

OCTOBER
2018



CONNECTING POINTS



Pastor Mike's Paper Pulpit

WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

Each month our calendar has a number of emphases. For example, October is "Adopt a Shelter Dog" month. It is also American Pharmacist Month, Apple Jack Month, and Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Beyond those, it is also a month to recognize Computer Learning, Domestic Violence Awareness, Cookies, Eat Country Ham, International Drum, Lupus Awareness, National Diabetes, National Pizza, National Vegetarian, National Popcorn Popping, Sarcasm, Seafood, and Halloween. Whew. What a list!

So, What's it to you?

When you look into the month of October what comes to the surface for you? It will be what is most important. If you are a Pharmacist, or grow Popcorn, or beat a Drum, then probably that will be your emphasis.

So, What's it to you?

Maybe it is your birthday month or

that of one close to you. Perhaps an anniversary of some sort. Maybe it is an anticipated event (like the 3rd birthday of my grandson, Wyatt) or a wedding or a retirement party, or a vacation trip, or the start of a new job.

So, What's it to you?

What in this month will be worthy of the dedication of an entire month? Let me suggest some.

Read the New Testament Through Month. You can do this in 30 days if you read for 30 minutes each day.

Visit An Elderly Person Month. They are often the forgotten ones and have paved the way for us to be here.

Bring A Friend To Church Month. You maybe the only one who ever asks them.

Give Yourself A Fresh Start Month. It is your chance to chart a new course for yourself and your family.

Whatever you choose, I will see you Sunday!

Pastor Mike

First Christian Church Elder & Contact Information

Elders

Mack Jones—267-3090
Brett LeTourneau—706-2192
Michael Piersol—559-363-5050
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 . . .

October is the start to the season that I want EVERYTHING! Between the pillows, the blankets, and the cute decorations, I just my own "Pinterest" home. I find myself glazing over Pinterest pictures telling myself I "need" this or "have to have" that- stuff that is (let's be honest) unrealistic. I knew there was a problem, when the other day Coty and I were walking through Hobby Lobby and I just turned around to him and said, "I can't wait until we have a house, so I can have a spot for TWO Christmas trees- so I can have one that just has a little bit of everything, and another one that is 'Pinterest' worthy". We laughed that off at the time, but later I started to wonder what made me say that. Did I really feel like I needed two Christmas trees? Sadly, these are sometimes the affect of looking at Pinterest pictures. Is it all Pinterest's fault? No. But as human's sometimes we desire to have more. This month during our Sunday school and Kid's church, the kids will be seeing different stories in the bible that reflect to wanting more. They would learn that everything is God given and we can trust that He will provide what we need. The kids and I will also learn that we need to be content with what we have. Jesus says in Luke 12:15 (NIRV) "Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has." We all need to guard ourselves over wanting more no matter our age! Especially when we are wanting two Christmas trees! -xoxo Katie

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Greg & Vicki Syverson
CMF International – Mexico

Vince & Gretta Payne
Panama Mission Foundation

Matt & Shelley Actis
Hope58 – Uganda

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

Doggie Trauma



A couple of months ago while I was walking Jacques and Maisey, there was a situation that can only be described as an accident. Maisey broke her collar and ran across an intersection to get a little dog. After she missed being hit by a couple of cars, she went into her "red zone" and clamped onto the other dog's ear. It was ended by my desperate decision to jam my fingers between her teeth and pry her jaws open. While she has always been reactive to little dogs, this particular incident warranted a decision by her vet and me to try medication to manage her anxiety. There were some awkward moments getting her prescription filled at Walmart. "Date of Birth?" Umm...let's see... How about May? Of 2010. "And what is your relationship to patient?" Well, she's a dog. And I'm her mom. So, dog mom?

