



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

The Parish Caller

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Aloha!



Waiola Church in Maui, Hawaii
(a UCC church!).

Pastor Jane attended worship here September 25; half of the liturgy and all of the hymns were in Hawaiian! This church was founded by The Sacred High Chiefess Keopuolani (wife of King Kamehameha) in 1823. On site there is a very old, historical cemetery that holds the remains of former pastors, missionaries, royalty and common people who lived through some challenging times for the Hawaiian people. The mission of this church is to worship *Ke Akua* (God) while celebrating Hawaiian history and culture.



The sanctuary in Waiola Church.

Inside

From the
Pastor's
Desk..... 2

Moderator's
Message..... 3

Women's
Fellowship..... 4

Stewardship... 6

Mission
Matters 8

Lord's Prayer (In Hawaiian)

Ka Pule A Ka Haku

*E ko mākou Makua iloko o ka lani,
E hō'ano 'ia kou inoa.
E hiki mai kou aupuni;
E mālama'ia kou makemake ma ka hōnua nei,
E like me 'ia i mālama'ia ma ka lani la.
E hā'awi mai iā mākou i kēia lā
I 'ai nā mākou no nēia lā;
E kala mai ho'i iā mākou i kā mākou lawehala 'ana,
Me mākou e kala nei i ka po'e i lawehala i kā mākou.
Mai ho'oku'u 'oe iā mākou i ka ho'owalewale 'ia mai;
E ho'opakele nō na'e iā mākou i ka 'ino;
No ka mea, nou ke aupuni,
A me ka mana, a me ka ho'onani 'ia, a mau loa aku. Amene.*

From the Pastor's Desk by Pastor Jane Cheek



This month, as we prepare to consider our stewardship as a church family, I would like to share this devotional from my favorite author – Quinn G. Caldwell. It speaks for itself – and I ask you to thoughtfully read it and think of how you might answer his questions!
God's Peace, dear friends...

Pastor Jane

Excerpt from Exodus 12:29-42

"The Israelites had done as Moses told them; they had asked the Egyptians for jewelry of silver and gold, and for clothing, and the Lord had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked."

Reflection by Quinn G. Caldwell

God has just finished visiting the ten plagues upon the people of Egypt, and Pharaoh has given the Israelites permission—actually, has begged them—to leave. The Israelites know it's time to get the heck out of Dodge, so they head out with their bread still unleavened and their pockets stuffed with treasures given to them by the Egyptians.

For a lot of reasons, the UCC is one of

those denominations that seem to collect people from other traditions. Some leave their former faith homes easily; some with pain. Some leave of their own volition; some are asked to leave. Some get the heck out of Dodge in a hurry; some mosey on over. But everyone comes bearing treasures given to them by the people there.

One man comes with skill at witnessing. A woman shows up who understands why we might pay attention to saints. Others come with deep appreciation for weekly communion, or the heart of an unapologetic evangelist, or a whole hymnal's worth of praise songs written on their hearts. And the list goes on.

Have you come to us from a far land, or at least a far denomination? What treasures do you bring to us from there? Will you share them?

Prayer: *Holy One, thank you for the precious gifts you've sent to us in the hands of the theological immigrants, sojourners, exiles, and travelers in our midst. Give us eyes to see the treasures we bear and the treasures borne by others. Give us the wits to use them. Amen.*

Interpretation of Our Ordinary Time Church Banners

You've probably noticed the new banners in the sanctuary. Since it is autumn, the fabric colors were chosen for this season. Looking at each one from the top, there is a cloud with hands coming down towards earth. These are God's hands reminding us that "God is Still Speaking" and that God is our Creator; we are to take care of what God has created, be it us and/or our environment. Next on the banner is a sunset going down behind the beautiful purple mountains that we see here in Prescott.

