

First Presbyterian Church of Hanford

Worship Center: 340 N. Irwin St.

Church Office: 415 N. Redington St.

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

FIRST PRESS

April 2022

The Most Important Event in History



The month of April is extremely important in my life. The birth of my first Grandson. The birth of my first Granddaughter. The birth of the woman I love above all others as we walk through our 50th year of marriage together. All of these overshadowed with The Most Important Event In History – Easter Sunday, the day of resurrection! Great treasures this month in my life, and the Great Treasure for you. Let's talk about Christ, God with us, and a plan to set us free from all our inhibitions, fears and perceived inadequacies.

The Christian years begins with the expectation of Jesus' coming to earth. Then we quickly travel through things that identify Jesus as God and the Messiah or Christ. The pinnacle of Christ's journey comes during the passion of Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday. During that time Christ goes from glorified and hailed by the people to crucified, dead and buried by those same people. Then the Good News arrives. Christ is glorified and hailed by God the Father Almighty. Christ is raised to new life and life everlasting. The world is changed forever, life, no death, has been liberated. The gift of creation in Christ is bestowed upon all people.

What follows in the rest of the Christian year journey are those concerns and questions as to what we will do with the freedom from our inhibitions. Will we act as Christ? Will we be Christ's body on earth? Will we see it all as a fairy tale just to make us feel good? It really only matters what we will do with The Most Important Event in History.

I invite you to join with me for the remainder of Lent (the lengthening of our days) and focus on your decision, "What will I do with The Most Important Event in History?" I am going to try and find ways to restore life. Resurrecting my own life, the gift and gifts that have been given to me, to serve God's people. I am going to try and find ways to restore life for others, reaching out with special gifts of time, talent and treasure.

Continued on next page



“The Most Important Event in History”

I am going to try and restore life by not abusing life, but enjoying each moment I have to live and sharing it with others. I am going to try and tell the story of Christ, his glorification by man, his death, and resurrection by God, to at least one new person during April (maybe I just did).

Will you join with me this month? Will you gather on Easter Sunday to celebrate The Most Important Event in History? I’ll look forward to the world changing, if ever so little, because we are together in ministry reaching out with the Good News of Christ our Lord and Savior.

In Christ,
Rev. Louis R. Paradise

Please Join Us

PALM SUNDAY

Service
at
10:00 am



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Service
at
6:00 pm



KGM Banner Year

Our Deacons proudly support the Kings Gospel Mission (KGM) with regular monthly donations. You are encouraged to read the semi-monthly “Impact Report” posted in the fellowship hallway. KGM had a positive impact on the homeless within our community last year.

Accomplishments for 2021 include:

- Provided hope and encouragement to 369 men and women in their overnight shelter
- Served 5,387 meals to their overnight guests
- Housed 16 men and 5 women in Room & Board
- Operated a 6-man New Song Academy (a one-year Christian discipleship program)
- Provided a Mobile Shower Unit as outreach for individuals living on the street
- Operated pressure-washer cart services (providing downtown cleanup and work for men in the shelter)
- Operated two Recycling Centers (Armona and south Hanford).

They also have great plans for 2022 including:

- Industry/Food Court in south Hanford (food & jobs for new housing)
- South Hanford Development (24 more affordable housing units built, bringing a total of 48 in a courtyard community setting)
- Massive expansion of workforce housing using “sleeping cabins”. Up to 48 more beds throughout the city to house those who will work for their stay.

You may have also noticed recent improvements in the grounds at church. Every two weeks a crew from KGM pulls weeds, trims bushes, cleans sidewalks and pavement. KGM appreciates FPC Hanford’s support and invites you to “like” Kings Gospel Mission on Facebook to stay connected.

Submitted By ~ Martin Keast



“DTS”

EPC World Outreach Global Workers



What does DTS stand for you ask? It stands for “Discipleship Training School” and Missionaries Rupesh and Susanna are EPC World Outreach missionaries who work to mobilize and train disciple-makers among Muslims. They met at the First Presbyterian Church in Redding, California and although they grew up on opposite sides of the world, they both were raised in Christian homes and have known Christ all their lives.

