



Kendrick Kajikawa is my friend. Both our sons played soccer and basketball together, and were in the same grade in school. Kendrick is also my optometrist, and I still visit him when I am in Southern California.

Every time I visit him, he makes me do an eye test. And so I take my glasses off and put my head against the contraption and he says, “Read line one.” Which, of course, is a large “E” that no one can miss. Then it gets more difficult.

After a while, he gives me a card with some letters, and asks me to read them. At the same time, he fiddles with the lenses on the machine. “Clearer or less clear?” he asks. And we go back and forth until he gets the best measurement which gives me the clearest eyesight. And another few hundred dollars in glasses and frames later, I can, indeed, see more clearly. I deeply appreciate Kendrick for his friendship, and influence on the boys, and for his expertise in the field of optometry.

The Bible serves a similar function to Dr. Kajikawa, it helps us “see”. It is amazing how many times the simple word “see” appears in the Bible. A quick search on Biblegateway.com shows that the word “see” appears 1249 times! Isaiah has the most with 105 times, Psalms has 101 times, and John’s gospel has 73 times. Why this importance of seeing?

Because sin has warped our vision. We see things wrongly. We consider some things valuable that God does not. And we consider some things as not valuable that God does consider valuable.

There is an old joke about a man going to heaven, and is allowed to bring one thing along with him. So he brings a suitcase full of gold. When he opens it, one angel turns to another and asks, “Why do they keep bringing *pavement* with them?” On earth, gold is very valuable, but in heaven, gold is used to pave the streets. What do we see?

In this political season, what do you see? Do you see things as Democrat or Republican? Do you see things as Conservative or Liberal? Do you see things as American or un-American? Do you see some people as worth more than others? Do you see some people worth less than others? And how do we see people with whom we disagree? Are they “stupid”? Do we unfriend them because they disagree?

So much of what we believe and think is greatly influenced by our media. As followers of Jesus, our aim is to please Him, and to be transformed by Jesus. In these next few weeks, after finishing up with the Feeding of the Five Thousand, I will seek to address some political topics in a Biblical (I hope) way.

I do hope that we will make a concerted effort to hear God's voice in scripture especially during this divisive and important season in our nation's life. Would you commit yourself to reading the Bible every day?

And let us pray hard for the upcoming elections, and for the candidates and issues. Join us on Mondays at 6:00 for a 30 minute prayer meeting in the Youth Room.

SDG

Pastor Jim



Notes:

- 1) I will be participating in a Preaching Conference at Zephyr Point Conference Center at Lake Tahoe from Monday, October 3 through the 5th. Please pray for safe travels and for good learning.
- 2) Trunk or Treat is coming on Monday, October 31st. Please let Pastor Jim know what you are willing to do to help. We need people to host their car trunks, for people to help with games, for people to help with registration and set up. Our Emanuel congregation is also participating, and they are excited. Last year, we had over 800 people come by. This year, we hope for 1,000!
- 3) We will be praying for Devon James' foot surgery on October 4th, that this would fix the issues he is having, and that his foot would completely heal.
- 4) Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are coming, so watch for sales and begin collecting items for your Shoeboxes. Collection will be November 20.
- 5) Prayerfully consider how to serve Harvest, as you may be contacted by someone from the Nominating Committee.

Harvest Mariners

Programs this 2016-2017 season for Mariners will feature presentations by HPC members/friends.

September began with Art McRae introducing General George Armstrong Custer based on bio research and his experiences growing in Miles City, the county seat of Custer County—one of 56 Montana counties and near the famous Battle of Little Bighorn. Art graduated from Custer County High School in 1952. Miles City Presbyterian Church completed in 1917, made an impressive appearance. Next year the Miles City Church will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

On October 21, Betty Baughman will share her musical heritage, including her family connection to Katherine Lee Bates and her "America the Beautiful".

If you would like to share your heritage, skill, or interest? Please contact Pat Cousins at (209) 538-2875 or pmcousins@aim.com.



Ten Things Pastors Would Love to Hear from Their Church Members (Thom Rainer)

<http://thomrainer.com/2016/08/ten-things-pastors-love-hear-church-members/>

It is a simple question. What do you hear from your church members that gives you the greatest encouragement? The responses from the pastors were amazingly similar. In fact, I was able to focus on ten specific areas. Here are summary statements of those areas.



