

The Methodist Messenger

In the Spirit of John Wesley

*“Bringing faith into life by loving God
and all people as God loves us”*



2015

First United Methodist Church
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Office Hours: Mon - Fri, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Pastor Cynthia Stateman

Notes For The Journey

As one of our hymns says, "This is a day of new beginnings," both for First United Methodist Church of Hanford and for me. I come to this time of new beginnings with great enthusiasm and excitement, and I believe that God has brought us together with something wonderful in mind for our ministry together.

I am tremendously appreciative of all that has been done to welcome me, for the many acts of kindness, and for all the ways that you have made me feel at home here in Hanford. A change in pastors always brings about a certain amount of anxiety, both for the church and for the pastor, but it gives me great comfort and hope to see how you have loved and supported your former pastors and their families. I give thanks for their faithful ministries, whose foundation of ministry we are privileged to stand upon.

I am very excited about possibilities of working with this congregation in the pursuit of the challenges and opportunities we are called to by God. We are a church because of our desire to live, work, pray, play, worship, serve, learn and grow together in the light of Christ's saving grace, and in response to God's call. And although God often calls to us in quiet ways, God always calls us to journey towards wholeness, and sometimes into the unknown and beyond where we have been, but never beyond where we are capable of going. In the coming weeks and months I want to hear from more of you about your hopes, dreams and visions for First UMC, and I want to hear more about your understanding of God's call to this community of faith.

It is my prayer that God will bless our new beginning in ministry together. I give thanks that God has brought us together, and I look forward to what God has in store for us to do in the years ahead.

Blessings,
Pastor Cynthia Stateman



LAUNDRY LOVE IS A COOPERATIVE EFFORT AMONG SEVERAL CHURCHES IN OUR COMMUNITY TO OFFER A REGULAR OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE STRUGGLING FINANCIALLY TO COME AND DO THEIR LAUNDRY. LAUNDRY LOVE PROVIDES SOAP, MONEY FOR THE MACHINES AND FELLOWSHIP.

Our next Laundry Love event is planned for Aug. 20th, from 3-8 pm.
Volunteers are needed! Talk with Peggy Gregory or just come on by!



Mission Service Opportunity

**Friday, Aug. 21st,
8 am - 12 noon**

Salvation Army 380 East Ivy Street

Join us in helping distribute fresh food to those in need in our community.
Volunteers are needed!
Many hands make light work!



5th Sunday Sing

August 31st

3:30 pm

**Caruthers, UMC
2359 W. Superior**

Shower Ministry

Thank you for continuing to remember the Shower Ministry for the homeless as you shop. Let's keep filling up the basket on the altar.

These items have a great impact on the lives of those who are served at the Shower Ministry for the Homeless at The Hanford Pentecostal Church.

Needs:

Deodorant, Tooth Brushes, Toothpaste, Talc or Baby Powder, Terry Bathmats



Stitching Group

Every Wednesday, 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Millie Kraft Lounge

Anyone who wants to share, learn, stitch in any way are welcome to fellowship with us.



Would you like to see your deceased loved one honored with a memorial stone in the Prayer Garden?

See Bob Peden for details.

**The Central Valley District
Council on Ministry**

presents

Second Saturday Monthly

Lay Leadership Courses

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Register via www.cnumc.org

(scroll down and look under registrations on the right)

In Porterville @ Grand Avenue UMC:

October 10 - Enneagram Your Spiritual Type

In Stockton @ Central UMC:

September 12 - United Methodist History

WORSHIP CONNECTIONS

Worship Coordinator

- August 9:** Chris Payne
- August 16:** Peggy Gregory
- August 23:** Peggy Gregory
- August 30:** Chris Payne

Lay Worship Leaders

- August 9:** Patty Ferrell
- August 16:** Sage Wyman
- August 23:** Peggy Gregory
- August 30:** Sue Hensel

Greeters

- August 9:** Patty Ferrell
- August 16:** Cat Barclay
- August 23:** Diana & Lily Boone
- August 30:**

