

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

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 13

The Methodist Messenger

In the Spirit of John Wesley

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



JANUARY

2015

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

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

E-mail office@fumchanford.org

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



Greetings:

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2015! I am aware that there is much to be looking forward to in the year to come as we join with God in bringing God’s Kingdom here on earth. I am excited that we are able and willing to open up our community and our lives to be a part of what God is already about all around us. I am excited for the ministries that are already being planned and for the dreams that have not yet been developed that will shape our Church community and our wider community here in Hanford. I want to share with all of you two exciting ideas you can participate in. - Pastor Susan

LAUNDRY LOVE

In February, in cooperation with several other churches in our community we will be joining in an effort called Laundry Love at a local laundry mat. Volunteers will offer a regular opportunity for people who are struggling financially to come and do their laundry, providing soap, money for the machines and fellowship.

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.

We are looking for volunteers for this effort. Please let Pastor Susan know if you are interested in this ministry.

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.”

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

Study Groups & Sermon Series Beginning in February

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.

We will have several opportunities to join a group in studying the book each week and Pastor Susan will be preaching this series beginning February 8th. Books are available now in the Church Office if you want to get a head start, \$10.00.

WORSHIP CONNECTIONS

January 4

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

January 11

Remembrance of Baptism

Mark 1:4-11

Psalm 29

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD is enthroned as King forever.

The LORD gives strength to his people;
the LORD blesses his people with peace.

January 18

1 Samuel 3:1-10

“Speak, for your servant is listening.”

January 25

Mark 1:14-20

“Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.”
At once they left their nets and followed him.

Worship Coordinator

- Jan 4: Becky Eversall
- Jan 11: Peggy Gregory
- Jan 18: Chris Payne
- Jan 25: Andrea McDonald

Lay Worship Leaders

- Jan 4: Sue Hensel
- Jan 11: Peggy Gregory
- Jan 18: Bob Junell
- Jan 25: Leon McDonald

Greeters

- Jan 4: Glen & Jetta Lenox
- Jan 11: Chris Payne
- Jan 18: Sue Hensel
- Jan 25: Jim & Karen Shoemaker

Ushers

- Jan 4: Verne Adams &
- Jan 11: Jim Gregory & Patty Ferrell
- Jan 18: Mike Bertaina &
- Jan 25: David Beeman &

Counting Team

- Jan 4: Andrea McDonald & Sue Hensel
- Jan 11: Vicki Beeman & Patty Ferrell
- Jan 18: Sue Hensel & Karen Shoemaker
- Jan 25: David Beeman & Jim Gregory

Morning Worship Coffee Hour

- Jan 4: John Meadows
- Jan 11: Bob & Pollie & Mike
- Jan 18: Karen & Jim Shoemaker
- Jan 25: Glen & Jetta Lenox

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, Desi Chono (medical testing), Andrea McDonald (recovery from foot surgery), Bonnie Peters (health issues), Chris Payne (healing of back), 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

- 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!
- Thanksgiving for rain

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

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.



The new Church directory will be printed February 2nd.

The Church Office needs any changes in your information by January 30th.

Email (office@fumchanford.org), mail or write updates on the blue attendance form to have your information correctly recorded.

The Directory includes:

- Name
- Address
- Home phone
- Cell phone
- Email Address
- Anniversaries and Birthdays

Winter Camp



Hartland's Winter Camp offers awesome team recreation, competitive sports tournaments, great worship music, and challenging messages. It's all designed to build a strong faith in Christ and deepen students' walks with Him.

Hartland's Jr. High Winter Camp (7th & 8th grades) is February 6-8.

Hartland's High School Winter Camp (9th-12th grades) is February 13-16.

Applications for youth to attend winter camp are available in the Church Office.

We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.

—Martin Luther King Jr.



Christmas Morning Breakfast made a lot of adults and children happy and full. I hope I can speak for all the volunteers that it was a wonderful morning.

We had approximately 60 people who came to eat and get out of the cold.

Thank you to all the volunteers. Thank you to those who said prayers for this breakfast, gave money, or donated food.

I pray that you continue to support our Christmas Morning Breakfast. It's a worthy cause that is very needed in our community.

Thank you so much,
Chris Payne



Interested in Feeding People?

Our neighbors at Caruthers United Methodist Church

host a free community dinner each week.

There is some interest here in possibly doing something similar.

If you are interested in going on a field trip to Caruthers on a Wednesday to see it in action, let the church office know.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing was organized by the United Methodist Men outside the Hanford Post Office on Thursday, December 4th.

Thank You to those who stood outside for an hour to ring that little bell, extend and receive greetings with those who passed by.

Volunteers were Vicki Beeman, Verne Adams, Jetta Lenox, David Beeman, John Meadows, Jim Shoemaker, Mary Jane Gozun, and Patty Ferrell The money collected primarily funds programs the Salvation Army runs in Hanford that feed hungry people.

Thank you,
David Beeman



Project Homeless Connect 2015 Volunteers Needed

This is a one-day, one-stop event designed to provide housing, services, and hospitality in a convenient forum directly to homeless individuals and families, as well as those who are at-risk of homelessness.

