

# "THE GRAPEVINE" AUGUST 2022



## Flower Calendar



August 7

Lynda Mendoza

August 14

Bill & Daisy Hamilton

August 21

Carolyn Gamino

August 28

Harold & Cathie Reich



- 1- Hank Granados
- 6- Steve McMasters
- 17- Savannah Keith
- 19- Michael Dubie
- 24- Jessica Pineda
- 25- Charlotte Hyun
- 26- David Lee
- 30- Reiko Flanigan  
Bonny McCreary

## Happy Anniversary To:



- 7- Greg & Bonny McCreary
- 11- Everett & Hilda Bosch
- 18 - Bill & Daisy Hamilton

## 2022 "PER CAPITA"

**\$26.74 / PER MEMBER**

If you haven't paid your Per Capita, you may do so **anytime** through the year. Mark your check or envelope "Per Capita".  
**Thank you.**

## Church Calendar

### Feeding the Hungry

Tuesday, August 2 @ 5:15pm

### "Feasting on the Word" - Bible Study

Sunday's following Worship Service  
(Agnes Lea Lounge)

### Communion Sunday/ Deacons Offering

Sunday, August 7

### Thurs. Evening Quilters

Thursday's @ 7pm

### Zephyr Point Family Camp

Sunday, August 7 – Friday, August 12

### Newsletter Deadline

Monday, August 15

### Men's Breakfast

Saturday, August 20 @ 8am  
(Four Corner's Restaurant)

**WATCH OUR WORSHIP**

**SERVICE ONLINE @**

**[www.facebook.com/TracyFirstPres](https://www.facebook.com/TracyFirstPres)**

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Tracy Presbyterian Family,

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over! I hope you all are having a relaxing and refreshing summer! We have seen some very good things happening here at FPC, and what a joy and honor it is to be your temporary Pastor! The new season will soon be upon us as we follow the lectionary and holy times of the year. We are well into the season after Pentecost. This is the time of liturgical year that we focus on the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We are gifted by the Holy Spirit to reflect the person and love of our Lord and Savior! Our Lord has gifted us in many ways.

“The fruit of the Spirit is  
love, joy, peace, long  
suffering, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness,  
gentleness, self-control.”  
– Galatians 5:22-23



The gift of the Holy Spirit includes teaching, preaching, healing, serving others, proclamation, along with many others, but those seem to be the most important. The greatest of God's gifts to the church are Faith, Hope, and Love. The best of these is **“Love”**. We are all empowered by this Holy Spirit to love, forgive, encourage, support, and pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ, and for those who do not know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Please remember we have been blessed, so that we may be a blessing in Jesus' name, to share His love, joy, peace, kindness, and compassion to a broken, hurting, and lost world. You are the light of Jesus in this world, do not hide it under a basket, but let God's Holy Spirit transform you and empower you to be the loving goodness of Jesus in this world! Blessings to you all!

Your Brother & Pastor,

**David**

See you in Worship! ☺

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## FIREWORK SALES EVENT

*June 28 – July 4*

Most of you know or heard that after trying for 3 years, we got picked to run a Fireworks sales booth. The booth was in the AutoZone parking lot on 11<sup>th</sup> street and open from June 28<sup>th</sup> until 9pm on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The objective was to raise funds to pay for the roof work and take care of repairs such as the Lea lounge doors, the office backstairs, etc... The good news is that we made money to take care of the mentioned repair needs.

The most impressive part was how our leaders, the staff, church members and friends of the church responded, their involvement and commitment to help see this whole thing through. You should all be proud of our elders such as Don Burnett who every morning met us at the storage facility, loaded his truck and delivered the fireworks. Reiko and David Flannigan who volunteered for multiple and extra shifts and stayed past their time to cover the staffing shortages. Harold Reich who not only helped out, but offered his truck and helped us load, return and store the fireworks several evenings. Roy Patterson always made himself available to pick up the cash that made us vulnerable to robbery. Kathleen Buffleben who jumped in to help

on a busy and critical sales day. Our Deacons responded likewise, Sandra Devos was our star seller who sold two of the \$800 firework packages and drove sales up. Marie Patterson who signed up for multiple (and covered some of Roy's) shifts and took it upon herself and without training, to run the hi-tech iPad/Scanner/Reader cash register. Darline Pineda, who led the setup of the booth, covered several shifts, but had to bail out due to a nagging knee injury. Our administrator Jill who borrowed her husband's truck, help load and drop off the fireworks two late evenings. Our custodian Carolyn who volunteered for multiple shifts during the busiest time. Both staff members did this on their time and without pay.

