



First Presbyterian Church of Hanford

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

FIRST PRESS

July 2022

Dear FPC Hanford Family –

This is a special issue of the newsletter because it covers July, the travel month, the hot month, and I wanted to do something more devotional for our church family. So let us address, “How to stay cool in the Hanford heat.” We all know that the best way to stay cool is to not move and let the wind blow over you. My proposal then, is to spend our summer in stillness – in prayer – with the wind of God’s Spirit blowing over us.



“Prayer with thanksgiving is one part of religious worship and is required by God from all believers.” That is the way we state it in our confession. If we expect to live with God’s grace and Holy Spirit active in our lives, we must continually nourish the relationship with God through prayer. We must pray to the one true God; the God revealed in God’s living Word – Holy Scripture illuminated with God’s Spirit. We need to humble ourselves and openly confess our inadequacies in the presence of God’s majesty. We must pray knowing God hears our prayers for Christ’s sake.

Our prayers are not preconditioned, nor are they prescribed phrases in a book. Our prayers need to come from the very deepest core of our being, reaching out to the very heart of God. Our prayers should be genuine concerns we bring to share before God. The summer is a good time to let our hearts melt before God with the deepest concerns we have in our life. Some of our prayers may be sung in joy or in anguish, in love and in hope, in fear and in celebration. All of our prayers must be passionate and with the deepest care for our lives, the lives of those we love, and the lives of those whom God loves.

One of the things you can’t count on is the pastor covering all the prayer needs. The pastor is busy praying for their needs, their family’s needs, and all those special needs brought to their attention, but they will not ever get the job done completely – they need your prayers. One of the great things about our reformed tradition is the emphasis that your access to God is just as great as any pastor’s. When you pray, God enjoys your sincerity and genuineness, listens and responds just as if it were a pastor. Your pastoral love for one another is probably greater in God’s sight than the one who sits behind the desk and writes about praying.

At FPC we need to be praying for our incoming pastor. Our Pastor Search Committee has been prayed for, and we should continue to pray for them. More than that, we should pray for that specific person who is to be called to FPC in the near future. As yet, unknown to us, but known to God. Pray for that specific person. Ask God to reveal to them and to us the blessing he has ready to bestow upon us.

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cont.



If you need more models of prayer to feel more comfortable in style and direction, I suggest you examine the Gospel of John in Chapter 17. Here Christ prays from his deepest inner being for concerns in his own life. Christ prays for those closest to him. Christ prays for you, that you might know the fullness of life in God's kingdom. Please join with Christ in prayer; for your own needs; for those closest to you; for those out in the world who need to come to Christ.

Be cool this summer – Pray. Let the wind of God's Spirit blow through your life as you sit still in the presence of God and build that relationship.

In Christ,

Rev. Louis R. Paradise - Interim Pastor



A Note From:

Children's and Youth Director

Our family recently returned from our special "Bucket List" trip to Hawaii. When my husband Tony was so sick in the hospital in the Fall of 2019, following his heart attack and stroke, we wondered if he would survive. Then we wondered if he would ever be able to eat again, walk again, drive again, live independently again. He said "If I ever get out of this hospital, I have a few things on my 'bucket list'" 1) I want to walk on the beach with you in Huntington Beach (his home town) 2) I want to go in person to a USC Football game (one of his favorite things to do in life) and 3) I want to go to Hawaii on vacation. Hawaii is a special place for us. We went there on our honeymoon, bought a timeshare (unexpectedly!) and have been back many times. This trip was so special: Tony was able to eat and walk and drive, as he has been doing for the last number of years. He was also able to snorkel and walk through the lava tube at Volcanoes National Park and swim in the ocean. We had a great time as a family and we are so very grateful to Christ for his faithfulness to us through all those months in the hospital the years of Tony's recovery. We feel truly blessed to be part of the Family of God: so many people prayed for us, helped us, brought us meals, gave us gifts, loved us. We strive to help and love others as an expression of our gratitude. Romans 8:38-39 has been a favorite verse of our family. I encourage you to look it up and memorize it with your family this Summer!

