

First Presbyterian Church of Hanford

Worship Center: 340 N. Irwin St.

Church Office: 415 N. Redington St.

Hanford, CA 93230 (559) 582-0283

Website: www.fpchanford.org

Email: office@fpchanford.org

Making disciples of Jesus Christ who go to make disciples of others.

FIRST PRESS

January 2020

UP COMING



Jan 1	News Year Day (<i>Office Closed</i>)
Jan 3	Games & Co.
Jan 5	Communion Sunday *New Service Time Begins - 10:00am
Jan 9	Agape
Jan 16	Laundry Love
Jan 12	Installation of New Elders & Deacons
Jan 19	Rest Home Visit (<i>Jolly 1^s & 2^s</i>)
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan 21	Session Meeting
Jan 26	Annual Meeting & Potluck
Feb 1	Session Retreat
Feb 2	Communion Sunday
Feb 5	Winter BodyLife Begins
Feb 7	First Friday Coffee & Prayer
Feb 13	Agape
Feb 16	Rest Home Visit (<i>Session</i>)
Feb 17	President's Day
Feb 20	Laundry Love
Feb 26	Ash Wednesday



Summary of December 17, 2019 Session Meeting

Deacons:

- Deacons reported communion was serviced to (33) in 1st service, (52) during 2nd service and (4) Shut-In's received communion.

Finance:

- Session discussed staff bonuses and pastor valuations in closed session
- \$10,180 has been received towards the "Matching Challenge".

Buildings & Grounds:

- Repairs to the Outreach Building are scheduled to begin 12/20/19
- Purchase & installation of security cameras has begun

Worship:

- Reverend Steve Nilmeier will continue to provide pulpit supply thru Mid-February

Other Session Business:

- Approved moving to a single worship service at 10am on Sundays
- Session scheduled the annual training retreat for Feb. 1, 2020 (8:30-Noon)
- Discussed representatives to attend Presbytery Meeting in San Diego on 1/24-25
- Approved "traditional" method of communion (receiving elements in the pews)

Church DEACONS

A Special THANK YOU

It is that time again to welcome new Deacons. We are happy to announce the names of those that will be serving as Deacons beginning in January 2020. Diane Sharp, Fran Bettencourt, and Susan Feaver will be installed in January. We look forward to them joining with Liz Garcia, Janet Harader, Darlene Keast, Martin Keast, Sally Gordon, Rowena Curiel, Laurie Essepien, and Ginnie Herleman and continuing the work of the Deacons-preparing communion, preparing memorial receptions, visiting shut-ins, preparing food for those in need, sending cards or plants and making calls to those ill or in the hospital, coordinating the Santa for Seniors and Santa's Angels programs, and being involved in local community outreach programs.

We also have to say goodbye to the members whose terms have ended-Bob Curiel, Susan Feaver (who graciously accepted another term), and Georgina Snyder. We appreciate your dedication and the time and effort you have given during your term as a Deacon.



Reminder! Deacons hope you can bring some non-perishable food on **Jan 5** to feed those in our community who are in need.

12/11/19

From: The Family of Jack E. Brewer,

To all the wonderful people at The First Presbyterian Church, Thank you so very much for the food and the lovely plant. Also, to Annette for finding us Pastor Paul Bergquan, He was great. My Dad, Jack Brewer would've liked him.

Leta, Shawna & J. Darren

From Jeff & Dottie Crass,

We would like to thank the church members who brought food through our operations and injuries. It was a nice gesture of Christmas love and service.

Jeff & Dottie Crass

12/16/19

THANK YOU!

I want to thank all the people who purchased gifts for the seniors and Santa's Angels. All the gifts were brought to the church in a timely manner. We did not have to call one person because their gift was not in on time. What a blessing. I am sure the seniors and Santa's Angels will be thrilled with your generosity.

Janet Harader



A Message From Your Missions Ministry Team

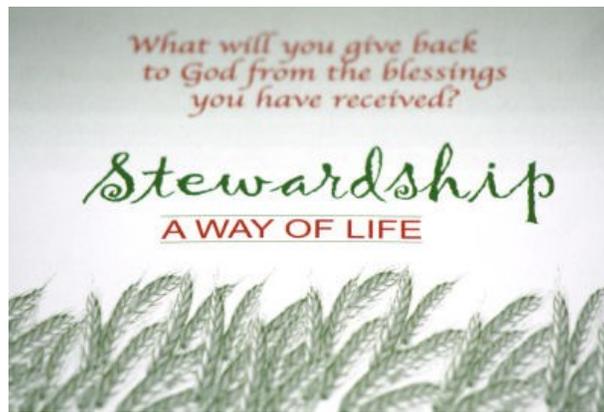
“Compassion . . . Empathy” A New Year’s Resolution

According to Webster’s Dictionary, the difference between Compassion and Empathy is “Compassion” is the ability to feel for another living being. “Empathy” is the ability to not only understand another’s feelings, but also to become one with that person’s distress, to put yourself in their shoes and imagine what they’re going through in that situation.

