

First United Methodist Church
505 North Redington Street
Hanford, CA 93230

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The Methodist Messenger

In the Spirit of John Wesley

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



2015

living water

during lent

beginning February

22nd

7:00 pm

mary lane hall



join us for conversation, reflection,
fellowship and refreshment for your soul

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: Mon - Fri, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Pastor Susan Foster, sfoster@fumchanford.org



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, PROVIDING SOAP, MONEY FOR THE MACHINES AND FELLOWSHIP.

Volunteer Training
 Sunday, February 8th
 2:00 pm
 Mary Lane Hall

All who want to be a part of this new ministry are invited to come. Our first Laundry Love event is planned for February 19th, from 3-8 pm. Sign-ups for shifts will happen at the training event.

Laundry Love on the surface, is a ministry of helping people have clean clothes. Going deeper, Laundry Love is about developing relationships with people to see what gifts are present among those we meet, and encouraging and kindling responsibility and dignity. Our hope is that we will be part the process of moving those we meet from dependency toward interdependency.

Laundry Love began with a question asked of T-Bone, a homeless gentleman living in Ventura Calif. "How can we come alongside your life in a way that would matter?" His response, "If I had clean clothes I think people would treat me like a human being."

Greetings:

As we begin the season of Lent, I want to invite you to observe a Lenten Discipline. A Lenten Discipline is a practice that is taken up for the duration of Lent for the purpose of spiritual growth. These disciplines take a wide variety of forms. Sometimes this is a practice of giving up - sugar, caffeine, or chocolate for example. A practice might also be taken up - journaling or dedicated prayer time for example. In our modern days sometimes it is the declaration of a Sabbath from the things that distract us, i.e. our electronic devices one day a week throughout lent. All of these disciplines have one thing in common, as we practice them, they remind us of the journey we are on with God and allow God to speak into our



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WORSHIP CONNECTIONS

Worship Coordinator

Feb 1: Peggy Gregory
 Feb 8: Becky Eversall
 Feb 15: Chris Payne
 Feb 22: Andrea McDonald

Lay Worship Leaders

Feb 1: Sage Wyman
 Feb 8: David Beeman
 Feb 15: Vicki Beeman
 Feb 22: Patty Ferrell

Greeters

Feb 1: Chris Payne
 Feb 8: Cat Barclay
 Feb 15:
 Feb 22: Glen & Jetta Lenox

Ushers

Feb 1: Verne Adams & Mike Bertaina & Mary Durham
 Feb 8: Jim Gregory &
 Feb 15: Mike Bertaina &
 Feb 22: David Beeman &

Counting Team

Feb 1: Andrea McDonald & Sue Hensel
 Feb 8: Vicki Beeman & Patty Ferrell
 Feb 15: Sue Hensel & Karen Shoemaker
 Feb 22: David Beeman & Jim Gregory

Morning Worship Coffee Hour

Feb 1: Bob & Pollie Geissler & Mike Pina
 Feb 8: Donna & Brent Noonan
 Feb 15: Karen & Jim Shoemaker
 Feb 22: Patty Ferrell

February 1

Mark 1:21-28
 "It wasn't long before news of Jesus spread over the countryside of Galilee. "

February 8

What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be A Christian
 Week 1
 Matthew 9:16-17, 19:3-9, 23:13-15, 25-28

February 15

What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be A Christian
 Week 2
 Jesus' Priority: What Matters Most?
 Mark 12:28-34

February 22

What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be A Christian
 Week 3
 Jesus' Grace: Am I Accepted?
 Matthew 9:10-13, John 8:1-11

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

Ben Durham (lung cancer), Jim Taylor, Fran Knight, Jim & Karen Shoemaker, Andrea McDonald (recovery from foot surgery), Bonnie Peters (health issues), Ellie Wagner (continued healing), Carol Collar's Mother-Francy Angstman (assisted living), Pastor Susan's parents Helen and John Foster, Larry McDonald (PTSD), Marilyn Peden, Gloria Brown, Peri Neos, Millie Dodge, Pat George, Audra Koelewyn, Alison Klein, June Kruger (diagnosed with cancer), Louise Card (West Gate Garden Care, 4525 W. Tulare. Visalia), Marie Wiles (Kingsburg Care Center 1101 Stroud Ave. Kingsburg, CA 93631).

Other Prayer Requests

- Andrea McDonald's brother needs heart bypass & Andrea's 89 yrs friend is going blind
- John and Penny Meadows grieving the death of John's father
- Mary and Jeff Durham as they care give for Ben Durham
- Congratulations to the family of Isabella Louisa Castanon born Dec 2
- Family grieving the passing of Carol Collar's stepfather
- Friends and Family mourning the death of Hilda Douma
- Family and Friends of Frances Creelman who mourn her death.
- 1st Christian's Rev. Tom Warren & family
- For Toni & Seth and Gage on their foster adoption
- Those in the midst of crisis due to disasters
- Opportunities to serve our neighbors
- 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

WHAT'S THE LEAST I CAN BELIEVE AND STILL BE A CHRISTIAN?

