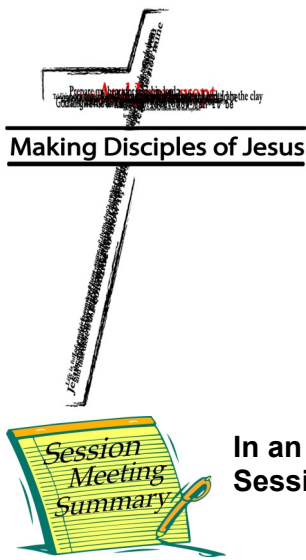


December 2019

Making disciples of Jesus Christ who go to make disciples of others.



FIRST PRESS

In an effort to keep our congregation informed at a quick glance, Session has chosen to bullet-point November's meeting here.

Deacons:

- Deacons reported communion was serviced to (41) in 1st service, (45) during 2nd service and (3) Shut-In's received communion.
- Four "Military Care" boxes were packed and shipped.

Finance:

- FPC is still operating with a deficit of over \$16,000.00.
- Committee Chairs returned their 2020 reduced tentative budgets for reviews.
- Session approved the Finance Committee's recommendation to transition from paying Tony's "full salary", to paying only his "benefits" portion (i.e. Dental/Vision \$135.37, Medical \$2615.78, Life Insurance \$13.25, Long-Term Disability Insurance \$12.31, totaling \$2776.71/per month) through mid-February 2020, now that the insurance company has finally approved his "long-term disability" payments.
- Session approved an increase of \$360/mo., through December 2019, to Jaime Christoph's contracted salary as compensation for the many additional hours and responsibilities she has taken on since Pastor Tony's absence.
- \$4050 has been received towards the "Matching Challenge".

Buildings & Grounds:

- Modified the already approved repairs to the ceiling in the Outreach Building using designated funds.
- Approved purchase of security cameras and networking-hardward using designated funds.

Church Growth:

- December will be the last "bulk mail printing" of the First Press.

Worship:

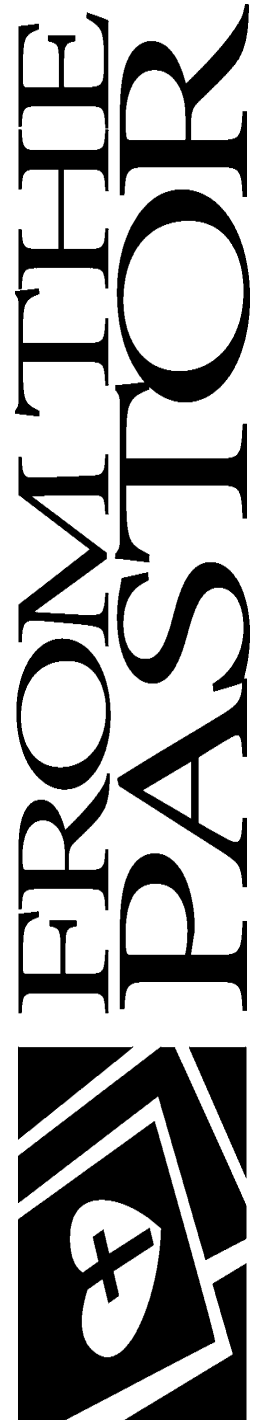
- Approved purchase of new banners for the sanctuary from designated funds.

Other Session Business:

- Discussions regarding changes to Sunday Morning Services are still being held and session reviewed three submitted opinions.
- Session is planning to hold an open information meeting and encourages you to submit your opinions.
- Approved Pastor Steve Nilmeier to guest preach for an additional six-weeks, into mid-February.
- Approved moving the Congregational Meeting to December 15, 2019.
- First Reading of proposed changes to Nominating Committee By Laws

Tabled For Next Meeting:

- Change to By-Laws of Nominating Committee
- Personnel Committee Discussion



Church DEACONS

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



laundry love

Show some Love for Laundry Love

On the third Thursday of each month the First Press Deacons along with a group from Hanford's Methodist Church provide laundry services for those in need in our Community. The charge to run the washers and dryers are paid for those in need. This service is available at the Star Laundry by Big Lots on 11th Avenue.

