The Biography of a Church

First United Methodist Church of Hanford, California

Founded 1877

By

James R. Gregory

First Edition published March 31, 2000

Eighth Edition printed March 2, 2023

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INTRODUCTION

The biography of the First United Methodist Church of Hanford has been told in articles and celebrations of remembrances at various times in its 123 years of existence. This story is about the everyday people of the church. The two chapters on the local leaders and members who have passed on before us are from the period of 1975 to the first quarter of 2000.

This publication is intended for presentation to the California-Nevada Conference quadrennial local history presentation at Annual Conference in June 2000. The request for local church histories is sponsored by the Commission on Archives and History. This local church history is also to be available to the local church members, to learn more about the rich traditions and wonderful individuals that make up our church family.

This publication is also to acknowledge our past members and their contributions to our local church. Indeed, the second family to our members, after our immediate family, is typically the church family. When discussing the progress of this publication, the comment that I often heard was not to wait to write the history, because we are losing our members. The church has lost 140 members from 1975 through March 2000.

I would encourage everyone in our church to get to know your fellow Methodists. There is an abundance of knowledge and wisdom to be gained from spending more time with members of our church family. Our church family provides the opportunity to develop and share our core fundamental beliefs in the issues that are of the utmost importance in our lives. I had no idea how rich our church history is, nor how tied it has been with the community of Hanford.

I would like to dedicate this book to my wife Peggy, and daughter, Laura. I am proud to pass on to Laura the legacy of having five generations of Methodists in her ancestry.

This book is a tribute to a people who started with a dream and created the church.

Author relates Hanford history

DORIS ROBERTSON POLLEY
Sentinel Reporter

HANFORD — One of the newest histories about the Hanford area of Kings County is in a book that will be out on Sunday. With the intriguing title *The Biography of a Church*, James Gregory's new book celebrates the 123 years of existence of the First United Methodist Church of Hanford.

In doing his history, Gregory is also relating the history of our city.

It took months of digging through the dusty archives of the church — pouring through file drawers that hadn't been opened for years. He also spent many hours at the Hanford Branch Library reading old copies of The Sentinel on microfilm.

There were also old church publications and contributions of information from those who wanted to help him weave his story.

Like many of our older churches, it is possible to trace back family members for generations. In Gregory's own family there have been five generations of Methodists.

In his introduction, the author says, " I dedicate this book to my wife Peggy and daughter Laura. I am proud to pass on to Laura the legacy of having five generations of Methodists in her ancestry."

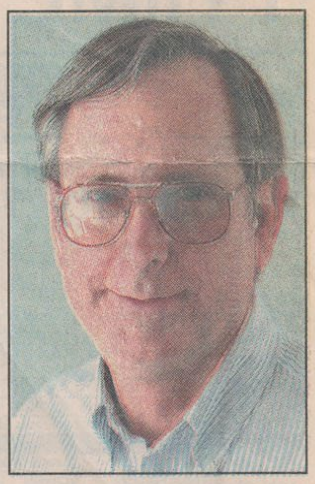
Gregory says his story of the First Methodist Church of Hanford is about the everyday people of the church. He explains, "The two chapters on the local leaders and members Those who have passed on from the period of 1975 to the first quarter of the year 2000."

In the first chapter, Gregory traces the early beginnings of the church during the pioneer days. There is an article about the Grangeille Methodist Church, which was established under the auspices of the California Conference after 1876. The church was dedicated in 1878.

The Grangeville Methodist Church was included in the book since the Hanford Methodist Church spun off it. Today the Grangeville church is in the process of restoration conducted under the direction of the Kings County Historical Society.

The author tells the story of activities, projects and social issues. There was an easy to understand celebratory excitement when air conditioning was finally in 1994 when an air conditioning and heating unit was installed in the Hanford sanctuary.

Among the many community projects have been the sponsorship of Boy Scout Troops since about 1956.



Gary Kazanjian/*Sentinel Staff*
Jim Gregory

In the political arena, Methodists struggled with the boycott of table grapes relating to the unionization of farm workers. It was in 1985 and the congregation was requested to join the boycott by the National Farm Worker Ministry. They didn't.

The book is filled with references to members of Hanford's oldest families. In addition to each name having a short biography, there are also comments by those who knew them.

There is a wealth of information in Gregory's book and there is much that will interest history buffs and non-Methodists.

On Sunday, Mothers Day, the book will go on sale at the church at 12, noon. Gregory will be there in Mary Lane Hall, 505 N. Redington St., to sign copies of *The Biography of a Church*.

After that, they may be purchased for $15 in the church office.

Gregory was born in Hanford and grew up in rural Laton. He is the son of John and Marion Gregory. Both were school teachers. A life-long Methodist, he joined the Hanford church in 1980. James Gregory is sales manager of Verdegaal Brothers Fertilizers.

Hanford Sentinel, Section B Page 19, May 12, 2000

Chapter 1

Preparing the Way

Long before there was a Hanford at all, Yokuts populated the plain of the great central San Joaquin Valley of California. The Yokuts lived in communal houses or apartments made of tules. They gathered acorns, pine nuts and grass seeds and hunted rabbits, birds and deer. The rivers and creeks flowing from the mountains brought them fish. They traded with the Miwok in the foothills and fought among themselves. Strict rules of behavior guided their lives and they lived their religion.

It is probable that the public worship of God according to rites of the Church of England was conducted on land, near the end of Point Reyes, in the year 1579. Sir Francis Drake, returning from a fruitless effort to find the Northwest Passage, wintered at that place and the services were conducted by his chaplain on one of the saint's days observed by the church. It may have been that services were held on shipboard along the Coast many times during the centuries that followed, but we have no reason to believe that Protestant worship was ever conducted on California soil during all the years that intervened between Drake's visit and the capture of the country by the United States in July 1846.

The Franciscan Monks, under the leadership of Junipero Serra, planted the Mission of San Diego in 1769, and San Carlos, near Monterey, in 1770, and a line of missions between the two places, and extending on to San Francisco, sprang into existence within a little more than a score of years following.

Spanish Policy of Encomienda

Encomienda is the Spanish crown's attempt to gain revenue, transplant Spanish social hierarchy to the colonies, and define the status of the indigenous population. Native Americans were entrusted to Spanish proprietors, who, in theory, cared for them physically and spiritually in return for rights to tribute and labor, but in practice, they often abused and enslaved them. As legally defined in 1503, an encomienda (from Spanish encomendar, "to entrust") consisted of a grant by the Spanish crown to a conquistador, a soldier, an official, or others of a specified number of "Indios" living in a particular area. The receiver of the grant, the encomendero, could exact tribute from the "Indios" in gold, in kind, or in labor and was required to protect them and instruct them in the Christian faith. The encomenderos gained control of lands inhabited by "Indios." With the catastrophic decline in the Native American population, largely due to introduced diseases and the replacement of mining activities by agriculture in Spanish America, the system lost its effectiveness. It was gradually replaced by the hacienda system of landed estates. [1] To the Spanish

[1] Encyclopedia Britannica

mind, a society governed by the Crown and the Church was the realization of God's kingdom on earth. [2]

There is something that stirs the imagination in the name of this stream, the Kings River. Historical records indicate that Captain Gabriel Moraga, in command of a straggling company of Spanish soldiers and accompanied by Father Pedro Munoz, arrived on the banks of an unknown stream on January 6, 1805, two centuries ago. This was the day of the Feast of Epiphany. It is not known who first suggested the name. Father Munoz, who recorded the event a year later, merely states that the river was named *El Rio de los Santos Reyes* -- the River of the Holy Kings.[3] Kings County was later named after the most predominant geographical feature, the Kings River, running through the county. Matthew 2 of the Bible states that the three wise men had traveled from afar, from the east. The pilgrimage for the Spanish explorers surely had some religious significance to the men. Kings never has an apostrophe because the Kings River and subsequently Kings County is named after the three magi, Balthasar, Melchior, and Caspar, not Charles IV, the King of Spain.

In 1806, strangers again passed through the valley occupied by Native Americans. Franciscan Padre Juan Martin was looking for a place to build a mission to teach the word of God and the ways of the Catholic faith to the native people. He found a broad river that flowed out of the foothills. It looked like a good spot to build. Within four years, Gabriel Moraga explored and named this the San Joaquin River and approved a site for a mission along it. The Spaniards couldn't find building materials. The Indians resisted their efforts. Within ten years, Mexico won its independence from Spain. The mission system collapsed and the San Joaquin mission was never built.

"Beginning at Jerusalem" one branch of Christianity made its seat on the Tiber. From Rome, it moved over western Europe. Checked for centuries by the Atlantic Ocean, it finally crossed that barrier. Spain's century in the sun had come. With irresistible onrush, she claimed most of the Americas for the Spanish crown, and dedicated them to the Virgin Mary. Then the conquest collapsed from within. The last thrust of its expansion was the planting in Alta California of the series of presidios and missions from San Diego to Sonoma.
"Beginning as Jerusalem" also, the other branch of Christianity made its seat by the Bosporus (waterway located in northwestern Turkey). From Constantinople (renamed Istanbul in 1930) it moved north over eastern Europe. It was checked for centuries by the Tartar barrier (Turkic-speaking peoples and lived mainly in west-central Russia). Then came the empire of the tsars, which expanded eastward across Asia, establishing as it went the Russian Orthodox Church. But the driving power of tsardom failed. Its last thrust crossed Bering Strait and occupied Alaska and part of the western coast of North America. Its farthest outpost was named Rossiya (Russia, which we have shortened to Fort Ross) in Sonoma County. The Russian Orthodox Church at Fort Ross is only forty-five miles from the Roman Catholic mission at Sonoma!
Eastern Christianity represented by the Russian Orthodox Church and western Christianity represented by the Roman Catholic Church had circled the globe, to meet in this state. But the Spanish church nor the Russian church had a strong reformation movement to purify its life from medieval incrustations. They faced each other in Sonoma County – exhausted. As Father Walsh,

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[2] The Pattern of California History, Edward Staniford, Chabot College, Canfield Press, 1975
[3] Forty Years on the Kings River, 1917-1957, by Charles L. Kaupke, prepared for Kings River Water Association, 1957, p. 1.

a recent historian for the Church of Rome expresses it, the curtain had been rung down. Most of the missions had been abandoned.[4]

The Yokut Tribe, located around the shores of the immense Tulare Lake for perhaps several thousand years, was perhaps the highest density population of Native Americans in the Americas. There was abundant fish, turtles, and birds for food. The tule reeds which lined the shores of the lake provided building materials for shelters and basket weaving. With the Gold Rush and California statehood, disease decimated the Native American population. In 1860 the Native American population in California was only 20% of what it had been ten years earlier.

Across the mountains and plains, in the eastern part of the continent, people flocked to the Second Great Awakening. Religion took on a new importance in the lives of the people. Revivals spread through seaboard cities and frontier towns. Among those most fired up with a new sense of God empowering their lives were people called Methodists. These Methodists took the spirit and excitement of this awakening and made it a way of life for their church.

Methodism, from the first, grew with almost tropical rapidity on American soil. It suited the genius of the people. It exactly fitted their circumstances. An itinerant ministry, as mobile and as enterprising as the light cavalry of an invading army, spread over the whole vast continent. The first preachers brought the methods of John Wesley and the traditions of the earliest heroic group of his helpers to America. They outmatched the immigrants; they out-toiled the settlers; they carried the message and the spirit of religion everywhere. Year by year the tale of new Societies, of multiplying chapels, and of an ever-expanding army of helpers was reported to the British Conference.[5]

Methodism came to North America in the 1760s. The Methodist Episcopal Church was formed in the United States in 1784, which one writer referred to as the first Christian domination to be established in the new nation. The Congregationalist, the church already established, as a "state church" of the colonies with attendance required, and taxes collected to support it. Of course, once the U.S. Constitutional principles were established, church and state began to separate.[6]

The year 1846 marked a period of unusual immigration into the territory of California. It will be remembered that the Donner Party was caught in a snow storm that year, and had to spend a winter of indescribable hardships near the lake that bears their name. Only a remnant reached Sutter's Fort in the early spring. Another party of fifty-seven souls, with fifteen wagons, reached the Sacramento Valley on the first day of October. After a brief rest, they pressed on to Santa Clara, which place they reached about the first of November. Among these were Adna A. Hecox and their family. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he had a license to exhort. About this time the settlers were exposed to danger even greater than any to which they had been subjected while crossing the plains. Col. Fremont left for the southern part of the territory, and taking advantage of his absence, Col. Sanchez induced the natives to rise against the

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[4] Leon L. Loofbourow, In Search of God's Gold, published by the Historical Society of the California-Nevada Annual Conference, of the Methodist Church, 1950, pages 9 and 10.

[5] Wesley and His Century, A Study In Spiritual Forces, by the Rev. W. H. Fitchertt, B.A., LL.D., Jennings and Graham, Edinburgh, 1908, p. 267.

[6] https://southwellfleet.wordpress.com/2012/08/27/south-wellfleet-methodists-and-camp-meetings/

"Americanos." There were hundred and seventy-five of these at that time in Santa Clara who was closely besieged by the Mexicans. To make their condition more wretched, typhoid fever broke out among them in very malignant form. Eight deaths occurred before the first of February. Mr. Hecox, “feeble in body leaning on a staff," attended the funeral services of these as they transpired. At the obsequies of a daughter of Silas Hitchcock, he preached a sermon from the words, “Remember how short my time is." This was, without doubt, the first Protestant sermon ever preached within the present limits of the State of California. No sooner had these immigrants reached the country than agents of the United States solicited all the young men and such others as could leave their families, to enlist in the war. Some of these under the command of Capt. Webber, united with the marines under Capt. Marsden, fought against Col. Sanchez and his forces near Santa Clara on the first day of January 1847. A desultory conflict was kept up until the eighth day of the month when Col. Sanchez surrendered. This closed the war in Northern California. From the first of January until the middle of February, Hecox, having recovered his health sufficiently, held meetings on Sabbath evenings. In these, he earnestly exhorted the people to attend to the salvation of their souls.[7]

In the pioneer days, the circuit rider or parson gained a respect and cast an influence far beyond the average over the lives of the good, the bad, and the indifferent. Dr. Edward Elson of Columbia Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C. in his 1954 book, *America’s Spiritual Recovery*, tells us, “The parson was a human phenomenon who was at once preacher, school-master, interpreter of the passing scene and advisor in all forms of endeavor.” He said also that by 1779 American Methodist preachers had taken over from the British-ordained Methodist preachers who had fled from the colonies. When the surrender came at Yorktown, the Methodists had 80 preachers and 14,000 members. By the time of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln could “thank God for the Methodists, who have sent more prayers to Heaven and more soldiers to the front than any other church in the land.” With their evangelistic fervor and social passion they have penetrated every area of American life, building churches, colleges, and hospitals from coast to coast; they have built up the largest single Protestant membership (more than nine million) in the United States.[8]

There was a wedding of Methodism to the socio-political climate of the American colonies which had ripple effects both good and bad. Ripples that we are still riding out. For one, Methodism hit a nerve in the North American mind. The growth of Methodism from just before John Wesley’s death in 1791 to the Civil War in 1861 is astonishing. On the other hand, with numbers comes the need for mobilization, for institutionalization, and with such numbers the added complexity of different, competing viewpoints. The wedding of faith to politics at this point hits its polar negative pole; within a century of establishment, we witness the loss of Methodism’s striking early Egalitarianism and the push, need perhaps, of a separation for its African American believers.[9]

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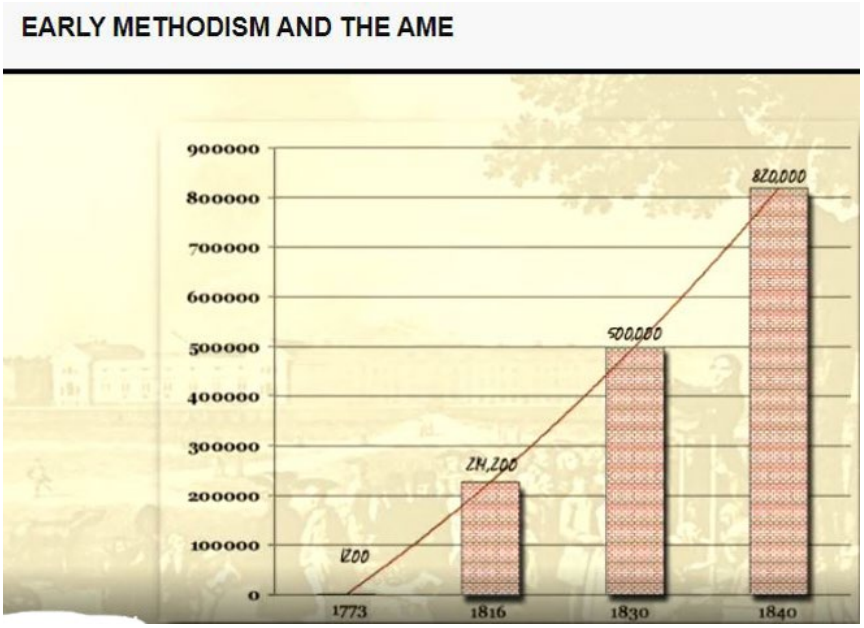
[7] Fifty Years of Methodism A HISTORY OF THE Methodist Episcopal Church Within the Bounds of the California Annual Conference from 1847 to 1897 C. V. ANTHONY, A. N., D. D. PUBLISHED BY THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN, 1037 Market St., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. 1901, pgs. 7-8.

[8] History of the First Methodist Church, Seventy-Fifth Anniversary, 1881-1956, 1350 M Street, Fresno, California, pg. 8.

[9] September 19, 2022 email to author from Pamela Deck



The promise of a new frontier of open land and opportunities for everyone drew Americans to California in the 1840s, even though it was still a province of Mexico. War broke out, and in 1847 the United States set up a territorial government for California. That year, Methodists in Sacramento founded the first church of their denomination in the territory.

The next year, James Marshall found gold in the American River. Gold lured thousands of Americans to California in the next decades. They brought their picks and their pans. Some brought Bibles.[10]

The Methodist Episcopal Church was among the first Protestant bodies to establish themselves on the Pacific slope. On August 15, 1851, 11 preachers met in San Francisco and held the first Methodist Conference on this coast. Their field of labor was from Canada to Mexico. It was not until 1859 that an organization was made in Visalia. The class was organized by John McKelvey, in charge of this circuit.[11]

The first church in what are now Kings and Tulare counties was the Methodist Episcopal Church South. In 1852, when Visalia consisted of undignified shacks and magnificent distances before it was even selected as a county seat, a congregation of this faith was organized.[12]

Kings County pioneer Frank Howe wrote in his book, *Recollections*, that in 1875 the only inhabitants in the Hanford area "were a Chinaman, a band of sheep, and his sheep dog."[13]

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[10] 100 Years in Ministry, A History of Memorial United Methodist Church of Clovis, CA, by Diane Slocum-Zastrovnik, published by Memorial United Methodist Church of Clovis, CA, 1993, pp. 1-2.
[11] History of Tulare and Kings Counties California, by Eugene L. Menefee, Historic Record Co., 1913, p. 157.
[12] Ibid. p 154.
[13] DISTURBING THE DUST, Memories and Recipes of China Alley, by Arianne Wing, Camerick Productions, 2022, page 5.

Saint Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church South had been organized in Fresno in 1876. It was the first religious organization in Fresno. Members of the Academy Church aided in the organization of Saint Paul's when churchless Millerton was abandoned.

Methodist ministers were called to serve in many ways in pioneer days. One day in 1883, a peddler drove with his mule team and spring wagon to the home of a Methodist minister near what is now the town of Parlier. He was having trouble with his wagon. A mechanic the day before had failed to repair it. While the minister's wife prepared a good dinner, the minister fixed the wagon. The grateful peddler drove off, saying, "The next time I have trouble with my wagon, I'll not fool around with a blacksmith but hunt up the nearest Methodist minister."[14]

In 1893, the citizens of Hanford and western Tulare County broke away and formed Kings County.

William Taylor and the Eucalyptus of California

The eucalyptus seems a part of California. Its lovely silhouettes against the blue and the tang if its bark that floats to us through moist air seems the essence of the land. It's easy to forget that both we and this characteristic tree are both importations.

William Taylor was born in Virginia. He arrived in San Francisco to start a church in 1849, following an appointment by the Mission Conference.

Later, with the same curiosity that made him dismount and measure a grizzly bear's footprint, Taylor evidently saw the many varieties and many uses of eucalyptus trees during his three years as a missionary in Australia. He saw their uses in medical and industrial fields.

The Taylor home for two generations was in Alameda. Living next to the Taylors was the family of James T. Stratton. Stratton was County Surveyor of Alameda County and later Surveyor-General of the state. The widow of James T. Stratton told of Taylor's sending eucalyptus seed over to her husband. She told of her husband's interest in propagating these and, as he traveled through the state in his work, of giving seedlings to ranchers if they would promise to plant and cultivate them.

On the basis of the interviews with the Taylor and Stratton families, it is justified in claiming for them a conspicuous place in the eucalyptizing of California. The eucalyptus stands as one of early Methodism's most visible contributions to California. [15]

Camp Meetings and Revivals

In 1799, on the western edge of the United States — then Kentucky — spontaneous all-night camp meetings began to occur. The idea took hold. These activities helped increase the church's

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[14] History of the First Methodist Church, Seventy-Fifth Anniversary, 1881-1956, 1350 M Street, Fresno, California, pg. 9,10.

[15] Cross in the Sunset, The Story of Methodism in California-Nevada, Leon L. Loofbourow , Volume 1, Historical Society of the California-Nevada Annual Conference of The Methodist Church, 1966, pp. 198-199

membership. All of this activity was a part of the "Second Great Awakening," a religious revival in America that started in the early 19th Century.

Outdoor revivals are a unique part of American church history. They were a common practice during the Great Awakening of the 18th and 19th centuries when pastors would preach for many hours and see people impacted in powerful ways.[16]

As an example of a permanent Methodist camp meeting facility, a restored camp meeting association is at Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard, an island off Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Originally, wooden tent platforms were constructed for individual families to camp out for summer seasonal use. Today, there are 300 small cottages on the original tent sites in three concentric circles around the camp meeting pavilion.

[16] Tim Dinkins, Five questions to ask at outdoor revivals, Hanford Sentinel, February 26, 2022

Photos by author, April 30, 2019

The decade of the 1850s was a camp meeting era. Climate and social conditions combined to make the camp meeting effective. The Civil War put a check on their popularity, and the opening of the continental railroad in 1869 broke down the sense of isolation that accounted in part for their popularity. Though they continued until the end of the century, the revival or "special meetings" became the leading evangelistic agency.

Camp meetings began as a way for Methodists to convert their neighbors. In the Methodist Church, the popularity of the meetings started around 1800, but most faded away in the early

1900s, when America became more mobile. People began traveling to resorts instead of religious retreats for vacations. [17]

Rev. John McKelvey, while assigned to the Mussel Slough Circuit, held camp meetings and revivals in what was to become Kings County.

The location selected for a camp meeting was usually open land with a grove of oak trees and available water. Each family brought its own shelter and did its own cooking, though sometimes there was a common table, served by a few courageous women. A platform was built for the preachers and benches for the worshippers. Preferably the location was available to a considerable population. To people far from home and old friends living in a turbulent and crude society, these gatherings of a week or more met a hearty response. The preaching was often highly emotional. A feature was the "experience meeting," where informally they sang and prayed and told of their sins and sorrows, their joys, and their triumphs. It was a phenomenon of the frontier. It tended to develop a peculiar type of oratorical, emotional preacher.[18]

We are informed by a gentleman who has been in attendance at the camp meeting at the Staley grove, three miles south of Selma, that it is largely attended, and is pronounced a very interesting and profitable occasion. There are good accommodations for any number of visitors.[19]

Rev. John McKelvey started the Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church in 1877.[20]

1877 photo of Hanford business district, looking west along 6th Street, from Douty Street.

[17] Gretchen Parker, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, Associated Press article, August 23, 2003

[18] Cross in the Sunset, The Story of Methodism in California-Nevada, Leon L. Loofbourow , Volume 1, Historical Society of the California-Nevada Annual Conference of The Methodist Church, 1966, pp. 19, 137-138

[19] September 30, 1882, The Fresno Republican page 3

[20] OFFICIAL CHURCH RECORD, HISTORICAL RECORD OF PERMANENT DATA, Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church, handwritten entry, page 50.

Hanford was a small town with a population of 942 people by 1890. Streets were dusty and dirty as there were no paved roads yet, candles and kerosene lamps lit the houses and businesses as electricity was not yet a reality. Businesses and houses were made of wood. The Business District in downtown Hanford was Irwin to Douty on Front Street (6th Street). Wagons and horses were the primary modes of transportation. [21]

[22]

[21] Patricia Dickerson, Hanford Carnegie Museum, Hanford Sentinel, June 13, 2019, page B1.
[22] John McKelvey's portrait is in McKelvey Hall, the overflow room next to the sanctuary

In 1916, there was a headline and photograph in the newspaper saying: Photograph of Large Group of New Members Who Joined the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Hanford Easter Sunday. The caption reads: The class of 96 new members taken into the First Methodist Episcopal Church in this city last Sunday morning brings the total membership of that church up to the 400 mark. This was one of the largest classes ever taken into a Hanford church at a single service.[23]

Born August 10, 1832 in Ireland
Died Feb. 15, 1896, Aged 63
Burial: Evergreen Cemetery, Los Angeles, Find A Grave #41988591

Methodist Episcopal

The Methodist church society was organized in Hanford in 1880, and its first place of worship was in an old school house which the society purchased and moved to the corner of Douty and Eighth streets. Struggling with all the vicissitudes to be endured through the conditions prevailing at that early date, the church maintained its worship, and with the arrival of Andrew G. Park from Tennessee in 1886, the church took on a new lease of life. From that time on the church has enjoyed a certain measure of prosperity. About 1891 the church property was disposed of and a new location selected at the corner of Irwin and West Ninth streets where the present edifice of the society now stands.

Prosperity has been the lot of the society, and the present place of worship will be replaced in the near future with a modern building.[24]

[23] Hanford Morning Journal, April 27, 1916, Page 6
[24] Hanford Sentinel, May 7, 1941, The Fox Theater is currently at the corner of Irwin and West Ninth St,

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Redington and Center Streets, Hanford, Oscar E. Link, Pastor

In the year 1876 the first Methodist church in the Hanford area was founded at Grangeville under the leadership of Rev. John M. McKelvey.

It was while Rev. McKelvey pastored at the Grangeville church that the Methodist Church in Hanford was organized under his leadership. From 1877 until 1880 the new congregation met at the Oriental School House in East Hanford.

In 1880 the Rev. J. R. Gregory was appointed as the first full time pastor of the Hanford Methodist Church. It was at this time that the church bought the southeast corner of Douty and Eighth Streets for $80 and moved an old school house onto the property for use as a church. The church sold this property to the Masonic Lodge in 1891.

The first church building erected by the congregation was built on the corner of Irwin and Lacey Boulevard in the year 1891. Part of this building included the Epworth League Hall which was later moved to the present site of the church and is currently being used as the social hall of the church.

The most famous pastor was the Rev. George A. Miller, who was elected Bishop of the Methodist Church. He served the Hanford area from 1896-1899 and was instrumental in building the new pipe organ.

In the early 1920's the church decided to relocate to the present site at the corner of Redington and Center Streets. The sanctuary of the present building was completed in 1926 with the dedication on Sunday, March 20, 1927. The new educational plant was built in 1960.

The Methodist Church in Hanford is part of The United Methodist Church with membership of over 12,000,000 members. This united church, which is a combination of The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, has over 33,000 ministers, over 42,000 local churches, property valued at over 5 billion dollars, church school membership of over 7 million and about 4,000 missionaries.

The local Hanford congregation has a church school each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. and the service of worship at 11:00 a.m. each Sunday. There is a very active youth fellowship in the church and a boy scout program from cubs through explorer. The Women's Society of Christian Service has regular meetings and a number of circles and is part of the largest single women's group in America, numbering almost 2 million members. Fellowship groups for various ages meet monthly and spiritual growth groups are available for those interested.

The church is glad to make its facilities available to non-profit community groups.

The leadership of the church includes: Charles F. Golden, bishop; Sargent Wright, District Superintendent; Oscar Link, pastor; Bill Hazen, lay leader; Dr. Robert Jensen, chairman of the administrative board; Leroy Hurte, choir director; Charles Boch, chairman of the trustees; Mrs. David Vaughn, president of the women's society and Gerald Schumacher, president of the Methodist men.

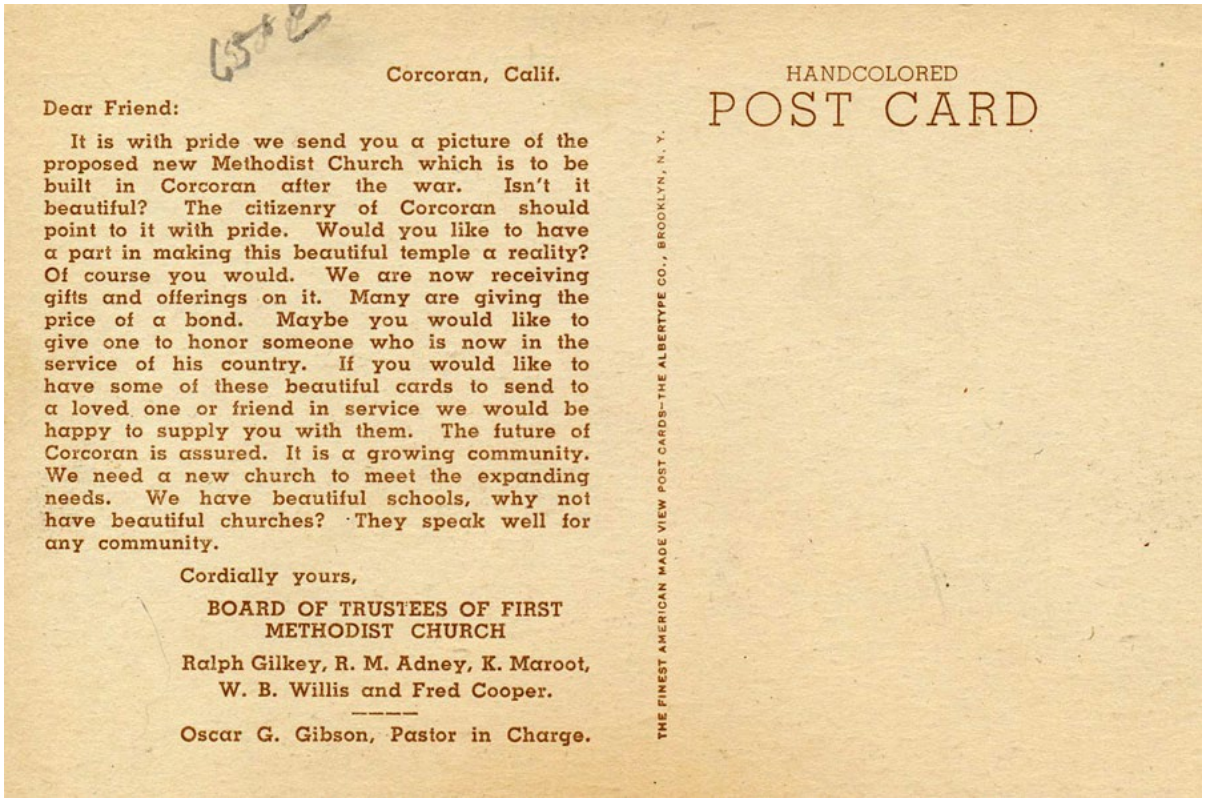
[25]

[25] Hanford Sentinel, October 10, 1970, page 5

OTHER METHODIST CHURCHES KINGS COUNTY

Corcoran United Methodist Church

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH. This 1910 postmarked card shows the Methodist church before the bell tower was completed. This building occupied the southwest corner of Jepson and Van Dorsten Avenues. In 1907, the church community was organized in Corcoran. The building pictured was dedicated on September 5, 1909, and cost $2,500 to build. **26**



Corcoran, Calif.

Dear Friend:

It is with pride we send you a picture of the proposed new Methodist Church which is to be built in Corcoran after the war. Isn't it beautiful? The citizenry of Corcoran should point to it with pride. Would you like to have a part in making this beautiful temple a reality? Of course you would. We are now receiving gifts and offerings on it. Many are giving the price of a bond. Maybe you would like to give one to honor someone who is now in the service of his country. If you would like to have some of these beautiful cards to send to a loved one or friend in service we would be happy to supply you with them. The future of Corcoran is assured. It is a growing community. We need a new church to meet the expanding needs. We have beautiful schools, why not have beautiful churches? They speak well for any community.

Cordially yours,

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

Ralph Gilkey, R. M. Adney, K. Maroot, W. B. Willis and Fred Cooper.

———

Oscar G. Gibson, Pastor in Charge.

THE FINEST AMERICAN MADE VIEW POST CARDS—THE ALBERTYPE CO., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

HANDCOLORED

POST CARD

Early 1940s Post Card

Corcoran UMC was closed by the Methodist Conference in October 2021.

[26] Kings County Postcard History Series, Michael J. Semas, Arcadia Publishing, 2005, pg 101

Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church

The former Methodist Episcopal Church on Hackett Street in Grangeville still stands as Kings County's oldest religious organization. The church was established in 1876.

Grangeville M. E. Church

The Methodist church at Grangeville holds the distinction of being the first Methodist church organization in this end of Tulare county. The society was formed in 1876, but it was not until 1879 that a building was constructed.

For this building all the framing lumber was hauled from the mountains by Wesley Robinson with his eight-mule team.

The Sunday school was formed at about the same time with A. W. Lane as superintendent. He continued in this office for eleven years, and was succeeded by J. H. Kane, J. B. Newport, A. E. Horlock, W. A. Long and the present superintendent, J. W. Lane. The first pastor was J. W. Hathaway.

The service of this Mother church has been continuous over a period of forty-four years, and a flourishing Sunday school has also been maintained. The society is in the best of condition and promises many years of service in the Grangeville community.

[27]

Harold Griswold was very involved in persuading the Kings County Board of Supervisors to have Kings County take possession of the old Grangeville Methodist Church and making the building a county historical site. By Kings County taking possession of the property and building as a county park, the insurance would fall under the County of Kings umbrella policy. Jail trustees and parks personnel are available to maintain the lawn and landscape of the grounds around the church. Since the water well was dry, Harold was instrumental in convincing the Last Chance Irrigation District, which has their shop adjacent to the property, to run a water pipe from their pressure system, so there would be water at the church and church grounds.

The Kings County Historical Society has been working on the restoration of the old Grangeville Church. To give their project a boost, Leonard Hall of Armona recently donated $50,000 in

[27] May 7, 1941, Hanford Sentinel

memory of his mother, Ida Mae Hurlbut Hall, a member of a pioneer Kings County family, who was married in the Grangeville Church.[28]

THE GRANGEVILLE METHODIST CHURCH

This article on the Methodist Church of Grangeville was
written and given by James Spencer Sullivan of Grangeville Community[29]

Credit for most of this story is due to Mrs. Mae Deacon, who kindly gave me the facts from a history of the church written by Rev. H. W. Waltz, who served as pastor during the years of 1896-97-98.

There is a Church Record of Pastors, Probationers, Members, Baptisms, and Weddings apparently started by Reverend H. J. Crist during his three-year pastorate of 1891-92-93.

Mr. Crist recorded the pastors from 1876 to his time, and succeeding pastors have added to the record up to 1938.

There is no one living today that we know of, who was old enough at the time the work started, to give us a first-hand account of those times.

Taking the two sources mentioned, with some hearsay, we find the following story to be pretty accurate.

Grangeville Methodism began in either 1871 or 1872 in a small schoolhouse 14 x 16 feet in area. This was located on the east side of 14th Ave. somewhere near the old flour mill. That would be within the first quarter-mile south of Grangeville corner.

Sunday School was organized by Mr. Jesse Brown who had moved here from San Francisco, where he worked as an exhorter and colporteur for the California Tract Society.

He found here a difficult field to work. The country was a vast plain; no roads, fences, or trees, no guide in the fog or night but a furrow. The people were few and scattered, and few of them were interested in spiritual matters.

Mr. Brown, however, in the face of these difficulties, together with a zealous and faithful few, built up a good Sunday School. He also conducted other religious services until the appointment of a regular pastor in the year 1875.

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[28] Hanford Sentinel, December 17, 1999, page B1.

[29] This paper was written in the late 1940s or early 1950s. This paper is included because the Hanford First United Methodist Church is an outgrowth of the Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church. A number of names mentioned in this article are important to the history of the Hanford church.

All honor is due to these pioneers whose names are still familiar. (February 5, 1898). Among those we note is J. Betts, who was an active worker for years. John Chambers and family, Caleb Railsback and family, who from the beginning were and still are interested in the growth of this church. (February 5, 1898).

The church must have been founded under the auspices of the California Conference as the Southern California Conference was not organized until 1876.

The first pastor was Rev. John McKelvey who served during 1876-77-78, and then another three-year pastorate in 1883-84-85.

The church was dedicated in 1878 during Rev. McKelvey's pastorate. Some known to have been in the choir on that day were:

Miss Emma Robinson, organist
Miss Martha E. Robinson, soprano (Mrs. Deacon's Mother)
Wesley J. Robinson, bass
Frank Robinson, tenor
Sarah Chambers, alto (Mrs. George Railsback)
Frank Railsback sang but may have been too young at this time

Later C. C. Farnsworth, bass, and his daughter May Farnsworth, soprano, together with Jesse Lane, tenor, and Jennie McFarlane, soprano, were members of the choir. Mrs. Eben Sanborn was also a soprano but it is not known whether or not she was present on Dedication Day.

It is very likely that a borrowed organ was used, as it is sometime later that we have a record of an Estey organ having been purchased.

The Southern California Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church met in its first session in the Fort Street, (now Broadway) Methodist Episcopal Church, in the City of Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order at 9 A.M., Wednesday, September 6, 1876, with Bishop William R. Harris, presiding.

The bishop read the 72nd Psalm and the 21st Chapter of the Gospel of St. John, and Conference united in singing the 379th hymn from the Tribute of Praise collection. Prayer was offered by Bishop Harris, after which the first hymn of the hymn book, "Oh for a Thousand Tongues to sing my Great Redeemer's Praise" was sung and prayer was offered by I. M. Leiky, and also by J. B. Hill of the California Conference.

The bishop called the roll and the following members responded to their names:

A. M. Hough
P. Y. Cool
S. Bland
I. M. Leiky
J. L. Mann
F. S. Woodcock
M. M. Bovard
J. B. Green

Geo. S. Hickey	W. A. ?
C. W. Tarr	T. F. Houts
J. H. Hawley	Stephen Bowersa
J. M. Campbell	J. D. Crum

Three brothers were absent: J. H. Peters, T. Cookson and J. McKelvey.
M. M. Bovard was elected secretary.
P. Y. Cool was appointed presiding elder of the Santa Barbara District.
J. H. Peters was appointed to the Visalia pastorate and J. McKelvey to Grangeville.
The first sermon preached in Grangeville by a regular pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church was by Rev. J. McKelvey, the pastor at Visalia. He came for an occasional Sunday until the Annual Conference in the Fall of 1875, at which time he was appointed the regular pastor of the Mussel Slough Circuit, of which Grangeville was the principal point.

November 12, 1875, is the date of the First Quarterly Conference. Rev. P. Y. Cook, presiding elder, presided. E. D. Simonds was secretary. Others present were J. McKelvey, pastor; W. W. Parlin, J. Stewart, S. R. Willson, and F. F. Wilson.

The Third Quarterly Conference was held in April, 1876. The name of J. F. Betts appeared at this time.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference was held on July 23, 1876, and S. R. Wilson, E. D. Simonds, J. Betts, J. Ingram, F. F. Wilson, F. Coffee, and J. S. Robinson (later) were elected stewards.

During the year 1876 W. W. Parlin was elected Sunday School superintendent. He was succeeded by G. W. Await, who was approved March 10, 1877.

In 1877 the name of the charge was changed to Hanford-Lemoore with Rev. McKelvey serving as pastor.

During the three years of Rev. McKelvey's service, this circuit, which included Hanford, Grangeville and Lakeside, there were received 80 probationers. There were received into full membership and by letter 136 members.

(February 12, 1898 -- Of this number only three still appear on the Grangeville Roll: Mrs. M. E. Myers, Mrs. F. M. Parrish and J. E. Tilton.)

In 1878 a church building committee was formed composed of Adam Bland, G. W. Awalt, S. R. Wilson, R. C. Hill and W. W. Parlin. Adam Bland was pastor in 1879. During his pastorate, two lots with an area of 120 x 150 feet, together with a house which had been the owner's residence, was purchased from Mr. David Brownstone for $400. The church was built during this year. The lumber with which it was built was hauled down from the mountains with teams and wagons furnished by John Wesley Robinson.

On April 20, 1879, A. W. Lane and Mary Lane[30] were received into the church by letter, and on May 12 Mr. Lane was approved as Sunday School superintendent.

Rev. J. W. Leach was appointed pastor of the circuit and served through 1880. The name of John Wesley Robinson appears as a member of the Quarterly Conference, and Mrs. E. D. Powell is mentioned as "one of our most efficient workers in church and Sunday School." (Mrs. Powell was the mother of Lewis Powell, the photographer.)

In 1881 Hanford became a charge with Rev. J. R. Gregory as pastor. Rev. R. B. Calloway became the pastor of Grangeville and Lemoore. The first Quarterly Conference added the names E. D. Simonds, R. Wilson, H. V. Harkness, Mrs. E. D. Powell, Mrs. Perlin, and Miss Martha E. Robinson as stewards. (Miss Robinson became Mrs. Parrish very shortly afterward.)

Mr. Calloway was pastor again in 1882. The church was improved and an Estey organ was purchased for $150. The record states that this organ was still in use in 1898.

Also that J. B. Newport, Frank Railsback, John Worswick, Laura Calloway Worswick and Mrs. Josh Worswick, who joined the church in 1881, were still active members. Rev. J. McKelvey came back as pastor for the years 1883-84-85. In 1883 the names of George Camp and John Lafortune appear as officials. Also, the name of Mary B. Sullivan as a member.

Rev. J. S. Kline was the Pastor for 1886-87 and J. B. Green was presiding elder. Mrs. Kline served as county president of the WCTY. In 1887 the Fresno District Ministerial Association held its Annual Session in Grangeville Church with 11 ministers present. Freeland Milton Parrish was elected a trustee in 1887.

Rev. J. H. Peters was appointed to serve the church for the 1888-89-90. The record lists a Sunday School enrollment of 75 with an average attendance of 55. A Ladies Aid Society was organized and the parsonage was improved and furniture added. Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. E. W. Hatch, Mrs. J. W. Lane and Mrs. A. E. McFarlane were added to the roll.

