

FIRST PRESS

In 2016 Hannah Peterson was involved in a serious car accident just one month before her wedding in Ontario. She broke her pelvis in three places, punctured a kidney, broke some ribs, and suffered a concussion and partial hearing loss during the July 18 collision.

Despite being confined to a wheelchair, Hannah was determined not to let the accident affect her big day on August 25. So when it came time to walk down the aisle, Hannah's father wheeled her part of the way down, and then her fiancé, Stuart, tenderly carried her in his arms the rest of the way.

Hannah, 23, who along with her now-husband is originally from Northern Ireland, said that despite her predicament, the only emotion she allowed herself to feel on her wedding day was joy. "Obviously, being in the wheelchair and not able to walk was very upsetting for me on my wedding day," she told reporters.

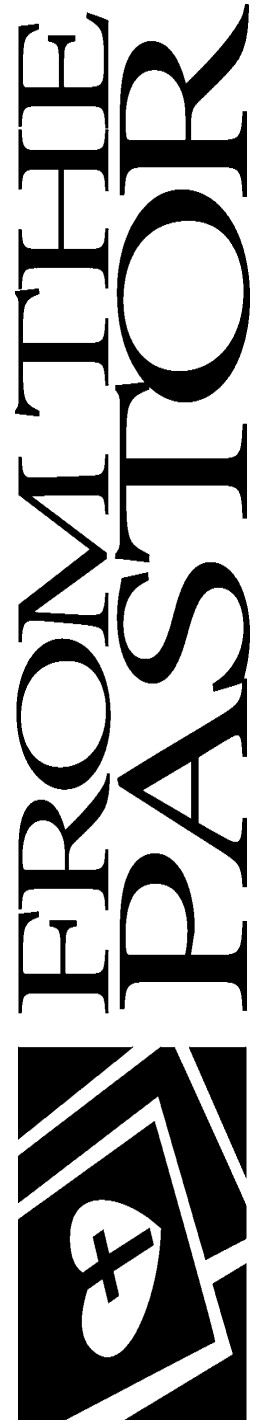
Because of her injuries, Hannah sat during most of the ceremony, but wanted to stand for one very important part. "I was determined to stand for my vows," she said. "It was hard on me to stand for that long even with Stuart holding me up, but it doesn't seem obvious in the pictures and video the pain I was in."

Hannah continued to heal in the months subsequent to the wedding day. She is now able to walk around the house using a cane. She added: "Stuart has never left my side during all of this ... He was strong for both of us. He always made me see how blessed I was."

I believe this is a powerful word picture for us. We, too, were wounded by sin and helpless, but God came to our aid and carried us into a loving relationship with Himself. During this month that typically focuses upon love – Valentine's Day – let us remember the remarkable, inexpressible, unfathomable, unconditional love that God expresses to us in his Son, Jesus. Romans 8:38 reminds us, *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Keep the faith,

Tony





4 NEW Ways to Pray for the Compassion International Child You Sponsor!

For children living in poverty, there is often no safety net. Hunger, disease and disaster are constantly pressing in. Here are four creative and new prayers for the child you sponsor to help you deepen your talks with God!

1. Give Yourself a Reminder

Put a jingle bell in your car that rings when you make a turn (or driving in particularly crazy traffic). And with each ring, lift up a quick prayer for your child you sponsor. That happy little sound will remind you to pray for his or her happiness. Ask God to give him or her joy at that moment, and that will bring a smile to your face too. Even if the traffic is crazy!

2. Take a Prayer Walk

The next time you decide to go out for a walk, turn it into a prayer walk, both for the child you sponsor, as well as for other children in poverty. When you pass a house with puffs of smoke coming out of the chimney, pray for your child's home and safety. If you walk by children playing in the yard, pray for your child's friendships. When you walk by a school, pray for his or her education. The possibilities are only limited by the length of your walk!

3. Pray about the News

When you hear a news report about something happening in another country, will you lift up a prayer for the people living there? Pray for those suffering during natural disasters. Pray for children who are surrounded by war and violence. Your own local news can remind you to pray too – a weather report is a good time to pray that the children Compassion serves will have warm, dry homes to protect them from the elements.

