

First Presbyterian Church of Hanford

Worship Center: 340 N. Irwin St.

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

FIRST PRESS

June 2024



"Summer Spirituality"

Pastor Tim Brown

We are quickly approaching summertime. I always loved summers as a kid. Summer meant baseball, long days, playing with my friends until dark, tin-can alley, hide and seek, and campouts. I also eagerly anticipated church camp, retreats, and our family vacation. Summer is usually a time to take a break.

One of the beautiful things about summer is how it disrupts our routines in ways that make us feel refreshed. But with chaotic schedules, summer is also a time when our normal routines and practices are interrupted, including our spiritual practices. Growing spiritually requires intentionality and discipline. Here are five ideas to be more intentional about tending to your spirituality this summer.

1. **Find a core spiritual practice that you can do whether you are at home or traveling.** This might be a specific prayer pattern or another spiritual practice like a prayer journal, a devotional book, or a Bible reading plan. Some people will find a summer reading list of books about their spirituality. Find something meaningful (and manageable) and try to stick with it. If you get off track, don't let that be an excuse to stop. It's ok to start again. Just ensure you complete your spiritual practice regularly and that it enriches your inner spiritual life in a tangible way.
2. **Worship whenever or wherever you can.** Try to make it to church once a week whenever possible, whether at home or on the road. Sometimes, while traveling, it isn't practical to make it to church every week, but keeping a pattern of attendance will help you stay grounded in the word of God and prayer, and the variety of hearing different speakers while on the road can be a nice change of pace. If you cannot attend, catch a service online. Leaving church out of your regular routine over the course of several months during the summer can supply a stumbling block later when you would like to return to church, but it is hard to get back into the rhythm.
3. **Remember your stewardship practices.** Many churches struggle financially during summer because people allow their resources to go on vacation with them. Remember, the practice of stewardship is simply managing what God has given. So, be intentional about remaining consistent in the giving of your time, talent, and treasures.



4. **Plan for an extended time to give intentional and energetic attention to your spiritual development.** Perhaps you can do something in our community for those in need. Maybe you will have the opportunity to attend a retreat or a conference. Our spiritual lives need to be *tended*, like a garden or any other important project. Tending to your spiritual formation is essential for your personal growth as a disciple.
5. Find a **Prayer Partner.** Often, we are the most successful in our difficult projects when we have a partner. Whether it is to work out or complete an important goal, partnerships bring a sense of teamwork, mutual accountability, and mutual support. Meeting with someone, or a group, regularly to share your concerns, pray with and for one another, and bring encouragement can be very spiritually nourishing.

Of course, these things are not the only way to help in our spiritual growth, but hopefully, this list might help your own spiritual care as summer approaches and even to assist in planning for how you will finish 2024.

Blessings!

Tim



Reminder! Deacons hope you can bring clothing and nonperishable food to help those in our community who are in need. Collection baskets are available in the church hallway outside the Fellowship Hall.



One of the ministries the Deacons support is the Shower Ministry, run by Billy Escobar, from the Pentecostal Church on 323 E. 11th Street in Hanford.

Showers are offered on Thursdays to all who need to get cleaned up. The director said they are about to open another day for showers as the population needing showers has tripled in the last three weeks. The homeless, people living in cars, and people who have lost power are the population that come in for showers. Anyone can come, but these are the populations the church sees most.

Items our church can donate that are needed to help out the Shower Ministry are:

- Washrags
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Towels
- Toothpaste
- Hygiene products
- Soaps
- Shampoo

Kings United Way partners with the Shower Ministry to hand out hygiene bags to the homeless, and, to let them know about the availability of showers. They usually service 28-30 people a day, children included.

Donations (supplies and monetary) from the community keep the program running, and are much appreciated.

There is a box in the hallway near the Fellowship Hall where you can place donations.

Romans 12:7-8 talks about the spiritual gifts we are given. "if it is serving, then serve...do it cheerfully."

In Christ,
Laurie Essepian



A Note From:

Children's and Youth Director
Sheri Winterowd

We are heading into Summer and I am so excited for all the fun that is to be had during this season! Pool parties, service opportunities, Beach trip, training opportunities, Vacation Bible School, Summer Camp, Book Club!! Summer can be a great time to spend more intentionality in our spiritual disciplines of reading the Bible, prayer, gratitude journaling and just being still before the Lord. It is our hope that your family can participate in some of our upcoming events and please invite friends! We especially need you to invite your friends, neighbors and co-workers to send their children to Vacation Bible School!

