

First Presbyterian Church of Hanford

Worship Center: 340 N. Irwin St.

Church Office: 415 N. Redington St.

Hanford, CA 93230 (559) 582-0283

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A fellowship brought together through God's prevenient grace to grow closer to God

FIRST PRESS

May 2022

Wandering around out on the internet I found a most curious discussion taking place. I stumbled across a discussion as to whether or not a sermon should be focused on the lost and bringing them to Christ, or focused on teaching about Jesus Christ. I was dumbfounded; I would say neither.

From my perspective the sermon is an exposé on the Word of God, and what the Word of God is calling us to do in response to God's grace in our lives. A sermon may call us to accept Christ as our Lord and Savior, or it may call us to be involved in a Christian Education class, but it is more likely to have us live as if God's love for us will never spoil or fade; to be a people with glad and sincere hearts bringing that to a needy world; to be a people that are a, "royal priesthood." Worship, the context in which we find a sermon, is a time to ascribe worth to God who has blessed us, called us and enjoys the people of God as they sing praise, offer prayers and earnestly open their lives, individually and corporately to God.

In our, "Book of Common Worship," the basic movements for the, "Service for the Lord's Day" are very simple: Gathering, The Word, The Sacraments (when observed) and Sending. I had learned it in seminary as, Preparation, Proclamation and Response with the sacraments after the proclamation. Within each of these general movements lie specifics we can do to prepare or proclaim or respond. Let's think about the preparation for worship and gathering first.

Worship really begins with sunrise on the first day of the week – Sunday, or as I like to think of it, Sondag. This is the day Christ set the world free from bondage to any and all plagues of life. It is the day God declared sin had lost its hold on mankind – our sin was buried on Friday and a new life was born on Sunday. Sunday at sunrise we can openly commit ourselves fresh and new to God's loving grace. We can begin preparing to worship God.

Preparation continues as we pause for personal prayer; prepare our bodies as fragrant offerings coming to God's holy sanctuary. (Remember how the women were going with fragrant offerings to prepare Christ for the day? – So we do the same.) We prepare our hearts as we see fellow members of Christ gathering with us. Some of these family members we like real well, others, well..., but we are the Body of Christ gathering and we open ourselves to the great differences and joys we have as that body.

We prepare with music that helps move us from a regular day to a holy (wholly other) day. We're called together by God, offering hymns of praise and prayers or litanies of invocation or confession that we might be set right by God for the activity of worship. God's Holy Spirit comes and we are blessed in our worship.

Come and receive the meaning of God's love for you. Worship in truth and life through Christ our Lord.

In Christ, Rev. Louis R. Paradise - Interim Pastor





KINGS GOSPEL MISSION

Deacons - Food Pantry

Matthew 25:35,37,40 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat and something to drink..., then the righteous will answer him, Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?, the King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

First Pres Hanford is blessed to have a loving & caring congregation who supports our food pantry. Currently, our food donations are given to the Kings Gospel Mission (KGM) a local Christian organization that shares the gospel with everyone involved. I was blessed to have a conversation with a person who cooks the dinner meals, she was very thankful for our monthly donation of food. I asked about their program and she shared they feed approximately a total of 100 men & women dinner, 4 nights a week and for 3 nights a week, 15 to 20 women. They also prepare about 20 to 25 boxes of individual items of food each week for individuals that board with them who need food over the weekend. I asked if they needed any specific items that would be helpful for them.

Here is a list of some of the non-perishable items they use on a weekly basis – large quantities from Costco or Smart & Final are helpful.

Tortillas	Spaghetti – Dry
Spaghetti Sauce – large cans	Rice – 10 pounds or more (bulk)
Large bags of beans (bulk)	Large box of cornbread mix – serve 16
Large #10 size can of peaches or pears	Cereal large bags

Individual items are still needed as well for the weekend boxes & these are just some of the items they use on a weekly basis.

Cold Cereal individual servings	Crackers
Oatmeal individual servings	Soup
Canned vegetables & fruit	Peanut Butter & Jelly
Mac & Cheese	Cake Mix & Icing
Chips & cookies individual servings	Ramen in a cup

Some medical supplies are needed & she suggested the dollar store for items such as band aids, Tylenol, aspirin, tums, & Pepto-Bismol.

KGM is providing food and shelter to those who are homeless & facing difficult situations such as drug or alcohol addiction, abuse, etc. First Pres is helping with that food ministry to feed the least of these.

Thank you for your generosity!!

