...however, before that thought left my mind Dena called me and said that Sally was on her journey and that she died quietly in her sleep on her 69th birthday.

We were all at peace and relieved because this is what Sally had prayed for over the past few months...a time to say goodbye and to let everyone know that she would be fine in a much better place

and no longer suffering. This may seem like a weird message from the Moderator, but with so much suffering going on in the world I feel sharing this message about someone dying with dignity and joy in her heart is worth sharing. Although I've told this story to many of you already, I feel it's worth repeating as so many are dealing with the loss of loved ones.


What I learned through my sister's death is that we, the survivors, are full of grief and hurt while the one leaving us is preparing for the journey. I learned through Sally's sense of humor and faith that we should share in the preparation of the journey by talking about the times we've spent together, family outings, and those things that stand out as blessings in our lives. No one who went to say goodbye to Sally left sad because her sense of humor kept the visitor laughing and upbeat...that was the way Sally lived her life despite fighting cancer for over 20 years.

Thank you for letting me share my blessings with you.

Great News: The Circus is Coming to Prescott....!!!!!!

On April 11-12 the Carson and Barnes Circus [sponsored by the area Lions Cubs] is putting on two benefit shows each day at the Prescott Rodeo Grounds that promises to be great family fun. The circus will feature "elephants, camels, clowns, acrobats, aerialists, horses, jugglers, dogs and a flying trapeze, plus a variety of acts and a petting zoo." **And the best other news is that our very own Prescott Community Cupboard will be sharing the net proceeds.**

Advance tickets, single \$10 or a family ticket (two adults and three children aged 2-11) for \$25. Contact Lions members Mr. Savage at 713-9482 or Mr. Shaffer at 710-0061.



something you don’t like or don’t understand or if I’m not following some procedure properly. I’m still learning, and appreciate being honestly approached to improve my work as your pastor. Or, call Christy Dinsman, our Pastor/Parish Relations Representative, and speak with her. She’ll get the message to me, I promise. We need to keep our communication lines open...

Know that I believe we are a team, going forward in the work of this church, on behalf of a God we all love and need. It has never been, and will never be, my desire to show how wonderful *I am* to

compromise our work together. I do NOT wish to control everything – but because I’m capable, I’ll try to do anything to get things done. Guide me, advise me – and trust that all I do in this position as your pastor happens AFTER I ask myself, “Is this good for the people of our church?”

Hopefully, this little communication will answer some of your questions. I love you all, and it’s my pleasure to serve you and an amazing God in this good work we do together.
God’s Peace...



From the Library at FCCUCC - Wilfrid McDonald

by Ruth Auchenbach, Christian Education Committee

Ruth Auchenbach, member of the Christian Education Committee, has been re-organizing our library. She will be introducing us to new books available for checkout for children and adults!

I’ve often wondered what it must have been like to be part of a group of children tagging along with Jesus when he came into a village and sat down to talk with them. There were no books in print in those days to help in starting a conversation, no picture books to look at together. It was just Jesus eye to eye with a child or children.

Did Jesus take a hungry kid or a group of homeless children into a market and help them with something to eat or wear?

At Christmas time this past year when, Prescott Police took individual needy children to buy gifts for their family, they were surprised and heartened by the number who wanted anxiously to buy something warm for a grandparent or parent. One little boy was so excited about caring for his family that he forgot

to buy a gift for himself. (His accompanying cop made sure he returned to a store and obtained something special for himself).

One of the newer books in our children’s Sunday school room is entitled Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge by Mem Fox. It’s one of my favorite stories to tell and to encourage grownups to read too because it is about a special friendship. A creative, ingenious, caring little boy lives next door to a nursing home, befriends all the residents, and one in particular: Miss Nancy Alison Delacourt Cooper. She has four names just as he does!

Miss Nancy suffers memory loss: Wilfrid, filled with sensitivity, compassion, enthusiasm and curiosity, sets out to restore the loss, and thereby hangs a tale!

The book is on our shelf along with a notebook to check it out. Please write the title of the book, date you took it, your name, the author’s name and return it in two weeks.

Women's Fellowship by Joanne Storer, Women's Fellowship Chair

On March 16, we held a brown bag lunch/meeting in Perkins Hall... except no one had a brown bag---lunch, Yes! This was a planning meeting.

Please pick up your copy of the minutes in Perkins Hall, we need volunteers to sign up for committee chairs and worker

bees!

