



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Parish Caller

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Country Store and Fair Trade Faire

Saturday, November 5, 2011

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

First Congregational Church UCC

Drawing for PRIZES!
Enjoy a Cup of Coffee and Blintze - \$1.50

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Eco-Friendly Gifts



Our Famous Baked Goods

Rada Knives



Fair Trade Items from Around the World

The Country Store portion of our event is a FUNDRAISER for our Women's Fellowship to award Scholarships to college Junior/Senior students that are affiliated with our church.



Making My Way to “Moderator”

I think it's time that I share a little bit about my experience during this time of serving as Moderator-elect of the Southwest Conference of the United Church of Christ...I'm halfway through my term, and am being prepared with “on the job training” for my next role as Moderator. This is new territory for us both!

A major part of my indoctrination involves time with our conference leaders. In addition to meetings at the conference office once in a while, twice a month, (more if needed) I participate in a phone/video conference with John Dorhauer at the SWC office in Phoenix and Lee Milligan, the current Moderator and Pastor from Casa Adobes in Tucson. Using our laptops armed with cameras, we spend an hour or so communicating online using a program called Skype, which allows us to see and speak to each other in “real time.” John tells us things we need to know that are happening within the conference; and we work on plans for meetings, events and other conference business. Sometimes John shares information about specific churches and (with respect to confidentiality of some topics that he can't share), issues or challenges they are going through, as well as celebrations. And sometimes, just the three of us dream out loud about how “church” can make such a difference in people's lives if we keep asking the right questions and working toward God's Way. The time flies by, and I'm always energized by what I've heard and said.

You need to know that for someone who is relatively new to this business of being a pastor – much less a pastor in a leadership role - I truly value and respect these two men and all the experience and wisdom they share with me. I feel safe enough with them to ask questions

freely – this is such a gift! This may not be a graduate course for college credit, but it is a powerful learning experience for me, and to be able to work so closely with people who clearly love God and their work is a real joy. They are truly great mentors...

Then, there's the flip-side to my “training.” John and Lee have made it very clear that they have accepted me as someone who can take the reins as Moderator in a few months - their trust in my ability to learn what I need to be an effective leader means everything. They respect me, too! They know how our church has healed and grown, how we are working toward a strong, vibrant ministry and future – and how much we love and support one another. Our work as a church is reflected in my work as your pastor; our journey together has also given me a strong base to grow from. We are a good example of how a group of people can use alternative methods to renew and rebuild a church, and I have a feeling this will help the Southwest Conference move into yet another level of understanding and growth that works with the complicated world we hope to serve today. With the support of the United Church of Christ and its willingness to be bold and try new things to get God “out there”, some amazing things are possible.

So, as the months go by and April rolls around, and I step up at the Annual Meeting in April to take the REALLY BIG cross necklace that signifies my turn to serve this conference, I hope you will continue to pray for me and our conference leaders – and the denomination that has brought me closer to God than I could have ever imagined. God's Love and Peace to us all...

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Jane".

Moderator's Message by Gordon Bergthold, Moderator

This is the time of the year when we plan for the coming year in church pledges, large acquisitions like automobiles, homes and other things that involve budgeting. We're in the middle of our annual stewardship drive and I believe it bears repeating that there are several avenues of stewardship that don't involve donations of money. Although we need money to operate the church, we have other areas of need as illustrated in the handout last Sunday.

Our time and talents can go a long way in serving our church and the community in which we live. Volunteering is absolutely one of the most important stewardship areas in which we can all contribute to the welfare of not only the church but the community, and in some cases the world. We offer our campus for outsiders who have no other place to meet and that is a very beneficial use for a piece of real estate that is usually used only two or three times a week by its members. We participate in the community cupboard that provides meals for the needy and hungry. But there are

other ways to serve.

Please give prayerful consideration in deciding what you can do in contributing to the needs of the church, and others, by volunteering in any area you feel motivated. Yes, we need the pledges and operating dollars to continue with our church programs and to be able to staff the paid positions, but "serving others" through your time and talents will fill the gaps that are so vital to a successful church.