I am scheduling a **CPR & First Aid training course** for our young people and adults. This is a class that gives hands-on training, which will be held at our church and will involve a test. There is a \$10 cost per person receiving the training, as our Christian Education team is covering \$50 of the cost as a thank you for our youth volunteering their time to care for the children in the Nursery and Powerhouse ministry. (Total cost for the training is \$60, FPC will pay \$50 for those who are volunteering in the children's ministry). Upon completion of the class, participants will receive a two-year certificate of completion, which can be a great benefit when seeking employment and is also just a great skill to have. Please let Sheri know if you would like to attend this class and also if you prefer a weekday or a weekend for the four hour class.

Funds were generously donated to allow the youth to go on an Overnight Beach Trip again this year! We are looking at July 22-24 as the best window for this trip. If you don't have a student in the youth group, would your family like to participate in a beach trip with your younger kids on the same day we go to the beach with the youth and then your family would just return home for the night? Please reach out to Sheri with your feedback.

Last summer, we started a Book Club - It was a big hit and we are planning to meet again this summer on select Tuesday evenings for Book Club, from 5:00-7:30 pm, which includes pizza for dinner. We ask that the kids bring \$5 per person to help cover the cost of the pizza.

The plan is to include all ages (kindergarteners through college!), where each participant shares a little about the book they are currently reading. The younger kids will have a second activity after time spent eating pizza and sharing about their books (as that time frame is a bit too long for younger kids to just sit around and talk about books). This year we are adding a new aspect to our Book Club... We will offer a point system for reading books and incentivize reading recommended character building literature off a book recommendation list by offering greater points for those books. At the end of the summer, there will be some fun prizes to 'buy' with their points. We will meet downstairs in the Youth Rooms. Literature and the power of Story are wonderful tools to help us grow spiritually, so please consider reading a character building book off of our suggested list!

First Presbyterian's Summer Book Club



- June 11
- June 18
- July 9
- July 16
- July 30
- August 6

Summer Swim Parties for Kids & Youth

- June 12
- June 19
- July 10
- July 17
- July 31
- August 7



Wear your swimsuit & sunscreen, bring a towel and a snack to share. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

Invite a friend!

Parents can stay and enjoy time with friends too!

Please contact Sheri to RSVP and get the address for each location (559) 281-4163

UP COMING



- Jun 2** Communion Sunday, Membership Class @ 11:30am
- Jun 3** Deacon's meeting @ 2pm
- Jun 4** Staff meeting @ 10am
- Jun 5** Choir Practice @ 6:30pm
- Jun 6** Praise Team Practice @ 6:30pm
- Jun 8** *First Press Articles Due (early deadline)*
- Jun 9** *Promotion Sunday, Youth Group @ 5pm*
- Jun 10** Finance meeting @ 11am, Church Growth meeting @ 1pm, *Missions meeting @ 7pm
- Jun 11** Staff meeting @ 10am, *Session Reports Due (early deadline)*
- Jun 12** Choir Practice @ 6:30pm
- Jun 13** C.E. meeting @ 1pm, Praise Team Practice @ 6:30pm
- Jun 16** Worship meeting @ 11:15am
- Jun 18** Staff meeting @ 10am, *Session meeting @ 6:30pm
- Jun 19** Choir Practice @ 6:30pm
- Jun 20** Praise Team Practice @ 6:30pm
- Jun 21** VBS Training @ 11am
- Jun 23** Youth Group @ 5pm
- Jun 24-28** VBS Week
- Jun 30** *5th Sunday, VBS Follow-up Luncheon after morning worship*

* via Zoom



Summary of May. 21, 2024 Session Meeting

Deacons

- Reported 88 and 6 homebound took communion in May
- \$50 each to Crossroads, Soup Kitchen and Refuge Armona
- Memorials: Bell (41 served), Essepian (139 served)

Clerk's Report

- Reported Members as of May. 1, 2024 total—84
- June session meeting will be via zoom

Pastor's Report

- Led training and questions on chapters 5 & 6 of the EPC Leadership Training Guide
- Approved training for Campus Monitor Team
- Approved Youth Internship to hire (3) students after a donation to sponsor the program was received

Christian Ed

- Approved Aug 4 for a Blessing Bag event with Missions
- Approved Aug 11 for Blessing of the Backpacks during morning worship

