

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

August 2022

Dear FPC Hanford Family –

Do you ever count your blessings? As a pastor, I am amazed at the blessings bestowed upon this congregation; a wonderful facility, a diverse and capable congregation, a history rich in pastoral and staff leadership; and an ability to reach out to the local community as well as to the world. What a blessed people First Presbyterian Church of Hanford represents. Do you ever see yourself as a steward of all those blessings?



Just think about it for a moment. The gifts, talents and treasures you hold individually and collectively call you to be a steward of those items. You could use them with reckless abandon. You could hold them back and keep them all locked up safe. You could live somewhere in the middle and manage these gifts, talents and treasures so they may come to the greatest fruition for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the affirmation of God's blessing to you.

August means there are new beginnings coming. New beginnings give us the chance to review our personal stewardship of time talent and treasure. A time for us to ask, "In the midst of a fall that will be full of activity, how shall I expend my time, talent and treasure to reflect my love of God, and Christ's Church?" It is a very real commitment we make to be stewards of Christ's resources on loan to us.

It can be a little scary, thinking about yourself as a steward of God's blessings. In the Gospels, Christ is always identifying a steward who wasn't generous enough, or one who miss-managed the gifts given to them. The disciples were left as Christ's stewards. They were charged with the management of the proclamation of the Good News. This is like being charged with the salvation of people's souls. That is a pretty big responsibility. Then again, we are today's followers of Christ, charged with the same injunction – spread the Good News.

Even as I write, it occurs to me that this congregation is up to the call. Stewardship of resources is a strong suit. The gifts, talents and treasures in this congregation will see to it that our mission in the name of Christ continues. This fall we will need everyone united, everyone praying, everyone being dedicated and re-consecrated to the call of Christ in our lives.

Would you take a moment now to offer prayer for this traditional fall journey? Ask God to continue blessing this congregation; ask for wisdom and discernment; ask for God's Holy Spirit to lead us into school year 2022/23 prepared and confident in our walk with Christ. Where will your stewardship of Christ's blessings take you?

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



Baby Spoons and Flowers

One of the many things I love about our wonderful First Presbyterian Church of Hanford is the feeling that we truly are 'the family of God.' We care about each other, we listen to one another and we celebrate milestones in each of our lives. A tremendously special milestone is when a couple welcomes a baby into their home. The Deacons at our church honor these new babies by gifting the family with a stainless steel baby spoon, engraved with the child's initials. We delight in giving a useful yet special item that can be enjoyed as well as treasured after the baby has grown past eating baby food.

When a new baby is born, the Deacons also provide a rose in a vase near the pulpit, and we announce the name, birthdate and size of the baby as well as the parents and grandparents complete with a photo of the little one if possible.

Please reach out to one of the deacons or the church office to let us know of any families in our congregation that are expecting so we can make sure and honor them in this way.

Submitted by – Carley Watson



Reminder! Deacons hope you can bring clothing and nonperishable food to help those in our community who are in need. Collection baskets are available every Sunday morning during worship service.



A Note From: *Children's and Youth Director* The Greatest Journey

For many years, our church has partnered with the ministry called Samaritan's Purse in one of their most well known projects: Operation Christmas Child (known as OCC for short). Operation Christmas Child provides shoeboxes filled with gifts to local partners around the world as a mean of reaching out to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine and disease.

My family and I have packed several boxes each year over the last 12 or more years. It was such a special learning opportunity when our children were younger to take them on a shopping outing and let each of them choose a toy, gift, school supply and personal items for a boy or girl their age and to fit them all into a shoebox. We would then write a letter and enclose a photo of our family to send with the gifts.

Over these years, I had heard of The Greatest Journey, which is a 12-lesson course designed for OCC shoebox recipients. Children who participate in the program learn how to follow Christ and share Him with others. This year for the first time, our children and youth will be studying the material that is presented in The Greatest Journey. Our church has purchased The Greatest Journey workbooks and New Testaments for each and every child and teen in our church (as well as teacher guides) and I am so excited about our young people getting to learn these important Biblical truths and share them with others. Please pray for our children and youth that they would grow in their understanding of Jesus and His incredible love for them, as well as their willingness and ability to share Christ's love with others.

