

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



March 2019

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Council of Bishops
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



General Conference maintains language on ordination of LGBTQI persons, same-gender marriages in The United Methodist Church

February 26, 2019

ST. LOUIS – The Council of Bishops of The United Methodist Church would like to thank the delegates to the Special Session of the General Conference for their diligent work during the 2019 conference, which ended today in St. Louis, in the United States.

The General Conference is the highest legislative body in the church and the only group who can decide church law and speak officially for the global denomination.

The 864 delegates (half lay, half clergy) from all over the world met from Feb. 24-26 to discuss and act on the report of the Commission on a Way Forward over the issue of human sexuality. The delegates also considered petitions other than the report from the Commission.

The decision of the General Conference was to offer a majority support for the Traditional Plan. The vote was 438 to 384. The delegates then voted to ask the Judicial Council, the highest court in the denomination, to review the constitutionality of the approved legislation.

What is the Traditional Plan?

The Traditional Plan keeps the current language around sexuality and increases accountability by streamlining the processes to enforce penalties for violations of *The Book of Discipline* related to marriage and ordination of LGBTQI persons. Some parts of the Traditional Plan were ruled unconstitutional, and it will take some time to clarify which parts will become part of our church law and which parts will not.

“We continue to teach and believe that all persons are welcomed in the church, all persons are persons of sacred worth and we welcome all to receive the ministry of Jesus. Human sexuality is a topic on which people of faith have differing views,” said Bishop Ken Carter, president of the Council of Bishops, after the conference ended. “Despite our differences, we will continue to work together to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and share God’s love with all people.”

What is the next step for the UMC?

Since the legislation is not the official church law until January 1, 2020, the bishops are urging *all United Methodists to stay focused on the mission that glorifies God and reaches new people with the gospel*. Bishops will be holding meetings with clergy and laity in their annual conferences on how details will be handled in each area.

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The United Methodist Church mmulenga@umc-cob.org

<http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/general-conference-maintains-language-on-ordination-of-lgbtqi-persons-same>

Buildings and Grounds Report

March newsletter

Jim Gregory

- A volunteer crew did a “bucket brigade” of removing the accumulation of pigeon guano on the floor of the sanctuary tower.
- A leak has been identified in the northeast corner of the sanctuary. Hanford Roofing will be doing the repairs soon.
- Rick Branson, a structural engineer from Fresno, was retained to investigate the plaster cracks in the sanctuary walls. It is his professional opinion that “the cracks observed do not constitute a structural hazard to the subject building.” The subsidence of the soil under the sanctuary building could account for the movement of the foundations which are supported on the underlying soil. Subsidence of the soil may have been sufficient to cause cracking in wall finishes. Paul Dominguez, a plaster contractor, filled in the plaster hole cut in the west wall at the balcony stairway, which was cut out as a request of the engineer. He also filled in the hole in the plaster in the hallway, which was cut out several years ago for the security camera cables. Paul donated his crew’s time and material.
- A meeting was held with SCE representative Frank Yanes on January 24th. Frank provided a summary of the 2018 church electrical usage and use patterns. Most of the church’s electrical invoice cost is from fixed charges from being on a CS-2 commercial account. Frank gave suggestions for changing to a CS-1 account if we can get church electrical usage to 19 kW or less. We typically only exceed 19 kW on Sundays in the summer months when multiple air conditioners are in use at the same time.
- An accumulation of mud was flushed out of the water drain which goes from the parsonage south side back yard to the front yard near the mail box.
- The church office computer and the pastor’s laptop have access to view the church security cameras.

Centering Prayer Guidelines

- Choose a sacred word as a symbol of your intention to consent to God’s presence and action within you.
- Sit comfortably with your eyes closed, if you choose and silently introduce your sacred word.
- Begin to focus on your breathing, slow breathing in and out.
- If other thoughts enter and your mind wanders, return ever so gently to your sacred word.
- At the end of your prayer period, return slowly and know God is with you.