Not long after that, Maisey had a scheduled teeth cleaning during which the vet discovered some

issues requiring surgery. When we went to pick her up, she was a pathetic, groggy, hurting little creature. It took some time for her to be moving around the house and eating. She really has not been the same since...not the crazy Maisey who is exuberant in the morning and barks to get her treats. She sleeps a lot more than before. And I can understand why; she has experienced trauma. She needs extra comfort, extra attention, and extra coaxing to eat. She needs her family.

People experience trauma, and it changes them. What is God's answer for someone who had been through something really hard? He has promised to be our Comfort (II Corinthians 1:3-5). He has promised to never leave us (Deuteronomy 31:8). He has declared that He has already overcome anything that might trouble us (John 16:33). He has given us each other, His body, to remind one another of His promises and offer support through the really tough times.

~Melissa

October 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>1</p> <p>Life Group 6:30-7:30pm @ Mike and Vonda's home: 524 Barsotti</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Women's Breakfast—8am @Robin Walton's home Elder's Meeting—9am Board Meeting—10am</p> 
<p>7</p> <p>Bible Classes 9:30 Worship 10:45</p> <p>Youth Group 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>Columbus Day</p> <p>Life Group 6:30-7:30pm @ Mike and Vonda's home: 524 Barsotti</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>FCC Food Bank 10:00am- Noon</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Bible Classes 9:30 Worship 10:45 Youth Group 6:30-7:30</p>  <p>PASTOR APPRECIATION</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Life Group 6:30-7:30pm @ Mike and Vonda's home: 524 Barsotti</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	<p>19</p>  <p>COUNTRY STORE 4-7 PM</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:30 am -1 pm</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Bible Classes 9:30 Worship 10:45</p> <p>Youth Group 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Life Group 6:30-7:30pm @ Mike and Vonda's home: 524 Barsotti</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>FCC Food Bank 10:00am- Noon</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Worship Team Rehearsal 6:00pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Bible Classes 9:30 Worship 10:45</p> <p>Youth Group 6:30-7:30</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Life Group 6:30-7:30pm @ Mike and Vonda's home: 524 Barsotti</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Intercessory Prayer 6:30pm-7:30pm</p>	<p>31</p>		<p>Birthdays 4 Cady LeTourneau 18 Shirley Holdcroft</p> 	<p>Anniversaries 13 Dennis & Kathy Schwenck</p> 

Calendar Connecting Points

CWF Breakfast—Saturday,
October 6th—8am @ the home of
Robin Walton
2805 Willow Drive

God's Top Ten

1. Put God First
2. Worship Him Only
3. No Bad Words
4. Work 6 Rest 1
5. Obey Your Parents
6. Harm No One
7. Don't Cheat
8. If It Isn't Yours, Don't Take It
9. Tell the Truth.
10. Don't Be Jealous of
Other People's Stuff

COUNTRY STORE

Home Made Baked Goods,
Crafts & Decor

OCTOBER 19th & 20th

Friday: 4—7 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 1 PM

Lunch begins at 10:30

\$10 for Adults (Children \$5)

Team Daniel

There are FOUR emphases in prayer that Team Daniel offers 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 and prayer walk the church facility.

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

Our **Prayer Wall** is found in the office hallway. Leave a request and it will be prayed over.

The **Intercessors** meet Tuesdays from 6:30–7:30 PM to lift up our church family.

We just need YOU!

Always respond to every impulse to pray. The impulse to pray may come when you are reading or when you are battling with a text. I would make an absolute law of this — always obey such an impulse. --
~Martyr Lloyd-Jones

**OTHER PEOPLE'S
MONEY**
A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON FINANCES

It appears to me that there are things that don't tend to go together; a fish store next to a sushi restaurant, teen aged boys and a teen aged girl's dad, skinny jeans on 99.9% of Americans, and the church preaching on your money. So in October we won't talk about your money—we'll talk about other people's money. Here's what's coming up.

October 7th — "Time to Rethink"

October 14th — "Living In The House"

October 21st — "The Dynamic Duo"

October 28th — "Sermon on the Amount"