Rev. H. J. Crist became pastor in 1891 and served through 1892 and 1893. Special revival services were conducted the first year by Rev. A. J. Bell and E. A. Arne and 28 members were received into full membership. On April 15th, 1891, H. Bernstein was approved as Sunday School superintendent. A Building Committee composed of H. J. Crist, John Worswick, Freeland Milton Parrish and A. W. Lane were appointed to plan an addition to the building. The east wing was built, seated, and furnished at a cost of $580. Two windows were placed in the back of the church which cost $57.50, and $230 was expended on other improvements to the church and parsonage. During Mr. Crist's pastorate, we find the names Mrs. Mary Chambers, J. N. Hoyt, Jesse W. Lane, Mrs. Louie Newport, Metta Robinson, Mrs. Stacey, Katie Stacey, Peter Leavens, Martha Leavens, James Shay, Rosetta Shay, Ada Irwin, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Whitely, Ed Whitely, Mrs. Latham, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Long, J. L. Marvel and Flora Marvel became members.

The Epworth League was organized on February 18, 1891 by Mrs. Crist. The officers were:

[30] Mary Lane Hall is named after her.

Mrs. Crist	President
Miss Jennie McFarlane	Second Vice President
Mrs. Laura Worswick	Second Vice President
Mrs. C. W. Sullivan	Third Vice President
H. M. Bernstein	Fourth Vice President
Arthur Horlock	Secretary
Miss Katie Stacey	Treasurer

The League raised money to buy folding chairs and pay for one of the windows mentioned before.

Rev. J. B. Holloway became pastor for two years in 1894-85. The Fresno District again held a conference in the Church and plans were made to organize a District Epworth League. This was done in Selma in 1894.

From 1895 to 1898 Rev. H. W. Waltz was pastor. It was a time of great activity and growth. $60 was spent for a carpet and other improvements in the church. A stable was built for $65 and $100 was used to furnish and improve the parsonage.
A Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was organized March 27, 1896 with Mrs. H. W. Waltz as president. A Queen Esther Society was organized March 27, 1898, with Mrs. Jesse Lane as president, and an Institute for Young Men was organized March 11, 1898.

This account of the history of Grangeville Church has covered a period of about 25 years. To carry on, in the same way, would make this story far too long. A great many of us here are familiar with the happenings of the last 50 years and from here on we will give a list of the pastors who have served at Grangeville and a few other names that may be familiar to someone here.

The pastors were:

J. A. McMillan	1899	A. W. Gray	1923-24-25
J. M. Richmond	1900	J. W. Taylor	1926-27
O. W. Reinnus	1901-02-03	J. F. Redinger	1927-28
Ernest O. Harris	1904-05	H. R. Salisbury	1928-29
B. F. Summers	1906	A. K. Farey	1930
J. M. Taylor	1907-08, part of 09	George Cliffe	1931-32
Chas. D. Lewis	1910-11	M. A. Wimberly	1933-34
C. W. Roberts	1912-13	Chas. Pool	1934-35-36
W. J. Millet	1914	Maurice A. Kidder	1938
Harvey Bailey	1915	V. M. Nichols	1942
Scott E. Winthemer	1916	Donald S. Smiley	1943
Rufus E. Nunn	1917-18	Robert Dabritz	1944
C. E. Bower	1919	C. J. Mekkelson	1945
T. R. McKee	1920	Ralph W. Crawford	1946
Bryon T. Hovey	1921	Will H. Rogers	1948
Otis Mintzer	1922		

Since 1948 there has been no regular pastor, but a faithful few led by Mr. H. Sperling and his family have maintained an excellent Sunday School with occasional preaching services by visiting clergymen.

We have of record the following who have served as Sunday School superintendent over the years:

W. W. Parlin	1879	A. E. Horlock
G. W. Awalt	1877	Mrs. H. J. Crist
A. W. Lane	1879	W. A. Long
H. M. Bernstein	1891	J. W. Lane
J. W. Kane		James S. Sullivan
J. B. Newport		

This is fairly accurate up to 1909, since that time the record is blank. We know that Clifford Noland served a number of years and at the present time Mr. Guy Whittington is superintendent.

Time will not permit naming numerous families such as the Bassetts, the Malotts, the Bloyds, the Ritchies, and scores more than someone here will recall, who have been active in Grangeville Church.

The old record from 1891 is here today and someone here might be able to prove that they were married, or even that they exist by glancing it over.

Open house set for Grangeville Church

Hanford Sentinel, September 10, 2016

The Kings County Historical Society is inviting all Kings County residents to come to an open house 2-4 p.m. Sept. 18 at the Grangeville Church, 14060 Hackett St. Docents will answer questions land conduct tours of the church. Light refreshments will be served. The town of Grangeville was founded about 1871. It was the trade and social center of what was then western Tulare County. The town was platted in 1874 by its founders, James A. Hackett and Peter Kanawyer, who came to the area in 1870. When the Southern Pacific Railroad bypassed Grangeville in 1876, the thriving community dwindled in size and importance. Grangeville Methodism began in about 1871-72 in a small schoolhouse located on the east side of 14th Avenue, about a quarter of a mile south of Grangeville Boulevard. A Sunday school was built up and a regular pastor was appointed in 1875. By 1878, the church building was completed and dedicated as United Methodist Episcopal Church. It later served as a nondenominational church. Servicers were discontinued about 30 years ago. In 1993, a co-operative effort between the church trustees, the Kings County Board of Supervisors and the Kings County Historical Society deeded to property to the county with the agreement that the historical society would renovate and maintain the grounds. The Kings County Historical Society has spent many hours raising money to reestablish and maintain this historical gem. Many contributors – including Leonard Hall who

contributed $50,000 to preserve the church where his mother was married – enabled the restoration to go forward.

Armona United Methodist Church

The Armona United Methodist Church was organized in April 1910. The land was given to the church by Mark Bassett. The church is one of the earliest public buildings completely wired for electricity in the community. The Rev. C. D. Lewis, then serving the Grangeville Church, led the Armona congregation through the organizational period. Rev. Harry Banton became the first pastor for the 43 charter members. The church consists of about one hundred members. The church shares its pastor with the United Methodist Church in Caruthers.[31]

100 Years of Worship, Armona church celebrates its centennial
By Brandon Santiago, Hanford Sentinel
April 10, 2010, page B3

One area church as served the community for 100 years now. The Armona United Methodist Church is marking its centennial anniversary with a celebration on April 18. The celebration will be at the church on Hanford-Armona Road and will start with a social hour at 9 a.m. and ending with a catered lunch at noon. There is no cost to attend any of the special events featured for the celebration.

Rev. Thom Abrahamson is the most recent pastor for the church. He was assigned to the church in 2007 and he also serves as pastor at the Lemoore First United Methodist Church. "It has been a big blessing working here and serving these congregations; I am so glad to be here during this special anniversary and be a part of this celebration," Abrahamson said.
The church began as the Armona Methodist Episcopal Church in April 1910. Land was donated for the church site at the time by the Mark Bassett family. When the church was first built, it was one of the earliest public buildings completely wired for electricity in the Community. The Rev. C.C. Lewis, then serving the Grangeville Church, led the congregation during the church's initial stages. Later on, Rev. Harry Branton would become the first officially installed pastor for the church's original 43 members. Church membership has fluctuated since then and now stands at about 100.

Loretta Alexander has been a church member longer than anyone else in recent memory. She joined the church in March 1946. "My brother-in-law invited me to a worship service one Sunday and I immediately felt at home," Alexander said. "Everyone was so friendly and welcoming." Alexander said her children grew up in the church and that she is excited about the upcoming centennial celebration. "I see the celebration as more of a reunion; both of my sons were church members, and the one son who still lives in the area is planning to come and celebrate with me and the church," she said.
Alexander said she has many fond memories of the church and over the years became very close to many of its members. "So many fellow members have influenced my family and helped us. I remember Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Moore who would come and pick my family up and take us to

[31] Hanford Sentinel, July 17, 1971, page 5

church during a rough time in our lives when my husband and I did not have a car," she said. "They have since passed on, but there are so many others living and not living that have done similar things." "This church congregation is really close, almost like family," she said.

Methodist Episcopal Church, South

In 1844, the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church split into two conferences because of tensions over slavery and the power of bishops in the denomination.

The two general conferences, Methodist Episcopal Church (the northern Section) and Methodist Episcopal Church, South remained separate until 1939. That year, the northern and southern Methodist Episcopal Churches and the Methodist Protestant Church merged to create The Methodist Church.

Methodist Episcopal, South, corner of Ninth and Brown streets, Rev T.J. Strawbridge, pastor – Regular services at 11 a.m., Sunday school at 9:45. Strangers are cordially invited to attend the above address.[32]

Kings River Methodist Episcopal Church\

[32] The Hanford Journal, January 9, 1909

Kings River Church

Kings River Methodist Episcopal church, which is situated five miles northeast of the city of Hanford, is having a splendid year of growth in all its departments.

The church work was first started in the old Redwood school house, by Mrs. O. S. Frambers, who for a number of years was instrumental in advancing Sunday school work.

In 1902 the church was organized by Rev. Geo. Miller, pastor of the First Methodist Church of Hanford. Mrs. J. J. Cortner, M. F. Hageman and Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Belknap, the latter having passed away last October, were the charter members of the church. After two years of labor the Rev. Miller was followed by Rev. W. A. Betts. Each of these men held only afternoon services, but in 1903 Rev. Geo. M. Marine became the first resident pastor. It was in this year and under the leadership of Bro. Marine that the present church auditorium was built. In 1905 an addition, being the present Sunday school room and social hall, was added to the church building, and again in 1915 under the leadership of Rev. Howard Taylor another addition in the form of a kitchen was added. Until today Kings River boasts of a church plant which has no peer as a rural church plant, and many of the city churches have not as well an equipped church as has Kings River.

In 1904 a neat six-room parsonage was built for the pastor's home. This house has been improved from time to time, until today, though being in the country, it has all the modern improvements and conveniences of a city parsonage. And there are but few ministers' homes in the valley that have a more pleasant and home-like environment.

This church, like all others, has had its periods of advancement and decline. However, by the work that has been done it has proved the foresight of those who founded this church. From out of its membership has come ministers of the Gospel and prominent leaders of large city churches.

33

The membership journals of two former Methodist churches in Kings County are found in the Shaw Memorial Library of the Hanford First United Methodist Church.

The Kings River Methodist Episcopal Church, at the northwest corner of 11th and Excelsior Avenues, served its congregation from March 1902 through June 1948. The last notation says that the church merged with the Laton Methodist Church. However, the church records, including the original charter, are in the archives at Hanford Methodist Church.

Pastor's Report

[33] May 7, 1941, Hanford Sentinel

The Preacher in Charge of Kings River presents the following Quarterly Report of the Charge to the Second Quarterly Conference, held at Kings River, February 6, 1905.
No. of Sunday Schools 2
State of the Schools: both in good condition
Average attendance: Kings River 80, Hardwick 25
The church and its friends have built new plank walks for the church and parsonage and also one hundred feet of new hitching rack.

Photo taken between 1905 -1910. Later the building became the local Grange Hall.

The history of the Kings River Grange which was organized on June 4, 1937 with 59 charter members was related by Alan Turner. The first meetings were held in the Kings River School, and in 1948 the members bought the present building (at the northwest corner of 11th and Excelsior) from the Kings River Methodist Church. [34]

[34] October 9, 1962, Hanford Sentinel, page 5

Lakeside Methodist Episcopal Church

The Lakeside Methodist Episcopal Church was active from 1910 to 1923. Notes indicate that the church merged with the Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church at the time of its closure. The present Lakeside church currently is a community church at the northwest corner of 10th and Kent Avenues. Pastor J.W. Brunner was called into the U.S. Army as a chaplain in 1918 when the U.S. entered World War I. [35]

The Howe family was active in the Methodist Church in Hanford. Chester and Verla Howe felt a need for a church in the Guernsey area. When the grammar school was closed down, they moved the school building to the present site of the Lakeside Church in the Guernsey area.[36] A Sunday school was established, and at its peak, there were up to 125 youth participating on Sunday morning. The adults would then have just enough time to drive into Hanford to go to church services at Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church.

Laton United Methodist Church

October 25, 1986
Fresno District Convocation Proceedings

[35] Fresno Morning Republican, October 18, 1918, page 11
[36] Personal conversation with Gerald Schumacher.

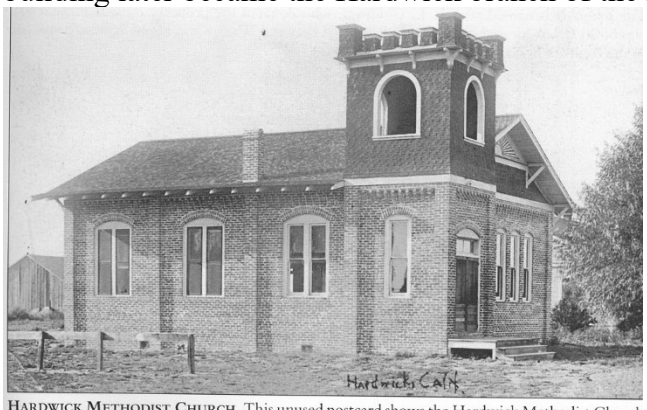
The Laton United Methodist Church was established in 1907 as Laton Methodist Episcopal Church and remained as such until during the 1950s when the name was legally changed to Laton United Methodist. The church was first located at the corner of DeWoody and Armstrong streets. 1921 the church was moved to its present location at DeWoody and Pio Pico. The lot for the building was donated by Mrs. Martha Gresham. She donated the bell for the church in 1907. The church was refurbished and a social hall was added by the first minister in this location, Reverend Chalfant. The United Methodist Women have served a turkey dinner the first Thursday of December in this hall for the past 64 years. The 65th is scheduled for December 4, 1986. Today's attendance includes family members of some early families listed on the rolls. A partial list of early members: Mr. & Mrs. Spike, Mrs. Mae Densmore, Mr. & Mrs. Wilkerson, Mrs. Martha Gresham. Some later families were: Gregory, Cessna, Bristol, F.E. Turner, Abel, Durst, DeHart, McAllister, Black, Fitzgerald, Simerly, Garberson, Ritchie, and Sanstrum.

In 2009, the author coordinated with the CA-NV Conference to do a VIM project to paint the exterior of Laton UMC, with a grant from the Fresno Extension Society. The Care-a-Vaners spent a week in April and San Ramon Valley UMC youth spent a week in June working on the painting project.

The church building and property were sold by the District Missionary and Extension Society in February 2020.

Hardwick Methodist Episcopal Church

The Hardwick Methodist Episcopal Church was in existence from 1910 to 1917. A copy of the membership records is in the Genealogy Room of the Tulare County Public Library in Tulare. The church was served by four successive pastors before it closed its doors in 1917. The church building later became the Hardwick branch of the Kings County Library.



HARDWICK METHODIST CHURCH. This unused postcard shows the Hardwick Methodist Church around 1910. Originally constructed in the late 1890s, it was acquired by Kings County in 1925 for $1,700 to house the Hardwick library collection. In 1973, the building was demolished.

[37]

[37] Kings County Postcard History Series, Michael J. Semas, Arcadia Publishing, 2005, pg 110

Howard Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church [38]

Richard Allen, the founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, was born into slavery on February 14, 1760. At the age of seventeen, he was converted by the preaching of Freeborn Garrettson and joined the Methodist Society. He was licensed to preach in 1782. One of two black preachers at the organizing conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1784, he became a member of the Old St. George's Methodist Society in Philadelphia. While praying at St. George's in 1794, he and a few black colleagues were literally pulled from their knees by an official of the Society. Allen and his friends left St. George's and subsequently formed the AME Church. Although some white Methodists cruelly mistreated him, Richard Allen wrote, "I feel thankful that ever I heard a Methodist preach. We are beholden to the Methodist, under God, for the light of the Gospel we enjoy." [39]

The Howard Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church of Hanford commemorated its 114th anniversary on March 15, 2003. The church was established March 25, 1899 in Hanford, making it the oldest African-American church in Kings County. The church received its name in honor of the Rev. W.W. Howard, presiding elder from San Jose. The Howard Chapel was first located on the corner of Fourth and Brown streets and was built under the pastorate of the Rev. Sydney Knox, the church's first pastor. The church moved to its present location at the corner of Second and Douty streets in 1910.

Two congregations of Methodist heritage pooled their people to get a parsonage painted on Saturday, May 13, 2000. The churches that shared in the local Volunteers in Mission effort were Hanford UMC and the AME Zion Church. The parsonage of the latter was the beneficiary of the joint effort. According to a published report, the AME pastor and his wife, returning from a conference, "almost drove by their home not recognizing it" so substantial was the transformation! [40]

Local church celebrates 115 years

By Eiji Yamashita
Hanford Sentinel Reporter

A black church in South Hanford has a tiny prayer hall, a modest kitchen and a small congregation of 15 members. But don't be fooled by its size. It carries a weight of history that goes back a long way, even longer than the City of Hanford. Howard Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church of Hanford reached yet another milestone this week, clocking 115 years in the area. It is the oldest black church and the only AME Zion church in Kings County. The church marked the occasion with a special dinner and worship service Saturday afternoon. "It feels wonderful to be a part of history-making here at Howard Chapel, which really is the pillar of the community," said

[38] Howard Chapel AME marks 114th Anniversary, Hanford Sentinel, March 16, 2003
[39] Kenneth L. Carder, Living Our Beliefs, The United Methodist Way.Second edition, Discipleship Resources, 2009, pg 13
[40] The Fresno District Connection, Vol. 1, Issue 5, July 2000, page 2

Fred Wills, an active member of the church h who serves as a preacher steward. For most of those involved in the church, worship in this congregation is something that has been passed down through generations, Wills said. Wills, a senior member of the church, says the history of the church provides a lesson for all the members. It reminds not only the older generations of the responsibility to bequeath the heritage properly, but also the younger generation to carry it on, Wills said. "Only thing I want is to be a dedicated member and follower of Christ… and see the growth of children," Wills said. Adults are hoping that their children "learn to have the right relationship with one another, with their parents, friends and teachers because of the legacy that has been passed on." As a denomination, AME Zion is more than 200 years old, said Rev. Lillion Foster-Hilliard, pastor of the church. It was first established in 1796 at John Street Methodist Church in New York, she said. The long church name represents its many facets – African, because it's made up of a group of people of African descent, Methodist, because it's an offshoot of the Methodist Church of Great Britain; Episcopal because it's governed by bishops; and Zion because it's the name used in the Bible for a congregation of Hebrew children, Foster-Hilliard said. The local church was organized in 1889, and then it moved to the current location at Douty and Second streets in 1910. During its history, the church has worshiped under 20 different pastors. Foster-Hilliard, the current spiritual leader at the church, came in 2001. She travels from Oakland each week to give a sermon. She said it didn't take very long to fall in love with the Hanford congregation. "People here are very loving, unlike in a big city, very faithful and very active," Foster-Hilliard said. "They are very small but very loyal. I cannot believe how hard these people come together." The AME Zion of Hanford has recently gone through some difficult times. The church lost its parsonage to fire last August. The debris is now cleared, but the empty spot is a reminder of what the church members said was an emotional disaster. "It really affected us emotionally, but not spiritually," Foster-Hilliard said. "It really brought us together for the glory of God. People could've scattered away, but not with this church. These people stayed on." Meanwhile, church members said they are reminding themselves to be appreciative of the many things that they have. And they find a purpose in preserving the congregation. "There's a reason for this church to be existing out here," Wills said. "We've been up against some difficulties, but all it takes is a faithful few who are dedicated to the church." [41]

Lemoore United Methodist Church

A binder, titled: First Recorded History of the First United Methodist Church of Lemoore, California, contains the minutes of the quarterly meetings of the church, from 1870 to 1889.

The fourth quarterly conference for Lemoore Mission Merced District, Pacific Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church South convened in the Lemoore church in August 14, 1883. The written report on the church stated: "Dear Brethren, The church is not in a prosperous condition, the spiritual interest is low and the financial condition of the church is badly deranged, but nevertheless we have reasons to thank God and take courage on account of the small but faithful number who have assured us by their zeal and fidelity in the past that they intend to stand by the church to the end. Our congregation is small but this is growing in part to the warm weather and busy season.

[41] Hanford Sentinel, March 28, 2004

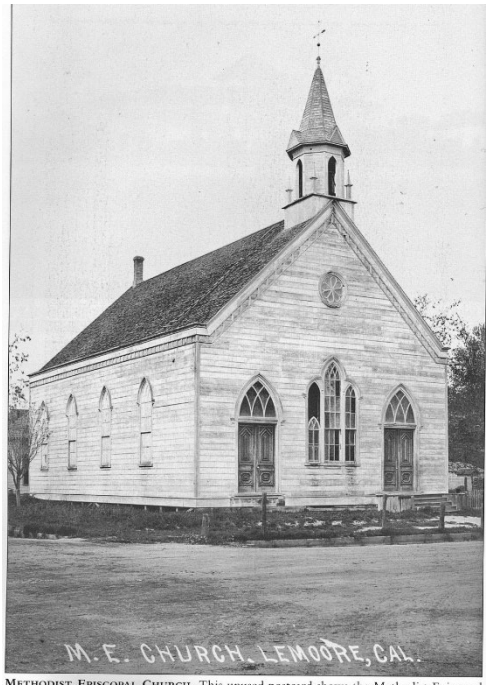
70 Years Ago - On Sunday, Jan. 2 (1944), the members of the Lemoore Federated Church will hold a special observance, which will include as an outstanding feature the burning of the mortgage on the church property. The present building was erected in 1930. The Federated Church was formed when members of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches of this city (Lemoore) voted to consolidate their groups in 1936.[42]

90 Years Ago – (1924) The ladies of the Methodist church are to serve their annual chicken pie supper next Thursday night at the social hall. The usual high standard of good things to eat will be guaranteed. Tickets will be on sale at 75 cents.[43]

105 Years Ago- (1920) Persons looking for furnished rooms may do well to inquire at the First Methodist Church. [44]

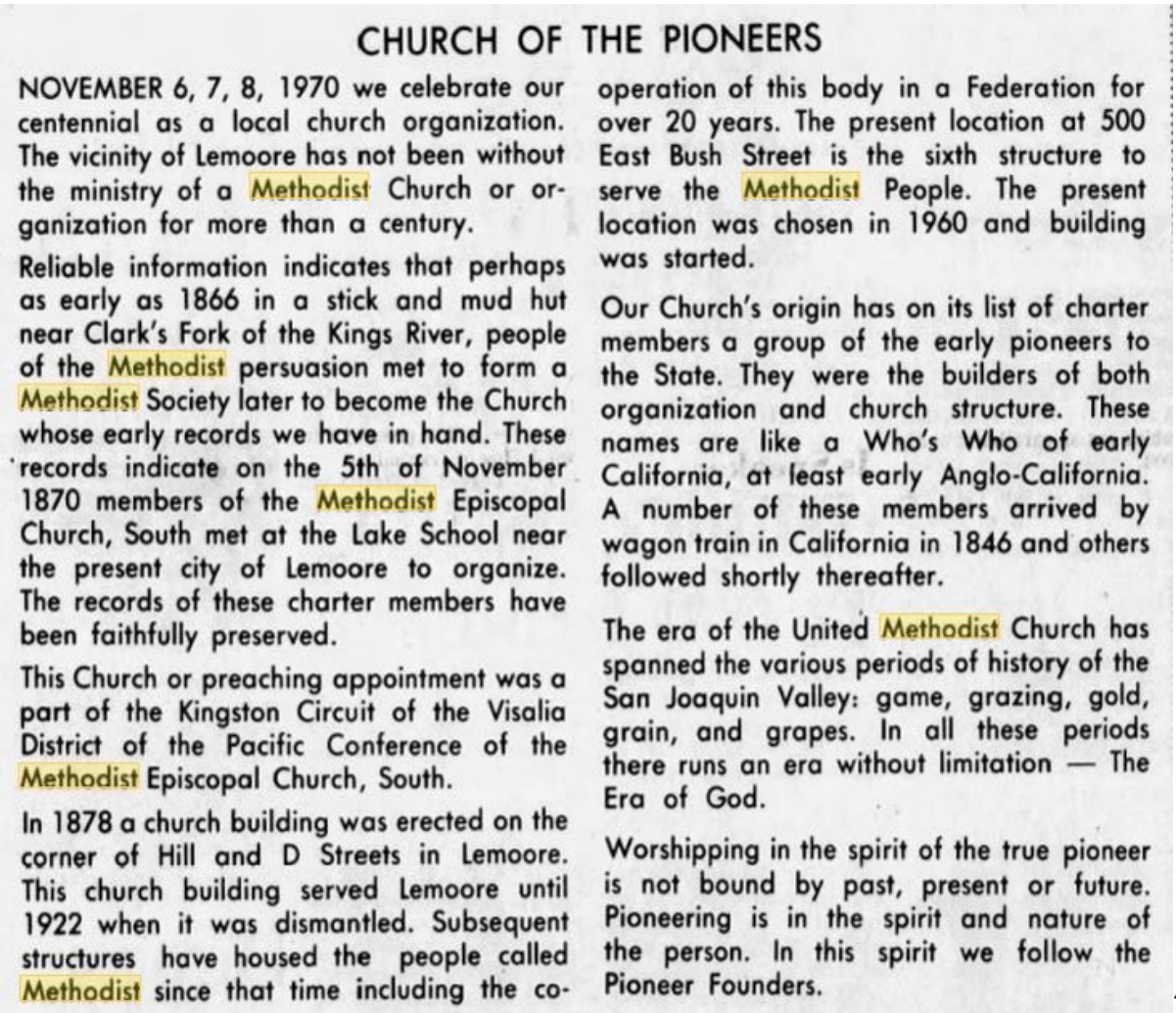
55 Years Ago – (1960) Church Lists Neutra As Its Architect – The architect for the assignment drawing and master plan for the Methodist church and parsonage is Richard Josef Neutra of the firm, Neutra & Alexander. Neutra's associates declare he bases his building design conception and this project on the scientific basis of today's physiological knowledge. He has written two books on this theme which interpret this work for many years. Born in Vienna, Austria, in 1892, Neutra has worked since 1923 in America and many other countries. His work has included city planning, colleges, universities, museums, art collections, cultural centers, housing projects, etc. Neutra is the architect for the new circular 20-classroom elementary school being built on the Naval Air Station by the Central Union district. [45]

[42] Lemoore, 70 Years Ago, Hanford Sentinel, January 6, 1914
[43] Lemoore, 90 Years Ago., Hanford Sentinel, November 20, 2014, Page A7
[44] Lemoore, 105 Years Ago, Hanford Sentinel, July 11, 2015, Page B2
[45] Lemoore, 55 Years Ago, Hanford Sentinel, October 31, 2015, Page B1



Methodist Episcopal Church. This unused postcard shows the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was located at Hill and D Streets. Built in 1878, the church was one of the first established in Lemoore. [46]

[46] Kings County Postcard History Series, Michael J. Semas, Arcadia Publishing, 2005, page 82



CHURCH OF THE PIONEERS

NOVEMBER 6, 7, 8, 1970 we celebrate our centennial as a local church organization. The vicinity of Lemoore has not been without the ministry of a Methodist Church or organization for more than a century.

Reliable information indicates that perhaps as early as 1866 in a stick and mud hut near Clark's Fork of the Kings River, people of the Methodist persuasion met to form a Methodist Society later to become the Church whose early records we have in hand. These records indicate on the 5th of November 1870 members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South met at the Lake School near the present city of Lemoore to organize. The records of these charter members have been faithfully preserved.

This Church or preaching appointment was a part of the Kingston Circuit of the Visalia District of the Pacific Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

In 1878 a church building was erected on the corner of Hill and D Streets in Lemoore. This church building served Lemoore until 1922 when it was dismantled. Subsequent structures have housed the people called Methodist since that time including the cooperation of this body in a Federation for over 20 years. The present location at 500 East Bush Street is the sixth structure to serve the Methodist People. The present location was chosen in 1960 and building was started.

Our Church's origin has on its list of charter members a group of the early pioneers to the State. They were the builders of both organization and church structure. These names are like a Who's Who of early California, at least early Anglo-California. A number of these members arrived by wagon train in California in 1846 and others followed shortly thereafter.

The era of the United Methodist Church has spanned the various periods of history of the San Joaquin Valley: game, grazing, gold, grain, and grapes. In all these periods there runs an era without limitation — The Era of God.

Worshipping in the spirit of the true pioneer is not bound by past, present or future. Pioneering is in the spirit and nature of the person. In this spirit we follow the Pioneer Founders.

[47]

Riverbend United Methodist Church
October 25, 1986
Fresno District Convocation Proceedings

In the year 1900, a parcel of land known as the Laguna De Tache Grant was opened for settlement. This parcel became known as the Riverbend Island District since it was enclosed between two channels of the Kings River. The families who settled in the northeast portion of this parcel were some three miles from Kingsburg, while those who settled in the southwest part were as far as nine miles away.

Perhaps in part because of its geographic location a strong community spirit soon developed. By 1903 a school was built. Many of the first settlers were members of churches from whence they came and although there were already several churches in Kingsburg they felt a need for church services in their own community. In 1905 a Sunday School was established, under the auspices of the Methodist Church, using the schoolhouse as a meeting place.

[47] October 31, 1970, Hanford Sentinel

From this beginning, a desire for a church building led to a canvass of the community which assured support for such an undertaking. As a result, a church was built in 1911. Emil Swanson a member served as contractor and chief carpenter. All work, except plastering, was done by members and friends.

Services have been continuous since that date. On our 50th anniversary in 1961, our membership was 85. Since then we have lost most of those members either by death or moving. Currently, our membership is down to 22. This drastic decline is a reflection of the changes in rural America. Two dramatic changes have occurred as we passed from the horse and buggy small farm days to our present mechanized large farms and the automobile. First, fewer families on farms; 2nd, easy access to nearby cities, resulting in the closing of many rural schools and churches and the exodus of our young people in quest of employment.

Nevertheless, we continue to be a viable congregation serving Christ in our community under the leadership of our pastor, Alma Foster. Our Sunday attendance is frequently up to 50% above our total membership, which encourages us to continue, due to the regular attendance of friends from surrounding communities.

The Riverbend Methodist Church was established in 1905. In 1998, the Riverbend United Methodist Church, numbering about 24 people, started the process, which ultimately led to the congregation leaving the Methodist Conference and becoming an independent community church. [48]

I worked on the history/fundraising for my sister's church in Kingsburg – Riverbend Church – and the men of that church actually constructed it. It is now 102 years old and in amazingly sound shape; it has been moved to the Kingsburg Historical Park. They are restoring it, and the little Riverbend congregation will be able to hold their Sunday services there. [49]

[48] Hanford Sentinel, March 28, 2004
[49] Email from Janis Rogers, June 20, 2017

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JOHN WALKER jwalker@fresnobee.com

CENTURY-OLD RIVERBEND CHURCH MOVED – VERY SLOWLY – TO KINGSBURG MUSEUM SITE

How do you move a 100-year-old church? Very slowly. Gary Nelson, president of the Kingsburg Historical Society, above, watches history on the move on Road 5½ as the old Riverbend Church, built over 100 years ago, is moved from 5681 Bangor Ave. to its new home at the Kingsburg Historical Society Museum on Thursday morning. The truck that hauled the old Riverbend Church to its new home moved at a snail's pace, giving onlookers and motorists ample time to look over the church in motion.

February 5, 2016

[50]

Stratford Methodist Episcopal Church

The Annual Conference of 1913 lists Wallace Cutter appointed to the Stratford Church. [51]

PASTOR TO PREACH FAREWELL SERMON, STRATFORD, June 19, 1914 – The Rev. Wallace Cutter will preach his farewell sermon to the Stratford people Sunday, June 28. The M.E. district superintendent, Dr. Oliver, has requested Rev. Cutter to Orange Cove, Cal., where it is desired to establish a new church. He has made many warm friends during his stay here and the M.E. church at this place regrets his loss.[52]

Camp Sierra

Rufus E. Nunn was one of 16 Methodist ministers who signed the original document establishing Sierra Methodist Chautauqua and Bible Conference Association, which is now known as Camp Sierra, in 1917, while he was pastor of the Grangeville Church. Hanford church members George and Pearl Shaw, and Fred and Muriel Rader previously owned cabins, and Jim and Peggy Gregory currently own a cabin at Camp Sierra. It is located in the Sierra National Forest, on the Huntington Lake Road between Shaver Lake and Big Creek, in Fresno County, on 16 acres.

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[50] Fresno Bee, February 5, 2016, page 3A
[51] Los Angeles Times October 8, 1913, pg 3
[52] Hanford Sentinel, June 20, 1914, page 2

The Methodist ministers and laymen wanted a place in the mountains where people and families could gather, camp, vacation, or build cabins in the splendor of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Subsequently, 71 individual private cabins were built, along with lodges, cabins, dining hall, as well as a water distribution system and a sewage treatment plant. Camp Sierra is a year-round recreational retreat that offers complete lodging, dining, and meeting facilities for various religious, recreational, non-profit organizations, and government and business organizations and/or groups. The 4,800-foot elevation conference site is a welcome respite from the hot summer temperatures of the San Joaquin Valley. [53]

RAISE FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY HOUSE – The Booster class of the First M.E. Church held a meeting Monday night at the church parlors. Funds were raised for the purpose of building a community house at Sierra Chautauqua camp near Shaver, which will be accomplished within the next few weeks. [54]

1926 Post Card of Kings Cabin

[53] Special-Use Permit Renewal for Camp Sierra, U.S. Forest Service, March 23, 1998
[54] Hanford Sentinel, June 15, 1921.

Photo by author, July 22, 2018

Kings Cabin at Camp Sierra was built by volunteer labor and supplies donated by the Methodist Churches of Kings County. Starting in July 2021, Kings Cabin is available for rent on the website of Air B&B.

Camp Sierra was seen as a retreat and gathering place for Methodists, and supported by Methodist ministers, to bring their families in the summer and have recreation and Chautauqua events, which were presentations with religious themes.

> 1917 article: Rev. P. Morgan returned on Saturday night from Sierra Chautauqua campground where, in company with Rev. and Mrs. Ward Hull of Hanford, and others, he attended the opening of the grounds to the public. The roads were reported open for travel, but heavy snow fell after the party was well within the high lands, and travel was exceedingly difficult and dangerous, as it is necessary to cross a mountain 6,000 feet high to reach the campground, which is about 4,000 feet elevation. About eighty (Methodist) ministers of the San Joaquin valley were present and with the exception of only a few, selected lots on which they plan to build cottages for the coming summer. Rev. Morgan was very pleased with the location which he secured and will build the coming summer. [55]

For over 50 years, when offered, the Hanford UMC sent youth to the annual week-long Epworth League summer youth retreat at Camp Sierra.

One time in the 1990s, Hanford UMC had an all-church weekend retreat at Camp Sierra. It was at this retreat that the author and Randy Chono convinced Cristin Haley to go on a snipe hunt! A burlap bag and flashlight were given to her; a suitable place was found to catch a snipe. This was

[55] Hanford Weekly Sentinel, May 31, 1917, page 3 Sierra Chautauqua was later renamed Camp Sierra

a time when there was also a bear alert in the area. The snipe hunt itself was unsuccessful, but the ribbing at Cristin's expense was memorable.

Photo by author

Cluster retreat at Camp Sierra September 2005. Front: Bob & Jan Junell, Polly Geisler; behind sign: Peggy Gregory, Marion & John Gregory, Bob Geisler, right side: Verne Adams, Delfa & Roy Randles, Thom & Debrah Abramson, pastor at Lemoore UMC. Retreat leader: Dick Bayard of Visalia

Observing Flag Day

OBSERVANCE OF Flag Day on June 14, 1917, was an auspicious event marked with the dedication of a civic memorial, a huge flag presented to the city by the late H.G. Lacey. There was a parade in connection with the flag dedication and raising. Attorney John G. Covert gave the address of the day, the Rev. Warren T. Howe gave the invocation and recited a patriotic poem and the Hanford Band played. The scene above is looking north from Eighth and Irwin streets, with the tall spire at left on the Methodist Church, which stood where Salmon's Furniture is now and farther north can be seen the then newly-completed Presbyterian Church dome. The New Method Laundry back of flagpole was located on what now is the county courthouse grounds.

56

[56] Michael Semas posted this photo with caption on his Facebook page, July 2019

This article published October 18, 1918, page 11 of the Fresno Morning Republican, lists the assignments of the pastors. The US entered World War I. The pastor of Hanford is replaced because W.W. Hull was "called" into the Army as a chaplain.

SUPERINTENDENT TO SUCCEED OLIVER IS CHOSEN

Rev. H. W. White of Anaheim Comes to Fresno Dist. of M. E. Church

Dr. W. A. Betts Returns to First Church; Oliver Goes to Santa Ana

Dr. John Oliver, who has been superintendent of the Fresno district of the M. E. church, and who retires at the end of the six-year term, according to the discipline of the church, returned last evening from the annual conference, which closed yesterday at Bakersfield, after a week's session Dr. Oliver was appointed pastor of the First church of Santa Ana. His succesosr here is H. W. White, a classmate of Dr. Oliver, at the University of Southern California, and who was pastor at Anaheim last year. He is a man of large experience in ministerial work, having many important charges. Some of his recent pastorates were at Pomona and Riverside. He has two sons in the Student Army Training class at the University of Southern California and another son aged about 4 years. Rev. White and wife will make Fresno their home.

[illegible] will make Fresno their home.

Several changes in the pastorates were necessitated by calls to the army for chaplains. Rev. W. L. Dexter, pastor of Grace M. E. church, Fresno, goes to Hanford, taking the charge left vacant by W. W. Hull called into the army as chaplain. Rev. George A. Warmer, who came to the conference five years ago, first in the Santa Barbara district, and later at Lindsay, received a unanimous call to Bakersfield First church, to take the place of Rev. A. L. Baker, who becomes an army chaplain. H. C. Slater of McFarland, called also as army chaplain, is succeeded by Rev. W. Winebrenner, formerly pastor at Del Rey. J. P. Lavoni, formerly of Parlier, and who had charge of the Sierra Chautauqua last summer, succeeds Winebrenner at Del Rey. W. T. Powell of Merced, is another who has been called as chaplain. The conference voted to permit the M. E. church of that city to consolidate with the M. E. church South. J. W. Brunner of Lakeside near Hanford is also made an army chaplain.

Other changes of interest here are the following: Harry Ryder, formerly of Parlier, goes to Trinity church, Long Beach; Samuel Hughes, formerly pastor of Grace church, Fresno, is a Y. M. C. A. secretary and is now on his way to France; Rev. Alfred Hughes, his brother, is returned to Santa Barbara, and the conference voted to meet in his new church which will be completed in time for the conference next year; Rev. Frank B. Cowgill, who was pastor here previous to Rev. Will A. Betts, is returned to Covina; Rev. Will A. Bets is returned to First church in Fresno; H. G. Kennedy is again pastor of the Normtl M. E. church, and Rev. Harley Baily, Calwa and Roosevelt avenue; C. B. Montague changes from Reedley to Lindsay; Rev. Don Allen, formerly pastor in Fresno churches, is returned to Coalinga; W. L. Miller, from Los Angeles, comes to the Easton church; Rev. Thomas Burden, formerly of Fresno, returns to First church at Tulare; C. E. Bower, formerly of Easton goes to Patterson; A. Burge comes from San Diego to Caruthers, and Bert

from San Diego to Caruthers, and Bert Hamlin, formerly of Caruthers goes to a charge near San Diego; F. E. Watson comes to Visalia from Inglewood, and C. D. Hicks of Los Angeles succeeds C. R. Montague at Reedley.

Rev. Vernon M. McCombs, who has charge of the Portuguese and Spanish work in this conference, is given charge of the work on the entire coast.

Fresno District

H. W. White, district superintendent, Fresno.

Alpaugh ..... E. H. Barnhart
Armona and Island..H. B. McFarland
Atwater and Winton..J. M. Richmond
Bakersfield—
Chesbrom Memorial....J. H. Hodges
First church .....Geo. A. Warmer
Thomson Memorial....J. N. Munden
Big Pine .....Arthur Chalfant
Bishop ..... L. H. Sanborn
Caruthers..... A. A. Burge
Castago circuit—to be supplied.
Coalinga..... Don A. Allen
Corcoran .....H. R. Salsbury
Cutler and Exeter....C. E. Delamater
Delano ..... S. E. Winebrenner
Del Rey .....J. P. Livoni
Dinuba ..... J. E. Houlgate
Earlimart ..... C. T. Maxwell
Fairview ..... R. O. Price
Farmersville circuit .... C. A. Whippo
Fresno—
Calwa-Roosevelt Ave.....
..... Harvey Bailey
Easton, R. R. "F".....W. L. Miller
First church ..... Will A. Betts
Grace .....E. E. Marshall
Normal and Clovis...H. G. Kennedy
Rolinda circuit .....W. L. Jones
Fowler (colored)..... D. P. Shaw
Goshen and Delta View—to be supplied
Grangeville..... R. E. Nunn
Hanford ..... W. L. Dexter
Hanford, Tulare, Ingomar (Portuguese)..... Jose L. Travares
Independence .....J. L. Muchmore
Ingomar ..... J. L. Ridgeway
Irwin and Stevinson.....Edgar Haigh
Kernville circuit ..... J. W. Springer
Kings River, R. E. D. Hanford.....
.....F. P. Morgan
Lakeside ..... J. W. Bruner
Lancaster ..... C. W. Green
Laton and Hardwick .....J. H. Engle
Lemoore .....H. C. Taylor
Lindsay ..... C. R. Montague
Livingston .....F. H. Howlett
Madera ..... C. W. Roberts
McFarland ..... Earl Haydock
Merced .....S. M. Cheek
Newman ..... W. A. Jennings
Oakdale—to be supplied.
Palmdale—to be supplied.
Parlier ..... M. S. McGee
Patterson ..... C. E. Bowers
Poplar ..... E. G. Jann
Porterville ..... C. T. Harrison
Raisin City ..... R. O. Price
Randsburg and Atolia—to be supplied.
Reedley ..... C. D. Hicks
Riverbend—to be supplied.
Sanger ..... L. A. Rice
Selma ..... S. J. McConnell
Sierra Chautauqua—to be supplied.
Springville and Globe—to be supplied.
Strathmore—to be supplied.
Sultana ..... G. W. Bruce
Taft ..... Don S. Ford
Tehachipi and Mojave—to be supplied.
Tulare ..... Thomas Burden
Visalia ..... F. G. Watson
Wasco ..... W. E. Malan
Waukena and Buena Vista.....
.....J. S. Walton
Woodlake—to be supplied.

It is interesting to see how many communities in the area were represented by a Methodist church, minister and congregation.

IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF METHODISM

1730s

Methodist societies were formed in England by John Wesley as an outgrowth of the Church of England.[57] [58]

May 24, 1738

John Wesley had a heartwarming experience during a society meeting in Aldersgate Street, London. A flame was lit that evening in London that was to sweep the entire nation. John and Charles Wesley and George Whitefield began a great Methodist Revival, preaching to those who were not reached by the established Church of England.

