



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 Email: office@fpchanford.org

Disciples of Christ, reaching out and caring for others

FIRST PRESS

May 2025



"A Message from Pastor Joe"

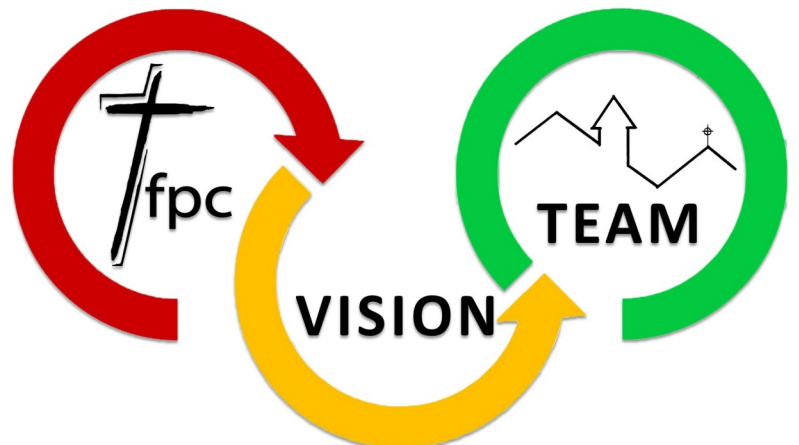
Hello to you all,

I don't know about you, but this is probably my favorite time of the year. I love the Lenten Season. It is so powerful and life changing. I hope you are sensing the powerful movement of God in your personal life as well as in the life of FPC Hanford.

I am still looking for 4 more people to be on the Vision team to help us move into the next phase of our Church life. Remember I didn't come to be a potted plant. It is my hope to help you to take the next steps as a Church that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ wants for us.

Please remember that we are the living, breathing, moving body of Christ. I am so excited to see so many of you taking advantage of our prayer times during the Worship Service and to see how our children are so excited to memorize their Bible verses. The children are certainly the Church of the present and the future. Thank you for your loving hearts and your encouragement to me and Jasmine. We love you all!

Pastor Joe Mazzela



Church DEACONS

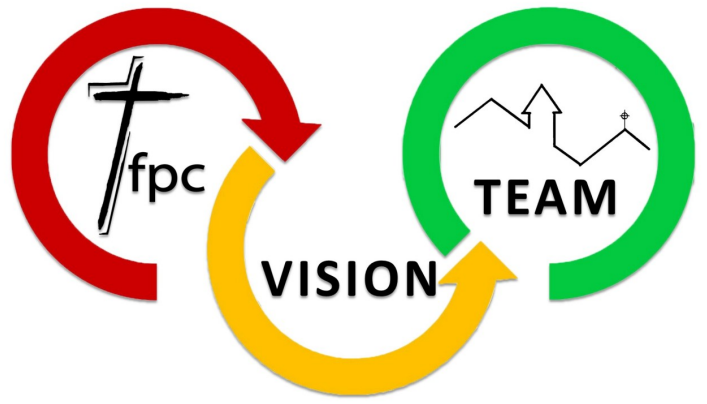
Imagine yourself having no roof over your head and no bed to lie on. Christ in Luke 9:58 says that “the Son of Man has no place even to lay His head.” Whether by choice or circumstances we have many people who brave the elements and either sleep on the ground or hard steps each night. I thank God almost every night that I have a roof over my head, a soft bed to sleep on, and heating and cooling each day.

While the deacons and elders were being trained, a lady named Sequita knocked on the glass doors asking for food. Since we had just had lunch, there were leftovers and we were able to share with her. A few days later she knocked on the office door and said some of the homeless were cold at night. Annette was able to round up some blankets to share. Some deacons were able to find good sales on blankets or some from home to start a collection for the homeless. We have only one left.

Although we are in the spring and summer months, we would like to accumulate blankets for next winter. The cold season will be here before you know it. If you can find blankets on sale or have some in your home you can part with, please bring them to the office or give them to a deacon to take to the office. Our church family has been so generous and we want to share with those who are our “neighbors.” The Bible says to “love your neighbor as yourself.” We want to be that kind of downtown church.

