



Pastor's Page

The logo for 'Pastor's Page' features the text 'Pastor's Page' in a purple, serif font. The word 'Pastor's' is on the top line and 'Page' is on the bottom line. To the left of the text is a stylized illustration of an open book with its pages fanning out.

June is a month for weddings, graduations/promotions, and dads. As to the latter, I read this article from Frank Pitts, a newspaper columnist, the other day and was quite moved.

Maybe you heard about the tribute Kevin Durant paid his mother a week ago. You probably missed the one he paid his dad.

Both came during Durant's acceptance speech after being named the NBA's most valuable player. Maybe you don't follow sports, maybe you've never heard of Durant, maybe you think a pick and roll is a roadside produce stand. You still should see the video.

In a voice choked with tears, Durant, a ferociously talented forward for the Oklahoma City Thunder, thanks God. He thanks each teammate by name, thanks his coach, support staff, brothers, friends, grandmother, fans, the sportswriters who voted for him. And in the part that will have you clearing your throat and discovering a foreign particle in your eye, he speaks directly to his mother.

"The odds were stacked against us," he says. "Single parent with two boys by the time you were 21 years old. . . . We moved from apartment to apartment by ourselves. One of the best memories I have is when we moved into our first apartment. No bed, no furniture, and we just all sat in the living room and just hugged each other. We thought we'd made it."

He recalls her waking him up before dawn to work on his game, exhorting him to run, practice, play to the pinnacle of his ability. "You made us believe; you kept us off the streets, put clothes on our backs, food on the table. When you didn't eat, you made sure we ate. You went to sleep hungry. You sacrificed for us. You're the real MVP." Wanda Pratt catches her tears in her hand as the crowd gives her a standing ovation.

By contrast, Durant's acknowledgment of his father is short and almost perfunctory. He notes the "up and down road" they have traveled, the support his father has given "from afar." He tells him he loves him, but he lavishes less emotion on Wayne Pratt than he does Russell Westbrook who's only a teammate, or Scott Brooks, who's only his coach.

It is a telling moment.

It turns out Pratt deserted his wife and two boys when Kevin was one, because, as he told the Washington Post in 2012, "I was immature, selfish; I was young." It took him almost 10 years to apologize to his sons and make peace with his ex-wife. He says he was a constant presence during Kevin's teenage years.

The intention here is not to indict father or son. No, the intention is simply to say this:

The absence of fathers matters.

We have evolved a society wherein we pretend the opposite is true. The disappearance of fathers

is now nearly the norm. Almost one in four American children lives in a household without their biological dads. For brown kids, that number stands at about 28 percent. For black kids, it's a little better than half...

...we tell ourselves it's OK, that this haphazardness has no impact on the child, that father is not irreplaceable, that his disappearance leaves no scar. But the statistics on poverty, drug use, education and incarceration suggest otherwise. So, in a different sense, does Durant's speech — a glowing encomium to the woman who brought him through his earliest years alone, a scattering of obligatory words for the man who was not there.

As such, the speech was a testimony to the power of a mother's love. But it was also a reminder: A father's absence has power, too.

Read more: http://host.madison.com/news/opinion/column/guest/leonard-pitts-jr-the-absence-of-fathers-matters/article_11fbdc33-8c12-5c54-95ee-34a41202e833.html#ixzz32U3p3DxQ

In the Bible, God is called "Father" by Jesus. In the Bible, God promised to be a "father to the fatherless." (Psalm 68:5) In the Bible, God's people are chastised for not looking after the fatherless. (Isaiah 1:23) As we celebrate Father's Day, let us give thanks for fathers and men who nurtured us, and dedicate ourselves to looking after the fatherless, and point them to their Heavenly Father.

