

First Presbyterian Church

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The PRESS(byterian)
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*First Presbyterian Church is
your church family on the hill
who is Christ-centered,
loves one another &
serves the community.*



Dear friends,

As I'm enjoying the spring weather and the natural beauty of our area, I think of God's faithfulness through more than 120 years of our history as a church. That adventure in faith continues today, as we join to become a church Lompoc can't live without.

That's a great mission, and one worthy of all our effort. That mission fits an important part of our Presbyterian tradition—the idea of vocation. The word comes from the Latin term for “call,” because God calls *each* of us who love Jesus to follow him in serving the world. We should make a difference where we live because this is the world God loved so much that he died in order to save it.

What does that mean for us? It means that every one of us, not just your staff, is called to minister in Jesus' name. It means the calling of your staff is to help build up all of us for

ministry, because God “gave these gifts to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ” (Eph. 4:12-13). It means that whether you work in a school, a hospital, a business, or a home, you are doing it to help others and to show your gratitude to God. It means that we don't just wait around for the world to come to church, but we bring the church to the world. It means that through you, First Presbyterian Church of Lompoc is moving out to make a difference not only on our campus, but also in concentric circles of influence in our city, in our county, and around the world.

Let's make this our prayer: “Lord, make your kingdom come in my life, in my church, in my community, and in my world.”

Your friend in Christ,
Randy Working

Working on Faith: Great Books That Everyone Should Read

with Dr. Randy Working

"An evening with J.J.R. Tolkien"

Thursday, June 7, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

South Side Coffee Company, 105 South H Street

This evening we will consider the writings of J.J.R. Tolkien, an English writer, poet, philologist, and university professor, best known as the author of the classic fantasy works *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*. Come enjoy refreshments as we discover one of the great Christian minds of the twentieth century. A perfect time to introduce a friend to the life of our church!

Mission on Our Doorstep - The Mission Committee

Lifewater International's Significant Sacrifice



We started our Lifewater drive on Earth Day. All of us can find things to do to help our earth. Each of us can save in different ways, such as collecting newspapers, cans and bottles and recycling them, then putting the money in our water jug in the church entryway. You can cut coupons and put your savings in the water jug. Wash your own car and put your savings in the water

Jug. Everyone has different ideas how to help our earth stay cleaner. That is why Lifewater is helping people around the world whose water is not safe. We can all do our part. Our water jug will be out in the church entryway until the end of May.

Waiting for Water

Where there is no water, there can be no civilization. Where there is a clean source of water, possibilities abound. Families thrive; generations progress. That is what I learned years ago after reading Michener's The Source.

Last year a broken water pipe in our home's slab left our family without water for eight days. I learned a lot about entitlement for I had truly taken for granted that clean water would always flow through my shower, toilet, kitchen sink, etc. I realized that overnight my two dogs and two cats relied on my lugging water from the store in 2.5 gallon containers. Our indoor plants and outdoor potted plants wanted to be remembered, as well.



The laundry was able to be done at the laundromat, but other lifestyle changes were necessary. Before the plumbing problem I hadn't thought just how many times hands are rinsed during the creation of a meal. Our diet changed, too, because rinsing *fresh* fruits and vegetables required so much more water. Keeping our environment clean and keeping ourselves clean required new and different rules.

But, we still had water. Commercially provided. It required muscle but I wasn't *without a clean source of water!!!* But, what if that became the case? Even though our family had its week of struggle—in an American sense—I still can't imagine what it would be like without a source of quality water nearby. It was last year that I decided to not only appreciate more what I had lost but also give more to Lifewater in order to help those who live every week with so much less.

Please consider our "Waiting for Water" campaign as a way to give significant gifts to those without potable water in their midst. A few years ago our youth lived "in a box" for 24 hours to better understand the homeless in our town. Similarly, I challenge everyone to appreciate water: Enjoy each warm shower and delight in every freshly prepared salad. What if we all had to walk to the "river" for that life sustaining commodity? May we, the congregation, become a life-giving source!

-Linda Hurd

Mission on Our Doorstep - The Mission Committee

One Great Hour of Sharing

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. First Presbyterian Church of Lompoc's 2012 gift of \$517 supports ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities.