1769

Methodist missionaries sent by John Wesley to America

December 24, 1784

American Methodists separated from the Church of England and organized the Methodist Episcopal Church in America at a conference held at Lovely Lane Chapel in Baltimore, Maryland. Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke presided over this newly formed church.

May 1845

Differences over the question of states' rights vs. federal rights and slavery caused the Methodist Episcopal Church South to break from the northern churches. During this period, several other churches emerged from the original Methodism.

April 26, 1939

The Methodist Church of America was formed from the Methodist Protestant Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church South at a Unifying Conference held in Kansas City, Missouri.[59]

April 23, 1968

The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren joined to form the United Methodist Church at a Uniting Conference held in Dallas, Texas.

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[57] John Wesley was born on June 17, 1703, while England was still using the Julian calendar. England adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1752 and thus Wesley's birth date became June 28.

[58] July 18, 1536, the English Parliament passed an act declaring the authority of the pope void in England.

[59] 3 Methodist Church Branches Parade to Meeting and Merge, San Francisco, June 14 – The three Methodist churches of California were united today as 1500 delegates attended the first state conference of the new church which was consolidated nationally in April. The delegates last night opened separately the conferences of the Methodist Episcopal church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant church. Then the three conferences paraded to the First Congregational Methodist church to join their voices in hymns which for years have been common to all branches of Methodism. June 14, 1939, Hanford Daily Sentinel.

Chapter 2

Newspaper Articles

A SUCCESSFUL RECEPTION

To say that the reception and housewarming at the Irwin Street Methodist Church Friday p.m. was an enjoyable affair is but speaking mildly of its success and the manifest enjoyment of those who accepted the invitation to share in the hospitality of the Epworth League and the church. There were about 250 people in attendance and throughout the entire evening they mingled together as if at a family gathering and made the affair seem like a home assemblage rather than a formal reception, and this spirit of familiarity and easiness makes the young people feel all the more satisfied with the effort. At about 8:30 the program that had been arranged was rendered as follows and was highly pleasing to the assembled company: Chorus. Welcome address, Roual O. Deacon. Response, Edward Holt, of the Endeavor of the Presbyterian church. Vocal solo, Mrs. B. B. McGinnis. Recitation, Miss Marie Clow. Vocal trio, Misses Mae Coffee, Emma Parrish and Lessie Byrd. Vocal solo, Miss Bertha Bassett. Reading, Mrs. W.H. Miller. Vocal solo Miss Iola Williams. Remarks, Reve. W.C. Geyer. The program was given in the auditorium of the church and then the company repaired to the new additions and spent another hour in sociabilities. [60]

Four Sermons on Temperance

November 22, 1909 [61]

Rev. Irving B. Bristol and Rev. J.R. Schultz, representing the Anti-Saloon league, occupied the pulpits of four of Hanford's churches yesterday, the former at the Methodist church in the forenoon and the Presbyterian church in the evening and the latter at the First Baptist church in the morning and the Christian church in the evening. The subject of temperance was their theme. Rev. Bristol's subject was, "Shall the People Rule the Saloons or Shall the Saloons Rule the People?" while Rev. Schultz spoke as an advocate for civil righteousness. The addresses yesterday were not especially an attack on the saloon interests here, but against the traffic in general.

[60] Hanford Kings County Sentinel, December 1, 1904
[61] Hanford Sentinel, November 21, 2009, page B1

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH TO FETE START IN HANFORD

HANFORD (Kings Co.), Sept. 29. —The First Methodist Church of Hanford is preparing to celebrate its sixtieth anniversary Friday, Saturday and Sunday, starting with a banquet in the civic auditorium Friday evening. More than 300, including a number of former members now living in other cities, will attend the banquet and reunion program.

J. L. Neighbor, principal of the Hanford Union High School, will be the toastmaster. Earle Scott, Fresno baritone, will sing. Chamber music will be rendered by an orchestra under the direction of Jacob Wiens. Speakers will include Bishop James Chamberlain Baker of the San Francisco Area of Methodist Churches; Rev. S. S. Sampson of Glendale, district superintendent of the Fresno-Glendale district, and two former pastors, Rev. A. T. Kent and Rev. L. R. Bayard.

To Present Picture

J. W. McKelvey of Mountain View, son of John McKelvey, the first pastor of the Methodist Church in Hanford, will present the church with an enlarged picture of his father.

On Saturday afternoon there will be an old timers' meeting. Rev. M. A. Wimberly of Kings River, pastor of the local church in 1928, now retired, will preside. Dr. W. C. Williams of Hanford will talk on the history of Methodism in this district. The address will be followed by a brief memorial service and reminiscences. Refreshments will be served by the ladies aid society.

Sunday morning, beginning at 10:45, services will be opened with music by the choir, under the direction of Gilmore Erickson, with Miss Anise Doup at the organ. The sermon will be delivered by Bishop George Miller, who was pastor of the church in 1896.

At 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon there will be a vespers service, with concert singing by the choir and talks by Rev. Bayard and Rev. Sampson.

Started In 1877

The Methodist Church was the first church to be established in Hanford. It was established in 1877 with John McKelvey as pastor. The local organization was an offshoot of the Methodist Church at Grangeville, a thriving community of that period. The section on which Hanford was built was known at that time as the Plains and Visalia was the nearest county seat.

The first church building was a small box shaped structure. This served the congregation until 1892 when a second church was built at the corner of Irwin Street and Lacey Boulevard, the present site of the Montgomery Ward store. This building was razed in 1926 when the present $40,000 church was erected and formally dedicated.

The church today has a membership of 300 with a large Sunday school and other departments, all of which are active and pretentious in a wide scope of undertakings. Rev. R. E. Cordell, who came here from Connecticut in 1936, exchanging places with his predecessor, is the active leader of the present congregation.

Former pastors of the church in the order of their service are as follows: 1877, John McKelvey; 1878, A. Band; 1879, J. W. Leach; 1880, J. R. Gregory; 1881, H. J. Shaffner; 1882, J. R. Callaway; 1883, O. S. Frambes; 1885, J. R. Gregory; 1886, A. G. Park; 1890, G. S. Umpleby; 1891, G. E. Morrison; 1892, P. H. Bodkin; 1893, O. S. Frambes; 1894, W. L. Miller; 1896, G. A. Miller; 1900, W. A. Betts; 1903, W. C. Geyer; 1907, Charles Wentworth; 1910, S. J. McConnell; 1912, W. C. Loomis; 1916, W. W. Hull; 1918, W. L. Dexter; 1921, W. L. Dexter; 1922, L. V. Lucas; 1926, M. A. Wimberley; 1928, A. F. Hasse; 1929, L. R. Bayard; 1931, A. T. Kent; 1934, Stephen L. Kiser, and 1936, Rev. R. E. Cordell.

September 29, 1937 Fresno Bee, 60th Anniversary

Church History

HANFORD'S PIONEER CHURCH[62]

by Doctor W. C. Williams[63]

Seven years after the transcontinental railroad was built into Sacramento, ties were being laid for a railroad to Kingsburg. Settlers from the seas were pouring into this new section of California, many of whom were members of Methodist churches in the communities from which they came. It was only natural that in 1876 a new church should be built in Grangeville under the leadership of Reverend J. M. McKelvey.

At that time Grangeville was the metropolis of what is now known as Kings County. It had stage connections with the railroad at Kingsburg and a fairly good wagon road connected Grangeville with Visalia, the county seat. Four miles east of Grangeville and stretching south from the Visalia Road, now Grangeville Boulevard, was a sparsely settled desert section known as the Plains.

The same year word was received that the Southern Pacific Railroad was planning to build a branch line west from Goshen for a distance of 13 miles and start a new town which was called Hanford.

A year later (1877), Rev. McKelvey started the Methodist work in Hanford and the Hanford Church continued to be an out-appointment for the Grangeville pastor until 1880. For part of the time that Rev. McKelvey was pastor of this church he lived with his family one-half mile west of the present Boyd's Filling Station on the ranch now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Speck[64] who are members of our church.[65] From this home, this early itinerant preacher drove to his churches and about his pastoral duties in a one-horse buggy (This information comes from a letter written by one of Rev. McKelvey's sons, J. A. McKelvey). Two of Rev. McKelvey's sons are still living, J. A. McKelvey of Mountain View, California and H. W. McKelvey who resides at Hynes, California. They are presenting the church with a large picture of their father.

In 1878 there was no report of the work in Hanford other than that there were 143 members and one probationer. In 1879 the two places received $100 missionary money. There was one church valued at $850 and a parsonage valued at $400. There were 146 members, 8 officers and teachers and an enrollment of 65 in the Sunday School. The church promised to pay the pastor $1,200, a large salary for a Methodist preacher at that time, but the church actually paid $500 to the pastor that year, $12 for the support of the bishop and $7 for conference claimants.

The Conference minutes of 1880 record a church worth $500 and a parsonage valued at $300. The pastor was to receive $900 but actually received $765 and $1 was paid for conference claimants.

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[62] Hanford Morning Journal, October 3, 1937
[63] Dr. Williams was a chiropractor, who resided and had an office in Hanford.
[64] According to Ancestry.com this is Joseph Daniel Speck
[65] This is Forest Speck's parents and Marilyn Speck Peden's grandparents.

The minutes show an average attendance of 35 in the Sunday School, with 137 members on the roll.

In 1880, the Annual Conference separated Hanford from the Grangeville charge and appointed Rev. J. R. Gregory who thus became the first full time pastor of Hanford. His salary was set at $500 a year. He received $422, part of which was "in kind."[66]

A year later, July 16th, 1881, he reported the organization of a Sunday School and by the end of the year attendance reached 78.

The First Quarterly Conference of the church was held on November 27th, 1880. The Conference elected as trustees J. Graffees, S. R. Wilson, H. E. Johnson, S. Kirkendle and F. Blakely. It also appointed the following committee to investigate the possibilities of building a church: H. E. Johnson, W. B. Smith, treasurer, L. W. Blosser, J. Graffees, F. Blakely and J. R. Gregory, the pastor, as secretary.

At the Second Quarterly Conference, February 27th, 1881, Rev. Adam Bland, presiding elder (the former pastor of 1878) presided and plans were made to cooperate with Grangeville in holding a District camp meeting before the harvest that year. However, the Third Quarterly Conference reports that the camp meeting was abandoned because of sickness, rains and high water.

In 1882, the church was sufficiently organized to plan additional equipment. A lot near the present firehouse and back of the library was purchased for $80. The church also purchased an organ for $80 and a bell for $53.50. At this time the pastor's salary was $1,000. No information is at hand as to where church services were being held at this time.

Those who lament the passing of the prayer meeting will be interested in the report of the pastor, Rev. H. J. Shaffner. "We are having a life and death struggle to keep up the prayer meeting." However, two years later another pastor reported a flourishing prayer meeting.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference meeting July 1884, reports that the second and third Quarterly Conferences were not held that year mainly on account of high water. Rev. O. S. Frambes who was pastor in 1883-84 was apparently of an evangelistic nature. He reports holding 19 protracted meetings in and around Hanford during the year. "The subject of holiness was made prominent and many embraced it and united with the church."

A note in 1888 reports that on Admission Day, September 9th, the Methodists held a public service in Pythian Hall. Afterwards the audience was asked to raise the church debt amounting to $600. It took 20 minutes to do it.

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[66] "THE LITTLE KINGDOM OF KINGS", THE HISTORY OF KINGS COUNTY AT A GLANCE, a bibliography by David L. Vierra Sr., Second Edition, 2008, page 10, states the Methodist Church is organized in Hanford in 1880 at the corner of Eighth and Douby Streets. Church documents show the Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church started as an outgrowth of Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church in 1877 with John McKelvey serving both churches. The Hanford church, apparently formally separated from the Grangeville charge in 1880, and acquire its own pastor.

In 1891, the church sold its property to the Masonic Lodge for $6,400, after which it rented the building from the Masons for $10 a month until a new building could be erected.

The new church was built in 1892, by Seaman and Nyswanger contractors, and included a new barn. It was situated on the corner now occupied by the Fox Theatre building and was so far "out" that a water main could not be laid in front of the property as yet. The debt had been entirely subscribed when the dedication was held in May, 1892 (Sunday following the 10th) Dr. F. F. Jewel of San Jose preached the dedicatory sermon. Two other churches dismissed their services for the occasion.

For the new church the congregation bought 116 seating chairs, 12 plush chairs for the choir and three pulpit chairs. In October, 1896, the church had 72 members and two probationers, while in September 1900, four years later, the membership was doubled.

I found no record, but we have information from a reliable source that the Rev. George A. Miller, who is now a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, built the pipe organ in the church on Irwin Street while he was pastor of the first church.

Rev. Will A. Betts in his report to the First Quarterly Conference, November 21, 1902, says: "The church has just installed electric lights and a non-member tells me that he can see to read the hymns now and I can read the Bible at the evening services." The same pastor reports February 9, 1903 the Ladies Aid has just purchased a new range for the parsonage and installed hot water connections with it and that it has greatly increased the comfort of the residents of the parsonage.

Before Hanford numbered its streets, the way of designating the residences of the membership was not so easy as now. Witness the following: "W. D. Bay, back of mill"; "Mrs. Margaret Brown, Ivy Street near Mrs. Slocum's"; "Harry Dennison, west of church three blocks"; "Freda Douglas and all the Douglas family in a two-story house on East Seventh Street"; "James Payne, see Douglas family."

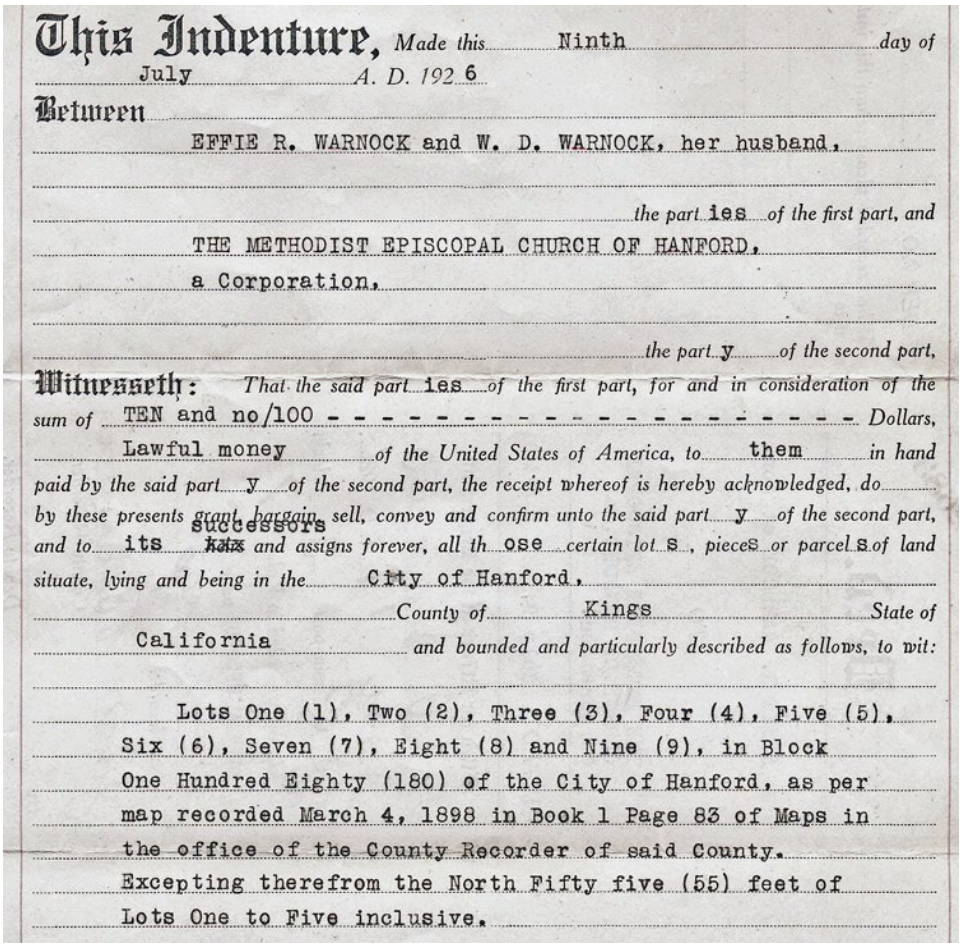
In 1904 the Irwin Street church was remodeled and an addition built to it. Dean and Cole were the contractors. The improvements were made at a cost of $1,370.97.

In 1913 a new parsonage was built by Dean and Cole, at a cost of $2,560. The building committee was W. A. Long, S. E. Kimball and Freeland Milton Parrish. On Oct. 17, 1917, a committee composed of W. A. Long, F. M. Parrish and J. O. Kimball, was appointed to have a garage built for the pastor.

Because of the over-crowded condition of the Sunday School, which had an enrollment of approximately 250 with an average attendance of 190, a group of the loyal church members came together during 1923 and 1924 and formulated plans for the building of a new church. After various members and committees were appointed to look into the details, a building committee was finally appointed which consisted of the trustees, E. R. Montgomery, chairman; G. K. Spike, secretary; C. S. Denham, treasurer; Alpheus E. Griswold and George Meldrim. In 1926, Mr. Meldrim resigned from the board on account of moving to Monterey and Jacob L. Neighbor was

elected to fill the vacancy. The Building Committee was ably assisted in this enterprise by Rev. L. V. Lucas who was pastor of the church at that time and also Mayor of Hanford.

Deed describes parcel 10-235-11, which was purchased for $10 on July 9, 1926.



This Indenture, Made this Ninth day of July A. D. 192 6

Between

EFFIE R. WARNOCK and W. D. WARNOCK, her husband,

the part ies of the first part, and

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF HANFORD,

a Corporation,

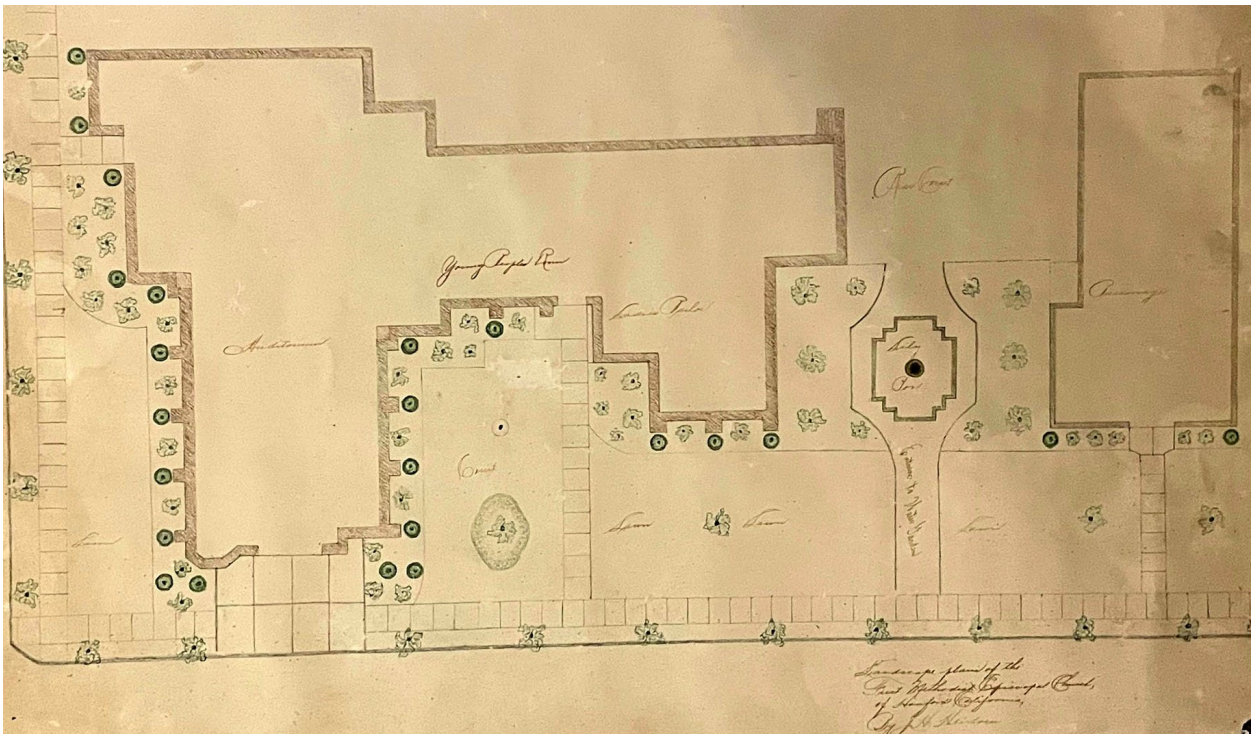
the part y of the second part,

Witnesseth: That the said part ies of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of TEN and no/100 - Dollars, Lawful money of the United States of America, to them in hand paid by the said part y of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do by these presents grant, bargain, sell, convey and confirm unto the said part y of the second part, and to its successors ~~heirs~~ and assigns forever, all th ose certain lot s, piece s or parcel s of land situate, lying and being in the City of Hanford,

County of Kings State of California and bounded and particularly described as follows, to wit:

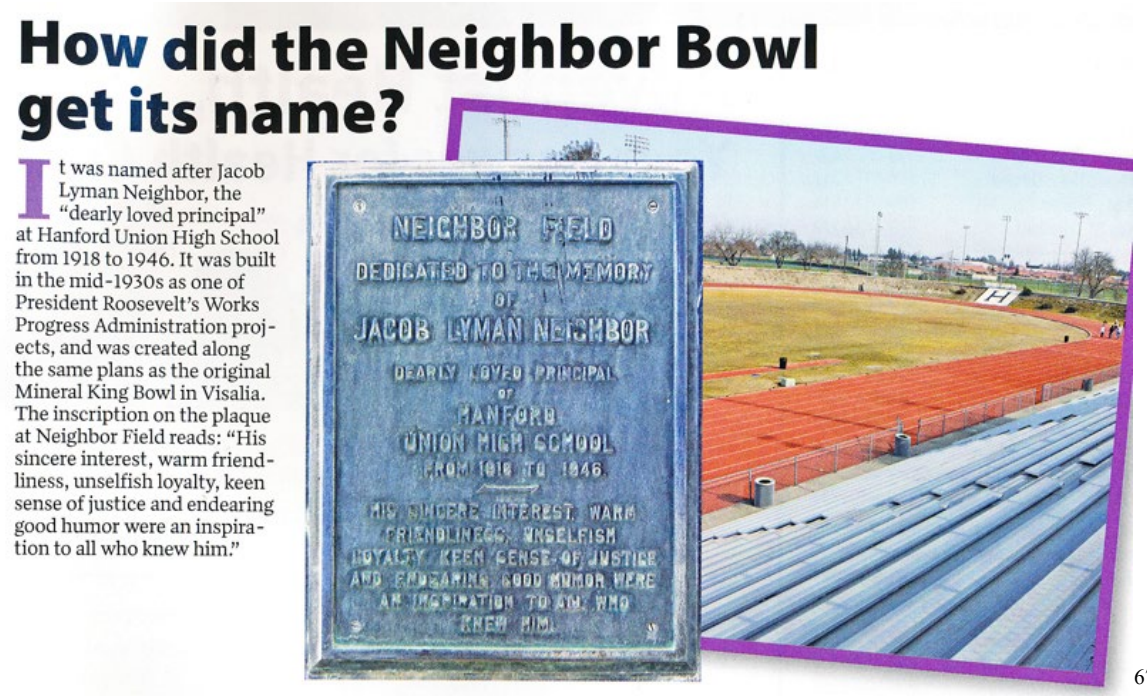
Lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Five (5), Six (6), Seven (7), Eight (8) and Nine (9), in Block One Hundred Eighty (180) of the City of Hanford, as per map recorded March 4, 1898 in Book 1 Page 83 of Maps in the office of the County Recorder of said County.

Excepting therefrom the North Fifty five (55) feet of Lots One to Five inclusive.



Original landscape drawing, showing the location of the parsonage, where the two-story education building is located on the right today.

A postcard, probably from 1927 or 1928, before landscaping. Note Founders Hall (Social Hall) behind the sanctuary building.



How did the Neighbor Bowl get its name?

It was named after Jacob Lyman Neighbor, the "dearly loved principal" at Hanford Union High School from 1918 to 1946. It was built in the mid-1930s as one of President Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration projects, and was created along the same plans as the original Mineral King Bowl in Visalia. The inscription on the plaque at Neighbor Field reads: "His sincere interest, warm friendliness, unselfish loyalty, keen sense of justice and endearing good humor were an inspiration to all who knew him."

[67]

The cost of the church building was approximately $38,000, organ $4,500, furniture $2,700, architects $2,000 and real estate $8,000. The following were given to the church at this time: The organ chimes by Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Grimshaw in memory of their daughter Georgia May. The electric cross was donated by Mrs. J. W. Bainum in memory of her husband. The Communion tables by the J O C Sunday School Class of Mrs. Etta Marmaduke in memory of her daughter, Thelma Ratcliffe. The vox humana stop of the organ by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Griswold in memory of their daughter Esther Evelyn. The pulpit furniture was presented by Mr. W. M. Erwin in honor of his mother. The following were also given to the church: The cornerstone by G. T. Reinhard and his son Stanley, the baptismal font by G. L. Hoskins and 114 chairs by the Booster Class of the Sunday School. The parsonage was moved to its present site and a part of the old church was moved to the new site and is now known as our Social Hall.

[67] Answer Book, A Special Publication of The Hanford Sentinel, March 2011

METHODISTS' SOCIAL HALL BEING REMODELED

The work of remodeling the social hall, moved from the site of the old Methodist church to a location adjoining the new edifice, is approaching completion and the architectural style is being made to conform to that of the new church. A contract has been let to Carl Nelson to lay a concrete pavement about the church, which is to be put down at once and upon its completion the lawn is to be laid out and trees and shrubs planted to beautify the surroundings.

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Gives Illuminated Cross In Memory of Husband

In memorium of the late James Bainum, his widow, Mrs. Harriet Bainum has presented to the Methodist church, an illuminated cross as a visible symbol of the services of her husband to that church. The cross, ten feet high, and possessive of twenty-eight white lights, to be placed upon the top of the tower and lighted each night, will be seen all over the city

The Methodist people are appreciative of the gift, which is typical of Mr. Bainum's plans with regard to the construction of the church. Appropriate dedication services will be observed sometime soon.

69

[68] February 5, 1927, Hanford Morning Journal
[69] November 12, 1927, Hanford Sentinel

The **Vox humana** (Latin for "human voice," also "voz humana" in Spanish and Portuguese, "voix humaine" in French and "voce umana" in Italian, although "voce umana" is also a term for a *celeste* stop, q.v.) is a short-resonator reed stop on the pipe organ, so named because of its supposed resemblance to the human voice.[1] As a rule, the stop is used with a tremulant, which undulates the wind supply, causing a vibrato effect. The vox humana is intended to evoke the impression of a singing choir or soloist, though the success of this intent depends as much upon the acoustics of the room in which the organ speaks as it does the voicing of the pipes. It is almost invariably at 8′ pitch, though on theater organs it is not uncommon to encounter a chorus of vox humana stops at 8′ and 4′ pitch, with the addition of a 16′ acting as a pedal stop.

The vox humana is one of the oldest reeds in organ building, based on its appearance in very early instruments. It is common on French classical organs in the 17th and 18th centuries, where it was used as a solo voice. The vox humana also appears on German and Dutch organs of the period, though not as frequently as in France. French organs in the 19th and 20th centuries almost invariably featured a voix humaine in the Récit (the most commonly enclosed division of the French romantic organ), though by this time the literature had evolved and it was used to play rich, harmonic chordal progressions. Many American organs built in the romantic style include a vox humana in order to facilitate the playing of this literature.

Vox humana stops in very old organs had a fairly wide variety of designs and tonal qualities. It was during the nineteenth century that the design became fairly standardized. Today, most builders construct vox humana pipes in approximately the same way, though the scaling will vary between builders and according to the tonal style in which the organ is designed. The actual sound of the pipe is dependent upon the voicer, with an open "O" or a long "E" sound probably being the most common result.

70

The new church was dedicated on Sunday, March 20th, 1927. G. T. Reinhard was organist at this time and dedication Sunday was the first appearance of a vested choir of 30 voices. At the morning service Rev. Charles D. Lewis, D. D., the district superintendent, offered prayer. A lovely American flag was presented to the church by McPherson Women's Relief Corps. Greetings from the City of Hanford were brought by Mayor G. M. Wilson, Bishop Charles Wesley Burns, D.D., LL. D., of San Francisco, preached the dedication sermon from the text Mark 14:5: "For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor." The official dedication ceremonies were held during the afternoon with Bishop Burns officiating.

During that day, $13,700 was pledged, making the entire amount needed to pay for the church and its equipment. But very soon after, the depression of 1929 came, leaving the church with a mortgage of $10,000. From this time to the present day, practically all money coming in from our notes has been used to pay interest. Two years ago, some of our faithful laymen raised a sufficient amount to pay an accumulated amount of interest and also to pay $1,000 on the principal. Our present indebtedness is $9,000, which we are attempting to liquidate during this 60th Anniversary.

We hope that out of your love for and loyalty to this church that you will do your share to help free our church from its present burden of debt.

[70] Wickipedia.org

Methodist Church Elects Officers Committees at Annual Meeting

Trustees, stewards and other officers were elected at the annual meeting and fourth quarterly conference of the First Methodist church held Monday night in the social hall.

Chosen as trustees are A. E. Griswold, G. K. Spike, M. S. Williams, Charles Denham, Chester Howe, E. E. Wahrenbrock, Harold Griswold, M. F. Speck and J. W. Arthur.

L. T. Stevenson was elected treasurer, H. W. Campbell, financial secretary, and C. S. Denham custodian of legal papers.

More than 150 persons attended the dinner meeting. Dr. Robert Panzer of Fresno, district superintendent, conducted the business meeting.

Every Member Canvass

Orville Bennett, who reported on the every member canvass, stated that $11,342 was raised in one week for the budget quota of $15,000. It also was announced by Mrs. Mae Deacon that the Women's Society for Christian Service had raised a total of $2,161 for the local church, world and missionary service.

George Shaw reported that church school attendance is up 20 per cent over the previous year.

Harry Fulmer, reporting for the Methodist Men's group, said projects included the purchase of a motion picture projector.

Russell Bope, Daniel Fadenrecht and Herman Harper, who submitted a special advance committee report, announced that $600 had been subscribed by the congregation for visual aid for a mission in Costa Rica.

Membership Increases

Rev. Edward Smith reported a substantial increase in the church membership and Rex Tyner reported on the activities of the youth groups.

Elected as stewards are R. W. Burrell, Ed Beckman, Orville Bennett, Charles Bock, H. W. Campbell, C. Casey, Wallace Clark, Herb Denham, Leon Ditts, Lon Dixon, Daniel Fadenrecht, Jake Fadenrecht, Dr. R. S. Fulford, Harry Fulmer, Clarence Garner, Melvin Hall, Paul Hale, C. F. Harrington, Herman Harper, Joe Hoover, William Hodges, Kenneth Huffmon, Homer Keller, Charles Kilmer, O. L. McCutcheon, C. W. McGaffey, Quenten Moore, John Osborne, Cliff Palm, Wally Rasmussen, Stanley Reinhard, George Rice, E. S. Rucker, Frank Rule, Gerald Schumacher, George Shaw, Leborn Stevenson, Sam Stone, Richard Van Duyne, Delbert Walker, Paul Woodburn, Robert Van Gundy, Mrs. M. F. Speck and Mrs. R. W. Burrell.

Chairmen of the various boards and committees are: Education, Mrs. Esther Reid; missions and church extension, Miss Alma Crain; membership and evangelism, Mrs. Leborn Stevenson; finance, Orville Bennett; pastoral relations, J. W. Arthur, Mel Hall and G. K. Spike.

Christian stewardship, Herman Harper; nominations, Mrs. A. E. Griswold; audits, M. F. Speck; records and history, Mrs. T. Geissler; hospitals and homes, Mrs. Claude Morrow; cooperation, Mrs. Mae Deacon; policy, the minister; visitation, Mrs. A. E. Griswold; temperance, Mrs. Ida Shaw; music, Mrs. Louis Gomes; parsonage, Mrs. Harold Griswold; church property, Marshall Williams; world peace, Mrs. D. S. Alcorn; good literature, Mrs. Florence Malott; evangelistic advance, Herman Harper; pensions fund, Orville Bennett; sexton, Homer Keller; ushers, Charles Denham.

J. W. Arthur was elected as a lay delegate to the annual conference at Stockton in June with E. E. Wahrenbrock as the alternate. Taylor are "too lady-like" to make the runway grade, Miss St. Cyr said. 71

150 members were present in the social hall (Founders Hall) for the annual church meeting in 1951. George Shaw reported that church school attendance is up 20 per cent over the previous year.

[71] May 9, 1951, Hanford Morning Journal, page 12

EDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1954 HANFORD MORNING JOURNAL, HANFORD, CALIFOI

WEARING THEIR recently dedicated deep red choir robes, the members of the First Methodist church choir will present their annual Christmas program Sunday, Dec. 19, at 8 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Left to right, front row, Ruth Gomes, Jeanne Pleas, Linda Winninger, Beverly Fadenrecht, Marilyn Fadenrecht, Joyce Casey, Patricia Trimmer, Jean Walker, Hazel Scroggin and organist Helen Alcorn. Back row, left to right, Stephen Eggleston, Robert Jensen, Jerry Griswold, Bob Geissler, choir director Laurance Pleas, Galen Griswold, C. W. McGaffey and Walter Correll. Choir members not pictured include Carol Bigard, Homer Esborn, Janice Stone, Dorothy Minkle, Helen Ritter, Esther Schwarzenbach, George Shaw and Sam Stone. Kent Anderson will appear as the narrator and Marjorie Cummins as guest pianist for the choral presentation of "Song of Christmas" by Roy Ringwald, which will highlight the holiday program. (Powell Photo)

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1954 photo by Ralph Powell, showing the choir wearing their recently dedicated deep red choir robes.

[72] December 15, 1954, Hanford Morning Journal

HANFORD DAILY SENTINEL, HANFORD, CALIFORNIA

Milestone in History

Hanford Methodist Church to Celebrate 75th Anniversary

A milestone in Kings County history will be marked Dec. 20-21 when the First Methodist Church of Hanford celebrates its 75th anniversary.

The growth of the local church from 1877 closely parallels the development of this county. Its founding followed a period of great activity as settlers invaded the area and the Last Chance ditch and other canals were built.

At that time Grangeville was the metropolis of the portion of Tulare County that is now Kings County. Four miles east of the town and stretching south from what is now Grangeville boulevard was a sparsely settled semi-desert section known as the Plains.

Rev. McKelvey Arrives

Into the growing community of Grangeville came Rev. John M. McKelvey, founder of the Methodist Church here and first Protestant minister in the Tule river section.

The story of Rev. McKelvey's work has been related by his son, Hugh Webb McKelvey of Palmdale, and recorded by W. C. Williams of Hanford.

Early in 1874 Rev. McKelvey began traveling from his Visalia home to preach in Grangeville, Lakeside and Jonesa, northeast of what is now Hanford. Later that year, he and his wife and four children moved to an 80-acre farm one and a half miles southwest of the present site of Hanford.

Cattle Hampered Travel

Despite the shortened distance, McKelvey was sometimes late for his sermons because of the great herds of cattle moving along the roads to a large, separating corral near his ranch. One of the range riders was Charles Kreyenhagen, who was to play an important part in the history of the church some 60 years later.

However, the beef roadblocks didn't discourage the pioneer minister. In October of 1874 he began revival and camp meetings. One of the first camp meetings was held in Day's Grove, north of Grangeville.

Later he preached in school houses in Grangeville, Lemoore, Lakeside and Jonesa. Two brothers named Robinson built a hall just south of McKelvey's ranch, and meetings and parties were held there. Later the hall was moved into Hanford next to the waterworks.

THE REV. J. K. McKELVEY

Hanford Church Was Outpost

Before the railroad was built, the Hanford church was an outpost of the original church in Grangeville. Services from 1877 to 1880 were held in a place called the Oriental house.

The minister's work also included funerals. One of the largest was recalled by his son.

"The biggest funeral I saw in those days was after Procopio, a notorious Mexican bandit, killed Solomon Gladden, employe of Bruner's harness shop," Hugh McKelvey said. "Gladden was a member of the posse that followed Procopio to Sunflower Valley after the bandit robbed the Philips and Weinshank store.

Preached to Big Crowd

"The funeral was held in front of the harness shop, and my father preached to a mammoth crowd that filled Front street (now 6th street). People were jammed back to the railroad tracks and as far east and west as they could hear."

The minister also performed many marriages, and his son recalled the time that seven couples came out to the ranch late at night to be married. The minister gained $20 for the ceremonies.

When it was necessary, Rev. McKelvey acted as a nurse in times of illness and epidemics.

The annual Methodist conference in 1880 separated Hanford from the Grangeville church, and Rev. J. R. Gregory was appointed as the first full-time pastor in Hanford. The conference also selected a committee to investigate the possibilities of building a church.

The committee began action immediately. Before the end of 1880, they had bought the southeast corner of Douty and 8th streets for $80. They moved an old school house onto the property and erected a belfry with a $53.50 bell.

This expansion put the little group in debt and they had a hard time before it was paid. The country had not yet recovered from the Black Friday panic of 1873.

In 1886 an energetic young preacher from Tennessee, Rev. A. G. Parks, became pastor. In 1888 Rev. Parks saw the entire amount of the church debt raised in 20 minutes at a public meeting.

The church sold its property to the Masonic lodge in 1891, and continued to rent the building until a church was obtained in 1894.

By 1924 the church was overcrowded, and plans were made for a new building. Members of the building committee included E. R. Montgomery, G. K. Spike, C. S. Denham, A. E. Griswold and George Meldrim, later succeeded by J. L. Neighbor. Rev. L. V. Lucas was pastor and also mayor of Hanford.

Was Dedicated in 1927

The new $38,000 church was dedicated on March 20, 1927. The parsonage was moved to its present site, and part of the old church was made into a social hall.

During the dedication the entire church debt was pledged. But the pledges could not be fulfilled, for within a few months the financial crash came.

The church saw dark days during the depression. In 1935 the church mortgage came due. The trustees began a race against time to raise the needed $9,000. But even banks and trust companies were unable to make the loan.

Last Second Payment

Exactly 10 minutes before the note was due, the trustees paid the money. The mortgage was financed by Charles Kreyenhagen, the former range rider. Kreyenhagen accepted small payments in return, but never once asked for his money.

The church paid off the mortgage on Feb. 2, 1943. Five days later the congregation held a jubilee dinner to celebrate the payment.

Today the church has a membership more than four times the size of the 1880 congregation. The church has grown and prospered, keeping in step with the development of Kings County.

Williams, who did the research work on the history of the local church, has a close connection with the early structure in the town of Grangeville.

For the antique dealer was born on a sheep ranch on the old Visalia road—which is now Grangeville boulevard — just about a quarter of a mile from the present city limits of Hanford. And his 75th birthday—the same as the church he has so thoroughly written about in his 15-page history, is also being observed on Sunday, Dec. 21.

73

[73] December 11, 1952 Hanford Daily Sentinel

Methodists Will Fete 75 Years of Hanford Worship

THE FRESNO BEE
Sunday, December 14, 1952

HANFORD, Kings Co. - Hanford Methodists next Saturday and Sunday will celebrate the completion of 75 years of organized worship. The diamond jubilee will start with a dinner at which Rev. Donald H. Tippett, the resident bishop of the San Francisco Area, will speak on "Looking Ahead."

The Methodist Church in Hanford has had its own building only since 1880, but the membership dates its history back three years earlier to the establishment of a congregation which met in the Oriental Schoolhouse west of here.

As early as 1871, Jesse Brown, a Bible salesman, conducted meetings and a Sunday School in nearby Grangeville.

It was in Grangeville also that the first church building of this area was constructed in 1879. It still is in use, as a neighborhood meeting place for religious services.

Third Hanford Church Home

In Hanford the Methodist Church is occupying its third building, erected 25 years ago.
Rev. M. A. Wimberly of Los Angeles, the pastor here at the time the present church home was dedicated March 20, 1927, will give the invocation at the anniversary gathering. Rev. Norman Conrad of Fresno, the district superintendent, will deliver the benediction. Howard Snyder will be the master of ceremonies and Samuel Stone will lead group singing.

The anniversary worship service will be conducted in the church next Sunday by Rev. Tippett and Rev. J. E. Robinson, the pastor

A fellowship hour will be held at 2:30 PM in the social hall. The Women's Society of Christian Service will be hostesses. Memorial services will be conducted and a history of the church, compiled by W. C. Williams, will be read.

In 1875 Rev. John McKelvey of Visalia was appointed the pastor of the Mussel Slough Circuit by the Southern California Methodist Conference. Grangeville was the principal point and the area included Lemoore.

First Protestant

Rev. McKelvey, believed to be the first Protestant minister in the Tule River district, organized the Visalia Methodist Church in 1858. In that year, he became a charter member of the Southern California Methodist Conference.

The year following his appointment to the circuit here, the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized and in 1878, a church building committee was selected. They were Adam Bland, G. W. Awalt, S. R. Wilson and R. M. C. Hill.

In 1879 the mother of San Joaquin Valley Methodist Church buildings was completed in Grangeville. It stands on the property then owned by David Brownstone, a merchant. The original deed, dated September 30, 1879, states the property was bought for $400 in gold coin. The trustees were A. W. Lane, John Wesley Robinson, J. B. Flewelling, Hill and Awalt. The parsonage served earlier as a residence for Brownstone.

73-Year-Old Benches

Within the worn structure, on a side street in Grangeville, the past remains. The church benches are the very ones used by those who attended the services conducted by the first church pastor.

Carpeting, now threadbare, leads to the sanctuary rail before the pulpit from which sermons were delivered to parishioners from Laton, Fresno, Grangeville and Lemoore.

A pictorial family Bible, a maroon leather-bound, gold embellished edition which has been in use since 1888, has its place on the pulpit along with an old reed pump organ.

The manufacturer's mark on the metal and glass collection box reveals it was patented on August 2, 1898. Two matching collection plates complete the set.

An old-fashioned potbelly wood-burning stove heats the building.

Two small rooms were later added on the east side of the church.

Lumber From Mountain

The lumber used to construct the church was carried down from mountain sawmills by John Wesley Robinson, who drove a six-horse team to haul it. The old square nails used at that time still may be seen on parts of the lumber which have pulled away from the building.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Sperling of Reedley, Mennonite missionaries, conduct a Sunday school in the church with an average attendance of 40 children. They also have charge of a Bible class and release time education.

E. E. Groat, a retired rancher who has lived in Grangeville for 52 years, conducts services on special occasions for his neighbors. About 60 persons are present at Christmas, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving and Easter observances.

