

The Methodist Messenger

In the Spirit of John Wesley

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



May 2019

First United Methodist Church
505 N. Redington Street
Hanford, CA 93230

Office (559) 584-4075 Fax (559) 584-5438

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Pastor: Pablo Róvere

“Now what?”

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8, NIV

We just "finished celebrating Easter, Jesus' resurrection. Maybe your thought as you slipped into your Easter Sunday nap was, "now what?" For some reason, our energy and drive as Christians diminishes as Easter comes to a close. In fact, it slows down so much that Pentecost, the third "High Holy day" of the church, often seems like a surprising afterthought in our calendar. Have you ever wondered what happened to Jesus' followers post-Easter?

Well, post-Easter, Jesus' followers have effectively been pared down to the closest and most devoted of followers. They have been through the emotional ringer of watching Jesus crucified and then experiencing his resurrection. I am sure that they didn't know what to make of all that had happened or what they were supposed to do. So Jesus appears again, and gives them a charge: you will be my witnesses. He promises that the Holy Spirit will give them the courage and the power to accomplish his charge, and then he disappears...

Have you ever stopped to wonder what would have happened if the disciples all looked at each other and said, "Ummm, okay. But you know, I am busy with this and I am needed here, so I am going to let someone else do that." I share this with you because we Christians "find ourselves at an interesting point in history. The vitality and strength of Christ's followers slowly diminishes day by day. Many point to the media, to politics, and the public school system as being to blame. I disagree because faith and belief cannot be legislated or coerced; they can only be lived and shared. So instead of blaming outside institutions, I think we need to take a closer look at ourselves! (or in Spanish: "mirar nuestro propio ombligo". English translation: to look to our own belly button)

In the book of Acts we see how Jesus' followers (his disciples) turned a small movement into a world-wide phenomenon. They took on their role as witnesses to Christ and empowered by the Spirit, they lived out their faith and calling in ways that mattered to people around them so that their testimonies dripped with authority, power and grace.

I pray that we not only learn from the story of the first disciples, but that we can enter into it, and see our lives and ministry together as a continuation or extension of the one they received from Jesus. May it create vision for ministry in our community and give us new ideas that will make our faith palpable and real.

Buildings and Grounds Report

Jim Gregory

- A volunteer tree in the setback space west of Founders Hall was cut down and removed.
- The new pastor's office door was given a clear varnish coat.
- Minor repairs were made to the landscape sprinkler system for the spring startup.
- Mosquito Abatement inspector checked the fountain in the Prayer Garden, and said it is fine. The fountain water is treated with chlorine tablets.
- The three evaporative coolers have been serviced and the reservoirs filled with water for summer use.

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.

What does Steve Noel do?

At our April meeting of the United Methodist Men, we learned what Steve does as the manager of the Soup Kitchen at the Episcopal Church of the Savior on Douty Street.

When he spoke to us, the first thing that came across is that Steve is happy. He first told us he is happy because the Soup Kitchen is supported by the whole community. He specifically noted not just by funding and by volunteer support that keeps the Soup Kitchen running, but also by the absence of complaints from neighbors or any municipal attempts to shut it down that similar projects encounter in other communities.

So Steve is happy that Hanford supports the soup kitchen, that Hanford does *not* consider such a project “part of the problem.” And the support is widespread, meaning many groups consider it to be “our” soup kitchen.

Steve has crews that work certain days and certain weeks, and even a crew for that one extra day each quarter. He told us the soup kitchen served seven days a week to start out, went to six for a while, and are now back to seven. On Sundays the meal is a bag lunch so the church can have its social hall back.

The crews make the daily meal from both regular donations and irregular donations, a challenge requiring a very creative response. Steve gets involved in the irregular donations, often in the evenings after a big event that wants to donate its leftovers. So part of his job is making late night runs, accepting graciously and then disposing of what won't keep.

But Steve had a restaurant background, so this is something he has a feel for. And he feels tremendously blessed to be involved with this ministry at this point in his life. Look for Steve on Sunday mornings or Wednesday mornings at our church if you are interested in sharing in some of his happiness. In April he was looking for another lunch team ...

The UMM will next meet on our usual second Monday, May 13th at 6:30 pm. I confess I have regular participants that I call if I don't hear from them, but these dinner meetings are pretty open, so please feel invited. In May our dinner arrangements are being handled by Roy Randles and Jim Shoemaker. But I need to get them a count, because the Soup Kitchen really can't use *every* leftover that is donated.

- David Beeman
559-584-7510

Design for Discipleship

(Developing disciples of Jesus Christ)

These studies will develop a deep and abiding relationship with God and actually putting into practice what has been learned from the Bible. These studies have SEVEN Design for Discipleship books, total of thirty six chapters.

The Design for Discipleship studies have been carefully planned to help you:

- 1 Establish a program of personal study of the Scripture.
- 2 Examine the great truths of the Bible and your response to these.
- 3 Learn and practice the essentials of discipleship.

Studies will start **May 8th at 6pm,**

Price of book will be \$7.50

First Book: "Your Life in Christ" (four chapters)

Please sign up on the Bulletin Board

Please keep the following in your prayers this month:

Prayer for: For Dianna Newton and the Castanon family for their wellbeing , Lindora Perez and her family, Rebecca Eversall, Larry McDonald with upcoming surgery, Andrea McDonald, her daughter Samantha, struggling with her job, Jessica Maris' mother, Bob & Jan Junell, Marilyn Peden, John Meadows, Jennifer Wagner, Sherrie, Jeanette Keith's mother Myrtle at Valley Christian home after falling, Dorothy Jensen, Jan Creelman, Bonnie Peters, Frank & Bonnie Butterway's son Richard enduring health problems, Mary Delgado, Kari Snow dealing with health issues, Mary Durham and her son Jeff Durham, her brother-in-law Tim Durham, her nephew Cody Todd, her friend Tina Williams, Tina, Ben and Savana Williams.