I learned that we can do anything, but we can't do everything...at least not at the same time. So think of your priorities in terms of what is needed and when you do them remember that timing is everything. Don't overload yourself but do what you feel is comfortable in your own timeframe.

Being a part of the "big picture" is a very rewarding part of my life. Try it yourself and see what rewards you reap. It only takes a few volunteers to do a lot; but by having a lot of volunteers we can do much more and the synergistic result will be very evident.

Operation Christmas Child



Operation Christmas Child continues. Shoe boxes go to children ages 2-4, as well as to school-aged children. Small picture books, girl's hair accessories, small toys, coloring books, crayons, and colored pencils, are some of the things that cause the eyes of pre-school children to light up with joy. Also needed are hygiene items like mild soap, brush, comb, wash clothes, etc. School supplies are always a good choice such as pens, pencils, writing pads and solar calculators.

Please do not include:

Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items or aerosol cans.

Jesus said "You are the light that gives light to the world." Let's share our light with the children who will receive these shoe boxes.

Exciting News from the Southwest Conference Mission Planning Board

by Al Beeson

As our church representative, I was present Saturday, Oct 8, 2011 at the very first meeting of the new SWC Mission Planning Board. This "first time" meeting was held at Shepard of the Hills, UCC and our Pastor Jane was there as Moderator-elect and to keep an eye on your FCC Prescott representative.

The SWC Mission Planning Board [MPB] was established with the approval of the revised By Laws that were completed at the SWC Annual meeting in Albuquerque, N.M. held last April 2011. The MPB consists of appointed members from each of the Conference churches and meets two [2] times a year in 2011; Oct 8, 2011 and March 10 2012.

The meeting, held under the guidance of our Conference Minister Dr. John Dorhauer, and the current Moderator Rev. Lee Milligan first took time to review the three [3] objectives of the MPB, and discuss the current activities of the conference in support of our conference and UCC mission.

First, MPB members are to focus on the shared mission of the SW Conference and UCC. Secondly, they are to discern for the conference whether or not our shared conference mission continues to accurately represent the faith-based desires of the body of the SWC. (In other words when is it time to shift, or to change as needed to meet current challenges?). The third objective of the MPB members is to become and remain a key link in the covenantal relationship that the conference shares with the UCC all the local churches. Specifically this means I as your representative must share with the FCC Prescott members what is going on in the life of the SW Conference. What follows are main

points from the day-long meeting...

- As we discussed the state of the conference and decreased financial support over the last 3-4 years, we learned that the conference is well and almost fully functional. The conference financials mirrors the UCC in many respects, as OCWM was \$130M in 2005 is now \$65M in 2010...money is tight, but we're still moving forward. We reviewed the SWC 2010 budget.
- After lunch we reviewed a presentation for a unique opportunity to move the conference headquarters into a new permanent home, with much more meeting space in a building that can be owned by the SWC. The monthly cost increase is estimated to be less than \$50. If a SWC unused land sale can be done reduction of total monthly cost is over \$1000 a month. The MPB approved moving ahead on this opportunity.
- The SWC conference remains committed to Youth and Outdoor Ministries and we need to discern together where we want to go. The possibility of getting local churches to combine youth operations is a future option.
- John Dorhauer announced that he and others in the UCC are working hard to reduce the time in the "Search and Call process" and by April 2012 the new guidelines should be in place.
- Lay Academy was reviewed and noted that this program has been very well received and updates to that program are under discussion.
- We reviewed the many activities of COCAM [Committee on Church & Missions] and the many existing paths to Ministry that is provided within the UCC. The hard work of this dedicated group of volunteers was

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Women's Fellowship

by Joanne Storer,
Women's Fellowship Co-Coordinator

Everyone should be in a "hurrying mode" to get the BAKING done for our Country Store/ Bake Sale to be held on Saturday November 5 from 9 - 1 pm in Perkins Hall. We will be setting up on Friday November 4th from 10 - Noon. Please bring in baked goods at this time so they can be repacked if necessary and priced. We also will need help setting up the Fair Trade goods from Pueblo de Colores... here's a BIG THANK YOU for all you are doing to make this a successful event! Our next activity will be our Annual Christmas/Holiday Tea, on December 5th, beginning with a noon program from

a singing group from Yavapai College, followed by our tea. We have invited friends from Temple B'rith Shalom, Chino Valley Community Church, Faith United in Dewey and Prescott United Methodist Church to join us this year. Last year we had nearly 60 guests! Remember, the men of our church are invited as well...thanks to Barbara McClure who is the Chairperson of this event. You'll be hearing more later, but in the meantime, dust off your hat so you can wear it to the Tea. Blessings to All.