This year (2011 - 2012) we are focusing on fellowship not \$\$\$\$, though we will continue to do some fundraising to help our college students. Please sign-up where you can help.....no volunteers = no event! Stay tuned for more info!

An update on Wynne Strom...

Wynne suffered a heart attack and pneumonia during the Christmas holiday; currently, she is recovering slowly and seems to be in good spirits. Someone from her family visits every day. We send her bulletins and the Caller, but she would enjoy hearing from you, too. If you'd like to call, she asks that you call during these times: 8-10 am, 12-2 pm, 5-7 pm. Her number is 1-760-955-4881, and her address is 17738 Francesca Road, #339, Victorville, CA 92395.

Easter Flower Ministry to our shut-ins DONATE – AND DELIVER – A FLORAL

If you would like to contribute a **colorful floral bouquet** to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please plan to *deliver the flowers* you donate to a loved one, a neighbor or one of our own homebound members after worship on Easter Sunday or sometime during this joyous season.

We hope you consider one of the members listed below... it is so important to remember those of our congregation who can't often come to worship with us, and a short visit accompanied by a lovely bouquet will be very comforting and meaningful to them. (The flowers can be delivered at your convenience). Call Holly at the church office, or see Julie McCurdy, for a suggested recipient. We suggest a donation of \$10 for the flowers.

Evelyn Bennett
Martha Clark
Naomi Coppock
Mary Gale
Rolland and Mary Herrick
Chuck and Laramie Jarvi
Dorothy Jordan
Katrine McCormick

Tom Nolan
Sherman Payne
Betty Pearson
Erwin and Arlene Relth
Marion Richards
Geri Schott
Celia Webb
Nancy Gale



What's Happening...

DIACONATE:

By Julie McCurdy

The Easter Lilies are ready for dressing the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Kris Chatfield purchased **silk Easter Lilies**, pots and ribbons. The pots and flowers were assembled by many of the women of the church, after the March 16 luncheon and meeting of the Women's Fellowship. Julie plans to purchase several large plastic bins for permanently storing the seasonal flowers, including the Easter Lilies as well as the geraniums for Pentecost.

In addition to displaying the silk Easter Lilies on Easter Sunday, we will encourage donations for **colorful, fresh flowers**--for delivery and for dressing the chancel area. We will invite people to promise to deliver the flowers they donate.

Easter greeting cards will be mailed to all friends and members.

Judy and Julie will arrange the **eco-friendly fan palms** before service on Palm Sunday.

The cabinet is considering having our new **Mission Statement printed on a banner**. Julie has suggested that we hang a banner in the sanctuary. The space on the north wall, next to entrance from Perkins Hall and Alarcon St. would be good. And it would be nice if the banner were colorful, with multiple fonts.

The **roll-top desk** is now installed at the back of the sanctuary (housing the audio controls) and the **ushers' cabinet** has been moved into the Cory Room, where much of the church's historical items are kept. Jay Eby plans to use the upper glass-covered display section of the ushers' cabinet to display archival material. This cabinet previously displayed a book listing **memorial gifts** given in honor of deceased members.

TRUSTEE:

By Al Beeson

A. Old Business: [open items in order of priority]

1. Discussed that the repair/replacement of exterior doors Sanctuary/Perkins Hall complex are needed and are of high priority. Lower rear door basement broken. R. Brown?
2. Sanctuary Bell Tower: R..Brown to add retractable ladder, replace trap door, leak fixed.
3. Status Office bldg porch repair using trex?

Status: Sound system move and installation of enclosure, Stained used roll top desk, stain near 99.9% perfect.... Move desk and install equipment in desk on Thursday, March 10 Spike will assist [for a fee] to make this installation correct. The fix of the remote view of Sanctuary services in Perkins hall, will be in time for a big Memorial for Jack Ogg, on April 2. Will replace remote camera with a color model at a very reasonable cost.

B: New Business:

1. Painting Office Bldg: Mathus awarded bid job \$9650 status, gutter install \$1670 after paint. Need added Bid on: Painting gutter and security door. Update: Should start in March.
2. Sanctuary Cooling project: Study: either 1). increase efficiency of: 1.) Evap Air, 2). A/C installation or 3). combination of both. Discussed that Prescott Glass will look at costs to install Low E thermo pane windows south side Sanctuary as a first step. This project would remove old plexi glass panels as first step.
3. Status report on YC Student design & installation of railing[s] from chancel to Sanctuary floor. Dwgs have been started.
4. Snow removal last storm by Land Craft was near perfect and very timely.
5. Review Office Bldg: dirt on wood stem walls at foundation. Channel 80-90% done. We will need to replace much wood/check for termites/paint to match. Discussed briefly with R Brown this evening.

