

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

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

FIRST PRESS

November 2024



“A Message from Tony Winterowd”

It is Thanksgiving month. Can I offer a few thoughts that have been turning over in my head (like a rock tumbler...that's an opening ☺?)

Are happiness and joy synonymous? There certainly is overlap. Where I would differentiate is that happiness is typically driven by our circumstances. If our lives are going well, we are happy. If not, we are unhappy. By contrast, we can continuously experience joy despite our circumstances. If you recall, Nehemiah (my favorite Bible character after Jesus) led the reconstruction of the wall of Jerusalem, experiencing severe opposition from nasty people. His circumstances could not be described as happy. Yet, in the midst of this, he proclaims with conviction that “the joy of the Lord is my strength.” (Nehemiah 8:10)

So, how do we initiate this journey toward joy? I believe it begins with thanksgiving and gratitude: “Thank you, Lord, for family and friends; for the financial resources and possessions you have provided; for experiences that we enjoy. Thank you, Lord, for being our transcendent God who lifts us out of the miry clay (Psalm 40:2) into the newness of life through faith in Jesus.”

One final thought: It also seems to me that gratitude and Thanksgiving lead to generosity. Generosity then frees us from the tyranny of greed, which then results in peace.

What are your thoughts?

Keep the faith and happy Thanksgiving,

Pastor Tony

Update on Pastor Tim

Pastor Tim will be returning to the local area sometime this month. He will then meet with the EPC Ministerial Committee, who will assist in assessing his fitness for ministry and set up the necessary support and accountability in order for him to assume his responsibilities. Please continue to pray for him and Jen. He is looking forward to returning and sharing, very transparently, his journey and experience.

Church DEACONS

While I sit here writing this (remembering the 100+ degree temps of only last week), it's hard to believe that Christmas is only 70 days away! The holiday season does have a tendency to sneak up on us, doesn't it? This year we will again be participating in the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. As you begin your holiday shopping, please pick up a toy or two for any age child to donate to this worthy cause. Starting in early December we will have a box designated for Toys for Tots. Simply bring the new unwrapped toy and deposit in the box. Simple! Last year FPC was able to gift 76 toys, this year let's aim for 100.

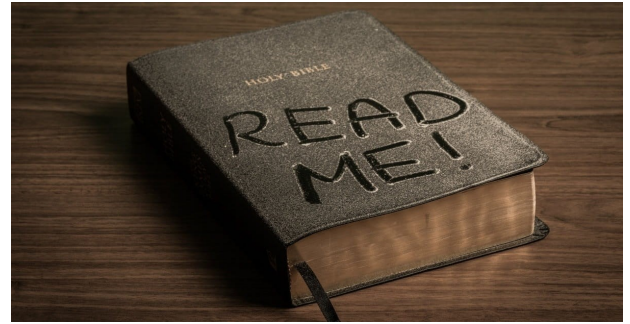


It has been a longstanding tradition at FPC to support the senior citizens in our community at Christmas time. This year we will again be gifting residents at Diamond Terrace Assisted Living. Soon we will be receiving a list of residents with their needs/wants. In the past this has included items like pajamas, slippers, lotion, clothing, and even a sweet treat like candy. Their requests are simple, but it means so much to them. It can be a lonely time for seniors who no longer have family nearby. What a wonderful opportunity to bless someone in our community and show God's love. Don't miss out! Watch the bulletin for updates when names become available.

~ Submitted by Teresa Voyles



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.

