

# **FPC Press**

First Presbyterian Church of Turlock

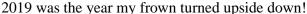
February 2020 Newsletter

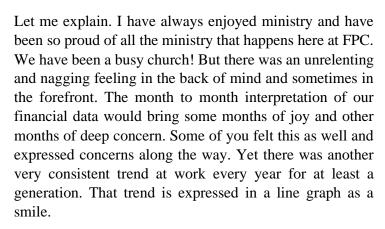
Services of Worship Sunday Mornings 9:00 & 11:00 am



## Monthly Devotional From Our Pastor

Rev. Dr. Craig J. Wright





Diving into the language of the biblical text is what I am trained to do. I thoroughly enjoy time spent in study and the opportunity to preach and teach. But I have never been much of a finance guy. In 2019, I set aside all else for a bit, and with the help of our bookkeeper Russel, went headlong into fiscal records of the past to help me understand the present. What I discovered turned my frown upside down. FPC has a predictable and generational trend to finish the year well. Even though there are predictable months of scarcity in the middle of the year, we finish the year in good shape. My research into our past took me to Google to find that this is, in fact, a predictable trend in many nonprofit organizations. (Oh the things we were not taught in seminary!) I reported a few months ago that the 10-year average end of year report revealed that we finished on average \$2,300 short. That is the definition of "not bad." But consider this, 2019 has lowered that ten-year average to \_\_\_\_\_. Our trend is not only ministry growth and membership growth, but financial growth as well. Those are indisputable markers for a healthy church. My friends, that is exactly what we are. FPC is a healthy growing and thriving church and the frown of my last few years, my concerns, have given way to the joyful realization that the best is yet to come. I am committed to seeing the big picture



because the big picture is amazing. Yes, there will always be lean times, but our historic trend is healthy, and will continue to be healthy, as we work with passion and with a deep appreciation for the resources of your time, your talent, and your treasure to bring Christ's kingdom to bear in Turlock and around the world.

Personally, if I had to choose one word to describe how I remember last year, it would be the word humility. Hmmm, no it would be gratitude! Ok, two words for last year, humility and gratitude. Humility when I realized how much I thought I knew that well, I did not, and gratitude for the faithfulness so many of you have demonstrated both last year and for generations.

Now, on another note - my mom just got married!!! 83 years young and looking to the rest of her life with joy-filled anticipation. Holy Smokes! I am still not over the shock. Mom is married and has relocated to North Carolina and is looking forward to being a pastor's wife because she married an active 82 years young minister. Yeah, I am still in shock. But it all brings a great big smile to my face. In all the courting by phone and plan-making, mom demonstrated tenacity to not let go of life, to not just "grow old gracefully" but to seize the moment and the blessings God has set before her. Does that inspire you? It should. Let each of us in 2020 determine to seize the day and step into the life of the church with joy and enthusiasm. God is working in us and through us and our future is not a frown, but a smile and the reward of a job well done.

With deep humility and gratitude, I would again like to say thank you for giving me the opportunity of being your pastor! The best is yet to come.

Blessings, Pastor Craig

## **Announcements**





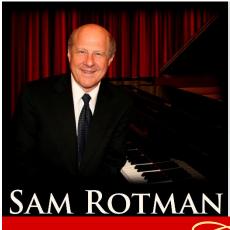
#### LAST CALL:

There is still room for YOU on the 2020 Guatemala Mission Team!

Join us in building houses, seating the disabled in wheelchairs, and feeding the hungry.

Please Contact Marcy Wright either by phone or email: craigmarcy@gmail.com

Celebrating Beethoven's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary





in Concert

FRIDAY, MARCH 6<sup>™</sup>, 2020 • 7:00 PM

Come and See Beethoven's Famous Death Mask

First Presbyterian Church, Turlock

Light reception immediately following in the Narthex for pictures and a conversation with the famous pianist.