Study Groups

- Wednesdays @ 8:00 am - Men's Fellowship Study
- @ 5:30 pm - done for Choir Practice
- beginning February 4th
- Thursdays @ 8:15 am - Women's Bible Study
- beginning February 5th
- Sundays @ 9:00 am - Mary Lane Hall
- beginning February 8th

Sermon Series begins February 8th

You are invited to be a part of the conversation as we explore this book together. This book talks both about the things that people need to believe and some of the things we don't need to believe to be Christians. Pastor and author Martin Thielen uses solid biblical scholarship and great storytelling to engage all of us, wherever we are on our spiritual journey.

This book was born out of a conversation that Rev. Thielen had with a young man who was questioning the assumptions he had about what it meant to be a Christian. Rev. Thielen articulates mainline Christianity in a way that's easy to understand, offering great insights that speak to our deepest needs.

Books are available now in the Church Office, \$10.00.

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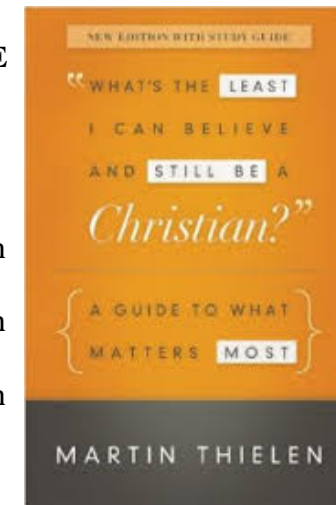
lives.

For my Lenten Discipline I am going to be collecting change for Imagine No Malaria and giving up buying special treats so that I can give even more money to end malaria. You can join me. There will be Easter Eggs in a variety of sizes available beginning with Ash Wednesday for you to fill up with spare change and bring back to church on Easter Sunday. Imagine No Malaria is the effort of the people of the United Methodist Church to eliminate malaria on the continent of Africa.

I hope that you will consider joining with me in these disciplines or with other disciplines you feel called to.

Remember, God's Love Never Ends,

Pastor Susan Foster





Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline. In Western Christianity, Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (Sundays are not included in the count).

Ash Wednesday Services traditionally include the imposition of ashes when the sign of the cross is lightly rubbed on the foreheads of worshipers. The service is solemn and reflective with a focus on repentance and mourning. The Bible does not mention Ash Wednesday or the custom of Lent, however, the practice of repentance and mourning in ashes is found in 2 Samuel 13:19; Esther 4:1; Job 2:8; Daniel 9:3; and Matthew 11:21.

Join us

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, February 18th at 6:00 pm



Knit/Crochet Group

Wednesday, Feb 11th
10:00 am - 12:00 noon
Millie Kraft Lounge

Anyone who wants to get together to share, learn, stitch in any way, and fellowship may come.



February 14th

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Mary Lane Hall

Join us! We'll be here from 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Come for any or all of the time. We always have a lot of fun! Bring your favorite game and a snack to share.

Invite your family and friends!

Ministry Support Team (MST)

MST is the leadership group in our church that is tasked with caring for our resources; money, staff and building.

Next Meeting:
Thursday, Feb 12 at 5:00 pm

Board of Discipleship (BOD)

will meet Wednesday, Feb 17 at 5:00 pm.

The Board of Discipleship is tasked with ensuring that we as a congregation are growing in the ways in which we follow Jesus. All are welcome!

Shower Ministry

The response to the needs of the Shower Ministry for the Homeless at The Hanford Pentecostal Church has been wonderful. It has been great to see the pile grow from week to week and to realize what this means for people in our community.

We will continue to collect in the coming months. Let's keep filling up the basket on the altar.

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

Thank you to everyone who has donated!

Are you a youth in grades 6 through 12?



4:00 pm-6:00 pm on the first Sunday of the month.

We will have fun, explore our faith, & serve others!

All youth in grades 6 through 12 are welcome.

Bring your friends. See Pastor Susan if you have any questions.



Mission Service Opportunity

Friday, Feb 20th,
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!

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.



Want to use your handyman skills around the church?

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

Please see Pastor Susan to help.



**Dinner
Monday,
February 9th
6:30 pm**

DINING OUT

United Methodist Men invite their sweethearts and other guests to a special Valentines event, at the home of Jim & Peggy Gregory. Because it will be a catered dinner, we need a definite count by February 6th.

I (David) request your response by e-mail dpbeeman@kings.k12.ca.us or phone 584-2911.

