

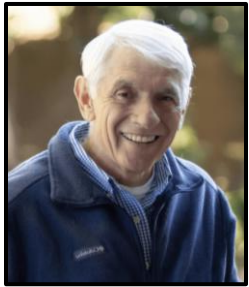
FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

EST. 1909

First Press

THE NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TURLOCK, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 2026



“The Trouble with the Future”

Paul Valery was a French poet, essayist and philosopher. He once declared, *“The trouble with our time is that the future is not what it used to be.”* I think this is a pretty insightful statement. This statement points us both to our past and to our future. It could mean that the future is not as good as what we have experienced in the past or it could mean that the future is not as good as the future we used to have in the past.

Rather than debating which of those two statements are true, I would like to apply Mr. Valery’s thoughts to the church. Our church has been around over 110 years. We have a great history. We have moved location three times mostly to accommodate a growing church. We have had periods of time where we have had lots of children and youth. We had a swimming pool to help children learn to swim. We have had a softball diamond on our property. We have held wonderful picnics under the great shade of our trees out back. We have held Vacation Bible Schools, Sunday Schools, supported missionaries, had great music programs, welcomed new members and cared for our city. It is a great history.

That history makes it easy to look back and wish we could experience those days again. Our numbers aren’t what they used to be. The swimming pool and softball field are gone. Many of the great saints of this church are no longer with us. It is simple to see that we have a few years, perhaps a few decades of life left in us. But what will happen if we don’t grow, don’t get young people in the church? What will our future be?

We need not to fret nor worry about the future. For although we do not know what the future will hold, we do know the God who holds the future in His hands. One of our church’s great creeds is the Heidelberg Catechism. It tells us, all things come to us, not by chance but by God’s hand. And that should make us patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and with a view to the future we can have a firm confidence in our faithful God and Father that no creature shall separate us from His love.

It is time for us to be increasingly hopeful for our future; both our own and First Presbyterian Church. God will finish the good work He started in your life and in the life of First Presbyterian Church. Remarkable things are beginning to happen here. We are seeing new life, and renewed life in the church. It is exciting. So exciting, I don’t want to miss one gathering of the church, because something great might happen. Hold on to your hats, our future is going to be spectacular!

~ Pastor Rick

Announcements



2nd FRIDAYS Fellowship

CALLING ALL CHURCH !!

THE SIMS ARE HOSTING 2ND FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP

FRIDAY | JUNE 12th | AT 6PM - ?
2026

DUST BOWL BREWING CO.
3000 FULKERTH RD, TURLOCK

RSVP TO CYNDI BEFORE JUNE 10th



Exploring the Nature of God

Vacation Bible School is returning to First Presbyterian Church on **July 27 - 31** from **9:00 - 12:00**. We are so excited!

Terri Rodger will lead 1st - 6th and we are blessed to have Meghan Young Sims lead preschool. We are hoping that we will be able to involve the entire church in some capacity. You don't have to be a leader; there are many small jobs that need to be filled. For example, check in, runner, helper video, photographer, just to name a few. More details will start in June.

LAUNCHING NEW BIBLE STUDY

By Christian Education Committee

Sunday afternoons Bible Study
Focus on 1 Corinthians

Rotation Based and Led by Candace Peterson & members of the group

If interested, please contact
Candace Peterson or John Miles.