If you are interested in participating in this ministry you can volunteer your time, make monetary donations, donate laundry pods, dryer sheets or big black garbage bags. To assist with the work please contact the deacon moderator, Georgina Snyder. There is a laundry basket in the church hallway to drop off laundry supplies. To make a monetary donation, please drop off the donation to the church office marked Laundry Love.

Any assistance you can provide for this ministry would be greatly appreciated. Winter is almost here which makes it difficult for those without washers and dryers to do laundry. Everyone enjoys wearing dry clothes to school and work



Dear Church Family,

Words cannot express our deep gratitude for every prayer, every card, every kind word

and hug. We treasured each meal, each gift, large or small, financial or physical. All have blessed, encouraged and literally upheld us during this journey of Tony's illness and recovery. We have seen and felt the generosity and love that you have shared with us! We are forever grateful and give glory to our good, good Father for caring for us so beautifully through each one if you! Thank you!!!

~ Sheri Winterowd



CHRISTMAS SEASON

Dec 5 - Pizza and Caroling @ 5:30pm

Dec 15 - Advent Musical Celebration One Service @ 10:30am (*Fellowship & Coffee @ 10am*)
Congregational Meeting following service @ 11:30am

Dec 22 - 9:00am Service & 10:30am Service

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Service—6:30 pm

Dec 29 - One Blended service @ 10:30am
(*Potluck following service*)



A Message From Your Missions Ministry Team



“Mission Morning Coffee”

First Presbyterian Church Mission Ministry Team held their first “Mission Morning Coffee” on Saturday, November 9, 2019. The idea of the Mission Morning Coffee was to bring local church mission team leaders together to share ideas and learn what other local churches are doing within the mission ministry. It was a time for sharing and an opportunity for outreach ideas.

There were 18 total attending and the churches represented were First United Methodist Church of Hanford, Glad Tidings Assembly of God, First Christian Reformed Church, First Christian Church, Lakeside Community Church, St. James Lutheran Church, Crossroads Pregnancy Center, and Kings Gospel Mission. A light breakfast of egg dishes, fruit, pumpkin bread and drinks were served.

Sue Kinney opened with prayer, Jeff Crass explained the purpose of the meeting, Rowena Curiel talked about the FPC’s AWANA program and Dottie Crass shared about Operation Christmas Child. From there, all the church leaders in attendance had an opportunity to share what and how their church mission ministry teams worked within our community and abroad.

Although there were many things shared, all can’t be mentioned here, but following is a short synopsis: Christian Reformed Church has Life Groups that do outreach cleanup projects within the community, they work with Crossroads Pregnancy Center, Kings Gospel Mission, Hannah’s House and world-wide Missionaries. The First United Methodist Church works with prison Angel Tree ministries, partners with our church on Laundry Love and works with the homeless showers providing clean towels, clothing, blankets, socks, and baskets of personal items. Lakeside Community Church also supports Laundry Love as well as serving the Home Gardens area with food/clothing assistance, the Refuge Center and Angel Tree ministries. First Christian Church has a 5th Sunday bake sale and the money goes to the annual “Week of Compassion” – a one-year special offering. They provide items for Homeless Connect projects, prison Angel Tree ministries and Habitat for Humanity. They mentioned the “re-store” in town for Habitat for Humanity as a good place to shop for many items. Glad Tidings holds “Celebrate Recovery” AA and NA meetings each week, along with a grief share group and end of life home. They have a Spanish ministry and work with “City Serve” that offers free merchandise through Costco. St. James Lutheran Church works with the food banks, soup kitchen, Crossroads Pregnancy, Hannah’s House and Homeless Connect. They offer free quilts and afghans for the homeless. Crossroads Pregnancy Center and Kings Gospel Mission gave updates on their services.

It was a wonderful time of sharing and fellowship and everyone in attendance agreed that they would like to meet twice a year to share and learn how we can better work together to share and minister God’s Word. We will be meeting again in Spring, 2020.

May all the Glory go to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Faith & Fellowship

Many opportunities for you to join with others . . .

Jolly 1's & 2's

Jolly 1's & 2's will be holding their Christmas party in the fellowship hall on **December 7th at 5:00pm.**

We will begin with a pot-luck followed by an ornament exchange. Please bring either a main dish, salad, vegetable, side dish or dessert.