As a young man, Rupesh became involved with and was serving on staff with “Youth With A Mission” in his home town and then was promoted to the Youth With A Mission base in Redding, CA where he and Susanna met and were ultimately married.

Rupesh and Susanna are two of EPC World Outreach’s most resilient global workers. They sensed God calling them to work in mobilizing and training disciple-makers among the Muslims and they connected with EPC World Outreach and entered into the assessment process. In 2019, the EPC World Outreach Committee appointed them as global workers and they ran their first DTS – Discipleship Training School from the fall of 2019 to February 2020. But then, the COVID Pandemic hit and they had to undergo many changes with their program and in location, but their response was always the same – “Thank you Lord. Your plans are better than ours. Show us how to glorify You in all this”. Since that time, and with guidance from the Lord, they now oversee and run a DTS program overseas.

A discipleship training school is 5 months long. The first three months is called the “lecture phase” where the students learn about and also engage in worship, intercession, and quiet times. Weekly topics such as the Character & Nature of God and Bible Overview are discussed. The students live in community and have ministry opportunities to start preparing for the second phase of DTS which is the “outreach phase”. In the outreach phase, students go to different locations and are fully focused on sharing the gospel with others over the course of two months.



Dear church family,

**PASTORAL
SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Your Pastor Search Committee has been working diligently to find a candidate to present before the FPC membership. We have reviewed many applications, interviewed several individuals, and got extremely close to inviting a potential candidate to visit FPC. Unfortunately, as we began to draft the final details of a Call, the candidate withdrew from the process, explaining the salary package was just not enough.

As the Pastor Search Team continues to seek the right candidate for our church, please join with us over the next six months to pray for specific needs of the Search Team.

This month, let us pray that the true needs of the congregation are presented via the Church Information Form. We pray for the hands that have worked on it so far, that they would have identified the needs of our church accurately; we pray for the eyes that will read it in the future, that the Lord will work in their hearts to assist and come if Called. We thank the Lord that only the will of the Lord is done as the Team seek what He has next for the congregation.

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is the body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. (Ephesians 1:22-23)



Summary of March 15, 2022 Session Meeting

Deacons

- Reported 65 took Communion in March & 6 Home Bound were served

Clerk's Report

- FPC received a note and a donation from Tim Hoins' sister (note can be viewed on the hallway bulletin board)
- Session meeting will be held in-person next month

Pastor's Report

- Maxine Wade was served in-home communion

C.E.

- Approved a special communion on May 15th as a follow-up to youth communion classes
- Approved VBS the week of June 27-July1
- Approved \$500 stipend for VBS Coordinator

Church Growth

- Approved Church Picnic for May 1st

Finance

- Approved deposit of insurance refund into EPC Transition Support Fund
- Approved purchase of software for Youth Director's laptop
- Approved funds to hire computer tech to transfer files on bookkeeper's computer

Missions

- Reported Serve day will be May 14 and plans for Compassion Sunday

Personnel Committee

- Approved updates to Children's & Youth Director Job Description

PSC

- Gave update on search process (see article in this newsletter (pg.3))

Other Business

- Approved updates to Servant Keeper to allow background checks
- Approved memorial for Eugene Ying on April 2, 2022
- Declined request by All Points Media to use church to advertise for CalEITC
- Recommendation that information on how to help Ukraine through the EPC be added to the Sunday bulletin

UP COMING



- Apr 1** First Friday Coffee & Prayer @ 9am
- Apr 2** Memorial for Eugene Ying
- Apr 3** *Communion Sunday*, Baptism of Ryan LeFils
- Apr 4** Church Growth meeting @ 1pm, *Missions meeting @ 7pm
- Apr 5** CE meeting @ 10:30am, Deacons meeting @ 6:30pm
- Apr 6** BodyLife @ 6pm
- Apr 7** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- Apr 9** Church Workday @ 8am
- Apr 10** *Palm Sunday*, Worship meeting @ 11:15am, Finance meeting @ 11:15am
- Apr 12** *Buildings & Grounds meeting @ 7pm
- Apr 14** Maundy Thursday service @ 6pm, *Session reports due by 9am*
- Apr 17** *Easter Sunday*
- Apr 19** Session meeting @ 6pm
- Apr 21** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- Apr 22** *1st Press articles due*
- Apr 24** First Communion Class
- Apr 28** *Bible Study @ 7pm * 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