Freewill Offering

## **Those Who Serve**

# ACTIVE ELECTED OFFICERS FOR SESSION & DEACONS

#### Elders Class of 2020

Glenda Jameson Candace Peterson Bob Phillips

#### Deacons Class of 2020

Diane Arakelian Bill Bishop Vivian Huntley Kathy Mendonca

#### Elders Class of 2021

Marilyn Hoobyar Priscilla Peters Pat Wallace Michael Yonan

#### Deacons Class of 2021

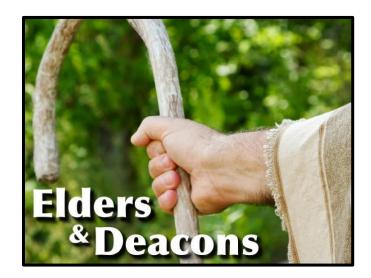
Susan England Valerie Keesey Lynn Posluch Darlene Runsten Cyndi Sims

#### Elders Class of 2022

Robby Avilla Dan Hardesty Joey Reyes Adria Sanders

#### <u>Deacons</u> Class of 2022

Lynnai Badal Lynette Betts Sheila Josh Mary Peterson Rebecca Staley



#### **FEBRUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

#### Communion Team – February 2, 2020

Bill Bishop, Kathy Mendonca Candace Peterson; Martin Purdy

#### **Worship Assists**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ruth Gaffney @ 9am
  - Kendra Reyes @ 11am
- 9<sup>th</sup> Martin Purdy @ 9am Priscilla Peters @ 11am
- 16<sup>th</sup> Candace Peterson
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Robby Avilla

#### Greeters for 9:00 am Worship

- 2 Pat Hickman & Jayne Smith
- 9 Martin & Jana Purdy
- 16 Bob & Sally Phillips
- 23 Mark & Alison Aldax

#### Greeters for 11:00 am Worship

- 2 Dan & Barbara Hardesty
- 9 Michael & Lynette Betts
- 16 Rev. Paul & Susan Springer
- 23 Bob & Lynnai Badal

#### **Birthdays**

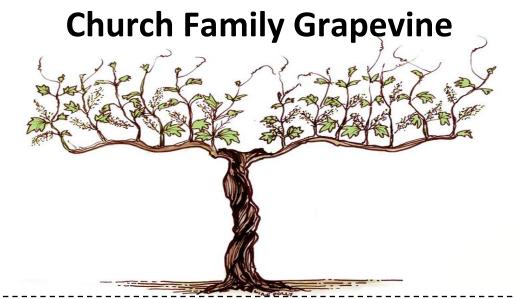
- Feb 8 Donovan Wallace
- Feb 9 Marilyn Hoobyar
- Feb 9 Maxine Kisling
- Feb 11 Michael Sims
- Feb 13 Emily Yonan
- Feb 14 Mark Aldax
- Feb 15 Elizabeth Kidwell
- Feb 15 John Simon
- Feb 17 Melba Jones
- Feb 21 Alison Aldax
- Feb 21 Robby Avilla
- Feb 22 David Posluch
- Feb 23 Pat Weisel
- Feb 24 Rebeccaa Staley
- Feb 28 Natalie Staley

This list is compiled by the information that you filled out. If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please contact the office.

#### **Anniversaries**

Feb 15 Michael & Polet Yonan

# **Prayers Appreciated**



#### **Ongoing Prayer Needs Key Code:**

P-Personal, F-Family, H-Health, S-Surgery, PG- Pregnancy, E-Employment, ST-Safe Travel, A-Adoption, **SA**-Salvation, **M**-Military

Bishop, Bill (H) Brugger, Betty (H) Bob and Marilyn Brunton (H) Bryant, Davene (Joyce Wiegman's daughterin-law) Castillo, Aislyn (P) Drescher, Helen (H) Gerdes, Anne (H) Higdon, Niki (H)Hope, Jack (Dick Vesperman's Nephew) (H) Hoover, Deb (Mary Peterson's Niece) (H)

Khinoo, Mae's Family (P)

Kimmler, Melanie (Pastor Craig's Niece) (H)

Lansing, Del (H) Lipe, Ron (H)

Old, Troy's Family (Sims' Neighbors) (P)

Purdy, Norman & Colleen (H)

Reeves, Jean (S.H) Rubalcava, Pat (R)

Runsten, Tricia (Darlene Runsten's Daughter)

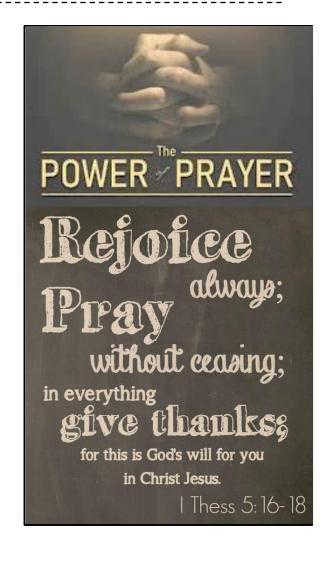
(H) Sargis, Mabel (H) Sondeno, Jacqueline