Submitted by – Julie Baker



**PASTORAL
SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Dear church family,

As we continue to pray for our Pastor Search Team, this month we focus on hearing God's voice. As the team reviews applications and schedules interviews, pray that the team would hear God's voice with clarity; that they feel peace through the interview process; that discernment is quick. The team will read applications, call references, listen to sermon samples, and schedule interviews. During this process, pray that the search team continues to put the church's needs and desires before their own personal desires. Ask the Lord to continue to renew their spirit so that they may approach each candidate with fresh eyes and an open heart.

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me." John 10:14.

J & K Adventures - MK Care Facilitators



Josh and Katya are servants called by our Lord Jesus, commissioned by the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, and sent out with love for Christ's global Church. Josh was born and raised in Colorado before moving to East Asia as a six-year-old missionary kid (MK) with World Outreach (WO). He knows firsthand and painfully well many common MK struggles which led to his feeling called by God to minister to them. He went on to gain his B.S. in Scripture and Theology (minor in Christian Ministry) at LeTourneau University and continued serving in youth ministry in his home church for ten years. He has already served MKs through short-term trips with World Outreach and with his home church.

Katya was born to parents serving with the Alliance in Venezuela and grew up moving around the US and Canada. She was called to global work at age 14, and she completed her B.A. in International Relations from UC Davis while serving with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Local and overseas ministry experiences have led her to discerning the imperativeness of prayer and care ministries to supporting and fulfilling the Great Commission given to Christ's Church.

Josh and Katya both have experience living as missionary kids, and they know first-hand that as MKs are transplanted, it is typical for them to experience struggles with identity, belonging, loss, and grief. Statistics reflect that MKs are vulnerable and at high risk for experiencing trauma, mental illness, and suicide. Being there for these kids on the mission field makes space for discipleship, timely debriefing of difficult international transitions, and empowering parents to understand and help their children. Josh and Katya see MK care as a clear responsibility of the Church and believe that on-field help can prevent many years of ensuing heartache and confusion. Their desire is for MKs to thrive in faith and health and for workers' families to flourish and serve sustainably. Josh and Katya feel called to minister as the Body of Christ to those who serve where there is, as yet, no Body else.

As Regional MK Care Facilitators with Avant Ministries (and cooperatively sent by the EPC's World Outreach), Josh and Katya will be based in and serve from a strategic city in Western Europe. They will work with the MKs in their region and travel to serve at annual conferences throughout the world. Please keep Josh and Katya in prayer for God's guidance and for strength and protection as they move forward in their Mission serving the Lord!

Thanks!

The Buildings & Grounds Ministry team would like to thank everyone who came out for the April Church Workday. It was nice to see a good combination of both the faithful regulars and new faces who showed up to help. The adage "Many hands make light work" rang true Saturday as we took on the following projects around the church campus.

- Our big project was painting the Church Finance and Youth Director's offices.
- We received some new to us furniture for the office, a desk / work center for Annette our Office Administrator, and file cabinets for our records storage room.
- The Kitchen pantry got a deep cleaning and sorting out of years of accumulated "stuff."
- There was a little weeding and tidying up outside in the front courtyard. Normally a lot of the workday projects used to involve gardening but due to the help of the men from the Kings Gospel Mission who work in the yard twice a month we don't have much of anything to do outside anymore.
- The Sanctuary was prepared for our Holy Week activities.

A big thank you once again to the following people who turned out to help; Martin & Darlene Keast, Tim & Debra Revious, Steve Essepian, Chuck & Michael Kinney, Tyler Uhlik, Andrew Rishel, Joel Bialkowsky, Bill & Julie Baker, Annette Rajskup, Janice Mills, Doug & Lori Porter, Marj Froberg, and Ken & Laurie Tazelaar.

The B&G team schedules workdays for our church twice per year. Our 2nd workday this year is scheduled for Saturday, November 5th. Please mark your calendar to join us. We would love to have your help working to beautify and enhance our church buildings and grounds.



In His Service,
Jeff Jones



Summary of April 17, 2022 Session Meeting

Deacons

- Reported 73 took Communion in April & 7 Home Bound were served
- Reported donations of \$75 each were given to KGM, Soup Kitchen, Crossroads Pregnancy & Meals-On-Wheels.
- Approved the disposal of damaged/unusable china pieces

Clerk's Report

- EPC Presbytery will be May 12-13 In Nevada City

Pastor's Report

- Noted the baptism of Ryan LeFils (4/3) and the grave-side memorial of Yoshito Matsubara (4/19)
- Approved baptism on May 8 for Brady Porter & Emerie Porter
- Approved worship plans for 4/24—6/5, 2022

Buildings & Grounds

- Reported the workday went well, two offices were painted and several other projects were tackled

Finance

- Requested committees begin preparing their budgets for 2023

Missions

- Approved plans for OCC purchases in July/August
- Approved OCC packing party on 11/6 & dedication on 11/13

Personnel Committee

- Reminded staff & elders that Sexual Harassment training is due again.

