

# 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](http://www.fpchanford.org)

Email: [office@fpchanford.org](mailto:office@fpchanford.org)

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

## FIRST PRESS

October 2022

May and September, now, in conclusion, remember my thesis – In **Preparation** for worship we wake to the Son on Sunday (Sunday) and prepare ourselves as we are Called by God opening our week with hymns of praise, prayers, litanies of invocation or confession to be set right before God. In the **Proclamation** time we hear what the Word of God means for our lives – seek the meaning. Our focus is on God's intent for us as delineated by Christ our Lord in word and deed.



The **final phase of our worship journey – Responding**. Some Sundays we respond with one of the mandated commandments of Christ. Either we respond with Baptism (...go and make disciples ... baptizing them...) or with Communion (...do this in remembrance of me.). Many Sundays we respond with prayers and petitions or other acts of thanks and dedication. In the sacraments (Baptism and Communion) we yield ourselves not to the direction and filling of the pastor, but to the very presence of the Body of Christ and the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit as our host for these events. On Sundays when the sacraments are not celebrated, the same reality exists.

As we **respond to the meaning of God's word in our life**, God's Holy Spirit pours out upon our lives sending us to a needy world. That world needs to hear and see the loving Christ. Since Christ's Spirit is invested in us as we respond to the Living Word, we are the Body of Christ given to the world. You are the living Word of God because you came and yielded yourself in worship. Think of the enormity of this statement. God has purified you and cleansed you in worship and now you are the best vessel possible to deliver the Good News.

**Responding in worship is really the pinnacle event**. Not the praise songs or the sermon. Not the confession or the hearing of the Word. Rather, a people now ready to go out to the world and be the Body of Christ, the Family of God. The final blessing and calling down of God's Great Spirit to fill you and send you to the world is the high point. God smiles and blesses the children and they go out to play and be happy and bring God's love to all – Worship completed.

This month begins with the celebration of World Communion Sunday. So, prepare yourself. Get ready to worship. Find the meaning of God's Word in your life, but watch out, because God is ready to respond, sending you into the world, not alone, but with God's Holy Spirit blessing your every step.

See You In Church,

Rev. Louis R. Paradise  
Interim Pastor



## Santa's Angels and Santa for Seniors

First Presbyterian Church has participated in the Santa's Angels and Santa for Seniors for many years. Santa's Angels is run by the Salvation Army. Children who may not receive another gift at Christmas are selected for this program. We ask for 10 names, present them to the congregation, who then purchase a gift or two listed on their card. They will receive the gifts shortly before Christmas. We will be requesting these names about the beginning of November. When we receive the names we will set up a table in the fellowship hall where congregants can choose who they want to shop for. There will be a date listed when those gifts need to be brought back to the church.

Diamond Terrace supplies names of their residents as well as suggestions of gifts they would like to receive. Deacons coordinate the date of deliveries to both the Salvation Army and Diamond Terrace to be done on the same day. That date is usually in the first or second week in December.

These programs are special in that we reach out to the needy in our community. We appreciate your assistance in making Christmas special for the neediest people in our city.

*Submitted By: Janet Harader*



## Operation Christmas Child

We have cardboard shoeboxes available to pick up before or after each Sunday church service. Please take as many of these "gospel opportunities" as you wish to fill - and take some for other family members and friends to pack as well. Our OCC church packing party is scheduled is November 6<sup>th</sup> and OCC Dedication Sunday is November 13<sup>th</sup>.

We now have the ability to "Build-a-Box" online where you can choose items to place in your box and then pay for it online. (\$25 includes shipping) Follow this link to access FPC's "build-a-Box website:



<https://build-a-shoebox.samaritanspurse.org/view/0ae82d3e-3ca6-44e6-84fe-495b09d94cf5>

Operation Christmas Child has made available an adventure app for youth called the "Greatest Journey" that helps explain the most important parts of the Gospel. It's available in the App Store or Google Play (no in-app purchases allowed). Check it out for your kids at this link: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/tgj-game-app/>





## Cameroon, Africa

### FPC Mission Opportunity!

Are you ready to step “out of your box” and go on a Mission trip to Cameroon, Africa? What a wonderful opportunity to build relationships with the Efulan Presbyterian Church congregation in Cameroon, Africa, along with four other churches, sharing cultures, faith, experiences, gifts, and being a missionary from Hanford spreading the Gospel across the World!

*WOW! When opportunity knocks – this is the time to step up and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others!*

The First Presbyterian Church Mission Ministry Team along with Paul Elansa has created a 14-day mission trip to Cameroon, Africa for members of our congregation in December 2023. Paul, a Cameroon native and member of our First Presbyterian Church and an Elder in the Efulan Presbyterian Church in Cameroon will be the guide every step of the way.

