

The Methodist Messenger

In the Spirit of John Wesley

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

MARCH

*O come let us sing to the Lord, let us make
a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.*

Psalm 95:1



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Office Hours: Monday—Friday 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
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Notes For The Journey

Our life in Christ is a journey. For me, one of the paradoxical joys of that journey is the assurance that any sense of final arrival is always fleeting. This side of heaven we never achieve perfection, we never attain all our goals, we continually fall short. Martin Luther once wrote:

*This life, therefore, is not righteousness,
but growth in righteousness;
not health, but healing;
not being, but becoming;
not rest, but exercise.
We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it.
The process is not yet finished, but it is going on.
This is not the end, but it is the road.*

In addition, the well-known Alcoholics Anonymous author and speaker, Gert Behanna, may have had Luther in mind when she wrote this prayer:

*Dear God
I ain't what I wanna be,
and I ain't what I'm gonna be,
and I sure ain't what I oughta be.
But thank God I ain't what I used to be!*

As we walk the road together this Lenten Season, I invite you to think about these words and the promise they contain. The Christian life is always about becoming, healing, growing. God's most fervent desire for us is to say yes to the journey with Christ and then wait for the surprises that will meet us on the road.

Holy Week is an important yearly opportunity to deepen and enrich our journey together. I hope that all of you will come along on this stage of that journey. The starting point is Palm Sunday as we walk with Jesus into Jerusalem. Be with us also as we recall the First Eucharist on Maundy Thursday and the Crucifixion on Good Friday.

I promise that your experience of Christ's glorious Resurrection on Easter Sunday Easter will be more profound if you have experienced the journey that leads to the moment of our greatest joy.

Blessings,

Pastor Cynthia Stateman

Ministry Support Team Meeting

The Ministry Support Team (MST) is composed of chair-people from various Methodist Church—Hanford operational committees.

The work of MST is very important to the decision-making structure of the church.

At the February meeting, we discussed how we could improve the communication between the Board of Discipleship (BOD), and the MST. Cat Barclay will act as liaison between the two.

Bob Junell presented a comprehensive financial report and a proposed budget for 2017. We cannot overstate the tremendous amount of volunteer time that Bob Junell and Peggy Gregory give to our church in keeping our church doors open. The finance people not only work with numbers, but there is a great deal of legal requirements to be aware of.

Hebrews 10:24-25: *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, but let us encourage one another...*

A hug and good word from the congregation is all the compensation the finance committee receives.

- Doug True, MST chairperson

In other news...

Leon McDonald recently returned from Hartland Christian Camp. Here's what he had to say about his experience: "At Hartland there was a lot of different things to do (ziplining, basketball, fooseball, table tennis, paintball, etc.). The food was good (except for the expensive food in the cafe). It was easy to relate to the guest speaker because he admitted that he always made mistakes. I met new people and had a good time."





Attention:

March 19ths general UMW meeting is open to anyone in the church who wishes to attend a presentation by Aaron Medeiros and Tamari Giorgadza.

Tamari is a foreign exchange student from the Country of Georgia in the Middle East. Aaron is the Jr. High Youth Pastor for Hanford's Koinonia Church.

Tamari has focused her project to help meet the needs of the Syrian refugees in Jordan. Financial aid is preferred rather than shipping various material good to that specific items can be purchased locally which will also help better the Jordanian Economy. She will be partnering with a Christian organization that Aaron met while visiting Jordan.

Aaron will discuss his trip and describe the work that is being done there for the Syrian refugees. Tamari will also introduce her project and will explain how we can donate to help meet some of their biggest needs.

Lunch will be provided by Jetta Lenox. *Please let her or anyone on the board know by March 12, 2017 if you plan on attending.* We need to get an accurate count to make sure we have enough food.

I am looking for a hostess to provide lunch for April, and someone head up the Spring luncheon on May 7. (This includes decorations, making fliers to give out, ect.)

Andrea McDonald: local unit President 360-4477
Cat Barclay*: Secretary and Vice President 707-7118
Vicki Beeman: Treasurer 584-2911
Delfa Randles: Spiritual Growth 707-5700

- Andrea McDonald 360-4477 (andreamcd1202@yahoo.com)

*still looking for a secretary



Our next dinner meeting will be Monday the 13th of March. 6:30 PM.

I want to thank Bob Peden for planning, organizing and leading our February meeting and personally preparing the meal as well. Thanks also to Karen Shoemaker, who made the room look very special. And thanks to Jessica in the office for creating those nice posters about the event, including the one in last month's Messenger. But I also want to thank every single person who attended, as you all made it such a pleasant evening by your being there first of all, and by your engaging participation, and by your happy attitudes. Thank you for coming!

While we were there, we—men and all our guests—were specifically invited to the March meeting of the United Methodist Women. It will be Sunday after church & coffee hour on the 19th of March.

Jetta Lenox invited us, *and* asked for individual RSVPs, because there will be a meal. But our reason to attend is to hear about Syrian refugees, their immediate needs, and an opportunity to help alleviate some of those needs. Now, see further details in the United Methodist Women section of this issue of your monthly Methodist Messenger.

