

# 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)

*Disciples of Christ, reaching out and caring for others*

## FIRST PRESS

August 2025



### "A Message from Pastor Joe"

Hello to you all,

As Jasmine and I prepare to move to Tejon Ranch and begin a new Church Plant we sense sadness as well. We have come to love you all very much. We enjoyed praying with you and blessing you every Sunday as well as during the week and we love the children here at FPC Hanford. Here is the good news. This does not have to end. There may be some of you who would be willing to come down to Tejon Ranch on and off to make a difference for the Kingdom of God. Next summer we will hopefully be doing a Vacation Bible School for the children here in our apartments.

Please pray that we can reach out to the children in Tejon Ranch. Almost always if you love the children the parents will show some interest in the Good News of the Gospel. Please pray for us as we sell our home and prepare to move. We could also use your prayers and support for our finances. Even if you just give \$50 per month you make a huge difference to our budget. We need to have finances for the first 3 years of our Church Plant. We hope to be financially viable by then. Your prayers and your support will be amazing. We highly value our relationship with you. Please be apart of our ministry through your prayers, relationships, and support. You are a great congregation. God has a wonderful plan for you.

God bless you,

Pastor Joe and Jasmine Mazzela



# Church DEACONS

**Reminder!** The Deacons would like to remind you to 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.



Deacons are a reflection on the heart of Christianity. The 1<sup>st</sup> duty of a Deacon is sympathy and service. Together we carry out the ministry of compassion to those who are in need, the sick, the lonely, the bereaved and any who may be in distress. Deacons are called to serve others with God's grace and love. Help is given to those in crisis, the home-bound and those in hospitals are visited and cared for, transportation to and from appointments supplied, births celebrated and memorials/receptions provided for those losing loved ones.



During our worship service, Deacons are responsible for setting up and cleaning up Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. We also bring food for the 4th Sunday fellowship time which is cheerfully provided and consumed by all. Following Sunday service, Deacons remove items from the hallway bins/boxes for distribution to those in need throughout our community. Due to your generosity, donations may include food, clothing, blankets, towels & toiletries, eyeglasses and cellphones. Everything finds a new home. The recipients are appreciative!



You can help the Deacons. Throughout the week prepared meals are welcomed especially, but not limited to, our many seniors who are undergoing medical procedures. Currently there is a high demand for meals. We covet your assistance. Volunteers are needed to provide and transport an occasional meal. The Deacons are listed in the First Press and will happily accept any offer to help. Also if you know of a need not being met, call on us. Help is only a phone call away. We would love to hear from you.



~ Submitted by Susan Feaver





## A Note From:

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

Hello! I can't believe we are already wrapping up our summer events and that the kids will be heading back to school soon. We have had an amazing summer with our youth, filled with all sorts of adventures. We were able to enjoy pool parties with Michael Kinney as our lifeguard. He did a fabulous job of helping us have fun and be safe. Book club has been a huge hit. It is so much fun to see all the kids and youth talking about books they are reading, getting ideas from one another, and discussing plots and mysteries.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our lock-in at the end of July, it was a great success! Our church family was able to come together and surprise our youth with some super fun activities. We couldn't have done this without you! Thank you for being willing to join us for this event. I loved seeing everyone have a great time together. What a blessing! Our students enjoyed eating together, playing together, and hearing two great lessons from Kaitlyn and Megan Pelton.

There is still more to look forward to before our students head back to school. We have one more book club on August 5th, from 5-7:30. We are also excited about our annual youth beach trip. We will be heading to the coast on Saturday August 9th. We will be enjoying some delicious food, beautiful weather, and a lesson from Michael Kinney. Michael Kinney, Kaitlyn Pelton, and Megan Pelton will be finishing up their internship here at the church this month. They have done an amazing job and have been a huge blessing and encouragement to each of us in the church office and within the church. They have spoken fresh ideas and vision into many areas and I am amazed by the insights, wisdom, and courage that the Lord has placed within each of these amazing young adults. Each one of our interns brought a unique perspective as well as a unity that was quite spectacular.

As we approach the beginning of the school year, we will be taking time to pray for our students and teachers before they resume their studies. Please join us on August 10th for our annual Blessing of the Backpacks in Sunday service. This special time is for everyone from preschool to graduate school and everything in between! If you are a student or an educator please bring your backpack to church so we can pray over each one.

We will be resuming 9am Sunday School, including Kingdom Kids, Ignite Middle School, and Refuge Youth (High School and Young Adult) on August 17th. We look forward to seeing each of our students then! Please begin praying for each of our teachers and students in our Sunday School classes, Powerhouse, and Youth Group.