Then, the Granite Dells appear, followed by trees with leaves in the tree tops - and some falling slowly down to rest on the rocks - that create a strong foundation. The blue oval shaped fabric displays the front of our church in applique; it lets everyone know that, "No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!" Feel free to go up closer to the banners to see the details. Enjoy! (From the creator of the banners - with some help from someone "up there!" - Joanne Storer)

Moderator's Message by Gordon Bergthold, Moderator

As we roar into fall it's difficult to realize that our church year is coming to an end and we're planning, budgeting and scheduling new projects and programs for 2012. Our old fashioned church service on September 18th went off as planned and members and guests dressed the part of those who would have attended a 1912 First Congregational Church event. Thank you all for your participation and enthusiasm during our part of the Arizona Centennial celebration.

The planning for the coming year involves scheduling new educational classes, making room for more organizations from the community who utilize our facilities and caring for our congregation and those in need in the Prescott area. This is the time of year when food pantries run low on food, families in need appeal to the community for help and we do our best to aid those less fortunate both locally and abroad. Operation Christmas Child, also known as the Shoe Box Ministry, is in full swing and we will accept donations of school and personal hygiene supplies as requested by the organizing team for another month.

Our Trustees are busier than ever keeping up with the maintenance and upgrading of our facility and a workday will be forthcoming to assist them with painting, cleaning, moving furniture and equipment and a multitude of things that

will help polish up our church. Don't hesitate to volunteer when that day is announced.

I've not addressed the following issue but feel it's time to let my feelings flow. We seldom have complaints about the operation of the church or the services but sometimes when we run a little longer than one hour there are grumblings and comments about the length of the service. I don't ever remember seeing or hearing anything about the church service being held to any specific time-frame and, although we try to accomplish our service within 60 to 70 minutes, sometimes that is simply not possible.

Pastor Jane does her best to maintain a fairly regular schedule but if you need to leave for any reason during a service, just exit quietly and go about your business. We come to church to worship God and the service is not on a regulated timer nor should we expect the minister to cut important parts of the service to end at exactly one hour. Please realize where we've come over the past two years in our spiritual journey and have patience when the service seems to last longer than you expect. It's okay to leave early when you have other things planned...just remember why you came to church in the first place and have consideration for those who remain.

Operation Christmas Child is Coming

November begins our collection for shoebox items. Small items of clothing such as plain T-shirts and socks are most welcome gifts to children who have limited clothing options.

Sunglasses shield children's eyes. Girls around the world love to receive new hair clips, hair bands, and ribbons. Boys are thrilled with ball caps. Both boys and girls appreciate stocking caps and mittens. Jesus blessed the children and so can you!



Women's Fellowship by Joanne Storer, Women's Fellowship Co-Coordinator

Women's Fellowship held a pot-luck dinner which included a great history lesson about our Church presented by our very own history buff, Jay Eby. Jay's talk coincided with the Centennial Celebration of Arizona which was held the following weekend here in Prescott. Thank you again, Jay! While Jay serves as "Head Usher" in our church, he also maintains the many documents and photos related to our church history; if you are interested in history and would like to assist Jay, please call him or talk to him on any Sunday. A big "Thank You" also goes to all the ladies (and their guys) who prepared food, and helped with both the set-up before and clean-up afterward.

A short meeting was held following the dinner and program to update everyone on the next big event. Our Country Store will be held on Saturday, November 5. We will have some sewn items, dish cloths, scrubbies, and RADA Cutlery (I have made up some cutlery combos). Raffle items including some hand-made quilted pieces and custom-made jewelry will be displayed, and tickets for them will sold for the drawing to be held on December 7 at our Christmas Tea. (Winners will be contacted by phone if they are not at the December meeting).

That same day, we will also have Fair Trade items on display for purchase. These hand-crafted items from other countries are useful and beautiful, and the best part is each artist earns a fair wage for his or her work. Everybody wins.

Our main fundraiser this year at Country Fair will be our Bake Sale, so please start baking ahead! Well-wrapped cookies, breads and muffins can be frozen;

pies should probably be baked closer to November 5. We'll gather them and tag them the Friday before...