UMM next event

We looked forward to having Francis Alama speak to us in December, but it didn't work out. The plan for our **March** UMM dinner meeting is to finally get Francis, a high-school exchange student from Palestine, to speak to us.

In February, we received two great blessings. One was the music of the Sound Projection Barbershop Quartet, live and in person. The quartet consists of lead Bob Browne, baritone Rod Robinson, bass Landes Dung and tenor Bob Peden. They made music with just their voices that truly moved us.

The other blessing was our volunteer dinner crew that stepped up to prepare dinner despite not being on the schedule for February. The crew consisted primarily of Carole Hester and Janice Alves. They are really good at making dinner!

For **March**, Peggy Gregory has volunteered to fix a corned beef and cabbage dinner for us. That way we can eat Irish as we think Palestinian. Works for me. We will gather at 6:30 PM on Monday the 11th, eat first, and then hear Francis.

Please let me know by Wednesday the 6th if you'd like to be part of this event so I can get a good dinner count to Peggy.

- David Beeman
(559) 584-7510

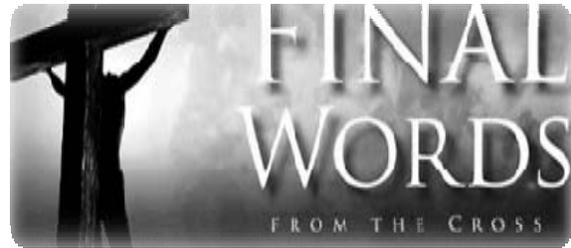
SECOND SATURDAY®

The Central Valley District
Council on Ministry Presents
2019 2nd Saturdays! Save The
Dates!

First UMC, Hanford
505 N Redington St., Hanford, CA
93230
8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

April 13
Basic Lay Servant Training

June 8
Basic Lay Servant Training



LENTEN GROUP STUDY

Wednesday evenings (6:00 p.m.)
from March 13-April 17
First UMC Hanford (Mary Lane
Hall)

****SUPPER INCLUDED****

Please keep the following in your prayers this month:

Prayers for the victims of natural disasters and of violence across our nation and *in all parts of our world*. With Christians around the world, we pray for peace with justice and for health, safety and well-being of our neighbors near and far. Thanksgiving for all the church volunteers;

Prayer for: For Dianna Newton and the Castanon family for their wellbeing , Lindora Perez and her family, Rebecca Eversall, Andrea McDonald, Jessica Maris' mother, Bob & Jan Junell, Marilyn Peden, Jennifer Wagner, Sherrie, Dorothy Jensen, Jan Creelman, Bonnie Peters, Frank & Bonnie Butterway's son Richard enduring health problems, Mary Delgado, Dorothy Jensen, Kari Snow dealing with health issues, Mary Durham's son Jeff Durham, in Board & Care, her great nephew, Cooper Coffee, awaiting surgery, her friend Becky Standfield, her brother-in-law Tim Durham very ill with vascular problems and her friend Tina Williams dealing with health issues and for Bob & Pollie Geisslar with an upcoming trip to the Philippines.

**Shower Ministry/Canned
Food Drive**

Two Plastic Baskets

There are two white baskets in the church narthex.

One is there to collect soap, toothbrushes and toiletries for the shower ministry at the Pentecostal Church of God at the corner of Green and 11th Streets. Dental floss, toothpaste and small (like hotel rooms have) bottles of shampoo are especially welcome.

The other basket is there to collect non-perishable food items for the ministry at the Soup Kitchen at the Episcopal Church on Douty Street. Please check the dates on these non-perishables, as we can't share expired items.

We participate in these established ministries rather than duplicate them, and they do depend on us. If you haven't had the opportunity to donate in a while, well, the baskets are still there.

God bless you.



**Mission Service
Opportunity**

Friday, March 15, 2019
8 a.m. to noon
(or any part thereof)

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!*



laundry love

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 21, 2019
from 3-8 p.m.

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

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.

Board of Discipleship

BOD is the "Think Tank" of our church at which all church participants dream and suggest programs to help us all in our journey of faith and service.