The proposed dates for the trip (although flexible) are December 1, 2023 – December 10, 2023 plus four days travel (2 days going – 2 days returning) to and from Cameroon. The itinerary includes five destinations, all food arrangements provided by a private chef, accommodations at (Hotels, B&B’s and the Village Guest House in Efulan) and ground transportation.

Cost estimated at \$4,000 covers flight, food, housing, ground transportation and Visa fees. Immunizations needed for travel & Covid restrictions are at own expense. Deposit per person will be \$400.

If you see God knocking at your door to “step out of your box” and become a Missionary to Cameroon, Africa, we ask that you contact Sue Kinney at 559-707-2368 or Gail Forsythe at (559) 381-2388 for further information and/or to let them know that you are interested in participating in the trip!



Cameroon Africa, Efulan Presbyterian Church  
Wearing First Presbyterian Choir Robes



## Summary of Sept. 20, 2022 Session Meeting

### Deacons

- Reported 61 and 3 homebound took communion on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>
- Reported donations of \$50 each were given to KGM, Soup Kitchen, Crossroads Pregnancy Center & Meals-On-Wheels
- Reported 75 guest served during Wade Memorial

### Clerk's Report

- Elder Revious elected as commissioner to Oct. Presbytery meeting.

### Pastor's Report

- Requested more formal guidelines for facility use procedures
- Reported he met with Ara Guekesian, Jose & Levi Palafox to discussed possibilities for use of the facilities
- Reported discussions with Rising Hope Neighborhood Church about facilities use
- Reported Tiffany Staman of Calvin Crest will deliver sermon on Jan. 8, 2023

### Buildings & Grounds

- Reminder of Church Workday on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>
- Approved use of facilities for Walk to Emmaus Fall 2023

### Church Growth

- Approved FPC logo water bottles for sale at \$5/ea

### Finance

- Reported giving is below budget needs
- Reported Dessert Auction planned end of this month

### Missions

- Approved use of Church PO Box for Youth "Pen Pal" correspondence with OCC children

### Personnel Committee

- Reported change Bookkeepers hours

### Other Business

- Approved use of facilities on Oct. 1st for "Fabric Sale" organized by Darlene Keast

# UP COMING



- Oct 1** Fabric Sale 9am—1pm
- Oct 2** *World Wide Communion Sunday*
- Oct 3** Church Growth mtg @ 1pm
- Oct 4** \*Missions mtg @ 4pm, Deacons mtg @ 6:30pm
- Oct 5** Praise Team Practice @ 4:30pm, BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir & Classes @ 6:30pm
- Oct 6** CE meeting @ 10:30am, \*Bible Study @ 7pm
- Oct 9** Worship mtg @ 11:15am, Youth Group @ 5pm, Not-So-Small Group @ 6:30pm
- Oct 11** Finance mtg @ 6pm, \*B&G mtg @ 7:00pm
- Oct 12** Praise Team Practice @ 4:30pm, BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir & Classes @ 6:30pm
- Oct 13** *Session Reports Due,*
- Oct 14** *First Press articles due*
- Oct 14-16** Church Campout
- Oct 18** Session mtg @ 6pm, \*Bible Study @ 7pm
- Oct 19** Praise Team Practice @ 4:30pm, BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir & Classes @ 6:30pm
- Oct 20** \*Bible Study @ 7pm
- Oct 21-22** Presbytery meeting (Sacramento, CA)
- Oct 23** Youth Group @ 5pm, Not-So-Small Group @ 6:30pm
- Oct 26** Praise Team Practice @ 4:30pm, BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir & Classes @ 6:30pm
- Oct 27** \*Bible Study @ 7pm
- Oct 30** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Potluck and Asking Fundraiser Dessert Auction

\* Zoom Meeting





# Session Committees



fpc Making Disciples of Jesus  
Hanford, California

zoom **Worship**  
Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday of each month @ 11:15am

**Church**  
DEACONS

1st Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm

**Christian**  
**Education**  
Committee Meeting

Thursday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30am

zoom **MISSIONS**  
Ministry

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

**Buildings & Grounds**  
Committee Meeting

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7:00pm

zoom **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

Following is a list of upcoming events you might be interested in attending.

October 16 – Kings Symphony Fall Classics Concert It begins at 4:00 at the Hanford High School Presentation Center. Cost is \$15.

October 22 – James Garner Tribute to Johnny Cash. It takes place at the FoxTheatre at 8:00.

October 23 or November 6 – Play at the Temple Theatre titled “Wage Warfare.”

December 18 – Christmas at the Fox – 4:00

For the October 16 Kings Symphony you will be on your own as I may not return in time from our church campout. I felt you needed to be aware of the concert. Cost is \$15.00 and it begins at 4:00. It takes place at the Hanford High School Presentation Center.

