

So, how are you doing on your New Years' resolutions? Have you lost that weight? Have you picked up that new habit? Have you gone to the gym more often? Have you gone at all? Human beings are resolution makers. We make ourselves, and others, promises about our behavior, our actions, or lifestyles. Invariably, we cannot keep them all. So we either try harder, or we give up, or we set our expectations very low, along the lines of, "I promise to eat in 2015."

This carries over into our relationship with God. We promise God we will try harder, we will do better, we will read more, complain less, serve with greater joy and in the end, we let God and ourselves down.

So often I will visit folks in the hospital, or recovering at home, and I hear this: "Pastor, I just don't know if I have done enough for God to love me." There is a part of me that resonates with this question, for I, too, often wonder whether I have done enough. As a life-long perfectionist, I can assure you that I have never done enough.

But the question also portrays a shallow and even dangerous view of the gospel. For in the gospel, God loves us because God loves us, not because we have any worth in ourselves, or that we have done enough to earn God's love. We want so much to be loved, so we try and make ourselves lovable. And yet, it is God's sovereign choice to love us, and to transform us. Because of that, we can rest assured. We can rest because Christ has done enough for us. Our actions can now be out of love and gratitude, rather than duty and obligation. I pray you find rest for your souls in Jesus Christ this month. And every month!

Things are slowly changing around Harvest. Have you noticed that we have some new children coming from week to week? Isn't it great?

We want to welcome our new office assistant, Debby Haynam, a student from Cal State Stanislaus. Debby is from Turlock, and wants to be a writer and a librarian. She is very positive, and we welcome her to our staff. She will be in the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Come by and visit, or give her a call to get to know her.


We continue to pray for full time employment for Brenda Collins. As this is written, she is awaiting word on a full-time position with Boyett in Modesto. We appreciate her twelve years of service at Harvest. There is an opportunity through February 8 to contribute to a love offering for Brenda. Make a check out to Harvest, and put "Love Offering" in the memo line, and we will get the money to Brenda with our thanks and prayers.

On Sunday evenings, February 15 and March 8, I will be leading a discussion and presentation of several of the Chronicles of Narnia, C. S. Lewis' famous children's books. I love these books and read the series every year, and am always blessed and challenged. They are spiritually rich with profound insight into the Christian Life. If you are a fan of the books, or have never read them, here's some encouragement to read them, and come discuss them. We will meet in the Youth Room from 6:00-7:15 p.m. on those nights. The first book on February 15 will be "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" followed on March 8 with "Prince Caspian". If you have never read those books, they are a real treat. Please read them and come join the discussion and the fellowship.

As Lewis says, Aslan is on the move. I look forward to journeying with you as the Lord does wonderful things in us and through us. SDG

FEBRUARY 2015



| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|-----|--|---|---|-----|
| 1 10:30 a.m.— Worship / Communion Congregational Meeting | 2 6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.— Outreach Team | 3 | 4 | 5 9:30 a.m.— Alpha Circle Meets 5:30 p.m.— Praise Team 6:30 p.m.— Choir Practice | 6 10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study @ Kuglins | 7 |
| 8 10:30 a.m.— Worship | 9 6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting | 10 | 11 | 12 5:30 p.m.— Praise Team 6:30 p.m.— Choir Practice | 13 8:30 a.m.— Finance Team 10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study at Kuglin's 12:00 p.m.— Deacons | 14 |
| 15 10:30 a.m.— Worship/ Communion 6:00 p.m.— Discussion—Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe (Youth Room) | 16 6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting | 17 | 18  6:00 p.m.— Session | 19 5:30 p.m.— Praise Team 6:30 p.m.— Choir Practice | 20 10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study at Margaret Kuglin's 6:00 p.m.— Mariner's | 21 |
| 22 10:30 a.m.— Worship 6:00 p.m. — Harvest Conversations | 23 6:00 p.m.— Church Prayer Meeting | 24 | 25 | 26 5:30 p.m.— Praise Team 6:30 p.m.— Choir Practice | 27 10:00 a.m.— Women's Bible Study @ Kuglins | 28 |
| | | | | | | |

- 9—Brenda Collins
- 12—Rosemarie Bulkley
- 12—Randi Rodgers
- 19—Staci Edwards
- 19—Cheryl Lew
- 28—Darien Arias



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



- 14—William & Mae Dell Dingwall
- 15—Terry & Anette Arias

Regular Prayer List

Assisted Living:

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

Health Issues:

- Virginia Irons
- Roger Morrow
- Dorothy Nelson
- Bill Sperry
- Margaret Kuglin (eye)
- Patti Arbizu (knee)
- Cyndy Cawley (ankle)
- Alice Visser (English Oaks)



Stockton Presbytery Prayer List for February 2015

- February 1—Geneva Presbyterian; Modesto
Pastor: Joshua Trautmann
Sam Casiano, HR
- February 8—Finance Committee
Stockton Presbytery
David McCulloch, HR
Clover Bailey
- February 15—Nominations/COR Committee
Stockton Presbytery
Al Opdyke, HR & Julia Leeth
- February 22—Healthy Congregations Comm.
Stockton Presbytery



Ceres School's Prayer List for February 2015

- February 1—Westport Elementary
Principal: Tami Garcia
- February 8—Whitmore Charter High
Principal: Lynnette Chirrick
- February 15—Adkison Elementary
Principal: Brian Murphy
- February 22—Endeavor High
Principal: Jan Gordon

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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HARVEST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Ceres, CA 95307

POSTAGE

Upcoming Dates

February 1- Communion Sunday,
and Congregational Meeting

February 15- The Lion, the Witch and the
Wardrobe Discussion
(6-7:15pm, Youth Room)

February 15- Communion Sunday

February 18- Ash Wednesday, Lent begins

February 22- Harvest Conversations
(evening, with dessert, formerly called
Town Hall meeting)

March 1- Communion Sunday

March 8- Prince Caspian Discussion
(6-7:15pm, Youth Room)

March 16-22- Pastor Jim gone to Spring
Training in Arizona, Rev. Steve Hanna
preaching on 3/22

April 2- Maundy Thursday

April 5- Easter