

## Ministries and Ways to Participate

- ◆ Sunday Worship Service, 10:30 am
- ◆ Progressive Christianity Discussion Groups, meet Sundays 9 am and Mondays 6:30 pm
- ◆ Jazz Vespers, last Wednesday at 6:30 pm
- ◆ Knit Wits, 1 & 3 Tuesdays from 1-3
- ◆ Men's & Woman's Fellowship Groups
- ◆ PFLAG support Group, 3rd Friday at 6:30 pm
- ◆ WYCC LGTBQ Coalition
- ◆ Arizona Troup 1 Boy Scouts
- ◆ Song of the Pines, a Sweet Adelines' singing competition group
- ◆ 20 + Community Support Groups meet here

### PFLAG MEETS HERE

Love Is



Never Wrong

*Prescott PFLAG, AN EMERGENT CHAPTER, provides loving, non-judgmental support for LGBTQQIA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, ally) as well as family, friends & allies of LGBTQQIA. This chapter desires to create a safe place for acceptance and support.*

Meetings every 3rd Friday of each month at 6:30 pm in the church library.

## Our Pastor

### Reverend Dr. Jay Wilcher

Pastor Jay began his ministry at First Congregational Church on April 27, 2015. He holds Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He has served churches in New Jersey, Kentucky, Arkansas, Tennessee, Colorado, and California. He enjoys golfing, fine wine, and travel. His better half, Cherie, works at West Yavapai Guidance Clinic as a psychiatric nurse practitioner. They share four children and four grandchildren. Family Standard Poodle Roscoe serves as assistant to the pastor.



## First Congregational Church of Prescott, UCC

**Founded September 26, 1880**

First Congregational Church of Prescott, United Church of Christ, is an Open and Affirming congregation. We include all persons without regard to age, race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender identity, faith, marital status, or personal ability. We welcome all to share the celebrations and challenges of our congregation.

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

## What We Believe

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We are a church where Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary, and where together, we grow a just and peaceful world.

**We believe that each person is unique and valuable.** It is the will of God that every person belong to a family of faith where they have a strong sense of being valued and loved.

**We believe that each person is on a spiritual journey** and that each of us is at a different stage of that journey.

**We believe that the persistent search for God produces an authentic relationship with God,** engendering love, strengthening faith, dissolving guilt, and giving life purpose and direction.

**We believe the UCC is called to be a united and uniting church.** "That they may all be one." (John 17:21) "In essentials – unity, in nonessentials – diversity, in all things – charity," These UCC mottos survive because they touch core values deep within us. The UCC has no rigid formulation of doctrine or attachment to creeds or structures. Its overarching creed is love. UCC pastors and teachers are known for their commitment to excellence in theological preparation, interpretation of the scripture and justice advocacy. Even so, love and unity in the midst of our diversity are our greatest assets.

**We believe that God calls us to be in the service of others** and to be good stewards of the earth's resources. 'To believe is to care; to care is to do.'

**We believe that the UCC is called to be a prophetic church.** As in the tradition of the prophets and apostles, God calls the church to speak truth to power, liberate the oppressed, care for the poor and comfort the afflicted.

**We believe in the power of peace,** and work for nonviolent solutions to local, national, and international problems.

**We are a people of possibility.** In the UCC, members, congregations and structures have the breathing room to explore and to hear ... for after all, God is still speaking.

**The United Church of Christ (UCC)** is a distinct and diverse community of Christians that come together as one church to join faith and action. With over 5,000 churches and nearly one million members across the U.S., the UCC serves God in the co-creation of a just and sustainable world.

## Contact Us

**First Congregational Church of Prescott  
United Church of Christ**

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928-445-4555

## UCC, The Church of Firsts

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Since 1957, the United Church of Christ has been the church of firsts, weaving God's message of hope and extravagant welcome with action for justice and peace. Together, we live out our faith in ways that effect change in our communities. The UCC's many "firsts" mean that we have inherited a tradition of acting upon the demands of our faith. When we read in Galatians: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" — a demand is made upon us. And so we were the first historically white denomination to ordain an African-American, the first to ordain a woman, the first to ordain an openly gay man, and the first Christian church to affirm the right of same-gender couples to marry. We were in the forefront of the anti-slavery movement and the Civil Rights movement.

- The church of the Pilgrims seeking spiritual freedom in the New World (1620)
- The first historically white denomination to ordain an African-American (1785)
- The first to create a school for the deaf (1817)
- The first to ordain a woman (1853)
- The first to ordain an openly gay man (1972)
- The first Christian church to affirm the right of same-gender couples to marry (2005)