



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

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

FIRST PRESS

July 2023

"Why?"



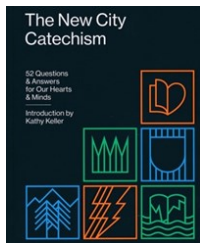
Jen and I consider it a privilege to be a part of this wonderful and historic congregation and church family. First Pres has been making a Kingdom difference in Hanford and the world for decades. We feel blessed and humbled to be a part of the next steps in the church's extraordinary journey and we look forward to taking those steps with you. We cannot wait to see what God will do! We firmly believe in the sovereignty and providence of God and are confident that He has placed us here "for such a time as this." Thank you for your kind welcome and extending to us the gracious call to be a part of this family.

As I think about family, I think of our own children and their desire to know "why?" Their longing to know "why" would sometimes drive me crazy! However, I now realize their wisdom in wanting to know why. Knowing *why* is important. As we have been learning these last few weeks, understanding our *why* is essential for us and we launch into our future.

In his book *Start with Why: How Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action*, Simon Sinek points out that we often focus on *what* we do or *how* we do what we do. This, however, is not the best approach for individuals and organizations. Knowing *what* we do is important but knowing *why* we do what we do is more impactful and inspiring. Knowing *why* gives more meaning to what we do. Knowing *why* fuels passion and desire. Knowing *why* helps to define values and purpose. Sinek says, "People don't buy WHAT you do, they buy WHY you do it" (p. 41).

We must keep the *why* of *what* we do in the forefront of our minds and mission as a church. Our *why* allows us to be more focused and energetic. Knowing our *why* will inspire people to action and help us to do *what* we do better.

We have been discussing our why here at First Presbyterian. We believe that the solution to every problem we encounter is being a disciple of Jesus. We believe that Jesus Christ is the hope of the world and that being an apprentice, learner, and disciple of Jesus can resolve any issue we face! Therefore, we seek to make disciples of Jesus and glorify Him in all that we do! That's our why! And I am extremely excited for our journey of fulfilling our why! In the weeks ahead, you will hear about more specific things we will do on this journey. Please be prayerful as we seek to honor God in all that we do. We are in for an exciting journey together.



What does the law of God require?

The Answer is **“That we love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength; and love our neighbor as ourselves.”**



A Note From:

Children's and Youth Director

What a fantastic time we are having at Vacation Bible School (VBS) this week!! The final numbers of how many children are attending, how many volunteers are helping and other cool statistics will not be totaled up until after the week is finished but initially I want to share how exciting is it to see our campus buzzing with activity and to hear the children sing, laugh, play and experience all the awesomeness of VBS!! We are so very grateful for all of our fabulous volunteers and our amazing director, Deborah Pelton!! Thank you all for your prayers and support for this endeavor!

Our Summer Swim Parties and Summer Book Club have been really great times of fun and fellowship. We have more planned for July!! See the dates below. Wear your swimsuit and bring your towel and a snack to share.

Recently, a couple called our church and asked for Pastor Tim to do a House Blessing (which involves praying over and blessing their new home). He had a scheduling conflict, so he asked if I could go in his place, which I was happy to do. I arranged the time with the family and headed to their house with my Bible, in which I had marked scriptures that referenced God's blessing on the home of his people. There are a surprising number of verses on this topic and I wanted to share two of the favorites that I read that day. Psalm 4:8 says "I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." 2 Samuel 7:28-29 declares "O Sovereign Lord, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant. Now be pleased to bless the house of your servant, that it may continue forever in your sight; for you, O Sovereign Lord, have spoken, and with your blessing the house of your servant will be blessed forever." The House Blessing was a really special time with this family and I was reminded of two things through this experience. First was the richness of the Word of God, which promises and encourages and reminds us of the heart of love that our great God has for each of us. Second was the beauty of Christians uniting together intentionally, praying and asking the Lord's blessing upon us.