Church Camp Out is planned for October 14-16 at Oceano Campground. We are gathering a team of people to make this a wonderful time for all. People can either camp or stay in a nearby hotel and join us for our gatherings and meals. Please contact Sheri at 559-281-4163 if you are interested. Also, we are having a hot dog lunch and meeting in the Fellowship Hall after worship on Sunday, August 7th. Please plan to join us at this meeting, even if you are slightly interested. Thanks!!

~ Sheri Winterowd



Summary of July 19, 2022 Session Meeting

Deacons

- Reported 68 took communion on July 10th & 3 home-bound were served (Remington & Valley Christian were on lock-down due to Covid)
- 60 were served during the Munoz memorial on July 16th
- Reported donations of \$75 each were given to KGM, Soup Kitchen, Crossroads Pregnancy & Meals-On-Wheels

Clerk's Report

- Presbytery date moved to Oct. 21—22
- Approved transfer of membership of the Christoph family to Advent Pres. Church in Cordova, TN

Buildings & Grounds

- \$1806 to repair fire sprinkler system

Christian Education

- Approved New City Catechism curriculum
- Approved Lemonade fundraiser for Carlla July 31st

Finance

- Reported total assets are below \$750,000 for the first time in a long tie due to stock market
- Giving is down and we are behind budget by over \$3000
- Current projections predict we will end the year with a defect of -\$9000
- Discussion on how to bring attention of financial defect to congregation.

Missions

- Operation Christmas Child program launch dates Aug. 7th—28th

Interim Pastor Committee Report

- Reported the potential interim candidate shared by EPC is not financial feasible
- Pastor Paradise has worship plans thru Nov. 20, 2022 adjusting for some time off during October.

Pastor Search Committee

- Continues to ask for prayer and reports a clear candidate has not yet been revealed

UP COMING



- Aug 1** Church Growth mtg @ 1pm, *Missions mtg @ 7pm
- Aug 2** Deacons mtg @ 6:30pm
- Aug 4** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- Aug 7** *Communion Sunday*, Hot Dog Lunch & Campout Meeting (in Fellowship Hall after worship service)
- Aug 9** *B&G mtg @ 7pm, *Finance mtg @ 7pm
- Aug 11** CE meeting @ 10:30am, *Bible Study @ 7pm
- Aug 14** *Youth Sunday*, Worship mtg @ 11:15am, Youth Group @ 5pm, NSSG @ 6:30pm
- Aug 16** Session mtg @ 6pm
- Aug 18** Blood Drive 3-7pm, *Bible Study @ 7pm
- Aug 25** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- Aug 28** *OCC Mission Speaker Guest*, Youth Group @ 5pm, NSSG @ 6:30pm
- Sep 1** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- Sep 2** Fist Friday Coffee & Prayer @ 9am
- Sep 4** *Communion Sunday*
- Sep 5** *Labor Day (office closed)*
- Sep 6** Deacon's meeting @ 6:30pm
- Sep 8** *Bible Study @ 7pm

* Zoom Meeting

Dear Church Family,

The Pastor Search Committee is asking that this month your prayers be focused on peace for the congregation. As we being the month of August many of us experience transitions: back to school, beginning of harvest season, enduring another month of hot temperatures. Let us focus on finding peace within these changes, praying for our congregation as a whole. For the PSC let us pray for peace as they begin another season of searching. Let us not lose hope! The Lord has already provided our congregation with so much, and He has plans for our future as well.



"And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Phil. 4:7



Session Committees



fpc Making Disciples of Jesus
Hanford, California

zoom **Worship**
Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday of each month @ 11:15am

Church
DEACONS

1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm

Christian
Education
Committee Meeting

Thursday, Aug. 11th @ 10:30am

zoom **MISSIONS**
Ministry

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

Several of us braved the heat to hear the Kingsburg City Band concert. I almost cancelled the event, but am glad I did not. The evening weather was pleasant and the concert was fantastic.

Our next event will be at the Temple Theatre to see the play "The Curious Savage." It is a comedy. It is the story of an elderly widow named Mrs. Savage, whose husband has left her \$10 million dollars. She intends to give the entire fortune away to people who wish to pursue their "foolish dreams," but her stepchildren strongly object.

We will try something different. On the last weekend of the play they are offering a Saturday matinee. Therefore we will go to the play on August 20. It will begin at 2:00 and the cost is \$15. Please let me know by August 6 if you wish to go. Call Janet at 583-8817 or 367-5658.