By the time you read this, Vacation Bible School will have just wrapped up! We are really excited about this special week and so very grateful for all the time, energy and love that has gone in to making it happen. A HUGE thank you goes to our VBS Director, Deborah Pelton for all of her skills, time, energy, and experience that she used to lead our church in this important time! We are so grateful to you, Deborah for serving the Lord and serving his people as our director! Thank you to our church family for all of your support: donations of money, items, and time toward VBS as well as to Refuge House, the mission project to whom we are designating this year's gifts.

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Shower Ministry

Happy July!

This month's Deacons article concerns our homebound church members. As you may know, the Deacons have a ministry of visiting our church members who cannot make it to services on a regular basis. We have a number of folks that would love to have visitors at any time, and you don't have to be a deacon to do that! We have several members at the Remington, a couple at the Valley Christian Home, still others in and around Hanford. If anyone in the congregation would like to join the deacons in doing visitation, please see any of your church deacons for contact information. Thank you.

Submitted by – Kelly Voyles

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.





Serve Day 2022! Expressing God's Love

Serve Day is a “community outreach mission” expressing God’s love by being the hands and feet of Jesus to serve others! This year our church along with Koinonia Church, First Baptist Hanford, Glad Tidings, First United Methodist, New Hope Church and the United Way joined together in partnership to provide an event structured to “SERVE” the residents of Kings County and to show God’s love to them. Volunteers throughout Kings County pre-signed up to give of their time and talents serving and performing needed community projects throughout Kings County for one of two mornings in May.

On Saturday May 14, 2022, our church hosted and provided the facilities and volunteers for oil changes and car washes for widows in our community. It was truly a full First Presbyterian Church outreach mission event lead by our Mission Ministry Team, Kevin and Stacey Jones, Director of Children & Youth Ministries, Sheri Winterowd, and our FPC Youth. Kevin Jones was the lead project leader for the oil changes and Sheri Winterowd oversaw our youth for the car washes. Volunteers from our church included: Kevin, Stacey, and Kalob Jones, Sheri and Brooke Winterowd, Paul Elansa, Nick and Michael Kinney, Bella and Tyler Uhlik, Cate Connelly, Brian, Deborah, Andrew and Megan Pelton, Emerson and Avery Mills, and Kelly Voyles. Helping with oil changes, Mike Gabel, Andy Gonzales and Travis Hartmann also assisted and were from other local churches. There were 11 oil changes completed for widows and numerous car washes performed leaving the cars “Sparkling Clean”!

Highlighting some of this year’s “Community Serve Day” projects: 256 people volunteered, 29 projects total, 30 bikes fixed, 20 bikes given away, 40 gallons of paint used, \$3,000 given through the Joy Project, 2 breakfasts at KGM, \$300 worth of prizes given away, 45 senior care packages, 46 foster family’s served, 30 bags given to child protective services to give to babies, kids, and teens that enter the system, 30 single parents served, 5 residential yards landscaped/cleaned, a new fence for a lady going through chemo and Kohl’s Department Store providing volunteers to help with some of the community projects! Praise God for this awesome community outreach event!

First Presbyterian Church Volunteers





Summary of June 21, 2022 Session Meeting

Deacons

- Reported 68 took communion on June 5th & 9 home-bound were served
- Reported donations of \$75 each were given to KGM, Soup Kitchen, Crossroads Pregnancy & Meals-On-Wheels

Pastor's Report

- Visited Valley Christian Home and served communion to FPC residence and one guest
- Requested prayer for EPD General Assembly meeting this month in Detroit, Michigan

Buildings & Grounds

- Fire sprinkler system was tested, system was flushed: pipe valve was stuck and flow switch needed attention, two sprinkler heads in sanctuary are incorrectly installed and will need attention. An additional audible alarm is needed closer to the nursery and fellowship hall, 10 new emergency lights were installed
- Approved usage of the Outreach building for a Bible Study group to meet Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings beginning in July

Christian Education

- Reported plans for summer programs

Church Growth

- Reported plans to purchase reusable water bottles, place FPC logos on them and use them for welcome gifts to visitors during the warmer months instead of coffee mugs

Interim Search Committee

- Reported EPC has shared a potential interim candidate
- Pastor Paradise has submitted (and session approved) worship plans thru Nov. 20, 2022

Other Business

- Approved use of Outreach building for future blood drive events.