Pastor Search Committee

- Continues to ask for prayers

Other Business

- Information and training on the use of Servant Keeper continues and instructs to members on how to get the most out of the program will continue to be distributed

UP COMING



- May 1** Communion Sunday, Church Picnic
- May 2** Church Growth mtg @ 1pm, *Missions mtg @ 7pm
- May 3** Deacon mtg @ 6:30pm
- May 4** CE mtg @ 10am, Choir practice @ 6:30pm
- May 5** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- May 6** 1st Friday Prayer @ 9am
- May 8** Mother's Day, Youth Group @ 5pm, NSSG @ 6:30pm,
- May 9** *Worship mtg @ 6pm
- May 10** *Buildings & Grounds mtg @ 7pm, *Finance mtg @ 7pm
- May 11** Choir practice @ 6:30pm
- May 12** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- May 12-13** Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest meeting
- May 14** Serve Day
- May 17** Session mtg @ 6pm
- May 19** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- May 22** Youth Group @ 5pm, NSSG @ 6:30pm,
- May 26** KGM speaker, *Bible Study @ 7pm
- May 29** Promotion Sunday & 5th Sunday
- May 30** Memorial Day (office closed)

* Zoom Meeting



Join us at the
Church Picnic!

May 1st

at Freedom Park

Join us after church at Freedom Park for
food, fellowship, fun & games.

Adults \$6

Children (to age 10) \$3



Session Committees

fpc Making Disciples of Jesus
Hanford, California



zoom

Worship
Committee Meeting

Monday, May 9th @ 6pm



Church
DEACONS

1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm



Christian
Education



Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 4th @ 10:00am



zoom



1st Monday of each month @ 7pm



Buildings &
Grounds



Committee Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7:00pm



zoom

Finance

Committee Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7pm



Church
Growth



Committee Meeting

1st Monday of each month @ 1pm



Session



3rd Tuesday of each month @ 6:00pm

Faith & Fellowship

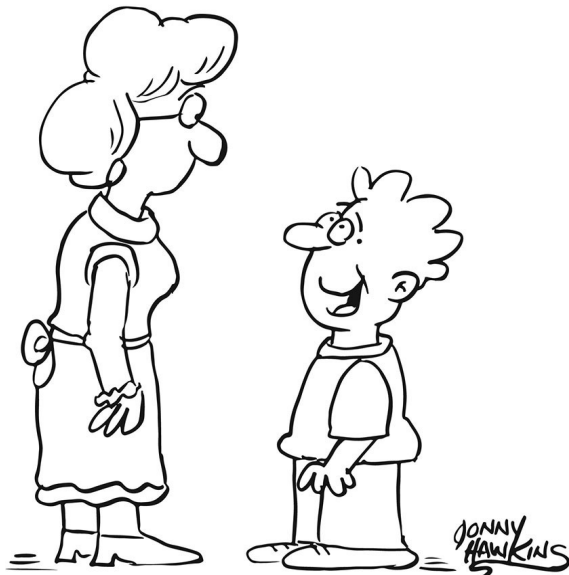
Jolly 1's & 2's

May 15 the Temple Theatre is presenting the play "The Widow in Mink." The play begins at 2:00, cost is \$15.00. Please let me know by May 2 if you wish to go. I am extending the date to respond because I will be out of town till the 1st of May. Please leave me a message at 583-8817. Those who wish may eat with us at Asia Garden beforehand.

June 5 – Pops Concert in the Park at 7:30 in front of the Civic Auditorium.

June 12 we will go to the Golden Chain Theatre in Oakhurst to see "Shrek: The Musical." The show begins at 2:00. We will leave the church at 11:30 and will eat somewhere in Oakhurst or at the theatre. Cost is \$15 for seniors. Please let me know by May 29 if you wish to attend.

If you have any suggestions for events to attend, please let Janet Harader know. Telephone # is 583-8817.



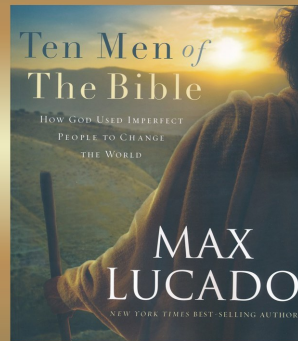
"Mom — you deserve a raise for raising me."