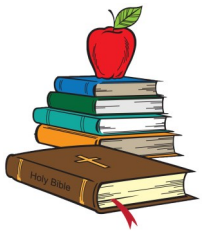


Daily Bible Reading Program

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. Matthew 20-21 | 16. Acts 1-3 |
| 2. Luke 19 | 17. Acts 4-6 |
| 3. Mark 11;
John 12 | 18. Acts 7-8 |
| 4. Matthew 22;
Mark 12 | 19. Acts 9-10 |
| 5. Matthew 23;
Luke 20-21 | 20. Acts 11-12 |
| 6. Mark 13 | 21. Acts 13-14 |
| 7. Matthew 24 | 22. James |
| 8. Matthew 25 | 23. Acts 15-16 |
| 9. Matthew 26;
Mark 14 | 24. Galatians 1-3 |
| 10. Luke 22;
John 13 | 25. Galatians 4-6 |
| 11. John 14-17 | 26. Acts 17 |
| 12. Matthew 27;
Mark 15 | 27. 1 & 2 Thessalonians |
| 13. Luke 23;
John 18-19 | 28. Acts 18-19 |
| 14. Matthew 28;
Mark 16 | 29. 1 Corinthians 1-4 |
| 15. Luke 24;
John 20-21 | 30. 1 Corinthians 5-8 |
| | 31. 1 Corinthians 9-11 |



A Note From:

Children's and Youth Director
Sheri Winterowd

Tony and I have lived in our home on Aspen Street for over 20 years now. We moved to Hanford from Palmdale, where we had served in the Presbyterian church there for 7 years. We moved for Tony to serve as Senior Pastor of FPC Hanford. Some of you remember us arriving with our nearly four-year-old son Bryce and four-month-old son Braden. Gratefully, Brooke joined the family in 2005. Our home has been a great blessing to us, and we have so enjoyed hosting parties, meetings, and many other events over the years. We have made many, many wonderful memories (and a few not so good as well).

Built in 1990, our home was constructed with a wood shake shingle roof. We have just replaced the roof with reflective solar composite shingles (it was badly needed). It was fascinating to witness the roofers remove all the worn-out wood shake shingles and lay down plywood, Tyvek roof protector and then the new shingles. They had to replace a good amount of fascia board that had become rotten over the years as well.

This entire process has served to help me wonder what the 'roof' for our spiritual lives might be. In the same way that our home's roof serves as the protective layer that keeps the inside safe and secure from the elements, our self-control can serve as our spiritual roof, keeping our desires in check...desires that might even threaten our survival. Is it our conscience (directed by the Holy Spirit) that keeps us from throwing off all restraints, rushing headlong into folly? I am still trying to find the correct metaphor. What do you think?

Turning to other opportunities in order to provide a protective spiritual roof, our night of praise last month on October 20 was such a delight. Those who attended were blessed by the opportunity to worship Jesus and spend time reflecting on the great gifts of his love, grace, mercy and peace. Our youth truly shined as they played, sang and ran the tech! How are you doing on your plan to Read through the Bible in a year? Are you on track to finish? Thus far, I am current with my reading! I want to encourage you to keep reading and finish strong!!

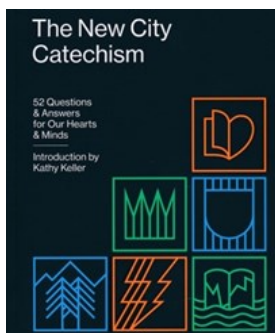
This month we have some exciting things happening:

- **Nov 1, 8, 22 @ 7pm** – The Chosen Bible Study for all ages at church
- **Nov 10 @ 5 pm –8 pm** - Youth Group at Church
- **Nov 15 @ 6:00 pm** – Worship NOW concert at Save Mart Center
- **Nov 24 right after church** – decorate the church for Christmas!
- **Nov 24 @ 5:00 pm**– Friendsgiving for M.S. is at Deborah & Brian Pelton's home
- **Nov 24 @ 5:00 pm** – Friendsgiving for H.S. & College at Mary & Chuck Kinney's home