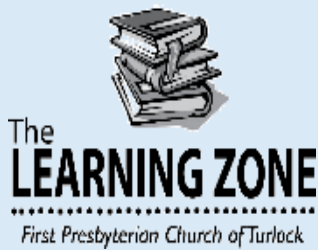
MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP
JULY 5 - JULY 10th

HIGH SCHOOL CAMP
JULY 12 - JULY 17th

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN:

<https://www.ultracamp.com/clientlogin.aspx?idCamp=1351&campCode=CAL>

Outreach Ministries



The Learning Zone Tutoring Program

On May 13 we had a Celebration of Learning to celebrate the end of our 2025 – 2026 tutoring year. We had a wonderful time. We began the party in the sanctuary. The sanctuary was packed with parents, siblings, grandparents and other family members. Under the direction of our wonderful music director, Marilyn Fullmer, the Tuesday students sang three songs and did a wonderful job. The music was followed by an award ceremony. Our High School tutors were honored for their dedication even with their heavy school loads. We wished them well as they head to college in the fall. Each of our tutoring students received an award with a candy theme. I was honored with flowers from Pat Weisel. After the ceremony we headed to Room 6 to finish our celebration. We celebrated with a watermelon theme. Watermelon decorations, watermelon, watermelon popsicles and lollipops and cookies, thank you Mrs. Kaur and Marilyn Fullmer for providing cookies and Pat Weisel for providing apples and cheese.

The students presented their parents with a book they wrote, and adult tutors were presented with a gift of appreciation. We ended the afternoon with the kids playing and the adults visiting. It was a very special day.

We are taking the summer off (except for Vacation Bible School). We will start again after Labor Day. Thank you again for your support of our program. We could not do it without the support of Pastor Rick and the congregation.

Terri Rodger, Tutoring Director



Missions Ministry



WE ARE BRINGING VOLENTE COFFEE TO YOU ON FATHER'S DAY!

We would like to share Volente Coffee roasters with our congregation. Volente coffee is a local mission-driven coffee company connected with the Modesto Gospel Mission.

By roasting specialty coffee, Volente Coffee helps provide job training and support for people rebuilding their lives after hardship. If this ministry touches your heart, please stop by after our **June 21st** worship service to enjoy a sample, ask questions and learn how to order and support the Volente Coffee Program. For your convenience, we will coordinate and place orders for anyone interested. This is a great opportunity for our church to be part of a wonderful local ministry while enjoying quality coffee at home, at church gatherings, or at events.

Order forms will be available starting with the **June 21st** church service. Please contact Heidi Shearer as she will oversee the orders and the delivery process. Thank you for supporting this local cause to help break the cycle of homelessness and restore lives for the long-term.

PER CAPITA

As a connectional church, our work is maintained and funded by a financial system called "Per Capita." In this system, each governing body above the local congregation's session determines how much it will cost to do what the Book of Order and the next higher governing council require. Each body also calculates what it will cost to do the ministries we believe God is calling us to do. And the General Assembly determines the cost of maintaining the structures and systems at the national level that support the internal work of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and its relationships with other faith communities around the world.

As members, we pay per capita, in addition to one's annual gift, recognizing that the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) is a connectional church and we are part of a larger family throughout the country. This connection includes our Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assembly. Our financial support keeps us connected and able to support the work and mission of our Presbytery and our sister churches. Our 2026 per capita apportionment of **\$34.00** per member supports our Presbytery office, Synod, and General Assembly. We ask that you respond by returning your contribution to the church office.



"Helping Hands for the Needy"

United Samaritans Foundation (USF) in Stanislaus County, CA, accepts non-perishable, unopened food donations, including canned goods, peanut butter, cereal, and bottled water to support their daily meal service. High-need items include protein-rich foods, canned fruit, and empty egg cartons, as they serve over 1,500 meals daily.

There is a large **BLUE BARREL** in the office hallway for your donations. Kindly place your donated items to this much needed cause in our community. Thank you for your support.

Music Ministries



♪♪ Notes from the Music Room ♪♪

The music department is coming to the close of our busy and beautiful Spring music semester. Praises and thank you to all members of the handbell ensemble. They finished their season on Sunday, May 31st. The choir will continue to rehearse and perform through the month of June.

