



# 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

September 2022

### Worship As Proclamation Of The Word

In May I began what should have been a series – alas I got waylaid. May was about **Preparing for Worship**. The waking of the Son on Sunday in our lives. Preparing ourselves fragrantly to come before the Lord. We are called together by God, offering hymns of praise and prayers or litanies of invocation or confession that we might be set right by God for the activity of worship. God's Holy Spirit comes and we are blessed in our worship. This next installment, though late, is the **Proclamation of the Word**.

The, "Book of Common Worship" says this: "Scriptures are read and their message is proclaimed." Well there it is again, the very thing that got me going on this series. To me, the **meaning** of the Word is what should be proclaimed. There are **lots of messages** in scripture, but **what it means** for our lives is what should be proclaimed in worship. Let me give you an example.

I once read a book by a person I consider very Christ centered and a committed theologian. At one point this author uses Matthew 19 for a discussion on divorce and how the church has re-interpreted its understanding in this area as theology; re-shaped by our culture and our insights as the Christian faith progresses. There are all kinds of messages in this passage, but **Christ is careful to give us the center-point of meaning**. Christ quotes God's intent for marriage from Genesis 2:24 – this is the meaning he wants to make clear. Unfortunately, the author (someone I consider a great gift to the church and a friend) never points out the meaning, only how mankind has confused the messages over the years.

Paul Stookey (from Peter, Paul and Mary) has a line like this: "If you get the message, you may refuse it. Oh, but if you get the meaning, you never lose it" – from "The Winner"

**How can you help proclaim the Word of God?** Read the scriptures for the day as you prepare to worship. Find out what you believe to be the meaning – what should we do because of God's Word? Share your insights with others. Share your insights with the pastor or elders. Be ready to proclaim before God the Good News of the Word.

The section on proclamation will include a thorough and clear reading of the Word – Volunteer to be a reader. This section includes singing hymns or anthems or spirituals between the text readings – Join the choir, volunteer a solo, instrumental or vocal, that will help us focus on the meaning of God's Word. You can be a very active worshipper during the Proclamation of the Word time of worship.

Many people believe proclamation of the Word is the high-point of the service. It is the time when the pastor, "stirs our souls." In the October newsletter I want to propose that **responding** in worship keeps leading to **the highest point in worship – the Sacraments and the Sending**.

In Christ,  
Rev. Louis R. Paradise  
Interim Pastor





## Crossroad Pregnancy Center

Over \$23,000.00 and counting!!! That is what the Crossroads Pregnancy Center has raised to date during their "Changing Babies" campaign. Remember the baby bottles that were filled with loose change (or checks), collected from Mother's Day to Father's Day? Those bottles from our church, were a part of that successful fund raiser. Thank you!

Crossroads Pregnancy Center is also one of the Christian based, non-profit organizations that the Deacons have recently begun donating to. This organization provides women not only alternatives to abortion but does a wonderful job of educating the parents and providing support during this difficult time in their lives through counselling and reaching out with scripture.

I had the opportunity recently to take a tour of their facility and was very impressed with the organization. The center is available to anyone, (with or without health insurance) free of charge and is confidential. This is a list of the services they provide:

- \* Free Pregnancy Testing
- \* Caring Peer Counsel
- \* Accurate Information on all Options
- \* Education on Fetal Development
- \* Sexual Purity and Lifestyle Counsel
- \* Earn While You Learn Parenting Classes/Mentoring
- \* Mom Store with Material Goods (clothing, diapers, strollers etc.)
- \* Post Abortion Help and Bible Study Support Group
- \* Referrals to Parent Life for ongoing support for teen parents
- \* Referrals for medical care, adoption counsel & maternity care homes
- \* Referrals to pastors, local churches, and Biblically based counseling

How can you continue to help this ministry? Keep them in mind if you have any new or gently used baby items, clothing (newborn to 4T), diapers, furniture, and unopened infant formula or baby food. Unfortunately, they cannot accept used car seats at this time due to state regulations. And, of course, they always appreciate a monetary donation.

Thank you for all of you who supported the Changing Babies Fund Raiser. Your change will change lives!

