



"The Grapevine"

MAY 2023



**DEACONS BARREL ITEM:
"CANNED MEATS/ TUNA"**

Calendar Items:

Feeding the Hungry
Tuesday, May 2 @ 4:30pm

Congregational Meeting
Sunday, May 7 following worship

Women's Bible Study
Monday's @ 5pm (Agnes Lea Lounge)

"Feasting on the Word" Bible Study
Sunday's after Worship (Agnes Lea Lounge)

Piano Recital (Sanctuary in Use)
Saturday, May 13 @ 1pm

Mother's Day Waffle Breakfast
Sunday, May 14 after Worship

Joint Deacons/ Session Meeting
Tuesday, May 16 @ 6pm

**Scholarship Presentation for our Class of 2023
High School Graduates**
Sunday, May 21 during worship service

Office Closed – Memorial Day
Monday, May 29

Flower Calendar:

May 7

Frank & Jennifer Morelos



May 14

Pastor David Hill

May 21

David Weisenberger

May 28

Rick & Liz Hanson



1- Daniel Burnett

10- Helen Dubie

13- Jill Bailey

15- Sandi Clarke

Alex Pineda

16- Mike McLellan

Brandon Keith

29- Madisyn Maloney



1- George & Kathleen Buffleben

17- David & Reiko Flanigan

22- Harold & Cathie Reich

Pastor's Article:

Dear FPC Family,

We are now moving from the wonderful season of Jesus' death and resurrection into the birth of Jesus' Church! Pentecost is said to be the birthing of the Church because of the power of the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus, who promised His presence in our lives through the powerful presence of God's Holy Spirit!



The last words of Jesus to his disciples before He ascended; was that they would receive power. "This power is the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8) that will empower you to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all of Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." We are promised this same empowerment by God to be witnesses here in Tracy, San Joaquin County, California, and to the ends of the earth! This empowerment gives us the gift of teaching, preaching, healing, witnessing, visioning, feeding, serving, loving, forgiving, empowering others, and binding us together as the Body of Jesus in this time and place in which we live!



There are gifts of the Spirit given to us, which I mentioned, but the Spirit also blesses with the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. Please read I Corinthians Chapter 12 – 14, and Galatians 5: 22-24. If you have some questions or insight into these fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit, please let me know.

Remember Husbands...May 8th is Mother's Day! I hope to see you all in worship!

In Jesus' Love and Peace,

Pastor David

Blessings to you all!



Fellowship Info...

Our Maundy Thursday soup tasting had 12 delicious soups along with breads, cheeses and mini sandwiches. Around 30 members enjoyed the dinner and fellowship. Thank you to all who donated food and money. The Fellowship fund is used to purchase things like the monthly cake, coffee, plates, napkins, forks, etc. Thank you all for your continued food donations, financial contributions, and support.

- Reiko Flanigan, Fellowship Chair

Session Updates...

The Session and the Board of Deacons will conduct a joint meeting on May 16th. A joint meeting of the two groups to plan and coordinate activities is mandated to take place at least once a year by the Book of Order.

The next joint worship service of the congregations of the First Presbyterian Church and the Korean church has been scheduled for August 6th.

Planning is under way by the Evangelism and Membership Committee and the Interim Pastor for a communicant's class tentatively scheduled for September.

A report of the March special meeting of the Presbytery was given by the congregation's Commissioners to Presbytery. In alternate years the General Assembly of the denomination meets to deal with issues brought to it by the presbyteries and agencies. Each item of business brought to the General Assembly is referred to as an overture, and most are decided by vote at plenary sessions. However certain overtures that were approved by the General Assembly are referred to the presbyteries for ratification. To be approved, 2/3 of the presbyteries must vote in the affirmative. Following the latest General Assembly, twenty-three such overtures required ratification. At its special meeting, the Presbytery of North Central California ratified all but one of the overtures. Much of the business of the General Assembly is somewhat arcane from the perspective the average person sitting in the pews. One of the few that will have a direct impact on the church is the requirement that a policy be adopted for the prevention of racial discrimination.

