



Pastor's Page

As you read this, Beth and I are finishing two weeks of travel to Colorado, Utah and Southern California. This will be the third year we have been in Red Feather Lakes, CO. In 2012, Rachel and I flew there to pick up a minivan for a friend, and then drove it back to Los Angeles in a little over a day. Last summer, we stopped by to see our friends, Frank and Till, on our way to see our son, Mark, in Denver. So this summer we

will have spent a week there.

Their little church, Chapel in the Pines, owns a small cabin. Guest preachers visit all summer, and stay for free in the cabin from Wednesday to Wednesday, and then preach and lead worship and a Sunday School class on Sunday. The rest of the time is spent doing whatever, like fishing, reading, hiking, golfing, etc. The hiking will be a challenge as it is located at 8300 feet!

I got to know Frank and Till in Southern California, as he was a member of a church I was serving. We would have breakfast together about once a month, and always talk about leadership and books. Frank is a voracious reader, and we often recommended books to one another. I was always encouraged to encounter another bibliophile, a book lover.

Some of what I am reading on the vacation are several books on church renewal and **growth, and for fun a history of the "Forgotten 15th" air force, which served in bases in Italy during WWII.** And of course I will be reading through the Psalms with you, and preparing for the fall schedule.

I am very appreciative of the time away. I have not taken much time off since coming to Harvest. We took a week last year to Nebraska, and have taken several weekends. Last year at this time we were getting ready to move into the house on Bella Flora (another move!). The session is holding me accountable for taking time off for refreshment.

There are some opportunities and challenges facing us when I return. We'd like to hold two Town Hall meetings on September 7, one right after worship, and one at 6:30 that evening. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss some of the changes the session is proposing.

On September 14, there will be a called congregational meeting for the purpose of changing the terms of call for the pastor. You will be greatly helped in this meeting if you attend one of the Town Hall Meetings.

September 21 is National Back to Church Sunday. Last year, some 30,000 churches in the United States participated in this, with a 31% increase in worship attendance that Sunday. Several statistics fueled this movement:

1. 82% of the unchurched are at least somewhat likely to attend church if invited" – Dr. Thom Rainer, The Unchurched Next Door
2. Yet only 2% of Christians EVER invite someone to church!

I am looking forward to the choir starting again in September, to a New Members Class in September, to the Trunk or Treat Outreach event on October 31, to the Billy Graham event in November, to the Shoebox collection and dedication in November, and to the new and creative things we can do to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ, and to draw others to Him at Harvest.

Our God is great and does wondrous things, he alone is God (Psalm 86). No good thing will God withhold from those who are living uprightly (Psalm 84). There are great **promises in the Psalms that are not just good ideas, but are also words to live by. Let's rest secure in God's promises, and seize the opportunities we are given.**

SDG

Pastor Jim



Notes:

1. Our daughter, Rachel, will be taking a road trip in September to Seattle, Minnesota, Chicago, St. Louis and Denver. Please pray for her safety and enjoyment, and when she returns, for the job search.
2. Keep reading the Psalms, and try to memorize some of the verses. It is good for the soul.

MY HOPE "HEAVEN"

At Harvest the prayer team has been praying for a revival in our community. The Billy Graham Association has put out a new message on "Heaven" that will be shown in our church on either November 8th or the 9th. We are inviting the people of Ceres to come and join us. We need willing people to pray for this to be effective. For the battle is the Lords.

If you are willing to host a prayer group of two or more in your home please call Margaret Kuglin at 537-7224.

"There must be prayer or nothing will happen"

SEPTEMBER 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting	2	3	4 9:30 a.m.— Alpha Circle Meets 6:00 p.m.— Praise Practice 7:00 p.m.— Choir Practice	5 10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study @ Kuglins	6
7  Collection for Inter-Faith 9:15— Bible Study 10:30—Worship / Communion 12:00—Town Hall 6:30—Town Hall	8 6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting	9	10	11 6:00 p.m.— Praise Practice 7:00 p.m.— Choir Practice	12 10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study at Margaret Kuglin's 1:00 p.m.— Deacons Meeting	13
14 9:15— Bible Study 10:30—Worship Congregational Meeting	15 6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting	16	17 6:00 p.m.— Session Meets	18 6:00 p.m.— Praise Practice 7:00 p.m.— Choir Practice	19 10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study @ Kuglins 6:00 p.m.— Mariner's Meeting & Potluck	20
21 HARVESTER DEADLINE 9:15— Bible Study 10:30—Worship	22 6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting	23	24	25 6:00 p.m.— Praise Practice 7:00 p.m.— Choir Practice	26 10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study at Margaret Kuglin's	27
28 9:15— Bible Study 10:30—Worship	29 6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting	30				

Have you ever said something you wish you hadn't or wish you could take those words back? We all can say 'yes' to that. We all have done this and wish we could pull these words back. But we can't. Proverbs 18:21 states: "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits". Words can kill a person or make them live.

In James, he talks about the untamable tongue, he talks how an animal can be tamed but the tongue can't except by the power of the Holy Spirit. Words hurt and can devastate a person. Do you remember when you were a child going to school reciting "sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me"? Do you remember when growing up some bully would make fun of you saying, "your too skinny or your too fat", "you can't hit the ball, you can't run", "your too tall or your too short"? Those words they said did hurt and their words stuck in your mind. Words can do the same today as we have grown. We as Christians want to say healing words, encouraging words, helpful words, building up words, edifying words, words that give strength to another person. How do we do this?