~ Submitted by Janet Harader

Reminder! The Deacons would like to remind you to bring clothing and non-perishable food to help those in our community who are in need. Collection baskets are available in the church hallway outside the Fellowship Hall.



You're Invited to Help Shape the Future!

Are you passionate about the mission of our church? Do you have a heart for where God is leading us next? We're inviting you to be part of something special — the FPC Vision Team.

This team will prayerfully seek God's direction and help shape the long-term vision and future ministry goals of our church. We're looking for people of faith, wisdom, and creativity — people who believe God is calling us to dream big and plan boldly.

What You Can Expect:

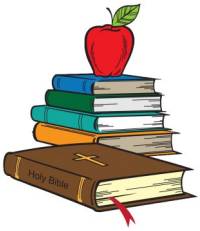
- Engaging discussions about our church's mission and future
- Opportunities to share ideas and discern God's guidance together
- A role in shaping strategic direction that impacts lives for Christ

If you're ready to make a meaningful impact and help set the course for the next season of ministry, we would love for you to prayerfully consider joining the team.

Please reach out to Pastor Joe

email: pastor@fpchanford.org

Let's seek God's vision — together.



A Note From:

Co-Directors of Children's and Youth Ministries
Mary Kinney and Sandy Mills

Hello! I would love to introduce you to our Youth Ministry Team. Mary Kinney and Sandy Mills are the new co-directors of Children's and Youth Ministries. Brooke Winterowd is the new Coordinator for Nursery and Toddlers. Thank you for all of your love and support as we step into these new positions.

Hello, my name is Mary Kinney and I am one of the new co-directors of Children's and Youth Ministries. I am excited to serve alongside such amazing people. I am looking forward to helping our church families grow in their faith and their love for God and themselves. Love you all. - Mary

Hi. My name is Sandy Mills. I am one of the new co-directors of Children's and Youth Ministries. I am blessed to call First Pres. my home and want to thank you for welcoming my children and I into your church family. It is my hope that our church will continue to be a place where children and families can come and feel as though they've entered into fellowship and a second family. I am excited for all the adventures that await as we walk alongside our children and youth and share the love of Jesus with them. With love - Sandy

Hi. My name is Brooke Winterowd. I've been attending First Presbyterian Hanford since I was very little. I've enjoyed working in the nursery since I started when I was in the youth group and I'm excited to continue serving First Presbyterian's youngest kids. I also recently have become a member here at First Presbyterian. I enjoy going to the beach, walking with my dog, and spending time with my friends and family. - Brooke

Applications for scholarships are available for those attending one of the Calvin Crest summer camps. Here is a link to the scholarship form: <https://www.fpchanford.org/current-events.html>. You can also get a paper copy on Sunday at church from Mary Kinney or Sandy Mills. Applications are due May 5th.

Please continue to keep an eye out for upcoming information about Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is Magnified and will be June 23-27. You will continue to see more details as we approach summer. Please be praying for our VBS directors, volunteers, and the families that will be attending this year. Be blessed!

In His love,
Sandy Mills

Upcoming Events:

- May 4 Church Picnic
- May 5 Calvin Crest Scholarship Applications due
- May 11 No Youth Group due to Mother's Day
- May 25 Youth Group
- June 23-27 Vacation Bible School

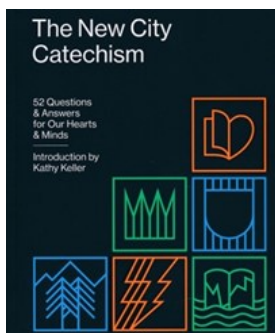


Calvin Crest



- May 2** Ladies First Friday Prayer @ 9am, The Chosen Study @ 7pm
- May 4** Communion Sunday, Church Picnic
- May 5** C.E. mtg @ 10am, Deacon's mtg @ 1pm
- May 6** Staff mtg. @ 10am
- May 8** Men's Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- May 9** The Chosen Study @ 7pm
- May 11** Mother's Day, Worship mtg. @ 11:20am
- May 12** Finance mtg @ 11am, *Missions mtg. @ 7pm
- May 13** Staff mtg. @ 11am
- May 15** Session Reports Due, First Press Articles Due
- Feb 15-16** Presbytery Meeting in Carmichael, CA
- Feb 16** The Chosen Study @ 7pm
- Feb 18** Compassion Letter Writing Day
- May 20** Staff mtg. @ 1am, Session mtg @ 6:30pm
- May 22** Men's Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- May 23** The Chosen Study @ 7pm
- May 25** Youth Group @ 5pm
- May 26** Memorial Day (office closed)
- May 27** Staff mtg. @ 11am
- May 30** The Chosen Study @ 7pm
- May 31** Discovery Workshop Training @ 9am

* via Zoom



How can we be saved?