Although the parsonage has not been occupied for many years, the kitchen is still used for a neighborhood get-together or a potluck dinner.

Visited By WCTU Leaders

Hitching racks remain in front of the parsonage. They were installed when Grangeville was selected for an Epworth League convention and great crowds were expected. The speakers were Susan B. Anthony [74] and Anna B. Shaw, noted WCTU leaders. It was reported, "The house was packed."

Groat said the church has no local leadership except for the initiative taken by Mr. and Mrs. Sperling.

He urges the preservation of the church not only as a historical factor but as a need in keeping the community spirit alive. Groat said he hoped a plan will be devised to restore the building while it is physically possible to do so.

A record shows Rev. Maurice A. Kidder served as the last pastor in 1938.[75] In 1950 a resolution was adopted naming Guy Whittington, the caretaker, as church chairman to dispose of its business.

Roll of Pastors

The pastors through the years were J. W. Leach, J. B. Calloway, McKelvey who served again three years, J. S. Kline, J. H. Peters, H. J. Crist, J. B. Holloway, H. W. Waltz, J. A. McMillan, J. M. Richmond, O. W. Reinnus, Ernest O. Harris, B. F. Summers, C. D. Lewis, C. W. Roberts, W. J. Millet, Harvey Bailey, Scott E. Winthemer, Rufus E. Nunn, T. P. McKee, Byron T. Hovey, O. W. Mintzer, A. W. Gray, J. W. Taylor, J. F. Redinger, H. R. Salisbury, A. R. Farey, George Cliffe, M. A. Wimberly and Charles Poole.[76]

Father Was Minister (Kings Co.), February 8, 1945 – Thomas Poole, reported rescued when Yank tanks smashed into the Santo Thomas Internment Camp in Manila, is the son of Mrs. Charles Poole, Hanford, and the late Rev. Charles Poole, former pastor of the Hanford Methodist Church. He studied electrical engineering in Schnectady, N.Y. before going to the Philippines. Charles and Edith Poole also were listed in the early days of the war as Japanese prisoners in Manila, but no mention was made of them in the dispatch, which carried the report of Thomas Poole's liberation. [77]

According to Groat, Grangeville, one of the first flourishing communities of this area, was doomed when the Southern Pacific bypassed it by going west to Armona and through Hanford.

After the first meeting place was established, Rev. McKelvey was appointed the pastor. He continued his pastoral duties in the Mussel Slough Circuit, held camp meetings and revivals.

$500 Salary

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[74] Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906) was an outstanding American reformer, who led the struggle for 50 years to gain the vote for women. She was convinced that women could not gain their rights to be effective in promoting reforms until they had the vote. She died before the 19th Amendment was adopted in 1920.

[75] There were six additional pastors who served the Grangeville church until 1948.

[76] The names of six of the pastors have been changed, to be consistent with the other, more complete (and hopefully more accurate) list that is contained in the Sullivan account, which gave specific dates.

[77] Fresno Bee, February 8, 1945 page 3. The article implies Hanford, but Poole was a minister at Grangeville

In 1880 the Hanford church became an independent society and Rev. J. R. Gregory was appointed the first full-time minister. His salary was $500 a year. Much of it was received in kind with a generous supply in the family larder and the hay barn.

At the First Quarterly Conference, held November 27th, trustees were elected. They were J. Graffees, Blakely, Johnson, W. B. Johnson, S. Kirkendle and F. Blakely.

A committee was named then to investigate the possibilities of building a church. It included Graffees, Blakley, Johnson, W. B. Smith, treasurer, and Rev. J. R. Gregory, secretary.

Before the end of the year, they purchased the lot at the southeast corner of Douty and Eighth Streets for $80, moved a one-room schoolhouse onto the property, erected a belfry, installed a bell at a cost of $53.50 and purchased an organ for $80. A stable for the minister's horse was not forgotten.

With an ever-growing membership, the need for a larger church was felt. The Douty Street property was sold to the Hanford Masonic Lodge for $6,400 in 1891.

HANFORD MASONIC TEMPLE. This printed postcard's image dates to before 1906. In 1891, the lodge purchased the entire east side of Douty Street, from Eighth Street to the alley, from the Methodist church for $6,400 in gold coin. Subsequently they sold the lots south of the temple site for $7,493.75.[78]

Buy Irwin Street Site

During the same year, property was purchased on Irwin Street on the site of the present Fox Theater. The building commenced in 1892 and the dedication services were held the second Sunday in May. Rev. F. F. Jewel of San Jose was the guest pastor. Rev. P. H. Bodkin was named the pastor of the new church.

Two years later the church was enlarged and by 1900 the membership reached almost 150. Bishop George A. Miller of Lafayette, who served as a pastor here from 1896 to 1899, supervised the construction of the pipe organ during that time.

Dr. Evelyn Miller Berger of Oakland was born in the Hanford parsonage during this period.

[78] Kings County Postcard History Series, Michael J. Semas, Arcadia Publishing, 2005, page 40

The growth of the church continued and the Sunday School enrollment was estimated at 250. In 1923 plans for a new building were started and the trustees were appointed as a committee. They were E. R. Montgomery, chairman; G. K. Spike, secretary; C. S. Denham, treasurer; Alpheus E. Griswold and George Meldrim.

A site was obtained on Center and Redington Streets and the church dedication was in 1927 with Bishop Charles W. Burns of San Francisco presenting the sermon and officiating at the ceremony. Rev. Charles D. Lewis, district superintendent, participated in the services. G. T. Reinhard was the organist and the choir was composed of 30 voices.

Editor's note: The Hanford Fox Theater opened in 1929.[79]

First Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1880, the Methodist Episcopal Church was founded. The building pictured in this 1918 proof postcard was constructed in 1890 at a cost of $8,700. In 1927, the William Fox Company purchased the property and replaced the church with the newly constructed Hanford Fox Theatre, which opened January 1, 1929. *80*

$55,000 Project

The entire project was built and furnished at the cost of a little more than $55,000. The sum included $8,000 for the property, $38,000 for the building, $4,500 for an organ, $2,700 for furniture and $2,000 for architects' fees.

Gifts to the church were organ chimes from Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Grimshaw; electric cross, Mrs. J. W. Bainum; Communion tables, the Sunday School class of Mrs. Etta Marmaduke; organ stop, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Griswold; pulpit furniture, W. M. Erwin; corner-stone, G. T. and Stanley Reinhard; baptismal font, G. I. Hoskins, and 114 chairs from the Sunday School Boosters class, An American flag was received from the McPherson Post, Women's Relief Corps.

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[79] Still Roaring at 90, Hanford Sentinel, September 2, 2007, pg. B1.
[80] Kings County Postcard History Series, Michael J. Semas, Arcadia Publishing, 2005, page 61

The Epworth League building at the Irwin Street Church was moved to the new site and it is used as a social hall.

The parsonage was relocated on Center Street east of the church.

Landscaping was done by church members and Cedars of Lebanon were obtained from the Holy Land.

At the observance of the 60th anniversary held three days commencing October 1, 1937, the room east of the chancel was named and dedicated McKelvey Hall. The pastor's sons, the late J. A. McKelvey and Hugh McKelvey presented the church with a picture of their father.

Hugh McKelvey, who lives in Palmdale, was recently honored by the University of Southern California for his work as its first bandmaster in 1881.

Connection to USC

From 1883 to 1884 and again in 1893, Rev. Oliver S. Frambes was the Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church pastor. At different times, he also was appointed locally to the Methodist Churches in Reedley and Traver. According to his obituary in the Los Angeles Times of 1906, in 1876, he and his wife came to Los Angeles and established the Los Angeles Academy. This school eventually grew into what is now the University of Southern California or USC.

John Wesley Robinson, 1855-1936, was named after the giant of Methodism. John Wesley Robinson was four years old when he made the four-month wagon train journey from St. Joseph, Missouri to California, in 1959. He and his father were successful farmers in the Grangeville area. His family was active in the establishment of the Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church. He was in the first graduating class of the University of Southern California, earning his degree in 1885. He returned to USC and obtained a Masters of Divinity degree in 1892. [81]

A lecture will be delivered at the Methodist church Wednesday evening by Rev. George W. White, President of the Southern California University at Los Angeles. Admission is free and all invited. It will be a lecture well worth hearing.[82]

[81] F. Willard Robinson, History of the Robinson Family, Volume 1, Trafford Publishing, 2008, page 257.
[82] May 12, 1896, Hanford Semi-Weekly Journal

DEATH TOOK AWAY FOUNDER OF U. S. C.

IN THE passing of Rev. Oliver S. Frambes on Thursday afternoon, as announced in The Times yesterday, Los Angeles lost one of her pioneer Methodist preachers, and one who will go down in the history of that church as the founder of the University of Southern California.

Mr. Frambes was born in Ohio in 1830, graduating from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1858, and immediately came to California by way of the isthmus, to take a place as professor of mathematics in the University of the Pacific. He continued in that position until 1864, when he took a similar position in a Portland institution and later filled the same place in Willamette University at Salem. He took his first pastorate at Fairfield in 1870, but after a year he was again transferred to the University of the Pacific as professor of mathematics, which position he retained until he came to Los Angeles.

In 1876 he and Mrs. Frambes, who was a student at the northern institution as Miss Stevens, and married Mr. Frambes during his stay there, came to Los Angeles and established the Los Angeles Academy. This school was conducted in a brick building on the corner of Third and Spring streets, now occupied by the Douglas Building, and eventually grew into what is now the University of Southern California.

During his residence here, Mr. Frambes became one of the charter members of the Southern California Conference, but in 1880, he was transferred to Phoenix, Ariz., thence to Hanford, Alila, Tempe, Traver, Reedley, Glendale. In 1903, on account of failing health, he was superannuated by the Southern California Conference, but the following year he was given charge of the Lamanda Park Church, where he continued as a regular pastor until recently, when he bought a little home at No. 2056 East Fourth street, this city, and removed here with his wife to spend the remainder of his life.

It proved short indeed, and though Mr. Frambes has not been strong, his death was unexpected, and resulted from a cold which developed into pneumonia.

The deceased was one of the gentlest and most lovable of men and that he was an ideal teacher is best testified to by the number of his early years he gave to that work. During all this period, while he held no pastorate, he was nevertheless active in Christian work and was a missionary, who accomplished much for his church and for Christianity in general.

The funeral will be held at 10:30 this morning, at the Euclid Heights Methodist Church, of which Rev. Frederick Miller is the pastor. The sermon will be preached by Rev. Dr. S. A. Thomson, presiding elder of the Pasadena district, who was a close friend during all his residence in Arizona and California, and in whose district the deceased held his last charge

Rev. O. S. Frambes.

[83]

[83] Los Angeles Times, January 13, 1906, www.newspapers.com

DEATH CLAIMS A PIONEER

FOUNDER OF U. S. C. SUCCUMBS TO GRIM REAPER.

Mrs. Sarah E. Frambes Passed Away Peacefully, Leaving Sister and Two Brothers.

Mrs. Sarah E. Frambes, widow of Rev. O. S. Frambes and one of the well known women of local Methodism, died suddenly at her home at No. 3056 East Fourth street, Los Angeles, yesterday morning, at 2 o'clock. She passed away so quietly that the friends with her could scarcely tell when death came.

Thirty years ago Rev. and Mrs. Frambes founded the University of Southern California, which was then known as the Los Angeles Academy. Mrs. Frambes was preceptress, and to her untiring energy was due the measure of success which came to the school even in those early days.

Her life as a teacher began at the age of 16, when she taught several years prior to taking a position in Ohio Weslyan College at Delaware, O. In 1855 she removed with her parents to Suisun, Sonoma county, Cal., and later entered the University of the Pacific and graduated with honors in the spring of 1860. Soon after her graduation she married Rev. Frambes, who was then an instructor in the Methodist school at Santa Clara.

Later Mr. and Mrs. Frambes removed to Los Angeles and early in 1876 the Methodist school was established in a small building near the site of the university on Wesley avenue. With a faith that was large, the educational enterprise was launched and for many years the chief supporters of the school were its founders. There were many who prophesied dismal failure for the cause of education in the Southland, so for many years the efforts of the two workers were rewarded only by seeing a mere handful of students attend the college.

The untiring energy of the pair finally brought a large measure of success, and at the time the college passed out of their hands it had emerged from the experimental stage and was on the long road toward success.

After her years of work as an educator, Mrs. Frambes became identified with the missionary work of the Methodist church and devoted much of her time to the work in the home field. She was given charge of home missions in Southern California and Arizona a number of years ago.

Following the death of her husband, on January 11 of this year, the health of Mrs. Frambes began to fail. She suffered from heart paralysis and grieved continually. She never fully recovered from the shock.

With her when she died was her sister, Mrs. V. P. S. Zumwalt, of No. 515 Breed street. There are two brothers, R. S. Stephens, of No. 930 Bartlett Street, and H. W. Stephens, of Pacific Grove.

The deceased was well known throughout Kings county, especially in Hanford, where she resided in the early '90's, her husband, Rev. O. S. Frambes, being at that time pastor of the M. E. church of this city.

[84]

[84] Hanford Sentinel, August 14, 1906, www.newspapers.com

Speaker in 1937

Bishop James Chamberlain Baker of the San Francisco Area was the guest speaker at the dinner. The late Jacob L. Neighbor was the toastmaster. Rev. M. A. Wimberley, the pastor from 1926 to 1928, conducted the old-timers' meeting. Rev. R. E. Cordell was the minister. Bishop Miller gave the Sunday morning sermon. Gilmore Erickson directed the choir and Anise Doup was the organist. S. S. Sampson gave the 4 o'clock vesper address following a concert by the choir. Rev. Lyman A. Bayard delivered the sermon. He served as pastor here in 1929 and 1930.

The charter meeting of the Women's Society of Christian Service was held on September 12, 1940. Mrs. Alpheus E. Griswold was elected the president. It replaced and combined the work of the Ladies Aid Society, Women's Home Missionary Society and the Women's Foreign Missionary Society.

First Methodist Has Anniversary Feast; 200 Attend

Hanford Morning Journal
December 23, 1952

Nearly 200 persons, including several from other denominations, attended the 75th-anniversary dinner of the First Methodist Church held Saturday night in the Hanford auditorium.

The guest speaker was Bishop Donald Tippett, who emphasized the importance of religious education for children in his address, "Looking Forward." He complimented the local church on its growth through three-quarters of a century and predicted a continued expansion through the years ahead.

Howard Snyder acted as master of ceremonies and presented the district superintendent, Norman L. Conrad of Fresno, who introduced the bishop.

Introduces Visiting Officials

Rev. J. E. Robinson, minister of the church, introduced visiting ministers from the other Methodist churches in the area.

Special music was furnished by Samuel Stone, who played the trombone, and Donald Jensen, trumpet, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Jensen.

Mrs. Melvin Hall headed the decorations committee for the dinner.

Bishop Tippett also spoke at the Sunday morning service of the church when he had as his theme "The Power of the Word."

He and Rev. Conrad left immediately after the morning service for the Kings Canyon National Park where they participated in the annual Christmas service at the Nation's Christmas Tree.

Informal Fellowship Hour

An informal fellowship hour was held in the social hall of the church in the afternoon with the Women's Society of Christian Service as hostesses. The Cordell circle served tea.

This included a memorial service and reminiscences of church history. Many old-time pictures were passed around and enjoyed by those present.

A history of the church prepared by W. C. Williams was reviewed, with recollections of the ministers and their families.

Bishop Urges 75 -Year- Old Church to Look Ahead

The Fresno Bee [85][86]
December 22, 1952

HANFORD, Kings Co. - Bishop Donald H. Tippett of the San Francisco Area asserted he has no fear of Communism spreading atheism but he is desperately afraid Americans may become the victims of secularism.

Bishop Tippett addressed about 200 persons Saturday night in the Hanford Civic Auditorium at a banquet held in observance of the 75th year of Methodist worship in Hanford.

"Too many say, I believe in God, but behave as though there is no God," he declared. The speaker said that attitude is responsible for the debacle of the Treasury Department, athletic payoffs and bursts of disloyalty to the country and mankind.

He stated, "If we, with the same courage of our forebears, establish in prosperity the story of the Cross, the recognition of personal values as the highest, there will be a happier moment in 75 years."

Must Carry On

The speaker declared the Hanford Methodist Church is a part of the ongoing revolution and pointed out if not for the sacrifices which have gone on before "we would not be here." The same loyalty must be carried on, he asserted.

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[85]

[86] Only the first eight paragraphs were published in the Fresno Bee. It is unknown where the article in its entirety was published or who the author was. The Bishop's sermon, focusing on communism, was delivered during the height of the Korean War.

The bishop attributed the downfall of Greece to "looking back into yesterday" after the pinnacle of glory brought the Golden Age to the country by its philosophers.

"The tragedy with Greece is looking back at accomplishments but left no incentive to the new generation."

He told the church members if their 75th anniversary is to be a glorious event, they will be looking forward to a church school which could be vastly better than it is now by making known the life of Jesus to adolescent boys and girls.

Expansion Needed

He said the increase of population in California calls for the expansion, extension, facilities and building for the religious education of men, women and children.

Bishop Tippett recommended challenging the oncoming generation to surpass the work already done.

"The Christian aspect which goes back to the celebration of Christmas is so commercialized we forget it is to celebrate the birth of a King," he said. "Men are more concerned about Communism. It presents a challenge to Christianity. To keep Christmas, keep it a child's day," he said.

Christianity And Communism

"Communism says men are precisely no value until they make their well-being to the state. The state is the thing of importance.

"Christianity says it is measured in terms of serving the Child and the people."

Bishop Tippett continued: "The Communist says love is a silly, sentimental weakness and their argument is they are going to win only by generating hate."

Rev. Norman L. Conrad of Fresno, the district superintendent, spoke briefly. Rev. J. E. Robinson, the pastor, introduced the guests.

Howard Snyder was the master of ceremonies. Samuel Stone directed carol singing. Entertainment was provided by Don Jensen playing the trumpet and Stone the trombone in duet accompanied by Jean Jensen.

Anniversary church services were held yesterday with Bishop Tippett, Rev. Conrad and Rev. Robinson officiating.

A fellowship hour was held during the afternoon in the social hall. The Women's Society of Christian Service were hostesses.

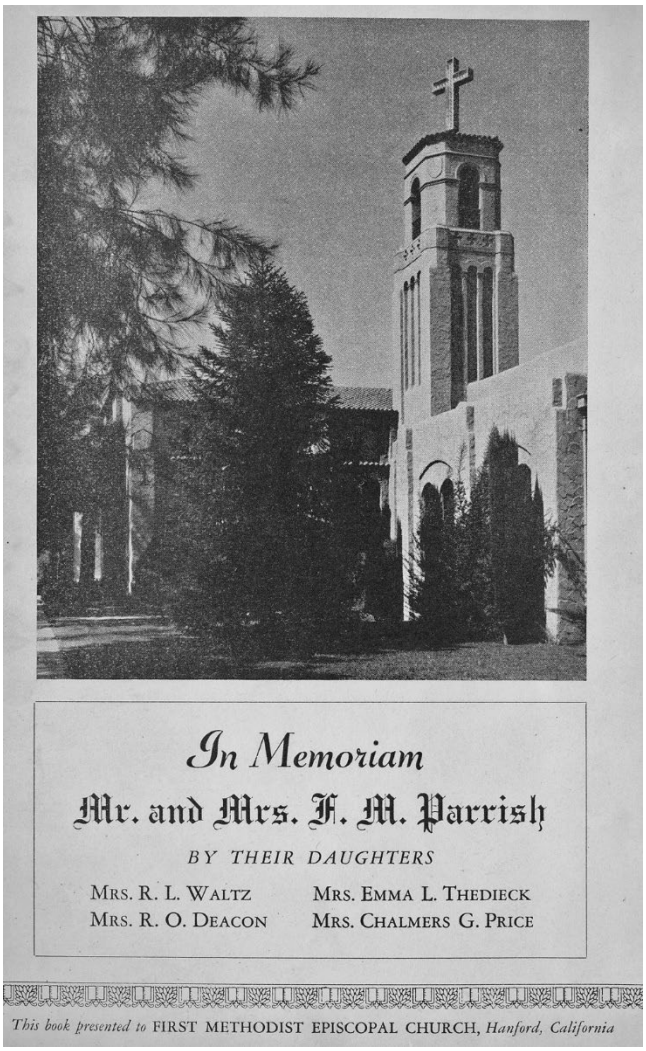
Old photos made a pioneer setting for the social hall. Included was one of Rev. John McKelvey, the first Methodist preacher of the Tule River area, the Mussel Slough Circuit and the Hanford district.

Oldest Members

The oldest members of the church here who were present at the fellowship hour were Alpheus E. Griswold and his sister, Mrs. Mae Anderson, both of Hanford. They moved to Hanford in 1888 and have attended the Hanford church since 1892.

Also in attendance was Mrs. J. W. Lane, who was Jennie McFarlane and became a member of the mother church in Grangeville, August 19, 1888, and later became a worshiper here.

Mrs. Mae Parrish Deacon, who was an infant when her mother taught Sunday school in the Grangeville church almost 69 years ago, has been associated with the growth of the Methodist Churches in both towns. She is a descendant of the Robinson family, whose membership goes back to 1883. Her uncle, John Wesley Robinson, brought the lumber down from mountain sawmills by a six-horse team for the construction of the Grangeville church. Records show Mrs. M. Parrish was the earliest member of the church, which states she was received on September 25, 1876.



Sticker in front cover of a set of songbooks in Founders Hall. No date, but the book copy write date is 1934. Cedar of Lebanon tree on the left.

Mrs. Ida Moody of Fresno, a former Hanford Union High School history teacher, was a visitor. She is 72 and became an active member of the Methodist Church 63 years ago.

The committee chairmen for the program were Mrs. E. A. Griswold, Mrs. C. S. Denham, Mrs. Mae Deacon and Hugh W. Campbell.

> *In the same paper is an article on "Nation's Christmas Tree Service," at the General Grant Tree in the Kings Canyon National Park. Bishop Tippett, the resident bishop of the San Francisco Area of the Methodist Church, was the principal speaker for the annual Nation's Christmas Tree Service.*

CHURCHES Plans Being Prepared. January 13. 1923

HANFORD, Kings Co., Cal. First Methodist Church has appointed building committee to secure preliminary drawings for a new church building. Construction is estimated at $80,000. Members of the finance committee include: R. T, Grimshaw, A. W. Lane, J Mallott, F. M. Parrish, J. W. Bainum, Charles Denham, Forest Speck, Ed Sergeant, and Ed Howe.

Church Construction January 6, 1923

HANFORD**.** Kings Co. Cal. - Architect Anton Johnson. Kingsburg. Calif. and Norman F. Marsh, architect of Los Angeles have submitted preliminary plans for the proposed First Methodist Church to be erected at Irwin and Ninth Streets. Estimated cost $75,000. A selection will be made shortly. Rev. Rufus E. Nunn is pastor. [87]

Hollywood actor Jan-Michael Vincent probably never visited Hanford UMC, however, it was his family who owned Vincent Sign Painting, who painted the stencils in the ceiling of the new church sanctuary in 1926. Perhaps the family should have attended and learned a different set of moral values, other than their chosen path.

SIXTY-SECOND YEAR HANFORD, KINGS COUNTY, CALIFORNIA SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1954

Ex-Hanford Counterfeiter Held

Arrested as Leader Of Big State Ring

New Phony Money Charges

Clifford V. Vincent, 44, a former Hanford sign painter, convicted on counterfeiting charges in 1949, was arrested in San Gabriel yesterday as the alleged head of a huge counterfeiting ring which has circulated thousands of dollars worth of bogus $20 bills.

The arrest came just five years to the day after he, his brother Gordon and two others were arrested in the Vincent sign painting shop on South Douty street. The shop concealed a printing plant capable of turning out $500,000 worth of counterfeit $20 bills.

[87] https://ia600306.us.archive.org/8/items/buildingengineer233cont/buildingengineer233cont_djvu.txt

First Methodist Church
HANFORD, CALIFORNIA

90th Anniversary Celebration
Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19, 1967

November 18, 1967
The Hanford Sentinel

Church History

by the late W. C. Williams[88]

Seven years after the transcontinental railroad was built into Sacramento, ties were being laid for a railroad to Kingsburg. Settlers from the East were pouring into this section of California, many of whom were Methodists. It was only natural that in 1876 a new church should be built in Grangeville under the leadership of Rev. John M. McKelvey.

At that time, Grangeville was the metropolis of what is now known as Kings County. It had stage connections with the railroad at Kingsburg, and a fairly good wagon road connected Grangeville with Visalia, the county seat. Four miles east of Grangeville and stretching south from the Visalia Road, now the Grangeville Boulevard, was a sparsely settled semi-desert section known as the Plains.

From Hugh Webb McKelvey of Palmdale, California. I learned much of his father, Rev. John M. McKelvey, the first Protestant minister on record, in the Tule River section of Tulare County.

I want to sandwich this information in here, as a historian would use a footnote.

John M. McKelvey's father came around the Horn, from Pennsylvania, in 1850. Grandmother McKelvey became very ill and Grandfather returned to Pennsylvania.

John M. McKelvey, who was later to found the Hanford church, came to California to look after his father's mining and other interests.

The entire McKelvey family followed and came to California and to Tulare County. Hanford was then in Tulare County in the 1860s and early 1870s.

According to the church record, John M. McKelvey married Adah Bingham in 1860.

[88] Much of this article is the same as the 60th anniversary article written by W. C. Williams. Because of the depression and the financial hardship of the church and its members in 1937, the two articles show a different perspective of the times.

Webb McKelvey goes on with this story, by saying, “During 1873 and 1874 there was great activity in the Mussel Slough country, settlers coming, building canals, the old Last Chance, People’s Ditch and Lakeside.

“My father followed the people there and also into the Tule Section during the two years he was in Visalia.

“My father bought 80 acres of land 1 1/2 miles southwest of the present town of Hanford and in 1874, the family moved to the farm.”

McKelvey continues, “The largest funeral I saw in those days was when Procopio, a Mexican bandit, killed Soloman Gladden, an employee of Mr. Bruner, whose harness shop was beside the Artesia Hotel. The funeral was preached in front of the shop on Front Street, now West 6th Street. People were jammed almost back to the railroad and about as far east and west as they could hear.”

The busy minister took a day off on July 4th, 1876, and made a cupboard. It is now owned by Webb McKelvey.

We find Rev. McKelvey sending this boy, Webb, at the age of 16 years to U.S.C., and that boy, becoming U.S.C.’s first bandmaster, in 1881.

On August 15th, 1851, 11 Methodist ministers met in San Francisco and held the first Methodist Conference on the Pacific Coast, but it was not until 1858 that an organization was made in Visalia by Rev. McKelvey, in charge of the circuit.

Rev. John McKelvey was a charter member of the Southern California Conference, according to “Fifty Years of Methodism,” by Anthony.

Research shows that in the lawless times of the West, the Rev. John McKelvey exerted a mighty influence for good throughout the whole Pacific Coast from Canada to Mexico.

Hanford, now one year old and located on a branch line of the Southern Pacific, 13 miles from Goshen, offered a challenge to this pioneering minister and in 1877, he organized a church here as part of the Grangeville Circuit. Their meeting place until 1880 was the Oriental School House (1 1/2 miles east on Lacey Boulevard next to the People’s Ditch on the south side.)

From his ranch home, this itinerant minister carried on his pastoral duties traveling by horse and buggy to Hanford, Grangeville, the Kings River Church, and the various revival meetings. That nag carried him wherever his duties called.

Kings River Church, Northwest corner of Excelsior Ave. and 11th Ave.

Life was far from easy in this section during these years. There were few trees, buildings, etc. to shield the valley from what was known as "sand storms" from the north. Our historian, at that time, used a page describing how disagreeable the north winds were. The roads were muddy in the winter and deep dust all summer. Drainage was poor, there being many sloughs which caused mosquitoes to be annoying. There was no rest from them, day or night, as the houses were not screened. These sloughs, plus other factors, caused land fogs that make our present fogs mild in comparison. There would be six weeks at a time that the sun never shone.

Add to the above the heat and no refrigeration and you get a glimpse of what life was like here then. It was no place for weaklings.

In 1878 there were 143 members and one probationer reported for the Hanford work. In 1879 the two churches received $100 missionary money. There was one church valued at $850 and a parsonage valued at $400. There were 146 members and a Sunday School enrollment of 65, with eight officers and teachers. The church promised to pay the pastor $1,200, a large salary for a Methodist preacher at that time, but it actually paid $500.

The Conference minutes of 1880 records a church, still at Grangeville, worth $500 and a parsonage valued at $300. The pastor's salary was set at $900 but actually, he received $765, and $1 was paid for conference claimants. The minutes show an average attendance of 35 in the Sunday School, with 137 members on the roll.

In 1880, the Annual Conference separated Hanford from the Grangeville charge and appointed Rev. J. R. Gregory, who thus became the first full-time pastor of Hanford. His salary was set at $500 a year. He received $422, part of which was "in kind."

Payment to the preacher "in-kind" at that time meant various items, such as a load of hay for his horse, side of bacon, homemade butter nicely shaped in a wooden mold, a crock of sauerkraut, lug of grapes, etc.

The First Quarterly Conference of the church was held on November 27th, 1880, and this conference elected as trustees, J. Graffees, S. R. Wilson, H. E. Johnson, S. Kirkendle and F.

Blakeley. It also appointed the following committee to investigate the possibilities of building a church: H. E. Johnson, W. B. Smith, treasurer, L. W. Blosser, J. Graffees, F. Blakeley and Rev. J. R. Gregory, as secretary. This committee got immediate action. Before the year was out, they had bought the southeast corner of Douty and Eighth Streets for $80, had bought and moved an old school house onto the property, erected a belfry and placed a $53.50 bell in it, and spent $80 for an organ. This became the first church the organization could call their own.

A stable for the minister's horse was built and also sheds for the congregation's rigs and saddled horses in rainy weather.

This expansion put the little group in debt and they were to have a hard time before it was paid. The country had not yet recovered from the panic in 1873 (Black Friday).

In fact, records show each of three times the church expanded with a building program they were caught with a debt and had to suffer hardships unforeseen. I refer to the 1873 Panic, 1893 Panic and the Depression of the 1930s. Before they got safely out the first two times, they must have thought they had gone through a siege of hardships. But the membership was eating white bread, compared with what they went through in the last depression.

Returning to the 1880 expansion. For the next six years, they were having hard times, financially. To make it worse, they seemed to be, all this time, in a stalemate--just hanging on. Rev. Gregory was brought back in 1885 and even then, at the end of his year, the church, financially, was in the doldrums.

On July 16th, 1881, Rev. J. R. Gregory reported organizing a Sunday School -- the Hanford church's first Sunday School, and by the end of the year it had 78 in attendance.

Those who lament the passing of the prayer meeting will be interested in the report of Pastor H. J. Shaffner, in 1881: "We are having a life and death struggle to keep up the prayer meeting." However, in 1883, Rev. O. S. Frambes reported a flourishing prayer meeting.

At the Second Quarterly Conference, Feb. 27th, 1881, Rev. Adam Bland, presiding elder, and a former pastor of the church in 1878, presided and plans were made to cooperate with Grangeville Church in holding a District Camp Meeting before the harvest time. However, the Third Quarterly Conference reports that the camp meeting was abandoned, "because of sickness, rains and high water."

The Fourth Quarterly Conference, July 1884, reports that the Second and Third Quarterly Conferences were not held that year, mainly on account of high water. Rev. O. S. Frambes, who was the pastor in 1883 and 1884, was apparently of an evangelistic nature. He reports holding 19 protracted meetings in and around Hanford, during the year. "The subject of holiness was made prominent and many embraced it and united with the church." The records show he held meetings in private houses at times--the McJunkin ranch house out on Visalia Road, near the present Santa Fe tracks, on Grangeville Boulevard. Also, as far south as Guernsey. Yes, he traveled from "Dan to Beer-sheba."

In 1866 a young energetic preacher from Tennessee became the pastor. He had ability, as well as vigor, and with this he combined self-denial and perseverance. Under this leadership he kept the light burning until a more prosperous era. The conference must have recognized they had in Rev. A. G. Parks the right man for the struggling little church group, for they kept him here four long years.

Now a happy note. On Admission Day, Sept. 9th, in 1888, the Methodists held a public service in the Pythian Hall. Afterwards the audience was asked to raise the church debt amounting to $600. That warrior for the Lord, Rev. A. G. Parks, saw it all raised in 20 minutes!

In 1891, the church sold its property to the Masonic Lodge for $6,400, after which they continued to rent the building for $10 per month until a new church could be built.

In 1891 the church bought a site on the corner of Irwin and Park Avenue, now Lacey Boulevard. It was way out in the sticks. So far out, water mains had not been laid. A new and commodious church building was erected, including a barn, built in 1892 by Seaman and Nyswander, contractors--this under the pastor, Rev. G. E. Morrison. He was especially qualified to plan, build and collect funds and did a good job.

This was the first church building erected by the Hanford Methodist Church.

Had the trustees chosen the present site at that time, in all probability, they would have had to wait until the wheat was harvested before they could start building. While the building was under construction, the carpenters could have fished for catfish during the noon hours in the slough, less than 25 paces west of the site.

The debt had been entirely subscribed when the dedication was held on the second Sunday in May 1892. Dr. F. F. Jewel of San Jose preached the dedication sermon. Two other churches dismissed their services for the occasion.

Notice, “The debt had been entirely subscribed when the dedication services were held.” The first word that came to mind when I first read the record was, “WONDERFUL!" I wonder if it brings any recollections to the five church trustees who were serving in 1935?
The next year the Panic struck (1893 Panic) and people were standing in line in our cities, glad to get a bowl of soup. Coxey’s Army was marching on Washington. That depression lasted four months. This section was raising so many crops that were classified as luxurious that it was hard hit. Many could not make the payments on those obligations. As I wrote earlier, this was minor compared to the dark days that were to come in the 1930s.

For the new 1892 church, the congregation bought 116 seating chairs, 12 plush chairs for the choir and 3 pulpit chairs. In October 1896, the church had 72 members and two probationers. Four years later, the membership was doubled.

In 1894, Dean and Cole contractors remodeled and enlarged this church at the cost of $1,370.97. I find no record when the church paid off their debt.

Rev. George A. Miller, now Bishop Miller, built the pipe organ in the Irwin Street Church while he was pastor from 1896-1899. Dr. Evelyn Miller Berger, now of Oakland, was born in the Hanford parsonage during this pastorate.

Rev. Will A. Betts in his report to the First Quarterly Conference, Nov. 21st, 1902, says: "The church has just installed electric lights and a non-member tells me that he can see to read the hymns and I can read the Bible at the evening services." The same pastor reports on Feb. 9th, 1903 that the Ladies Aid had just purchased a new range for the parsonage and installed hot water connections with it and that it has greatly increased the comfort of the residents of the parsonage.

For those not familiar with this type of water heating, I will explain. There was a heavy hollow, thick flat iron placed at the back of the range firebox. A pipe was connected at each end with the water pipe. This arrangement heated the water that flowed into a storage tank, usually sitting in the kitchen. No oven-cooked as well with this system.

During Rev. Betts' pastorate, the church had a salaried soloist, Alta May Scazighini. The writer attended Easter services in 1903 when she was the soloist.

In 1913 a new parsonage was built by Dean and Cole at the cost of $2,560. The building committee was W. A. Long, S. E. Kimball and F. M. Parrish. On Oct. 17, 1917, a committee composed of W. A. Long, F. M. Parrish and J. O. Kimball was appointed to have a garage built for the pastor.

Because of the overcrowded condition of the Sunday School, which had an enrollment of approximately 250, with an average attendance of 190, a group of the loyal church members came together during 1923 and 1924 and formulated plans for the building of a new church. After various members and committees were appointed to look into the details, a building committee was finally appointed which consisted of the Trustees, E. R. Montgomery, chairman, G. K. Spike, secretary; C. S. Denham, treasurer; Alpheus E. Griswold and George Meldrim. In 1926, Mr. Meldrim resigned from the board on account of moving to Monterey and Jacob L. Neighbor was elected to fill the vacancy. The Building Committee was ably assisted in this enterprise by Rev. L. V. Lucas who was pastor of the church at that time and also mayor of Hanford.

The cost of the church building was approximately $38,000, Architects $2,000 and Real Estate $8,000. The following were given to the church at this time: The organ chimes by Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Grimshaw in memory of their daughter Georgia May. The electric cross by Mrs. J. W. Bainum in memory of her husband. The Communion tables by the J.O.C. Sunday School class of Mrs. Etta Marmaduke in memory of her daughter, Thelma Ratcliffe. The vox humana stop of the organ by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Griswold in memory of their daughter Esther Evelyn. The pulpit furniture was presented by Mr. W. M. Erwin in honor of his mother. The following were also given to the church: The cornerstone by G. T. Reinhard and his son Stanley, the baptismal font by G. L. Hoskins and 114 chairs by the Booster Class of the Sunday School.

The new church was dedicated on Sunday, March 20th, 1927. G. T. Reinhard was organist at this time and dedication Sunday was the first appearance of a vested choir of 30 voices. At the morning service Rev. Charles D. Lewis, D. D., the district superintendent offered prayer. A lovely American flag was presented to the church by McPherson Women's Relief Corps. Greetings from the City of Hanford were brought by Mayor G. M. Wilson. Bishop Charles Wesley Burns, D.D., LL. D., of San Francisco, preached the dedication sermon from the text Mark 14:5 "For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor." The official dedication ceremonies were held during the afternoon with Bishop Burns officiating.

During the three days of October 1st to 3rd, 1937, the church observed its 60th anniversary. J. A. and Hugh McKelvey attended and presented the church with a large picture of their father. In honor of this highly esteemed family, the room east of the chancel was named and dedicated McKelvey Hall. On Oct. 1st the Anniversary Banquet was held and the program shows Jacob L. Neighbor toastmaster and the speaker Bishop James Chamberlain Baker of the San Francisco Area. Old timers' meeting was October 2nd with M. A. Wimberly (pastor 1926-28) as leader. The Rev. Robert E. Cordell was pastor.

On Sunday morning, October 3rd, Bishop George A. Miller (who was our pastor from 1896-99) was the preacher. The choir was directed by Gilmore Erickson. Anise Doup was the organist. The choir appeared again in concert at the 4 o'clock vespers and the district superintendent, S. S. Sampson, gave an address. A sermon was delivered by Lyman R. Bayard (pastor 1929-30).

During that day, $13,700 was pledged, making the entire amount needed to pay for the church and its equipment. No one could foresee commitments were being made that could not be fulfilled. Within a few months, the financial crash came.

It so happened that the Epworth League quarters, at the Irwin Street site, was a separate building connected to the rear of the church. This building was moved to the rear of the new church, was remodeled and has since been used as a Social Hall. The parsonage was moved to its present location, newly shingled, painted, re-decorated, etc. What was left of the old Church was sold for $250. While all this was going on, members were donating and planting various trees and shrubs in the yard. Those Cedars of Lebanon came direct from the Holy Land.

The church was to see dark days during the Depression. On August 17th, 1926 they had borrowed $10,000, and given a mortgage on the property. The depression came on and collections, at best, were at a low ebb. The note was due in the fall of 1935.

Out of a clear sky, a title company phoned one of the trustees and told him they had instructions to file foreclosure proceedings at 11:55 a.m. Saturday, August 17th. Notice the time limit was five minutes before noon on Saturday!

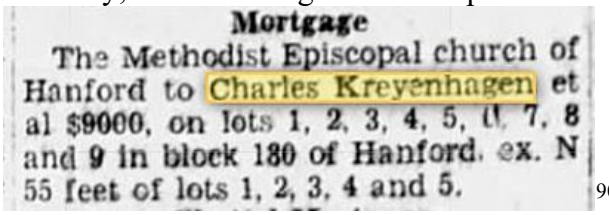
The trustees started a race against time to raise the amount needed, $9,000. The banks and trust companies were so hard hit they couldn't make the loan. What to do? The trustees tried and tried to get the money, but always the same answer, "I would help you if I could, but my own finances are in bad shape." The hour approached--M Hour (Mortgage Hour). Would they fail? Must our church be put on the auction block? Time was running out. As M Hour drew nearer, the phone would ring and a trustee would hear these direful words, "Eleven fifty-five, Saturday morning is the deadline." The minutes ticked on. The phone rang. The trustees all but dreaded to answer. That voice again, "We must file the papers in 25 minutes."

At exactly ten short minutes before M Hour, the Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church trustees walked into the title company's office and laid Charles Kreyenhagen's money on the line! The Lord's house had been saved! Charles Kreyenhagen,[89] former range rider, spoken of earlier in this history. Charles Kreyenhagen, a man who walks the earth as one of God's noblemen, had saved the church out of the goodness of his heart, and because he had many friends among the membership and lastly, because he had faith in the membership to pay.

Mr. Kreyenhagen accepted small payments. Even then there were times when the payments would be overdue. It is a matter of record that he never once asked for a payment. The First Methodist Church is deeply grateful to this grand old man.

On February 2nd, 1943, the First Methodist Church had a Jubilee Dinner to celebrate their debt deliverance and burn the mortgage. Hugh W. Campbell was toastmaster, Rev. Lyman R. Bayard, former pastor, gave the invocation. Rev. Leslie O. Dabritz, pastor, introduced the guests, and Dr. John R. Kenney, district superintendent, was the speaker.

The trustees were E. R. Montgomery, chairman; Charles Denham, treasurer; G. K. Spike, secretary; Jacob L. Neighbor and Alpheus E. Griswold.


Mortgage

The Methodist Episcopal church of Hanford to Charles Kreyenhagen et al $9000, on lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, [illegible] 7, 8 and 9 in block 180 of Hanford, ex. N 55 feet of lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

[90]

[89] October 16, 2016 article in the Hanford Sentinel, page B1, mentions 60 years ago (1956) the descendants of the Keyenhagen family gathered for a reunion at the El Adobe de los Robles. The occasion was the 90th anniversary of the establishment in business of the Kreykenhagens in this country. The home of Daniel Rhodes, a widely known pioneer settler of the Lemoore area built the now restored adobe in 1846.

[90] August 13, 1935 Hanford Daily Sentinel

Principal
JACOB L. NEIGHBOR

Vibrant white hair, twinkling eyes, booming voice, an understanding chuckle to soften a rebuke—remember your own first impressions of our commander-in-chief, Mr. Neighbor? How nervous you were at that first summons to the office! But after four years of school life, we come to think of him as "Papa Jake," sympathetic counselor and friend.

[91]

The charter meeting of the Women's Society of Christian Service was held Sept. 12, 1940 with Mrs. Alpheus E. Griswold as president. This new society of our unified Methodist Church combines the work of the former Ladies Aid Society, Women's Home Missionary Society and the Women's Foreign Missionary Society and is forward-looking in program and service.

