

MARCH
2018



CONNECTING POINTS



Pastor Mike's Paper Pulpit

T. E. A. M.

Two surgeons were walking down the hallway together. The first one was complaining about the hours and struggles in his practice. His colleague turned to him and said, "I can hardly believe that people place such trust in me that they allow me to hurt them—some of them very badly—in order to help them. I see it as a great privilege and honor not a heavy burden."

WOW!

How do you view your service to God? Is it a heavy burden that you carry or a distinct privilege? God has gifted you to accomplish what He needs done in His body here on earth.

This means that God trusts you!

Did that sink in?

God trusts you!

He trusts you to use the great gift he has, through his grace, placed

into your life. He trusts you to step up and make a difference in the corner of the world in which you find your life. He trusts you to accomplish what only you can accomplish with his power working through you.

Our new TEAMS are one way to work hand in hand with God. It places people with their gifts into ministries that need those gifts.



What an Honor! What a Privilege!

Look through the teams and see which one unlocks the honor and privilege of ministry in your life.

Team Daniel—Prayer

Team Barnabas—Encouragement

Team Ezra—Security

Team Asaph—Worship

Team Naomi—Nurse

When we work with God we all accomplish more for God and the world gets blessed in the process.

I will see you Sunday!

Pastor Mike

First Christian Church Elder & Contact Information

Elders

Mack Jones—267-3090

Brett LeTourneau—706-2192

Michael Piersol—808-226-6754

Scott Stutsman—559-479-1946

Secretary

Amanda Stutsman—559-674-5203

Children & Youth

Katie Barsotti—559-903-5883

Pastor

Michael G. Stipe—559-259-6879

Connecting People To God - To Each Other & To The World

THE BACK PAGE . . .

Peace. When we hear that word almost everyone has an image of what “Peace” is to him or her. For me, peace is at the beach, listening to the waves go back and forth while my toes are in the sand. For others, it could be sitting in a blanket with a book, or just having the night to yourself with no kids or grandkids! Michael Jordan once said that he found his peace on the basketball court. I laughed when I saw this quote saying to myself, “How could anyone find peace in a mad house like that! All a sports place has is sweat, blood, and tears!” Then I got to thinking about it- are we all not finding peace within the madness of the world? Just because I go to the beach does not mean that life has just paused and the madness is gone. I believe this is because of God- who is the Lord of peace- that we can have peace wherever we go. Although we think leaving or escaping gives us peace, real peace comes from the Lord.

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way...” 2 Thessalonians 3:16 -xoxo Katie

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Greg & Vicki Syverson
CMF International – Mexico

Vince & Gretta Payne
Panama Mission Foundation

Dr. & Mrs. Yoon Kwon Chae
Korea Gospel Mission

Champions For Tomorrow
Clovis, CA

American Indian Christian Missions

Doors of Hope

Madera Community Food Bank

Madera Rescue Mission

Madera Love INC

Discover more information on the missions we support on our website: www.maderafcc.org

What's in a Name?



The study of personal names is called anthroponymy. The methodology behind naming children varies greatly from culture to culture. In some countries, a name is assigned based on the day a child is born. In other countries, names are determined by family history. Across several cultures, a person's name defines them and carries consequences throughout their life. The United Nations holds that a child has the right to a name from birth. However, humans are not the only beings with names. Pets have names. Animals at the zoo have names. Did you know that bottlenose dolphins have personal names that are self-selected from infancy?

In three adoptions, I have selected new names for my loved ones. I felt that “Jacques” was an excellent choice for my loyal, dignified little black dog. I didn't overthink that one; the name just came to mind when I looked at him. “Maisey” means pearl, and it rhymes with crazy. It's cute, it's playful, and it works

for a crazy white dog – “Crazy Maisey.” In preparing for Elsa's adoption, I knew that I would like her to have a new name. A significant amount of consideration went into the naming decision, and I wanted my daughter to have a voice in her new identity. She chose the name “Elsa” after her favorite Disney character. She did not waver on this for the entire year preceding her adoption. The German meaning of “Elsa” is consecrated to God; noble. It is the diminutive of the Hebrew “Elisabeth”. What better name could I find to define my child than one declaring that she is set apart to God? At the time of adoption, we said goodbye to a Muslim name and embraced a Christian name that carries prophetic significance.