Only by faith in Jesus Christ and in his substitutionary atoning death on the cross.



Summary of April 22, 2025 Session Meeting

Deacons

- Reported 91 took communion on April 6th, during worship and 4 Shut-Ins were served

Consent Agenda

- Approved renewing Pastor Joe's contract through August 2025
- Approved communion to be moved in June to the second Sunday, 6/8/25

Clerk's Report

- Reported Members as of April 1, 2025 total—78
- Approved reinstating membership to Kevin Jack
- Approved closing the Deacon's checking account and depositing moneys into a designated fund under the FPC account

Pastor's Report

- Approved reimbursing Pastor Joe for hotel fees to attend POPS in May

Buildings & Grounds

- Reported list of project to be completed and their priority
- Approved use of the facilities for KCAO for a training

Christian Ed

- Approved Internship Program for the Summer of 2025

Finance

- Approved Chuck Kinney as new finance committee chair
- Approved updated check signers

Missions

- Approved transferring funds from "Mission Possible" fund #2160 into Missions Discretionary Fund #2166

Pastor Search Committee

- Our Church Information Form and Pastor Job Description are updated and posted on the EPC Ministry Opportunities website advertising our Pastor Position Opening

Other Business

- Deacons asked for guidance moving forward. It was recommended that Deacons and the Missions Committee commit to regular communication to avoid overlapping contributions.



Standing Stone Ministry!



Hello, First Presbyterian Family!

Thank you for partnering with us on our journey with Standing Stone Ministry! Since our visit last Fall, we have sold our home in Mariposa, (a difficult and trying experience) packed up and moved to Georgetown Texas right before Thanksgiving where we are currently renting. We are settling in and are amazed at God's gracious provision and abundant blessings. We really like Georgetown but want to make sure this town is "the one" before setting down roots. We've visited numerous churches and everyone has been receptive and friendly. (Gotta love the South!)

Because we have been pastoring ourselves for over 3 decades, we understand that there is a great spiritual responsibility Shepherds embrace, and we also know full well that there are counter spiritual (and human) forces that fight to tear down the office of Pastor and the person behind the title.

That is where **Standing Stone Ministries** comes in - Standing Stone is a ministry of "Shepherds Shepherding Shepherds." We get to come alongside Ministry Leaders and provide guidance, support, resources and authentic relationships "free of charge" to the leader. We provide the confidential, secure, loving arms of Jesus so that they are free to lead their flocks as healthy shepherds.

We're very happy to say we have already started ministering to ministry leaders, pastors and their wives in California, Oregon and Texas. (Separately and together.) Combined we have 25 leaders being ministered to. Numbers don't matter, of course, only changed lives, but we wanted to at least give you an idea how rapidly the Lord is working and how important this ministry is. (It's only been 4 months.)

We are so happy and fulfilled. It is incredibly rewarding to be doing what God has called us to, and genuinely humbling to be trusted and needed in these individual's lives. We are so thankful the Lord has been richly blessing us with open doors.

Thank you for being a body who advocates for missionaries and missions to reach the communities, state, nation, and world with your generous giving and prayer. And we are so grateful you're a part of our team. We pray blessings over you!

Love,
Dan and Maureen Horst

Mission Ministry Team Announcement!

Re: Cameroon

The FPC Mission Ministry Team has decided, due to unforeseeable circumstances, to no longer offer a mission trip to Cameroon, Africa, at this time. New mission trips are being researched, but if you donated to the Cameroon Mission Trip fundraiser last year and would like your donation refunded, please let Melissa Wescoat, our FPC Bookkeeper know by May 15, 2025.

Otherwise, all funds received from the Cameroon Mission Trip fundraiser will remain in the special mission outreach account to be used to help others participate when a new mission trip has been chosen. Thank you for your help and support of our mission ministry; may God richly bless you!