In perspective: **Compassion International** is an organization releasing children from poverty in Jesus’ name and **Empathy** are all the generous sponsors of Compassion children who understand and try to put themselves in their shoes in what the children are going through –

- *Did you know* the Compassion Family has over 1 million U.S. sponsors ministering to 1.2 million children in poverty in 25 countries?
- *Did you know* their ministry impacts mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, Grandmas, Grandpas – on average, every sponsorship impacts 30 family members and friends.
- *Did you know* more than 7,934 churches have an average of 16 staff to help run Compassion programs? That means sponsors stand alongside more than 131,000 friends around the world committed to releasing children from poverty in Jesus’ name!
- *Did you know* in 2019 more than 2.4 million letters were written, translated & delivered to sponsored children around the world and children wrote 3.8 million letters to their sponsors?
- *Did you know* in 2019:
 - * 20,818 sponsors expanded and sponsored an additional child?
 - * 573,807 children received a birthday gift from their sponsor?
 - * More than 220,000 children received a Christmas card to celebrate the good news of Jesus’ birth this Christmas?
 - * 411,297 sponsors dove deeper and connected with the online Compassion blog?
- *And 1,571* special-needs students received extra tutoring and 12,600 children and their families received support following a disaster and 257,903 children received access to lifesaving medical care!

If you are a Sponsor of a Compassion International child – THANK YOU! You are part of a ministry that is spreading the Word of God to millions! If you have not yet sponsored a child - the New Year is beginning and you can set a New Year’s resolution to be part of this important ministry by choosing a Compassion International child and changing that child’s life forever! May God Bless you all and Happy New Year from your Mission Ministry Team!



2020 Pledge Drive - Pledge Goal - \$285,000

A Way of Life

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”
1 Peter 4:10

Pledges as of 12/22/19 - \$83,976 = 29.47%

We are so grateful for you and the way you’ve provided your pledges and giving of your time, tithes and offerings. Your generosity helps us to continue moving forward with our 4 goals: Greater ministry to young families; Being more intentional in sharing our faith; Becoming more biblically literate; and Resourcing the under-resourced. Above all, the giving of this congregation is allowing us to invest in the spiritual and eternal welfare of people in Hanford and all over the world through our various ministries and mission support.

Our preliminary 2020 budget proposal is \$288,733, which is the anticipated expenses, ministries, and dreams for additions to support those objectives. We have learned that it is in giving that we find joy, in giving we discover the good feeling that our lives are making a positive difference. And we receive the inner assurance that we are doing our part to spread the Good News of Christ. We continue to pray and dream, thus we hope to maintain our current staff, we want to continue improvements to our church campus, as well as continue our ministries, outreach & missions.

These dreams could become reality with additional giving over and above our pledge goal of \$285,000. Our congregation has been blessed with a wonderful Pastor and Staff, all of whom are helping our church move in a biblical direction. We have great programs which include music ministries, youth & children ministries, small groups of all ages, Body Life and more. As God blesses our church, we in turn bless others with our Outreach to the community and with our Mission Giving to those in need. “Laundry Love” and “Kings Gospel Mission” are examples of these. All of these areas require your tithes and offerings to the general ministries operating budget in order to happen. **It is up to each of you in our congregation to determine the extent to which you would have our church grow.** We are all Christ’s disciples and we need your help as we reach out to those who are lost and bring them into our family.

Please turn in your pledge/commitment form! Feel free to drop your form in the pledge box placed at the entrance to the sanctuary, in the office, in the offering plate, or mail them to the First Presbyterian Church, P. O. Box 1185, Hanford, CA 93232. This will assist us in determining what our budget for 2020 can and will be.

Your pledges will help us determine just what we can do to accomplish our mission. Be a part of what God is doing in our church, community & worldwide outreach. Christ has saved us, established us, strengthened us, and matured us. Lord teach us to give so that we can truly reflect Your character and be more like You today.

Faith & Fellowship



Please put **January 9** on your calendar to attend our next Agape meeting. This is a special time when we will decide how to distribute the money received from the auction. Thanks for your donations and purchases in November. We now have a balance very close to what it was last year at this time. We are so surprised and thankful. Be assured that the money will be put to good use to benefit missionaries, non-profit organizations and whoever else the group decides should be recipients of funds.

Our program in December was well received. Jeff & Christie Boyd prepared a wonderful and informative presentation of their work in various countries in Africa. David Bruce sang a solo and then accompanied us in singing some of the familiar Christmas carols. Thank you Jean Knudson for your part in getting a program together. Thank you Georgina for the beautiful decorations. I want to thank all who brought snacks and desserts to share. The variety of food items was wonderful.