The James Garner Tribute to Johnny Cash had quite a few tickets available last I checked. You can either purchase your own tickets or I can purchase some for you. The ticket prices range from \$20 to \$35 depending on where you sit.

October 23 is one possible date to attend the Temple Theatre to see “Wage Warfare.” I am going with another group. If tickets are not available we will go on November 6. Time is 2:00 and cost is \$15.

December 18 is the Kings Symphony presentation of Christmas at the Fox. It begins at 4:00 and cost is \$15.00.

Any questions about any of these events, call Janet Harader @ 583-8817 or 367-5658.

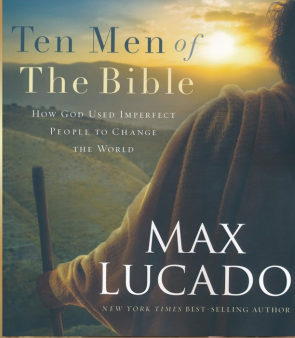
9—11am




*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**



5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Sing Worship Service, to be followed by All Church Potluck and our Annual Dessert Auction happening October 30<sup>th</sup>!

We haven't had a potluck in awhile! We hope you will join us for this potluck after church followed by our annual dessert auction!

**Please bring the following for the Potluck:**

- \*Families – main dish
- \*Couples/Singles – salads & sides



**Do you have a sweet tooth?**

Then please join us Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, for the Potluck and bid on a great dessert. The auction will raise money for our 2022 EPC Askings of \$38 per member. Some members have paid their Askings but \$2,402 is still needed to send to EPC this year for our 100 members.

This is a great opportunity to buy a delicious dessert. The amount for the purchased desserts will be applied towards your EPC Askings. If you prefer, you can make a donation above and beyond your gifts and tithes, for the EPC Askings. Purchase your dessert to eat after the potluck & buy another to take home.

Please do not bring desserts for the auction as they will be provided. If you would like to provide one of the tantalizing tasty desserts, please contact Julie Baker. We will be accepting a limited number of dessert items.

Join us for the fun, good food, and wonderful desserts.  
~ The Finance Ministry Team



**Our Church Needs YOU!**

Help! Help! It's been over a year that the office started getting the interior painted. On Church Work-day (Saturday Nov. 5), we intend to finish the job. But we desperately need your help.

No skills required. We will train you. So, get on your grubbies and come down for some shared fellowship as we get'er done. The usual donuts and coffee will be provided. There will also be yardwork for those that want to stay outside. Come Join the Fun!

This is what the Lord says:

***“Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,” declares the Lord. Jeremiah 9:23-24***



Dear FPC Church Family and Friends,

Please be aware that your Giving Statement for the period of January 1, 2022, to September 30, 2022, will either be emailed to those we have email addresses for or mailed (via USPS) in October. If you have not received your statement by the end of the month, please let Gwen know either by email at [bookkeeper@fpchanford.org](mailto:bookkeeper@fpchanford.org) or leave a message for her at the office 582-0283. The final Giving Statement will be your end of the year statement (12/31/2022) and will be sent out in January, 2023.

We are so grateful for you and the way you've provided for and supported FPC during this time. Please continue your support by:

- Sending in your check to First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 1185, Hanford, Ca 93232
- Arranging auto-pay with your financial institution
- On-line giving - GivePlus and GivePlus Mobile.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Debra Revious, Gwendolyn Smith, or call the office, 559-582- 0283. Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers!!!

Be watching for the 2023 “My Worth Is Not in What I Own” Faith Commitment Drive information to come in next month's newsletter and in the mail.

How valuable are we to Jesus? He paid the highest price that He could: He bore our sin and shame dying on the cross for us all. It is a wondrous mystery that we can receive eternal life with God!

~ Finance/Stewardship Ministry Team



# OCTOBER

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Kalob Jones, Mary Kinney, Luke Sippel
- 3 Mark Jbeily, Chuck Kinney
- 5 Shirley Voyles
- 7 Sarai Cabrera
- 9 Elis Cabrera
- 11 Kevin Jones, \*Michael & Amanda Ginn
- 12 Bob Casterson, Virginia Rich
- 13 Braden Winterowd
- 14 Dan Piper
- 16 Mark Nazarian, \*Bob & Paula Casterson
- 19 \*Rodney & Sue Bairstow
- 20 Brooke Winterowd
- 23 Henry Dixon
- 26 Santos Cabrera
- 27 \*Dustin & Lynda Cuzzort
- 28 Robert Curiel, Thom Snyder

P O Box 1185  
Hanford, CA 93232

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Here

Label Here

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**STAFF:**

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



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