4. Pray Over Your Letters

The next time you write a letter to your sponsored child, will you say a prayer before you seal the envelope, or click send? Pray that your words will be received at the exact right time. That your letter will be placed in your child's hands when he or she needs to hear your words the most. Your letters are such a powerful instrument of hope – tuck a little prayer into your next note.

Prayer is Powerful!!!! Please remember to pray daily for your sponsored child, others in poverty, and also for all our families and missionaries who are giving of themselves working to spread the Word of God. Prayer is Powerful!!!

Church DEACONS

Reminder! Deacons hope you can bring some non-perishable food on **Mar. 1** to feed those in our community who are in need.



Were you aware that the Deacons are funded through monthly donations plus the loose change from the offering on the 1st Sunday of each even month? The Deacons spend the monies collected by assisting many local community organizations set up to aid people in need. The following have all benefitted through Deacon funding:

- Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen
- Salvation Army
- Women's shelter / KCAO
- Kings Gospel Mission'
- Laundry Love

We're

HIRING



Childcare Coordinator

The Childcare Coordinator position is now open here at First Presbyterian Church.

This is a paid, quarter-time position. The Childcare Coordinator will oversee the scheduling of adequate childcare for the Nursery and Toddler ages as needed for Sunday mornings, and other church events and ministries; recruit volunteers. With the assistance of the Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, conduct an annual In-Service training to all care givers.

Please submit resumes to the church office at 415 N. Redington St. or send to office@fpchanford.org. For more information, please contact Jaime Christoph at jaime.christoph@gmail.com.

SAVE the DATE:

WHAT? An eight session, video-driven small group series to help parents raise their children from a biblical foundation.

WHO? Parents with children of all ages; anyone willing to invest time and effort in their parenting approach will benefit.

WHEN? March 22-24; Friday 6-9pm, Saturday 8:30am-5pm and Sunday after church to 2pm

WHERE? Church

CONTACT: Kevin & Sheryl McCarty 559-707-7357

More info to come, watch bulletin & webpage



Movie and Potluck Lunch



Like Arrows:

February 24 12pm-2:30pm

Join us for a full length film presented by FamilyLife on parenting. Bring a dish to share for lunch. Childcare will be provided, but please provide a lunch for you children. Sign up with the church office of Jaime Christoph by February 17

Like Arrows: When conflict, rebellion and resentment begin disrupting their family dynamics, Charlie and Alice are forced to change their parenting strategy, and are surprised to find effective, long lasting solutions in one place they have never looked. Through a story that unfolds over 50 years, Charlie and Alive discover the power of family, and learn that knowing living by God's word is the most important key to parenting with purpose.



2019 Pledge Drive - Pledge Goal - \$285,000

Time – Talent - Treasure

“Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.”

1 Chronicles 29:13-14

Pledges as of 01/13/19 - \$178,027 = 62.47%

Your pledge and giving of your time, tithes and offerings 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 2019 budget proposal is \$316,884, which is the anticipated expenses, ministries, and dreams for additions to support those objectives. The difference between our budgeted expenses and the \$285,000 pledge goal is \$31,884. This represents additional contributions which we receive from those who do not pledge & those who give additionally throughout the year. We continue to pray and dream, thus we hope to maintain and even expand our staffing and hire a part time children’s director, expand our youth director & music director’s hours; 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 “Safe Families for Children” 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.

It’s not too late to turn in your pledge/commitment form! Please 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 2019 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 me to give so that I can truly reflect Your character and be more like You today.

Faith & Fellowship

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Many opportunities for you to join with others . . .