The Hanford event will be held on Thursday, January 29, at Hanford Pentecostal Church of God, 323 E.11th St.

Please go to the United Way web site for specific volunteer assignments. www.kingsunitedway.org/ then click on the [Project Homeless Connect 2015](#) tab.

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!



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 Susan if you are interested in serving or have further ideas.



Mission Service Opportunity

Friday, Jan 16th,
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!

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, Jan 15th at 5:00 pm

Board of Discipleship (BOD)

will meet Wednesday, Jan 28th 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!



Want to use your handyperson skills around the church?

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

Please see Pastor Susan to help.



**Dinner/Meeting
Monday,
January 12th
6:30 pm**

UMM Plans and Progress

Your United Methodist Men (UMM) are following the plan we made at the fall organizing dinner. We will therefore meet on the second Monday of January for dinner at 6:30 PM in Mary Lane Hall.

Roy Randles is working with Pastor Susan on the technology to bring us a special report on the work and progress of the Sí a La Vida project in Nicaragua. As you know, Roy has traveled to Managua and to Omotepe Island and participated personally in this project. So, if you haven't — or if you have — been a part of this "we" in the past, please call David Beeman for your dinner reservation 584-2911 by 10 PM Sunday night the 11th.

Several of the UMM regulars and their lady guests met for a catered dinner in December, when we were hosted by Bob and Jan Junell in their beautifully decorated house. There we enjoyed the warm fellowship that marks the Christmas season.

David Beeman



**Lunch/Meeting
Sunday,
January 18th
After Church**

The new year brings changes for our Hanford United Methodist Women. Meetings will now take place on the 3rd Sundays of the month shortly after the worship service (lunch plans to be determined). This will allow those women who work during the weekdays an opportunity to join us.

Our executive board will go back to meeting on a separate day which will be on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in Mary Lane Hall. For January, that will be Tuesday, Jan 13, at 11 am.

During the Worship Service on January 18th, Pastor Susan will install our 2015 UMW officers: Vicki Beeman as President, Candy Bertaina as Vice-President, Andrea McDonald as Secretary, Sue Hensel as Treasurer, and Delfa Randles for Spiritual Growth.

The District United Methodist Women's Retreat will be March 6th through 8th, at (ECCO) Evergreen Conference Center Oakhurst. See Vicki or Sue for information.

We hope to see several of you at our first meeting of the new year on January 18th.

Vicki Beeman

Thank you to everyone who donated and dedicated poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas seasons!



**POINSETTIA
DEDICATIONS**

Jeanette Keith in memory of Gene Brazil & Jana West

Jim & Karen Shoemaker in memory of their parents & Jim's sister Joan Kirby

Bob & Marilyn Peden in memory of Jim & Lois Peden and Forrest & Gladys Speck

Sue Hensel in memory of her parents Florence & Clyde Hensel

Bob & Jan Junell in memory of Greg Junell & Leanne Junell Nishida

Colleen Simms in honor of her children

Verne & Polly Adams in memory of their parents and Verne's sister

Jan Franke in loving memory of Sky Seguin

John Meadows in memory of Virgie Meadows & Vernon Hinkle

Carole Hester in memory of Walt & Helen Fowler and Marvin & Dorothy Hester

Jim & Peggy Gregory in memory of Jim's parents, John & Marion Gregory

Steve & Marsha (Petersen) Robinson in loving memory of her father Noland Petersen

Andrea McDonald in memory of Mary Battle

Susan Foster in memory of Ruth Foster Lee & Clara Bowler


Jan Franke in memory of Amanda Wiles and in honor of Marie Wiles

In memory of Hilda Douma

Others who gave poinsettias:
Patty Ferrell,
Ethel Funchess,
Stacy Brockie



January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1)	2)	3)
4) 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm-6:00 pm Game Day	5)	6) 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	7) 8:00 am Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 5:30 pm Take down of Christmas Decorations 6:30 pm Adult Choir	8) 8:15 am Women's Bible Study	9)	10)
11) 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	12) 6:30 pm United Methodist Men Dinner	13) 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	14) 8:00 am Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 6:30 pm Adult Choir	15) 8:15 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm Ministry Support Team (MST)	16) 8am-noon Salvation Army Food Giveaway	17)
18) 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship After Service United Methodist Women Lunch and Meeting in Founders Hall	19) Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observance OFFICE CLOSED	20) 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	21) 8:00 am Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 6:30 pm Adult Choir	22) 8:15 am Women's Bible Study 	23)	24)
25) 9:00 am Children & Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	26)	27) 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	28) 8:00 am Men's Fellowship & Bible Study 5:00 pm Board of Discipleship (BOD) 6:30 pm Adult Choir	29) 8:15 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Newsletter Folding	30) Deadline for Church Directory Updates	31)

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

Bonnie Hintz Jan 18
Chris Payne Jan 21
Sierra Gomez Jan 25
David Beeman Jan 29
Bob Junell Jan 31
Bob Geissler Jan 31

Your Birthday or Anniversary not listed?
Let the office know so we can include you not only in the Newsletter but the Church Directory

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!