MISCELLANEOUS

I want to mention camp meetings back in the church's early history. Rev. McKelvey held one at the present Frank Pryor ranch, on Mussel Slough about one-half mile northwest of Pryor's present home. There was a willow grove there then, one at Day's Grove and Fowler's Grove, both near Grangeville. These meetings, always held near sloughs or streams and where there was shade, were from two to three weeks in length. A platform was built in a shady place and used as a pulpit. The people who stayed during the meetings lived in tents and meals were cooked over open fires. Others stayed at home and rode to the meetings after their work was done and on Sundays.

J. A. McKelvey died early this year. Hugh Webb McKelvey lives at Palmdale, California. He has been bedfast for nine months.

Before Hanford numbered its streets, the way of designating the residence of the membership was not as easy as it is now. Witness the following: "W. D. Bay, back of mill," "Mrs. Margaret Brown, Ivy Street, near Mrs. Slocum's." Harry Dennison, west of church three blocks," "Fred Douglas and all the Douglas family, in a two-story house on East Seventh Street," "James Payne, see Douglas family."

One day at the Oriental School, Seth Bond, uncle of the late Dr. E. C. Bond of Hanford, gave Add McKelvey a whipping. The next morning, Add's sister Katie, before she left home for school, secreted a large hunk of fat pork in her lunch pail. Arriving at school, she sat in her accustomed seat by Frank Pryor, now of Hanford. When Seth went to the blackboard, Katie watched her chance and hurled that great glob of slimy, gooey, grease-dripping fat pork at Seth. It missed his red head of hair, "by a hair," striking the blackboard and spattering grease all over it. Who did it? Frank laughed -- "The fat was in the fire." He received a whipping from Seth.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

[91] Hanford High School yearbook JANUS 1943, page 12.

The Hanford Sentinel-Journal allowed me to go through their files, Dr. George Hammond, director of Bancroft's Historical Library had valuable research done for me, Hanford City Library rendered assistance and many Hanford people freely gave of their time to help me. Thanks all.

Plaster construction

Until the production of modern gypsum-based "drywall," generically called "Sheetrock" (although that is a manufacturer's name), houses and buildings, including our church sanctuary, were plastered with a lime-based mortar that was usually fortified with animal hair to act as a binder in the plaster. Lime plaster is applied in layers onto an open weave background of horizontal wooden strips called "lath." The first coat, called the "scratch coat," is heavily applied and pressed into the gaps. The plaster extrudes to the other side forming keys." As it's applied, it is literally scratched to leave groves for the next coat to grip. As it hardens, the "keys" secure the plaster film to the wall. Next comes the "brown coat," so-called because it contains hair and sand aggregates and binders that tend to make it look a muddy brown. It is also applied in a thick coat but not scratched. Last is the finish coat of fine white plaster without binders in a thin layer and smoothed to form the finished surface. Lime plaster walls are excellent in draft prevention, noise reduction, and fire resistance. They are superior to modern drywall in almost every way, but they are labor-intensive and require a greater skill level to achieve a quality application or "render." The most common problem is "un-keying," when the keys break and no longer hold the plaster to the lath, usually in areas subject to vibrations like doors and windows.

Around 1920 the product we know as drywall was created and rapidly dominated interior wall surfaces, driving plaster and plasterers from the construction trades because of its speed of application and lower skill requirement. [92]

[92] Adapted from article "Plaster and Drywall tools." by R.E. Rawlinson, Backwoods Home Magazine, www.backwoodshome.com April/May/June 2021, pgs. 86-88/

Getting Plastered. Occupational postcard showing plasterers with the tools of their trade. The ability to apply plaster is a lost art since the invention of sheetrock.

Centennial Celebration of the First United Methodist Church

Excerpts Of Our History[93]

November 27, 1977

Prepared by Ruth Gomes[94]

Few trees or buildings were around to shelter the traveler, dirt trails turned to quagmires of mud in winter and deep dusty powder in summer and a network of sloughs produced prolific supplies of mosquitoes. Jostling wagons, buggies or horseback were modes of transportation.

Real "horsepower" helped the foot-weary farmer till the fields. The family "washing machine" was a boiler on the woodstove augmented with a scrub board. Folk remedies formed the medical arsenal against disease.

Life was far from easy, but as each generation finds "to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven," people adapted.

This was the season First Methodist Church of Hanford came into being as part of the Grangeville circuit, the charge of the Rev. John M. McKelvey. The year was 1877. The village of Hanford,

[93] This article was freely adapted from the W. C. Williams article.

[94] Ruth Gomes' byline has appeared in The Hanford Sentinel for three decades. She has edited the church, business and leisure pages, and has produced a wide variety of Sentinel feature stories and special editions. She was the editor of the California-Nevada United Methodist Reporter in the 1990s.

only one-year-old itself, became the newest challenge to the man who was the first Protestant minister of record in the Tule River section of what was then part of Tulare County.

From his ranch home, the itinerant preacher covered his circuit by horse and buggy, traveling to Hanford, Grangeville and Kings River churches and various revival meetings. History shows that in 1878 there were 143 members and one probationer for the Hanford work and minutes the following year show assets including a church building at Grangeville valued at $850 and a parsonage worth $400.
In 1880, the annual conference separated Hanford from the Grangeville charge and appointed the Rev. J. R. Gregory as the first full-time pastor at Hanford. His annual salary was set at $500, but he actually received $422, part of which was "in-kind" -- hay for the horse, a side of bacon, a lug of fruit, eggs, a chicken, and homemade butter.

The first quarterly conference held on November 27, 1880, saw a committee named to study the possibility of building a church. Before the year was out, a lot had been purchased for $80, an old schoolhouse moved onto the property at the southeast corner of what is now 8th and Douty Streets and the congregation had the first building they could call their own. A stable for the minister's house was built and sheds for the congregation's rigs and saddled houses in rainy weather.

As a church historian later recorded, each of the three occasions the church expanded with a building program they were caught in bad times with a debt and had to suffer unforeseen hardships: the 1873 Panic, the 1893 Panic and the Great Depression of the 1930s.

The church's first Sunday School was organized on July 16, 1881 and by the end of that year had an attendance of 78.

In 1891, the congregation sold its property to the Masonic Lodge, continuing to rent the building until another church could be built on another site. The new church was constructed in 1892 at the northwest corner of Irwin Street and Lacey Boulevard and was the first the Hanford Methodists were to have started from scratch.

Membership in 1896 was 72 members, a figure which was to double within four years. The Rev. George A. Miller, later to serve as bishop, was pastor from 1896-99.

As the congregation continued to grow, plans were formulated in 1923-24 for the present facility, consecrated March 20, 1927. The Rev. L. V. Lucas, who also was Hanford mayor during his church tenure, was pastor at that time. Cost of the building was approximately $38,000, the organ another $4,500, furnishings $2,700 and architect's fees $2,000. The land had cost $8,000. What had been the Epworth League quarters at the former site was moved to the present location as a social hall, a use it continues to serve today.

Depression days hit the church hard. The $10,000 property mortgage incurred on August 17, 1926, was due "in full" in the latter part of 1935.

Out of a clear sky, the title company phoned one of the trustees and told him they had instructions to file foreclosure proceedings at 11:55 a.m. Saturday, August 17, 1935. Trustees started a race

against time to raise the necessary $9,000, but lending institutions also were strapped and none would help.

To anyone who doubts God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform, that day in 1935 stands in memory as a spectacular example. At exactly 10 minutes before the deadline, the trustees walked into the title company office with the cash -- the Lord's house had been saved.

A non-member in the community, a former range rider named Charles Kreyenhagen, had been moved to advance the money. He had faith the membership would repay. Even though payments from then on were small, sometimes late, Kreyenhagen never pressed for payment. On February 2, 1943, that indebtedness was paid in full.

One addition to the church plant has been made since then, a Christian education wing constructed 15 years ago. The mortgage on this unit was cleared in the fall of 1976.

If the church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord, surely the faith and fellowship are the mortar which binds mankind together. Thirty-six ministers have provided guidance and inspiration during the first 90 years, each bringing his special talents, insights and, yes, human frailties, too, to be woven into the church's fabric.

The last decade has brought to the pulpit the Revs. Fred K. Wilken (1966-68), J. Douglas Ewan (1968), C. C. VanLeer (1968-69), Oscar E. Link (1969-71) and Charles A. Silberstein (1971-73), with the current pastor, the Rev. Doyle H. Porter, arriving in 1973.

Wilken promoted the 90th anniversary celebration with a great amount of energy and enthusiasm which typified most of his endeavors. A skilled musician, he was credited with helping several students follow careers in music and he also taught organ. His wife Noma was a capable leader in the Christian education department and very active in the church school. Their six children did much to bring other young people into the church, with the older ones each good leaders.

Fred Kent Wilken, Date of Death: October 29, 1995 in Santa Cruz, CA, age 70, 41 years in ministry. [95]

Ewan and his wife Peggy were with the Hanford church for only five months. He died of a heart attack on Dec. 14, 1968. Loved and admired by all who knew him, Ewan was memorialized with the first stained glass window installed in the sanctuary.

Following Ewan's death, VanLeer was appointed interim pastor and served for two months.

Charles C. Van Leer, Date of Death: March 3, 1992 in Visalia, CA, age 90, 22 years in ministry.[96]

In February 1969, Link and his wife Margaret came to the Hanford church, remaining until June 1971. Link was regarded as an exceptional visitor in hospitals and rest homes, as well as in spiritual guidance, and was particularly helpful in times of bereavement. Link also was responsible

[95] ://calnevada.s3.amazonaws.com/3130F24ACEE04FE5877040570F3C4004_2012_RollHonoredDead_092712.pdf
[96] Ibid

for initiating the memorial stained glass window project and took part in the January 1974 dedication service when it was completed.

Oscar Eric Link, Date of Death: November 27, 1995 in Lodi, CA, age 88, 37 years in ministry. [97]

On July 1, 1971, Silberstein and his wife Ellen arrived to take up pastoral duties. He was a licensed marriage counselor and filled a special role in aiding many persons experiencing difficulty in this area of their lives. Mrs. Silberstein sang in the choir and was active in the life of the church.

July 1, 1973, was the date Doyle and Virginia Porter were appointed to the Hanford church and they continue to serve in a variety of ways. She works with the junior church, sings in the choir and leads a Bible study group at the parsonage in Sunday mornings. He works with older youth Sunday morning and evening as well as the Junior Highs on Wednesday afternoons. Together, the Porters have been involved with the LLARCCH Cluster Camp for three seasons.

Many things have happened in the life of the church during the past decade, in addition to the beauty of the stained-glass windows have brought. Examples:

- A Heifer Project through "Living Christmas Tree" gifts, with a heifer calf donated by Clark-Home Dairy and raised by Mary Thyarks using funds for its care from members of the congregation.
- One member, John Humfreville, qualified as a lay speaker.
- The lighted cross atop the steeple has been restored to function.
- New carpet and repainting the parsonage inside and out.
- The pastor's study and church office were refurbished with new carpet, drapes and light fixtures.
- Member Vivian Hernandez has been recommended as a candidate for the ordained ministry. In the summer of 1977, she served as a summer intern at Good Samaritan United Methodist Church in Cupertino, California. Currently continuing study at California State University at Fresno, she is employed as campus liaison person to students and faculty on behalf of the University Religious Center.

The church's ministry is extended through services once a month at Kings Convalescent Hospital and at the Juvenile Center on Sunday during two months of the year.

Groups within the community share in use of the church facilities, among them the Hanford Cooperative Nursery School, Boy Scout Troop 400, Cub Scout Pack 400, City of Hope Auxiliary, a Christian youth drama group called New Life Players, three groups affiliated with Alcoholics Anonymous, and for nine months, the church provided facilities for the Kings County Community Action Organization's Infant Day Care Center.

Looking back, the church finds the most important fact of all has been the growing feeling of love and concern of members for each other as well as the Christian interest in outside projects. The experience here affirms the appointment process, for the members see how each minister makes

[97] ://calnevada.s3.amazonaws.com/3130F24ACEE04FE5877040570F3C4004_2012_RollHonoredDead_092712.pdf

his own special contribution toward the welfare of the church and community. One may be better in the pulpit; another may be a better visiting pastor or in a one-to-one relationship.

Each in his own way met a special need for some member of the congregation and endeared himself to those involved as he passed this way.

First United Methodist Church History
October 25, 1986
Fresno District Convocation Proceedings

In the year 1876, the first Methodist Church in the Hanford area was founded at Grangeville, under the leadership of Rev. John M. McKelvey.

It was while Rev. McKelvey pastured at the Grangeville church that the Methodist Church in Hanford was organized under his leadership. From 1877 until 1880 the new congregation met at the Oriental School House in East Hanford.

In 1880 the Rev. J. R. Gregory was appointed as the first full-time pastor of the Hanford Methodist Church. It was at this time that the church bought the southeast corner of Douty and Eight Streets for $80 and moved an old school house onto the property for use as a church. The church sold this property to the Masonic Lodge in 1891.

The first church building erected by the congregation was built on the corner of Irwin and Lacey Blvd. in the year 1891. Part of this building included the Epworth League Hall which was later moved to the present site of the church and is currently being used as the Social Hall of the church.

The most famous pastor of the church was the Rev. George A. Miller, who was elected Bishop of the Methodist Church. He served the Hanford area from 1896 to 1899 and was instrumental in the building of the pipe organ.

In the early 1920's the church decided to relocate to the present site at the corner of Redington and Center Streets. The sanctuary of the present building was completed in 1926 with the dedication on Sunday, March 20, 1927. On Feb. 2, 1943 the church paid the mortgage, and on Feb. 7, 1943 the Methodist Church had a Jubilee Dinner to celebrate their debt deliverance, and burn the mortgage. In 1960 a new Education plant was built. The mortgage on this unit was cleared in the fall of 1976.

In the fall of 1967, the church held its 90the anniversary celebration with a banquet in the Civic Auditorium and a special church service on Sunday morning, under the leadership of the Rev. Fred Wilken.

On May 5, 1985, Golden Membership Sunday was celebrated, honoring 26 members who have been with the local church for 50 years of more.

The present pastor is the Rev. Charles Tanner-Dorn, who arrived in Hanford with his wife and family in July, 1986. In November 1986, the church purchased a new parsonage at 2745 N. Chestnut Street, Hanford.[98]

Churches filled spiritual needs

by Alpha Arnold, Sentinel Staff Writer

Hanford Sentinel August 12, 1990

The First United Methodist congregation started an early church in Grangeville in 1867, and in 1877 organized a church in Hanford as part of the Grangeville Circuit. Their meeting place until 1880 was the Oriental School House (1 1/2 mile east on Lacey Boulevard next to the People's Ditch). Their present facility at Redington and Center streets was dedicated in 1927.

The congregation was to see dark days during the depression when a $10,000 loan obtained in 1926 was called-in in 1935 with only hours to raise the needed funds. Banks and trust companies were so hard hit they couldn't make the loan. Trustees scrambled to raise the money, but everywhere they turned, the answer was the same, "I would help if I could, but my finances are in bad shape."

At 10 minutes before the foreclosure was to be filed, the trustees were able to walk into the title company and lay the money on the line. Charles Kreenhagen, a pioneer family rancher, had put up the money because he had many friends among the membership and because he had faith the congregation would pay its debt. His trust was repaid in small, and sometimes overdue, payments, but in 1943, the church paid off the mortgage.

Two Christian education buildings were added in the late 1950s. Bob Jensen was the Sunday School treasurer at the time, and the Sunday School attendance was over 200. The sanctuary building was overflowing, causing a need for more classrooms.[99]

United Methodist Celebrate 125th Anniversary

By Ruth Gomes
November 17, 2002

The little city of Hanford was only a year old and still part of Tulare County when the Rev. John McKelvey served as minister of the First Methodist Church in 1877.

The Itinerant preacher covered his circuit by horse and buggy, traveling to Hanford, Grangeville and Kings River churches and various revival meetings. Although the Hanford church remained part of the Grangeville charge until 1880, it now celebrates its 125th anniversary as an entity of its own.

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[98] Also printed in the 1987 Directory of First United Methodist Church, page 2
[99] Personal conversation with Dorothy Jensen, April 15, 2019

Upon separation, the Rev. J.R. Gregory was appointed as Hanford church's first full-time minister. His salary was set at $500 although he received only $442 and part of that was in the form of hay for his horse, a side of bacon, a log of fruit, eggs, a chicken and homemade butter.

That same year, a committee was appointed to study the possibility of building a church. A lot was purchased for $80 at the southeast corner of what is now Eight and Douty streets (site of the present Masonic Temple), an old schoolhouse; moved onto the site and the congregation had the first building it could call its own.

On each of the three occasions, the church expanded with a building program, it was caught in bad times with a debt.

In 1891, the congregation sold its property to the Masonic Lodge and rented the building until a new church could be built on another site. Located at the northwest corner of Irwin Street and Lacey Boulevard (now the Fox Theater location), it was the first one the Hanford Methodists would have from scratch. Membership in 1896 was 172 members, a figure that was to double within the next four years. The Rev. George A. Miller, later to serve as bishop, was pastor from 1896 to 1899.

With growth of the congregation, thoughts turned again to constructing a new facility. The present church was consecrated in 1927 and cost about $38,000. The pipe organ cost another $4,500, furnishings $2,700 and the architect's fee was $2,000.[100]

Moved from the previous site to the current church as Redington and Center streets, the Irwin Street Buildings that had served as quarters for the Epworth League youth became the social hall at eh new church property. For many years it played host of various community youth groups, for it was equipped with an indoor basketball court.

Depression days hit the church hard and the balanced on the $10,000 mortgage incurred in 1927 was due the latter part of 1935. Without any warning, the title company phoned one of the trustees and told him foreclosure proceedings would be filed at 11:55 a.m. Aug. 17, 1935. A race against the clock began to raise the needed $9,000, but lending institutions also were strapped and none would help.

That Saturday stands out in church history. Exactly 10 minutes before the deadline, trustees walked into the title company with the cash payment. The church had been saved! A former range rider, Charles Kreyenhagen, who wasn't even a member of the church, had been moved to advance the money. He had faith the membership would repay him. Although payments were small and sometimes late, he never pressed for payment and the debt was paid in full on Feb. 2, 1943.

The old parsonage, moved from the Irwin/Lacey site to Center Street property and remodeled at the time the existing church was built, was sold to be moved from the property to make way for the Christian education wing completed in 1960. That is the only totally new structure added to

[100] The last meeting in the former church at Irwin and Lacey was held on December 12, 1926.

the church site. To blend with the Spanish-influenced main building, it was finished in the same type stucco.

The south side of the education wing houses two ground-level rooms with restrooms and a connecting kitchen, making it well adapted to serving small groups. The north structure has four ground level rooms for classes and rooms upstairs that are used by the Boy Scouts.

Another parsonage on North Douty Street was secured and eventually the present parsonage on Chestnut Avenue was purchased.

The most visible change in the church's worship area are the stained-glass windows added in the early 1970s – a total of 13 large windows and a dozen smaller windows.

The cross atop the tower once illuminated with hard-to-replace incandescent globes and equipped to rotate, now is in a fixed position and gleams brightly in red neon. Pilots say it is an unmistakable Hanford landmark.

Latest change in the church's appearance is the new handicap-accessible ramp and planters at the front, designed to be compatible to the existing structure.

Cedars of Lebanon trees that lined the Center Street side were removed some years ago because the dropped needles posed a safety hazard on the sidewalk.

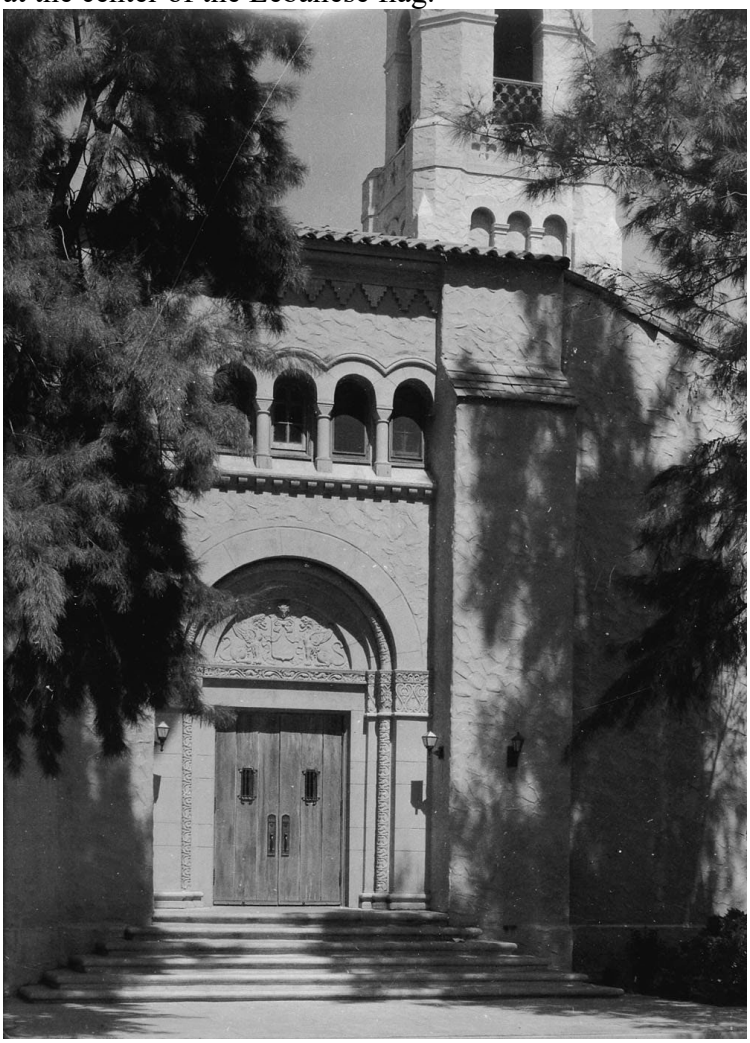
Over time, the basketball court was eliminated from the social hall and modifications, including carpeting and drapes, were installed to make it more inviting for dinners and other social events. It also has gained a name of its own – Founders Hall.

Cedars of Lebanon

Zechariah 11:1-2 Open your doors, Lebanon so that that fire will devour your cedars. Scream, cypress, for the cedar has fallen; those majestic ones have been devastated.

The ancient Cedars of Lebanon have outlived empires and survived modern wars. Throughout history, the Cedars of Lebanon have been prized for buildings and boats, chopped down for temples in ancient Egypt, Jerusalem and beyond. Many thousands of square miles of forest once spread across most of Lebanon's highlands. Only approximately 12 square miles of cedars remain in scattered groves. Now UNESCO says it is one of the sites most vulnerable to climate change. Some believe that patch was where the resurrected Jesus revealed himself to his followers.

Through five millenniums of recorded history, a parade of civilizations has praised the Cedars of Lebanon – and then chopped them down. Lebanon has been deforested by Mesopotamians, Phoenicians and ancient Egyptians, by the Greek and Roman empires, by crusaders, colonizers and modern Middle East turmoil. Yet the trees are so symbolic of the country that a cedar stands at the center of the Lebanese flag. [101]



[101] New Times, July 18, 2018 https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/07/18/climate/lebanon-climate-change-environment-cedars.html

Photos by Ralph Powell of sanctuary with Cedars of Lebanon trees along Center Street. Photos were also postcards used in the 1940s and 1950s.

The Cedars of Lebanon, which lined Center street, were removed because the dropped needles apparently posed a safety hazard on the sidewalk.

Methodists are celebrating 300th anniversary of John Wesley's birth

By Ruth Gomes Special to the Hanford Sentinel

June 14, 2003

Annual Conference, the yearly convening of the United Methodist Church's various regional conferences, always is filled with action as delegates deal with the denomination's business.

But 2003 is being observed with special flair as Methodists celebrate the 300th anniversary of the birth of John Wesley, founder of Methodism. (The present denomination became "United Methodist" in the 1968 merger with the Evangelical United Brethren Church which shared many theological traditions, ecclesiastical structures and relationships with the Methodists over two centuries.)

This year, the California-Nevada Conference dates – June 18-21 – closely coincide with Wesley's actual birthdate of June 17, 1703. (Historians note that the date sometimes is listed as June 28 and attribute the disparity to adoption of a revised calendar. Adding to the confusion is the fact the Wesleys named two of their children John, the first of whom was born in 1699 and died in infancy.)

The second John was born four years later in Epworth, England, a small community in northeast Lincolnshire, where his father was Anglican rector for nearly 40 years. The name Epworth is common in Methodism, both as the name for individual churches and organizations such as the old Epworth League youth group. Wesley also is widely used name in Methodist organizations.

John Wesley and his brother Charles share common roots, as both became Church of England (Anglican) missionaries to the state of Georgia in America, arriving early in 1736. Their efforts proved less than successful. Charles left the end of that year. John remained until February 1738.

They had returned to England discouraged and disillusioned, but underwent a life-changing religious experience in May 1738. That became the springboard leading to a renewal movement in the Church of England. In time, the activity spread to the colonies.

In its infancy, Methodism in America began as a lay movement and instead of waiting for people to come to church, leaders took their message to the people. Out of that practice grew what is called an itinerant ministry. Methodist pastors continue to be appointed by the resident bishop rather than "called" by individual congregations. The appointment process strives to match the gifts and graces of individual pastors to the congregations they will serve.

The first conference of Methodist preachers in the colonies took place in Philadelphia on 1773, attended by 10 persons. Among the actions taken they pledged allegiance to Wesley's leadership and agreed that as lay persons they would not administer the sacraments (communion, baptisms, weddings, etc.), leaving that to the ordained preachers. They also emphasized strong discipline among the preachers and the organizations they served.

After the Revolutionary War and independence had been won, it became apparent to Wesley changes were due in American Methodism. He prepared a prayer book called "The Sunday Service of the Methodists in North America." A revision of the Church of England's "Thirty-nine Articles of Religion" and dispatched three ordained preachers to America to oversee the work.

In December 1784, the famous Christmas Conference of preachers was held in Baltimore to chart the future of the movement in America. At that parley was born the Methodist Episcopal Church. Other conferences followed and in 1785 the Book of Discipline, establishing guidelines for the newly established church, was approved. A constitution adopted in 1808 refined the denominational structure and placed strong emphasis on revivals and camp meetings.

In the two centuries since then, there have been divisions and mergers including the union of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ and the Evangelical Association, which became one in 1946 and then joined the Methodist Church in 1968 to become the United Methodist Church.

John Wesley died in 1791 at the age of 87. Charles had died in 1788 at the age of 80.

Behind him, John left a wealth of writings. Brother Charles was a particularly prolific writer of hymns, credited with producing hundreds.

Serenity in the Garden

Local church invites community to explore new area for prayer use

By Brandon Santiago Hanford Sentinel, March 7, 2013

Hanford – Tucked away behind the First United Methodist Church is a special place many in the community have yet to discover – a community prayer garden. "So many around her don't even know about it," said Bob Peden, member of the church and the person who spearheaded the project to get the garden built. "It's time for people to know about it, see it and explore it. Anyone and everyone is invited to come inside." The idea for the garden began around four years ago, Peden said. There was a vacant lot behind the church and after some discussion, it was decided to build a prayer garden. So Peden approached the women's group associated with the church to see if they could help raise funds for the project. They initially raised $1,000, but more was still needed. "They loved the idea of it and wanted to do whatever it took to make it happen," he said. "That was how the monthly luncheon got started. The group began holding their luncheons with the proceeds going toward the garden." The entire project was completed a little over a year ago and totaled $5,000. Several church and community members volunteered their time and helped Peden pour the necessary cement and plant all the flowers, bushes and trees. "Now, I just keep it maintained," he said. "I'll go through every now and then and do some weeding and pruning." He wants the community to be aware of the garden, to see it and utilize it. "It's a great little tucked-away area that's good for coming to pray or read or eat lunch," he said. Peden said the area can seat or fit about 65 to 70 people and could be a good spot for a couple to use as a venue for a small wedding. He said the area is even set up for a sound system. "There are all kinds of ways for this place to be used," he said. "I have all kinds of visions and dreams for it. The garden is like this little hidden treasure the community has yet to uncover."

Easter morning sunrise service in prayer garden, April 21, 2019

A celebration of faith

Local church holding youth community block party

By Brandon Santiago, Hanford Sentinel, Page A6, August 1, 2013

HANFORD – One local church is inviting the community to come party and learn more about the work of God.

First United Methodist Church of Hanford is holding its inaugural Youth Community block Party on Aug. 9. The free event will feature a live performance by the Bryan Easter Band, a Christian music group. Easter is a 2010 Spirit West coast Indie Artist winner and has performed at the church before.

"We are so happy to be welcoming Bryan Easter back for our block party," said Susan Foster, pastor of the church. "Since this time this event is bigger and is open to the entire community, we are sure that a large crowd will come out to see him."

Easter is currently traveling the state on his "Love Water" tour. A California native, Easter has enjoyed getting to share his personal and inspirational songs with youth groups and congregations all over these three years.

Easter has been married to his wife, Heather, now for a little more than a year and a half and they reside in Bakersfield. He currently teaches eight-grade algebra at a local middle school and most recently took a part-time position at Ridgeview Community Church, where he leads worship.

The block party will also feature games, pizza, ice cream, refreshments and free bottled water for everyone.

"We are also holding a canned food drive during the event," Foster said. "We are looking forward to establishing and reinforcing a community connection. We encourage anyone and everyone to come. It's going to be a blast."[102]

Concert at First United Methodist Church marks completion of organ repairs

Joseph Luiz, Staff reporter, Hanford Sentinel

November 19, 2014 •

If you go

- **What:** Organ repair concert
- **When:** Friday, 5 p.m.
- **Where:** First United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington St.
- **Cost:** Free to attend
- **More information:** 584-4976

After several years, First United Methodist Church's pipe organ has finally been completely repaired, and the church is ready to celebrate.

The church will be holding a special concert on Friday to mark this milestone. The free event will include hymn songs and a performance by the Sound Projection barbershop quartet. A few songs featuring the organ will also be performed.

"We're really excited about this," said Bob Peden, a member of the church and co-organizer of the event. "I think it's going to be great. It's not every day you get to hear a live organ anymore."

Repairs on the 1920-model Wicks electric organ took place over a period of four years and wrapped up this week. Problems due to age and water damage were first noticed when the church participated in a citywide organ concert in 2010.

Although the church was able to get the organ running smoothly enough for the concert, the church decided it was time to start doing some repairs. The organ hasn't been publicly performed since then. The church hired Valley Pipe Organ Service Owner Tom DeLay to make the necessary fixes. These improvements included replacing several keys, magnets and valves as well as rewiring some of the electrical systems.

The organ was initially built for the church in 1927 and shipped by train by the Wicks Organ Company factory in Highland, Ill. "It wasn't in too bad of a shape considering it is 90 years old," DeLay said. "The main thing we wanted was to make it fully playable. Most of the original parts are still intact."

[102] Hanford Sentinel, August 1, 2013, page A6

To help pay for the repairs, the church held several fundraisers, including luncheons and concerts. Peden said that in total, the repairs cost about $5,000, all of which was paid through the fundraisers and donations.

As the money came in, DeLay would visit to continue repair work on the organ. “That’s a lot of money when you consider that the organ was originally purchased for just $700,” Peden said. Nowadays, pipe organs run from around $30,000 to the millions of dollars for high-end organs, according to the Associated Pipe Builders of America, an association of firms that build pipe organs.

As part of Friday’s concert, DeLay will make some demonstrations on the organ and discuss the improvements that he made. DeLay said he’s happy with how the repairs turned out and is looking forward to the concert.

“I think it’s going to be great,” he said. “The organ hasn’t been heard in a number of years, so it’s exciting that it’s being heard again.”

Now that the organ has been repaired, Peden said the church is looking for someone who could play it. Those interested in learning how to use it are encouraged to call the church and make arrangements.

Peden said that while the organ is mostly used for special occasions, he would eventually like to see it used every week during their Sunday service. For now, though, Peden is focused on the concert. “I hope it will make people aware of what organs can do and remind them that they’re here in Hanford,” he said.[103]

The church organ is called the queen of instruments, the heart and soul of a church. It is also beautiful, with a warmth and range. Organ music is an old sound, magnifying the sound of humanlike breath through venerable technology in large spaces, all relics of time long past. The music is a kind of shrine to the past. It is hard to resist the instinctive pull toward preserving the organ as part of our history.[104]

An undated page of notes was compiled by Reverend Alfred Boyer, a retired Methodist pastor, listing information about the church organ. It is a seven-rank Wicks 1920 organ, from Highland, Illinois, where the blueprints are kept. It has Mass cathedral chimes.

The Board of Trustee minutes of October 24, 1991 has a lot of information on potential repairs to the organ. Dick Cencibaugh, an organ enthusiast from Fresno, has informed the trustees that the organ needs repair and needs to be played regularly, two to three times a week.

April 2017 - With guidance from Bob Peden, Tom DeLay of Salinas has been doing improvements that made a big difference in sound and reaction to the organ keys being played. One of the fan blades in the motor in the basement slipped about a half-inch on the shaft. This probably happened over a long time, causing less and less air to help the organ play. The organ is now at 99% good health. There is just one stop to be replaced, which is on hand, but requires 125 circuit wires to be reattached when replaced.

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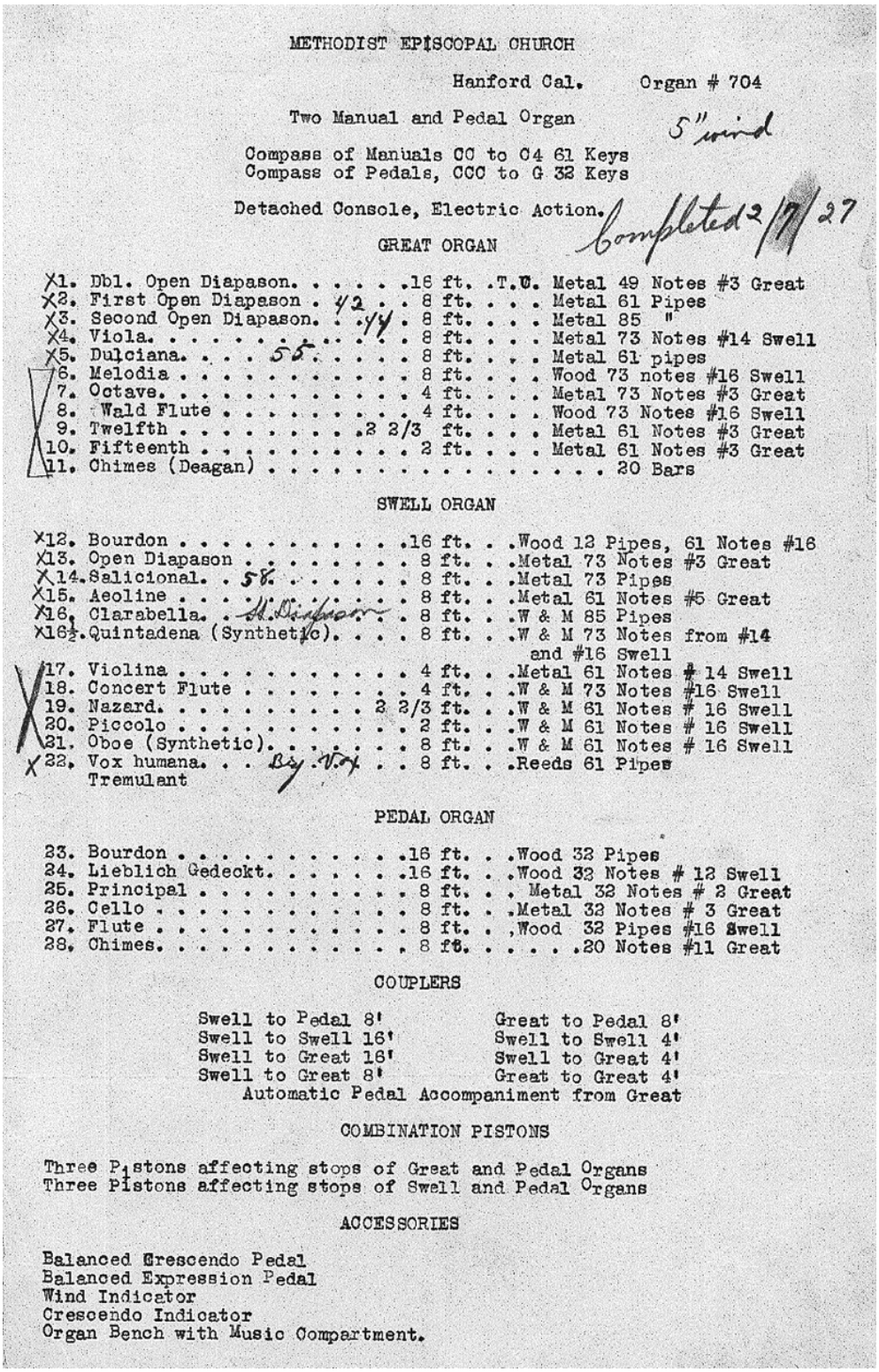
[103] Hanford Sentinel, November 19, 2014 page A5
[104] Hanford Sentinel, June 23, 2008, exerts from article published by Anne Midgette, The Washington Post



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Hanford Cal. Organ # 704

Two Manual and Pedal Organ 5" wind

Compass of Manuals CC to C4 61 Keys
Compass of Pedals, CCC to G 32 Keys

Detached Console, Electric Action. Completed 2/7/27

GREAT ORGAN

1. Dbl. Open Diapason. . . . . .16 ft. .T.C. Metal 49 Notes #3 Great
2. First Open Diapason . . . . . 8 ft. . . . Metal 61 Pipes
3. Second Open Diapason. . . . . 8 ft. . . . Metal 85 "
4. Viola. . . . . 8 ft. . . . Metal 73 Notes #14 Swell
5. Dulciana. . . . . 8 ft. . . . Metal 61 pipes
6. Melodia . . . . . 8 ft. . . . Wood 73 notes #16 Swell
7. Octave. . . . . 4 ft. . . . Metal 73 Notes #3 Great
8. Wald Flute . . . . . 4 ft. . . . Wood 73 Notes #16 Swell
9. Twelfth . . . . . 2 2/3 ft. . . . Metal 61 Notes #3 Great
10. Fifteenth . . . . . 2 ft. . . . Metal 61 Notes #3 Great
11. Chimes (Deagan) . . . . . 20 Bars

SWELL ORGAN

12. Bourdon . . . . . .16 ft. . .Wood 12 Pipes, 61 Notes #16
13. Open Diapason . . . . . 8 ft. . .Metal 73 Notes #3 Great
14. Salicional. . . . . 8 ft. . .Metal 73 Pipes
15. Aeoline . . . . . 8 ft. . .Metal 61 Notes #5 Great
16. Clarabella. . . . . 8 ft. . .W & M 85 Pipes
16½. Quintadena (Synthetic). . . . 8 ft. . .W & M 73 Notes from #14 and #16 Swell
17. Violina . . . . . 4 ft. . .Metal 61 Notes # 14 Swell
18. Concert Flute . . . . . 4 ft. . .W & M 73 Notes #16 Swell
19. Nazard. . . . . 2 2/3 ft. . .W & M 61 Notes # 16 Swell
20. Piccolo . . . . . 2 ft. . .W & M 61 Notes # 16 Swell
21. Oboe (Synthetic). . . . . 8 ft. . .W & M 61 Notes # 16 Swell
22. Vox humana. . . . . 8 ft. . .Reeds 61 Pipes
Tremulant

PEDAL ORGAN

23. Bourdon . . . . . .16 ft. . .Wood 32 Pipes
24. Lieblich Gedeckt. . . . . .16 ft. . .Wood 32 Notes # 12 Swell
25. Principal . . . . . 8 ft. . . Metal 32 Notes # 2 Great
26. Cello . . . . . 8 ft. . .Metal 32 Notes # 3 Great
27. Flute . . . . . 8 ft. . .Wood 32 Pipes #16 Swell
28. Chimes. . . . . 8 ft. . . . . .20 Notes #11 Great

COUPLERS

Swell to Pedal 8' Great to Pedal 8'
Swell to Swell 16' Swell to Swell 4'
Swell to Great 16' Swell to Great 4'
Swell to Great 8' Great to Great 4'
Automatic Pedal Accompaniment from Great

COMBINATION PISTONS

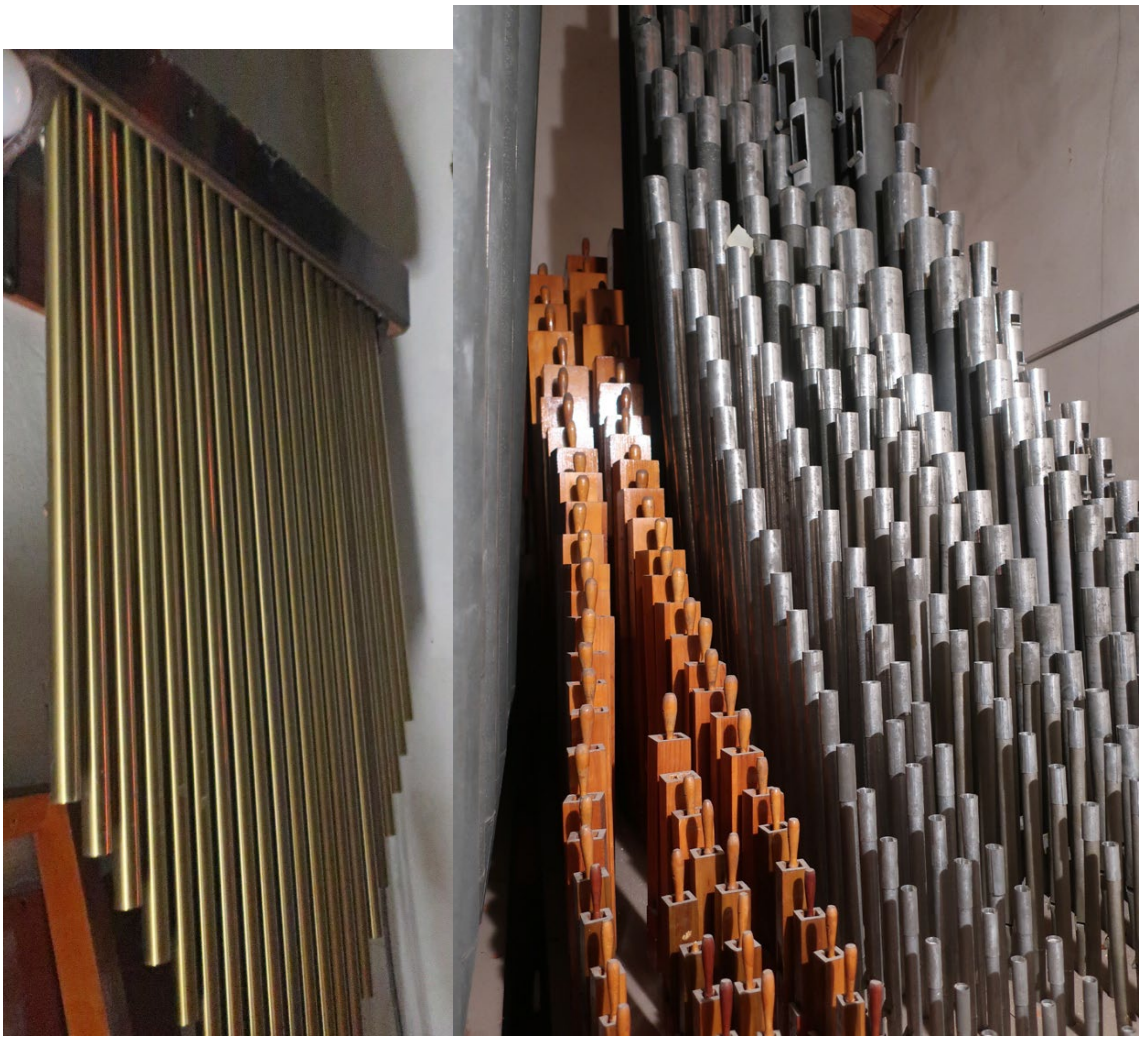
Three Pistons affecting stops of Great and Pedal Organs
Three Pistons affecting stops of Swell and Pedal Organs

ACCESSORIES

Balanced Crescendo Pedal
Balanced Expression Pedal
Wind Indicator
Crescendo Indicator
Organ Bench with Music Compartment.