One of our upcoming choir anthems on June 14th is *"And the Father Will Dance"*. It is a long-time favorite, and we are all enjoying this music. The text is adapted from Zephaniah 3:14, *"Sing, O daughter of Zion, with all of your heart! Join with the father in glorious, jubilant song."* And from Zephaniah 3:17, *"The Lord your God will take great delight in you...He will rejoice over you with singing."* This is a truth about God's character. He made us to have a relationship with Him and He takes delight when we love Him. Wow!

Our final choir anthem on June 28th is extremely fun and will include percussion instruments. *"Talitha Kum"* is adapted from Mark 5:22-41. It relates to the story of Jesus going to the home of the synagogue leader, Jarius, whose daughter is very sick and dying. When Jesus commanded: *"Talitha Kuom!"* {little girl, I say to you, get up!} she immediately stood up and walked! This anthem is exciting and energetic with lots of syncopated rhythms and is just so fun to perform!

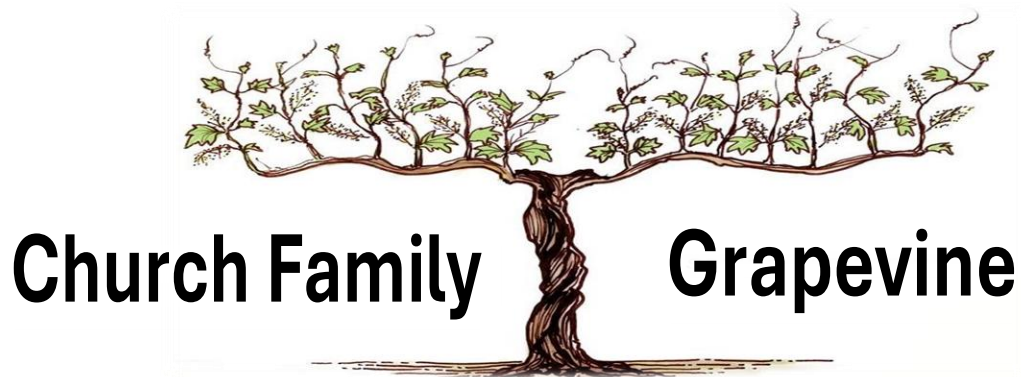
So plan to be present on Sunday mornings to enjoy our wonderful choir music; and more importantly, be present for worship!

Announcement to choir members: our last Wednesday rehearsal, before summer break, is June 24th. We will enjoy a potluck salad supper afterward. It truly has been a pleasure serving with all of you.

Serving in song,

Marilyn Fullmer
Music Director

Prayers & Praises



Ongoing Prayer Needs Key Code:

P-Personal, **F**-Family, **G**-Grief, **H**-Health, **S**-Surgery, **PG**-Pregnancy, **E**-Employment, **ST**-Safe Travel, **A**-Adoption, **SA**-Salvation, **M**-Military

Blixt, Elizabeth (H)

Callahan, Julie (H)

England Family (G)

Franklin Family (G)

Kidwell, Wayne (H)

Lanchester, Irene (H)

Lowe, Marge (H)

Mirza, Julius (Jay) (H)

Neely, Julie (H)

Philips, Sally (H)

Runsten, Tricia (Darlene's Daughter) (H)

Sauer, Sheila (Cyndi Sims'sister) (H)

Taylor, Paul (H)

Warfield, Sonia (H)

*Please praise God continuously for who He is
and what He has done in your life...*

Blessed is His Holy Name.



Birthdays

June 6 Ruth Gaffney

June 23 Shasta Gunn

June 25 Diane Arakelian

June 25 Paul Jever

June 25 Darlene Runsten

June 26 Jana Purdy

June 26 Dot Toews

June 26 Dean Sasman

Anniversaries

June 10 Rick & Kathy Lemberg

June 18 Dan & Barbara Hardesty

*If we have missed your
birthday or anniversary,
please contact the
church office.*



JUNE 2026

Communion Team – June

Lynn Posluch; Darlene Runsten {Deacons}
Donna Harrison; Marilyn Hoobyar {Elders}

Worship Assistants

June 7th Donna Harrison
June 14th John Sims
June 21st Dave Posluch
June 28th Marilyn Hoobyar



SUNDAY GREETERS FOR JUNE

June 7th Robby Avilla
June 14th Lynn Posluch & Cyndi Sims
June 21st Mark & Alison Aldax
June 28th The Njock Family

Session & Finance Ministries

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Session last met on May 18, 2026.