We are also considering setting up tables and selling our delicious Fair Trade coffee with a fruit blintze for customers to enjoy for \$1.50.....we won't make a lot of blintzes to sell, so when they're gone they are gone! Near the end of October, I will be checking with you to get a count on what we will have to sell, in case we need to make more of something. We want to make this **THE BEST BAKE SALE EVER!!!**

There are two more announcements:

1. Josh Taylor was the college recipient of financial aid from our Women's Fellowship for this year. He received money for text books this semester, and will receive another installment next semester. We are proud to be helping this fine young man become a teacher.
2. After many years of service in the kitchen cooking and organizing our meals, Gerri Lyons has decided to retire. She has put together a notebook with all the information anyone could need to take over – and she has offered to go over duties with the next person. (This generally means keeping the kitchen organized, keeping an eye on paper goods, and occasionally helping with Sunday coffee, ect. Holly Houston, our Office Administrator helps with the purchase of what's needed). If you think you might be interested, please contact me, Joanne at 775-2171

I believe that is it...**GET THOSE APRONS ON AND GO INTO BAKING MODE!**

2012 Pledge Cards

Pledge Cards will be inserted into the bulletin on Sunday, October 23. Extra copies will be available after October 23 in the Parish Hall. If you need a Pledge Card mailed to you, please call Holly in the church office 928-445-4555 and ask her to send you one.

Stewardship Committee by Don Storer, Chairman

Your FCC/UCC Stewardship Committee (Pastor Jane, Betty Bergthold, Ron Solt and Don Storer) has designated Sunday, October 9 as Stewardship Sunday at our church. This is the beginning of our 2012 Stewardship Campaign which ends on Sunday, November 6 with the gathering of our 2012 Pledge Cards.

Stewardship Sunday - - I remember well the dread I experienced when those words were spoken in the United Methodist churches where I grew up. As a young man, I frequently was "invited" to be a part of a team formed to make individual calls on members in their homes to ask for financial support for the church. Those calls were never comfortable because it seemed to me all we did was ask for money. In the years when I wasn't a team member, we worked hard at being "away from home" when team members came calling. It was an uncomfortable and even intrusive process. Here at First Congregational Church, we want to avoid that kind of discomfort in our campaign.

Are we going to ask for financial support? Of course we are. But we are going to ask for that support as part of a total commitment to stewardship which includes giving your time, talents, and wisdom to our church. We are going to be giving you our total financial picture which will enable you to decide for yourselves what to give and when, and we will ask that your pledge go far beyond dollars to helping with the mission outreach, programming, and administration of our church.

Those of you who have been here for a while know how close our church came to closing its doors when membership and financial support, but far more important, commitment

dropped as we went through some painful changes.

Just look at us now! We have gone in a few short years from a divided, ready to fail church to a strong unified force in our community with dozens of outreach programs ranging from social activities to Christian Education to providing meeting space for groups needing help and being a gathering place for community events, in addition to supporting several mission projects around the world. We have a strong full time pastor who brings fresh new ideas to worship and service, and we are attracting new members at a time when many churches are losing support. We have a dedicated and committed Church Cabinet ready to provide a new vision for our future and solid leadership to take us there.

Our 2012 Stewardship Campaign simply asks you to continue being a part of making our church a strong and vital force in our community. We need your time, your talents, your wisdom, and of course your financial support. Please take a few minutes to consider several ways you can help our church grow and continue to serve well beyond what we do now. All of us working together make a powerful force to help our church fulfill her important mission in leading our community.

Try to attend services on Sunday, October 9. Pastor Jane will preach a message on stewardship and you will receive some important information about our church programs and needs, plus where we stand on programs, outreach, finances and our future. Don't miss it!

What's Happening...

DIACONATE:

By Julie McCurdy

Greeting cards for our shut-ins and out-of-town members: sent Aug 28, with love and assistance from many of our "honorary deacons."

Banners for sanctuary: New "Ordinary Time" banners were revealed on September 10, Rally Day. These beautiful banners, featuring fall colors and depicting our church's solid foundation within God's loving embrace, were lovingly stitched by Joanne Storer. They will hang at the front of the sanctuary throughout the fall, until Advent.

A 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 have been prepared and mailed to a few non-participant members.

Future projects: sheer window coverings at back of sanctuary; mission statement banner for side wall of sanctuary.

TRUSTEE:

By Al Beeson

We Reviewed project progress and priority[s] as shown below

Priority :

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, including a 3rd possible fan for the choir loft. Al has contacted AZ Heating regarding the Copula fan concept.