SDG
Pastor Jim



Notes:

1. On June 14, our youngest, Rachel Stochl, will graduate from California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology. We are very proud of her! She will be staying in SLO until her mission trip to Costa Rica in July, then moving home for a bit. We'd appreciate your prayers as she continues her job search, and where God would use her in this world to His glory.
2. On June 15, Jennifer Warren Hauser will preach at Harvest. She is finishing her Master's Degree at Fuller Seminary, and is married to Rev. Karl Hauser, who is serving at Manteca Presbyterian Church.
3. On June 22, we will begin a 10 week series through the Psalms. Do you have a favorite Psalm? Let me know, and I will see if I can work it into the schedule.
4. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) will be meeting in Detroit from June 14-21. Please pray.

JUNE 2014



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>1</p>  <p>Collection for Inter-Faith 9:15—Bible Study 10:30—Worship / Communion</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.— Outreach Committee Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 a.m.— Alpha Circle 6:00 p.m.— Praise Practice 7:00 p.m.— Choir Practice</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study at Margaret Kuglin's</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:15—Bible Study 10:30—Worship Marlin presentation of Rwanda</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.— Worship Committee Mtg @ Laranjo's</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:00 p.m.— Praise Practice 7:00 p.m.— Choir Practice</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study at Margaret Kuglin's 1:00 p.m.— Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> 
<p>15</p>  <p>9:15—Bible Study 10:30—Worship</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>6:00 p.m.— Session</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study at Margaret Kuglin's 6:00 p.m.— Mariner's Meeting & Potluck—Marlin's Rwanda Trip</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>HARVESTER DEADLINE</p> <p>9:15—Bible Study 10:30—Worship 12:00— Men's Retreat Fundraiser</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study at Margaret Kuglin's</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:15—Bible Study 10:30—Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting</p>					

A Story of Love and Appreciation Half-way Around the World.....



Harvest Mariners and their guests are invited to hear the story of children in Kigali, Rwanda, reactions to receiving "gifts of love" via Operation Christmas Child annual distribution of Shoeboxes collected during 2013. Marlin Sena will talk of his experience this past month as a volunteer to distribute the gifts and show the pictures he was able to take during the week long journey.

The monthly Mariners meeting on Friday, June 20, will begin at 6 p.m. with a pot-luck dinner in the chapel area. Harvest attendees and their guests are invited to come. Bring a hot/cold dish or dessert and tableware. A \$1 donation for the group's Cargo is accepted at the door.

***Annual Tri-Tip BBQ Fundraiser for
Men & Boy's Retreat is June 22nd
Come help send a
Man or Boy to camp!***



***24th Annual Men & Boy's Retreat is Coming....
Mark your calendars
For August 1st through the 3th
At Kennedy Meadows***

MISSIONS—Lynn Laranjo

Thank you to all who participated in the yard sale by selling or donating items. With the booth fees and 10% profit along with added donations from booths we raised \$907. This will all be going to our general fund to help sustain the mission of Harvest in our own community.

PERSONNEL—Lynn Laranjo

As a committee we have begun the process of creating a job description for our pastor. Thank you all for completing the pastoral characteristic hand out to help give us guidance.

We are also working on implementing the sexual misconduct policy that session created last year so look for information to come.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Are you ready to go?

AROUND THE WORLD IN 5 DAYS!

Vacation Bible School is coming....

July 14—18, 2014; 8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

For pre-registration please contact the office 209-537-3519

Or email harvestpres@att.net



We are in the planning stage of VBS to be held July 14-18 from 8 a.m. to Noon. Please sign up to help either be a leader to help plan or sign up to help the week of VBS. Many positions need to be filled! Positions are Food, Crafts, Stories, Activities and floaters in an as needed basis. To sign up for any of the needed areas there is a sign up list in the Narthex or see Cyndy Cawley.



- 4—Dorothy Nelson
- 15—Warren Cawley
- 16—Bill Sperry
- 26—Jane McElrath

If your birthday or anniversary has not been listed, please call the office and let us know.