The program has not been decided yet for January, but I hope to have that completed before my trip to Dallas the first week in January. There are still openings for programs, devotionals and hostesses this spring. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and wish the best for each of you in the New Year.

~ Janet Harader



Jolly 1's & 2's

For those of you who missed our Christmas party, we had a wonderful time sharing in a potluck and exchanging ornaments. We need to meet to decide our activities for 2020. I have not made a reservation yet, but my hope is that we can meet on Saturday, January 11 at 11:30 at Round Table Pizza. Please bring your ideas for things you would like to do. We need some new activities, hopefully close by. Thank you for your assistance this last year in driving, calling people and suggestions for having a great time together. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and wish the very best for all of you in the 2020.

~ Janet Harader

Winter BodyLife

February 5th - March 18th

Dinner - 6:00pm

Adults - \$6

Teens - \$5

Children - \$3

Family max - \$18

Join us for a wonderful dinner
and multi-generational activities



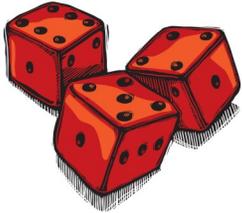
Ladies

First Friday Coffee and Prayer

Women of the Church please join us for
"First Friday Coffee and Prayer."

**Friday, Feb. 7th
9:00am - 10:30am**

**Games
& Company**



**Get together
the First Friday of each
month @ 1:30pm**

Ladies Saturday Bible Study



1 Corinthians
by Jennie Allen
(RightNow Media)

Christianity calls us to sacrifice instead of living for oneself. We have to choose one or the other—we can't do both. The Christians in Corinth tried to live the Christian life in a worldly way. Paul wrote the letter of 1 Corinthians to a divided and self-centered people to remind them to follow Jesus and only Jesus.

In this 12-part series, author and speaker Jennie Allen walks into the messy lives of the Corinthians and takes us through Paul's words to the conflicted church. We'll see how the truth of the gospel and the Spirit of God can empower us to choose to follow Jesus every day of our lives.

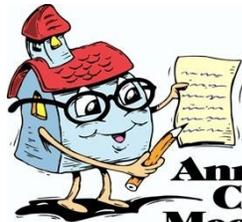
Meets selected Saturdays 9 -10:30am

Contact Jaime Christoph or Mary Kinney for more information and to be added to the contact list

Childcare is provided

Brothers & Sisters in Christ
B·A·S·I·C

BASIC meets the 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 6pm



**Annual
Church
Meeting**

January 26th
during 10am
Service

Potluck Following

Families bring a Main Dish
to feed 12 or more.

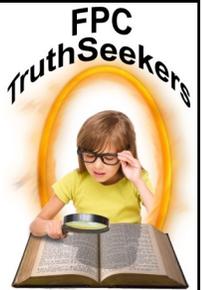
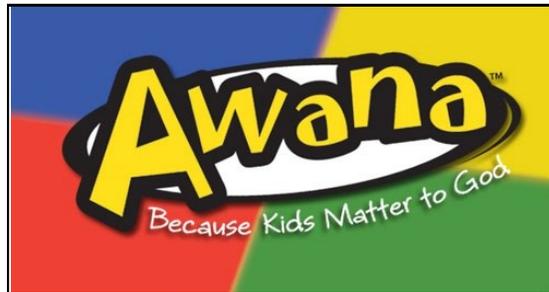
Singles and Couples bring a
Side Dish or Large Salad





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

*Questions, Comments,
Concerns or Ideas...contact:
Jaime Christoph 850-776-5234*



AWANA TruthSeekers will be starting our 2nd Semester of Genesis in January.

Two more Bibles have been awarded to Jayden Garcia and Emerie Porter. The Bibles will be used for our lessons which revolve around the patriarchs and their faith in the one true God. We continue to learn who God is through what He does!



Refuge

YOUTH NEWS

*Questions, Comments,
Concerns or Ideas...contact:
Jaime Christoph 850-776-5234*

Guys & Gals



BIBLE STUDY

SR High Girls 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 6:30pm

JR High Girls 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 6:30 pm

Guys 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 6:45pm

*Contact Jaime Christoph at
850-776-5234 for more information.*

JANUARY

Birthdays & *Anniversaries

- 8** Jacob Brandt
Wellman Jue
- 11** Annie Jackson
Paula Murray
- 15** Don Mills
- 16** Grace Kinney
- 17** *Charles & Susan Feaver
- 18** Meg Connelly
- 19** Michael Christoph
Alysha Rajskup
- 22** Dane Gonzalez
- 22** Steve Wartman
- 24** Carley Watson
- 26** *Kelly & Teresa Voyles



Please contact the office with any updates, additions or corrections. We don't want to miss anyone or list your special date incorrectly.

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