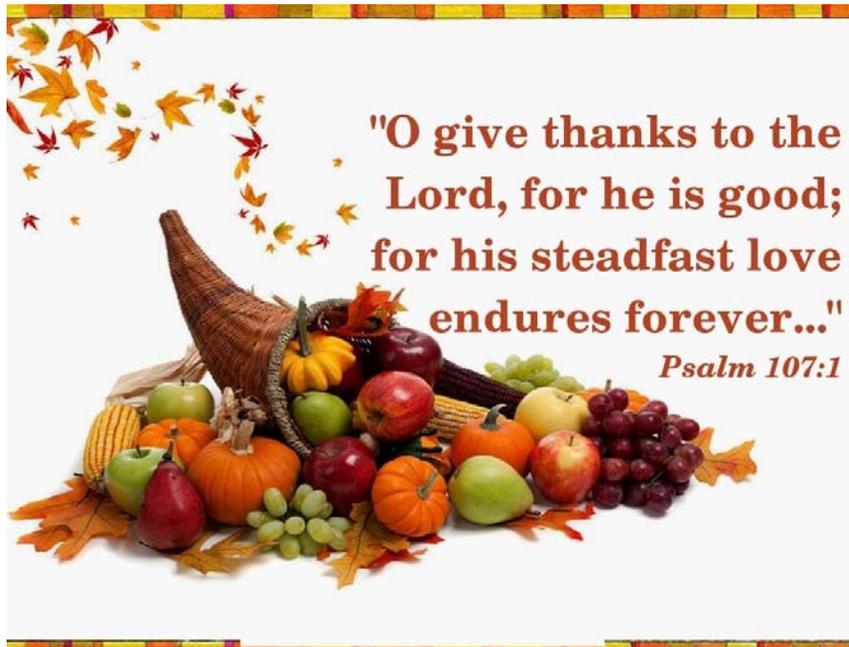


The Methodist Messenger

In the Spirit of John Wesley

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



November 2016

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

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Office Hours: Monday—Friday 10:30 am – 1:30 pm

Pastor Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 11:30 am – 2:30 pm

Pastor Cynthia Stateman pastorc@fumchanford.org

Notes For The Journey

We have had three *All Church Gatherings* this past year. At the first one, we examined our past, celebrated the history of our faith community, and shared some of our hopes and dreams for the future of our church. Next, under the leadership of Roy Randles, we gathered together over a period of several weeks to learn more about our community dynamics. We observed how we differ widely among ourselves with regard to our individual personalities, values, faith perspectives and life journeys; and we discovered that this diversity is one of our greatest strengths and is one our most cherished qualities.

At our *All Church Gathering* on October 30, we began the process of identifying the Core Values of First UMC. Our Core Values, as well as our Bedrock Beliefs, are those ideals that unite us in our diversity, and that give us our distinct identity as one faith community among many. The participants identified their most highly prized core values to be: 1) Spirituality – which includes the ideals of faith, prayer, health, wholeness, spiritual strength, spiritual growth; and 2) Community – which includes the ideals of mission, caring, belonging, family, friends, and companionship. Other core values that the participants discerned to be important were Integrity, Caring, Knowledge, Treating Others Well, and Getting The Job Done.

If you were unable to participate in our latest *All Church Gathering* you will have the opportunity over the next few weeks share your insights and perspectives regarding the Core Values of our church. The folks at the All church Gathering indicated that their experience with this process was enjoyable, stimulating, thought provoking and inspiring. I believe you will too. At the end of this process, the key question we are seeking to answer is: ***What are the core values to which this congregation passionately commits 100% of its energy?***

In future months we will continue with additional gatherings in large and small groups to discern our Bedrock Beliefs – those profoundly held beliefs that rely upon, particularly in times of confusion or stress.

Why is this work so important? It is important because our knowledge of who, what, why, and how we really are as a church at this time helps us prepare our hearts and minds for the shaping our current reality into a shared vision of who, what, why, and how God is calling us into the future. As we uncover the roots of our congregational identity, and as we gain insight, clarity and consensus around the shared experiences, values and beliefs that unite us, God's vision and our mission is revealed.

I am convinced that God has something extraordinarily beautiful and truly wonderful in mind for us, and I can't wait to discover what God is planning to do in, through, and with the people of First UMC.

Blessings,
Pastor Cynthia Stateman

Choir Update

CHOIR Please note that we are having a choir rehearsal on Wednesday, November 9th at 6:30 p.m. We MIGHT go longer than an hour since we haven't had any rehearsals since last May!! Please make every effort to attend.

If you want to warm up and/or chat with others, come early. I'll be there at 6:00!!
Rehearsal will start promptly at 6:30! See you there!

In Christ,
Candy

December 4th, Sunday at 3:00 pm Annual Church Charge Conference at Hanford First UMC

with
District Superintendent Debra Brady
and the
Hanford Area Circuit

Food & Fellowship to Follow

We will be voting on Church leadership for 2017 and pastoral compensation.