In terms of members, the Winkler family (Roger, Tricia and Connor) were extremely helpful. Roger helped with sales, assumed responsibility over the whole operation to allow others to take breaks and stayed late to drive the truck and return the fireworks to the storage area. Connor was excellent as a cashier, figured out the effect of each firework product and trained others on how to read the firework ratings. Tricia helped drive sales up. Gladys Smith helped setup in the morning and break down the booth late at night on multiple days. Signed up for extra shifts on the busiest sales days, July 3rd and 4th. Cathie Reich helped run the booth and drive up sales. Elizabeth Dubie took time away from family to come out and help. Jessica Pineda, Julia Martinez, Chris Cortez who are friends of the church volunteered and helped cover various shifts. Jessica Peralta and Maili Malabey, Sandra's granddaughters, handmade two road sales signs. Even Pastor Hill got involved and helped us setup the products and staple the price signs on the shelves.

There are several key contributors that need to be recognized for their help and support. Without them, I believe this whole event might not have happened or gone as smooth. Beginning with Rosemary Lara who brought the idea to Session and with the help from our Clerk of Session, filled and submitted our initial application to the City of Tracy. In addition, she was at the booth every single day helping with sales, as a Spanish interpreter and bringing water, Gatorade and fruits to keep everybody hydrated. Once we got selected, Nancy Morgan Link was instrumental in helping us sort through a barrage of information and distill what we needed to do, work with TNT, to submit city permits and overall help lay out the plans that were executed during this whole event. Once the event started, Nancy Rusch quickly realized the need to go beyond the call of duty. She was at the booth every single morning to help us setup and for the first sales shift. Several times she came late in the afternoon to help with sales and stayed into the evening to help us break down and pack all the fireworks. On the last and busiest day, she worked over 10 hours straight. She was the ultimate volunteer and very exhausted at the end. Lastly, Robert Opie who was at the booth every morning to help unload the trucks, setup and support the first shift. Every day and around 7:30pm, he would come back and help us box up, load the trucks and drive to the storage area to unload. After 10pm every evening, he would review all the sales reports and update spreadsheets that gave us an accurate and daily inventory, the specific items sold and flag items that needed to be re-ordered. On the last day, he worked over 12 hours to help us close this whole event.

Most would probably say, the fireworks event was a success and profitable as it gave us \$15,762.29 in much needed funds to fix our church building, however, in my mind the REAL SUCCESS was in how everyone pulled together, saw the need and jumped in to help. I have not seen anything of this level in recent years. It has been many months since some of us have not seen others, and a result, I saw relationships between members rekindled, connections enhanced or mended. Saw differences in opinion put aside to help and support each other. Several customers commented their surprise to the number of people involved and working for free. Two of them, a young family man expressed interest in checking us out. Something about

old people selling cool fireworks. The second person, a Malaysian Christian said he would visit us soon and was looking for a home church. He said we looked like a friendly group of people. Perhaps, they'll come, but perhaps not. The point is that people outside our circle saw us and we made a positive impression. Overall, it was GREAT to see everyone working toward a common goal. It gives me great hope for the future of our church. I strongly believe we proved that we have the energy, strength and connection bonds to move forward.

As a final comment, we asked and received help from the Korean Church. They expressed that it was an honor for us to ask. Pastor Seung Ku Jung, his wife, Pari Nuri, elder Park Hee, and Katie Durbin helped on the third busiest sales day. They studied all the training videos, were ready to get involved and contributed from the moment they showed up. Perhaps as a result of our interaction, they asked, and we have agreed to have a joint Sunday Service on Sept 4<sup>th</sup>. We will have communion as one body and they will host a lunch for us afterwards. I believe this affirms our rich history as more than just a church. We are truly a church community that helps others and is focused on its mission.

For those who like charts, graphs and details, below is a report of our sales performance.