~ Joanne

"Mission Planning Board" Continued from page 4

acknowledged. This is the group that among many other duties renews licenses for licensed ministers within the SWC.

Just before closing the meeting we reflected on the health of the Church in all its settings. While the challenges are great so are the opportunities to rethink some of what we do in the coming months and years.

As FCC's Representative to the Mission

Planning Board I ask that our members provide input back to Pastor Jane, or to the Cabinet or me so that I can take comments/suggestions back to the Board for consideration. That our SW Conference Minister Dr. John Dorhauer has set up this new link that allows local UCC churches to participate in what the SW Conference does and what it may do in the future is an exciting opportunity for us all.

Remember Your Pledge Cards

Please bring your 2012 Pledge Cards to the Sunday, November 6 service when we will place them into our Church's Treasure Chest - an old custom in our church that dates back many years.

There will be a brief blessing of the cards during worship. If you did not receive a Pledge Card, you will find a supply on the table in the Parish Hall. If you have questions about pledging, please see Don Storer or Pastor Jane. Thank you for your prayerful pledge in support of our church!

Fellowship Luncheon

After church, join us for a pot - luck luncheon immediately following the worship service on Sunday, November 6, sponsored by your Stewardship Committee. A platter of meats and cheeses with rolls will be provided, and we ask those who can to bring a salad or dessert - last names from A - M bring salad and N - Z bring dessert. We promise no speeches or programs - just good fellowship and food.

What's Happening...

DIACONATE:

By Julie McCurdy

A new **banner featuring our Mission Statement** has been ordered and received. It will be displayed at the back of the sanctuary.

Thank you to all our "honorary deacons" who serve by reaching out to our shut-ins and out-of town members through cards, visits and phone calls. **Greeting cards were sent Oct 16**, with love and assistance from many of our "honorary deacons."

The **membership review committee**, consisting of Julie McCurdy (chair of diaconate), Sylvia Staats (treasurer), Sherry Hager (clerk), Anne Solt (vitality), and Pastor Jane Cheek, met Sunday August 28. Letters prepared by Julie and the membership review committee were mailed Sept 9 to five non-participant members. We received two letters in response, requesting removal from membership rolls. The other three people have also been removed. Membership now stands at 108.

Plans for **Advent and Christmas** were discussed. No new purchases are anticipated.

Future project: sheer window coverings at back of sanctuary.

TRUSTEE:

By Al Beeson

Reviewed projects progress and priority as shown below in Priority order:

1. Sanctuary Cooling Needs: 1. Schedule the in advance running of the evap air prior to events. 2. Work w/AZ Heating [Paul Williams] to determine the advantages and cost of the installation of a new of cupola exhaust fan. 3. Continue efforts of finding and obtaining bids on low E glass for Sanctuary exterior glass. 4. Look into high efficiency lighting for the Sanctuary [in existing fixtures] to reduce heat and energy use. 5. Obtain bid for installation of 2 more ceiling fans at the back of the Sanctuary, w/ a 3rd possible fan for the choir loft. Paul Sandstrom is not in favor of more fans.