- 8—Leon & Karen Edwards
- 9—Art & Donna McRae
- 16—Marlin & Marilyn Sena
- 17—Devon & Michele James
- 20—Larry & Cheryl Lew

Regular Prayer List

Assisted Living:

- Mildred Vine—
Paramount Court
- Donna McRae—
Paramount Court (memory care)
- Mabel Cronan—

- June Limprecht—
Paramount Court (memory care)

Health Issues:

- Lucy Gilliam
- Virginia Irons
- Roger Morrow
- Dorothy Nelson
- Bill Sperry



Stockton Presbytery Prayer List for June

- June 1—Harvest Presbyterian Church; Ceres
Pastor Jim Stochl
Clover Bailey
- June 8—First Presbyterian; Columbia
Pastor Janet Russell
Tino Ballesteros
- June 15—Community Presbyterian; Gustine
Pastor Mark Hollingsworth
Sam Casiano, HR
- June 22—Grace Presbyterian; Lodi
Pastor David Hill
E. Russell Chandler, HR
- June 29—Manteca Presbyterian
Pastor Karl Hauser
Bill David

Ceres School's Prayer List for June

- June 1—Virginia Parks Elementary
Principal: Jennifer Backman
- June 8—Walter White Elementary
Principal: Dan Pangrazio
- June 15—Westport Elementary
Principal: Tami Garcia
- June 22 —Whitmore Charter High
Principal: Lynnette Chirrick
Asst. Principal: Mary Gonzales
- June 29—Adkison Elementary
Principal: Brian Murphy



Why Jesus died on the Cross

Margaret Kuglin

There is a very deceptive doctrine brought out by false teachers today and it is very dangerous. "It's 'all roads lead to God, all are going to heaven, good works will take you to heaven.'" This is very deceptive and it effects unbelievers and Christians alike. 2 Timothy 4:3-4 states, "Men will not put up with sound doctrine, but according to their own desires because they have itching ears, they will heap up for them teachers and they will turn their ears from the truth and be turned aside to fables." Little by little it is reaching into our churches.

When you asked Christ Jesus to come into your heart, did anyone sit you down and explain why Jesus had to die? Many people do not know what it means to be saved and what it has to do with Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. It all happened in the Garden of Eden. God told Adam and Eve they could eat of the fruit of any trees except one, "the tree of good and evil", the consequences was death, God said, "that tree is mine." There are three deaths: physical death, spiritual death and eternal death that is separation from God for eternity. Adam and Eve disobeyed god and ate of the forbidden tree and we inherited that sinful nature to sin and rebel against God. God wanted Adam and Eve to choose to love Him willingly. He did not want a robot, but people He loved to choose Him. He gives us the gift of Choice.

If you ask people, "Where are you going when you die?" Most will say, "I'm a good person, I go to church, I give, I do all the right things, I do good work, I'll go to heaven." This is the implication with that type of thinking: that we can come to heaven before a holy and righteous God on our own merits and good works. Then the question is how many good works. The basis of the way to heaven is through Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me." (John 6:24) If it is by good works, and our own merits or by any other road, why did Jesus have to die? The implication is Christ's death on the cross was unnecessary, God the Father made a terrible mistake to send His Son to die on the cross to pay for our sins. You can not be saved apart from Christ. Implied you can have a relationship with God apart from Jesus Christ. Implied, he forgives us simply because He loves us. The metal cross that we wear could be changed to an electric char. The cross symbolizes the death of Jesus Christ. We can take all the hymns about the blood of Jesus Christ out the hymnals and those that talk about Jesus Christ we would have no need of them.

When you were saved, did you understand about the cross? Did any one explain to you about the cross? Did they tell you why you needed to be saved or why you needed God's forgiveness for your sins? Christ's death was essential to God's plan for salvation. He said, "Even so must the son of man be lifted up." The cross was essential to accomplish God's desire, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) It was essential to satisfy the justice of God, "for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) Our penalty has been paid. Jesus is the only one who has ever lived a sinless life. He never sinned. Jesus was the only one who could make the way clear so that you could have a relationship with God.

Mission Statement ~ With God in control, the mission of the Harvest Presbyterian Church is to proclaim and bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and nurture the faith of our church family.

Church Information

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POSTAGE

**Harvester Deadline for July 2014 is
June 22, 2014**