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] and are still awaiting a bid to work on the initial phase of this project.
3. Chancel wood railing design and installation is needed and requires a first class carpenter/furniture maker and efforts to locate same are underway on this important project. Al was able to contact Gary Cassidy a participating artist on Artist Studio Tour 2011 and he seemed interested. [Note John Huff and AL met with Gary on Sept 15 and he seems interested and AL agreed to pay up to \$300 for the design work on this important project.
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 for installation has been rec'd.
5. Sanctuary Bell Tower add ladder and

modification to trap door. R Brown has already purchased ladder.

6. Check light fixtures in basement [CE] making noise. Don Stephens will check and repair [ballast? This may entail 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: any Problems?? Still Need to start and complete a revised manual.
9. Basement [unfinished] clean up work party set for October 15th [must check with Pastor] and will need to coordinate with Bill Linson and others to determine what stays [where & how best to store] and what goes? It is anticipated we may buy and assemble some storage cabinets and as needed some need to be lockable. Members wanting to volunteer so we can add helpers to this important and needed project are encouraged to contact Al.
10. Interior plaster wall repairs [mostly Sanctuary] will be done by Trustee work party. Needed gutter cleaning [east side] is also to be done at that time.
11. Gutter leaking above Alarcon upper door and need downspout diverter [90 deg] for NW corner of PH. Al to contact Ax Seamless Gutters.
12. Fix masonry on various exterior surfaces of PH including chimney above PH kitchen.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

by Barbara McClure

New education opportunities in October!

A class on Islam taught by Pastor Jane will be held on October 1, 15, 22, 29 at 10 am in Perkins Hall. Note that there will be no class on October 8. The reading material for the first class is found on the table in Perkins hall along with a sig-up sheet. It is going to be very interesting.

On Sunday, October 9 after worship there will be an open house in the revised church library. Please join us in the library for coffee and cookies and find out what is now in the library, and think about what you would like to have for your reading. Funds are available for purchasing books, or you can donate books you feel are interesting and relevant. Older books have been given to the public library, or donated to those interested. Also available for your reading are newly printed magazines of interest to the community in our church.

Sunday school is available every Sunday for all children. Each Sunday a different teacher will share a story, a lesson, or a craft with the children.

Watch the Christian Education bulletin board for announcements as new things develop.

Mission Matters

by Betty Berghold, Mission Chair

On September 16, we served our first dinner to the Prescott Area Women's Shelter (PAWS). The women and children were so appreciative. Our thanks to Buz Duffy, Barbara McClure, Bev Summers, Beth Bradstreet, and Betty Berghold, who provided the yummy meal. Next month we will do it again. Sherry Hager and Julie McCurdy will be organizing it. If you would like to be on the list to provide part of the meal, call Sherry or Julie.

Operation Christmas Child collection is going on now through November. There is a colorful, gift wrapped box in

Perkins Hall for your donations. If shopping is too difficult for you, cash and checks are very useful to help cover postage and to purchase last minute items. The following is a list of items need for each box: Small picture books, coloring books, crayons, colored pencils, hygiene items like mild soap, comb, etc. School supplies are always a good choice such as pens, pencils, writing pads and solar calculators.

Many thanks to our generous congregation for all your support!

~ The Mission Committee

Church Vitality

by Anne Solt

Do you like to bake? Or do you like to shop at bakeries? Would you like to travel to the home of a first time visitor to our church and leave your baked gift with a note of blessing? If this describes your talents and your mobility and your desire, consider adding this to your service for our church. Here's how it works:

1. You greet at church on a Sunday. This means you meet all of our church people as they filter in. As you do, you see few new faces. You encourage the new faces to fill out a special card (They're in the pews) and drop the card in the offering plate later.
2. After church, you look for the visitors. If they didn't scoot out, you invite them into coffee hour and help them meet others.
3. Next, Holly reads these special cards and lets Pete Norum and I know who the visitors were that Sunday. She sends us an email with addresses.
4. One of us bakes, consults MapQuest for directions (or GPS) and takes off to find a new home. Discovering the right house can sometimes be a challenge. I recommend a sense of adventure on this part.