9—11am

Ladies

First Friday Coffee and Prayer

Adult Bible Study



Thursday Nights
@ 6:30pm



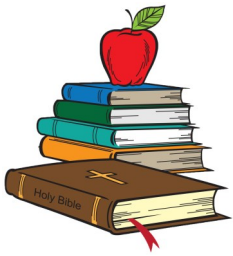
2nd & 4th Sunday of each month @ 6:30pm

Jr & Sr High



YOUTH GROUP

2nd & 4th Sunday Nights @ 5:00pm



A Note From: Children's and Youth Director

Our Children and Youth want to extend a HUGE thank you to our church family for your tremendous support of our Camp Fundraiser: the Tri Tip Lunch and Bake Sale that was held on March 6! You all helped make this event a stunning success.

GIGANTIC thanks also go to Darlene and Martin Keast for all of their help with the Tri Tip Fundraiser in getting a donation from THRIVENT for the cost of much of the meal. Additionally, Darlene and Martin procured all the ingredients and lead the youth in preparing and serving the food as well as cleaning up afterwards. ENORMOUS thanks go to Nick and Chuck Kinney for grilling all of the tri-tip –it was so very tasty!

We were able to raise \$2,000, and the 8 campers who will be attending Calvin Crest this Summer were each able to get a scholarship of \$250 toward the cost of camp (camp is expensive! But so worth it!!). WE REALLY APPRECIATE EVERYTHING!!

We are looking forward to Vacation Bible School (VBS)!

If you could help us by saving your #10 cans (also known as coffee cans...the biggest type sold, with things like peaches and tomatoes in them). We also need paper towel tubes and large yogurt containers. If you could make sure these are all clean and dry, then bring to church on Sunday to the box labeled VBS donations in the hallway. If you are interested in helping in Vacation Bible School and you haven't already let us know, please contact either Sheri Winterowd or Deborah Pelton. It's going to be AWESOME!

In Christ,
Sheri Winterowd

First Presbyterian Church
340 N. Irwin Street (559) 582-0283

God's Prevenient Grace
fpc
Hanford CA
www.fpchanford.org

VBS 2022

June 27 - July 1
9:00am - 12:00pm

Register your student at:
<https://forms.gle/FzJhaE6xdHZU7qeN9>

CONGRATULATIONS

PROMOTION SUNDAY

Promoting into 3rd Grade:

Stone Torrez	(Kit Carson)
Owen Walsh	(St. Rose McCarthy)

8th Graduates:

Hope Kinney	(Kit Carson)	<i>Headed to</i> <i>Hanford HS</i>
Tyler Uhlik	(Woodrow Wilson)	<i>Hanford HS</i>

High School Graduates:

	<i>Headed to</i>	
Grace Kinney	(Hanford HS)	<i>College of Sequoias</i>
Alysha Rajskup	(CVC HS)	<i>Arizona State University</i>
Braden Winterowd	(CVC HS)	<i>Biola University</i>

College Graduates:

	<i>Degree</i>	
Chris Rajskup	Dordt University	<i>BA - Agriculture</i>

MAY

Birthdays & *Anniversaries

- 1 Veronica Andrews, Rowena Curiel,
Charlotte Davis, David Gately
- 2 Julie Baker, Jeff Crass
- 6 *Tim & Debra Revious
- 7 Ginnie Herelman
- 10 Dustin Cuzzort
- 11 *Tommy & Katie Sippel
- 12 Olivia Infante
- 13 Ron Herelman, Michael Montoya
- 14 *Jeff & Joanna Jones
- 15 *Nick Elvena & Jeanne Rich, Michael
Rodriguez
- 20 Bryce Winterowd
- 21 Emma Rives
- 22 Valerie Walls
- 23 Michele King, Tim Revious
- 25 *Paul & Abigail Dixon, Joanna Jones
- 27 Charles Feaver, *Mark & Jenny Naza-
rian
- 28 Evelyn Dixon
- 29 Seidy Garcia, *Riley & Valerie Walls
- 30 *Ron & Ginnie Herelman, Rhett Tor-
rez



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

P O Box 1185
Hanford, CA 93232

Place
Stamp
Here

Label Here

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STAFF:

Lou Paradise pastor@fpchanford.org	Interim Pastor
Sheri Winterowd fpchanford.youth@gmail.com	Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
Annette Rajskup office@fpchanford.org	Office Administrator
Gwendolyn Smith bookkeeper@fpchanford.org	Bookkeeper
Nancy Roller nancyroller8@yahoo.com	Custodian

Church Office Hours: 9:00am—1:00pm (Mon—Fri)

Send prayer requests to hanfordfpcprayer@gmail.com
other information to office@fpchanford.org