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, May 17, 2019

**8 a.m. to noon
(or any part thereof)**

**Salvation Army
380 East Ivy Street**

*Join us next month in helping
distribute fresh food to those in
need*

in our community.

Volunteers are needed!

Many hands make light work!

Canned foods are needed!



laundry love

Walk with me in a journey of faithfulness.

A commitment in seven different aspects of our Christian faith.

7 Holy habits of Christian faithfulness:

1. Examine your prayer life,
2. Your relationship with Christ,
3. Reading the Bible,
4. Faithful worship attendance,
5. Financial gifts to God,
6. Serving God with our hands,
7. Sharing the Good News of God's LOVE with others.

I invite it you to take the next step in growing your own Faith and helping others to do the same.

"Be a Channel of God's Grace"

Pastor Pablo Rovere

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, May 16, 2019
from 3-8 p.m.

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

Star Laundry

S. 11th Avenue (Near Big Lots)

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.

JOIN US FOR **WORSHIP**

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

HANFORD POST ACUTE

Rehabilitation Center
1007 W. Lacey Blvd. Hanford

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:

May 29 @ 3:30 p.m.

Vacation Bible School Volunteer Request

We will be meeting regarding Vacation Bible School on Saturday, May 4th, 2019 @ 10:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School will be held July 29th to August 2nd. The theme will be "To Mars and Beyond"

Larry McDonald, BOD Chairman, 559-816-1061

WORSHIP CONNECTIONS

Worship Coordinator

May 5: Chris Payne
May 12: Peggy Gregory
May 19: Mary Jane Gozun
May 26: Chris Payne

Lay Worship Leaders

May 5: Patty Ferrell
May 12: Cat Barclay
May 19: Larry McDonald
May 26: Vicki Beeman

Ushers

May 5: Jim Gregory, Mike Bertaina
May 12: David Beeman, Mike Bertaina
May 19: Jim Gregory, Mike Bertaina
May 26: David Beeman, Jim Gregory

Counting Team

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

Coffee Hour

May 5: Cat Barclay
May 12: Chris Payne
May 19: McDonald
May 26: Shoemaker

Greeters

May 5: Chris Payne
May 12: Patty Ferrell
May 19: Butterways
May 26: Bertainas

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



May Birthdays

Jennifer Wagner	May 7
Frank Butterway	May 9
Audrey Collar	May 12
Lily Boone	May 16
Suzanne Garcia	May 18
Shawnee Toste	May 20
Stacy Brockie	May 26
Sammi McDonald	May 27
Bob Peden	May 27
Jay Gozun	May 29
Carol Collar	May 29
Rachel Brockie	May 31



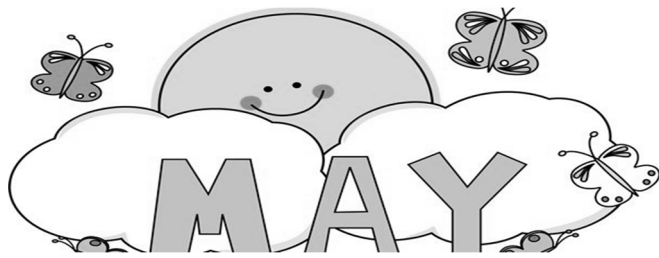
May Anniversaries

Bob & Marilyn Peden May 18
James & Karen Shoemaker May 24

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 Schedule
 9:00 am Children & Adult
 Sunday School
 9:30 am Praise Team Rehearsal
 10:30 am Worship Service &
 Coffee Hour following worship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1) 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group	2) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study " <u>Messy People</u> "	3)	4) 10:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School Meeting
5) Communion Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	6) 7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts Pack Meeting	7) 7:10 a.m. Men's Bible Study	8) 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group 6:00 p.m. Design for Discipleship "Your life in Christ"	9) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study " <u>Messy People</u> " 6:00 p.m. Ministry Support Team (MST)	10) 11:00 a.m. Funeral Services for Jeanette Keith's mother Myrtle	11)
12) 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. Worship at Rehabilitation Center	13) 6:30 p.m. UMM Dinner Meeting	14) 7:10 a.m. Men's Bible Study (Pastor Gone)	15) 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group 6:00 p.m. Design for Discipleship "Your life in Christ" (Pastor Gone)	16) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study " <u>Messy People</u> "  laundry love 3:00—8:00 p.m. @ Star Laundry	17)  8:00 a.m. to Noon Salvation Army Food Giveaway	18)
19) 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	20)	21) 7:10 a.m. Men's Bible Study	22) 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group 6:00 p.m. Design for Discipleship "Your life in Christ"	23) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study - " <u>Messy People</u> "	24) 	25)
26) 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. Worship at Hanford Post Acute (HPA)	27)	28)	29) 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Stitching Group 3:30 p.m. BOD 6:00 p.m. Design for Discipleship "Your life in Christ"	30) 8:15 a.m. Women's Book Study - " <u>Messy People</u> "		

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