Ushers

- August 9:** Mary Durham, Mike Bertaina
- August 16:** Mary Durham, Mike Bertaina
- August 23:** Mary Durham, Mike Bertaina, David Beeman
- August 30:** Mary Durham, Mike Bertaina

Counting Team

- August 9:** Sue Hensel, Andrea McDonald
- August 16:** Sue Hensel, Karen Shoemaker
- August 23:** Vicki Beeman, Patty Ferrell
- August 30:** David Beeman, Verne Adams

Morning Worship Coffee Hour

- August 9:** Verne Adams
- August 16:** David & Vicki Beeman
- August 23:** John & Penny Meadows
- August 30:** Jim & Karen Shoemaker

At FUMC Hanford, we take the vows of membership very seriously. We have promised to uphold the United Methodist Church through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Please keep the following in your prayers this month:

Prayers of Health Concern

Penny Meadows (back injury), Betty Mizner, Pepper Ramsey's son Hunter (serious injuries), Cat Barclay's granddaughter Kassidy (showing improvement in recovery from injuries), Kathleen Wilson (undergoing chemo), Bonnie Peters, Bonnie Peter's friend Shirley Brown from Fresno (screening for liver cancer), Ellie Wagner (continued healing), Carol Collar's Mother - Francy Angstman (assisted living), Pastor Susan's parents Helen and John Foster, Larry McDonald (PTSD), Andrea McDonald, Marilyn Peden, Gloria Brown, Peri Neos, Millie Dodge, Pat George, Alison Klein, June Kruger (diagnosed with cancer), Louise Card (West Gate Garden Care, 4525 W. Tulare. Visalia), Marie Wiles (Kingsburg Center 1101 Stroud Ave. Kingsburg, CA 93631).

Other Prayer Requests

- Diana Boone and family grieving the loss of her aunt Linda
- Laura & Matt Brown grieving the loss of their twins; Jim & Peggy Gregory grieving this loss as well
- Jeanette Keith's 98 y.o. mother Myrtle Deaver has moved from Southern California to Hanford's Valley Christian Home. Prayers for her and the family during this time of adjustment
- Laundry Love ministry, Salvation Army Food Giveaway
- 1st Christian's Rev. Tom Warren & family
- Those in the midst of crisis, tragedies, disasters, accidents and conflicts
- For caregivers and those caring for their parents
- The Noonan, Castanon & Wilson Families
- The Youth of this congregation
- Ministry Support Team & Board of Discipleship
- Thanksgiving for all the church volunteers who give so graciously of their time and talents. We are the church!

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."
Alfred Lord Tennyson



While the UMW has not had a meeting in July, we have been busy. Treasurer, Sue, ordered the new chairs for Founders Hall and Mary Lane Hall. We were blessed with having money given in memory of Evelyn Sarquis to the Memorial Fund that qualified for this purchase. Thank you to those who made this possible. Our first official use of the chairs was for the farewell lunch for Pastor Susan. The chairs have been in use since their arrival for coffee hours and meetings.

Our next UMW Board meeting will be Thursday, Aug. 6th at 1:30 pm. To those who have a schedule for the remainder of the year, there will be some changes, all to be finalized at the August board meeting. The General Meeting for September has been moved to Sunday, August 27 (starting right after coffee hour). Also, the date for the Bazaar in November that was scheduled for Saturday the 7th, has been moved to the following week. Definite date to be announced later.

We have a few ladies that will be attending a Mission U retreat. So far, three will be going to a 2-day retreat in Sparks, Nevada.

Dates to also put on your calendar our – Saturday, October 3rd, for the UMW District Annual Celebration, to be held at St. Paul's UMC in Fresno. The Conference Annual Celebration will be Saturday, Oct. 17th, in Merced. The keynote speaker will be Bishop Warner Brown (who will be retiring next June). All ladies are welcome to attend either one, or both. If you want to know more information, please see myself (Vicki) or Sue Hensel. There will be a cost for a lunch. We hope some of you will be able to attend with us.

Vicki Beeman



SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPPORT TEAM

Do you have an interest in the spiritual lives of children? Would you like to see our Sunday School grow? Let's get together to offer our Sunday School Leaders support.

Let the office know if you are interested.