This is the information on the details of the new Wicks organ, # 704, from the manufacturer, which is still in business, dated February 7, 1927. Thanks to Dave Jones, with the Hanford Visitor Agency, for locating this document from the manufacturer.

Ten Years Ago (From the Journal Files) – A new pipe organ was installed at the first Methodist Church. Gustav Reinhart was chosen organist and Vernon Vickers of Selma chorister. [105]



Dr. Phil Dodson of Bakersfield, in a conversation with the author in 2019, said most of the organ manufacturers were shut down during World War II, and never re-started production after the end of the war, because the pipes were made with a blend of lead and tin, which were important strategic wartime materials and the larger pipes had a mix of zinc. The blend of metals is necessary because the metal pipes need to be soft enough to be tuned, and yet durable so each pipe can be adjusted to get the right sound. The wood pipes are made from pine.

Churches, museum celebrate holiday season

[105] Hanford Morning Journal, March 6, 1937

Joseph Luiz, Staff reporter, Hanford Sentinel December 18, 2014

Community Christmas Eve Dinner

- **When:** Dec.24, 6 p.m.
- **Where:** First United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington St.
- **Cost:** $5 per person: Must RSVP by Dec. 21.
- **More information:** 584-4075

With Christmas exactly one week away, several events are still on tap to celebrate the season.

South Valley Community Church will hold its annual Community Christmas Dinner on Saturday. The Sarah Mooney Museum is also continuing its Victorian Christmas on Sunday. First United Methodist Church will be holding its Christmas Eve Dinner as well.

The free Community Christmas Dinner will be held at the Lemoore Senior Center. The dinner, catered by the West Hills Culinary Department, will include chicken, Mexican rice, salad and bread. Nearly 1,500 meals are expected to be given to families in need. "We hope to provide a Christmas experience for them as if they were having it in their own house," said Thomas Curtiss, church member and coordinator of the event. There will be a sit-down dinner as well as takeout meals. However, only takeout is currently available, as the Senior Center is already fully booked for the sit-down dinner. Those interested in takeout must RSVP by calling 633-9404. There is a limit of five meals per family. The church will also provide gifts to both parents and kids at the sit-down dinner. Kids will receive presents while parents will receive either a $25 gift card or a gift basket worth $25. Professional photographers will also be on hand to take photos for each family to take home. According to Curtiss, the dinner is entirely funded through donations. He said members of the church have been going to local businesses, churches and schools and asking if they could donate. "It's a case of the community helping the community," Curtiss said. "Everyone has chipped in to make this dinner happen." Curtiss said the event originated six years ago. At the time, the church had a Christmas dinner but it was for members only. "We saw the need in the community," Curtiss said. "We were doing it for ourselves but we thought it would be a good idea to get the community involved." Curtiss said the first community dinner went well and has been growing ever since. The dinner has become so popular that now the church has to find a bigger venue for next year. "We want to double the amount of meals we can provide and do more activities next year," he said. "We're looking at the Lemoore Sports Complex. There's so much room there." Curtiss said what's most important, however, is that people enjoy the experience. "I know Christmas is a hard time for some people," he said. "We want to let them know that people still care and that we want to give back. We want to build a strong relationship with the community."

First United Methodist Church's Community Christmas Eve Dinner will include turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetables, bread and more. Those interested in attending the dinner must RSVP by Dec. 21. People can call 584-4075 or purchase tickets on www.fumchanford.org. The dinner will be followed by the church's Christmas Eve service. [106]

[106] Hanford Sentinel, December 18, 2014, page A1

It deserves to be played': Musician plays pipe organ at two Hanford churches

- PARKER BOWMAN pbowman@hanfordsentinel.com

- Dec 17, 2022 Updated Dec 21, 2022

Central Coast-based musician Cavan O'Neill is single-handedly filling Hanford's Sunday morning air with the music of the community's historic pipe organs. O'Neill, born in Belfast, Ireland, moved to the States as a child and now lives in Pismo Beach. Every weekend, he makes the four-hour round trip to Hanford to play pipe organs at two different local churches. "There are four churches in Hanford that have pipe organs and none of them were really played," O'Neill said. "So that was kind of my goal — to help the community have music back in their churches." O'Neill serves as the music director at the First Episcopal Church of the Saviour, 519 N. Douty St., where he performs during Sunday services at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. He then packs up and walks a few blocks west to perform at the 11 a.m. service of the First United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington St. Hanford currently has five historic pipe organs. In addition to the two played by O'Neill, the others can be found at The First Presbyterian Church and First Christian Reformed Church, while a 1927 Mighty Wurlitzer still occasionally accompanies silent films at the Hanford Fox Theater. O'Neill will perform multiple times during various church services at the Episcopal Church leading up to Christmas Day. A Longest Night performance is set for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21, as well as two Christmas Eve services set for 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., and an 11 a.m. service Christmas Day. He will also perform during a 5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service at the Methodist Church. "It's going to be a busy day," he said. Fittingly, Christmas Eve also marks the anniversary of O'Neill's first Hanford performance. He first played at the Episcopal Church last

year when he sat in for then-music director Tyrell McKenzie, who fell ill before the holiday performance. When McKenzie left the position earlier this year, Rev. Julie Kelly thought O'Neill might know a replacement, but didn't realize it would be him. "I thought he might know an organist here in the Central Valley and when I asked, he said, 'Yeah — me. Let me be your organist,'" Kelly said. "He's doing an excellent job. We're thrilled to have him." Kelly said that the sound of the pipe organ, a 1911 Murray M. Harris Organ Co. instrument, welcoming the congregation on Sundays provides a needed element to her worship services. "It's critical," she said. It completely changes the culture and the ambiance of a worship service to be able to sing. Not to mention that we have this gorgeous cathedral space and this organ is one of the largest organs in the entire San Joaquin Valley — if not the largest — and it deserves to be played. Our people love being able to listen to it and feel it vibrate through their bodies and through the floorboards." Recently, O'Neill also reached out to Rev. Pablo Daniel Róvere at the Methodist Church when he heard they were in need of a musician. Pat George, the congregation's pianist for about 20 years, died in 2021 and it had been a challenge to find a replacement, according to church member Jim Gregory. While George played piano during services, the church's pipe organ was very rarely played over the course of those years — until O'Neill took the seat a few months ago. "We're very grateful to have him," said Gregory. O'Neill, who had also performed "on-and-off" at Bethania Lutheran Church in Solvang for years, was given the gift of musical appreciation from his grandmother. While in Belfast as a young child, O'Neill saw her play, sing and play piano at church, instantly sparking his own journey in music. "Seeing her, I said, 'I want to do that,'" he said. It wasn't until moving to Massachusetts with family and seeing the golden pipes of the organ at the Church of St. Charles in Pittsfield that he was inspired to play the keys. The very next week, he played "Ode to Joy" during services. "I think I was 11 years old and I haven't stopped playing since," he said. His grandmother would go on to teach him music by metronome, instilling a sense of beat and timing. O'Neill would keep another type of rhythm while not performing music. He works as a horologist, repairing antique clocks at Renaissance Antiques of Solvang. "I take antique clocks, anywhere from the early 1600s to the late 1800s and I restore the movements," he said. What O'Neill does for the stopped-in-time clocks is similar to what he does for the previously-unplayed pipe organs of Hanford.

Chapter 3
Houses of Worship[107]

There's a church in the valley by the wildwood,
No lovelier spot in the dale;
No place is so dear to my childhood,
As the little brown church in the vale.

–Hymn written by Dr. William S. Pitts, 1857

[107] Howe, Jeffery, Houses of Worship, An Identification Guide to the History and Styles of American Religious Architecture, Thunder Bay Press, San Diego, 2003, 448 pgs.

Religion has been a defining factor of the American experience since the very first humans walked on these shores. The history of our churches, temples, and shrines – the houses of worship – is the history of America. These walls can talk, if we only stop to listen.

The building of churches and temples has always been one of the highest purposes of architecture, and throughout history many of the finest buildings have been created for religious purposes. The architecture of houses of worship reflects the highest values of our culture, and distinct forms have evolved for use by specific groups. These styles have been shaped by national origins, religious history, and symbolic and liturgical requirements. The history of American houses of worship is the story of America.

Themes of exile and the return to a safe home are deeply ingrained in American culture. Again and again in hymns, popular tales, and movies, it is the church or temple that provides a safe haven or comforting home for the errant pilgrim. The experience of living on a frontier was shared by many different groups at different times, from the early Puritans in New England to the Spanish Catholics in the Southwest and the Mormons in Utah. Living in a new world was a journey of discovery but also exile. In many religions, earthly existence itself is considered a kind of exile, with the soul temporarily banished to earth. The frontier experience thus mirrored the theological doctrine. Churches and temples served as havens, fortresses, and visions of this lost paradise. Colonies sought to create a "shining city on a hill" wherever they were established, and one of their main goals was to create a house of worship that would bring them together and remind them of their shared identity.

The quest to find meaning in life and the need to honor that meaning through ritual or prayer is one of the fundamental human needs. It is a defining characteristic that is found in the evidence of people's earliest cultural activities. Religion profoundly affects the most primitive and the most sophisticated cultures.

In its widest sense, architecture consists of the entire built environment – anything constructed or shaped to define space or serve as a spur to reflection or memory. In this, it is similar to religion, which takes the whole realm of human experience as its subject. From ancient times, the essential qualities of architecture have been defined as the art of providing shelter, security, and visual stimulation.

The techniques and tools available to the builders of American houses of worship have spanned the range from stone-age to space-age technologies. Concepts of beauty have undergone equally radical changes. With new materials and technologies have come the possibilities of new shapes; after centuries of building in traditional wood, brick, and stone, strikingly new expressive shapes have been crafted by architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and Philip Johnson, to name only two of the most well-known. Architecture brings order out of chaos; geometry and natural irregularity are the two poles that frame architectural design. In religious contexts, geometry frequently stands for perfection and the divine principle, while irregularity and variety correspond to the changeable qualities of human life and the vagaries of fate. Entire sermons can be constructed from the analysis of these qualities in religious architecture.

Religious revivals and a new prosperity after the Civil War led to much church building. The erection of dignified churches was seen as an extension of missionary activity, as the church was a material symbol of the permanence and security of the religion. An essay published in 1894 by the Church-Extension Society of the United Brethren Church (which became part of the United Methodist Church in 1968) identifies the church building with the true home for the congregation, and the prestige of an appropriate church building is necessary for the practical tasks of fund-raising. In a land with freedom of religion and where denominations must compete on the open market for new recruits, a church is a powerful advertisement.

Pre-World War II – Eclectic Revivals

The period from 1880 to 1940 saw a wide variety of historical styles utilized in American buildings. Many architects now had extensive academic training, and the revivals were frequently more historically accurate than in preceding decades. Although this period also saw the rise of modernist experiments, the vast majority of churches were built in traditional revival styles.

Spanish Eclectic

Church revival styles based on the Spanish Colonial period were especially popular in California between about 1890 to 1930, which recreated the look of earlier Spanish colonial architecture. These churches feature stucco walls and red tile roofs, with Spanish-inspired detailing. The style was given a major boost from the 1915 Pan-American exhibition in San Francisco and the contemporary studies of Spanish architecture by Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, designer of the exhibition.
It is believed the architecture of the sanctuary building of the Hanford church was influenced by the style and influence of Goodhue's ideas in the 1920's.

Chapter 4

Stained Glass Windows

When you walk into a church with vivid stained-glass windows or intricately painted pieces, you may be struck by the beauty or the craftsmanship. Windows create the soul of a building. The sanctuary windows create life for a building, especially from the outside at night when the interior lights are on. But do you take time to consider the significance of the people or events these religious treasures depict?

The entrance to the Hanford United Methodist Church has a ram and a lamb's head in the masonry. These early Christian symbols indicate you are entering a place that will transform you, unlike any other building. Once inside the sanctuary, you will notice the impressive stain glass windows. Perhaps all the cathedrals in Europe have stained glass windows. These can be referred to as the

poor man's Bible, for they tell an important story. There were not many Bibles in medieval Europe, because they had to be copied meticulously by hand, and, besides, not many people could read, so stained glass windows were a significant way to tell a historical story. Study the details embodied in the stained-glass designs. Start with the front right-hand side of the sanctuary, and end at the front on the left side of the sanctuary. The sequence of stained-glass pictures tells the story of Christianity's core belief, which starts at a representation of the nativity and ends with the crucifixion and resurrection. These stain glass works of art is our story and core belief of what we are about. Look at the margins of the scene of the rising Christ. Around the margin, in the stained glass are butterflies. This is a metaphor of Christ's resurrection. The cocoon will metamorphosis into the most beautiful butterfly. In the artist's imagination, this could represent the spirit of Christ. This is God's house. Be still. What is the way to respond? In Luke 2:20, it is written that after witnessing the Christ child: "The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them." The message for us today continues: to go and do likewise.

Icons hold spiritual meaning for Methodists while also revealing underlying truths common to the major religions and nearly all Christian denominations.

One of the impressive visual impressions that meet the eye as people enter the sanctuary are the striking stained-glass windows lining the walls. The series depicts the life of Jesus Christ. Adjacent to each stained-glass window is a plaque, which lists whom the window memorializes. Correspondence for vendors began in 1969. The file on the project contains a considerable amount of correspondence over several years on modifications of the images on the stained glass. The stained-glass windows were installed in 1973 by Architectural Arts of Los Angeles. There are 13 windows that are approximately 8'2'' by 2'6" and 12 small windows of varying size that are probably about 1 foot by 2'6". The stained-glass windows were dedicated on January 27, 1974. On that Sunday, Leborn Stevenson, for the Memorials Committee, presented the completed project for acceptance of the congregation. George Thyarks, for the trustees, accepted the memorial windows.

The cost of each large stained-glass window in 1973 was $552. In 1981, the replacement cost of each large window was appraised at $8,400.

Christ did not despise the material temples or any places of worship. Indeed, he taught and worshipped in them. So today we seek to beautify our churches so that the sanctuaries are dignified and reverently conductive to our best thoughts and worship. With these things in mind, the Worship Committee, in 1968 and 1969, decided to work out a plan for placing stained glass memorials in the windows of the Hanford church. At the first discussion of this the committee thought it would be well to use a systematic portrayal of the most meaningful and typical events, chronologically, in the life of Christ. Accordingly, thru efforts of the pastor of that time and the committee and various eminent artisans of the day, such a plan was drawn up and prices were secured, and the plan was approved by the official board of the church. The events of the life of Christ were arranged chronologically from left to right, as is done in European cathedrals. Some changes were made in plans for windows after consultations of the committee, the pastor and the artisans. The result has been achieved then, not as an end in itself, but with the hope that the added beauty might augment the reverent spirit of worship of the congregation, that we might better

worship and better serve. This would be a fitting memorial to those gone and would help to glorify God.[108]

The following message was printed in 1981 in the monthly church newsletter by Pastor Brown Higginbotham: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." This fact is very evident as one walks into our sanctuary. Immediately the eye is caught with a kaleidoscope of colors, as light beams through our beautiful stained-glass windows. As our eyes focus on the individual scenes, we realize that each window tells a story. The entire story of Jesus' life is revealed in brilliant color. The story begins with the annunciation of the coming Messiah, then His birth, His youth, His ministry and finally the agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, followed by the crucifixion. Yet there is more, the beginning of our hope...the resurrection, and Jesus knocking on the door of our heart, ready and willing to fill us with His spirit. And new life. Eternal life! What joy and meaning these windows (gifts of love) bring to our worship as we are surrounded by God's love...Jesus, manifest and revealed to the world.

The trustees, under the leadership of Brown Higginbotham, who was a general contractor before he changed careers and became a minister, hired McGowan & Company of Seattle, Washington to install Lexan, a hard, clear polycarbonate plastic layer, on the outside of the windows, for protection in 1982. The intent was to reduce energy loss (up to 35 percent in heating and air conditioning) and, of course, to prevent vandalism.

The memorial dedication plaques for each window and background information on each family who sponsored the windows follows:

Annunciation

Window #1, "The Annunciation." This portrays Mary receiving the news of her part in the coming birth of Christ. Even though this was a thing not completely understood by her, she was resigned and committed to God's will.

IN MEMORY OF OUR DAUGHTER
GLORIA MARIE McCUTCHEON
MAY 6, 1952 - DECEMBER 16, 1969
PRESENTED BY
THE O.D. McCUTCHEON FAMILY

Gloria was the adopted daughter of O.D. and Jane McCutcheon. She was baptized as an infant on May 16, 1952. Gloria was a student at the College of the Sequoias. She was a Sunday School teacher, a Candystriper at Hanford Community Hospital, and vice president of Kings River 4-H Club. She died of cancer at the age of 17.

Nativity

Window #2, "The Nativity," is the artist's conception of the infant Jesus in the arms of the virgin Mary. This signifies an important part of our faith and the beginning of a very important life.

[108] Undated and unsigned commentary on the stained-glass window project.

IN MEMORY OF
SAL DiMUCCIO
APRIL 9, 1919 - JUNE 9, 1970
PRESENTED BY
HIS WIFE VIRGINIA AND CHILDREN

Sal was the son of an early Italian settler. The DiMuccio family-owned Hanford Bottling Company, at the corner of 7th Street and 10th Avenue where Badaschi Tire Company is now located. He later worked at Van Andel's. His wife, Virginia, was a long-time school teacher. Their children are Michael, of Corcoran, Sally Brumm of Placerville, and Stuart.

ANNUNCIATION
NATIVITY

Jesus in the Temple

Window #3, "Jesus in the Temple," depicts the early life of Jesus. We find Him in His Father's house and at the beginning of His teaching, even as a child.

IN MEMORY OF
JOHN ROBERT THYARKS
JANUARY 8, 1957 - OCTOBER 7, 1967
PRESENTED BY
THE GEORGE THYARKS FAMILY

George and Abbie Thyarks donated this window in memory of their son John, who was killed in 1967 at the age of ten. John was riding his new bicycle near their home, when he veered in front of a delivery truck. Abby chose this window because she associates John with Jesus as a boy who was in the temple. John frequented the church regularly. He sang in the junior church choir and attended Sunday School.

Calling the Disciples

Window #4, "Calling the Disciples," brings to our minds the Great Commission. Even as the living Jesus called his disciples to forsake all else to follow Him and preach His word, so He calls each of us to put God first, to follow Him and give constant witness by our lives and stewardship. This window is in memory of the trustees who were most responsible for the building and establishing of this Hanford church building.

THIS WINDOW IS IN HONOR OF THE TRUSTEES
WHO PRESENTED THIS SANCTUARY FOR DEDICATION
ON MARCH 20, 1927
E.R. MONTGOMERY
G.K. SPIKE
C.S. DENHAM
A.E. GRISWOLD
J.L. NEIGHBOR

JESUS IN THE TEMPLE
CALLING THE DISCIPLES

The Sermon on the Mount

Window #5, "The Sermon on the Mount," is probably one of the best known events in the life of Christ. It is oft quoted and tells us that He brought salvation to all people and He showed us a way of life that is sufficient for every need even to a life eternal.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH
AS LISTED IN
THE BOOK OF MEMORIALS

Blessing the Children

Window #6, "Blessing the Children," reminds us that Christ loved the children and taught that we must become as little children, with child-like faith and trust in divine love if we are to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

THIS WINDOW IS A MEMORIAL TO:
GUSTAV THEODORE REINHARD 1865-1937
ANNA CAROLINE REINHARD 1868-1970
RUBY BLOYD REINHARD 1887-1935
GRACE ELIZABETH REINHARD 1889-1963
STANLEY EDWIN REINHARD 1887-1964
GIVEN BY THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS

The Reinhard family was from Pennsylvania. Anna was G.T.'s wife. Even though Anna had a number of medical ailments, she lived to the age of 103. G.T. was the primary person to promote purchasing the church organ. He was also our church organist. He owned and operated the Reinhard Granite Works at the southwest corner of 5th and Douty Streets. Grace and Stanley were the son and daughter of G.T. and Anna. Stanley worked in the family business. Among his talents, he often played the musical carpenter's saw at events. He also is remembered for owning a Model T coupe which was in perfect condition. Ruby was Stanley's first wife. He later married the former Grace Stewart, a teacher and member of an early-day Guernsey district family.

SERMON ON THE MOUNT
BLESSING THE CHILDREN

The Last Supper

Window #7, "The Last Supper," is a very important event in our memory of Christ's life. It should remind us that all men are brothers, sons of God, and that God will be with us if we but let Him. We also learn that some followers are false, as Judas, but we know that God is not, and we must love all men as He would have us do. This event is the basis for our Communion service and the "Communion of Saints."

GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ROYAL L. WALTZ
MAUDE E. WALTZ
AND SON
P.F.C. ROYAL L. WALTZ, U.S.M.C.
BY THE JOHN HANSE FAMILY

Royal and Maude were both members of pioneer families from the Hanford area. Royal's father was a circuit-riding Methodist minister in Washington territory long before the family settled in at the parsonage in Grangeville. Maude was one of four Parrish sisters living in Grangeville. They were married on April 23, 1902, in Hanford. They had a dairy and farmed in the Grangeville/Hanford area. Royal was quite proud of his Jersey cattle. Their children were Evelyn Waltz Hanse, Freeland Parrish Waltz, and Royal Lawrence Waltz. Royal Lawrence was killed in action on November 20, 1943, in World War II in the battle of Tarawa Atoll, one of the bloodiest battles in the Pacific.[109] [110]

In The Garden

Window #8, "In The Garden," brings to mind Christ's reliance on prayer and should help us to realize that our troubles or joys can be shared with God in any hour. He will give us the strength to go in the right way if we only pray and trust in Him.

IN MEMORY OF
JOHN CHARLES STEVENSON
APRIL 2, 1938 - JUNE 8, 1958
AND
EDITH STEVENSON
NOVEMBER 26, 1915 - AUGUST 7, 1971
THIS WINDOW IS PRESENTED BY
THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

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[109] January 2021 conversation Rod Ritchie of Grangeville shared with Michael Semas, where Rod recounted that Royal Waltz, Jr., who was in the 7th or 8th grade at Grangeville Elementary School in 1938, lost his life as a U.S. Marine fighting on Tarawa Island.

[110] www.youtube.com video: U.S. Marines in Battle of Tarawa | 1943 | WW2 Documentary in Color

John, son of Leborn Stevenson and the late Edith Stevenson, died at age of 20 of a kidney disorder. John was a musician and played the trumpet. Leborn Stevenson, moved to Oakhurst, remarried the former Hettie Tarr.

Crucifixion

Window #9, "The Crucifixion," shows the culmination of all of Christ's teachings. It should remind us of all the tenets of this Christian faith, including divine love, forgiveness to each of us, and by us to all who wrong us, and of our needed total commitment to God and the kind of life for which He stands.

IN MEMORY OF
EFFIE E. CRAIN
NOVEMBER 14, 1880 - AUGUST 22, 1971
AND
WILLIAM R. CRAIN
DECEMBER 19, 1879 - SEPTEMBER 25, 1959
THIS WINDOW IS PRESENTED BY
THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

William and Effie were husband and wife. Their daughters Unis Hoff, who passed away in 2009, and Lois Peden, who also passed away in 2009 at 105 years of age, were members of our congregation.

The Risen Christ

Window #10, "The Resurrection," is the keystone of our Christian faith. Here is displayed the knowledge that we are not bound by material things or a mortal life. We can have life eternal if we will but accept and follow with true faith and love. It also reminds us that truth is unchangeable and will always prevail, even to eternity.

IN MEMORY OF
ETTA CENTER GRISWOLD
FEBRUARY 14, 1889 - NOVEMBER 30, 1970
AND
ALPHEUS E. GRISWOLD
JANUARY 31, 1876 - AUGUST 27, 1955
THIS WINDOW IS PRESENTED BY
ETTA GRISWOLD FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Alpheus and Etta were husband and wife. They were the parents of Lyman Griswold, Jeanette Powell, Evelyn Parker and George and Edward Griswold. They also were the uncle and aunt of Gerald Schumacher and Harold Griswold. Alpheus farmed 40 acres of apricots, peaches, a small dairy, north of 11th and Flint Avenue and 20 acres of muscat grapes south of Flint.

THE RISEN CHRIST

Jesus Knocking at the Door

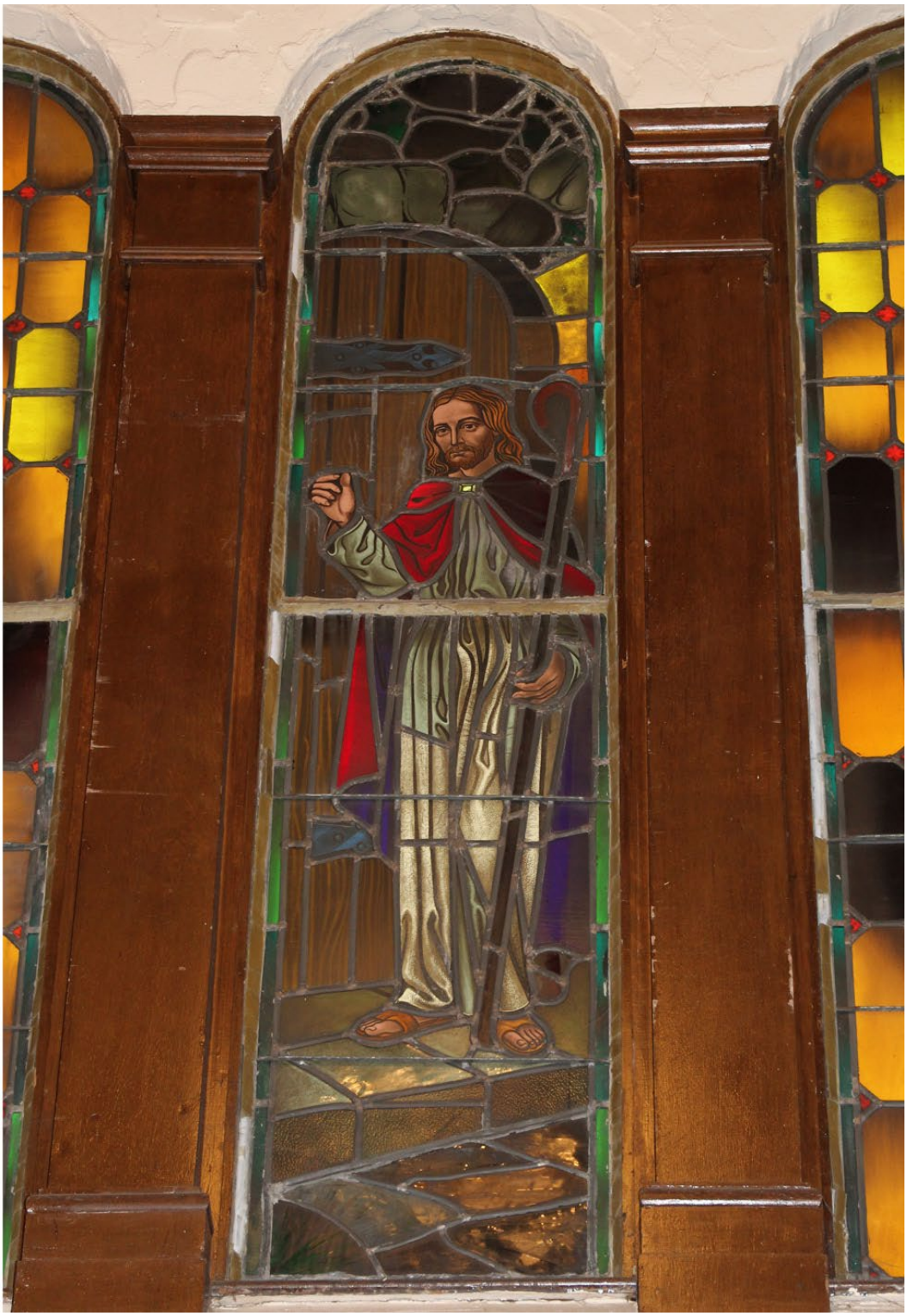
Window #11, "Behold, I Stand at the Door and Knock." This group was not part of the original plan but fits in admirably. Christ wants to enter each of our lives but cannot come in unless we open the door. We need only to open our heart for him to enter. Often someone must advise and urge us to open the door to Him.

IN FOND REMEMBRANCE OF
THE REV J. DOUGLAS EWAN
BY FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Reverend J. Douglas Ewan was the pastor of the church in 1968. He died of a heart attack five months after starting his pastorate in Hanford, in December 1968 at the age of 66. Prior to being assigned to Hanford, he was Sacramento-Nevada district superintendent and had served churches in Tulare, Salinas, Honolulu and Burlingame. Ewan was born in China where his father was a missionary and dean of medicine for the Union University Medical School in Chengtu, West China. He left there at the age of 12 when his father returned to his native Edinburgh, Scotland. Ewan received his MA degree at University of Southern California and took his ministerial training at Claremont School of Theology. He was an instructor in history and comparative religions at USC and then went to graduate school at University of California at Berkeley where he taught Oriental history for two years.[111]

This is the only sanctuary stain glass window which is held in place by caulking, and not wood trim. In September 2019, Craig True rented a scaffold and replaced approximately 55% of the caulking.

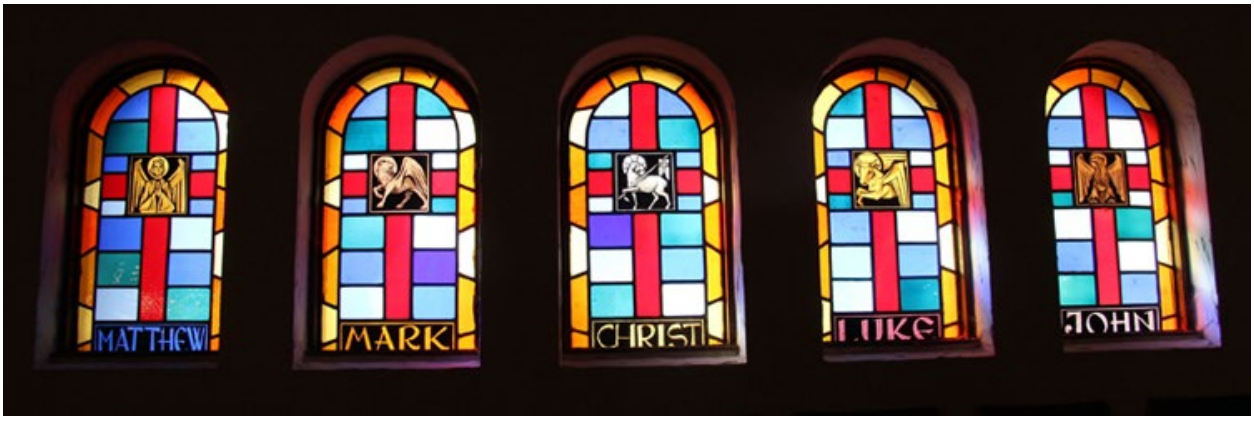
[111] Hanford Sentinel, December 16, 1968.



Others

Above the main windows and around the balcony are seven small windows showing church and Christian symbols to add to the beauty and spirit of reverent worship in our sanctuary. At the rear

of the balcony is a group of five windows that remind us of the four gospel writers: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, and the center of their teaching and of our faith is shown in the central window. It tells us of Christ, the center of all Christian religion and of our faith.



The icons are not just about the Lord's victory; it reminds us all that we need not worry about death because it is a temporal thing. In Christ we have hope

Installation for all these windows has been made possible by many memorial gifts of members and friends. The icons in the windows contribute to the reverent spirit of worship and love of all our worshippers.

Balcony

Until September 2019, the balcony was used by volunteers operating the audio-visual equipment. It is closed for public use apparently because there is only one stairway access. The balcony chairs have a wire frame accessory under the folding seat, which is designed so that gentlemen, who always remove their hats when entering a building, have a place to store their hats while seated during church services.

Griffin

Thanks to research by Howard Sands, we have learned the name of the two figures above the sanctuary entrance. It seems out of place to have a mythological carving above the entrance as one enters a church sanctuary. Why they were included in the construction of the church sanctuary by the masons has been lost in the mists of time. The griffin is a legendary creature with the body, tail, and back legs of a lion; the head and wings of an eagle; and an eagle's talons as its front feet. These features indicate a combination of intelligence and strength. Because the lion was traditionally considered the king of the beasts and the eagle the king of birds, the griffin was thought to be an especially powerful and majestic creature. The griffin was also thought of as king of all creatures. Griffins are known for guarding treasure and priceless possessions. Griffins are a favored decorative theme in Archaic and Classical Greek art. Being a union of a terrestrial beast and an aerial bird, it was seen in Christendom to be a symbol of Jesus, who was both human and divine. As such, it can be found sculpted on some churches. In heraldry, the griffin's amalgamation of lions and eagle gains in courage and boldness, and it is always drawn to powerful, fierce monsters. It is used to denote strength and military courage and leadership.

Another explanation of the pair of symbols over the sanctuary doors is that Mark is symbolized as the winged lion. Early Christians used symbols of the four Gospels and likened them to creatures. Revelation 4:7: The first living creature was like a lion. The second living creature was like an ox. The third living creature had a face like a human being. And the fourth living creature was like an eagle in flight.

[112]

Restoring a Cross

By Heather Halsey
Hanford Sentinel

July 18, 2009

[112] 1956 photo. Dress was more formal than today. Gerald Schumacher is to the left, with his two daughters in identical outfits behind him.

The red neon cross that sits atop the First United Methodist Church on Redington Street in Hanford serves as a daily reminder of Jesus' sacrifice and once served as a landmark for incoming planes landing at Hanford Municipal Airport. But nearly four years ago the neon system broke down and the cross has not been lit since. Members of the church are now seeking donations to get it up and running again with LED lights instead of the outdated neon bulbs.

Bob Peden is on the committee to restore the cross and said that the church's goal is to raise $6,500, which is the estimated cost of repairing and replacing the lighting system. They already have $700 to $800 in the account, but have much more to raise if they are going to be able to convert the neon bulbs to LED, which will be less expensive to maintain. "It used to go out all the time and it was expensive to repair," Peden said. His family has belonged to the church for more than 70 years and hopes to see the landmark restored for the community.
"It's just a reminder that God is there with us all the time," Peden said.

Another church member, Jim Gregory, serves as the church's historian. He said the cross was erected in the early 1920s when the church was built. "It's really a beacon, in the community and we've been told that it's a landmark for pilots on their approach to the Hanford airport," he said.

Local pilot Everett Edha said the cross will not be used as a landmark for pilots anymore because of improved technologies. "It's very possible le that 40 or 50 years ago that's what they used," Ehda said.

The cross was built with donated funds from Hanford resident Mrs. J.W. Bainum, who wanted it built in memory of her late husband and was once equipped to rotate.

The mechanism that caused it to rotate wore out several years ago and it now sits in a fixed position. Since it was first placed, the bulbs have been converted from hard-to-replace incandescent bulbs to neon.

Gregory has been a member of the church since 1978 and remembers how it used to gleam brightly in red neon from dusk until 11 p.m. nightly. "It's an attraction and a showcase of the church in a unique way for the community-at-large," he said.

On April 9, 2010, SignWorks of Hanford performed a major upgrade of the cross on top of Hanford UMC. The red neon lights, which had been non-operating for several years, were taken down and new LED lights were installed, for a contracted price of $8,200. It was wonderful to see the cross illuminated. Many businesses and individuals from the community helped to pay for the upgrade.

Light of the Cross Returns

First United Methodist Church lights the community with faith and LEDs

By Brandon Santiago
Hanford Sentinel, May 8, 2010, page B3

For about four years now the red neon glow of the cross at First United Methodist Church on Redington Street in Hanford has been dark. But the light of the cross returned Thursday evening during a dedication ceremony held at 8 p.m. The cross was originally built in the 1920s with donated funds from Hanford resident Mrs. J.W. Bainum, who wanted it built in memory of her late husband and was once equipped to rotate. The mechanism that caused it to rotate wore out several years ago and since it was first placed, the bulbs were converted from incandescent bulbs to neon. Then recently the neon system broke down. Church members were saddened when the cross went dark, saying it served as a beacon for faith and was a Hanford landmark. But then the community stepped in and graciously donated enough funds for the cross to be repaired. Now the cross ignites and night with a new LED lighting system that is easier to maintain. "We are all so grateful for everyone that donated and helped bring back the light of our cross," said Sue Hensel, a member of the church. "So that's why we had this ceremony, to welcome it back to our church and to the community.

Birds in the tower and on the cross are an on-going problem. Starting in January 2020, Main Street Hanford is partnering with the City of Hanford with a one-year contract to bring back trained falcons to encourage crows to stay out of the downtown area. The falcons have been effective in downtown Hanford in the past. This time, starting in January, the sphere of coverage is enlarged and will include our church. The falconer is going to be encouraged to have the falcons take a couple of extra passes over our church and swoop over our cross. Apparently, the falcons will not impact pigeons, because, pigeons are not as intelligent as crows, and do not perceive the falcons as a threat.[113]

Chapter 5

Purchase of A New Parsonage

The original parsonage was located between the Methodist and Presbyterian churches, on the west side of Irwin Street, north of Lacey. When the prior church was sold, the parsonage was moved adjacent to the present church, and located on the north side of Center Street, to the east of the sanctuary. In 1960 and 1961, the parsonage next to the sanctuary at 214 Center Street was sold. The site was needed to make room for the new education wing. Gerald Schumacher was the real estate broker who handled the sale of the house. The parsonage was sold to a farmer, and moved to near 6 ½ and Kansas Avenue, where it is today. The proceeds from the sale of the building was to be used to assist in building an educational wing to the church. Another pastor's residence was purchased at 1329 N. Douty Street for $13,000.

In 1984, the trustees started to look at the possibility of obtaining a new parsonage. A bid for needed repairs and upgrades on the existing parsonage on Douty Street came to $26,485. This was to fix the foundation, various electrical, plumbing, and kitchen repairs, level the ceiling in a bedroom and dining room, and repair the front sidewalk. A new detached garage was also needed. The trustees had $2,000 in the parsonage maintenance budget.

A committee comprised of Jim Gregory, Bob Junell, Ray Noland and Jim Taylor was formed to explore options on selling the parsonage and purchasing a new or used home at another location, or building a new house on the existing site. Appraisals for the parsonage were discussed. Judy Theadore was the local realtor retained by the committee to represent the church in selling the Methodist parsonage on Douty Street.

In 1985, excitement at the parsonage included a basement full of water that would rival an indoor pool! The culprit was a burst water line. The basement was pumped out, cleaned out of 35 years of accumulated memorabilia, etc. which was quickly transported to Kings Rehabilitation Center. A broken line was replaced with 25 feet of PVC line. After a brief drying out period the hot water heater was lit and life went on with a clean basement. No damage was reported except to a set of golf clubs. Repair cost was about $17. Thanks were given to Tom Douma, Jim Martin, Dan Kline and Bill Birdsey for their quick response. During this period of time, there were numerous repairs and workdays at the parsonage.

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[113] Methodist Messenger newsletter, December 2019

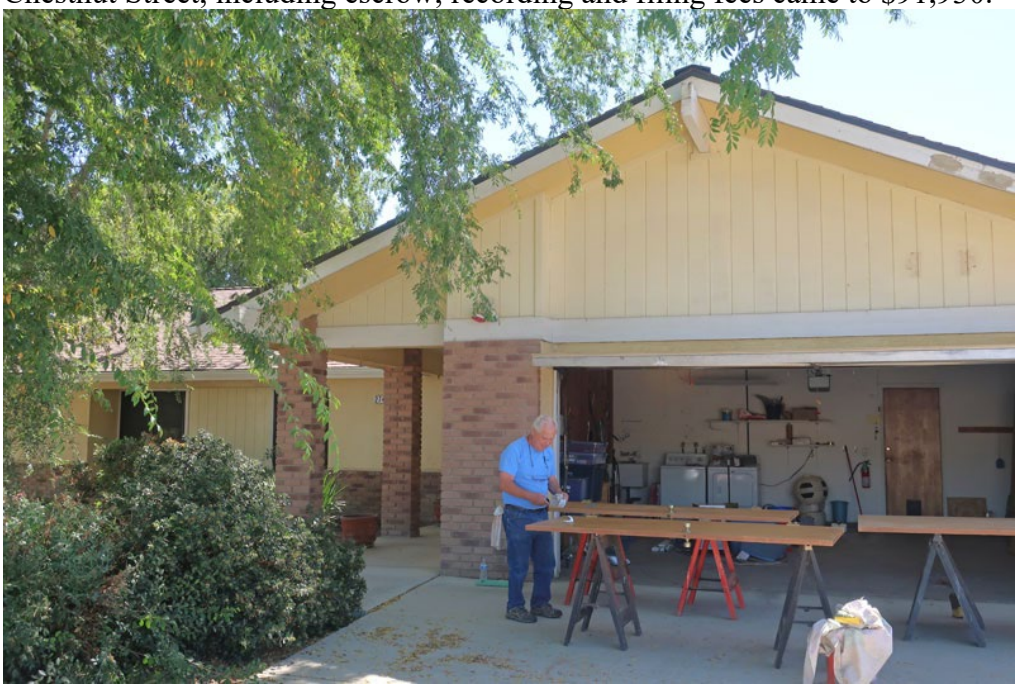
The Parsonage and Pastor/Parish Committee met with the new pastor and his wife, Charlie and Susan Tanner-Dorn in May 1986. The new pastor expressed the feeling that the parsonage did not meet their needs. Their concern was for additional living space.