UP COMING



- Jun 27—Jul 1** VBS week (9am—noon)
- July 3** VBS recap during morning worship
- July 4** *Independence Day (office closed)*
- July 5** Deacons meeting. 6:30pm
- July 6** Youth Pool Party 1-4pm
- July 7** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- July 10** *Communion Sunday*, Youth Group @ 5pm, NSSG @ 6:30pm
- July 11** Church Growth meeting @ 1pm, *Missions meeting @ 7pm
- July 12** CE meeting @ 10:30am, *B&G meeting @ 7pm, *Finance meeting @ 7pm
- July 13** Youth Pool Party 1-4pm
- July 14** *Session Reports due*, *Bible Study @ 7pm
- July 15** Youth Movie Night @ 6pm, *1st Press Articles Due*
- July 16** Youth Guys Air Museum Trip
- July 19** Session meeting @ 6pm
- July 20** Youth Pool Party 10am-1pm
- July 21** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- July 23** Youth Beach Trip
- July 24** Youth Group @ 5pm, NSSG @ 6:30pm
- July 27** Youth Pool Party 1-4pm
- July 28** *Bible Study @ 7pm
- July 31** *5th Sunday* * Zoom Meeting

Dear Church Family,



This month the Pastor Search Team would like for prayers to be focused on our future Pastor. The Lord knows who that is, and has already chosen him and his family. Pray that the future pastor, spouse, and family would feel the same peace and excitement that the Team feels about the candidate. Pray that the candidate and their family will have clarity during the search process and to know whether or not our church is the next step to ministry for which God has called them.

**PASTORAL
SEARCH COMMITTEE**

***“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

No meeting this month

Church
DEACONS

1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm

Christian
Education
Committee Meeting

Tuesday July 12th @ 10:30am



zoom **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



Every summer the Kingsburg City Band presents a Concert Under the Stars. They do this for six weeks on Thursday nights at 8:00. It is a free concert, although they do have a donation box if you wish to contribute money to defray expenses. This year they are performing between June 16 and July 21.

Jolly 1's & 2's will be going to Kingsburg on July 14. You may wish to go on your own, or if you wish to go with the group and need a ride, contact Janet at either 583-8817 or 367-5658 by July 7. We will probably leave Hanford at 6:30. This will give us time to choose our place to sit so we are in the shade and have a good view of the stage. You may wish to bring your own lawn chair as seating on their benches is at a premium. Also, we suggest bringing cold water to keep hydrated.

There are several food options if you wish to eat at the park, as well as an ice cream vendor. Kingsburg's farmer's market is also located each Thursday at the park from 5-8:00.

Lest you think it is too hot, Carol Speer and I can attest to the fact that several years ago we went on one of the hottest days of the year and were fairly comfortable all evening. There are many trees in the park and we had a nice breeze most of the evening. The ice cream helped too.

Memorial Park is located at 1900 16th Ave. It is at the end of the downtown area, and close to Kingsburg High School. Parking is wherever you can find a spot. We ended up at a doctor's complex which is closed at that time of the evening. You will have to walk a little way to get to the concert area. I hope to see a good group there. You won't be disappointed. Although this is a performance by local people it is by no means amateurish.