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6. Still need to resolve heat in north side basement. This air flow problem again assigned to Al.
7. Discussed Security with the many facility users.
8. Discussed the need to reset the pavers in front of Sanctuary /Perkins Hall [Alarcon/ Gurley] as the settling of the pavers in most areas presents a lip that is a safety hazard. John M to bid.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

by Barbara McClure

Adults—Library

- The library project is continuing. The congregation is now invited to offer suggestions for books they would like to see in the library. Put the information (title, author, and if possible, publisher) on a note, submit to Ruth Achenbach, Barbara McClure or church office. You may also donate books you have read in the same way.

Learning Experiences

- Saturday morning classes led by Pastor Jane at 10:00 a.m. See bulletin for details.
- “Living the Questions” series on Monday at 6:00 p.m. in the library. The Exploring Progressive Christianity group is discussing this program again because of the richness of the material. The DVD series is available to anyone who would like to start a group at another time.

Programs for Children

- Sunday School - held during the church service, Basic theme “Stewardship of our world”.
- Summer Camp – It’s time to sign up. Scholarships are available. Please see Pastor Jane.
- Vacation Church School - June 13-17, 5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Those who are willing to teach or work in the kitchen please sign up, let us know. We will have a new theme this year, and a new co-director. We are pleased that Marilyn Kerstine has joined our committee.

From a Long-Time Member:

A Note from Edythe Marshall...



What a nice surprise to hear from you. I appreciate your thoughts and prayers. I’ve been in the Las Cruces (New Mexico) nursing Center since July of last year. My health is good right now and I still go for walks. I’m glad it has warmed up due to spring almost here. My granddaughter, Beverly, lives here in Las Cruces and visits me every day or every other day. What a blessing it is to have her.

I lost my daughter, Barbara, on January 21. She had a mini stroke and was sick a month before she went to hospice. She is sure missed. Thank you again for your card.

Love & Blessings
Edythe

Edythe Marshall
2029 Sage Crest
Las Cruces, NM 88011

Mission Matters

by Betty Berghold, Mission Chair

The Prescott Community Cupboard Food Bank was a recipient of many FCC Member donations of "Mac & Cheese" during the month of February & March. Other food items donated also went to augment the demands of our local community to those in need. The demand in 2011 has exceeded the historical requests by approximately 25%. We can thank the congregation for their food and individual monetary donations which help keep this vital community effort "alive and well".

One Great Hour of Sharing

Ah! The joy that comes from giving someone just the perfect gift. Their utter delight is a gift right back.

Joy motivates us to share our resources with a hurting world through One Great Hour of Sharing. Where does this joy come from? From God! Sharing invites God more fully into our lives; As we reach out in love, we open the way for God to reach more deeply into us. As one contributor said, "Giving just feeds my soul." This is what life is about—not collecting things, but helping people."

Giving from our abundance helps build clean water and sewage facilities in villages devastated by poverty; nurtures self sufficiently through health care, education, and job training; and brings safety, shelter, and food after natural disaster or violent circumstances have made towns uninhabitable.

Let sharing transform you as you help transform the world through One Great Hour of Sharing. You will find an offering envelope inside this bulletin for your gift. Thank you.

The OGHS offering will be joyfully collected on April 3rd.

The tragedy in Japan

So far we have \$450.00 designated for relief in Japan. Money can not replace the lives that have been lost, but it shows that we care as we help our neighbors rebuild. Mark your check or envelope: JAPAN and 100% of your donation will go towards the rebuilding effort. That is because our donations to **Our Church's Wider Mission** covers the administrative cost.

By the time this Caller is published, **Hannah Lusk** will be in Malawi, Africa, on her **3 week mission trip**. She will be putting long hours in at a regional medical clinic and orphanage. Thanks to all who donated money, \$228.60, and onesies for Hannah and the Ministry of Hope.

www.ministryofhope.org

Wheelchair Ministry



On the mission bulletin board there is a 'thermostat' indicating the level of giving by our church. It has been updated and now indicates that we have provided **38 wheelchairs** for children and adults in need! This is amazing! Just imagine the lives that have been blessed by your generosity. For a \$25 donation one can honor a special person on Sunday morning. The recipient will be noted in the bulletin and a picture of a wheelchair will grace the alter.

