

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

February 2022



Dear Church Family—

If I said, “Tell me about February,” almost everyone would make the hit with Saint Valentine’s Day on February 14. A few would remind me about Ground Hog’s Day on February 2nd. The school children would be excited about, “President’s Day” on the 21st because, they get the day off from school! Some focus on the fact that it is the shortest month with only 28 days. The reality is, the really big event is Valentine’s Day. (I think it is a specially rigged event between the ladies and the chocolate companies.) Tradition ties us to Saint Valentine’s Day.

The older traditions come up with at least three Saint Valentine figures over the years. No one really knows which one is the true Saint Valentine. It doesn’t really matter; a man believed in people in love, and did his best to see that they were bonded in the eyes of God in that love. A noble gesture, considering that it cost him his life in at least one of the traditions.

When you check the Bible for, “Saint,” there are no references. When you check for, “Saints,” the references begin in First Samuel and run through Revelations. It is always plural; it is always about a group of believers who love God. Are you a saint? Are you one of the saints? My guess is, we are the saints.

The book of Acts obviously refers to saints as the body of believers gathered in Christ’s name. Luke uses the term to define the early Christian church. Does it define First Presbyterian Church of Hanford? The church that gathers. The church that struggles. The church that is persecuted is identified as the saints. It does sound a lot like FPC Hanford. We gather, struggle, take persecution and continue to press on, identifying ourselves with Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

For us February will remind us of a pastor who loved this congregation dearly. A pastor whose life was taken in a careless act of selfishness. It will remind us that we do struggle. Hopefully it will remind us that, while persecuted, we continue to press on, identifying ourselves with Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

This year as February comes rolling through, maybe we should start a campaign to take back Valentine’s Day. We could title it, “Saints Valentine Day.” The plural group being pushed and identified as believers in the love of God. The plural group who weathers persecution. The plural group united to bring Christ to a needy world.

Let’s take back February, “For All The Saints.” “For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.” Be blessed with me this February and discover true unending love from God, the true saints of Valentine’s Day.

In Christ,
Rev. Louis R. Paradise

Church DEACONS

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.



In January, our Deacons meeting was a special time to welcome the new class of Deacons (Laurie Essepian, Janet Harader, and Carley Watson) and to thank the outgoing class for their faithful service (Rowena Curiel, Sally Gordon and Laurie Essepian). We enjoyed a potluck dinner together before conducting the business of the meeting. Marj Froberg accepted the position of Moderator (Chairperson), the Deacon who conducts the meetings and provides leadership to our group. Martin Keast and Laurie Essepian (who is considered a 'new deacon' because she agreed to serve a second 3-year term) continue in their respective roles as Secretary and Treasurer.

As you may know, The Deacon Committee donates a portion of the designated financial gifts that are received each month to several charitable organizations in our community. Recently it has come to our attention that the "Meals on Wheels" program through the local nonprofit, Kings County Commission on Aging, is in need of additional funds. "Meals on Wheels" is a week's worth of frozen, nutritious lunches that are delivered each Monday to the elderly who are 60 years of age or older and at risk of malnutrition.

Meals are delivered to residents of all seven cities in Kings County. Staff works to maintain and assist participants, making sure their needs are met, as well as linking them with other community services from groups and individuals.

The recipients are asked to make a donation to cover the cost of the meals; however many of them are not able to do so. This service is enjoyed by several of our congregation's seniors, and some in our church volunteer as delivery drivers and helpers with the "Meals on Wheels" team. So in a sense, by helping to financially support this program, we are 'helping support our own.' Donations allow for the partial subsidization of those unable to afford the total cost of meals.

In the past, the Meals on Wheels were only delivered to those who were homebound, and others would go to a Nutrition Site to pick up their meals. Due to Covid-19, all of the recipients are getting home delivery, which has required a greater number of volunteer drivers.

We as Deacons have appreciated learning more about this valuable resource of "Meals on Wheels" in our county and wanted to share the opportunity to help meet this need with you. Feel free to ask a Deacon if you have further questions.