(R) Joanne Wickwire (S,H) Williams, Glee's

**Family** 

**Turlock Nursing & Rehabilitation Center:** 

Spencer, Cleo



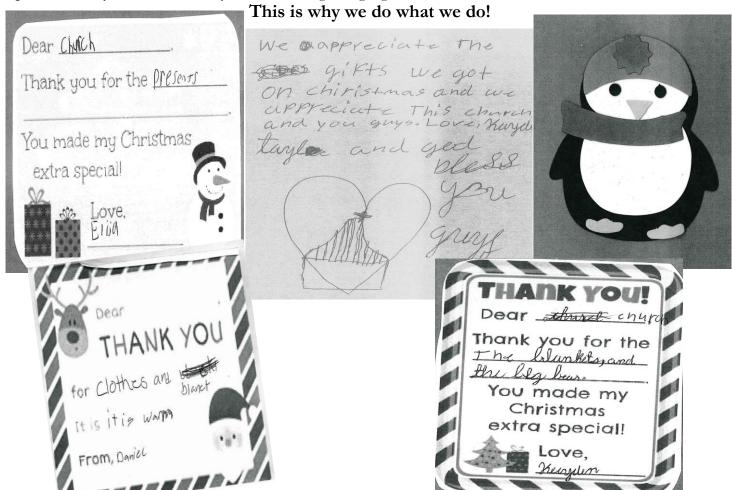
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# **Mission Ministry**

#### **GIFTS 4 KIDS: THANK YOU CARDS**

When we sow good works, we reap gratitude!

Below are a few examples of the thank you cards we received from the boys next door for the presents they received from you, the caring congregants.



\$ 5 million – granted around the globe
\$3.3 million – granted nationally in 29 states (including Puerto Rico)
\$1.6 million – granted internationally in 19 countries
\$403,420 – granted for refugee ministry nationally and internationally
\$438 National Response Team Members spent 1,680 days in the field in
52 presbyteries

167 Presbyterian Women trained in Disaster Preparedness
7,354 work team volunteers served in 10 states, donating more than \$10
million in volunteer labor (according to the Independent Sector)

# **Music Ministry**

# **り** From the Music Room リナ

There is a time for everything, And a season for every activity under heaven.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1** 

What a Wonderful, Busy, Exciting season we have had in the Music Department! Our Choir's participation in the Gallo Center's "A Very Choral Christmas" once again was a lovely blessing, and we are still hearing from friends who enjoyed our part in it. And that shortly after a concert with several choirs presenting the music of Craig Courtney.

And then the Joyful music of Advent – with Bells and Choir and Brass, all in celebration of the birth of Jesus. And the exuberance of the children's voices as they sang "Joy to the World" during the first service filled our hearts with delight!

But the next season is quickly upon us! The choir is even now preparing for the Habitat for Humanity concert which will be on March 1, 2020. Plan now to attend this wonderful ecumenical concert, this year conducted by our friend Anne Talcott!

And our Bell Choir is beginning a new season of music as they look for new ringers to join them. NO experience necessary — and we will train you! It's not difficult to ring a bell, and this is a group who enjoy having a good time while they learn! Rehearsals are at 7 pm on Sunday evenings in Room 4.

Sing to the Lord with us! In EVERY season!

Rev. Wendy Warner Director of Music

## Deacon, Session, & Congregational News

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#### **DEACON TEAM MINISTRY**

The Deacons met on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup> and had our last meeting with the Deacon Class of 2019. We also accepted the resignation of Alta Jordan and Russell Limprecht from the Deacon Class of 2020. We are looking forward to meeting our new Deacons and to having a short "bring them up to date" meeting with them before their first official Deacon meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup>. We had an update on the "Shoebox Birthday Ministry" and look forward to getting that project underway once our new Deacons are on board. We continue to thank those of you who financially support the Deacons, and we also appreciate your prayers so that we can continue to do our work. Just so you know, we really enjoy seeing and greeting you at the various events at the church.

In His Name and Service,

Barbara McClellan/Darlene Runsten

#### **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

The last regular meeting of Session was on January 20, 2020. Action items included:

- Approved Chili Cook-Off fundraiser on May 3, 2020 with proceeds to support the Guatemala Short-Term Mission trip in Summer 2020.
- Approved moving the Greening and De-Greening from Sunday after worship to Saturday dates.
- Approved purchase of in-ear monitor system for first service performance enhancement from donations specific to this purpose.
- Approved recommending to the congregation a 3% raise on pastor's salary and 3% raise on pastor's housing.
- Approved the 2020 FPC Budget.
- Approved proceeding with the ADA bathroom update project.