Relay for Life - Presby Peds

American Cancer Society's *Relay for Life* fundraiser walk will be held May 12-13, 2012 at Lompoc High School stadium. To join Presby Peds, contact team captain Kim Cowdrey 291-7374. Relay for Life is a meaningful way to celebrate the cancer survivors in our lives and to pay tribute to those currently suffering with cancer or who have gone home to our Lord because of cancer.

Clothing & Toiletries



Warm Clothing Drive

We are still collecting warm clothing, twin sheets and paper goods, along with toiletries (soaps, shampoo, tooth brushes/paste, etc.). Please put clean items in the green & red box in the church entryway. Thank you for your wonderful support. We really are Mission on Our Doorstep, helping others in our community.

God bless,
Mission Committee

Come with us to the Santa Barbara Art Museum!

Sunday, May 20, 2012 - 11:15 AM to 4:15 PM

We will car pool (so we'll need some drivers) to Santa Barbara. We will enjoy lunch at Pascucci's on State Street (budget around \$10 plus the cost of drinks), then Pastor Randy, who has a Masters in Fine Arts in Painting and Drawing, will give us a guided tour through the exhibits. The museum is free on Sundays.



Welcome, Julie Rodgers, to First Presbyterian Church of Lompoc!

Our new accompanist, Julie Rodgers, comes from a musical family. Her great grandmother was an itinerant piano teacher in Montana around Great Falls. While being home schooled, this talented family member learned both piano and violin. When she became a mother, she formed a string quartet with her children; Julie's dad was the cellist. While living in La Jolla, they played in the UCSD symphony for many years.

Julie first heard her grandmother play the piano when Julie was three years old. She began picking out the "Star Spangled Banner" soon after and started lessons with her father at age five. She admits to not being a diligent student until she attended Pomona College where she became newly inspired by a young professor, Russell Sherman. Prof. Sherman left the West Coast years ago and continues as a renowned teacher at the New England Conservatory of Music.

Julie's early church years were spent at St. James By the Sea and First Presbyterian Church in La Jolla. Since then many of her church associations are through positions as an accompanist (both piano and organ) in Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, Santa Ynez and Lompoc. She has accompanied for vocal groups at Santa Barbara City College and PCPA and is currently at Cabrillo High School working with their music department.

She joined the Lompoc Art Association soon after moving to Lompoc in 1987. Her first artistic expression was through the creation of jewelry; then in 1999 she began painting. Now she is investigating music composition. While developing her creative side, she was employed twenty years at the post office as a registry clerk.



Julie's talent has been appreciated by both the choir and the congregation. Thank you, Julie, for being our accompanist!

Music Rehearsal Schedule

Wednesdays:

Chancel Choir at 5:30 PM

Bells at 6:30 PM

Sundays:

Praise Band at 8:15 AM



Any people interested in joining the choir, praise band or bell choir are welcome!!! Please call Barbara Luken regarding bells, Linda Hurd regarding choir or praise band.

"God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible.
What a pity that we plan only the things we can do by ourselves." (A.W. Tozer)

Front Porch—A Vision That Now Is Reality

A long-term vision has become a reality! That vision began with property donated to our Presbytery. Because of its location adjacent to the Cal Poly campus, this property was seen to be especially well suited for a missional opportunity for students of Cal Poly and Cuesta. This dream included places to live and a place to meet, eat and grow in faith.

Seven five-bedroom townhomes were completed last spring and are available for student lease. The coffee house, run by student volunteers, just opened this academic year. On the same floor as the coffee house is a recreation room—with comfy seating, a pool table, and a foosball game—as well as a large kitchen; a library with a Christian emphasis is located upstairs. This dream-come-true is called Front Porch!

The Presbytery's Mission Conference in Santa Barbara (January) wanted each attendee to make a difference. All were encouraged to think about their talents and make a commitment to one area of mission. Each attendee then noted his/her missional choice on a postcard. As a reminder, this card would be returned by mail to the signer in six months. Whoa! This turned a conference of *missional opportunity* into a conference of *commitment and change*!

I knew I didn't want to receive that card and say, "Oops, I forgot I was going to make a difference." A decision had to be made, which included follow-through! The mission that piqued my interest was Front Porch.