At the BOD meetings everyone is welcome to bring an idea or a concern about any of the following practices:

- Worship
- Christian Education
- Service to the Community
- Mission and Outreach to the World
- Spiritual Growth
- Social Activities in the church
- Youth Activities
- Meetings are always on the 1st Wednesday of the month

Next BOD meeting:

March 13 @ 3:30 p.m.

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

Vacation Bible School Volunteer Request

The Board of Discipleship (BOD) is starting to gather names in an attempt to offer a Vacation Bible School this summer. If you are willing to help with a VBS (probably in July), let the office know. Our goal is to do Monday through Friday. Let us know if evening or daytime works best.

Larry McDonald, BOD Chairman

WORSHIP CONNECTIONS

Worship Coordinator

March 3: Chris Payne
March 10: Cat Barclay
March 17: Peggy Gregory
March 24: Mary Jane Gozun
March 31: Chris Payne

Lay Worship Leaders

March 3: Cat Barclay
March 10: Larry McDonald
March 17: Andrea McDonald
March 24: Rebecca Eversall
March 31: Sue Hensel

Ushers

March 3: Jim Gregory, Mike Bertaina
March 10: David Beeman, Mike Bertaina
March 17: Jim Gregory, Mike Bertaina
March 24: David Beeman, Jim Gregory
March 31: David Beeman, Mike Bertaina

Counting Team

March 3: Sue Hensel, John Meadows
March 10: Vicki Beeman, Patty Ferrell
March 17: Sue Hensel, Karen Shoemaker
March 24: David Beeman, Jim Gregory
March 31: Rebecca Eversall, David Beeman

Coffee Hour

March 3: Patty Ferrell
March 10: Cat Barclay
March 17: Chris Payne
March 24: McDonald
March 31: Shoemaker

Greeters

March 3: Chris Payne
March 10: Cat Barclay
March 17: Chris Payne
March 24: Andrea McDonald
March 31: Shoemakers

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



March Birthdays

Delfa Randles	Mar 5
Nicholas Brockie	Mar 21
Marilyn Peden	Mar 28
Carole Hester	Mar 31
Jim Gregory	Mar 31



March Anniversaries

Joseph & Mary Lue Casey Mar 21

Is your Birthday or Anniversary not listed?

Let the office know so we can include you not only in the Newsletter, but the Church Directory.

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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Sunday Schedule</u> 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Praise Team Rehearsal 10:30 am Worship Service & Coffee Hour following worship</p>					1)	2)
<p>3) Communion Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship</p>	<p>4) 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts Pack Meeting</p>	<p>5) 7:10 a.m. Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>6) <u>ASH WEDNESDAY</u> 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group 6:00p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service</p>	<p>7) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study <u>Keep It Shut</u></p>	8)	9)
<p>10) 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. Worship at Hanford Post Acute (HPA)</p>	<p>11) 6:30 p.m. UMM Meeting Dinner/Guest Speaker</p>	<p>12) 7:10 a.m. Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>13) 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group 3:30 p.m. Board of Discipleship (BOD) 6:00 p.m. Lenten Group Study/ Supper</p>	<p>14) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study <u>Keep It Shut</u> 6:00 p.m. Ministry Support Team (MST)</p>	<p>15) 8 a.m. to noon: Salvation Army Food Giveaway </p>	16)
<p>17) 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship</p>	18)	<p>19) 7:10 a.m. Men's Bible Study</p>	<p>20) 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group 6:00 p.m. Lenten Group Study/ Supper</p>	<p>21) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study - <u>Keep It Shut</u>  3:00—8:00 p.m. @ Star Laundry</p>	<p>22) </p>	23)
<p>24) 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. Worship at Hanford Post Acute (HPA)</p> <p>31) 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 3:30 p.m. 5th Sunday Sing</p>	25)	26)	<p>27) 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group 6:00 p.m. Lenten Group Study/ Supper</p>	<p>28) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study - <u>Keep It Shut</u></p>	29)	30)