I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the summer. I pray you would be filled to overflowing with his joy and peace.

In His love,  
Sandy Mills



### Upcoming Events:

- August 5: Book Club (5-7:30pm)
- August 9: Youth Beach Trip
- August 10: Blessing of the Backpacks, Youth Group (5-8pm)
- August 17: 9am Sunday School classes resume, FPC Volunteer Training
- August 24: Youth Group (5-8pm)

**CHILDREN'S**  
*Sunday School*



# UP COMING



- Aug 1** *Community Enhancement Fund Applications Due, "The Chosen Study" @ 7pm*
- Aug 3** Church Growth mtg. @ 11:30am
- Aug 4** C.E. mtg @ 10am
- Aug 5** Staff mtg. @ 10am, Intern mtg @ 11am, Book Club @ 5pm
- Aug 7** \*Vision Team mtg. @ 11am
- Aug 8** "The Chosen" Study @ 7pm
- Aug 9** Youth Beach Trip @ 8am
- Aug 10** *Backpack Blessings, Youth Group @ 5pm*
- Aug 11** \*Finance mtg @ 12pm, Deacons mtg @ 2pm, \*Missions mtg @ 7pm
- Aug 12** Staff mtg @ 11am
- Aug 14** *Session Reports Due, Community Enhancement Fund mtg @ 6pm, Men's Bible Study @ 6:30am*
- Aug 15** "The Chosen Study" @ 7pm
- Aug 17** *9am Sunday School Restarts, Volunteer Training and Luncheon @ 12pm*
- Aug 19** Staff mtg @ 11am, Session mtg @ 6:30pm
- Aug 22** "The Chosen" Study @ 7pm
- Aug 24** Vision Team mtg. @ 11:30am, Youth Group @ 5pm
- Aug 26** Staff mtg. @ 10am
- Aug 29** "The Chosen" Study @ 7pm
- Aug 31** *5th Sunday, Mission Letter Writing Event and Potluck*
- Sept 1** *Labor Day (office closed)*
- Sept 2** Staff mtg @ 11am
- Sept 3** Community Bible Study begins @ FPC
- Sept 5** *No Chosen Bible Study Class*
- Sept 7** *Communion Sunday*
- Sept 8** CE mtg @ 10am, \*Finance mtg @ 12pm, Deacons mtg @ 2:30pm
- Sept 9** Staff mtg. @ 10am

\* via Zoom



## Summary of July 22, 2025 Session Meeting

### Deacons

- Reported 50 took communion on July 6<sup>h</sup>, during worship and 5 Shut-Ins were served

### Clerk's Report

- Reported Members as of July 1, 2025 total—77
- Members Annie Jackson and Aleta Brewer went to glory

### Buildings & Grounds

- Gardener has quit, B&G is hoping someone within the congregation will take over this task as a ministry

### Christian Ed

- Approved a Volunteer Training on Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> with lunch
- Approved updating volunteer covenant agreements
- Approved placing offering options in the middle and high school classrooms

### Finance

- Approved holding a dessert auction on Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> for EPC Askings

### Missions

- Approved "vision trip" to Village of Hope in Mexico

### Community Enhancement Fund

- Applications close on August 1<sup>st</sup> and committee will meet to review them on Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>

### Other Business

- Session approved and formed committee to oversee updating and replacing elements of the playground area.





A global movement of  
evangelistic presbyterians

## What's New in the EPC World Outreach: "Expanding the Mission in 2025"

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC) continues to deepen its global impact through its World Outreach (WO) ministry, with exciting developments in 2025 that reflect a renewed commitment to the Great Commission.

### **New Mission Fields Opened**

This year, EPC World Outreach has launched new initiatives in Central Asia and North Africa, focusing on unreached people groups. These efforts are part of the "Engage 2025" vision, which aims to establish 10 new church-planting teams among unreached peoples by the year 2025. With the addition of two new teams this year, the EPC is on track to meet—and possibly exceed—this goal.

### **Mobilizing the Next Generation**

A growing emphasis has been placed on mobilizing young adults for missions. The "GO" summer internship program saw record participation in 2025, with over 60 college students serving in cross-cultural contexts. These short-term experiences are designed to cultivate long-term missionary vision and leadership.

### **Digital Discipleship and Training**

In response to global shifts and the need for accessible training, EPC World Outreach has expanded its digital discipleship platform. New online courses in cross-cultural ministry, language acquisition, and spiritual formation are now available to both missionaries and local church members interested in missions.