2. Doors repairs exterior Sanctuary/Perkins Hall complex will start with the rear lower door and stage. We will evaluate the work done to determine contractor[s] needed for other exterior door repairs. We met w/ Roy Spivey [Roy's Home Repair] [Aug 24th], still no bid. Al contacted Renovations Inc. S. Alarcon Street Owner Tom Reiley Used to be on FCC trustees He is very interested. Et with Mike
3. Chancel wood railing design and installation requires a first class carpenter/furniture maker and efforts to locate Al was able to contact Gary Cassidy an artist on Artist Studio Tour 2011- he submitted a design/bid. We are in process of getting another bid [from Renovations Inc.]
4. Heating of the basement choir room via addition of vent [heat] deflector will be done by working with AZ Heating [Paul Williams] before October 2011. Al has contacted AZ Heatingno bid installation date yet set.
5. Sanctuary bell tower add ladder and modification to trap door for venting purposes. R Brown has already purchased ladder.
6. Check light fixtures in basement [CE] making noise. Don Stephens has checked re repair [ballast? This may entail [after further investigation on some replacement of some of the light fixtures.
7. Investigate the replacement of some of stem wall wood Office Bldg/check for termites/paint to match.
8. Sound system. No major Problems. Need to start and complete a revised manual/ lockup duty changes.
9. Basement [unfinished] clean up work party set for Saturday Oct.? and will need to coordinate with Bill Linson and others to determine what stays [where & how best to store] and what goes? Members wanting to volunteer so we can add helpers to this important and needed project are encouraged to contact Al.
10. Exterior masonry work needed exterior Perkins Hall bldg, interior choir room.

“What’s Happening” Continued from page 6

11. Investigate placement and build [in Perkins Hall of new choir robe cabinet. [w/some music storage?]
12. Add rail to north side of chancel platform [wall] to assist those stepping down to Sanctuary floor.
13. Build out unfinished basement: decide what design/when and provide for waterproofing exterior walls. Provide ample storage cabinets etc. for users.
14. Look at replacement of flooring material for existing basement rooms as indicated. Consider carpet tile?

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

by Barbara McClure

1. Adult Education -
Much discussion of new ideas. They are as follows:
Betty Bergthold and Marilyn Kerstine have read the new book, Christianity for the Rest of Us by Diana Butler Bass. 6 more copies of this book will be ordered, and Pastor Jane and Betty will work out how a group might be started to discuss this book.
2. John Huff has a movie he wishes to have shown. Pastor Jane and John will set a date before Thanksgiving, for a "movie night" when the movie will be shown and discussed - Maybe popcorn too will be there.
3. There has been some discussion in various groups about exploring and bringing to the attention of the congregation, the rich history and basic elements of the UCC church. Pastor

Jane suggested that after Advent she will think about doing this during the sermon time. It was also suggested that the word covenant be explored during this time.

4. Pastor Jane will contact Gayle Mangum about presenting art expression and art in the church, maybe during Lent.

Sunday School

The meeting with teachers did not happen yet. We will plan a meeting for after church on October 30th. It need not be long but will give the teachers time to discuss what they are doing, and see some additional material that will be ordered by Pastor Jane. (The material comes from UCC National office.)

We will continue to work on a list of children who might come to Sunday School to give to the teachers so they can learn names and know who is coming, although none of the children are regular attenders.

Ruth has been leaving books out in the SS room, in case the teachers need an extra activity during the morning.

To do

- * Teacher meeting after church October 30 - Barbara to inform teachers in writing.
- * Pastor Jane will order material for teachers and SS.
- * Barbara and Ruth will work on library
- * Other projects as found in minutes.



← **Look!**
This banner bearing our mission statement, will soon hang in our church!

Dinners for the **Prescott Area Women's Shelter** are continuing through the rest of the year! Sherry Hager and Julie McCurdy have volunteered to make them happen through December. The dates will be Tuesday October 25, November 8, and December 13. If you would like to help by providing a dish please contact either of these women.

Next month we will report the final number of boxes shipped for **Operation Christmas Child**. The shoeboxes will be packed earlier this year, due to scheduling conflicts. October 30th will be the date to stuff the boxes. New this year is the opportunity to find out to which country they are going. If we provide the \$7 per box for shipping and handling, they will inform us of the destination. If donations don't equal this sum, the mission committee has the money available in the mission account to cover the difference. (Thank you for supporting

this line item mission account from our annual budget. This is the first year that we have had this money available for mission giving.)

Please remember our **Community Cupboard** as they continue to provide food for the less fortunate folks in our area. Many thanks to all of our members who participate in this worthy cause. Dry goods can be donated on the first Sunday of the month, and Al Beeson will dutifully deliver them. Checks can be donated anytime!