If you have not been a part of the United Methodist Men in the past, this would make a great introduction. Jim & Peggy live right here in town, so you have less worries about fog. Please respond the same way - call or e-mail me - even with questions - by the 6th.

JANUARY EVENT

In January, the United Methodist Men were so impressed by Roy Randles' presentation on the work of Sí a la Vida that we sent that project a donation. They do just one project: helping boys found on the streets of Managua, Nicaragua to learn social and marketable skills, getting them caught up in school, and ultimately reintegrating with their families.

David Beeman



**Lunch/Meeting
Sunday,
February 8th
After Church**

We got our new year off to a great start on Sunday, Jan. 18th, Pastor Susan did a very special Installation during the morning worship service. Following that, we had a General Meeting, with soup for lunch. There were 13 women and 2 young ladies in attendance. Candy Bertaina scheduled a speaker from Links for Life. Please put the following dates for Feb & March on your 2015 calendar:

- Thu, Feb. 5: Board Meeting – 10 a.m.
- Sun, Feb. 8: General Meeting, following Coffee Hour
- March 6-8: District Retreat in Oakhurst (see myself or Sue Hensel)
- Thu, Mar. 12: Board Meeting – 10 a.m.
- Sun, Mar. 15: General Meeting, following Coffee Hour

Anyone who is interested can attend the Board Meetings. The General Meetings will start approximately Noon, giving people some time to spend at Coffee Hour first (and will include some type of lunch and hopefully a program/speaker). It is very important to be able to keep our local UMW going, and to do that, we need many ladies to be a part of it. If you have any questions, just ask myself or Sue Hensel (our new Treasurer, and most recent President).

Vicki Beeman



United Methodist Women's Retreat

@ ECCO in Oakhurst, CA
March 6-8, Friday evening through Sunday morning
Speaker, Dr. Mary Maaga
"Landscapes of Christian Faith"

All women are invited to attend this retreat. You do not have to be a member of our church nor United Methodist Women. Arrival and Check-in begins at 4:00 pm Friday, March 6th.

Jan Franke will be leading sessions on drum fun, spiritual/health drum therapy, and guided meditation, as well as leading the singing sessions.

The weekend begins with dinner on Friday. The cost for the weekend is \$163 for a double occupancy room (\$249 for a single room). Meals included are Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus, Sunday breakfast. The retreat is usually done before lunchtime. One day passes for Saturday may be obtained for \$25 (includes lunch). If you want breakfast on Saturday it will cost an extra \$13.

Registrations are due by February 18th. There are some scholarships available from the District. There are also some scholarships (amount can vary depending on how many ladies are requesting them) from our local UMW (these are due back to Treasurer Sue Hensel by Sunday, February 10th). For more information or Registration Forms (and local scholarships) contact Vicki Beeman, Sue Hensel, or the church office.

Vicki Beeman
United Methodist Women President




Vacation Bible School!

Organizing and Planning meeting coming in March.
Check out the web site for G-FORCE at Cokesburyvbs.com.

Already know the VBS position you want?
Contact Jan Franke to sign-up.



February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1) 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	2)	30 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	4) 8:00 am Men's Study Group 5:30 pm Study Group 6:30 pm Adult Choir	5) 8:15 am Women's Study Group 10:00 am United Methodist Women Board Meeting	6)	7)
8) 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Noon United Methodist Women Lunch/Meeting in Founders Hall 2:00 pm Laundry Love volunteer training in Mary Lane Hall	9) 6:30 pm United Methodist Men Dinner	10) 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	11) 8:00 am Men's Study Group 5:30 pm Study Group 6:30 pm Adult Choir	12) 8:15 am Women's Study Group 5:00 pm Ministry Support Team (MST)	13)	14) Game Day 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
15) 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	16) OFFICE CLOSED	17) 6:30 am Men's Bible Study 5:00 pm Board of Discipleship (BOD)	18) 8:00 am Men's Study Group 6:00 pm ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 6:45 pm Adult Choir	19) 8:15 am Women's Study Group 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm Laundry Love	20) 8am-noon Salvation Army Food Giveaway 	21)
22) 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 7:00 pm living water service	23)	24) 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	25) 8:00 am Men's Study Group 10:00 am NEWSLETTER FOLDING 5:30 pm Study Group 6:30 pm Adult Choir	26) 8:15 am Women's Study Group	27)	28)

Sunday Schedule

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



Birthdays

Mary Jane Gozun	Feb 4
Penny Meadows	Feb 5
Brent Noonan	Feb 7
Mark Collar	Feb 9
Jan Junell	Feb 10
Sue Hensel	Feb 11
Mike Bertaina	Feb 17
Jan Franke	Feb 21
Susan Foster	Feb 25

Your Birthday or Anniversary not listed?

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