- David Beeman 584-7510 dpbeeman@kings.k12.ca.us



Ministry Support Team (MST)

MST is the leadership group in our church that is tasked with caring for our resources; money, staff and building. They meet every second Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Trustee Report

A plumber replaced all the under-sink water supply valves in the three bathrooms at the parsonage. After replacing one, it was determined that the remainder of water valves were the same vintage and it was decided to be proactive and replace all of the water valves. The sunken living room corner which received water intrusion from the back yard has been dried, with the combination of a portable heater and circulating fan. Work will start soon on replacing the wall board and trim molding and painting the walls the same blue color.

The upstairs Boy Scout door has been replaced again, and with new door hardware. The door lock is a Schlage, while all the other church locks are Kwik-set. The door has been primed and painted. Stucco on the underside of the overhang near the edge was opened up, and it was found that the rain downspout, which is enclosed inside the overhang, has a gaping hole, from rusting out, in the bottom of a sweeping elbow. This is the source of the water leaking back into the wall and into the building. A portable heater and circulating fan is being used in the southwest corner of the nursery.

Carpet in the southwest corner of the pastor's office was pulled back and the room heated to get rid of the water that entered because of the plugged roof drain. Robinson's Interior reset the pad and carpet and the Gas Company hooked up the office floor furnace.

Bob Junell has been pruning trees along Redington and Center Streets. A tree contractor will be pruning the three Italian Cypress trees, next to the sanctuary, to about half the height that they are now.

- Jim Gregory

WORSHIP CONNECTIONS

Worship Coordinator

- March 5:** Cat Barclay
- March 12:** Peggy Gregory
- March 19:** Mary Jane Gozun
- March 26:** Chris Payne

Lay Worship Leaders

- March 5:** Carol Collar
- March 12:** Jan Franke
- March 19:** Bob Junell
- March 26:** Vicki Beeman

Greeters

- March 5:** Jetta & Glen Lenox
- March 12:**
- March 19:**
- March 26:**

Ushers

- March 5:** Verne Adams, Mike Bertaina
- March 12:** Creed Cavazos, Mike Bertaina
- March 19:** Creed Cavazos, Mike Bertaina
- March 26:** David Beeman, Jim Gregory

Counting Team

- March 5:** Sue Hensel, John Meadows
- March 12:** Vicki Beeman, Patty Ferrell
- March 19:** Sue Hensel, Karen Shoemaker
- March 26:** David Beeman, Jim Gregory

Coffee Hour

- March 5:** Pat Finley
- March 12:**
- March 19:**
- March 26:** Mr. Donald

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

Mel Sherman; Amy Leasure; Tamie Pick; Randy Chono; Dorothy Jensen; Bonnie Peters; Mary Durham; friends of Mary; Casey Lehtnen; Jim Taylor; Mike Pina; and Jan Junell.

Other Prayer Requests

- For Andrea McDonald, who will need bladder surgery within the next few months
- For Randy Chono and his family after the passing of his sister
- For all those affected by fires, floods and earthquakes
- For the end to violence against all people. For peace & love to prevail
- Police Officers, Firefighters, Ambulance and other first responders
- Those in the midst of crisis, tragedies, disasters, accidents and conflicts
- Laundry Love ministry, Salvation Army Food Giveaway, Shower Ministry, and our food offerings to the Soup Kitchen
- 1st Christian's Rev. Tom Warren & family
- For caregivers and those caring for their parents
- The Noonan, Castanon & Wilson Families
- Ministry Support Team & Trustees
- Thanksgiving for all the church volunteers who give so graciously of their time and talents. We are the church!



Wherever Methodists are gathered, there always seems to be food! If you agree (or not), won't you prayerfully consider hosting a Coffee Hour after church one Sunday morning?

Coffee Hour not your thing? How about greeting our church family and/or visitors on any given Sunday?

There are sign up sheets conveniently placed in the hallway on your way to fellowship after our worship service.



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.

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JOIN US FOR

WORSHIP

the 2nd & 4th Sundays
of the month
at 2:00 p.m. at

HANFORD POST ACUTE

1007 W. Lacey Blvd, Hanford

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We're updating the directory!

Please notify the office of any changes or updates by *Friday, March 3rd.*



Canned Food Drive
For the
Episcopal Church
Soup Kitchen Report:

This is a great opportunity to help in our community but will not be possible without your support, so please join our church in this battle against hunger. **Please no expired items.** There's a container in the main entrance where you may drop off your donations. Thanks again and God bless!

Shower Ministry

for the Homeless at The Hanford Pentecostal Church has been wonderful.

Thank You to everyone who has donated.

We will continue to collect in the coming months. Put items in the Narthex.

Needs: *Shampoo, Tooth Brushes, Toothpaste, Talc or Baby Powder, Terry Bathmats*

Peden's Family Cookbook
For Sale \$20

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



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
Thursday, March 16th
from 3-8 p.m.

Volunteers are needed! Talk with Peggy Gregory or just come on by!



Mission Service Opportunity

Friday,
March 17th, 2017
8 a.m. to 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!