In 1986, the memorial funds and estate gift in the name of Raymond Wiltshire were transferred into the new parsonage fund, at the request of the family. In 1986, the old parsonage on North Douty Street was sold, with the assistance of Realtor Judy Theadore of Rose Reality, for the full asking price of $64,000. The trustees were pleased that the house was sold in short time. The actual price received by the church was $60,108.94. The difference represents closing costs and foundation repairs and fumigation which were requested by the buyer. As a bonus, the buyer also would allow the church to rent the house until the end of the year. This solved the problem of where to put the pastor and his family until a new house was found.

Several of the guidelines for the new parsonage included that it was to be located north of Grangeville Boulevard and the church was not to be encumbered with a mortgage. With faith in the Lord and a mission to accomplish, the committee earnestly set about to obtain a new home for the pastor and his family.

In November 1986 the present house in Presidential Estates was approved by the church membership and the Fresno District. The house was purchased for $91,000. The trustees were able to go to the title company and pay cash for the new house. Hanford now has one of the finest parsonages in the Fresno District, perhaps second only to Saint Luke's in Fresno.

Funding for the new parsonage came from the following sources: Net proceeds from the Douty Street parsonage, $57,733.94, Wiltshire Trust, $7,413 and Kinney/Reinhard Trusts, $15,406. The balance came from congregational donations. The actual purchase price of the house at 2745 N. Chestnut Street, including escrow, recording and filing fees came to $91,930.



June 2018 photo by the author. Doug True is staining the interior doors.

A lot of work was done to the parsonage in June 2018, with the departure of Pastor Cynthia and the arrival of Pastor Pablo Rovere and his family. Paul Bryant did a tune-up on the sprinkler system. Johnny Cotta did repairs to the picket fence and replaced the three-foot tall picket fence in front by the mail box. Phillips Garage Door repaired the double garage door. Daryl Vander Veen installed a new ceiling fan and light fixture in the living room. Rudy Lobato's crew scrubbed all the interior walls with TSP followed by a second scrub of Simple Green on June 11 and 12. Church volunteers did the taping and masking over the weekend of June 16 and 17, prior to painting an odor masking oil-based primer on June 18, followed by a finish coat of semi-gloss Navaho White paint on June 19. Rudy's quote to do this work was $3,500. We were able to do the work with volunteer labor and approximately $1,000 in supplies. Robinsons Interior removed the carpeting and padding and replaced it with new carpeting and padding on June 21 and 22. The carpeting and interior paint was 10 years old and installed prior to Pastor Susan Foster's arrival. Workdays on June 22, 23, and 24, addressed a number of issues to get ready for the arrival of the new family. Mary Delgado, our custodian, cleaned the kitchen and bathrooms on June 25 and 26, in time for the family's arrival on June 27. Cynthia's household goods were removed after Pastor Pablo's household mover arrived.

A REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM THE PARSONAGE REPLACEMENT COMMITTEE

by Jim Taylor

November 29, 1986

The Parsonage Replacement Committee takes pleasure in filing this report regarding our activities in replacing our parsonage. Our efforts have been successful and we now have a new parsonage free and clear of debt. We think it is important to recall all the ramifications of the transactions and commit them to a report before memory fades and confusion replaces fact.

This effort was started in May of 1986 when Board Chairman at that time, Jack Card, called for a committee to study the possibility of replacing our parsonage. The reasons for replacement were numerous and practical. Also, the arrival of the new pastor and his family reminded us of how antiquated that old house really is.

The committee was formed consisting of Jim Gregory, president of the Administrative Council; Ray Noland, member of the Board of Trustees; Dr. Bob Junell, member of the Staff/Parish Relations Committee and Jim Taylor, vice-president of the Board of Trustees. We met several times to consider basic plans for short-term and long-term objectives. We met prayerfully and harmoniously with the goal of selling our parsonage for the maximum price and buying a new one for the minimum price, and to time the sale/purchase accurately to avoid two moves by the family, paying rent or incurring any debt. It looked like a formidable task with only an old house (1910) and $7,000.00 cash. We wanted a modern house located in north Hanford; preferably a four-bedroom house with large rooms or at least a three-bedroom house that was somehow expandable,

perhaps an enclosed patio or guest house; something adaptable to a large or a small family and suitable for a professional man who might draw other professionals to his home. It needed to be a house that we all could be proud of, suit our needs, and one that would increase in value and be a long-term good asset for our church.

A Realtor was selected, one we knew and respected for her successful career and her impeccable honesty. It was Judy Theadore of Rose Realty. Our house was listed on multiple listing for $64,000. Within two weeks, and after several offers, one appeared that offered our top price which was established by our Realtor with concurrence of knowledgeable persons in our congregation. A 45-day escrow period was agreed upon, and the search for a new house for our pastor and family began in earnest.

The offer for the old parsonage included the following contingency: Termite inspection clearance which is always included. The buyers also included; "Buyer to have the option to have foundation inspected within 30 days." This reminded us that we had a very old building and the cost of a new foundation could cost several thousand dollars. We had had water under the house because of raised flower beds. If the under-pinning had rotted, if the mortar had deteriorated and if the dampness had promoted termites and dry rot, we could lose a lot of the profit we needed for a new building. We ordered a termite and a foundation inspection. Extensive termite work was indicated but the foundation was deemed satisfactory even though it is a brick and mortar foundation rather than the modern concrete. The first bids indicated that the termite work was going to run a little over $3,000. However, by getting more bids and finding a "hungry" contractor, we were able to get final inspection for $2,375.

A little side story is: The hungry contractor got his money, then, after promising three times to return for some necessary corrections and not appearing, our friends, Jim Taylor, Tom Douma and Terry Tomkins came to our rescue, finished the work and did some extras that should please our buyers. Incidentally, our buyers are Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wing of the Imperial Dynasty Wing family and are very acceptable to our good neighbors on Douty Street.[114]

Meanwhile, in house hunting, we soon found that any selection in four-bedroom houses was very, very limited. We found one 4-bedroom house on Birch Street that really pleased everyone who saw it. We were ready to plunge in. We obtained the approval of the District Superintendent. We offered $93,000 with many contingencies. The seller made a counter-offer which offered long term debt which we could not accept. We made counter-offers which the sellers could not accept because of the contingencies of selling our house, raising the necessary money from our congregation, etc. Meanwhile, strong opposition to this property appeared because of a backyard swimming pool. Many thought it a liability, a danger, and expense; and to fill it with earth would not only break the hearts of the pastor and his family but disfigure the back garden area. So, negotiations for that house broke off, but when no really good second choice appeared, and we returned to the Birch Street house, we found that it was no longer available. The escrow time was

[114] We are saddened by the sudden death of Susan Bowden Wing, co-owner of Superior Dairy, who died suddenly as she was hurrying to assist a neighbor across the street in front of her home on North Douty Street on November 10, 2017. Hanford UMC sold the same house, which was the former church parsonage, to the Wing family in November 1986. Pastor Charlie Tanner-Dorn and his family moved from the Douty St. parsonage to the new parsonage at that time.

ticking away and there seemed to be no suitable house for sale. In desperation we looked at the Presidential Homes that Marge and Jim Gregory had suggested some weeks before and we had rejected because those homes had been on the market for two years without selling well, and the general opinion was that they were undesirable.

Two of us went to look at them on a Sunday afternoon, and the one we saw had a strangely designed floor plan, but it did suggest a flexibility or expandability that we needed. So, at a later date we toured a three-bedroom Presidential Home that offered some of the same flexibility. The committee then toured that house and to satisfy our fears that the house was not in any way inferior, we called the Better Business Bureau in Fresno. The builder was the Spano Construction Co. of Fresno. The B.B.B. informed us that Spano is a member of the B.B.B. and though they do not approve or disapprove, they had no complaint against the Spano Construction Co., which has been an active company for 27 years. Prior to that it was called Spano and Sons and operated under that name for 8 years, making a total of 35 years of successful building. We then called the Hanford Engineering Dept. and asked the building inspector for his opinion of the Presidential Homes. He was especially appreciative of Spano's apparent eagerness to cooperate and to meet Hanford City Code requirements. In his opinion the homes were good quality. Further discussions with the sales person disclosed that the original developer, a Mr. Oberg, had done a poor job of planning and marketing. The houses did not sell promptly, and they eventually became the property of Homestate Saving and Loan of Hayward, California. They priced the Lincoln Model which we wanted at $100,000. The original offering price had been $108,000. The committee decided to offer $85,000.

Our offer had to be referred to the officers of Homestate Saving and Loan. It took them a week to reject our offer and counter with an offer to receive our $85,000 as a down payment and pay off the balance in 3 years. They did, however, drop the price to $92,750. Since we had agreed that we would not incur any long-term debt, we could not accept that offer.

Further negotiations ensued, stretching over several anxious weeks because no other good, comparable house was available. The escrow on our old parsonage was supposed to close on October 31st and we were now into November with no place for the pastor and his family to live.

Finally, on November the 9th, we struck a deal. Homestate would come down to $91,850 if the sales lady, Tricia, would volunteer to reduce her commission by $1,820, making an all-cash price to us of $90,030. That sounded good to us as we had decided at our last meeting to offer $91,000. We opened escrow on November 10. The parsonage was not yet out of escrow -- 10 days overdue -- we could lose the whole deal of it didn't close soon.

One of the buyers' contingencies was that they would seek a 95% loan. The committee did challenge the possibility of being able to obtain a 95% loan in the beginning. We were assured that such loans were common, and that the Wings would have no difficulty because of their name and their solid position in the community. However, there is another aspect to a 95% loan; it provides the lender with only a 5% equity in the property. If the property is over-appraised or overpriced by 5% the lender has no equity. In this case the lender had taken the loan to another mortgage lender who required a re-evaluation of the property appraisal. We were assured that the Wings could provide a larger down payment to get a 90% loan if necessary. We had been assured

before and were getting nervous. We had found the house we wanted, but needed the profit from the old to buy the new. Finally, on Wednesday, the 19th of November, the news arrived. They had approved the loan.

On November 25th we received a check from the Kings County Title Co. for $60,108.95. That represented the total proceeds from the parsonage at 1329 N. Douty. The check was deposited to our savings account at Kings Harvest Savings & Loan.

The next day, November 26, we withdrew a check from our savings at Kings Harvest for $88,666.50 to pay off the new house at 2745 N. Chestnut Street. That check was delivered to Safeco Title Co. and we became the new owners of a new parsonage.

During all these negotiations the committee was concerned with raising money by donations from the congregation. A notice was sent out to our entire mailing list asking for cash donations or pledge donations that could be paid off within three years. With no further follow-up solicitations, except reports and encouragements to the congregation at Sunday worship services, the response was generous. We watched the total grow week by week to a total of $16,406 cash and pledges of $4,430. All that from 35 families, making the average donation of $595.31 from each. Bob Junell was the spokesman in our money-raising efforts.

We, the committee, want to record the fact that we were given the names of all the contributors and of those that pledged. We were not, however, allowed to know the amounts of money given or pledged except when the contributor delivered their money to one of us. Our financial secretary, Barbara McGinty, was very firm in her efforts to safeguard that information, which she considered personal and private.

In closing, the committee wishes to thank our congregation for their generous support -- both moral and monetary; to the Board of Trustees for their confidence and support, and especially to Almighty God without whose help, in many moments of doubt and doom, we would have failed.

James Gregory
Dr. Robert Junell
Ray Noland
James M. Taylor

Correspondence to Pastor Charlie Tanner-Dorn
from Jim Taylor
November 30, 1986

Dear Pastor Charlie:

The Board of Trustees has successfully sold our old parsonage and bought a new one, and events of those transactions are history. The Parsonage Replacement Committee of the Board of Trustees will soon file a complete report with the board and it will be available to anyone who is interested.

In the beginning, our basic ambitions were to sell our parsonage, buy a newer more modern one without debt, without paying rent in between moves and to avoid two moves by your family. It appeared to be a formidable task with a 1910 house and $7,000 cash.

Our deliberations were started with prayer, and I for one, prayed on numerous occasions for the components of the venture as well as for the whole venture. I am aware that you too prayed for our success. The U.M.W. ladies were involved in prayer on our behalf. We prayed believing and knowing that those prayers would be answered though we did not know in what form they would be answered.

I was close to the daily negotiations and events of the sale, of the repair work and of the purchase of the new building, and I think I witnessed what I have called mini-miracles. Perhaps a better term would be "unusual occurrences." When a series of these unusual occurrences are witnessed, I think they are noteworthy. They are a viable part of the venture and should be recorded.

I will list them here and you be the judge. Are they miracles, lucky breaks, the result of prayer or a manifestation of the passage from Romans 8:23, "And we know that all things work together for the good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose."

Judy Theadore, our Realtor who sold our parsonage, reduced her commission from 6% to 5%, a savings to us of $640. Not an everyday occurrence.

The buyer offered our top price because of a sentimental attachment to the neighborhood. That's a bit unusual.

Also unusual, the buyer offered to rent the house to us after they had bought it until January 1987, thus allowing us time to negotiate for another house.

Soon after opening the escrow on the Douty Street house we ordered termite and a foundation inspection at the request of the buyer. We realized that we had an old house, one built in 1910, and that very possibly we had extensive termite infestation and very possibly it would require some foundation replacement which could run into thousands of dollars. But "fortunately" the needed repairs required only $2,375.

Early on, we found a house on Birch Street, and many who saw it thought it perfect in spite of a backyard pool, and the strong opposition to the pool. When no good alternative was found and we returned to negotiate for that house, it had been removed from the market. That's unusual in view of the fact that the Birch Street house had been on the market for over a year.

We had agreed that after the close of escrow we would pay our buyers $450 a month rent until we could move. Escrows are somewhat sacred. They are usually specified in the agreement as a 30 to 60-day period in which loans can be negotiated, and titles searched, legal papers filed, etc. Ours was a 45-day escrow, after the close of which our rent payments would begin. Due to loan complications our escrow did not close in 45 days. It continued until one day prior to the close of escrow on the new parsonage, thus saving us the cost of renting. Most unusual.

The long negotiations for the Presidential Home resulted in a price reduction to us of nearly $10,000. That from an institution who usually fixes a firm price --take it or leave it -- is most unusual, but then the sales lady, Tricia Singdale, donated $1,820 of her commission in order that we could buy a new house within our financial means. That too is unusual.

The fact that our church, which is usually strapped for money, was able to raise over $21,000 with very little soliciting is remarkable if not unusual.

Singlely, each one of these events is unspectacular and easily reconciled by explanations of "goodwill" or personal interests or "coincidental" or "things working out." But taken together? To me, a mysterious pattern is apparent.

Insurance

The church insurance, for a number of decades, has and continues to be with Berger & Jones, Inc. of San Ramon, CA. There is a $1,000 deductable. Table below is from the 2017 policy:

Building	Year Built	Sq Ft	Coverage[115]
Sanctuary Bldg	1927	9,920	$3,298,488
Parsonage	1985	2,780	$488,016
Founders Hall	1930	2,478	$524,662
Education Bldgs	1960	6,964	$1,423,631

All buildings are going to age. All buildings are going to deteriorate. It's how you take care of them that is important.

Quote by Ron Thomas, regarding the Warner Theater in Fresno, built in 1928.

[115] The Parsonage value was high, possibly based on Bay area values and was reassessed in 2017. Founders Hall is older because the building was relocated from the previous church site.

Chapter 6

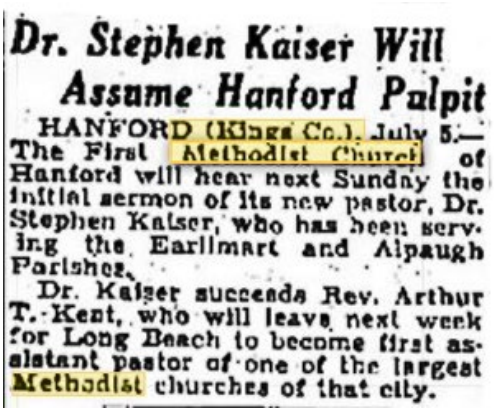
Ministers of the Church

Ministers of The Hanford First United Methodist Church

1877	JOHN McKELVEY	1931-32	ARTHUR.T. KENT
1878	A. BLAND	1934-36	STEPHEN L. KAISER
1879	J.W. LEACH	1936-39	ROBERT E. CORDELL
1880	J.R. GREGORY	1940-43	L.O. DABRITZ
1881	H.J. SHAFFER	1944-47	B.E. WEEKS
1882	J.R. CALLAWAY	1948-51	EDWARD SMITH, JR.
1883-84	O.S. FRAMBES	1952-53	J.E. ROBINSON
1885	J.R. GREGORY	1954-56	HARRY E. SHANER
1886-89	A.G. PARK	1957-62	ROBERT M. DeWOLF
1890	G.S. UMPLEBY	1963-65	DONALD H. FADO
1891	G.E. MORRISON	1966-67	FRED K. WILKEN
1892	P.H. BODKIN	1968	J. DOUGLAS EWAN
1893	O.S. FRAMBES	1968-69	C.C. VAN LEER
1894-95	W.L. MILLER	1969-70	OSCAR E. LINK
1896-99	G.A. MILLER	1971-72	CHARLES SILBERSTEIN
1900-02	W.A. BETTS	1973-80	DOYLE H. PORTER
1903-06	W.C. GEYER	7/1/1980 - 7/19/83	BROWN HIGGINBOTHAM[116]
1907-09	CHARLES WENTWORTH	11/6/1983 - 6/30/86	BILL BIRDSEY
1910-11	S.J. McCONNELL	7/1/1986 - 6/30/89	CHARLES TANNER-DORN
1912-15	W.C. LOOMIS	7/1/1989 - 6/30/97	PHILIP GREER
1916-17	W.W. HULL [117]	7/1/1997 - 6/30/98	H. RICHARD WHITE
1918-21	W.L. DEXTER	7/1/1998 - 6/30/00	NADINE R. M. GRAHAM
1922-25	L.V. LUCAS	7/1/2000 - 6/30/03	David Niu
1926-27	M.A. WIMBERLY	7/1/2003 – 6/30/08	Heather Bailes Baker
1928-29	A.F. GASSE	7/1/2008 – 6/30/15	Susan Foster
1929-30	L.R. BAYARD	7/1/2015 - 6/30/18	Cynthia Stateman
			Pablo Rovere

[116] Brown preached a sermon on how people will disappoint at some time in their lives. The Monday after the annual all-church picnic in July at Doug and Renee True's home, Brown packed up and moved to Bakersfield, leaving his wife LaVerne behind, abandoning his position as pastor.

[117] Hull was replaced because he was called into the Army as a chaplain when the U.S. entered World War I



Dr. Stephen Kaiser Will Assume Hanford Pulpit

HANFORD (Kings Co.), July 5.—The First Methodist Church of Hanford will hear next Sunday the initial sermon of its new pastor, Dr. Stephen Kaiser, who has been serving the Earlimart and Alpaugh Parishes.

Dr. Kaiser succeeds Rev. Arthur T. Kent, who will leave next week for Long Beach to become first assistant pastor of one of the largest Methodist churches of that city.

[118]

Chronology

In 1968, the Evangelical United Brethren and the Methodist Episcopal Church merged, to become the United Methodist Church. The merger apparently did not affect the Hanford Church, other than a name change.

John McKelvey

The June 1880 Census of Muscle Slough Township of Tulare County, (later renamed Lucerne) page 26, lists John McKelvey, age 48, which indicates he was born approximately 1832, occupation: minister. John is residing with his wife, Ada, age 38, occupation: keeping house. Also living with John and Ada is a daughter, Kate A., age 19, and two sons, H. Webster, age 16, and J. Addison, age 14. John McKelvey's place of birth is County Antrim, Ulster, in Northern Ireland. The birthplace of both John's father and mother is Scotland.

Great Register of Voters of Tulare County, California, lists John McKelvey, age 53, Country of Nativity: Ireland, Occupation: Minister, Residence: Hanford, naturalized with his father, date of voter registration: September 20, 1884.[119]

John McKelvey was beloved by all who knew him. He had spent several years in work within the bounds of the Southern California Conference and was a charter member of that conference. He died some years ago (prior to 1901).[120]

1954 to 1956 – Harry Shaner

[118] Fresno Bee, July 5, 1934

[119] Great Register of Voters of Tulare County, as of October 1, 1888, page 63, Genealogy Room, Tulare Public Library

[120] Fifty Years of Methodism A HISTORY OF THE Methodist Episcopal Church Within the Bounds of the California Annual Conference from 1847 to 1897 C. V. ANTHONY, A. N., D. D. PUBLISHED BY THE METHODIST BOOK CONCERN, 1037 Market St., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. 1901, page 195.

April 11, 2013 - Retired pastor Harry Shaner died on Thursday, April 11, 2013. He is survived by a son, Bryan Shaner, and by one grandchild. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, at 1:30 p.m., at the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church. The Rev. Ron Dunn will preside. Harry originally served in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference before transferring to California-Nevada in 1946. In this Conference, he served the Richmond: First, Lafayette, Hanford and Sunnyvale: First churches. Harry also served as Fresno District Superintendent; Director of the Conference Claimants Endowment Board; Executive Secretary of the Conference Board of Pensions and as Conference Treasurer before retiring in 1988. Memorial gifts may be sent to Hospice of the Valley, 4850 Union Avenue, San Jose, CA 95124; Africa University at www.support-africauniversity.org, or to the Necessitous Grants Fund at the Board of Pensions, 300 27th Street, Oakland, CA, 94612.[121]

1966 to 1967 - Fred Wilkin

Fred Wilkin and his wife had five children.

While at Hanford, Fred came up with the idea to lease two empty car dealership lots in Hanford, one for a Volkswagen and one for a Toyota dealership. Both buildings were owned by Dr DeCampos. Bob Jensen was President of the Administrative Board at the time, and when Dr. DeCampos called and inquired, Bob said the minister does not have the money for such a venture.

Later, the man who owned a restaurant on 10th Ave., closed it and opened the Vintage Press in Visalia. Fred came up with the idea of turning the building into a high school youth fellowship building. He wanted to deed the property into his name and not into the Methodist church's name. Bob Jensen replied to the property owner that it does not work that way. The land the church obtains has a provision that the Methodist Conference has ownership, not the pastor. That stopped that project.

While at Sanger Methodist Church, Fred had some ideas on how to stop the Viet Nam war. He was on the evening news, getting on a plane to Washington D.C. with a mission to tell President Lyndon Johnson how to end the war. [122]

While at Sanger UMC, Fred Wilkin was a speaker at a Kern County hearing, speaking in opposition to building a nuclear power plant near Wasco.[123]

1971 to 1972 – Charles Silberstein

Ellen Silberstein, surviving spouse of the Rev. Charles Silberstein, died on Tuesday, November 26, 2013. She is survived by two daughters, Jeannie Grider of Orangevale, and Evelyn Lutz of Napa; by four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The memorial service is planned for Saturday, December 7, at 10 a.m., at the Pioneer United Methodist Church in Auburn. The Rev.

[121] http://www.cnumc.org/obituaries/16271
[122] Personal conversation with Dorothy Jensen, May 15, 2019
[123] Bakersfield Californian, 'Kern not so sure now it approves nuclear power plant' July 26, 1976

Barbara Smith will preside. Charles Silberstein served the Elverta, Kelseyville, Byron, Dixon, Elmira, Carson Valley Parish, Hughson, Winnemucca, Patterson, Eureka, Corning, El Camino, Hanford, Galt, Ione, Escalon and Smith River before retiring in 1982. [124]

Date of Death: September 21, 2000, at Auburn, CA, Age: 83, 30 years in ministry [125]

1973 to 1980 – Doyle Porter

1980 to 1983 - Brown Higginbotham

At the 1980 All-Church conference, Rev. Higginbotham reported that membership is growing with present count of 290. Financial giving has almost doubled and program plans are exciting. Brown came from a background of being in construction. He made a mid-life transition to the ministry. While serving at Hanford, he received his full ordination as a minister in the Methodist Church. Brown gave his last sermon, with the theme of "even I will fail you." Then, without notice, on the week of the annual summer picnic at Doug and Renee True residence, he disappeared, left Hanford UMC, leaving his wife, LaVerne behind, in July 1983. Several months later he was found to be living in Bakersfield. Brown currently lives in Bakersfield and works in construction and in the ministry.

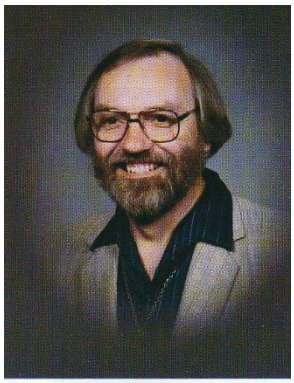
Brown and LaVerne Higginbotham, June 27, 1982

1983 to 1986 - Bill Birdsey

Bill and Heidi Birdsey made the move from Fallon UMC, Nevada in November 1983, to fill the void in the pulpit. Bill is remembered for being a carpenter. Whenever there was a work project, he would gladly be a part of the work crew. He was the last pastor to live in the Douty Street parsonage. Bill is currently retired and lives in Arizona.

[124] http://www.cnumc.org/obituaries/77824

[125] ://calnevada.s3.amazonaws.com/3130F24ACEE04FE5877040570F3C4004_2012_RollHonoredDead_092712.pdf



Charles A. Tanner-Dorn
Pastor

1986 to 1989 - Charlie Tanner-Dorn

Charlie came to us with an interesting background. He was formerly a Catholic priest serving parishes in Visalia, Tulare, and McFarland. After exploring his soul, Charlie decided he wanted to be married, and he left the priesthood. Later, he was received as a United Methodist Elder. Charlie later met and in due course wed Susan. He came to Hanford from Portola. It was during Charlie's time in the pulpit that he organized the lay reader program. It was also during this period that the Church sold its former parsonage on North Douty Street and purchased a new home for a parsonage on the southeast corner of Chestnut and Palm.

Charlie served as the pastor at San Pablo UMC, which is a Spanish language Hispanic church near Selma, and then Armona UMC. Susan was a fourth-grade teacher at Huron Elementary School. Charlie became extremely ill, and he and Susan moved to Clinton, Iowa in September 2007 to be near their children. Their daughter, Rainbow, is an accomplished marimba player and a vocalist.[126]

April 16, 2010 - Charles Tanner-Dorn died on Friday, April 16, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Susan Tanner-Dorn, who resides at 1201 Woodlawn Avenue, Clinton, IA 52732; by four children: Krista Othon and Eric Krenz, both of Clinton, IA, Rainbow Odell of Fresno, and Gloria Jones of Temecula, CA; and by six granddaughters. A memorial service was held on Thursday, April 22, at the First United Methodist Church in Clinton, Iowa. Charles Tanner-Dorn served the Portola, Hanford, Selma: San Pablo, and Armona churches. Memorial gifts may be sent to Hearts and Hands, First United Methodist Church, 621 S. Third Street, Clinton, IA 52732. [127]

Date of Death: April 16, 2010, Age 74, years in ministry: 19 [128]

1989 to 1997 - Philip Greer

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[126] Hanford Sentinel, Tanner-Dorn named to state band, February 25, 2000, pg. B1.
[127] http://www.cnumc.org/obituaries/16187
[128] ://calnevada.s3.amazonaws.com/3130F24ACEE04FE5877040570F3C4004_2012_RollHonoredDead_092712.pdf

Phil was made a probationary member of the California-Nevada Annual Conference in 1955. Phil came to Hanford from Carson City, Nevada. Dr. Greer has a doctoral degree from Northwestern University and minored in church administration and Christian education at Garrett Theological Seminary. Greer earned his master's in educational and vocational counseling from Wayne State University and pastoral counseling from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley. He also has taken graduate study in the psychology of religion at the University of Southern California and in psychology at California State University at Los Angeles. He received a bachelor's degree in pre-medicine/psychology at the University of California at Berkeley. He held a number of credentials, including a Ph.D. in psychology from University of California, Berkeley. He was a graduate Teaching Fellow at Garrett Theological Seminary, where he earned a minor in Adult Education and Small Group Ministry. His wife, Diane is a Registered Nurse. She was also active in the life of the church, as a pianist and accompanist. They have three children. At one time, Phil was the Chaplain for the Detroit Lions NFL football team. Phil was a member of the Hanford Rotary Club. He had a private psychology counseling practice. Dr. Greer retired from full time ministry when he left Hanford. He served longer than any other minister in Hanford church's history, a span of seven years. Phil and Diana are currently sort-of retired at Sparks, Nevada.

A comment that Phil made was that "Everywhere, I go I run into people who used to go this church, or whose parents used to go this church. Because our denomination is considered liberal by many, and this church has been served by some very liberal ministers, but exists in a conservative community, we have lost people over the years. In the last 25 years this church has shrunk to half of its peak size while the town has more than doubled in size."[129]

Philip C. Greer (1932-2012)

Reverend Dr. Philip C. Greer "Papa" peacefully left this earth on April 10, 2012 at home. He was Pastor of the Hanford First United Methodist Church from July 1989 through June 1997.Philip was born in Ames, Iowa to J. Wilbur and Gladys Greer on May 13, 1932. He graduated from Cal Berkeley, Pacific School of Religion, Wayne State and Northwestern with a bachelor's, two masters and a doctorate degree. He was a man who loved to both learn and teach. Phil's life led him to many different places and down many different paths. Throughout his life he worked in mental health, prison chaplaincies, youth authorities, managed a housing unit for mentally disabled, parish ministry and forest fire crew in Yosemite. Wherever his career led him, Phil showed compassion and attempted to make the lives of the people around him better. He was a very giving and kindhearted man, and those who knew him loved him dearly. Phil leaves behind his wonderful wife, Diana; brother Ken Greer; sons - Dr. Jon (Betina) Greer and Jeff (Julie) Smith; daughter Julie (Casey) Bassett; and 10 grandchildren. A funeral and celebration of life took place on April 14, 2012 in Sparks, NV. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at Hanford First United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington St., 559-584-4075. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Human Needs Department of the Sparks UMC, 1231 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431, 775-358-0925
Rest in Peace Papa. We Love You Always!! [130]

[129] The Methodist Messenger, May 1992.
[130] Hanford Sentinel, May 17, 2012

April 10, 2012 - Retired pastor the Rev. Philip Greer died on Tuesday, April 10, 2012. Survivors include his wife, Diana; two sons, Jonathan Greer of Riverside, California and Jeff Smith of Sparks, Nevada; one daughter, Julie Bassett of Sparks; and ten grandchildren. The memorial service has been scheduled for Saturday, April 14 at 10 a.m., at the Sparks United Methodist Church. The Revs. Thomas Butler and Karla Bowman will preside. Philip Greer served the Valley Springs, LeGrand, Merced, Schurz, and Hanford churches before retiring in 1997. Memorial gifts may be sent to Sparks UMC, 1231 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431, designated for either human needs or Christian education.[131]

Place of Death: Sparks, Nevada, age 80, 42 years in ministry [132]

1997 to 1998 Richard White

Richard earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Montana. In 1974 he graduated from Garrett Theological Seminary, located on the campus of Northwestern University, in Evanston, Illinois. His move to Hanford returned him to his affiliation with the church's California-Nevada Conference.[133] The Fresno district superintendent was asked to assign Richard, because of the Fresno District's proximity to Los Angeles. His wife, Velma and youngest son, Khalfani, lived in their home in Bell Aire, in Southern California, and Richard commuted to visit them on his days off. He is remembered for having a strong altar call at the conclusion of every sermon. Since leaving Hanford, Richard has served as pastor at the United Methodist churches at Delano and Dos Palos.

1999 to 2000 - Nadine Graham

A native or Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Nadine has a bachelor's degree in English and history from the University of Guelph in Canada. She came to the U.S. to pursue a graduate degree in creative writing at the University of Tulsa in Oklahoma. She left after a year to explore interests in music and photography. She spent a summer in Europe and studied French at the University of Strasborug. She has a master's in divinity from the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley. She received here elder's orders at the California-Nevada Annual Conference in Sacramento in June 1999. She describes herself as "a preacher who enjoys walking with others in our journey of faith."[134]

[131] http://www.cnumc.org/obituaries/16244
[132]://calnevada.s3.amazonaws.com/3130F24ACEE04FE5877040570F3C4004_2012_RollHonoredDead_092712.pdf
[133] Pastor's move not always easy, Hanford Sentinel, by Amy Roberts, January 31, 1998, pages 10-11.
[134] New pastor brings a fresh perspective, Hanford Sentinel, by Pat Browning, August 15, 1998, pg. 8.

2003 to 2008 - Heather Bales

Facebook photo
September 2019

By Wendy E. Arevalo
Hanford Sentinel
May 31, 2008

In addition to leading a 142-member church, pastor Heather Bailes has helped build a house for a family in need, been a comforter to the sick and grieving and officiating at multiple funerals and weddings. But her time in Hanford has come to an end. The First United Methodist Church pastor will give her last sermon on June 8. She is moving on to her next appointment as pastor of Faith United Methodist Church in Chicopee, Mass. Bailes, who recently gave birth to a daughter, Eleanor, said the decision to move to Massachusetts has a lot to do with being closer to her child's grandparents. "I'm going to be a lot closer to my family and to my husband's family, so I'm looking forward to seeing them more often and them being a part of my daughter's life," said Bailes, 29, who has family in western New York and West Virginia. She said she has grown tremendously since she started preaching at First United Methodist Church five years ago. "Coming as a student fresh out of seminary, I've learned so much in the last five years," Bailes said. The church has been so gracious to me to give me the space to learn. They have been just amazing. I really can't say enough good things about the church." Longtime church member Peggy Gregory had only good things to say about her, as well. "She's an engaging preacher," Gregory said. "She is particularly skilled at preaching and has brought new ideas to the church. She challenged us to reach out to other people." In addition to her normal church duties, which include preaching two weekly services, visiting the sick, counseling church members and performing funerals and weddings, she was also active in the community. One of the community projects she played a huge part in was the completion of the first Habitat for Humanity house in Hanford. She and her husband, Sam Baker, were involved in the house project from start to finish,

Gregory said. "She was really the spark that got it going," said Gregory. "She helped fundraise and organize the whole Habitat group…she was very involved in all the various phases." In her free time, she also served as chaplain to the Hanford Police Department, delivering death notifications, providing support to police officers and the community. Replacing Bailes will be another female pastor, Susan Foster, who comes from a Methodist congregation in Bakersfield. She will preach her first sermon at First United Methodist Church on July 1.[135]

Roy and Delfa Randles at the ceremony handing over the keys to the family awarded the Hanford Habitat for Humanity build house

2008 to 2015 - Susan Foster

First Methodist welcomes new pastor[136]

By Eiji Yamashita, The Hanford Sentinel,
August 2, 2008

Susan Foster didn't always see spiritual leadership as her career. As a pastor's kid, Foster said she grew up watching her father work and getting to know the good, the bad and the ugly of the ministry work. This wasn't the role she planned for herself when she was younger. "When I was most honest with myself, I heard a call to ministry as a teenager. But I fought it to the nail," said Foster, the new pastor of First Methodist Church in Hanford, in a recent interview. "It was really hard for me as a teenager to think that I should be doing that." So, in college, Foster majored in biology and environmental science. After college, she spent two years as a missionary in the United States. Then she worked for a hotel in San Francisco. But looking back in life, she says, there were signs of a religious vocational call all along.

For example, Foster recalls one time in college when her philosophy class, religion class and cell physiology class all covered the single topic of the origin of life in the same week. "Then I was beginning to be able to admit to myself through conversations with friends that I was hearing this call to ministry, but realizing that I was not at all ready," she added. "That's why I took the missionary work." But Foster still came back in denial. She took a job as executive secretary for Handlery Hotel. "I realized one day that the work I was doing there was ministry," Foster said.

[135] Bailes to leave First United Methodist Church, Hanford Sentinel, Wendy E. Arevalo, May 31, 2008, pg. B7.
[136] First Methodist welcomes new pastor, Eiji Yamashita, Hanford Sentinel, August 2, 2008, pages B6-B7.

'If God was going to put me in a place with a ministry there, I could trust that I was going to be in a fruitful place with a ministry if I said yes to the seminary and yes to be a pastor." She sums up her experience: "God is nothing if not persistent." After attending high school in Paradise, she went to the University of San Francisco. She then spent two years in the United Methodist Church's missionary program. She graduated from Pacific School for Religion in Berkeley in 2005. A few unpacked boxes still mark her office at the downtown Redington Street church – a sigh that she's been busy settling in at her new job. Foster was officially installed July 1 as pastor at First Methodist Church of Hanford to replace the previous pastor, Heather Bailes. This is her second pastoral appointment since she was ordained three years ago. Her previous appointment was in Bakersfield. Foster is getting to know a lot of people – with 145 members, First Methodist Church has a lot of faces for her to remember. And she's getting herself familiar with what many would call the DNA of the church – traditions and people dynamics that make each church unique. "One of the greatest strengths is their connection to each other. What I have sensed in them is deep caring about each other," Foster said. "Another strength is developing relationships with young people. We are working on ways for us to learn from them and for them to learn from us." Foster comes from a line of Methodist church leaders. Her father, John Foster, served as a pastor all over the state before he retired. Her older sister, Ginger Foster, is now a pastor in Mariposa. Susan Foster says she finds her church in Hanford unique because people come from diverse walks of life. Foster, who has gone through her own share of a unique journey of faith, may have to lot to offer in the community. "I think any church is made unique by the people in it," Foster said. "This church is unique because it holds a wide variety of people – from youth to grown-ups as well as people who are in various places in their own faith and life journeys." Foster describes her pastoral style as defined by "relationship." She likes to listen to people and help them make sense of their life experiences in the context of their faith. "My pasturing style is based on relationship." Foster said. I try to hear people's stories and help people put their stories in perspective with a gospel and in perspective with who we area as a community. One of my big strengths is to hear people's stories and know them more by their stories than by their names."

In the 2011-2012 school year, Susan brought a wonderful young lady to us, by hosting a foreign exchange student, Natasha Makaruva, from Russia.

In the spring of 2015, Susan was asked by the Conference to take the appointment at St. Paul's UMC in Reno. This seemed a good fit because Susan was the legal guardian of her parents, who lived near North Lake Tahoe. The following year, her parents moved into an assisted living facility near her home in Reno.

KC Spotlight Susan Foster

Photo credit: Apolinar Fonseca, The Sentinel

Susan Foster, pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Hanford, is also a chaplain for the Hanford Police Department.

December 27, 2014 Complied by Shannon Williams Staff reporter, The Hanford Sentinel

Bio

- Name: Susan Foster
- Hometown: Paradise, Calif.
- Occupation: Pastor, First United Methodist Church & Chaplain, Hanford Police Department
- Age:40
- Education: Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology, minor in Environmental Science from the University of San Francisco, 1996 and Master's of Divinity degree, Pacific School of Religion, 2005
- Family: Single

Question: What is your background?

Answer: I was born while my father was the United Methodist Pastor in Delano. I went to school in Rohnert Park (near Santa Rosa) and Paradise (near Chico). My mom was a teacher. I am the youngest of three. My older sister is also a United Methodist Pastor. I was a missionary for the United Methodist Church, serving in a community center in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania for two years after college. After returning to California I worked for Handlery Hotels, Inc. in San Francisco before going to seminary and entering full time pastoral ministry. I served a church in Bakersfield before I came here.

Q: How did you get started in your career?

A: When I was appointed to serve the First United Methodist Church here in Hanford my predecessor was a good friend and I knew that she had been volunteering with the police department. She asked if I would be interested. I said yes! After filling out an application, meeting with Chaplain Andy Abbas and Chief Mestas, and passing a background check, I was officially made a chaplain for the Hanford Police Department on Dec. 24, 2008.

Q: What does a chaplain do?

A: Our police officers are often present in some of the most stressful and unexpected moments of people's lives. These moments include sudden deaths, domestic disputes, accidents, and child abuse, just to name a few. It is the privilege of police chaplains to respond when our presence will help the officers more fully meet the needs of those they are serving in these moments. Police chaplains offer comfort, and support in the midst of whatever is happening. The form that this takes varies from situation to situation. I can listen to the stories of a distraught spouse or I distract children in the home, so questions can be answered. Other times I am the one who is delivering sad news. Sometimes I offer a prayer and other times silence. I also work to help those effected reach out to their communities of faith and to their friends and family.

Police chaplains also care about and for the officers, dispatchers and all other members of the police department. I spend time riding along with police officers, getting to know them and allowing them to know me. I hang out with the dispatchers between the incoming calls. I check in with other members of the police department too. In these conversations and moments, I seek to mitigate in whatever way I can the stress that comes with serving our community.

As a police chaplain, I have also assisted with Every 15 Minute events at local high schools, given invocations at community events and helped collect toys with the SWAT team.

Q: What would surprise people most about your job?

A: Each December, with the help of many volunteers, mainly from Lakeside Community Church and First United Methodist Church, the chaplains organize and host the Hanford Police Department Christmas Party.

We invite the entire police department and their families to this event. It is one of the highlights of the Christmas season for me.

Q: What do you like to do outside of work?

A: I love to travel. I read mystery novels. I enjoy live theater and music.

Q: Who is your hero and why?

A: Andy Abbas, chaplain and pastor. When I joined the police chaplaincy, Andy welcomed me with great enthusiasm. Ninety-nine percent of what I know about being a police chaplain I learned from Andy. His passion for the Hanford Police Department and for the people of Hanford was awe-inspiring. He gave many hours, often in the middle of the night to hear stories, give advice and just be with officers and staff. I miss him.

Q: What is something most people don’t know about you?

A: I like to bake pies, but I don't like to eat pie.

Q: What advice would you give someone just entering the field?

A: You don't have to have all the answers. Be ready to be challenged and to grow from your experiences with others.[137]

New Minister at United Methodist church in Hanford

New Pastor Cynthia Stateman stands outside the First United Methodist Church in Hanford on Thursday afternoon.

August 22, 2015 • By Mike Hazelwood For the Hanford Sentinel

Cynthia Stateman knows adventure. She spent seven months in Africa, for example, from Cape Town to Cairo. She has also worked extensively in the field of conflict management, consulting with cities, school districts and other entities with civil unrest. But she'd never thought life would lead to her latest adventure. She never thought she'd be a pastor. "Absolutely not," Stateman said with a laugh. "I was not cut out for ministry." Stateman is the new pastor at Hanford First United Methodist Church. She took over July 1, leading the church of 70 or so members. "[Hanford UMC] has a great history of being there for the community," Stateman, 63, said. "My objective is to help the church really listen to how God is moving in their midst." Born in West Virginia, Stateman soon found herself growing up in Southern California. College took her to Northern California, and eventually into her conflict management career. That career once brought her to Porterville in the late '70s and early '80s, where she consulted to help ease tensions between a growing Hispanic community and the public school system. Eventually she enrolled in classes to become a licensed chaplain, which would help her work in jails and prisons. Still. ministry wasn't on her mind. But a classmate brought Stateman into the adventure of a lifetime. She recommended Stateman to a small church in

[137] Hanford Sentinel, December 27, 2014 page B1

Colorado, within a tiny community of about 400 people. The congregation needed a pastor for the summer, to help survive a wave of infighting. Stateman agreed to take a phone call from the church. “It turned out my ego needed work, because if you flatter me, I start to believe it,” she said with a laugh. The flat pay was $1,000 for the summer. She took the job, but caught second thoughts while driving through Nevada. She cried herself to sleep, promising herself that she would wake up, call the church and back out. Instead, she spoke to God. And, she said, He spoke back. “I dried my tears and said, ‘Tell me what to do.’ God’s response was, ‘Good girl.’ ” She took the job, excelled and later found herself enrolled in seminary. As it turned out … “I had been preparing for [ministry] all my life,” she said. “My role was bringing people together, bringing new understandings.” She has been a pastor since 2000, with her longest stay being in Quincy for 11 years. Now she’s in Hanford, where she loves the food but is not too fond of all the flat land. She was appointed by national church leaders to replace Susan Foster, who had served for seven years in Hanford. Foster is now pastor at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church in Reno, Nev. As with most pastoral appointments, Stateman doesn’t know how long she’ll be in Hanford. But as she settles into her latest adventure, she said she looks out over a church with a strong collective heart and affinity for bettering the community. “There’s so much room to grow, so much potential,” she said.[138]

In July 2018, Cynthia was reassigned to Newcastle United Methodist Church. Cynthia retired from ministry at the Annual Conference in June 2019.