### **Church Partnerships and Sending**

More EPC congregations are stepping into active roles as sending churches. In 2025, over a dozen churches have committed to long-term partnerships with missionary teams, providing not only financial support but also prayer, care, and strategic collaboration.

### **Focus on Holistic Mission**

EPC missions are increasingly integrating evangelism with community development. Recent projects include clean water initiatives in West Africa, trauma healing workshops in the Middle East, and business-as-mission ventures that empower local economies while sharing the gospel.

### **How You Can Get Involved**

- Pray for the new teams and the people they are reaching.
- Give to support Engage 2025 and other mission efforts.
- Go by exploring short-term or long-term mission opportunities through EPC World Outreach.
- To learn more or get involved, visit [www.epcwo.org](http://www.epcwo.org)



# Session Committees

fpc Making Disciples of Jesus  
Hanford, California

**Worship**  
Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday after morning worship



**Church**  
DEACONS

2nd Monday of each month @ 2:30pm



**Christian**  
**Education**



Committee Meeting

1st Monday of each month @ 10am



2nd Monday of each month @ 7pm



**Buildings &**  
**Grounds**

Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday of each month @ 11:10 am



**Finance**  
Committee Meeting

2nd Monday of each month @ 12pm



**Church**  
**Growth**



Committee Meeting

1st Sunday of each month @ 11:30am



**Session**

3rd Tuesday of each month @ 6:30pm





The Mission Ministry Team is offering a short “Vision Trip” to Ensenada, Mexico to explore and learn more about the “Village of Hope” Mission that some of our youth participated in this past Easter.

Dan Peters will be our guide on this “vision trip”. The trip will be a quick down/back or one overnight stay at the mission with the date of the trip determined from group interest.

If you are interested and would like to participate, there will be an interest/question meeting to further discuss at a date TBA.

Please contact Sue Kinney at 559-707-2368 or Annette at the church office to sign up to attend the meeting and/or go on the trip.

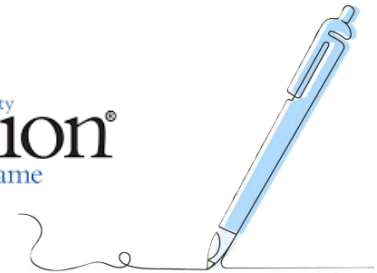
**Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>**

after Worship



Families bring a **Main Dish** to feed 12 or more  
Singles and Couples bring a **Side Dish** or **Large Salad**

**Compassion Letter Writing Event**  
**Hosted by the Missions Committee**



“The search committee is interviewing prospective pastors, Mrs. Hepburn, not pricing preachers.”



I would like to thank everyone for the cards, delicious meals, transportation to appointments, and especially your prayers during my recent illness. Thom and I are so blessed to be a part of such a loving, caring church family.

Georgina

# AUGUST

## Birthdays & \*Anniversaries

- 1 Bill Baker, Carol Speer
- 4 Debra Revious
- 5 Andrew Pelton
- 8 Kristie Newman
- 10 Doug Porter
- 13 Chris Rajskup
- 15 Joyce Vanderbeek
- 16 Asher Kopp
- 19 Wilma Humason
- 20 Brady Adams, Marjorie Froberg
- 23 Kaitlyn Pelton, Megan Pelton
- 24 Nick Kinney
- 25 Luke Christoph, Steven King
- 26 Renee Loewen
- 27 Jeff Jones, \*Doug & Lori Porter
- 28 Arthur Ramm



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:

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| <b>Joe Mazzela</b><br><a href="mailto:pastor@fpchanford.org">pastor@fpchanford.org</a>                     | <b>Pastor</b>  |
| <b>Mary Kinney</b><br><b>Sandy Mills</b><br><a href="mailto:youth@fpchanford.org">youth@fpchanford.org</a> | <b>Co-Directors of Youth &amp;<br/>Children's Ministries</b> |
| <b>Annette Rajskup</b><br><a href="mailto:office@fpchanford.org">office@fpchanford.org</a>                 | <b>Office Administrator</b>                                  |
| <b>Melissa Wescoat</b><br><a href="mailto:bookkeeper@fpchanford.org">bookkeeper@fpchanford.org</a>         | <b>Bookkeeper</b>  |
| <b>Nancy Roller</b><br><a href="mailto:nancyroller8@yahoo.com">nancyroller8@yahoo.com</a>                  | <b>Custodian</b>   |

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

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