God Bless You,  
Marj Froberg



**A Note From:**

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**Children's and Youth Director**

Our Children and Youth have had a really fun summer! We all enjoyed a great week of Vacation Bible School, then eight of our students attended camp and got to learn new songs, hear inspirational speakers, enjoy cool activities and grow deeper in their relationship with God and one another. We had a total of 5 backyard pool parties in July and August, where two of our youth were volunteer lifeguards and 15-20 kids had a great time swimming, playing and snacking the afternoons away. I want to extend a special thank you to our hosts: Diane Sharp, Nick and Sue Kinney, and Mike and Laurel Montoya for sharing their homes, Lori Porter and Stacey Jones for being the warm and welcoming face to newcomers, and Michael and Hope Kinney for being our volunteer lifeguards.

For our youth group, the guys had a fun day trip to the Estrella Warbirds museum. Then all the youth enjoyed a wonderful trip to the beach, some great Youth Group evenings playing in the pool and having Bible study, movie nights and we even got to go to a conference. A special thank you to Mary Kinney for teaching and we really appreciate Kevin Jones and Kelly Voyles as our youth group leaders, they bring a great element to our group!

In September, the kids are back to school and we wish them Christ's richest blessings as they learn and grow in another school year. Several are at new schools and all of the students could really use your prayers!

**Here are some events to look forward to:**

- **Sept 17** - Jordan Feliz concert at Clovis Hills Community Church; \$20 per person plus extra for dinner before the concert
- **Sept. 23** – Kids Movie Night at Church 5:00 – 7:30 pm
- **Sept 28** - See You At the Pole This is a student led annual event where the kids meet around the flagpole at their respective schools and pray together before school
- **Oct 14-16** – Camp Out

Special thanks to our talented and dedicated youth group members who presented an amazing worship experience for Youth Sunday on August 14. All of us were blessed by the many hours spent in preparation and the excellence with which you led us in our morning worship! To God be the glory, great things he has done through you!!



## Compassion International Celebration Day!

Join us Sunday September 25th for a Celebration of Compassion International and the Children Sponsored by our First Presbyterian Congregation! What a special event to honor our Sponsors and their Children that they support!

**THIS IS HOW IT WORKS:** If you sponsor a child through Compassion International, your Mission Ministry Team is asking that you submit a picture of your child, the country that they are from, and any information about your child that you would like to share! (Please note that your pictures will be returned to you)!

Then on Sunday September 25th the pictures of the children and any information submitted will be displayed for all the congregation to see and hear about! It is a way to mission to others about the joys of sponsorship while bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to those less fortunate!

Please email your child's photo, name, age and country to [office@fpchanford.org](mailto:office@fpchanford.org) or fill out the form below and attach it with your child's picture and return to the church office. Your Picture will be scanned and returned to you. For questions or more information please call Sue Kinney (559) 707-2368

### ~ Compassion International ~

**Christ Centered** - 70 years serving children in Jesus' name

**Church Driven** – 8,000+ frontline churches

**Child Focused** – 2,200,000+ children sponsored

Please submit your picture/information no later than Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> – *Thank You!*

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*Please Print:*

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country Child is From: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Summary of Aug. 16, 2022 Session Meeting

### Deacons

- Reported 71 took communion on Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> & 1 home-bound was served
- Reported donations of \$75 each were given to KGM, Soup Kitchen, Crossroads Pregnancy Center & Meals-On-Wheels

### Buildings & Grounds

- Repairs to flow switch in fire suppression system completed.
- Annual inspections planned and added to budget

### Pastor's Report

- Approved Worship plans through Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>
- Ron Owens to fill pulpit supply Oct. 6, 16 & 23
- Lana Roberts to moderate Annual Meeting
- Finance & Missions will join with Pastor in talks to partner with Hispanic Outreach group

### Christian Education

- Approved Appreciation Sunday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>
- Approved BodyLife Sept 21<sup>st</sup>—Nov 16<sup>th</sup>
- Approved Parents' Evening Out Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Approved VBS 2023 "Twists & Turns"

### Finance

- Reported total assets are back above \$700,000
- Approved \$7000 for Community Enhancement Grants

### Missions

- Approved proposal of Cameroon Trip in Dec 2023

### Worship

- Reported choir resumes practicing Aug 31
- Reported choir resumes performing Sept 4

