

# "THE GRAPEVINE"

## SEPTEMBER 2023

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**Zephyr Point Family Camp**  
**JUNE 16 – 21, 2024**

### CHURCH CALENDAR:

**Communion Sunday/ Deacons Offering**  
Sunday, Sept. 3

**Church Office Closed**  
Monday, Sept. 4

**Feeding the Hungry**  
Tuesday, Sept. 5 @ 430pm

**Men's Circle of Faith**  
**(Church S. Hall)**  
Saturday, Sept. 9 @ 830am

**Newsletter Deadline**  
Friday, Sept. 15

**Men's Breakfast @ Four Corner's**  
Saturday, Sept. 16 @ 8am



**International Day of Peace**  
Thursday, Sept. 21



### FLOWER CALENDAR:

*Sept. 3 - Jean Shipman*  
*Sept. 10 - Matt & Sandi Clarke*  
*Sept. 17 - Bob & Evelyn Agdoma*  
*Sept. 24 - Open*



- 1- Bill Hamilton
- 7- Cathie Reich
- 12- Sharon Brown
- 13- Pastor David Hill
- 15- Stevie Mendoza
- 16- Krista Thomsen
- 26- Michele Weisenberger
- 27- Darline Pineda
- 28- Sandra deVos  
Kristin Thomsen

### *Happy Anniversary:*

- 3- Kalani & Tomara Schreiner
- 10- Matt & Sandi Clarke
- 14- Robert & Ellen Opie
- 25- Allen & Sharon Brown



## PASTOR' S PAGE :

We now move into a new season of Autumn. We see the changes of the season all around us; leaves, empty vines and fields, bailed hay, shorter and cooler days with longer nights. Children of all ages going back to school and they are all older (we all are!). The weather changes, wind blows, rains come, and the temperature hopefully drops. This is a period of transition from summer to winter. This is part of God's creative renewal on this planet that we call earth. This home of God's creative life has many challenges upon it. Wars and rumors of wars, global weather and climate changes affect our daily lives. We are citizens of two kingdoms, one is the country we live in and the other is the Kingdom of God. How the two come together is a miracle of God's redeeming love and grace! We as a ship upon this sea of life is our living space. Jesus came into this world to redeem, renew, and give new birth to this created world and to our lives. The church is the place where we come to be taught, to share in fellowship, ministry, and to worship our Lord with our heart, mind, and soul. We are "the called-out ones". Our task and purpose for life is to love the Lord our God with our hearts, minds, soul, body, and strength; and to love one another and all the people we encounter daily! How can we do this task with joy and expectation is the work of God's dynamic, creative power of God's Holy Spirit in us. Please consider how you can be a part of God's redemptive plan to reach the lost ones of God's family. You can make a difference for Jesus each day by your love and care for everyone who passes your path! Pray for the guidance of God's love to flow through your life to others and for this church to be a place of worship, service, and fellowship, in Jesus' name here in Tracy! Remember to invite a friend or family member to worship with us! Please pray for the leadership of First Presbyterian Church of Tracy to know the will of God for the present and future ministries we are being called to in Jesus' name.

Christ Has Risen! See you in worship!

*Pastor David*

# PEACEMAKING

The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program is celebrating 43 years. There have been Christian peacemakers ever since there have been followers of Jesus. In 1980 the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. adopted a document that established peacemaking as an emphasis of the church and laid the groundwork for what is now the Peacemaking Program.

The Reformed tradition, in which Presbyterians stand, has a historical commitment to world-transforming action: believing that reconciliation to God includes reconciliation to neighbors and involvement in social, political, and economic issues for the sake of order and peace.



Peace is the wholeness and well-being that God wills for all creation. God is continually at work in the world, offering healing, wholeness, mercy, justice and peace. God's peace is offered, where there is brokenness in individual lives, families, congregations, communities, and nations.

Our supporting the "Peacemaking Offering" contributes to God's peacemaking efforts, locally, nationally, and world-wide. 50% of our offering goes to Presbyterian U.S.A. for world-wide use, 25% goes to Presbytery for their use and 25% goes for local missionary work. The Mission Committee is asking you to use the envelopes in the bulletins marked for Peacemaking Offering or to write on your check memo Peacemaking Offering.

On October 29th, let our offering be used to spread God's love through "Peacemaking Offering." Where there is brokenness, let there be healing, let there be wholeness, let there be justice and peace. In the words of Jesus Christ, the "Prince of Peace." "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

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## MISSION COMMITTEE

On August 1, 2023, we provided 46 meals for "Feeding the Hungry." The menu was pork n' beans with hot dogs added, green salad, rolls, mustard and catsup, cupcakes provided by Tracy Interfaith by way of Marietta McLellan. We always say a prayer of thanksgiving for the food. Thank you to Carolyn Gamino and her grandson, Nathan, Liz Hanson, and Marie Patterson for their help with the serving. We have next month's menu and will serve Sept. 5, 2023. If you could provide a main dish, fruit, or salad for future dates, please let me know.

**Roy Patterson, Mission Chair**

# SESSION

Harold Reich provided an update of the work of the Mission Study Committee and shared some of the take-aways from the two conversations held by Mission Study Committee members with the congregation. One of the items mentioned was the desire to return to packing and distributing Thanksgiving baskets. People have indicated that they want to pack the baskets in our building and deliver them and/or have people who prefer to do so, pick them up at the church. In either case there is personal contact.

At its July meeting, Session members considered three different covenants of conduct, and at the August meeting selected one. The covenant of conduct outlines the conduct expected of Session members in their relationship with fellow members, and the congregation. Each member of Session will sign this covenant of conduct, pledging to adhere to its provisions.

The Standing Rules were amended to assign responsibility for livestreaming of all church services to the Worship and Music Committee, who will coordinate with the Technology Subcommittee for support.

Originally Family Camp at the Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center was scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> through June 7<sup>th</sup>. The dates have been changed to June 16<sup>th</sup> through June 21<sup>st</sup>. These revised dates are better for families; however, it will require rescheduling of the June Session meeting. That has historically been required but was not the case in 2023.

The church picnic originally scheduled to take place on September 10<sup>th</sup> has been canceled for the time being.

Active members on the rolls .....	98
Average in-church attendance during July 2023 .....	36
Communion served in July 2023 .....	42

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## JULY 2023

DESCRIPTION	MONTHLY	YEAR TO DATE
<b><u>GENERAL FUND</u></b>		
DEPOSITED WITH THE BANK OF STOCKTON		
BALANCE FORWARD		\$ 23,443.69
INCOME	11,761.00	95,714.29
EXPENSES	9,971.77	105,927.25
<b>GENERAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 1,789.23</b>	<b>\$ 13,230.73</b>
 <b><u>DEDICATED FUNDS BALANCE</u></b>		
DEPOSITED WITH THE BANK OF STOCKTON		
SPECIAL FUNDS		\$ 15,218.12
IN-AND-OUT FUNDS		10,475.56
DEPOSITED WITH THE SYNOD OF THE PACIFIC		585,120.80
<b>DEDICATED FUNDS BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ 610,814.48</b>

### DEACON'S MONTHLY

### BARREL ITEM:



**“PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY”**