Alex Pineda  
Fundraising Committee Chair

06/28/2022-07/04/2022



DAY OF WEEK



TIME OF DAY



**Sales**

<b>Gross Sales</b>	<b>\$63,058.31</b>
Items	\$63,058.31
Service Charges	\$0.00
Returns	(\$28.99)
Discounts & Comps	(\$12,336.35)
<b>Net Sales</b>	<b>\$50,692.97</b>
Taxes	\$4,577.38
Tips	\$0.00
Gift Card Sales	\$0.00
<b>Total Sales</b>	<b>\$55,270.35</b>

## SESSION

For some time now the Book of Order has Included a provision naming all Clergy, Ruling Elders, Deacons, and Certified Christian Educators as mandated reporters if they observe, or suspect, abuse or neglect of children or vulnerable adults. Recently enacted California law now expands the list of classifications now considered as mandated reporters to include all church staff and regular volunteers. The State now requires on-line training of mandated reporters so that they understand their legal responsibilities as well as protection afforded them under the law. In compliance with this new law, the church has applied for an Originated Agency Identifier, which will enable us to enter data into and receive data from the State's database. Until we receive our identifier number individual mandated reporters cannot submit their fingerprints via Live Scan, but the on-line training and certification can be completed at this time.

The Session voted that effective with the next class of officers to be elected, the Class of 2025, both the Session and the Board of Deacons will be reduced from the 12 members authorized by our current Bylaws to a membership of 9. This action will require approval by the congregation to amend the Bylaws, and a call for a congregational meeting will be coming soon.

The Session spent a great deal of time looking at the church's financial situation. Consistently the income each month has been insufficient to cover monthly expenses, an unsustainable situation. After much discussion Session voted to authorize the Finance Committee to pursue selling the nursery school property.

The proceeds of the fireworks sale will be applied to maintenance of the church facilities. One project already completed is the repair of the double doors leading from the courtyard into Grant Hall. If you have exited through these doors after fellowship time on Sunday, you know what an improvement this is. The Building and Grounds Committee has a prioritized list of repairs and is proceeding with them. Next on the list is the rebuilding of the exterior stairs on the West side of the church office exiting from the second floor.

Live streaming of the worship service has resumed. Currently Alex Pineda is operating the camera, but volunteers are needed to spread the workload. If you are willing to help, please contact Alex, the Evangelism Committee, or Jill in the church office.

The Korean church has asked that our two congregations have a joint worship service and then joining them for lunch, which they would host. Session has proposed this to take place on September 4<sup>th</sup>, but the date needs to be coordinated with the Korean church. Also Rev. Dr. Mary Westfall, the Transitional Presbytery Executive of the North Central California Presbytery, will join Rev. Dr. David Hill on September 11<sup>th</sup> to lead the worship service.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## JUNE 2022

DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY	YEAR TO DATE
<b><u>GENERAL FUND</u></b>		
INCOME	\$ 8,459.41	\$ 53,151.85
EXPENSES	\$ 13,812.14	\$ 74,964.46
<b>GENERAL FUND INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (5,352.73)</b>	<b>\$ (21,812.61)</b>
<b><u>DEDICATED FUNDS</u></b>		
DEPOSITED WITH THE BANK OF STOCKTON		\$ 24,282.82
DEPOSITED WITH THE SYNOD OF THE PACIFIC		151,573.66
<b>TOTAL DEDICATED FUNDS</b>		<b>\$ 175,856.48</b>



## DEACONS DOINGS

The Deacons support those in need in the church, and the community. First Presbyterian Church has had an important role in **Tracy Interfaith Ministries (T.I.M)** since it began. They supply food and clothing for hundreds of people each month, as well as additional aid when needed. Many people in our church have volunteered. Jean Shipman was one of the first directors. Currently, Bonny McCreary is on the board and Marietta McLellan volunteers once a week, with Mike McLellan helping her. Volunteers are always needed, even if it's only once a week for a few hours. Donations of food are always welcome, and again there is a need for paper egg cartons. Deacons also support their Annual Dinner/ Auction, and many of our members attend this event, which will be on April 16, 2023. T.I.M also supplies us with the names of families for our Thanksgiving baskets. It is an important ministry to those in need in our community.

Another group the church and Deacons support, is Tracy Volunteer Caregivers (TVC). The mission of TVC is to support the elderly and others who need help, to allow them to remain independent. Volunteers provide rides to doctor appointments, help at the grocery store, or help with calls or social visits. Many members of our congregation are volunteers and/ or serve on the Board of Directors. Additional volunteers are always welcome, or if you know someone that needs help, call (209) 835-2772 or check out the website: [tracyvolunteercaregivers.org](http://tracyvolunteercaregivers.org). If you have any needs the Deacons can help with, please contact a Deacon, Pastor David ([revdhill49@yahoo.com](mailto:revdhill49@yahoo.com)) or the church office 209-835-3247.