CalNev United Methodist Annual Conference

Everything you wanted to know about Annual Conference Session
and then some!

In a nutshell each Annual Conference Session is worship, education, church business and last but not least social. For me it is like a reunion each year and a time to share all that God has been doing in our lives since last year.

I'd like to know what you would like to know, so please submit questions about Annual Conference to the church office. Please label it Annual Conference Questions. I'll be glad to answer them in the upcoming newsletters.

My favorite parts are Communion, the parade of Children at Conference, and viewing the display tables to name a few!

Cat Barclay

Report on Church Facility Projects

Concrete contractor Joe Robinson has completed the new handicap ramp and sidewalk next to Mary Lane Hall kitchen. Johnny Cotta of Lemoore installed the new metal hand railings in the ramp. This project was paid for by a generous gift from Hilda Douma's estate. Thanks to Brent Noonan for repairing and putting back the irrigation system along Center Street.

Two Eagle Scout projects have been completed. Jordon Hickey, of Troop 400 installed a drainage pipe at the parsonage, from the back patio overhead awning to the sidewalk on Palm Court, to collect rainwater and keep water away from the back side of the house, to solve a water intrusion and drainage problem. Sage Wyman of Troop 432 built a container for the collection of recyclables. The recycle bin is located under the stairs near Fireside Room.

There has been a lot of activity at the parsonage in June, getting ready for the new pastor. Contractor Randy McNary installed a new shower and toilet in the master bathroom. A plumber installed a natural gas line to the dryer and a new natural gas dryer was purchased and installed. A number of new light fixtures were installed. The garage door opener was serviced. Thanks to all the church volunteers who donated time and resources to get the tasks done in a short period of time.

Jim Gregory



Helping Hands Ministry

Be on the lookout for ways in which we can be of service to one another. When you find a way, offer help or let the Church office know.

Need help with a project or situation? Your church family wants to help. Please ask.

Want to help? We are building a data-base of people willing to help.

Please see Pastor Cynthia if you are interested in serving or have further ideas.



Want to use your handyperson skills around the church?

MST has a list of smallish projects that need to be done.

Please see Jim Gregory to help.

Hospitality Ministry

Thank you to everyone who has participated in this ministry. Those in the support groups have noticed that we care about them!

13 different meetings happen each week in the Friendship & Fireside rooms.

These groups do amazing work with people's lives and for our community.

Treats can be dropped off in the church office or directly in the Friendship/Fireside Kitchen.

Peden's Family Cookbook For Sale \$20

Makes a great gift! Books can be purchased through church office.



There is a collection basket in the narthex for your offering of canned food for the Salvation Army.

Request A Favorite Hymn

You can now put in your request for that hymn on our church website. Simply go to our site at

<http://fumchanford.org> Locate the "Contact us" tab on the top right of the page. Fill out the short form and name of your favorite hymn. We'll include it in our service as soon as we can. While you are on the site do some exploring!



Thank you for those who helped me out during the week I was sick! My church family came through by covering the office, doing the bulletin, and providing Gatorade, soup, and bread, etc. THANK YOU!

This month's newsletter and September's edition will be folded and mailed a few days into each month. This month's because Pastor Cynthia, I, and Peggy were all sick at the same time. Not fun! I will be gone the last week in August. Putting together a newsletter is not as easy as it may appear. Your grace is appreciated!

Door number one, two, or three ... your only choice is to make sure they are ALL properly locked when you leave! Several times, especially in the last 2 months, one or more doors have been found unlocked when no one is here. This is occurring any days/nights of the week. Please note: releasing the panic bar on the doors does NOT lock the doors! You actually have to lock the outside lock with your key. Please double check to see if the doors are locked when you leave. Thank you!



Do you see used tissues, old bulletins or other papers, broken pencils and crayons?

They can all be found in the pews and in hymnals and bibles in the pew racks! YUCK! Please pick up after yourselves.



Reusable Grocery Bags

These sturdy bags have our Church logo & name on them.

They are perfect for your grocery shopping trips & kinder on the environment.

A great way to advertise our church.
\$5.00 each available from the church office.