In service,

Pat Wallace, Clerk of Session

**26, 2020** 

# Annual Congregational Meeting

& BUDGET



- Elected New and Replacement Elders: Robby Avilla, Dan Hardesty, Marilyn Hoobyar, Glenda Jameson, Joey Reyes, Adria Sanders, Pat Wallace and Michael Yonan.
- ➤ Elected New and Replacement Deacons: Diane Arakelian, Lynnai Badal, Lynnette Betts, Vivian Huntley, Sheila Josh, Mary Peterson, and Rebecca Staley
- ➤ Elected the 2020 Nominating Committee: Marilyn Hoobyar and Pat Wallace, (Elder Reps); Lynn Posluch (Deacon Rep); and Richard Brown, Aislyn Castillo, Elaine Neely, and Polet Yonan (members-at-large).
- ➤ Elected corporation officers: John Sims, President; Richard Brown, Treasurer; Pat Wallace, Secretary.
- At the worship service on January 26, 2020 the following new members were received and welcomed to our church family: Lynnai and Bob Badal, Michael and Lynnette Betts, Dan and Barbara Hardesty, Paul and Susan Springer and Aislyn Castillo.



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Our ministry meets as needed to plan and organize events for our children and youth. Please contact either, Candace Peterson, elder, Marcy Wright, as director or Lois Marsh, as Sunday School Supervisor, to join our ministry.



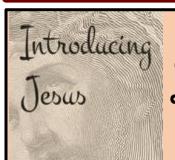


We are FIVE months in.

KEEP UP the GOOD WORK Hiding God's Word in Your Heart!



### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**



Join us Sundays during worship hour as we look at individual people who Jesus Showed Love to.



#### CALLING ALL FUTURE SCIENTISTS!

Come on Wednesday Nights at 6:30 pm right after BIG Wednesday Dinner to Find out About the Science of God's Love! We'll do FUN experiments as we gain knowledge about God's Great Love!

#### YOUTH MINISTRY

#### **SUPER BOWL LIV PARTY**



VS.



STARTING 3:00 PM AT CHURCH

# **Presbyterian Women's Ministry**

Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.: *Hymn Sing-Along Birthday Party*All are invited to join us in the dining room at Vista del Sol Convalescent Hospital, 812 W. Main St., Turlock. We will greet residents, sing hymns along with them, present a devotional, and give birthday presents to residents with February birthdates. Refreshments are provided to the residents by Vista del Sol. *Contact - Joann Wickwire* 

# Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. in Rm 7: 2018-2019 PW Coffee & Bible Study

Last month we considered God's loving desire that we give honor to all of the life-givers in our experience. God uses many people to bless us with full lives. In Lesson 5, "Words of Love: Don't Kill Each Other", of <u>LOVE CARVED IN</u>

<u>STONE A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments</u> by Eugenia Anne Gamble, we examine the companion Word in which God tells us that we are not to be life-takers. We will explore various meanings of the Hebrew word translated as "murder". We will consider our behavior, habits, and cultures – choices we make that destroy and diminish life. Primary scriptures for the lesson are Exodus 20:13, and Matthew 5:21-26.

Our February meeting will be the final date to sign up and pay for a one-year bulk rate subscription (6 issues) to "Horizons" magazine. You will receive a copy of next year's Bible study as part of your subscription. (It ships around April 1st of each year.) We already have enough people to secure the bulk rate of \$17.95. (Without the bulk rate, a one-year subscription is \$24.95.) Our PW will pay the shipping charges. Checks should be made payable to "Presbyterian Women". Payment should be given to our Treasurer, Elaine Neely. We will make an order later in the year for those who wish to order only the Bible Study booklet. Contact – Vivien Huntley



# **Buildings & Grounds Ministry**

## Bright Ideas LED The Way

Joey and Dan replaced old bulbs in two overhead fixtures that light up our parking lot entrance.

One bulb had burned out but Dan figured this was a chance to upgrade both to LEDs (with an estimated 50-year lifespan).

The crew used the 16-ft. ladder. Old ballast and capacitor wires were cut and secured. Quick and hopeful trip to new Ace Hardware for LED "com cob" bulbs. Skillful fitting and balancing to install new bulbs in sockets.

Our old lights timer could be a future upgrade.















#### Weather Picks

Left: Sunset view from FPC's parking lot in January 2020.