In His Service,
Sheri Winterowd



First Presbyterian Church of Hanford

2022 Mission Ministry



Outreach Locations through Missionary Families

The Timothy Initiative – South Asia
Tartars - Central Europe
Muslim Outreach Central Asia & Western Europe
Mission Kids – Southwest Europe
Discipleship Training – Western South Asia

International Outreach Projects

Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child
Samaritan's Purse – Operation Heal Our Patriots
Compassion International
Living Water World Missions
Mercy Ships

Local Community Outreach Projects

Crossroads Pregnancy Center
Kings Gospel Mission
Family Cleaning Buckets

Please pray for our Missionaries both local and International!

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20



Summary of Nov. 16, 2021 Session Meeting

Deacons

- Reported 59 took Communion in January & 4 Home Bound were served
- Donations of \$50 each were given to the Episcopal Soup Kitchen, Salvation Army & Kings Gospel Mission & Meals-on-Wheels

Clerk's Report

- Review proposed docket for POPS meeting Jan 20—22
- Requested submissions for 2022 "Standing Dates"
- Approved revision of Mission Statement
- Approved "Year of Hope" as Vision Statement

Pastor's Report

- Baptism of Abigail Kapanka (DOB 7/9/2020) on Jan 2nd
- Installation & Ordination of new Elders & Deacons on Jan 8th
- Approved amendment to Pastor Lou's contract

Buildings & Grounds

- Approved Church Workdays 4/9 & 11/5

C.E.

- Approved Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser & Bake Sale 3/6

Church Growth

- Reported looking for committee members

Finance

- Stewardship Report - totals to date 48% of our budget

UP COMING

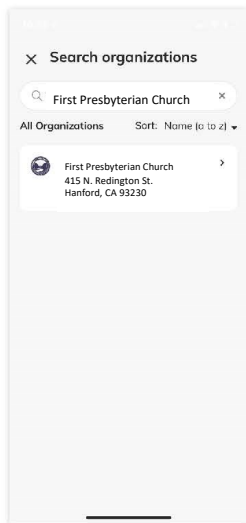


- Feb 1** Deacons meeting @ 6:30pm
- Feb 3** *Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Feb 4** First Friday Coffee & Prayer @ 9am
- Feb 6** *Communion Sunday*
- Feb 7** Church Growth meeting @ 1pm
- Feb 8** Missions meeting @ 5pm, Finance meeting @ 7pm, B&G meeting @ 7pm
- Feb 10** Session Reports Due, PSC meeting @ 5:30pm, *Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Feb 13** Worship meeting @ 11:15am, NSSG @ 6:30pm, Youth Girls @ 6:30pm
- Feb 15** First Press Articles Due, Session meeting @ 6pm
- Feb 17** *Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Feb 21** *President's Day (office closed)*
- Feb 24** *Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Feb 27** NSSG @ 6:30pm, Youth Girls @ 6:30pm
- Mar 1** Deacons meeting @ 6:30pm
- Mar 2** Ash Wednesday service @ 6pm, dinner to follow
- Mar 6** *Communion Sunday*, Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser and Bake Sale
- Mar 8** *Missions meeting @ 5pm, *Finance meeting @ 7pm, *Buildings & Grounds meeting @ 7pm
- Mar 9-10** California Music Educators Assoc. Festival
- Mar 13** *Daylight Savings Time begins*, Worship meeting @ 11:15am, NSSG @ 6:30pm, Youth Girls @ 6:30pm
- Mar 15** *First Press articles due*, *Session meeting @ 6pm
- Mar 17** *Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Mar 19** Parents' Evening Out (4-7pm)
- Mar 24** *Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Mar 27** NSSG @ 6:30pm, Youth Girls @ 6:30pm
- Mar 31** *Bible Study @ 6:30pm

* Zoom Meeting

HOW TO GIVE USING VANCO MOBILE

Support our ministries from anywhere. Go to the App Store or Google Play to download the Vanco Mobile app for free.

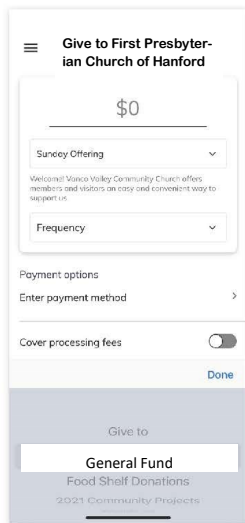


1. Search for Our Church

Enter our church's name or use the invite code and click **Search**. Then, select our church.