### Nominating Committee

- Approved Elders Rajskup & Forsythe to committee

### Other Business

- Elder Jones proposed FPC consider serving as host to Emmaus in Fall of 2023

# UP COMING



- Sep 1** \*Bible Study @ 7pm  
**Sep 4** Communion Sunday  
**Sep 5** Labor Day (office closed)  
**Sep 8** CE mtg @ 10:30am, \*Bible Study @ 7pm  
**Sep 10** Memorial reception for Maxine Wade @ 10am  
**Sep 11** Worship mtg @ 11:15am, Youth Group @ 5pm, Not-So-Small Group @ 6:30pm  
**Sep 12** Church Growth mtg @ 1pm, \*Missions mtg @ 7pm  
**Sep 13** Deacon's meeting @ 6:30pm, \* Buildings & Grounds mtg @ 7pm, \*Finance mtg @ 7pm  
**Sep 15** Session Reports Due @ 9am, Farmer's Market Outreach @ 5pm, \*Bible Study @ 7pm  
**Sep 16** First Press articles due  
**Sep 17** Jordan Feliz Concert (Clovis)  
**Sep 20** Session mtg @ 6pm, Community Enhancement Grant applications due  
**Sep 21** BodyLife Begins @ 5:30pm, Choir @ 6:30pm  
**Sep 22** Farmer's Market Outreach @ 5pm, \*Bible Study @ 7pm  
**Sep 23** Parents' Evening Out/Kid's Movie Night @ 5pm  
**Sep 25** Compassion Sunday & Volunteer Appreciation Sunday, Youth Group @ 5pm, Not-So-Small Group @ 6:30pm  
**Sep 28** "See You at the Pole", BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir @ 6:30pm  
**Sep 29** \*Bible Study @ 7pm  
**Oct 2** World Wide Communion Sunday  
**Oct 3** Church Growth mtg @ 1pm, \*Missions mtg @ 7pm  
**Oct 4** Deacons mtg @ 6:30pm  
**Oct 5** BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir @ 6:30pm  
**Oct 9** Worship mtg @ 11:15am  
**Oct 11** \*B&G mtg @ 6:30pm, \*Finance mtg @ 7pm  
**Oct 12** BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir @ 6:30pm  
**Oct 14-16** Church Campout  
**Oct 18** Session mtg @ 6pm  
**Oct 19** BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir @ 6:30pm  
**Oct 21-22** Presbytery meeting (Sacramento, CA)  
**Oct 26** BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir @ 6:30pm  
**Oct 30** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Asking Fundraiser

\* Zoom Meeting



# Session Committees

fpc Making Disciples of Jesus  
Hanford, California



**Worship**  
Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday of each month @ 11:15am

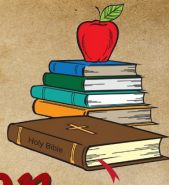


**Church**  
DEACONS

1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm



**Christian**  
**Education**



Committee Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30am



1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month @ 7pm



**Buildings &**  
**Grounds**



Committee Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7:00pm



**Finance**  
Committee Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month @ 7pm



**Church**  
**Growth**



Committee Meeting

1st Monday of each month @ 1pm



**Session**

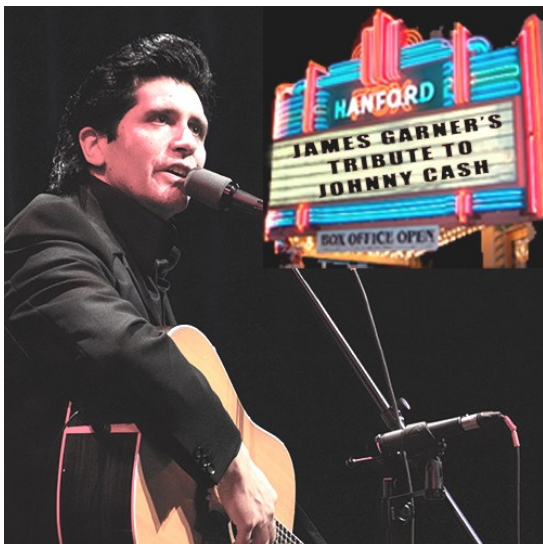
3rd Tuesday of each month @ 6:00pm

# Faith & Fellowship

## Jolly 1's & 2's

I have no selection of an outing in September. I also usually don't choose an event at night as many of you do not wish to go out at night. However I felt this offering was special and wanted to present it to you. At the Fox Theatre on October 22, James Garner (a local person) is presenting a tribute to Johnny Cash, "which celebrates the life and music of the Man in Black with strong conviction and stunning accuracy. Garner and his band faithfully recreate Cash's biggest hits, such as Folsom Prison Blues, I Walk the Line and Ring of Fire, and incorporate historical accounts and personal anecdotes about America's most beloved singing storyteller in this not-to-be-missed event. The show is a fun, classy and toe-tapping trip down memory lane honoring Johnny Cash's life and music, and the boom-chicka-boom sound of his signature backing band, the Tennessee Three."