In May we will support **Strengthen the Church**. These funds will build the UCC's future from funding new congregations to invigorating existing ones. It will also foster tomorrow's leaders and nurture today's leaders. Strengthen the Church grows our presence as a vibrant community of extravagant welcome!



April 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time	4 6:30 Progressive Christianity	5 6:30 Boy Scouts	6 5:30 Lent Season Agape Soup/Bread 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	7 1:00 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 Taizé Service	8 10:00 "From Jesus to Christ" Video Series	9 10:00 "From Jesus to Christ" Video Series
10 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time	11 6:30 Progressive Christianity	12 6:30 Boy Scouts 7:00 Trustees	13 5:30 Lent Season Agape Soup/Bread 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	14 1:00 Bell Rehearsal	15 10:00 "Peter & Paul" Video	16 10:00 "Peter & Paul" Video
17 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time Palm Sunday 	18 6:30 Progressive Christianity	19 6:30 Boy Scouts	20 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	21 11:00 Hannah Circle 1:00 Bell Rehearsal 6:00 Maundy Thursday Meal	22 12-1:00 pm Good Friday "Drop-in"	23
24 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time Easter Sunday 	25 6:30 Progressive Christianity	26 6:30 Boy Scouts	27 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	28 1:00 Bell Rehearsal 6:30 Cabinet Mtg. 6:30 Cub Scouts	29	30
Pastor Jane & Others to SW Conference Annual Meeting in Albuquerque. (Return on Sunday, May 1)						

March Worship Leaders

Lay Readers

3rd: Don Storer
10th: Tom Lloyd
17th: Gordon Bergthold
24th: Sherry Hager

Ushers

3rd: Jay & Marilyn Eby
10th: Jay & Marilyn Eby
17th: Bret & Judy Ely
24th: Jay & Marilyn Eby

Greeters

3rd: Dave & Kris Chatfield
10th: Pete Norum & Barbara McClure
17th: David & Linda Foote
24th: Bret & Judy Ely, and
Don & Kathy Stephens

Offering Counters

Pete Norum
Sherry Hager
Al Beeson
Ron Solt

Communion Servers

Judy & Brett Ely

Coffee Host *(Signup in Perkins Hall)*

3rd:
10th:
17th:
24th:



Altar Flowers/Wheelchair

3rd: Available
10th: Available
17th: Available
24th: Available

Statistics

	Attendance	Offerings
2/6	85	\$2,927
2/13	64	2,906
2/20	Services Canceled (weather)	
2/27	18	787.60
Total	Avg. 56	\$6,620.60

Happy Birthday

4/4	Kristin Ely
4/5	Wesley Bradstreet
4/13	Ron Solt
4/13	Georjean McKeeman
4/17	Cindy Feurriegel
4/28	Tom Lloyd
4/29	Edythe Marshall



Church Leadership Team

Cabinet

Moderator	Gordon Bergthold
Moderator Elect	Don Storer
Treasurer	Sylvia Staats
Clerk	Sherry Hager
Trustee Chair	Al Beeson
Deaconate Chair	Julie McCurdy
Christian Ed Chair	Barbara McClure
Church Missions Chair	Betty Bergthold
Pastor Parish Relations	Christy Dinsman
Member at Large	John McCurdy

Christian Education

Barbara McClure, Chair
Gerri Lyons
Jane Cheek
Ruth Auchenbach

Church Vitality

Anne Solt
Kathy Stephens

Diaconate

Julie McCurdy, Chair
Judy Ely

Pastor Parish Relations

Christy Dinsman

Stewardship

Don Storer
Betty Bergthold
Ron Solt

Trustees

Al Beeson, Chair
John McCurdy, Vice Chair
Chuck Jarvi, Bldg & Grounds
Don Stephens
John Huff, Multimedia System

Church Leadership Team

Continued

Church Missions

Betty Bergthold, Chair
Bev Summers
Sherry Hager

Woman's Fellowship

Joanne Storer, Chair
Sherry Hager, Vice Chair
Sylvia Staats, Treasurer
Gerri Lyons, Kitchen

Foundation

Tom Lloyd, President
Dr. Billie Alarie, Vice President
Al Beeson, Trustee Chair
Phil Preble, Treasurer
Jay Eby, Secretary

Church Staff

Licensed Minister	Pastor Jane Cheek
Office Administrator	Holly Houston
Director of Music	Jane Lawler
Organist	Carole Sue Linson
Custodian	Bill Linson

The Parish Caller

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**You can give without loving.
But you cannot love without giving.**

~ Amy Carmichael