Church Growth

- Approved Fall Festival Event for Oct. 27th
- Approved Pizza and Caroling for Dec. 12th
- Approved Hymn Sing for Feb. 22, 2025

Finance

- Approved hiring of Melissa Wescoat as bookkeeper and adding her to investment accounts

Missions

- Approved OCC Purchase program beginning July 7

The New City Catechism

52 Questions
& Answers
for Our Hearts
& Minds

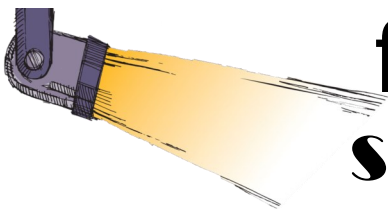
Introduction by
Kathy Keller



Will God allow our disobedience and idolatry to go unpunished?

No, God is righteously angry with our sins and will punish them both in this life, and in the life to come.





fpc Family Spotlight



Meet Melissa Wescoat

We want to welcome our newest member to the First Presbyterian team. We are honored to welcome Melissa Wescoat as our new bookkeeper. Melissa is a lifelong Hanford and Lemoore area resident and graduated from Lemoore High School. She met Steve on a blind date, and they were married in 1992. Steve is a graduate of Hanford High School and a retired correctional officer. Melissa and Steve have three boys, Gary, Jeremy, and Payton, all of whom are graduates of Hanford High. Melissa previously worked at First Baptist Hanford, Kings Partnership for Prevention, and the Kings Gospel Mission. She and Steve have five grandchildren. Melissa loves to garden and scrapbook and looks forward to her yearly trip to Cambria. Her ultimate dream destination would be Paris, France. We are blessed to have Melissa join our team here at FPC.



Welcome New Staff



CONGRATULATIONS

Promoting into 3rd Grade:

Asher Kopp

8th Grade Graduates:

Cate Connelly

Pioneer Middle School

Kalob Jones

Liberty Middle School

Brady Porter

Pioneer Middle School

High School Graduates:

Headed to

Michael Kinney

College of the Sequoias

Katie Peters

College of the Sequoias

Brooke Winterowd

West Hills College

College Graduate:

Headed to

Jessica Peters

Cornish College of the Arts

FAREWELL BBQ

PLEASE JOIN MICHAEL AND MANDY FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FELLOWSHIP TO CELEBRATE OUR MOVE TO BOISE!

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

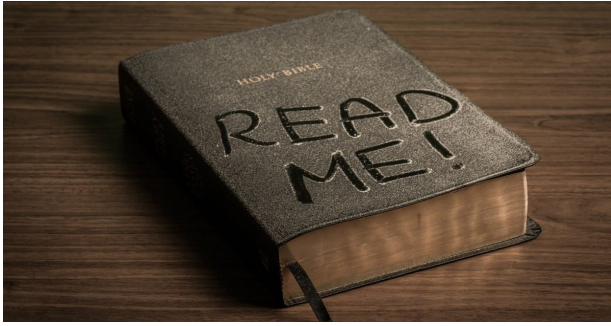
Noon to 6pm

898 Wexford Drive, Lemoore

We will BBQ Burgers, Bratwursts and Hotdogs
Please bring: Side dish, Dessert or Drinks