I had never met this family, but by the end of our time together, I felt the kinship of Christian love and an appreciation of their determination to seek God's blessing over their home and their lives. May each of us be intentional in seeking Christ's purpose, plans and blessing over our lives and possessions and may we each put him first in all that we do!

I would love to hear feedback about the 2023 Prayer Calendars given to families of children and youth this past Christmas. Are you using them? Are they helpful? Please share your experience with me!

Future plans:

July 9-14 - Sherwood and Jr. High Camp at Calvin Crest

July 11 @ 5:00 - 7:30 pm Tuesday Summer Book Club at church

July 12 @ 2:00 - 5:00 pm Wednesday Summer Swim Party at Tim & Debra Revious' Home

July 16-21 - High School Camp at Calvin Crest

July 19 @ 2:00 - 5:00 pm Wednesday Summer Swim Party at Don & Janice Mills' Home

July 25 @ 5:00 - 7:30 pm Tuesday Summer Book Club at church

July 26 @ 2:00 - 5:00 pm Wednesday Summer Swim Party at Nick & Sue Kinney's Home

~ Sheri Winterowd



First Presbyterian's Summer Book Club for Kids & Teens!

July 11 & July 25 (5pm—7pm)
Youth Room (Downstairs)

For more information contact Sheri (559) 281-4163 or visit our website www.fpchanford.org



Operation Christmas Child Purchase Program

This year the Mission Ministry Team will be offering the Operation Christmas Child Purchase Program. Our church families will once again be able to reach out and participate by purchasing items to pack into the Christmas Child shoeboxes during the Packing Party.

Beginning Sunday, August 6, and for the next 3 weeks, there will be a table set up in the Fellowship Hall after worship services for our Operation Christmas Child Purchase Program. At the table you will be able to choose a card with specific items listed and the amounts needed. You are then asked purchase the items and return them to the table in the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, August 27.

We will have an Operation Christmas Child Packing Party in November that everyone is invited to, and assemble the shoeboxes in preparation for their dedication.

Your Mission Ministry thanks you for participating in this worthwhile discipleship program! If you have any questions please contact one of the following members from the Mission Ministry Team:

Gail Forsythe – 559-381-2388

Janet Harader – 559-367-5658

“Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” (Luke 12:32)



Military Ministry: We have several military members (active duty, retired, and veterans) with families attending our church.

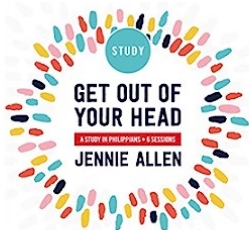
The deacons support the deployed active duty member by sending a “box of love” containing small items from home: snacks, lip balm, laundry soap, prayer messages, etc. If any member has any special requests for snacks for their box during deployments, please let Laurie Tazelaar know prior to the deployment. Any donations toward the cost of shipping boxes are always appreciated.

As always, the deacons are also available to help and support the family members remaining home during each deployment. Reach out to any deacon when there is a need.

Deacon’s Bulletin Board: Be sure to check out the Deacon’s bulletin board for the latest news for several charities supported by our church: Kings Gospel Mission, Refuge Armona, Meals on Wheels, Laundry Love, Crossroads Pregnancy Center, Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen, and Salvation Army. Recent correspondence will always be posted for all to read, as well as the names and photos of your current deacons.