One son just graduated from Cal Poly; another is at Cuesta. Although my college experience was 20 years earlier, some of their experiences reminded me that some things don't change. So many faith challenges exist on campus. Besides peer pressure, there are many professors who lead students away from—or actually denounce—Christianity. Creating a balance for our young people is just so necessary.

Front Porch is there for those already on their faith walk and for those who may be seeking answers...and even for those who don't know what questions to ask. Some opportunities for students include: (1) belonging to a prayer group, (2) investing in the lives of others during spring break via a mission trip, and (3) hearing top-notch speakers and discussing the evening's topic on Porch Night while enjoying a homemade meal.

Front Porch has only one paid employee, director and pastor, Beau Smith. He welcomed my interest and invited me to San Luis Obispo for a tour of the new facility. What a delightful haven for students with both passive and active interests. Students may just sit and study with free coffee at their elbow while using the free WiFi...share fun with friends over a game of billiards...enjoy "open mike" night...or search the many options in the library.

The question I asked myself, though, was how could I turn a "talent" into my "mission"? Maybe my kitchen could become my mission! I enjoy baking. Pastor Beau welcomed my idea of homemade brownies on Porch Nights (Wednesdays)! That was a talent I knew I could share. Students need to know that God loves them...and that they can be loved by people they don't even know.

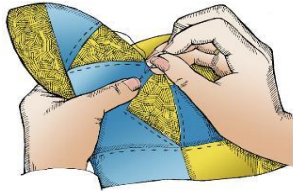


Does anyone else at First Pres Lompoc want to transform their kitchen into a mission? Who knows the extent of what God can do through the act of simple generosity?

Oh, and, yes...there really is a front porch to the coffee house where students can sit and enjoy their surroundings. Thank you, Santa Barbara Presbytery, for having the vision for this awesome campus ministry!

-Linda Hurd

PS To become a founding member of the Kitchen Corps...Kitchens with a Mission...contact me.



SKY Club

SKY Club

SKY Club meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month in the Adamson Room at 1:00 p.m. All are invited to come Sew, Knit and/or Yak. If you don't know how, we will show you.

We recently delivered 5 knit baby blankets, 10 baby quilts, 6 receiving blankets, 64 knitted caps and 9 knitted sweaters to the hospital nursery. This, along with making items to sell in support of Relay for Life, and continuing to knit prayer shawls for shut-ins and making hats and scarves for the Bridge House have kept us busy. And of course, yakking.

We always have room for more, so come join us!

Women's Circle News

Deborah Circle will meet on Saturday, May 5, at 9:30 AM at the home of Dorothy Cooper. Join us for study and fellowship. .

Mizpah Circle will meet for fellowship and study Thursday, May 17, at 9:30 am in the Vista Room. Nancy Thompson will lead the study of Lesson eight. Hostesses will be Joan Jaco and Susan Hansen. All women are welcome.



The Per Capita assessment, used to fund Presbytery Mission efforts, is \$30 per member for 2012

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to all the friends of First Presbyterian Church whose love and care last came with showers of cards and showed their concern. With God and friends like you, I got through the hardest part of accepting the death of my sister.

Joan Jaco

June

Newsletter Article Deadline

Wednesday, May 23, 2012

9:00 AM



What's New in our Library!

This is a young English woman's story about personal losses and how she tried to fill them through her theatrical and societal successes before, during, and following World War II. Joan Winmill's abilities as an actress did open doors to a society she had never known, but the parties and most of the friendships failed to satisfy her personal void. Self-doubt was always with her. Two nervous breakdowns were experienced before she turned 30.

Contemplating suicide during some of her darker days, her life was about to turn around in ways she least expected. Friends invited her to hear Billy Graham at one of his Crusades near London in 1954. Her response was, *"It would be a lark to see what this American has come to tell the British about religion."* In spite of her skepticism, she found herself walking down the aisle during the altar call.

Joan's faith story includes the valued friendship with Ruth Bell Graham. With Ruth's help, Joan grew to appreciate God's love and accept the life that He had planned for her. Opportunities in film brought her to the United States which led to her meeting William Brown, whom she married. As a celebrity, her faith step to become a Christian was tabloid fodder. Her faith experience, nevertheless, rippled positively through the lives of friends and family...and even those she didn't know.