Let your caller or me (Janet-583-8817) know what you would like to bring so we can have a variety of items for dinner. Be prepared for a lot of food and laughter.



Women's Society (Agape)

The Agape Christmas party has been scheduled in the social hall on December 12th at 6:00pm. Please bring either a dessert or snack to share.

Agape is about supporting missions and non-profit organizations. We were approached about having the Boyds speak at our Christmas celebration. This is the only time available for them to come to our church and share what their mission is and what is transpiring in the part of Africa they are ministering to. All people in the church and friends are welcome to come.

We will also hear the reading of the Christmas story. Jean Knudson has invited a friend, David Bruce, he will be singing a solo with guitar, and will be accompanying our Christmas carols on the piano. It should be a great evening of celebrating Christ's coming and listening to the Boyds give an update on their mission in Africa.

PIZZA & CAROLING

Festive Pizza & Caroling

Dec. 5th

Meet in the Fellowship Hall
at **5:30pm**

J O Y K M E R R Y C H R I S T M A
 E B S I L E N T N I G H T D A Z S
 S A W N M E R R Y C A M E L S D H
 U L I G H T O F T H E W O R L D E
 S T S O F R A J O S E P H O N B P
 F H E F S K J M E R R Y G W I E H
 R A M K L E O N T S R I F E H T E
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 S Y A W I S E M E N X R P S C Q U
 E M M A N U E L S L E M A C Z O J
 E M B M A N U J E L C G H R I S W

Christmas Word Find

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Angels | Gold | Melchior |
| Balthazar | Jesus (x2) | Myrrh (x2) |
| Bethlehem | Joseph (x2) | Nazareth |
| Camels (x2) | Joy to the World | O Holy Night |
| Cow | King of Kings | Sheep |
| Donkey | Shepherds (x2) | Lamb |
| Emmanuel | Light of the World | Silent Night |
| Frankincense | Mary (x2) | The First Noel |
| Gaspar | Messiah | Wise men (x2) |

Ladies

First Friday Coffee and Prayer

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

Friday, Dec. 7th

9:00am - 10:30am



Dec. 6th
Sue Hensel
860 E. Grangeville #59

Ladies Saturday Bible Study



1 Corinthians

by Jennie Allen
 (RightNow Media)

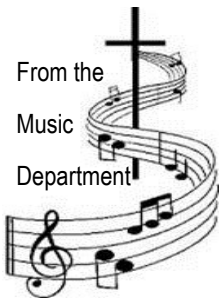
Christianity calls us to sacrifice instead of living for oneself. We have to choose one or the other—we can't do both. The Christians in Corinth tried to live the Christian life in a worldly way. Paul wrote the letter of 1 Corinthians to a divided and self-centered people to remind them to follow Jesus and only Jesus.

In this 12-part series, author and speaker Jennie Allen walks into the messy lives of the Corinthians and takes us through Paul's words to the conflicted church. We'll see how the truth of the gospel and the Spirit of God can empower us to choose to follow Jesus every day of our lives.

Meets selected Saturdays 9-10:30am

Contact Jaime Christoph or Mary Kinney for more information and to be added to the contact list

Childcare is provided



Greetings from your Music Department.

We again have been so blessed to be able to work with all of those making music for the Lord each Sunday. Though music requires time, energy, and work, the joy of working together and helping each other, as well as having a higher purpose, is a great blessing.

The Holidays coming up are always special “seasons of music”. We are getting ready for Christmas and the Hand Bell Choir is also rehearsing and is ready to “ring for the Lord”.

Our “official” Christmas program will be held Sunday December 15th, with one service at 10:30 am. This will be a time of acclamation and joy, as we praise our Great God for the truly unfathomable gift of His Son. Blessing to you all, and we pray our offerings of music will refresh and renew your souls each week.