All members of First United Methodist Church have a vote, but all the church family is invited to attend!

This is a great time to celebrate the ministry of United Methodists in our area!



At our General Meeting on Sunday, October 9th, we heard from Alyssa Pedersen. She told about attending a Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C. Alyssa said there are 6th through 8th grade students, over 300, at this conference. They had classes, plus got to see a lot of the great sights in the city.

The incoming-President for 2017 (Andrea McDonald) organized a UMW Sunday, for October 30th. This was the morning worship service. Installation of officers also take place that day.

Our Bazaar is coming up soon. It will be on Thursday, November 10th, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. As we did last year, the crafts, baked goods, and possibly white elephant items, will be in Mary Lane Hall. The lunch (soup, sandwiches, and dessert) will be in Founder's Hall. Before that, we'll be the setting up and decorating of the lunch room on Wednesday the 9th, starting at 10:00 a.m. Please, if possible, donate some craft items and baked goods for the sale. If you would like to help, but don't have time to make anything, donations would be gladly accepted towards the cost of the lunch supplies. One more important part of our lunch, are the cakes that are donated for the dessert table. If you can help in any way, please let me know (at 584-2911). The lunch tickets will be \$10 each and will be available from Sue Hensel, Vicki Beeman, and the church office.

There will be a Board meeting on Tuesday, November 1st at 1:00 pm, that anyone wanting to can attend.

We will again have a Christmas tea at Hannah's House on Friday, December 2nd, led by Jetta Lenox. If you would like to furnish food, attend, or both – contact Jetta.

We do not have a General meeting scheduled for December, but Jetta Lenox is organizing a tea for Friday, December 9th, to be at her home. Please contact Jetta if you want to attend or help in some way.

Feel free to contact me, if you have any questions.

----- Vicki Beeman (584-2911)



Next meeting of the United Methodist Men will be Monday, November 14th at 6:30 PM. Dinner is part of the meeting so, please call or e-mail me to be sure we have your dinner prepared. Cups and glasses will not be provided at this meeting. In order to hold your dinner beverage, please bring to the meeting a mug or similar container. If you have any commemorative or souvenir mugs that would make a good conversation starter, (and still hold liquid) that's what we are looking for. Please bring one or two of those.

At our October dinner meeting, I forgot to thank Peggy Gregory for her work making Mary Lane Hall technologically capable of showing a multi-media presentation like we enjoyed from Tamari about her home country of Georgia. It included music, movies, aerial views, and still pictures combined in all the latest ways. Thank you, Peggy! That really worked well! Thanks to Jetta Lenox for her work not only in finding our speaker, but also for sponsoring our Georgian-food dinner. We ate it at dinner time because we were scheduled to, but we learned that two in the afternoon is meal-time in Georgia.

So reserve the Second Monday of the month for your chance to share some time with the men and find out what they are up to.

David Beeman, UMM President
584-2911 or 584-7510
dpbeeman@yahoo.com

WORSHIP CONNECTIONS

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, November 10 at 5:00 pm**

At this meeting MST will be reviewing grant applications from groups in the church that have requested a grant from the Available Program Fund.

Trustee Report

A new replacement 12 station irrigation controller/timer has been installed for the church sprinkler irrigation system.

Boy Scout leaders for Troop 400 now have internet access on the desktop in the upstairs scout room.

Let Jim know if there are any thoughts on the removal of the three Italian Cypress trees on the west side of the sanctuary. When the trees get taller, as they are now, they push against the roof tiles.

The VBS props stored in the sanctuary upstairs classroom have been removed and donated to the Hanford Recreation Department, to be used for their Halloween Carnival.

The gas valve to one of the sanctuary furnace units in the basement has been replaced.

- Jim Gregory

Worship Coordinator

Nov 6: Mary Jane Gozun
Nov 13: Cat Barclay
Nov 20: Chris Payne
Nov 27: Peggy Gregory

Lay Worship Leaders

Nov 6: Jan Franke
Nov 13: Bob Junell
Nov 20: David Beeman
Nov 27: Vicki Beeman

Greeters

Nov 6: Glen & Jetta Lenox
Nov 13: Bob & Jan Junell
Nov 20: Jim & Peggy Gregory
Nov 27: Cat Barclay

Ushers

Nov 6: Verne Adams, Mike Bertaina
Nov 13: Creed Cavazos, Mike Bertaina
Nov 20: Creed Cavazos, Mike Bertaina
Nov 27: David Beeman, Jim Gregory

Counting Team

Nov 6: Sue Hensel, John Meadows
Nov 13: Vicki Beeman, Patty Ferrell
Nov 20: Sue Hensel, Karen Shoemaker
Nov 27: David Beeman, Jim Gregory