Right: Our catch basin near the picnic grounds collected a lot of rain (mostly drained from the parking lot) in early December 2019.



# **Calendar of FPC Events**

#### **FEBRUARY 2020**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 AM Sunday School for Children 10:30 AM Traditional Worship Service 12:00 PM Annual Congregational Meeting 1:00 PM UAEC; Sanctuary Reserved 7:00 PM Bells Practice	9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Buildings & Grounds Committee	Learning Zone Ministry	99:00 AM Men's Coffee 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 4:45 PM Zoe Zone Ministry 5:30 PM BIG Wed. Dinner 6:30 PM Children's Program 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	30 10:30 AM Craig's Bible Study @ Covenant Village 3:00 PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON MINOR PROPHETS 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 6:30 PM Mindful Meditation	31	1
2 8:00 AM Praise Team Rehearsal 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Missions Committee 10:00 AM Sunday School for Children 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service 1:00 PM UAEC; Sanctuary Reserved 3:00 PM Youth Ministry; Superbowl Party 7:00 PM Bells Practice	3	4 10:00 AM Administration Meeting 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry	5 9:00 AM Men's Coffee 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 4:45 PM Zoe Zone Ministry 5:30 PM BIG Wed. Dinner 6:30 PM Children's Program 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	6 10:30 AM Craig's Bible Study @ Covenant Village 3:00 PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON MINOR PROPHETS 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 6:30 PM Mindful Meditation	7 Youth; Winter Camp @ Zephyr Point 6:30 PM 2nd Friday Fellowship @ Dustbowl	8 Youth; Winter Camp @ Zephyr Point
9 Youth; Winter Camp @ Zephyr Point 8:00 AM Praise Team Rehearsal 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Fellowship Committee Meeting 10:00 AM Sunday School for Children 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service 1:00 PM UAEC; Sanctuary Reserved 7:00 PM Bells Practice	10 9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry in Room #7	11 10:00 AM Administration Meeting 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry	12 9:00 AM Men's Coffee 10:00 AM P.W. Birthday @ Main West 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 4:45 PM Zoe Zone Ministry 5:30 PM BIG Wed. Dinner 6:30 PM Children's Program 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	13 10:30 AM Craig's Bible Study @ Covenant Village 3:00 PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON MINOR PROPHETS 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 6:30 PM Mindful Meditation	14	15
16 2 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING 8:00 AM Praise Team Rehearsal 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Sunday School for Children 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service 1:00 PM UAEC; Sanctuary Reserved 7:00 PM Bells Practice	17 6:30 PM Board of Deacons	18 10:00 AM Administration Meeting 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry	19 9:00 AM Men's Coffee 9:30 AM P.W. Bible Study in Rm #7 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 4:45 PM Zoe Zone Ministry 5:30 PM BIG Wed. Dinner 6:30 PM Children's Program 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	20 10:30 AM Craig's Bible Study @ Covenant Village 3:00 PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON MINOR PROPHETS 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 6:30 PM Mindful Meditation	21	22
23 8:00 AM Praise Team Rehearsal 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service 10:00 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Sunday School for Children 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service 1:00 PM UAEC; Sanctuary Reserved 6:30 PM Youth Ministry; GROG 7:00 PM Bells Practice	9:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry in Room #7 7:00 PM Buildings & Grounds Committee	25 10:00 AM Administration Meeting 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry	26 9:00 AM Men's Coffee 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 4:45 PM Zoe Zone Ministry 5:30 PM BIG Wed. Dinner 6:30 PM Children's Program 6:30 PM Youth Ministry 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	27 10:30 AM Craig's Bible Study @ Covenant Village 3:00 PM ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON MINOR PROPHETS 3:30 PM FPC Learning Zone Ministry 6:30 PM Mindful Meditation	28	29



First Presbyterian Church 2619 N. Berkeley Avenue Turlock, CA 95382

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Facebook:

www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurch





Non-Profit

Permit #187

U.S. Postage Paid

Big enough to meet your needs...Small enough to know your name.

#### Church Staff...

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Craig Wright

Parish Associate: Rev. Wendy Warner Children Ministry Director: Marcy Wright Youth Ministry Director: Stephanie Anderson Tutoring Ministry Director: Meredith Lawrence

Director of Music: Rev. Wendy Warner Administrative Assistant: Polet Yonan

Bookkeeper: Russell Limprecht Accompanist: Dr. Wayne Kidwell

Organist: Barbara Bort Child Care: Ester Salgado