The show starts at 8 p.m. and tickets run \$20, \$30, \$35 and \$40. Right now there are quite a few tickets left but I am sure as the date nears that will change. I would like to know by September 10 if you are interested in attending and which ticket price you are willing to pay. You can go online to the Fox Theatre website and see where the seats are located.



Submitted by: Janet Harader

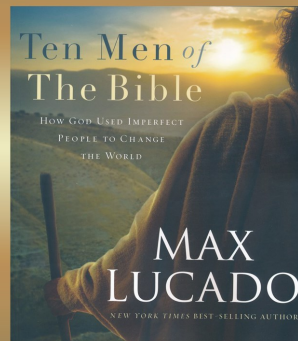
9—11am

## Ladies

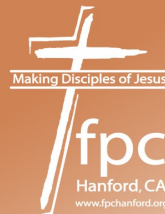
*First Friday Coffee and Prayer*



## 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

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Nights @ 5:00pm




## Vacation Bible School Mission Update

As many of you are aware, earlier this summer during VBS, we collected school and art supplies for Armona Refuge House. This was our VBS mission project for this year. The children collected over 300 school supplies and packed 60 gift bags. When we delivered the packages to Armona, we were invited to come back to hand out our donations during their backpack drive in August.

Six students from our youth group met early Saturday morning, August 6<sup>th</sup> to help hand out backpacks and school supplies at the Refuge House. That morning, 170 backpacks were distributed along with school supplies. This was such a great opportunity for our kids to see how God can use them to impact the lives of people in our own community.



**BL****OOD**  
**DRIVE**

The community blood drive on 8/18 which our church hosted in partnership with the Central California Blood Center was a really positive event. We had a total of 22 people willing to donate, and of those, 14 donations were received. Tony and I are so grateful for the wonderful support of our church family and many others which made this event a success.

~ The Winterowds

Dear Church Family,

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We pray this month over the members of the Pastor Search Committee. Lord, let them not grow weary with this search and the process. Lift them up, Lord, and encourage them. We ask that when the candidate You've chosen for us is made known that the committee will easily recognize him/her. If there are other methods of searching for our candidate, Lord, we pray that you will give us open minds to pursue those options. Today, give each committee member strength and continued guidance.



**Deadline: Sept. 20, 2022**

The Community Enhance Committee is now taking applications for grants. Applications are available on our website at [www.fpchanford.org/events.html](http://www.fpchanford.org/events.html) along with application guidelines.



*First Friday Coffee and Prayer*

The First Friday Coffee and Prayer group is looking for a lady willing to act as host for this group. The group meets the First Friday of each month in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00am. If you are interested in serving, please contact Sheri Winterowd by email at:

[FPCHanford.youth@gmail.com](mailto:FPCHanford.youth@gmail.com)

# SEPTEMBER

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Kyle Christoph
- 5 \*Lance & Caryn Larson
- 7 Susan Feaver, Helen Jbeily
- 10 Hope Kinney, \*Tony & Sheri Winterowd
- 11 Ricky LeFils
- 13 Katie Sippel
- 15 Enrique Garcia
- 16 Kailyn Christoph, Nick Elvena
- 18 \*Steve & Debbie Ginn
- 19 Elizabeth Farrar
- 20 Gail Forsythe
- 22 Andrew Garcia, Nathan LeFils, Dorothy Lehmann
- 25 Wes Lehmann, Samantha Rives
- 27 \*Enrique & Liz Garcia
- 30 \*Kevin & Stacey Jones



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

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#### STAFF:

<b>Lou Paradise</b> <a href="mailto:pastor@fpchanford.org">pastor@fpchanford.org</a>	<b>Interim Pastor</b>
<b>Sheri Winterowd</b> <a href="mailto:fpchanford.youth@gmail.com">fpchanford.youth@gmail.com</a>	<b>Director of Youth &amp; Children's Ministries</b>
<b>Annette Rajskup</b> <a href="mailto:office@fpchanford.org">office@fpchanford.org</a>	<b>Office Administrator</b>
<b>Gwendolyn Smith</b> <a href="mailto:bookkeeper@fpchanford.org">bookkeeper@fpchanford.org</a>	<b>Bookkeeper</b>
<b>Nancy Roller</b> <a href="mailto:nancyroller8@yahoo.com">nancyroller8@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Custodian</b>

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

Send prayer requests to [hanfordfpcprayer@gmail.com](mailto:hanfordfpcprayer@gmail.com)  
other information to [office@fpchanford.org](mailto:office@fpchanford.org)