5. The visitor finds a bag of goodies (usually bread or muffins) somewhere in the vicinity of his/her front door. The visitor reads the note that says, "*Glad to see you in church Sunday. Here's your blessing from us.*" This note has a picture of the church and is signed with the first name of the greeter.
6. The next Sunday the greeter hopes to see the visitor in church. Occasionally the visitor calls the church to say, "Thank you. That was delicious."

So, if you're a greeter, you may be asked to do this on the Sunday AFTER you greeted. Please be assured that the biggest and best surprise to any visitor is to be recognized and acknowledged as being welcomed to our church family. Having something delicious to eat is a bonus. The best way to do this is right after the first visit. Does this assure us that this person or persons may return to church? No. It does not. Does it assure us that the visitor will remember us cheerfully? I know it will. Would you like to be a part of what we're doing at FCC? Just see Pete or Anne or Sylvia



OCTOBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time Communion Sunday	3 6:30 Progressive Christianity	4 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	5 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	6 12:00 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 Taizé Service	7 8	1 10:00 Islam Class
9 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time Stewardship Sunday	10 6:30 Progressive Christianity	11 7:00 pm Trustees 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	12 5:30 pm Agape Soup/Bread 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	13 12:00 Bell Rehearsal	14 15 10:00 Islam Class	
16 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time Neighbors in Need Offering	17 4:30 pm Special Foundation Mtg. 6:30 Progressive Christianity	18 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	19 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	20 12:00 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 Taizé Service	21 22 10:00 Islam Class 4:00 Wedding	
23 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time	24 6:30 Progressive Christianity 	25 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	26 6:45 Choir Rehearsal	27 10:00 Hannah Circle 12:00 Bell Rehearsal 6:30 Cabinet Mtg. 6:30 Cub Scouts	28 29 10:00 Islam Class	
30 10:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School 11:30 Coffee Time 2:00 Sweet Adelines Concert	31 6:30 Progressive Christianity  Halloween					

September Worship Leaders

LAY READERS

2nd: Pete Norum
 9th: Ruth Auchenbach
 16th: Tom Lloyd
 23rd: Christy Dinsman
 30th: Al Beeson

USHERS

2nd: Jay & Marilyn Eby
 9th: Jay & Marilyn Eby
 16th: Jay & Marilyn Eby
 23rd: Jay & Marilyn Eby
 30th: Jay & Marilyn Eby

GREETERS

2nd: Don & Joanne Storer, and Shelly Bowers
 9th: Lee Ruether, Randy Cook, & Tarah Jones
 16th: Jim & Kay Gilpin & Family, and Marilyn Lummel
 23rd: Jeanne Woodburn, Joanne Lussier, and Betty Corn
 30th: Roland & Carolyn Wood

OFFERING COUNTERS

Pete Norum
 Sherry Hager
 Al Beeson
 Ron Solt

COMMUNION SERVERS

Judy & Brett Ely

COFFEE HOST *(Signup in Perkins Hall)*

2nd: Phil & Murl Preble
 9th: CE Committee
 16th: Jim & Kay Gilpin and family
 23rd: Lee Ruether
 30th: Randy Cook

ALTAR FLOWERS/WHEELCHAIR

2nd: Anonymous
 9th: Anonymous
 16th: Anonymous
 23rd: Anonymous
 30th: Anonymous

STATISTICS

	Attendance	Offerings
8/7	64	3,362.00
8/14	60	1,875.25
8/21	99	2,591.08
8/28	70	1,074.00
Total	Avg. 73	\$8,902.33



10/14	Joanne Storer
10/15	Don Cheek
10/23	John Hollowell
10/26	Hazel Deming
10/26	Margaret "Buz" Duffy
10/26	Marilyn Eby

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

First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
216 E. Gurley Street
Prescott, AZ 86301
(928) 445-4555
Fax: (928) 445-4556
www.FccUccPrescott.org
office@FccUccPrescott.org

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

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
216 E GURLEY ST
PRESCOTT AZ 86301

Our Mission Statement

**“To Serve God with Joy; Listening, Sharing, Acting with
Compassion and Fairness for All.”**