Published in 1975, No Longer Alone is not really "new" to our church library, but it was new to me. And, it was serendipitous to learn that Joan Winmill Brown's elder son, William, is our own county sheriff. Who **would have** guessed that he was baptized by Billy Graham in his home in Montreat, North Carolina?!

-Linda Hurd, Reviewer

Pentecost Day is May 27!

The traditional color for Pentecost on the church calendar is red. Let's wear red to celebrate the birth of the church, and make an impression!



New Wednesday Bible Study

Wednesday s from 1:00 – 2:00 PM at the Kent home. On May 9 we will start a new 13 week study of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth. These study booklets are easy to follow, with good information and plenty of room for discussion. Come out and learn with us. All are welcome.

The Case of the Missing Cane...

A light oak-colored cane disappeared during one of our Soup Suppers. Please check your closets at home and contact the church office should you discover that this cane has mysteriously appeared there.



May 1	5:30 PM	Worship Committee - Vista Room
	7:00 PM	Mission Committee - Church Office
May 2	6:30 PM	Building & Grounds Committee - Vista Room
May 3	12:00 PM	National Day of Prayer - City Hall Flag Pole
May 5	9:15 AM	Presbytery of Santa Barbara meeting - SLO
	9:30 AM	Deborah Circle - Dorothy Cooper's
May 7	1:00 PM	SKY Club - Adamson Room
	5:30 PM	Deacons - Vista Room
May 8	5:30 PM	Fellowship Committee - Vista Room
May 9	5:00 PM	Finance Committee - Adamson Room
May 12	10:00 AM	Relay for Life Opening Ceremonies - Huyck Stadium
May 13	9:30 AM	Worship - Mother's Day
May 17	9:30 AM	Mizpah Circle - Vista Room
May 20	11:15 AM	Santa Barbara Art Museum Field Trip
	4:00 PM	Comprehensive Care Center Worship
May 21	1:00 PM	SKY Club - Adamson Room
	6:00 PM	Session - Vista Room
May 23	9:00 AM	June Newsletter Article Deadline
May 27		Pentecost - Celebrate the birth of the church - wear red!
May 28		Memorial Day - Office closed
May 29	4:45 PM	Feed the Hungry - St. Timothy's

Weekly Meetings

- Sundays
 - Worship Team - 8:15 AM - Sanctuary
 - WORSHIP - 9:30 AM
 - Children's Sunday School - 9:30 AM (2nd & 3rd Sundays)
 - Coffee / Fellowship Hour - 10:45 AM - Adamson Room
 - Pastor's Sermon Discussion Class - 11:10 AM - Vista Room
- Tuesdays
 - Bible Study, *Acts* - 6:00 AM - Carrow's Restaurant
- Wednesdays
 - Small Group, *Joshua, Judges & Ruth* - 1:00 PM - Kent home
 - Chancel Choir - 5:30 PM - Sanctuary
 - Carillon - 6:30 PM - Music Room
- Thursdays
 - Bible Study, *Acts* - 7:00 PM - Heavin home
- Fridays
 - Bible Study, *Luke* - Comprehensive Care Center

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Who Makxs a Church a Succxss?

Xvxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xxcept for onx of thx kxys. I havx wishxd many timxs that it worked pxrfxctly. It is trux that thxrx arx forty-six kxys that function wxll xnough, but just onx kxy not working makxs thx diffxrxncx. Sometimxs it sxmms to mx that our church is somxwhat likx my typxwritxr - not all thx kxy pxoplx arx working propxrlly. You many say to yoursxlf, "Wxll, I am only onx pxrson. I won't makx or brxak thx church." But it doxs makx a diffxrxnce bxcausx a church to bx xffxctive nxxds thx activx participation of xvxy pxrson. So, thx nxxt timx you think you arx only onx pxrson and that your xfforts arx not nxxded, rxmmbxr my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, **"I am a kxy pxrson in the congrxgation, and I am nxxded vxry much."**

P.U.S.H.

Pray

Until

Something

Happens

Become PUSH-Y!