RSVP: Text Michael 559-707-2243

June Reading Plan

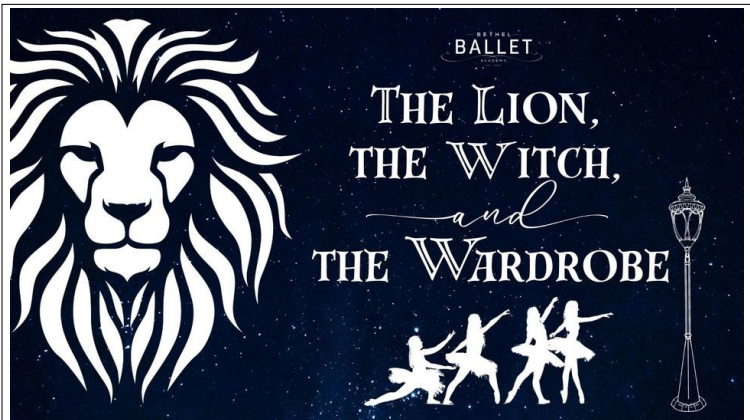


Daily Bible Reading Program

Chronological Plan

1-Year Plan. These readings are compiled according to recent historical research, taking into account the order in which the recorded events actually occurred. This is a fantastic plan to follow if you wish to add historical context to your reading of the Bible. If the schedule provided is followed, the entire Bible will be read in one calendar year.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Song of Solomon | 19. Ecclesiastes 7-12 |
| 2. Proverbs 1-3 | 20. 1 Kings 10-11;
2 Chronicles 9 |
| 3. Proverbs 4-6 | 21. Proverbs 30-31 |
| 4. Proverbs 7-9 | 22. 1 Kings 12-14 |
| 5. Proverbs 10-12 | 23. 2 Chronicles 10-12 |
| 6. Proverbs 13-15 | 24. 1 Kings 15;
2 Chronicles 13-16 |
| 7. Proverbs 16-18 | 25. 1 Kings 16;
2 Chronicles 17 |
| 8. Proverbs 19-21 | 26. 1 Kings 17-19 |
| 9. Proverbs 22-24 | 27. 1 Kings 20-21 |
| 10. 1 Kings 5-6;
2 Chronicles 2-3 | 28. 1 Kings 22;
2 Chronicles 18 |
| 11. 1 Kings 7; 2
Chronicles 4 | 29. 2 Chronicles 19-23 |
| 12. 1 Kings 8;
2 Chronicles 5 | 30. Obadiah; Psalms 82-
83 |
| 13. 2 Chronicles 6-7;
Psalm 136 | |
| 14. Psalms 134, 146-150 | |
| 15. 1 Kings 9;
2 Chronicles 8 | |
| 16. Proverbs 25-26 | |
| 17. Proverbs 27-29 | |
| 18. Ecclesiastes 1-6 | |



Tuesday, June 18 @ 6pm
Hanford Fox Theater

We have two First Presbyterian students who are dancing in this production.

For more information or how to get tickets, contact Sheri Winterowd (559) 281-4163



Faith & Fellowship

Jolly 1's & 2's

Jolly 1's & 2's are scheduled to go to Kingsburg on June 13 to listen to the Kingsburg City Band. You will hear excellent music. The concert starts at 8:00. We will leave the church parking lot at 6:30 so we can park, pick a place to sit, and browse the food trucks (if you wish you may eat beforehand), and see what their farmer's market has to offer. You can bring a chair, or you can sit on the benches or chairs provided (somewhat limited number). Seating is in the park which has many trees for shade. No matter how hot it is, we have always been very comfortable. Usually they have 6 Thursdays scheduled. However, this year I see that all the rest of the concerts are going to be on Saturdays. If the 13th is not convenient, see Janet Harader and we can arrange to go another evening. The concert is free, although they will have a drop box to give donations. Janet's phone number is 367-5658, or you can let her know at church if you need transportation.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING!

June 24th-28th!!!

Every day is an adventure at Breaker Rock Beach! Catch a glimpse of an orca leaping through the surf or watch happy sea lions playing among the rocks beneath magnificent pines. At Breaker Rock Beach, kids will learn to recognize the difference between what the world says is true and what God says is true. Each day kids will be challenged to know that God's truth never changes-even when it's radically different from what some people say!

Please consider helping out this year! There are a lot of great opportunities to serve and have fun along the way!

Contact VBS Director, Lori Porter at 559-362-6762 for more information.

★ Registration is now open! Invite a friend, neighbor or grandchild! ★

You can register today using this QR code



Exercise class

The FPC exercise class
M, W & F mornings @ 9:00am in the
FPC Outreach Building (220 Dewey Street)



JUNE

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 7 Christopher Cuzzort
- 12 Sheri Winterowd
- 14 Janet Harader
 - *Brian & Deborah Pelton
- 16 Steve Loewen
 - Isabella Uhlik
 - *Michael & Jaime Christoph
- 17 Laurel Montoya
- 18 Annette Rajskup
- 21 Dolores Broom
 - *Steve & Renee Loewen
 - *Art & Shirley Ramm
- 27 Tony Winterowd
- 29 Paula Casterson



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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Stamp
Here

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(559) 582-0283—FAX (559) 582-0336
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STAFF:

Dr. Tim Brown pastor@fpchanford.org	Pastor
Sheri Winterowd fpchanford.youth@gmail.com	Director 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—1:00pm (Mon—Fri)

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