Money is still coming in for the **Neighbors in Need** collection. But as of this writing we have \$550 to contribute to this worthwhile endeavor. **NIN** is one of the big 5 mission projects by our denomination. Not all UCC churches participate in these 5 collections. Year after year we do all five; we can be proud of this mission support to the greater church.

"Coffee Ministry"

(each Sunday after Worship)

by Joanne Storer

Since it's not always possible for Church Greeters to also put the coffee together for our social time, I have come up with a New Sign-Up Sheet for Coffee that gives volunteers options. It is kept in the same place, on the counter where the coffee is served from; you could sign up to bring cookies, to make coffee, to serve coffee or to make and serve it – you choose what works best for you. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, we could use your help! Everyone loves our social time... We'll train you to set it up (it's very easy), so take a look at this new sheet, check a box and I will get back to you. Thanks for considering Coffee Serving as your gift to the Church.

In Concert

Award-winning

Prescott's Own
Sweet Adelines Group

Sunday, October 30
2:00 (Perkins Hall)





November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time Fellowship Luncheon (Perkins Hall) Honor Veterans Sunday	7 6:30 Progressive Christianity	8 7:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	9 5:30 pm Agape Soup/Bread 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	10 12:00 Bell Rehearsal	11 Veterans Day 5:00 Movie Night "Desperate Crossing"	12 9:00 Country Store/Fair Trade Faire
13 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time 2:00 Katrine McCormick Memorial	14 6:30 Progressive Christianity	15 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	16 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	17 12:00 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 Taizé Service	18 12:00 Bell Rehearsal	19 Pastor Jane at SWC Board Meeting
20 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time	21 6:30 Progressive Christianity	22 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	23 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	24 Thanksgiving Church Office Closed	25 Church Office Closed	26 Church Office Closed
27 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time First Sunday of Advent	28 6:30 Progressive Christianity 	29 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	30 6:45 Choir Rehearsal			

November Worship Leaders

LAY READERS

6th: Roland Wood
 13th: John Huff
 20th: Gordon Bergthold
 27th: Randy Cook

USHERS

6th:
 13th:
 20th:
 27th:

GREETERS

6th: Christy Dinsman & Darcy Walker
 13th: John & Julie McCurdy
 20th: Donna Bauman, Al Beeson and
 Andree Shrimpton
 27th: Gordon & Betty Bergthold;
 Julie Diefendorf and family

OFFERING COUNTERS

Pete Norum
 Sherry Hager
 Al Beeson
 Ron Solt

COMMUNION SERVERS

Judy & Brett Ely

COFFEE HOST *(Signup in Perkins Hall)*

6th:
 13th:
 20th:
 27th:

ALTAR FLOWERS/WHEELCHAIR

6th: Available
 13th: Available
 20th: Available
 27th: Available

STATISTICS

	Attendance	Offerings
9/4	56	2,710
9/11	74	2,184
9/18	82	3,224
9/25	59	1,168
Total	Avg. 68	\$9,286



Happy Birthday

11/1	Julie McCurdy
11/3	Nancy Gale
11/3	Debbie Lyons
11/11	Judy Ely
11/16	Suzanne Conrad
11/17	Mary Gale
11/23	John Huff
11/28	Bob Bradstreet
11/28	Bill Linson

Church Leadership Team

CABINET

Moderator	Gordon Bergthold
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
Pete Norum

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

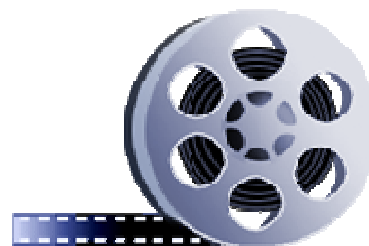
Licensed Minister	Pastor Jane Cheek
Office Administrator	Holly Houston
Director of Music	Jane Lawler
Organist	Carole Sue Linson
Custodian	Bill Linson
Child Care	Josh Taylor

The Parish Caller

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The Parish Caller is published monthly. Also available online at www.FccUccPrescott.org.

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FCC Goes To The Movies!

MOVIE NIGHT:

“Desperate Crossing”

A film about the original Pilgrims who pioneered our own Congregationalist (and UCC) church!

Come for a quick supper and early viewing.

**Friday, November 11 @ 5:00 p.m.
(Perkins Hall)**