~ Margie and Tom Fritz

Holiday Rehearsals, Etc.:

Sunday	Dec. 1 st	Chancel Choir, Handbells, Praise Team
Wed.	Dec. 4 th	Handbells @ 5:30, Chancel Choir @ 6:30, Praise Team @ 8:00
Sunday	Dec. 8 th	Chancel Choir, Praise Team
Wed.	Dec. 11 th	Handbells @ 5:30, Chancel Choir @ 6:30
Saturday	Dec. 14 th	Advent Program Rehearsal @ 4:30
Sunday	Dec. 15th	Chancel Choir Program @ 10:30
Wed.	Dec. 18 th	Chancel Choir @ 6:30, Praise Team @ 8:00
Sunday	Dec. 22 nd	Chancel Choir, Praise Team
Tues.	Dec 24 th	Christmas Eve Service, Chancel Choir, Handbells, Praise Team
Sunday	Dec. 29 th	One Service at 10:30 Chancel Choir, Praise Team



**Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year
From Your Church Staff**

Tony Jaime Gail Annette
Tom Margie Janice
Davena Nancy

**Did you know your
First Press is also
available Online?**



You can find copies of the First Press newsletters online at our website www.fpchanford.org along with audio versions of previous sermons and the Pastor’s blog. Click “**MEDIA**” from the homepage and select you preference from the dropdown box.

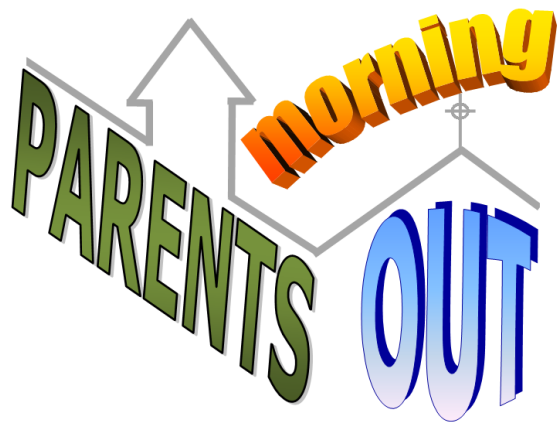
FPC is preparing to take the **First Press** to a primarily digital/online format. We are aware some may not have internet access or prefer a printed copy of the First Press and we will accommodate those requests.

Please let us know if you prefer to continue receiving your printed copy of the First Press through USPS mail, by completing the form you will find in the morning bulletins or by calling the church office at (559) 582-0283.



Dec. 14th

**Parent's Morning Out
9am—11am**



Questions, Comments, Concerns
or Ideas...contact:
Jaime Christoph 850-776-5234

Dec. 14th

Youth Christmas Party

6pm—8pm at the
Christoph home

Potluck & Gift Exchange

Watch your email for more info.

Guys & Gals



BIBLE STUDY

SR High Girls 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 6:30pm

JR High Girls 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 6:30 pm

Guys 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 6:45pm

Contact Jaime Christoph at
850-776-5234 for more information.



AWANA TruthSeekers is pleased to announce additions to our club membership. Welcome Jayden Garcia and Victor Acosta! We are delighted you have joined us. **Congratulations to Brady, Mei and Stone!** They have each been awarded a Bible. We continue to explore Genesis and would love to see more children participate. Please let people know about this ministry. Thanks!

P O Box 1185
Hanford, CA 93230

First Presbyterian Church

Worship Center: 340 N. Irwin St.
Church Office: 415 N. Redington St.
Mail: P. O. Box 1185, Hanford, CA 93232
(559) 582-0283—FAX (559) 582-0336
www.fpchanford.org

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Hanford, California

STAFF:

Tony Winterowd	Pastor
Tom & Margie Fritz	Music Directors
Janice Mills	Music Ministries
Jaime Christoph	Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
Davena Clemente	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

December Birthdays & *Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 2. Jack Brewer | 17. * Steve & Marjorie Froberg |
| 3. Janice Mills | 20. Ethan LeFils |
| 4. Steve Essepian, Shirley Ramm Carter
Voyles, *Chuck & Mary Kinney | 21. Elizabeth Hejmanowski |
| 5. Joyce Roper | 22. Greg Connelly, Robert Torrez |
| 6. Elizabeth Garcia | 26. Georgina Snyder |
| 8. Jared Ehlers, Lance Lasron | 27. *Duane & Heidi Koppenhaver |
| 9. Shirley Jue, Even Troxell | 29. Vicki Torrez |
| 10. David Eshelman, Stone Torrez | |
| 12. Laurie Essepian, Stacey Jones | |
| 13. Paul Dixon | |
| 15. Corey Loewen | |



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