Submitted by: Janet Harader

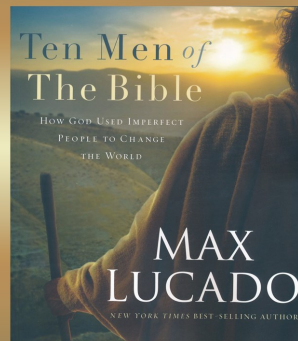
9—11am

Ladies

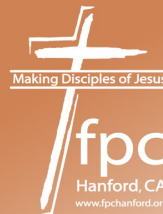


First Friday Coffee and Prayer

Adult Bible Study



Thursday Nights
@ 7:00pm



Net-So-Small-Group

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

Jr & Sr High



YOUTH GROUP

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

Children's and Youth Director cont.

Finally, we say goodbye this month to Paul and Abby, Hank, Jake and Evie Dixon. Their family has been such a huge blessing to us! Paul and Abby have served in leadership as well as in youth, children's' and music ministries. We send you to your next duty station with lots of love and gratitude for your reflection of Christ to us! We know you will continue serving and shining for Him. You will be missed!!

We look forward to having some fun together this Summer: pool parties, beach trips, movie nights. Please check the list here and join us for these great times together!

In Christ,
Sheri Winterowd



Your Children's and Youth Ministry at FPC has planned Pool Parties for every Wednesday in July for FPC Families as an opportunity for kids to have fun together, families to visit while cooling off and enjoying the hospitality of FPC Church Family who are graciously hosting us at their homes. Here are the dates so you can plan:

Date: Wed. July 6

Sharp Home Time: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Date: Wed. July 13

Kinney Home Time: 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM

Date: Wed. July 20

Montoya Home *Time: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
*Note: earlier time

Date: Wed. July 27

Winteowd Home Time: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

RSVP to Sheri @ (559) 281-4163

YOUTH GROUP EVENTS (For 6-12 graders)

Youth Movie Night, Friday, July 15

6:00 pm—Location to be determined

Youth Guys Air Museum Trip, Saturday, July 16

Meet at church at 8:30am to carpool. Will return by 9pm. Cost is \$8 per student to enter the museum.

Bring a snack and money for lunch at Sylvester's

Beach Trip and Hike, Saturday, July 23

Meet at church at 8:30 am to carpool or meet at the beach. Wear or bring comfy shoes for hiking, as well as a bathing suit and towel.

Pack a lunch and bring \$\$ for dinner on the way home!



Thank you to all who were able to make it to our BASIC event on June 4th! We had 12 adults and 12 children and ran out of hamburgers and hotdogs, but had a great time together. Of course it was bittersweet as we said goodbye to the LeFils family. Our next event will be in September after everyone had a chance to enjoy the summer and resume school. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Did you ever lose your wallet? What a horrible event. No cash, no credit card, no driver's license. It just dishevels you like crazy! That's kind of the way the church feels when pledges get lost during summer time. Well, they aren't really lost; people just forget to get them paid up before they take off on vacation or whatever. Then our finances get all disheveled and frustrated. We don't know what bills to pay and what to leave unpaid. You could help by making sure your pledge is caught up through the first half of the year and maybe even paid forward to September. Disheveled, or Not Disheveled – it's up to you.





JULY

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Sue Kinney, *Mark & Helen Jbeily
- 3 *Bill & Julie Baker
- 6 Michael Porter
- 7 *Bob & Rowena Curiel
- 9 Alleta Brewer, Abigail Kapanka, Lori Porter
- 11 Fran Bettencourt
- 12 Sheryl McCarty
- 13 *Sostenes & Olivia Infante
- 15 Rosalia Cabrera
- 17 Liam Sippel
- 20 Lynda Cuzzort, Sharon Farrar, Michael Ginn, Owen walls, Marjorie Willson
- 21 Kayla Koppenhaver, Jim & Annette Rajskup
- 24 Steve Froberg
- 25 Luke Hartman
- 26 Lou Paradise, Finn Walsh
- 28 David Farrar
- 30 Paige Bialkowski



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
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STAFF:

- | | |
|--|--|
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| Annette Rajskup
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| 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