- 1) “I pray for you every day.” This statement was the most frequent. Read it carefully. It’s not just prayer; it’s daily prayer. The pastor understands ministry is spiritual warfare. The pastor understands prayer is one of the greatest weapons in the warfare.
- 2) “I want to help your family any way I can.” Most pastors are stressed and stretched. So are their families. When a church member offers to support and help the family, the pastor feels like shouting for joy.
- 3) “I want you to know specifically how God spoke to me through your sermon.” The key word here is “specifically.” It’s not a lot of encouragement if a church member says perfunctorily “good sermon.” Let the pastor know the specific meaning and application to you from the sermon.
- 4) “I am ready and willing to take on that ministry task.” Pastors take great joy when a church member understands that ministry is to be done by the members, that the pastor is not the hired hand to do it all.
- 5) “I see my role as an encourager.” Pastors need numbers of people who will take on the Barnabas role. The critics will always be there.
- 6) “I see my role as one who will confront the bullies and the perpetual critics in the church.” I have heard from countless pastors that it’s not the critics who bother them as much as the “friends” who will not speak up and to the critics and church bullies.
- 7) “I will make certain your family has an adequate income.” One of the great stressors on pastors is financial worry. It is such a relief and joy when a church member takes the role of financial advocate for the pastor.
- 8) “I am available to babysit your kids.” Pastors with young kids relish a husband-wife date night. Many of them are unable to go out because they can’t find or afford babysitters.
- 9) “I will be in church with no excuses unless providentially hindered.” Pastors hear plenty of excuses. It is a refreshing change for them to hear from a no-excuse church member.
- 10) “I will never compare you to a previous pastor.” Yep, pastors cringe when they hear, “Pastor Bill used to do it this way.” Let your pastors know they have their own identity, and that previous pastors are not a scorecard against which they are measured.

Harvest Presbyterian Church
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POSTAGE



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.

Harvest Leadership 2016

Deacons

Virginia Bathe (Moderator)
John Baughman
Pat Cousins
Art Johnston
Nora McKinsey
Martha McNamara
Linda Sherman
Myrna Wilhite

Elders

Patti Arbizu (Clerk/Worship)
Susan Bennett (Communications)
Cyndy Cawley (CE/Mission)
Michael Cousins (Treasurer)
Staci Edwards (CE)
Brandy Meyer (CE/Youth)

Church Information

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Emails:

Pastor Jim Stochl— harvest.pastor.jim@gmail.com
Prayer Requests—prayer@harvestpres.org
Kohl James —secretary@harvestpres.org

OCTOBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p> <p>Communion - 10:30 am</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Prayer Meeting (6:00 pm)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>NATIONAL TACO DAY OCTOBER 4</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Alpha Circle- 9:30 am</p> <p>Choir- 6:30 pm Praise Team - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Women's Bible Study (10:30 am)</p> <p>Deacons (12:00 pm)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Work Day (9:00 am-12:00 pm)</p> 
<p>9</p> <p>Worship— 10:30 am</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Prayer Meeting (6:00 pm)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>National Farmers Day</p> 	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Choir- 6:30 pm Praise Team - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Women's Bible Study (10:30 am)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Kitty Tea 2:00—4:00 pm</p> 
<p>16</p> <p>Worship— 10:30 am</p> 	<p>17</p> <p>Prayer Meeting (6:00 pm)</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Session (1:30-3:30 pm)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Choir- 6:30 pm Praise Team - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Women's Bible Study (10:30 am)</p> <p>Mariners- 6:00 pm</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Worship— 10:30 am</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Prayer Meeting (6:00 pm)</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Choir- 6:30 pm Praise Team - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Women's Bible Study (10:30 am)</p>	<p>29</p> 
<p>30</p> <p>Worship— 10:30 am</p> <p>End of Month Potluck after the Worship Service</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>Trunk or Treat 6:00 –8:00 pm</p>	<p>November 1 2</p>		<p>3</p> <p>Alpha Circle- (9:30 am)</p> <p>Choir- 6:30 pm Praise Team - 7:30 pm</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>

October Sunday School Schedule*

10/2—Nursery: Martha McNamara, Staci Edwards; **K-3rd:** Beth Stochl, Nawatha Reed

10/9—Nursery: Kendall Meyer, Judy Salyer; **K-3rd:** Cynthia Cawley, Patti Arbizu

10/16—Nursery: Nawatha Reed, Martha McNamara; **K-3rd:** Beth Stochl, Judy Salyer

10/23—Nursery: Kendall Meyer, Anette Arias; **K-3rd:** Beth Stochl, Staci Edwards

10/30—Nursery: Kendall Meyer, Martha McNamara; **K-3rd:** Brandy Meyer, Anette Arias

* This schedule may change! Check with Brandy Meyer if you have any conflicts or questions.



Regular Prayer List

Assisted Living:

Donna McRae— *Golden Age Home Care, (memory care)*

Health Issues:

Virginia Irons

Roger Morrow

Dorothy Nelson

Margaret Kuglin (eye)

Patti Arbizu (knee)

Alice Visser (English Oaks)



- ♦ Office hours: Mondays: 1:30p.m.-4:30p.m.; Wednesdays: 1:30p.m.-5:30p.m.; Firdays: 11:00a.m.-3:00p.m.
- ♦ Choir Rehearsals have resumed

Friendly Reminders



10—Tom & Susan Bennett



5-Pastor Jim Stochl
8-Bill Dingwall
9-Bethany Edwards
13-Deborah Pearson
17-Neal Wilhite
26-Angelise Arias
27-Mae Dell Dingwall