~ Laurie Tazelaar, Deacon

New Bible Study Class — Starting July 27th

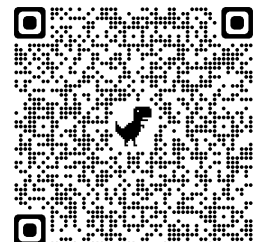


A Study in Philippians

Thursday night **Zoom** Bible Study will begin July 27th at 7:00pm facilitated by Mary Kinney. We will be using the study workbook (only) for **Get Out of Your Head** by Jennie Allen. Workbooks can be purchased on amazon for \$11 (see QR code below). On July 27th we will introduce ourselves and talk about the study, plus go over pages 4-7 in the workbook. Pages 9-16 will be assigned for our weeks homework. Aug 3 we will discuss pages 9-16, through zoom we will watch the trailer, discuss the video. This study will take 19 zooms to complete and we'll end December 7 (unless we get off track). The videos will be available on Right Now Media so some may want to subscribe to the app if they don't already have it, however I will be showing the videos during our zooms, but if they miss it they can use the app to get caught up. A **Free** subscription to RightNow Media is available through FPC - contact the office.

Please provide Mary your name and numbers if you wish to join so she can provide you with the zoom link and send you reminders.

Mary Kinney's email: marys.mustang@hotmail.com



UP COMING



- Jul 2** VBS Recap Celebration
Jul 3 Church Growth meeting @ 1pm
Jul 4 Independence Day (office closed)
Jul 9 Communion Sunday, B&G mtg @ 11:10am, Worship mtg @ 11:15am, Youth Group @ 5pm
Jul 9-14 Calvin Crest—Sherwood Camp
Jul 10 Finance mtg @ 1pm, *Missions meeting @ 7pm
Jul 11 Book Club @ 5pm
Jul 12 Youth Swim Party @ 2pm
Jul 13 Session Reports Due
Jul 15 First Press Articles Due
Jul 16-21 Calvin Crest—High School
Jul 19 Youth Swim Party @ 2pm
Jul 23 Youth Group @ 5pm
Jul 25 Book Club @ 5pm, *Investment mtg @ 7pm
Jul 26 Youth Swim Party @ 2pm
Jul 27 *Bible Study @ 7pm
Jul 30 5th Sunday Potluck after worship



"You'll notice your pews have a new feature this morning.
 Sit down and buckle up."



Summary of June 20, 2023 Session Meeting

Deacons

- Reported 87 and 4 homebound took communion in June
- Reported donations of \$75 each to Soup Kitchen, KGM, Meals on Wheels and Laundry Love
- Memorial service for Dorothy Lehmann, 38 were served
- Homebound Update: Art & Shirley Ramm moving to Valley Christian Home
- Moving away from Salvation Army for Santa Angels projects, and will work with Tots-4-Tots (Marines)
- Naomi's plaque is ready to be installed

Clerk's Report

- Approved disbanding the Interim Pastor Committee
- Approved moving Communion to July 9th to accommodate VBS week recap
- Approved report on May Presbytery in Fresno as submitted by Annette Rajskup
- Approved Minutes from Pastor Installation Committee
- Reported Active Members as of June 16, 2023 total—81

Pastor's Report

- Reminded Elders to review the duties for Elder of the Day

Christian Education

- Approved hosting Bloodmobile on Aug. 24

Church Growth

- Approved 5th Sunday Potluck on July 30th

Missions

- Approved OCC Purchase Program starting Aug. 2023
- Approved collecting for Shoes-that-Grow starting in Sept. 2023

Worship

- Approved allowing Matthew Borba use of the Yamaha piano in sanctuary

Other Business

- Carpet to be installed in church office July 6 & 7
- Approved Elder Jones to use 220 Building on July 8 at 10am for Emmaus Board Meeting

Cameroon, Africa!!!



**Tentative Dates – Dec 1st to Dec 10th 2023
(plus 4 days travel)**

We have a wonderful chance to travel to Cameroon, Africa, with Paul Ela NSA, Missions Team co-chair and FPC Elder. Paul is from Cameroon. He has served as an Elder in the Efulan Presbyterian Church and will be leading us on this journey to visit this church along with the Yaounde Presbyterian Missions, Ebolowa Presbyterian Missions, and Kribi Erwin Good Presbyterian Missions in Cameroon. This will give us a chance to build a Covenant church relationship with the Efulan Presbyterian Church congregation as well as share faith, cultures, and experiences as missionaries. The itinerary also includes all food arrangements (provided by a private chef), accommodations, and ground transportation.