When the childcare center property was leased to My Curious Monkeys several years ago, in addition to the building and surrounding yard, a classroom in the church building was included in the lease agreement. My Curious Monkeys will retain the use of the classroom after the building and yard is sold to them, so a revised lease agreement is required. In addition, the original lease provided for the occasional use of the yard for church activities when it was not in use by My Curious Monkeys. Originally the intention was to use the yard during Vacation Bible School, but more recently it was used for the Easter Egg Hunt. Likewise, the church permitted My Curious Monkeys to use the fellowship hall when they had a graduation or a function for parents. So, to accommodate these occasional uses by the two parties, a Shared Use Agreement was drafted. The principal purpose is to ensure that each party provides indemnification to the other party. Both of these agreements were approved by Session.

New Fellowship Group – Men's Circle of Faith



The Fellowship committee is calling on all the men of the church to join us in a new fellowship group – **Men's Circle of Faith**. This group will meet on the second Saturday of each month, **beginning June 10th** in the Agnes Lea lounge. We will gather at 8:30am for a morning meal and fellowship followed by a short bible study, faith discussion and everyday application.

Pastor David Hill has graciously agreed to lead us in study and prayer by exploring the Life of Christ in context and through scripture. The first lesson will cover the Gospel of John – Chapter 1.

“Creator’s Word became a flesh and bone human being and pitched his sacred tent among us, living as one of us. We looked upon his great beauty and saw how honorable he was, the kind of honor held only by this one Son who fully represents his Father – full of his great kindness and truth. “

- First Nations Version. An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament.

~~~~~ Building & Grounds has been busy...

March — patched church bullet holes—4 on outside wall and two inside the Sanctuary. March—replaced electrical outlet in kitchen.

April 1—Church Work Party.

14 attended—in addition to front, back and library of church; outside of the church office included, all gutters and roof, rear of office, shrubbery, fixed front door, fixed door by Jill’s desk. Discovered that kitchen sink drain has no clean out plug to outside.

Gas water heater fixed—replaced thermocoupler—cost less than \$20 for parts
I put in 10+man hours,
Tony made three trips—approx. 5-man hours.



Lights in social hall being replaced with LED’s by Alex—1/2 completed

Repaired lock on door from kitchen to the outside

Tony checked **church stained glass window**—wood-rot probably around opening also—will work on estimate.

School fence—have not gotten in touch with tree owner. **Fence** behind church very shaky.

April 16—was informed that landing/ stairs are in bad shape with no hand railings outside church bathrooms

Mission Committee Updates

The Mission Committee supplied 50 meals for the Feed the Hungry Program on April 4th. Thank-you Marie Patterson for providing the pasta and salad. Thank -you, Don and Fang Burnett for the fruit and the Fellowship Committee for providing the cake. I always appreciate the help that I get from Don and Fang Burnett, Carolyn Gamino, and her grandson in helping me serve.



On May 2nd, Sandra DeVos will provide the Main dish. On July 4th, Marie and I will provide hot dogs, watermelon, salad, and chips. We are looking for someone to provide the main dish for June 6th; if you think that you would like to contribute something, please let me know and we will work together. I do want to thank all who contribute financially to this cause.

I would like to thank all who contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing. It was greatly successful, as we collected a total of \$1333.00.

I am looking forward to hearing Fang Burnett speak about her years of growing-up in China on April 30th during the Church Service. If you miss the services, please check our "Facebook" site.

- Roy Patterson, Mission Chair



FINANCIAL SUMMARY MARCH 2023

DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY	YEAR TO DATE
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>		
DEPOSITED WITH THE BANK OF STOCKTON		
BALANCE FORWARD		\$ 14,799.29
INCOME	10,314.00	41,730.59
EXPENSES	17,030.05	52,055.03
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ (6,716.05)	\$ 4,474.85
 <u>DEDICATED FUNDS BALANCE</u>		
DEPOSITED WITH THE BANK OF STOCKTON		
SPECIAL FUNDS		\$ 16,513.28
IN-AND-OUT FUNDS		14,001.66
DEPOSITED WITH THE SYNOD OF THE PACIFIC		152,688.55
DEDICATED FUNDS BALANCE		\$ 183,203.49