Submitted by: Janet Harader

Kings Players presents

The Curious Savage

By John Patrick

Directed by Louella Moreland

Show Dates:

July 30, Aug. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19
at 7:30 pm

Matinees:

July 31, Aug. 7, 14, 20, 21
2:00 pm

Auditions:

June 6 & 7
6:30 pm



2022

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service, Inc.

Temple Theater
514 E Visalia St
Hanford, CA
559-584-7241
www.kingsplayers.org

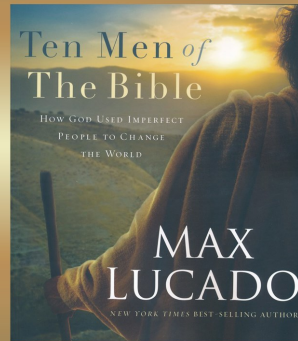
9—11am

Ladies

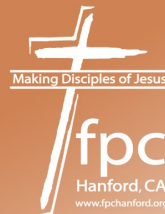
First Friday Coffee and Prayer



Adult Bible Study



Thursday Nights
@ 7:00pm



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

Jr & Sr High



YOUTH GROUP

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



Finance/Stewardship News

We continue to look forward with great anticipation to meeting the pastor God is preparing to lead our congregation! We know God has a plan for us as we continue to serve Him while we wait. With all that we have been through as a church these last several years, this congregation has been faithful throughout it all in supporting our ministries and missions with your tithes and offerings! The Finance and Stewardship team want to share a couple updates with you this month.

Giving and Attendance - Each Sunday in our worship bulletin, you see a box at the bottom of the back page which shows our monthly income & expenses along with weekly attendance for the last 4 weeks. Do you check that each week? If you do, you'll have seen we are having great attendance! But it also shows our expenses exceed our income most months. Our ministry committees and staff are working hard to keep costs to a minimum. As we anticipate bringing our new full-time pastor on, we pray that God touches your hearts to help meet the financial goals for all of this to happen!

EPC Askings – Per Member Askings is the primary means for funding the work and ministry of our EPC Presbytery and General Assembly. Some of this budget is used to support churches and pastors through times of difficulty and times of transition. We cannot thank our Presbytery of the Pacific Southwest and the EPC General Assembly enough for the financial support our church and our pastors' families received after Pastor Tony's heart attack and again after Pastor Tim's death. Almost \$40,000 was covered by Askings to move Kristi Hoins back to Nebraska as well as all the funeral expenses to bury Pastor Tim there. In addition, through Askings our Presbytery and GA continued to cover the medical premiums for Kristy and her sons for a year.

Your Askings helped do all this and have helped many others as well. We support our missionaries through World Outreach and pastor candidates through their ordination process. Through our Askings we are part of a huge family that supports, loves and encourage one another.

Of the \$38 each member pays, Presbytery receives \$15 and General Assembly receives \$23. That \$38 seems like a small amount seeing what it does for so many others! We all received our 2nd quarter giving statements recently. Some of us discovered we still need to pay our per member Askings and will be catching up with that! Our church is known for always paying 100% of our Askings. Not all churches do that. So, if you haven't paid your 2022 Askings, consider doing that soon. And mark your calendar for October 30th to attend our annual Askings dessert auction after church!

AUGUST

Birthdays & *Anniversaries

- 1 Bill Baker, Carol Speer
- 3 Davian Cabrera
- 4 Debra Revious
- 5 Andrew Pelton
- 6 Lauren Larson
- 7 Jonathan Wrigley
- 10 Doug Porter
- 11 Michael Kapanka
- 13 Chris Rajskup
- 14 Jean Bell, Abigail Dixon
- 15 Joyce Vanderbeek
- 19 Wilma Humason
- 20 Marjorie Froberg
- 23 Kaitlyn Pelton, Megan Pelton
- 24 Nick, Kinney
- 25 Luke Christoph, Steven King
- 26 Renee Lowen
- 27 Jeff Jones, *Doug & Lori Porter
- 28 Ricky LeFils, Arthur Ramm, *Wes & Dorothy Lehmann, *Taylor & April Rives



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

First Presbyterian Church

Worship Center: 340 N. Irwin St.
Church Office: 415 N. Redington St.
Mail: P. O. Box 1185, Hanford, CA 93232
(559) 582-0283—FAX (559) 582-0336
www.fpchanford.org

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