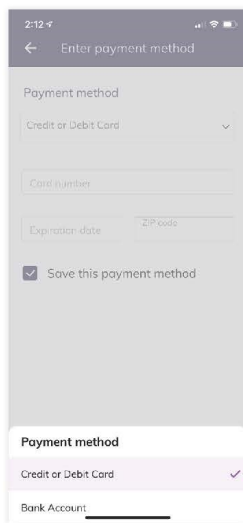
Invite Code:

LQCNRB



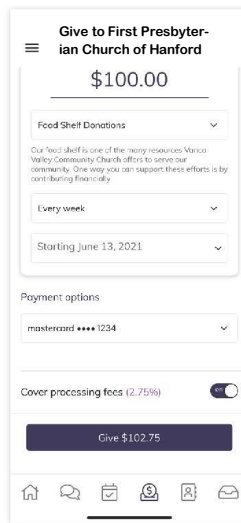
2. Select Your Fund and Amount

Select your fund and donation frequency, then select your payment method.



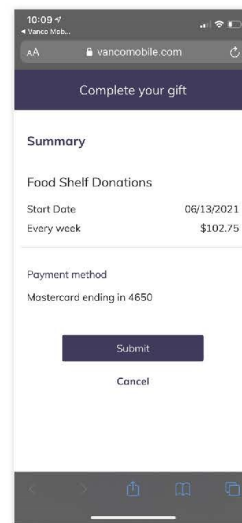
3. Enter Payment Method

Select a payment method and enter your credit card, debit card or bank account information. You can save this payment method for future donations.



4. Choose to Cover Processing Fees

You can choose to cover the donation processing fees by adding a small amount on top of your gift. Click the button to opt in.



5. Complete Your Donation

Review and complete your gift by clicking **Submit**.

VANCO
FAITH



Join the Team

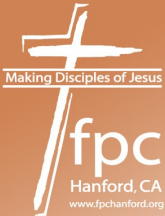
There are many ways to serve with the talents God has given you! One way is to serve on a committee that matches your God given abilities.

Several of our ministries are looking for members:

- **Church Growth** - oversees making our church campus visitor friendly, manages our online presence and communicates to the community where, what and who we are (meets the first Monday of the month at 1pm)
- **Media** - enhances the worship experience with sound and visual aids, broadcasts worship services though live-stream and social media platforms

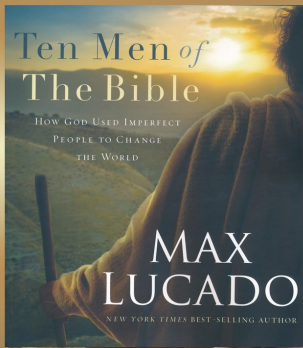
For more information about any of these ministry teams or others, please contact the church office (559) 582-0283.

Faith & Fellowship



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

Adult Bible Study



**Thursday Nights
@ 6:30pm**



9—11am

Ladies



First Friday Coffee and Prayer

Jr & Sr High Bible Study



BIBLE STUDY

2nd & 4th Sunday Nights @ 6:30pm

FPC YOUTH

Tritip Fundraiser

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6
11:15AM Fellowship Hall**

➔ **SIT DOWN OR
TO-GO AVAILABLE**



\$12

**Youth Fundraiser
for Camp
and
Bake Sale**



March 6th

Profits support Camp Calvin Crest Scholarships



Session Committees



Worship
Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday after morning worship



Church
DEACONS

1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm




Christian
Education
Committee Meeting



Making Disciples of Jesus
Hanford, California



zoom



MISSIONS
Ministry

2nd Tuesday each month @ 5:00pm



Making Disciples of Jesus
Hanford, California



zoom

Buildings & Grounds
Committee Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7:00pm



Making Disciples of Jesus
Hanford, California



zoom

Finance
Committee Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each month
@ 7:00 pm




Church
Growth
Committee Meeting

1st Monday of each month @ 1pm




Session

3rd Tuesday of each month @ 6:00pm

FEBRUARY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 6 *Michael & Laurel Montoya
- 12 Martin Keast
- 15 Jacob Dixon, *Elliot & Samantha Walls
- 24 Madison Kapanka
- 26 Grace Johnson



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
Katie Sippel fpchanford.youth@gmail.com	Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
Annette Rajskup office@fpchanford.org	Office Administrator
Gwen 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