Coffee Hour

Nov 6: Geisslers/Pina
Nov 13: James & Karen Shoemaker
Nov 20: Diana and Lily Boone
Nov 27: Jim and Peggy Gregory

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

Tamie Pick, Bonnie Peters, Mary Durham, Kathleen Wilson, Jim Taylor, Mike Pina, Jan Junell, Marilyn Peden, Andrea & Larry McDonald, Carol Collar's Mother - Francy Angstman, Gloria Brown, Alison Klein, Louise Card, friend of Mary Durham, Casey Lahtmen and Mary's nephew, Charles Gifford

Other Prayer Requests

- 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

United Methodist Women 68th annual

Bazaar, Fall Luncheon & Bake Sale



Thursday, November 10

11:00 am to 1:30 pm

Founders Hall
First United
Methodist Church
Redington at Center Street

Meal Tickets: \$10.00

Treat yourself to some
shopping!

We will be selling beautiful, handmade crafts
and delicious baked goods.

Tickets will be available from:

the Church Office, 559-584-4075
Vicki Beeman and Sue Hensel



Angel Tree

This is another opportunity to serve our community. Angel Tree is a wonderful way to express Christ's love. It warms the heart to know that you helped members of our community; all our kids are from Kings County this year. *All the angels will be on the tree by Nov. 13, 2016 in the coffee hour room.* Here is the background of the program:



Over the summer, Angel Tree applications are provided to the prison Chaplains. Restrictions do apply. The Chaplains pass these out to prisoners who have children. The Chaplains then sends the completed applications to Angel Tree. The applications are scanned and entered into the computer. The applications are then assigned to churches, organizations etc. (Visit www.angeltree.org for more information.)

Our roles: Each child's name will be on the Christmas tree twice, one will be a toy and the other clothes, child's name, and age, type of gifts the child wants, and a personal note from the parent in prison. When you pick the angel you want, either I or a helper needs to write the child's name and code number also with your name and number. *All presents are due back by Sunday, Dec. 11, 2016.* This gives the team time to sort all the gifts and get everything ready for Saturday, Dec. 17 1-3 pm when we will be hosting an Angel Tree Christmas party in the coffee hour room.

Gifts: Cost is between \$15.00-\$20.00 only; you can wrap, or one of the elves will wrap. If you wish, an elf can buy the gift for you—just give the donation you want spent, and the elf will do the rest.

This year I thought we would also do a gift basket or box for the families involved, Pastor Cynthia liked the idea. If you would like to help with this, I will have a basket or box by the Christmas tree for you to put any non-perishable item or items in.

Volunteer help needed:

- People to help with the calling, I already sent out the first letter to all families.
- Someone to organize the Christmas party Saturday, Dec. 17 from 1-3 pm
- People to be in charge of recording names and codes
- Wrap/buy gifts
- need to go in groups of two to deliver gifts
- Set up and tear down Christmas decorations, etc.
- Whatever else comes up that I can't think of right now

Person to contact: Andrea McDonald 360-4477 (cell) 530-3977 (home) andreamcd1202@yahoo.com



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.



Reusable Grocery Bags

These sturdy bags have our church logo & name on them. They are perfect for your grocery shopping trips, kinder on the environment, and a great advertisement for our church.

\$5.00 each available from the church office.



Want to use your handyperson skills around the church?

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

Please see Jim Gregory to help.

HELP YOUR CHURCH BY VOLUNTEERING FOR 2017

WORSHIP COORDINATORS
GREETERS
USHERS
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS
SPECIAL MUSIC
WORSHIP DESIGN TEAM
SUBSTITUTE SECRETARY
CHILDREN'S TIME

Just let the office know!

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
- more

All are welcome!

Next BOD meeting.

Tuesday, November 8

1:30 pm

NEW

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

10:30 am—1:30 pm

PASTOR CYNTHIA'S OFFICE HOURS

**TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
and THURSDAY**

11:00 am—2:00 pm

Welcome Jessica!

On October 24 we welcomed Jessica Brooks as our new Administrative Assistant in the church office.

Jessica is a native of Kings County and lives in Hanford with her husband and three teenage daughters.

She also works part-time for her family construction business.

She will be in the office during the regular office hours. Stop by and say hello.



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



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,**
November 17th from 3-8 pm.

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



Mission Service Opportunity

Friday,
November 18, 2016
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!

Make Your Plans
and Mark Your Calendars for
Christmas Eve, December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER — 6:00 pm
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE — 7:30 p.m.

Here is what we are asking of church members:

- **Spread the word** in the community. This is open to all.
- Anyone feeling festive is invited to **decorate** Founders Hall
- **Adopt a table to decorate.** We have red table cloths and flatware for the round tables and those who like to decorate would be invited to decorate and show off their favorite Christmas centerpiece and even their dishes if desired.
- **Help clean up after dinner.**
- **Set up and Help Light the luminary bags** before dinner