Pray that God would make you sensitive to others feelings. Study what the Bible says about the tongue. Be aware that you have this problem and confess it to God. Tell God, "I have this problem and I know I have hurt your people, I don't want to be that way, I want to say words that are pleasing to you. Help me control my tongue." God wants our speech to line with His words. There is a hymn I had learned as a child and can still remember. It is "Wonderful Words of Life"

1. Sing them over again to me, Wonderful words of life;
Let me more of their beauty see, Wonderful words of life.
Words of life and beauty, Teach me faith and duty.

Chorus:

Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

2. Christ, the blessed One gives to all, Wonderful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call, Wonderful words of life.
All so freely given, Wooing us to heaven.
3. Sweetly echo the gospel call, Wonderful words of life.
Offer pardon and peace to call, Wonderful words of life.
Jesus, only Savior, Sanctify forever.



Good News for

Operation Christmas Child's Shoebox Distribution

OCC Area Coordinators received reports recently that indicated 97% of the 2013 Shoeboxes have been delivered to the National Leadership Teams around the world for distribution to waiting children. The report also noted that Chinese officials have approved the receiving of a container and that Madagascar containers have cleared customs and will be distributed shortly.

NLT is also celebrating the news that teams are preparing for the upcoming season of The Greatest Journey and an expected 50% growth in children participation. Special training for leaders is being conducted to handle the increase.

Kick-off programs for the 2014 Shoebox collection are being held in all areas as the October 19, date approaches. Many held Christmas in July events to introduce the **OCC's project to new participants prior to the official Kick-off date**. Harvest hosted the local Manteca GO Team which is comprised of year-round volunteers from Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties.

Volunteers are encouraging those who plan to pack Shoeboxes to take advantage of the Back to School sales and to use the OCC boxes made available to their local church project leader. Harvest leader, Marlin Sena, will have the OCC Shoeboxes at the Sunday Kick-off event. The 2014 goal for Stanislaus-San Joaquin is 20,000 Shoeboxes.





- 3—Marilyn Sena
- 4—Patti Arbizu
- 4—Art McRae
- 4—LaVeta Rhoy
- 17—Michele James
- 25—Ana Lopez
- 26—Margaret Kuglin
- 29—Karen Edwards



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

- 1—Denny & Gayle Goss
- 4—Neal & Myrna Wilhite
- 8—Michael & Patricia Cousins

Regular Prayer List

Assisted Living:

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

Health Issues:

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



Stockton Presbytery Prayer List for September

- Sept. 7—Personnel Committee
Stockton Presbytery
Robert Ryland, HR
- Sept. 14—Calvin Crest Conference Center
Paul MacMurray, HR
John Snyder, HR
Saburo Masada, HR
- Sept. 21—First Presbyterian Church; Stockton
Pastor: Gus Wright
Tino Ballesteros
- Sept. 28—Synod of the Pacific
Int. Exec.: Jane Odell
Synod Support Staff
Robert Sherwood, HR

Ceres School's Prayer List for September

- Sept. 7—Don Pedro Elementary
Principal: Rick Hall
- Sept. 14—Hidahl Elementary
Principal: Vaughn Williams
- Sept. 21—La Rosa Elementary
Principal: Lori Mariani
- Sept. 28—Lucas Academy
Principal: Israel Gonzalez



Personnel Update—Lynn Laranjo

With all of your input and a great personnel team we finally have a job description for Pastor Jim. Thank you all! For those who are curious it will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Session

Congregational meeting will be held after church on September 14th to vote on a change to terms of call for Pastor Jim. A town hall meeting will be held September 7th immediately after church and again at 6:30pm to talk about the changes being presented.



Trunk or Treat 2014 Plans in the Works

Martha (photo) rewards a small fisherman who attended last year's successful Trunk or Treat. Preliminary plans are in the works for this year. The event will be held on Friday, October 31st, from 6 to 8 p.m. in Harvest's front parking lot

area. The planning committee indicated that at least 8 decorated trunks are needed to intersperse with three games to insure that the event happens.

Trunks would be decorated around a popular Bible Story of the "trunkers" choosing. Small cards summarizing each story will be available to the guests along with a treat. Prizes or treats would be awarded game participants. Warm popcorn and cold water will be given out, too.

The committee hopes Harvest attendees will start planning to participate in the fourth annual event by either decorating a trunk, volunteering to supervise a game, helping with welcoming and registration, or assisting with serving the popcorn and passing out candy. Donations of candy or monetary assistance will be appreciated for the event that attracted over 500 residents last year.

Prayers are solicited to make this an outstanding event for the community children and for Harvest. Additional information can be obtained by talking to Marilyn Sena, 556-0448 or Margaret Kuglin, 537-7224. Sign-up sheets will be placed in the narthex towards the end of September.



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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SEPTEMBER

HARVEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1813 Moffet Road
Ceres, CA 95307

POSTAGE

Harvester Deadline for October 2014 is
September 21, 2014



Mariner's Meeting



Summer is over!
Mariner's will be meeting on
Friday, September 19, 2014
At 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

All are invited for an evening of fellowship and food.
So bring your potluck dish,
your own place setting
And \$1.00 per person

Come and enjoy some time together with us!