Of interest:

- Approved to re-start a Sunday Church School in September for elementary kids.
- An annual inspection of the nine HVAC units has been completed. The unit for the three offices (Pastor's, Music Director, and Church Office) is trying to go out.

On behalf of Session, we appreciate your continuing support of the ministries and activities of First Presbyterian Church. Please keep your Pastor Nominating Committee and your Session in your prayers as we discern on your behalf.

In **His** Service,

Pat Wallace

Clerk of Session

FINANCE UPDATES

Income/Expense Report for April 2026

April Contributions:	\$ 27,324.26	YTD Contributions	\$ 80,778.01
April Other Income	\$ 1,623.38	YTD Other Income	\$ 8,286.30
<u>April Expenses</u>	<u>\$ (20,449.83)</u>	<u>YTD Expenses</u>	<u>\$ (91,474.14)</u>
Difference:	\$ 8,498.81	Difference	\$ (2,409.83)

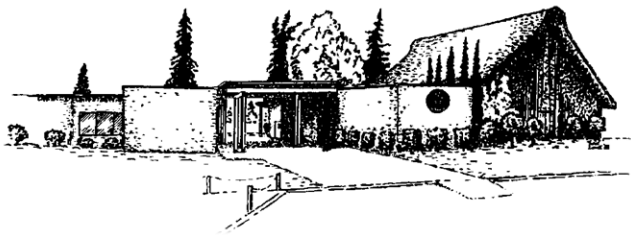
Church family, you never cease to amaze us! Every time the church is in need, you tend to step up. We can't praise you enough. As always, we're coming into the summer months when people go on vacation and take time with family, which is a blessing to all. We ask that you not forget about your church's needs during these wonderful times. You may drop your check in the mail or go online, and of course, the mailbox underneath the church window is always available. As always, thank you for your continued faithfulness, generosity, and prayers. May God bless your summer travels and keep our church family united in His love!

Praise God for family, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren for, "*Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'*"
Matthew 19:14

We would also like to put a call out to anyone interested in working in the sound booth. As our wonderful and amazing Madison will be heading off to college at the end of summer. Please let the office know or anyone on your finance committee if you or someone you might know would be interested in helping.

In His Mercy & Grace,

FPC Administration Committee



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Turlock, CA 95382

Phone # (209) 202-3977

E-mail: fpcturlock@att.net

Website: www.fpturlock.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchur



To Know Christ and
Make Him Known



Church Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Rick Lemberg

Music Director: Marilyn Fullmer

Administrative Assistant: Polet Yonan

Bookkeeper: Kim Sasman

Youth Director: Alexis Green

Assist. Youth Director: Shasta Gunn

Tutoring Director: Terri Rodger

Organist: Barbara Bort

Janitor: Michael Morris

ELECTED DEACONS AND SESSION OFFICERS

Elders

Class of 2026

Michael Betts
Susie England
Donna Harrison
David Posluch

Elders

Class of 2027

Kathleen Gunn
Candace Peterson
Dean Sasman

Elders

Class of 2028

Marilyn Hoobyar
John Miles
Martin Purdy

Deacons

Class of 2026

Lynn Posluch
Jana Purdy
Kim Sasman
Lorna Schmidt
Nancy Seaver

Deacons

Class of 2027

Bill Bishop
Jo Coffman
Donna Lansing
Darlene Runsten
Heidi Shearer

Deacons

Class of 2028

Diane Arakelian
Gail Ballas
Pat Rubalcava
Cyndi Sims