DISCOVERY WORKSHOP



*FPC Hanford will be hosting an
EPC Discovery Workshop*

May 31, 2025

Bible

The basis of the EPC form of government and doctrine are found in God's Word.

Polity / Book of Order

The purpose of the unit on Polity is to help participants evaluate, understand and apply the biblical, theological, and historical background and content of the EPC system of government.

Essentials of Our Faith

The purpose of the unit on the Essentials of Our Faith is to familiarize the participants with the statements, to affirm the essential evangelical beliefs that unify the EPC, and to recognize that there are other beliefs that individuals may hold dear, but that are assumed to be non-essential in our life of faith as a body.

Reformed Theology / Westminster Standards

The purpose of the unit on the Reformed Theology is to discuss the system of theological thought and convictions that are expressed in the Westminster Standards

**Elders and Deacons are expected to attend
but EVERYONE is invited so
PLEASE RSVP BY May 16th**

Email: office@fpchanford.org

First Presbyterian Church of Hanford

MINISTRY INTERN PROGRAM



QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be a student entering Junior or Senior year of High School, or enrolled or attending college.
- Be a Christian and living a Christian lifestyle.
- Supports the vision and mission of First Presbyterian Church.
- Considering full-time ministry as a career.

Application Process:

- Complete the entire application.
- Submit a 1-minute video telling us why you want to be an intern.
- Email the completed application, cover letter, resume, and video to pastor@fpchanford.org.
- Complete an in-person interview.

Applications are due before midnight on May 16, 2025.

Applicants will be notified by Wednesday, May 21 if they have been accepted into the internship program.

EXPECTATIONS

- Fulfill the roles as given by the Senior Pastor.
- Complete the 12-week internship program.
- Exemplify a Christian lifestyle in action, integrity, and communication.
- Strive to be prompt and exemplify good time management skills.



The Internship will focus on the following areas:

- Personal Spiritual Growth
- Leadership Development
- Understanding of the Basic Theology and Governance of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Relationship Building Tasks
- Understanding of different roles and functions of ministry roles and responsibilities



Ministry Areas of Opportunity for Interns:

- Senior and associate leadership roles
- Christian Education (including youth and children)
- Worship Ministry
- Media and Technology
- Administration



Is the internship a paid position?

Yes. Ministry interns will earn a minimum of \$16.50 an hour.

Do interns work on Sundays?

Yes, all interns will serve in their designated areas of ministry on Sunday.

When will I hear from someone after applying?

You will receive a confirmation email upon submitting your application. Interviews will be scheduled after receipt of the application.

When is the deadline to apply?

Applications will be due by May 16, 2025. Late submissions will not be considered.

Is there an interview process?

Yes, interns, we will strive to have a face-to-face interview. If that method is not possible, other options such as Zoom will be considered.

Do I need a car?

Not necessarily. However, interns will need to have a reliable form of transportation.

How do I apply?

Complete our application and email to youth@fpchanford.org or turn it in at the church office.





Birthdays & *Anniversaries

- 1. Rowena Curiel, Charlotte Davis,
- 2. Julie Baker
- 3. Janeen Nelson
- 5. **Michael & Nancy Porter*
- 6. Caleb Mills, Isaac Mills,
**Tim & Debra Revious*
- 7. Ginnie Herleman
- 13. Ron Herleman, Michael Montoya
- 14. **Jeff & Joanna Jones*
- 15. **Nick Elvena & Jeanne Rich*
- 20. Bryce Winterowd
- 23. Michele King
- 25. Joanna Jones, Tim Revious
- 27. Charles Feaver
- 28. Kierin Adams
- 30. **Ron & Ginnie Herleman*



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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(559) 582-0283—FAX (559) 582-0336
www.fpchanford.org

STAFF:

Joe Mazzela pastor@fpchanford.org	Pastor
Mary Kinney Sandy Mills youth@fpchanford.org	Co-Directors of Youth & Children's Ministries
Annette Rajskup office@fpchanford.org	Office Administrator
Melissa Wescoat bookkeeper@fpchanford.org	Bookkeeper
Nancy Roller nancyroller8@yahoo.com	Custodian

Church Office Hours: 9:00am—12:00pm (Mon—Thur)

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