- Nov 1** Ladies First Friday Prayer @ 9am,
The Chosen Study @ 7pm
- Nov 3** OCC Packing party after worship
- Nov 4** Church Growth mtg. @ 1pm, Deacons
mtg. @ 2pm
- Nov 5** Staff meeting @ 10am
- Nov 6** BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir Practice and
Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Nov 8** The Chosen Study @ 7pm
- Nov 10** *Shoebox dedication*, Worship mtg. @
11:15am, Youth Group @ 5pm
- Nov 11** *Veterans Day*, Finance mtg. @ 11am.
*Missions mtg. @ 7pm
- Nov 13** BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir Practice and
Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Nov 14** *Session Reports Due*, C.E. mtg @ 1pm
- Nov 15** *First Press Articles Due*, Youth to Worship
Now Concert @ 6pm,
- Nov 17** Salud Baby Shower @ 11:30am, Jolly 1's
& 2's to Temple Theater @ 2pm
- Nov 19** Session meeting @ 6:30pm
- Nov 20** BodyLife @ 5:30pm, Choir Practice and
Bible Study @ 6:30pm
- Nov 22** The Chosen Study @ 7pm
- Nov 24** Church Christmas Decorating Party @
11:30am, Youth Friendsgiving @ 5pm
- Nov 28** *Thanksgiving Day (office closed)*
- Nov 29** *(office closed)* * via Zoom



Why must the Redeemer be truly God?

That because of his divine nature his obedience and suffering would be perfect and effective.



**Summary of
October 22, 2024
Session Meeting**

Deacons

- Reported 70 took communion on Oct. 6th, during worship and 4 Shut-ins where served
- 110 where served during the Casterson memorial.
- KGM, Crossroads Pregnancy Center and Laundry Love were each given \$125
- The AED unit has arrived, and a security door was installed at the Casterson's

Clerk's Report

- Reported Members as of Oct 1, 2024 total—78

Christian Ed

- Approved "rebranding" the Junior High youth group's name to Ignite and repainting the room
- Approved repainting the Education Wing classrooms

Finance

- Approved the increased fee schedule for facility use for all General Use, Memorials, and Weddings
- Approved purchasing two locking filing cabinets for the church office

Worship

- Approved purchase of two boom microphones
- Approved purchase of Wi-Fi hearing assist receivers
- Approved hiring Rueben Quintana to assist with adjustments to our AV system to improve sound quality both in house and online
- Approved hosting a Baby shower in the Fellowship Hall for Paula Salud on Nov. 17, 2024 after morning worship

Nominating Committee

- Presented it's recommendations for 2025 Elders, Deacons and Members at large (*see page 5 for names*)

Personnel Committee

- Approved changes to job descriptions for the Office Administrator, Bookkeeper and Director of Children & Youth Ministries



God Uses “Just Ordinary People”

Ryan and Amy work hard to keep their Mission partners informed and updated and this past April, Amy was in the U.S. and came to give a Mission update and spend time with our FPC Deacons and Mission Ministry Team.

Our FPC relationship with Ryan and Amy started 11 years ago when Ryan and Amy, both successful professionals working in California, felt a strong Calling from God to become Missionaries. They came to our Church and made a presentation to the congregation for help in funding their Mission dreams and they expressed their strong faith with plans to start a new team among an unengaged, unreached people group in Siberia. Our church heard their calling and in 2013, added them to the FPC Missions Ministry plan. Ryan, Amy, and their three young children headed to Siberia with plans for sharing the Word of God to all, but found problems among the people there with unacceptance, idol worship, and an avoidance of free speech. Amy had a medical crisis, near death, and spent a month in a Paris hospital. With this, the family returned to California as it was necessary for recovery, regrouping, seeking new support and time learning the Russian language. Through it all, Ryan and Amy held strong in their faith to return to Russia!

Two years later, with children in hand, they headed back to Russia with better strategy overall and more support. They secured housing in a large apartment block in Moscow. It was a difficult time living in such an environment and Ryan had a heart attack but God willing, was able to successfully recover. Then Covid hit and there were very strict lockdowns; Ryan and Amy were the only family members allowed out of the building to go for necessities. In spite of this, Ryan and Amy held strong in their faith and their ministry was booming despite Covid and challenges.

At this time, they realized that their time living in Russia was rapidly coming to a close and that God was directing them elsewhere. With an increasingly strong sense of Calling to Scotland and the UK, they made the decision to move and God provided all that was needed to exit Russia and make the move. However, once again, the move came with difficult issues as outsiders coming in, but through prayer and trust God gave them the strength and guidance needed to continue – never did Ryan or Amy ever consider returning to the U.S. and abandoning their Mission plans.