Temperatures during our journey through the south/central part of Cameroon during the first part of December is said to be hot and humid (lows in the 60's, highs in the 80's).

Cost is **estimated** at \$4,000, which covers flight, food, housing, ground transportation and Visa fees. Immunizations needed for travel & Covid restrictions will be at own expense. Deposit on this opportunity in \$400.

If you would like more information, please contact Gail Forsythe at 559-381-2388. We need to begin the registration process in July 2023 for those who want to take advantage of this great chance to become missionaries in Cameroon, Africa.

Let's Go!!!



The Brown Family

Pastor Tim grew up in a coal miner's family in West Virginia and is the youngest of three siblings. He accepted a call into ministry when he was seventeen and has been active in Christian ministry ever since. He is a graduate of Fairmont State University (B.A.), The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div) and Northern Baptist Theological Seminary (D.Min). He has pastored churches and served on denominational staffs in West Virginia, Indiana and California.

Jennifer is the oldest of two children, a Clovis native and a graduate of Clovis High School and Fresno State University. Jen has been a small business owner specializing in upcycling furniture and creative design. Jen has also led church revitalization consultations with Tim. She is currently a Case Manager and Counselor for substance use disorder at First Steps Recovery in Clovis and she is pursuing a master's degree in social work and counseling in the field of addiction studies.

Tim and Jen have three children; Abigail (25) who is married to Colin, Allison (20) and Wyatt (14). Tim and Jen also have two fur babies, Phoebe and Charlie. In their free time, Jen and Tim love to fish, travel, spend time binging on any good television series and watching routing the Mountaineers and the Dodgers.



Session Committees



fpc Making Disciples of Jesus
Hanford, California

Worship
Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday after morning worship

fpc

Church
DEACONS

1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm

fpc

Christian Education
Committee Meeting

2nd Thursday of each month @ 11am

fpc

zoom

MISSIONS
Ministry

2nd Monday of each month @ 7pm

fpc

Buildings & Grounds
Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday of each month @ 11:10 am

fpc

zoom

Finance
Committee Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7pm

fpc

Church Growth
Committee Meeting

1st Monday of each month @ 1pm

fpc

Session

3rd Tuesday of each month @ 6:00pm

Faith & Fellowship

July 30th



following morning worship

Families bring a Main Dish to feed 12 or more
Singles & Couples bring a Side Dish or Large Salad



SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:00am
(6th - 12th grades)

“Powerhouse”



**CHILDREN'S
MINISTRY**

Children's Church
(ages K—5th)

SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 10:30 am
(children attend church, then are released to their classes)

Jolly
1's & 2's Social Group

FPC

If you are interested in getting involved contact
Janet at (559) 583-8817

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month
at 5:00pm



YOUTH GROUP
grades 6th — 12th

EXERCISE CLASS

The FPC exercise class M, W & F mornings @ 9am in the
FPC Outreach Building (220 Dewey Street)

Reminder! Deacons hope you can
bring clothing and nonperishable food
to help those in our community who are
in need. Collection baskets are
available in the church hallway outside
the Fellowship Hall.





JULY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Sue Kinney
- 3 *Bill & Julie Baker
- 6 Michael Porter
- 7 *Eric & Lindsay Caparuolo,
*Bob & Rowena Curiel
- 9 Lori Porter
- 11 Fran Bettencourt
- 20 Lynda Cuzzort, Owen Walls
- 21 *Jim & Annette Rajskup
- 24 Steve Froberg
- 26 Finn Walsh



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

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www.fpchanford.org

STAFF:

Tim Brown pastor@fpchanford.org	Pastor
Sheri Winterowd fpchanford.youth@gmail.com	Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
Annette Rajskup office@fpchanford.org	Office Administrator
Athena 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