Worship
Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday after morning worship



Church
DEACONS

1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm



Christian
Education



Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 5th @ 10:30am




MISSIONS
Ministry



1st Monday of each month @ 7pm



Buildings &
Grounds



Committee Meeting



2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7:00pm



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

Some of the dates for events for Jolly 1's & 2's are tentative due to the Fresno Grizzlies season approaching. April is very busy with Easter on April 17. Some of you may not have a place to go for Easter dinner. Please let me (Janet – 583-8817) know if you would like to eat out together. We will discuss what restaurant you like and we will choose one of them to go to. I know a couple of people in our community that have no place to go and may want to join us.

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 1 if you wish to go. Those who wish may eat with us at Asia Garden beforehand.

June 5 is "Pops Concert in the Park". There is no charge for the concert but they request donations to defray some of their costs. Please note that the starting time is different than in the past. The concert will begin at 7:30 in front of the Hanford 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 out somewhere in Oakhurst or at the theatre. Cost is \$15 for seniors. Please let me know if you wish to attend this event by May 29.

If anything changes for a possible event in April I will let you know by either the bulletin or a call from me.

Thank you for your support of Jolly 1's & 2's. We had 9 people at the play in March. You are a joy to work with. Anyone in church may join us. We are not exclusive to seniors, although we do try to choose events that they will enjoy and be able to attend.

~ Janet Harader

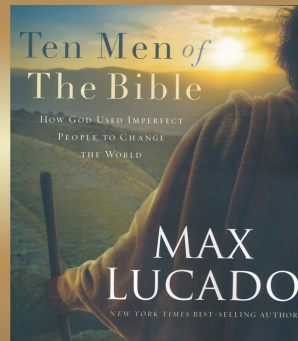
9–11am

Ladies



First Friday Coffee and Prayer

Adult Bible Study



Thursday Nights @ 6:30pm



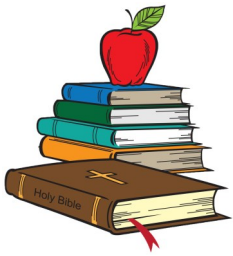
2nd & 4th Sunday of each month @ 6:30pm

Jr & Sr High Bible Study



BIBLE STUDY

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



**A Note From:
Children's and Youth Director**

I am so pleased to join the staff at FPC as the new Youth and Children's Director! I have a deep love for Jesus and people; and being able to help shape and direct children and youth in their faith formation and education is a great fit for my passion and gifts. My goal is to provide a robust youth and children's ministry, rich with opportunities for studying the Word of God, serving the Body of Christ and building community, in order to facilitate our young people growing into fully devoted followers of Christ.

THANK YOU church family for your support for our Tri-Tip Fundraiser in March! Special thanks to Darlene and Martin Keast for giving their expertise, time, talent and energy for the delicious meal. Thank you also to Thrivent for a grant toward this project that helped us raise over \$2000 to be used to help with the cost of camp at Calvin Crest for 8 of our students! We really appreciate our church family coming together to help us!!!

A 3-week First Communion Class will be coming April 24th, for students in third grade and older to understand the spiritual importance of Communion.

In Christ,
Sheri Winterowd

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

God's Promises - Grace
fpc
Hanford, CA
www.fpchanford.org

VBS 2022

SPARK STUDIOS

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

**Easter "Egging"
Fundraiser**

Support the FPC Youth and surprise someone with candy-filled Easter Eggs

Order yours now @
<https://forms.gle/JUDR6oKPPyZw7fJs6>

\$10/dozen

watch for order forms in the Sunday bulletin also



APRIL

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Michael Andrews
- 6 * Thom & Georgina Snyder
- 11 Jaime Christoph
- 13 Dorothy Crass
- 14 Whitney Davis
- 19 Parker Andrews, Tyler Uhlik
- 21 Amanda Ginn
- 22 Christi Paradise, *Steven & Michele King
- 23 Madison Andrews, Joel Bialkowski
- 25 Caleb Larson
- 26 Michael Kinney, Teresa Voyles
- 30 Morgan Gately, Caryn Larson, *Martin & Darlene Keast



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

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