Women's Society

(Agape)

Agape will meet on February 14 at 1:00. Join us for an enjoyable time either listening to a special speaker or one of our own members on a topic that piques their interest. We may have a change in speakers in February due a conflict on the 14th. Watch for more information in the near future. A snack is served after the meeting. Thanks for those who have volunteered their services. We still have a few openings for help. Check with me for what is still needed this spring. (Janet - 583-8817)

Jolly 1's & 2's

A group of Jolly 1's & 2's met at Round Table Pizza on January 12 to plan events to attend during 2019. The following were what we decided to put on our calendars:

Feb 17 – Second Space Theatre - "Driving Miss Daisy"

March 3 – Temple Theatre – "Dining Room"

March 17 – Rest Home – Jolly 1's & 2's

Apr 7 - Mennonite Men's Chorus - Reedley Mennonite Brethren Church

May 9 – Gozen Restaurant – Visalia

Jun 9 - Temple Theatre – "Over the River and Through the Woods"

July 18 – Lunch and games

August 25 – "A Children's Story"

September 13 – Rest Home – Jolly 1's & 2's

Sep. 21 – Train ride and Shepherd's Inn

(I forgot to mention that the Blue Angels will be at Lemoore Naval Air Base on Sept. 21 & 22- anyone interested?)

Oct 13 – Second Space Theatre – "My Cousin Rachel"

Nov 24 – Temple Theatre – "Paradise Lost & Found"

Dec - Potluck & ornament exchange - Date to be determined

If there is anything else you would like to do, we will see if we can fit it in somewhere. Someone suggested the Kingsburg concerts in the park. We could possibly get a group together to go on one of the Thursdays in June & July. I will be out of the country part of June and July, so I am limited on what I can plan for at that time.

For our February 17 trip to Fresno to Second Space Theatre, please let me or your caller know by February 4 if you would like to go.

For our March 3 event at the Temple Theatre, please let me or your caller know by February 17 if you wish to attend. My phone number is 583-8817.

Join us for a good time this year. Anyone in the church is invited to attend these events.



Ladies

First Friday Coffee and Prayer

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

Friday, March 1st

9:00am-10:30am



Refuge

YOUTH NEWS

Questions, Comments, Concerns or Ideas...contact:
Jaime Christoph 850-776-5234
fpchanford.youth@gmail.com

**Youth Meet Downstairs Sunday
Mornings at 9:00am**

BodyLife Wednesdays at 6:00pm



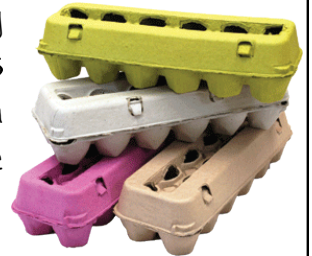
Party
FEBRUARY 3 @ 3PM
THE WINTEROWD'S HOME

Please bring an appetizer or
dessert to share



Children's Ministries

The Children's Ministry is asking for donations of egg cartons. If you have foam or cardboard egg cartons you'd like to donate, please bring them to the church prior to March 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Jaime Christoph @ 850-776-5234



Winter BodyLife

January 16th - March 20th

Join us for a wonderful dinner
and multi-generational activities

Dinner - 6:00pm

Adults - \$6

Teens - \$5

Children - \$3

Family max - \$18

P O Box 1185
Hanford, CA 93230

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

First Presbyterian Church

Worship Center: 340 N. Irwin St.
Church Office: 415 N. Redington St.
Mail: P. O. Box 1185, Hanford, CA 93232
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www.fpchanford.org

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STAFF:

Tony Winterowd	Pastor
Tom & Margie Fritz	Music Directors
Janice Mills	Music Ministries
Jaime Christoph	Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
Renee Loewen	Child Care Coordinator
Annette Rajskup	Office Manager
Gail Forsythe	Bookkeeper
Nancy Roller	Custodian

Send staff emails to
staff first name@fpchanford.org
send prayer requests or other information to
office@fpchanford.org

February Birthdays & *Anniversaries

- 4 Brynn Barger
- 6 Tim Bowers
- 12 Martin Keast, Kelly Wigton
- 15 Jacob Dixon, Miriam Webb
- 20 Naomi Tagawa
- 24 T.J. Hartman, Madison Kapanka
- 25 Jacob Keast
- 28 Melanie Karwowski



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