Today, Scotland is seeing churches decrease and close with only approximately 5% of people attending church (2-3% among young people); if this rate continues, some church denominations there will be extinct within 5 years. Ryan and Amy continue their work and Ryan says God has given them tremendous favor in Scotland and England with relationships of influence (discipleship, mentorship, coaching, training, etc.). Through this, they have developed and launched **“God Movements Network UK”** where new mission teams in many parts of the UK are being formed, trained, mentored, and coached to be disciples who learn to make other disciples for Jesus. The goal is to get Jesus followers out of the “stands” and “onto the court” to be the key players as disciples making new disciples and teams. Looking back, Ryan said that the years in Russia were years of refinement, shaping, transformation, and equipping for what they are accomplishing now and he says: “We are beloved children of God and servants of Christ, dependent on the Holy Spirit. We don’t know the future, of course, but it does seem feasible that God will use **“two very ordinary people”** to make a very big impact in a very tough Mission field!”

Please pray for Ryan and Amy that doors will continue to open as they expand their Network of disciples and that funding for their Mission work will continue!

Nominating Committee's Recommendations for 2025

Elders Class of 2027

Brady Adams
Chuck Kinney
Sue Kinney
Kelly Voyles (alternate)

Elder Class of 2025

Jeff Jones
(to replace the vacancy
left by Michael Ginn)

Deacons Class of 2027

Sally Gordon
Susan Feaver
Janeen Nelson
Janet Harader (alternate)



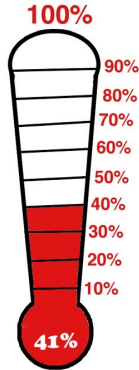
Members At Large for 2025 Nominating Committee

Janice Mills, Kristie Newman and Debra Revious

November 2024

We are still not yet halfway to funding our Askings for 2024

Please consider giving today



We would like to thank our church family for the prayers, cards, plant, and food that has been delivered since the passing of Debra's mother, Jackie Allen. Can't thank you enough for your thoughtfulness and support this past month.

Jackie's Celebration of Life will be November 9th at 11:00 a.m. at Hanford Fraternal Hall, 1015 N. 10th. Ave.

Debra & Tim Revious and family



FALL FESTIVAL

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Fall Festival!!!

We had a wonderful turnout and were able to register 65 families with 153 children attending.



"Charlie, we'd prefer you bring the grapes to our harvest festival."

Faith & Fellowship



Ladies

First Friday Coffee and Prayer

1st Friday of each month @ 9:00am



EXERCISE CLASS

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



fpc Session

3rd Tuesday of each month @ 6:00pm

fpc Making Disciples of Jesus
Hanford, California

Church DEACONS

1st Monday of each month @ 2pm



fpc Christian Education

Committee Meeting

2nd Thursday of each month @ 1pm



fpc

MISSIONS Ministry

2nd Monday of each month @ 7pm



fpc Church Growth

Committee Meeting

1st Monday of each month @ 1pm

fpc Making Disciples of Jesus
Hanford, California

Worship

Committee Meeting

2nd Sunday after morning worship



NOVEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 3 Justin Smith, Tony Kopp
- 9 Catherine Connelly
- 10 *David & Annie Wrigley
- 11 Diane Sharp
- 12 Sue Bairstow
- 13 Dale Newman
- 14 David Wrigley, *Tony & Anna Kopp
- 15 Allie Caparuolo
- 16 Haley Baker
- 17 Carol Connelly
- 18 Stephanie Jamison
- 21 *Nick & Sue Kinney
- 22 Darlene Keast, Laurie Tazelaar
- 24 Angelika Loewen
- 27 Debra Pelton



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

Place
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Here

Label Here

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

STAFF:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Dr. Tim Brown
pastor@fpchanford.org | Pastor |
| Sheri Winterowd
youth@fpchanford.org | 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