The most significant name of all time is the name of Jesus. His name brings healing, deliverance, and salvation. His name is higher than any other name. Ultimately, at His name, everyone will worship and acknowledge his Lordship. As we worship together, let's lift up the name of Jesus from our hearts.

~Melissa

March 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p><u>Anniversaries</u> 9 Dennis & Terri McMonigal</p> 	<p><u>Birthdays</u> 3 Scott Stutsman 16 Willivee Wright 19 Zandra Navarro 20 Frankie Letourneau 23 Betty Smith</p> 		<p>1 Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	<p>2 </p>	<p>3 Men's Breakfast—7:30am @Perkos Women's Breakfast—8am @Robin Walton's home Elder's Meeting—9am Board Meeting—10am</p>
<p>4 Bible Classes 9:30 Worship 10:45 Youth Group 6:30-7:30</p>	5	<p>6 Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	7	<p>8 Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	9	10
<p>11  Bible Classes 9:30 Worship 10:45 Youth Group 6:30-7:30</p>	12	<p>13 Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>14 FCC Food Bank 10:00am- Noon</p>	<p>15 Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	16	<p>17 </p>
<p>18 Bible Classes 9:30 Worship 10:45 Youth Group 6:30-7:30</p>	19	<p>20  Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	21	<p>22 Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	23	24
<p>25  Bible Classes 9:30 Worship 10:45 Youth Group 6:30-7:30</p>	26	<p>27 Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>28 FCC Food Bank 10:00am- Noon</p>	<p>29 Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	30	31

Calendar Connecting Points

*CWF Breakfast—Saturday,
March 3rd—8am @ the home of
Robin Walton
2805 Willow Drive*

EASTER SERVICES

March 25th— Palm Sunday

March 30th— Good Friday
6:00 PM

April 1st— Easter Sunday



JUST SAY JESUS...

March 4th— "What's In A Name?"

March 11th— "Just Say Jesus Heals"

March 18th— "Just Say Jesus Loves"

March 25th— "Just Say Jesus Saves"

March 30th— "Just Say Jesus Died"

April 1st— "Just Say Jesus Lives"

April 8th— "Just Say Jesus Reigns"



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, March 3rd
@ Perkos—7:30 AM

The Elders meeting follows at 9 AM in Pastor Mike's Office & the Board at 10 AM.



There are three emphases in prayer that are open to you as a part of our church family.

The **FCC Prayer Team** meets each Sunday morning in Pastor Mike's office at 8:45 to seek God, prayer walk the church facility and prepare the way for the gathering time.

Prayer Hosts are our volunteer prayer folks who are available during the service to pray specifically with you and for you.

The **Intercessory Prayer Ministry** meets Tuesdays from 6:30–7:30 PM to lift up our church family. They take requests and are always ready for you to join them.

We just need YOU!

*"Hands up or Down?
Wrong Question.
Heart up or
Down? Right
Question."*

~Anonymous



Together
Everyone
Achieves
More

T. E. A. M.

We have all heard this acronym TEAM. It is the idea of rousing people for the good of the company.

In our case it is not for our company— but for our King. We do not strive to accomplish more in our church— but to accomplish more for the One who has called us out of the darkness and into the light. These accomplishments can be measured in changed lives and renewed hope for the people in our corner of the world in which God has placed us. So we do not labor to achieve more for ourselves, but for those who stand poised on the edge of hopelessness and pain. Together we accomplish more for

Jesus! Join a team and make a difference!

Together
WE
Achieve
More