July 2018 – Pablo Rovere

Eleven members of Hanford UMC traveled to the California-Pacific Annual Conference at the University of Redlands on June 15, 2019, to join in the celebration of Pastor Pablo being ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church.

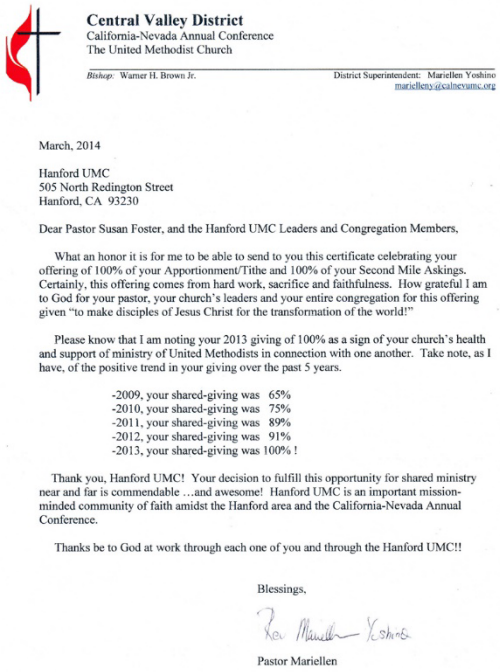
[138] Hanford Sentinel, August 21, 2015

Chapter 7

ACTIVITIES, PROJECTS AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Apportionments

The California-Nevada Annual Conference of
The United Methodist Church
Celebrates
With
HANFORD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
The payment of
100% of Apportionments and Second Mile Giving
in the year 2013
Resident Bishop
District Superintendent
Conference Treasurer
Date


Central Valley District
California-Nevada Annual Conference
The United Methodist Church

Bishop: Warner H. Brown Jr.
District Superintendent: Mariellen Yoshino
mariellenv@calnevumc.org

March, 2014

Hanford UMC
505 North Redington Street
Hanford, CA 93230

Dear Pastor Susan Foster, and the Hanford UMC Leaders and Congregation Members,

What an honor it is for me to be able to send to you this certificate celebrating your offering of 100% of your Apportionment/Tithe and 100% of your Second Mile Askings. Certainly, this offering comes from hard work, sacrifice and faithfulness. How grateful I am to God for your pastor, your church's leaders and your entire congregation for this offering given "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!"

Please know that I am noting your 2013 giving of 100% as a sign of your church's health and support of ministry of United Methodists in connection with one another. Take note, as I have, of the positive trend in your giving over the past 5 years.

-2009, your shared-giving was 65%
-2010, your shared-giving was 75%
-2011, your shared-giving was 89%
-2012, your shared-giving was 91%
-2013, your shared-giving was 100% !

Thank you, Hanford UMC! Your decision to fulfill this opportunity for shared ministry near and far is commendable …and awesome! Hanford UMC is an important mission-minded community of faith amidst the Hanford area and the California-Nevada Annual Conference.

Thanks be to God at work through each one of you and through the Hanford UMC!!

Blessings,

Pastor Mariellen

100% TITHE PAYMENTS &
SECOND MILE GIVING
2017
In recognition of:
Hanford UMC
Bishop Minerva Carcaño
District Superintendent
Executive Director of Finance and Administration

Church paid 10% Apportionments plus an additional 1% for the District giving.

Endowment Fund

Some in our congregation may not be aware of our endowment fund and many may not understand how it is administered or just how we use the income from it to fund grants through our Available Program Fund to provide for the needs of our church beyond what is provided by our general fund. Our major endowment, held in an account called the Undesignated Gift Investment Fund, was initially funded in 2002 by a gift from the estate of Millie Kraft. It was approximately $500,000. Just recently it was supplemented by a gift from the estate of Amanda Wiles in 2014 of approximately $150,000. This represents 80% of the gifts. The remaining 20% went directly into the Available Program Fund to fund immediate needs through our grant program. The endowment funds are invested with the California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation. They are overseen by our Undesignated Gift Committee which is advisory to our Ministry Support Team.

The committee and the funds are governed by a policy document that was developed and approved at our church conference on November 27, 2007. The goal is to maintain the principal investment and be able to continue to fund projects from the growth of the investments for years to come.

Each year we take five percent of the previous year-end balance and place it in our Available Program Fund. Appropriate groups from our church are then invited to apply for grants to fund special needs, programs and other worthwhile projects that we would otherwise not be able to afford. Because of theses generous gifts, our Available Program Fund has been able to accomplish the following, as of the first quarter of 2015:

Misc. Programs	$3,976
Missions	$4,500
Staffing	$11,681
Advertising	$15,089
Youth Programs	$16,692
Worship	$27,475
General Fund	$35,000
Equipment & Furniture	$38,622
Apportionments	$55,277
Buildings & Repairs	$123,489
TOTAL	$331,801

The following chart is a summary of Available Program Funds over the period from 2002 to 2018.

AVAILABLE PROGRAM FUND GRANTS SINCE 2002

Non-budgeted apportionments	$55,277	$55,277	Apportionments
UMW Funerals	$1,000		Other Programs
Financial Peace University	$2,000		Other Programs
2017 Program Grant	$10,000		Other Programs
Laity Training	$340		Other Programs
Spiritual Growth for VB	$636	$13,976	Other Programs
Copy Machine	$6,000		Equipment & Furniture
Furniture	$4,344		Equipment & Furniture
Media Equip. Lease	$12,386		Equipment & Furniture
Nursery Pagers	$892		Equipment & Furniture
Security cameras	$3,000		Equipment & Furniture
Sound System Grant	$12,000	$38,622	Equipment & Furniture
General Fund Gap	$45,000	$45,000	General Fund
Habitat for Humanity	$2,500		Missions
Laundry Love	$6,000		Missions
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	$700		Missions
VIM Grant	$1,000	$10,200	Missions
Outreach-advertising	$15,089	$15,089	Advertising
Handicapped Restrooms	$40,406		Buildings & Repairs
Door Panic Hardware	$1,207		Buildings & Repairs
Electrical Panel	$9,894		Buildings & Repairs
Trustee Maintenance	$37,000		Buildings & Repairs
Roof resealing 2015	$6,300		Buildings & Repairs
Electrical Upgrades	$17,587		Buildings & Repairs
Light Fixtures	$1,635		Buildings & Repairs
Parsonage Repairs	$5,000		Buildings & Repairs
Sanctuary Wall Inspection	$2,000		Buildings & Repairs
Organ Pipes	$2,000		Buildings & Repairs
Sound System Grant	$1,000		Buildings & Repairs
Security Gates	$6,000		Buildings & Repairs
Vandalism Repairs	$760	$130,789	Buildings & Repairs
Staff Training	$160		Staffing
Congregational care minister	$3,120		Staffing
Youth Leader	$8,401	$11,681	Staffing
Drums	$500		Worship
living water	$26,975	$27,475	Worship
Children's ministry/VBS	$10,694		Youth Program
Youth Camping	$5,998	$16,692	Youth Program
	$364,801	$364,801	

SUMMARY	
Misc Programs	$13,967
Missions	$10,200
Staffing	$11,681
Advertising	$15,089
Youth Program	$16,692
Worship	$27,475
General Fund	$45,000
Equipment & Fur	$38,622
Apportionments	$55,277
Buildings & Repa	$130,789
	$364,792

Anyone who would like to learn more about our endowment funds, would like to contribute to the fund or would consider our endowment fund in your estate plan, please contact one of the members of the committee. A brochure providing more information is also available in the hallway or from the church office. [139][140]

[139]

[140] The Methodist Messenger, May 2015, page 4

Sanctuary Sound and Projection System

After five years of planning, most of the electronics and hardware for the new sanctuary sound projection system was installed by volunteers on October 4 and 5, 2019 and was used for the first-time during worship service on October 6. John Brawn donated his time and expertise with multiple trips from the bay area to design and direct the installation the equipment, including donating a lift to get to the top of the sanctuary. Components includes a new projection screen, projector, and speaker. The new custom console cabinet, built by Pyramid Systems of Hanford, is located at the rear of the sanctuary. Sound technicians will no longer be in the balcony. We are blessed by a wonderful new sanctuary system upgrade, as an enhancement to our worship service.

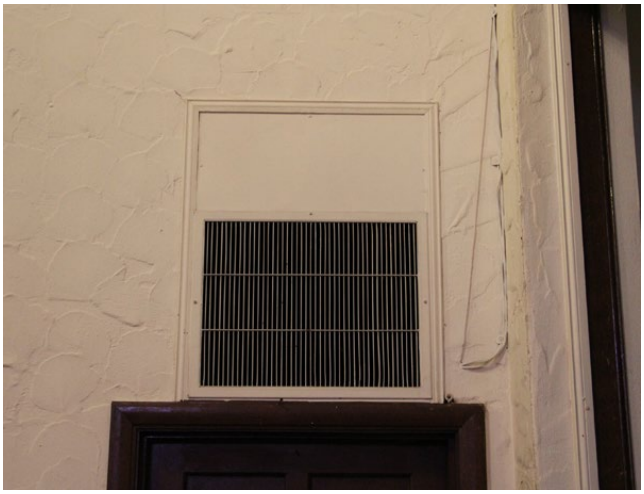
Air Conditioning

Many members can remember the warm sanctuary during the summer months. The occasional stain on the backs of the pews is testimony to the perspiration during an afternoon or evening event in the sanctuary during the hot summer months. The church services were moved up to an earlier time during the summer so the temperature in the sanctuary would be more comfortable and the swamp coolers could provide a reasonable degree of comfort.

The summer of 1967(?), my mother was in charge of the flowers for July. One Sunday, a woman had donated lilacs for the front of the church. My mother, not being very artistic always had me do her artwork. On this particular Sunday, my mother wanted to add something to the lilacs and it just so happened there were these bright white flowers in the empty lot next to our house, so she had me cut some of them for the arrangement. I didn't think it was a good idea and told my mother so. She had me use the white flowers anyway. At the church, I had just enough flowers for one large vase right in the middle of the dais. The lilac branches standing tall in the back and the beautiful white flowers in the front. By the time people arrived for service, it was already warm in the church. No one would sit in the front 3 pews of the church. Rev. Wilkins and the choir nearly died. The sweet, sweet scent of the lilacs and the savory scent of the garlic nearly killed them all. It didn't help that the swamp coolers were right up front blowing that air around. Of

course, my mother's name was in the program as the flower arranger of the month. I never saw her so embarrassed as that day sitting in church. [141]

One of two locations in front of the sanctuary were swamp cooler air entered the sanctuary. Sheet metal was converted to air conditioning return in 1994.



In 1994, air conditioning and heating were installed in the sanctuary. This was mostly purchased by a special fund drive. The capacity of the air conditioning was limited to what could be added to the 200-amp electrical panel usage, plus the desire not to have external ducting on the exterior walls to detract from the visual appearance of the exterior of the sanctuary. Since the installation in 1994, the Sunday morning service has remained at 10:30 year around.

Exterior Painting

The wood trim on the sanctuary building takes a beating from direct sunlight over the years. There was a unanimous agreement that the wood trim needed painting. However, there was a fear of a cage fight about the color. Should it be bold or plain vanilla color? A decision had to be made one Sunday following church in February 2020, when the contractor, Porter Paint, needed to know for Monday morning, for the workers had stripped and primed the wood. The decision was to go bold.

[141] Email from Caralee Stevens, Lew and Ellen Frasieur's daughter, April 16, 2019

Boy Scouts

Boy Scouts of America was incorporated on February 8, 1910. Scouting was officially recognized by the Methodist Episcopal Church in February 1920. Today 3,111 United Methodist congregations charter 9,611 Scout units serving 309,797 young people. United Methodist churches provide a home base for more Scouts than any other denomination in America. The UMC designates the second Sunday in February for Boy Scouts of America.[142]

The Hanford United Methodist Church has been the supporter and sponsor Boy Scout Troop 400, Cub Scout Pack 400 and, at one time, an eagle scout troop since about 1956, when the sponsorship was transferred from the Lions Club. The current charter for the boy scouts was started by Tom

[142] February 7, 2020, http://www.gcumm.org/news/happy-100th-birthday-to-methodist-scouting

Meyer, a member of our church, in 1992 and the cub scout pack in 1993. The liaison is handled through the United Methodist Men. The church lets the scouting program have two of the upstairs classrooms in the education building, free of charge, for their weekly meetings and storage of their equipment. Founders' Hall is available to the scouts for their special events. Both through the troop and pack are affiliated with Boy Scouts of America and are part of the Sequoia Council. The difference in two different programs is the age levels. The cub scouts offer programs for boys in the first through sixth grade. Boy scouts are in the sixth grade through 12th grade or age 18. The cub scout pack has had up to 45 boys. The boy scout troop has had up to 20 boys. There are a variety of activities for the young men during the course of the 12-month program. Meetings are on a weekly basis. Cub Scouts meetings are divided up by age levels, and the different groups meet several nights a week. The boy scouts meet on Tuesday nights. There is a scout Sunday in the first or second Sunday in February. The cub scouts have a project of maintaining the pencils in the pews. Nina Gibson has been a long time Cub Master. New boys are recruited from school orientations and flyers.

Boy Scouts History

In proud tradition, Boy Scout members kicked off our worship service February 13, 2005, by posting the U.S., Christian and Boy Scout flags at the front of the sanctuary and led the American flag salute in honor of Boy Scout Sunday. In full uniform boasting many merit badges, a contingent lined the east aisle to be introduced as "our" troop – marking a relationship of more than 50 years of local existence. But never let it be said the group has not been ecumenical. Dr. Robert "Bob" Jensen, who to this day periodic reunions and hikes in the mountains with some of those early Scouts, traced their history. Early in the spring of 1957, the Hanford Lions Club decided to sponsor a Boy Scout Troop. Grant Potter, Hanford city engineer and a Roman Catholic, served as committee chairman. Gene Palmer, a representative of the Poultry Producers Association and a Baptist, was the Scoutmaster. Jensen was named institutional representative. "We began meeting in the basement of the Veterans Memorial Building (now the Veterans/Senior Building) next to the Civic Auditorium. With 30 boys in a fairly small room with cement walls, floor and ceiling, the noise was deafening," he vividly remembers. They began looking for better meeting quarters. "The old social hall at our church, equipped with an indoor basketball court and a grassy area between the church and parsonage, was so inviting," Bob said. He gained permission from the official board and the troop began meeting there. The next year, when the troop was re-registered, the church became the sponsoring institution. Soon a Cub Scout pack was started and our Robert Speck was Cubmaster. In late 1960 or early 1961, Charlie Bopp and family moved to Hanford. Charlie was a petroleum engineer for Caminol Oil Co., and a Methodist. He wanted an Explorer Post for his high School-aged son. He was full of wonderful ideas. About this time, Gilbert Veach, a former Scoutmaster from Madera, moved to Hanford and became the church's institutional representative and Jensen started working with the Explorer Scouts. Bopp, Jensen and the Explorers would plan a year-long program in August. "We would hike one weekend a month in the mountains and take a week-long hike in late July (covering one-third or so of the Muir Trail). We hiked 250 to 300 miles a year," Jensen said. About this time, Jack Card was busy with the Scouts, together with Russell Finney, the Scoutmaster, and assistant Clement Wyand. When Bopp moved to El Segundo to work for Standard Oil, Robert Mitchell, a Presbyterian and employee of Armstrong Rubber co., became the Explorer advisor. About a year later he was transferred back to Connecticut. At that point, Hanford High School Principal Earl Johnson, a

Methodist, stepped in as advisor for the Explorers, followed by Gerald Echols, a Baptist. "About 1974-75, 'my boss' – wife Dorothy – felt it was time for me to take our own kids into the mountains more often," Jensen chuckles. William Buford took over the Explorers for a year before they finally folded. But the Boy Scouts and Cubs have lived on. The former high school age Explorers now are middle-aged adults themselves. For a 40-year reunion in 2002 with Jensen, "six of us went to Monarch Lakes above Mineral King. For the 41st anniversary, eight of us hiked to Lake Ediza under the Minarets. On the 42nd anniversary reunion last September, nine of us went into Glen Aulin north of Tuolumne Meadows," reports Jensen. "We haven't decided where to go on our 43rd anniversary this September," he adds. "The kids now are in their late 50s and I'm a little older…. Also, the trails are a little steeper. But the spirit of Scouting and the friendship is unabated." [143]

In 1992, Jerry Jones, a member of Lemoore UMC, joined some rather select company when he was presented a Silver Beaver, the highest honor volunteer Scouters can achieve. The 54-year-old Jones, who spent only two years in Boy Scouts himself, has spent the last 31 years as an adult leader for Lemoore Boy Scout Troop 80, later to become Troop 480. This is a reflection of Methodism's' commitment to supporting the Boy Scout organization.[144]

HEIDI HUBER / THE FRESNO BEE

Hanford optometrist Dr. Robert Jensen, 79, still goes into the office every day and hikes much of Yosemite with original members of his troop.

Mountain trail reunion

Almost 80, not only is Robert Jensen still hiking, his 'kids' still join him 46 years later.

By Erik Lacayo / The Fresno Bee

10/05/07 22:51:58

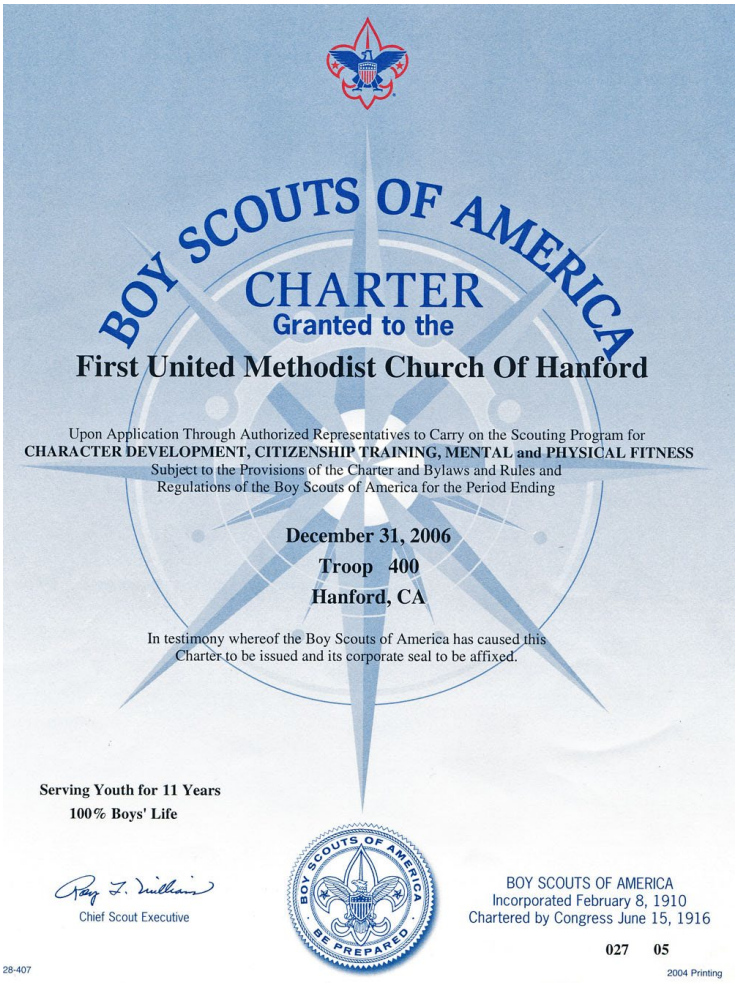
Starting in 1961, Hanford optometrist Robert Jensen began taking a group of Scouts on Sierra hikes. Forty-six years later, they're still at it. Jensen, nearing his 80th birthday, still refers to the members of that 1960s Explorer post as "kids," and they simply call him "Doc." Those kids have

[143] The Methodist Messenger, March 2005

[144] Hanford Sentinel, February 4, 2017, Looking back in Lemoore, 25 years ago, page B1.

grown into a state government official, a university department head, a doctor, a dentist, an official at the Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco and a local school administrator. Six years ago, Jensen longed for another hike with the group and asked one of them to get the band back together after 40 years. "I was lonesome for them," the soft-spoken Jensen said. "We were good friends." Now Jensen is at the center of the group again as they meet once a year to hike and talk about the past. Many of the former Scouts say it was easy for them to reunite after so long because of their respect for the mentor who led them on many life-altering mountain adventures. "He was a great role model," said Hal Bopp, 61, now the oil and gas supervisor for the California Department of Conservation. Bopp and five other former Scouts from Explorer Post 400 reunited with Jensen in September and hiked about eight miles to Cathedral Lakes in Yosemite National Park. "We enjoy the company," said Dr. Len Brothers, 62, a dentist in the San Jose area. "It's a way of honoring Doc, too." Jensen was an adult leader in the group, which formed in 1961 and regularly made nature hikes in preparation for its annual backpacking trips on the John Muir Trail. "We've covered the whole area," Jensen said. "From Mineral King to Yosemite, we've been there." At this year's reunion in Yosemite, the former Scouts camped in Tuolumne Meadows with spouses, children and other family m embers. Most slept in tents, but Jensen refused to compromise with his age and slept under the stars when temperatures dipped below 20 degrees. "It's like he's stuck in a time warp," Said Lester Brothers, Len's twin and chair of the Music Department at the University of Central Missouri. Jensen is an old=school hiker. Not much has changed about him since Explorer Post 400's inception, group members say. Instead of modern acrylic fabric that keeps hikers dry and warm, he prefers jeans, a denim shirt and cotton socks. "That's what we wore 40 years ago." Lester Brothers said. A comparison of photos from memorable past hikes and photos taken this year in Yosemite shows one constant – Jensen's green brim hat. "I've gotten a lot of miles out of that hat," Jensen said. "It's not like shoes." Jensen even stubbornly holds on to hiking shoes too long. Several years ago, the group made him buy a new pair when they discovered Jensen's shoes had holes in them. Lester Brothers said. "He never complains," Brothers said. "He's a man of few words." These days, Jensen doesn't' get up to the mountains that he loves that often. He admits that he's slower and must go on shorter and less strenuous hikes. For Jensen, the reunion hikes aren't about conquering rough terrain and surviving the elements. It's about sharing stories and spending time with friends. "We're getting older, and the mountains are getting steeper," said Jensen, who turns 80 on Oct. 14. Jensen moved to Hanford in 1952 and started his optometry practice, where he still shows up to work every day around 6 a.m. He developed his love for the outdoors growing up in Minnesota, where he regularly hiked and went fishing, Jensen said. He decided to volunteer with the Explorer post in 1961 because "it sounded like fun." That decision resulted in a lifetime of memories for a group of boys who say they grew up into men on those trips through the Sierra. "Naturally, when you go out to the wilderness, we're going to have some adventures," said Tim DeWolf, 61 who manages the research library at the Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco. "We fled we accomplished something that was a stretch for us." Some adventures didn't go as planned. On one hike, and adult leader had to be airlifted out because of a potassium imbalance, DeWolf said. "We all kept going," DeWolf said. "If Doc didn't tell us to keep going, we wouldn't have made it." On another hike, one Scout wandered away from the group and was lost north of Shaver Lake for two days. Rescue parties searched for the boy, who was found unharmed. The story made the front page of The Bee on Jan. 28, 1963. "We were just absolutely freaked out," DeWolf said. But those mishaps didn't deter the group from future hikes. Jensen taught them not to give up, many former Scouts said. And be prepared. Jensen said he always carries his tattered old Starr's Guide that he bought for $2 in 1962. With that guide, Jensen

said, he can't get lost on the John Muir Trail. Dr. Bill DeWolf, 59, Tim's younger brother and a physician in Oakland, said his mentor still remains a role model to this day. "I could never keep up with him,' he said. "Now that he's 80, I can almost keep up with him." Lester Brothers, who flies across the country for the reunion every year, said he doesn't know how long the tradition will last. He said he hopes the hikes will continue even after Jensen no longer can participate. "It's so rare in our lives that we get to honor people that have influenced us," he said. Time DeWolf said he'll always remember one very important piece of advice. "Doc tells us not to get old." [145]



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

CHARTER

Granted to the

First United Methodist Church Of Hanford

Upon Application Through Authorized Representatives to Carry on the Scouting Program for
CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT, CITIZENSHIP TRAINING, MENTAL and PHYSICAL FITNESS
Subject to the Provisions of the Charter and Bylaws and Rules and
Regulations of the Boy Scouts of America for the Period Ending

December 31, 2006
Troop 400
Hanford, CA

In testimony whereof the Boy Scouts of America has caused this
Charter to be issued and its corporate seal to be affixed.

Serving Youth for 11 Years
100% Boys' Life

Chief Scout Executive

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
Incorporated February 8, 1910
Chartered by Congress June 15, 1916

027 05

28-407

2004 Printing

[145] Fresno Bee, October 5, 2007

Cub Scouts blasted off with Space Derby

PARKER BOWMAN

Members of Cub Scout Pack 400 cheered the racers on at the inaugural Space Derby in Hanford.

By Parker Bowman

Ground control to Major Scout.

In a scene that could have been set to David Bowie's "Space Oddity," Cub Scout Pack 400 held its inaugural Space Derby in May.

The Space Derby is similar to the Pinewood Derby that is synonymous with scouts, but more three-dimensional — literally.

"They're pretty creative," Pack 400 committee chair Tom Carter said about the Scouts and their creations.

Each of the Scouts were given a rocket ship kit, including balsa wood frame, propeller and plastic fins. It was up to them to sculpt the frame down to what they felt would be the best shape, place the fins and design and paint their rockets however they saw fit.

Rockets were designed to look like fighter jets, sharks and one looked like it belonged in "Star Wars."

Winner of the race, Jackson Howze, said that it all came down to a sleek design for him and his rocket.

"I think mine was more aerodynamic. And I think the paint helped," the 10-year-old Frontier Elementary School student said after the race, adding, "It was so fun."

Howze has been a Scout for three years and said that while he likes everything about being a Scout, his favorite part of being in the troop is racing boats and cars.

The pack's Pinewood Derby takes place in January and the annual boat race, the Raingutter Regata, is held in March.

The first Space Derby, which is planned to be held annually, saw competition between 17 members of the pack in an elimination tournament held at the First United Methodist Church in Hanford. Whoever's propeller-driven aircraft traveled along a string to the finish first — or whoever made it furthest without malfunction — was declared the winner.

Cubmaster Doug Talk addressed his troop before the event began, "Sometimes your rocket may explode and you may not always reach the finish line. But that's OK, because we're here, why?"

"To have fun," the pack answered back with an in-unison shout.

The competition played out not unlike a Warriors/Rockets playoff game. Some races ended with one clear winner and one malfunction, necessitating impromptu repairs and others were neck-and-neck, ending in high fives, shouts and chanting the winners' names.

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October 4, 2022

Gentlemen-

Just wanted to update you on where Troop 400 is at finding a new charter organization. Last night our Troop committee and parents voted to move our charter over to First Lutheran Church. Last year when the Methodist church halted re-charters, we began looking at alternative charter organizations. We spent the winter and summer operating under various charter extensions and the uncertainty of what was going to happen going forward with the Methodist Church. In August the final decision came down from the church to no longer support units via charter and to only provide facilities for use. We met with your group, and since then we have spent the last month taking a serious look at all of our options.

We appreciate the effort to explore chartering with the Lions Club and keep meeting at First United. Unfortunately, there were concerns by both Sequoia Council and parents on going this route. Council had issues regarding oversight of the Troop with a Lions club that had the same leadership as the Troop. They would only sign off on a charter if the club had independent board members not directly involved with the Troop. Our busy parents and adult leaders also had

[146] Hanford Sentinel, September 22, 2018

concerns about having to become a dues paying members of another club just to keep the Scout unit going. Our group also liked the idea of staying with a faith-based organization. In addition to these concerns, there is also a specter uncertainty with how the UMC will view scouting in the near future and whether the church will allow any form of scouting in their facilities down the road.

We understand that this a difficult situation and it does not reflect on your congregation and leadership at First United Methodist. Your church has been a valued supporter of the scouting movement in Hanford for decades and you have enriched countless lives with your participation and support. Unfortunately, the United Methodist Church now views scouting as a liability. While this is understandable in the wake of the abuse cases and bankruptcy, we feel that moving the Troop to a charter organization that can fully support the scouts in all facets of our mission is what is best for our youth and leaders long term.

Our current charter with First United runs through December 31, 2022. The BSA re-charting process occurs in October so we will be working to get paperwork done by November. The only thing we will need from you is a signed letter of release for our assets (we will provide you this form). Our plan is to keep meeting at the church through November and then move the troop over in December and be completely out of the facility by the January 1, 2023. We want to make this transition as seamless as possible as it is going to be a huge change for the Troop.

Again, we appreciate all of your support throughout the years and hope you will continue that support through this transition. Our first choice was to never have been put in this position, but reality does not align with that, so we feel that this is the best outcome for our Scouts and longevity of the Troop.

Best Regards,
Tom Carter
Committee Chair, Pack 400
Scoutmaster, Troop 400

California Table Grape Boycott

Issues relating to California agriculture, to the unionization of farm workers, and to the request of the National Farm Worker Ministry to join in a boycott of California table grapes surfaced in 1985. The staff of the General Board of Church and Society, together with the Conference Board, conducted a regional hearing at Visalia First United Methodist Church. The author and his father, John Gregory, a table grape grower and a member of the Laton First United Methodist Church, both gave testimony at the Visalia meeting. Our presentations were based on the premise that a boycott of table grapes would create an economic hardship for growers, including ourselves, who are members of the Methodist Church.

John Foster, Pastor Susan Foster's father, was the Methodist pastor in Delano UMC during this time. His congregation included several large grape growers. John was able to dialog with the priest at the local Catholic Church during this time and reach and understanding between the church leaders of the two congregations. [147]

[147] Conversation with Pastor Susan Foster, December 14, 2014.

In 1986, the Annual Conference passed a resolution saying that the conference favors neither endorsement nor condemnation of the table grape boycott at this time. In 1988, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church voted, by a large margin, not to endorse the boycott.

With the final report in 1990, the California-Nevada Conference involvement in California agriculture issues came to an end. It ended with a certain amount of frustration that nothing concrete was accomplished, except to bring to the surface a great deal of information which local churches could use in taking action. The various task forces found that, while abuses were claimed, little could be substantiated. The staff of the General Board, which they expected to have such information, either had none, or if they did, failed to provide it. By this time, a number of growers who had been friendly to the United Methodist Church were alienated from it, and took moral and financial support with them. For the most part, farm workers developed no relationship with the United Methodist Church. The conference realized that California agricultural issues were not simplistic issues and could not be resolved with simplistic solutions. Also, that ministry with farm workers could best be carried on at a local level, on a one-to-one basis.[148]

Former District Superintendent Debra Brady mentioned in a 2017 district meeting that she was the pastor at Modesto UMC, when the Bay area policy makers for the UMC supported the table grape boycott, and did so without consideration of different cultures in the Central Valley. Within a five-year period, Modesto UMC experienced a loss of membership from 750 to 250, when a number of members moved their membership and financial support to other churches.

Don Fado was the pastor from 1963 to 1965. Don Fado, who was a proponent of the farm worker movement, was the Hanford pastor at that time. Some of the members of Hanford UMC were farmers. That did not go over well. Jim Shoemaker was in the church when he was here. Don Fado also took a fourth right stand against segregation and the war in Vietnam, and that ruffled a few feathers as well.[149]

Henry Starr, a former member of our church who has since retired and moved to Idaho, mentioned that at one time Cesar Chavez worked for him as a farm laborer on his farm near Porterville. Henry said that Cesar was a good worker. This was before the time when Chavez became an activist in the farm labor movement.

Education Building

During Pastor Bob DeWolf's appointment in Hanford, the early 1960's saw a growth in the church life. There were two Sunday morning church services, at 9 and 11:30. Sunday School had an enrollment of 250 youth. Sunday School classes met in the tower room, the two upstairs classrooms, and McKelvey Hall. The social hall had partitions so several classes could meet. The pastor hosted classes in the parsonage next door. There was a need to expand, for additional classrooms were needed.

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[148] Adventure In Faith, The History of The California-Nevada Conference of the United Methodist Church 1948-1998, by Newell P. Knudson, Josten's Printing Co., 1999, pp. 243-248.
[149] Email to the author from Jim Shoemaker, November 20, 2022.

Ellen Frasieur is the Sunday School teacher in this 1960's photo.[150]

In early 1960's two new educational buildings were built, to the east of the sanctuary building. The mortgage on the expansion project was paid off in the fall of 1976. Sunday school enrollment indicated a need for additional classrooms. Part of the reason for the expansion was due to the construction of Lemoore Naval Air Station. It was anticipated that there would be a large influx of navy families who would be served by an expansion of education classes.

Building Program – Wallace Clark, chairman of the First Methodist Church building committee, turns the first spadeful of earth in groundbreaking ceremony Sunday for new educational facilities. Harold Griswold (background center), chairman of the board of trustees, assisted. Construction on the 10-classrooms, two-unit structure on Center St. between Irwin and Redington began Monday morning. Contractor is N. K. Tuttle. Designers were McKee and Chaney. The contract cost is $52,300. The church hopes the rooms will be ready for use in September. [151]

Bob Jensen was chairman of the building committee during construction. He spent every Saturday during construction doing cleanup, to help keep costs down. [152]

Endowment Fund

Dr. David Harris, from the California-Nevada Conference United Methodist Foundation, was a guest speaker during our Administrative Council meeting in March 1996. David gave an example of a woman in our conference who passed away. The local Methodist Church trustees were later

[150] You Might Be From Hanford Facebook website photo posted by Robert Bentley January 28, 2023
[151] News of the Churches, undated newspaper clipping with photo, Hanford Sentinel, 1962,
[152] Personal conversation with Dorothy Jensen, December 15, 2014

notified that they were to receive $5,000 from her estate. The trustees were pleased to receive this unexpected gift. However, the trustees were later surprised when it became known that this same church member had willed $300,000 to a university--the distinction being that the local church had never asked her to include the church in her estate planning.

At the charge conference on October 29, 1996, a permanent endowment fund for the Hanford First United Methodist Church was voted upon and officially created. The endowment was established to make it convenient for church members and friends to make a financial gift to the church. The funds are invested by the United Methodist Foundation. The document states that the principal shall not be withdrawn for any purpose. Earned interest will be given annually to the Hanford United Methodist Church. From 1996 to May 1999, the endowment existed but was not funded. A minimum of $10,000 was needed for opening the endowment. With the rollover of the Nunn estate endowment into the Hanford United Methodist Church endowment in June 1999, the fund was activated.

The endowment committee's responsibility is to encourage giving, through supplemental giving or wills. The income from the fund is to be distributed to the designated area of the church which the donor designated. Examples include mission fund, building fund, unrestricted general fund, children and youth ministries, music fund, sick and shut-in fund, and possibly other areas of funding.

Evangelism and Outreach

For a number of years, the Evangelism and later the Outreach committees welcomed visitors in a special way. In the week following a Sunday visit at church, a committee member would do a home visitation with a bag of homemade cookies and a welcome kit, which includes information on the church, including newsletters. The pastor was notified to do a follow-up contact. A telephone call was to be made to members who have not been heard from in a while. Advertising in the local paper was also a responsibility of this committee at one time.

Roberta Tomkins, for years, has faithfully recorded the church attendance every Monday morning. She also notes the visitors. Roberta then arranges for the visitors to receive a visit from a member of the committee. from a group of five or six, who had been in church that same Sunday and most closely match the age group of the visitors. For a while, when follow-ups were made, the church was getting about 35 percent of the people that were called upon back for a second Sunday visit. It was considered well worth doing. However, the key is having enough volunteers who were enthusiastic about doing home visits. Unis Hoff and Roberta Tomkins make the cloth bags for delivering literature. Vicki Beeman and Roberta Tomkins made the cookies. Abbie Thyarks was the primary person who made home visits. She has been all over Kings County delivering homemade cookies.

Fresno District Convocation

On a Saturday in the fall of 1987, the Hanford church sponsored the Fresno District Convocation. The author was the chairman for the all-day event, with the help of the planning committee, including Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn. Because of the size of the meeting, with participants coming

from Methodist churches all over the district, the event was held at the Fox Theater. There was a historical perspective, since the Fox Theater sits on the site of the old Methodist Episcopal Church. Since the Fox Theater does not have a piano, a professional piano mover moved our baby grand piano to the Fox stage and tuned it. The piano was tuned again after the piano was returned. Musical and vocal groups from throughout the district performed for the assembled group. Presentations were given on successful programs throughout the state. It was a joy to have such a large gathering of Methodists in Hanford, sharing what Christ has been doing in their congregations.

Hanford Co-op Preschool

Hanford Co-op Preschool celebrated its 42nd birthday in 1998. The Co-op school was funded by church member Evelyn Hooper and opened in 1957. The nursery school was founded by three women and was the first nursery school in Hanford.[153] The school was the result of a group of parents who felt that there was a need for a well-run nursery school in the community. The Co-op Preschool was never simply a baby-sitting service. There was to be a qualified teacher and the children were to be prepared for the rigors of kindergarten. It was expected to be as much a learning experience for the parents as it was for the children. The parents, in spending their volunteer time helping at the school, were learning too.

The articles of incorporation specify that the primary purpose for which the corporation was formed was to provide and maintain a cooperative nursery school for the education and training of members' young children. Co-op parents must donate eight hours a month if they have a three-year old enrolled and twelve hours monthly for a four-year old. [154]

The co-op leases the Friendship classroom to the east of the fireside room and has use of the playground. Arrangements are handled through the trustees. The income from renting the classrooms during the week helped the church to pay the cost of construction of the two new education buildings.

Over the years, there have not been very many members of Hanford UMC who have availed their children to the Co-op Preschool. However, many families, through the last 44 years have come and gone through the gates and doors of the UMC education building, and know the church by its association and sponsorship of the preschool.

The Co-op Preschool closed its doors in 2000.

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[153] Personal correspondence with Jean Leonard, January 28, 2003.
[154] In the spirit of cooperation, Hanford Sentinel, by Doris Robertson Polley, April 16, 1998.

April 24, 1987,
Hanford Sentinel

Ice Cream Social

An annual homemade ice cream social was held at the church every summer, in the courtyard or Founders Hall, either to welcome the pastor back to another year or to welcome the new incoming pastor. All available persons bring their own batch of homemade ice cream. One year, the pastor, who was the guest of honor, was late, but the ice cream could not wait, so the serving started without him.

Serving: Jane McCutcheon, Terry Tompkins, Abbie Thyarks, and Gail Canon, June 1982

Missions and Outreach

The missions committee has been an active group. The individuals and organizations that are supported may change somewhat from year to year.

November 1984 potluck dinner and presentation by missionaries Bob and Hazel Buckner. Mission Committee, left to right: Ann Gross, Gayle Cannon, Carol Vickers, Ron and Mary Roper, Barbara and Monte McGinty.

The following is a summary of the projects that were supported by missions, as reported by Diana Armstrong, missions chairperson, in 1986: Our current missionaries are Bob and Hazel Buckner, missionaries to Nepal. We support Bob and Hazel with 30% of our overall mission giving. Misheck and Jennifer Kanake, missionaries to Kenya, are admired for their work in Kenya. We support the Kanake family with 30% of our mission funds. Bob and Rachel Burt, missionaries to Mexico, are supported with 15% of our mission gifts plus all Sunday school donations. Our children are concerned with the children in Mexico and enthusiastically support Bob and Rachel. In October 1986, the youth gave a car wash, with all benefits going to the Burts. The Hanford chapter of the Salvation Army receives not only help when needed but 15% of our mission funds plus our 13th-month donations. We feel that the Salvation Army is a vital link between our church and our own needy neighbors in Hanford. Chaplain Stan Cotta, Kings County Jail Ministry, receives our advance special. We are so enthused by Chaplain Cotta's ministry that we give 10% of our funds to help the inmates of our county jail to receive Christian nourishment. We have added United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to our list of worthy and important causes and currently have the world hunger fish banks distributed. For Halloween, we plan to activate a project whereby we give a note to our trick-or-treaters who visit us at our homes stating that we will give five cents to UMCOR instead of giving candy this year. We support Heifer Project International (HPI). Each Christmas, instead of sending Christmas cards to members of the church, we donate money to buy an animal for a needy family. A Christmas card is then sent to the special person that the money was donated for. We also have a Christmas tree fund each year that goes directly to HPI. We have a heifer project day in which we have a speaker from HPI come to our church and talk with us about the project. Once a year we walk ten miles, rain or shine, for CROP.

Our youth are especially enthused by this project and work very hard to bring in funds from sponsors for this fund-raiser.

In the early 1990's the Missions and Evangelism Committees were combined in the Outreach Committee, which took on the basic missions programs as well as the tasks of visiting newcomers, tracking attendance and promoting the church in the community as described in the Evangelism and Outreach section above. In this decade, the missions work continued by bringing several mission speakers to the church, promoting Heifer Project International with special Heifer Sundays at which life-size cardboard animals were "sold" on the church lawn to raise funds. The local Salvation Army is supported on a regular basis with monthly contributions during the communion service and donations of food from some of the altar gifts. Late in 1999, Bolivian handicrafts were sold to help Bolivian Christians as a part of our conference's ongoing relationship with the Bolivian Methodist Church.

The church has sent members forth to participate in short-term volunteers in missions (St. VIM) projects. In 1993, several fundraising events were held to sponsor Ray Mueller on a two-week conference-sponsored house building project in Paraguay. The theme was "Ray to Paraguay." In 1999, Roy Randles went on a conference-sponsored two-week mission to Honduras with Habit for Humanity to build a church parsonage. Both men experienced a personal joy in being able to help the less fortunate in a third-world country. Roy and Delfa Randles went on another conference-sponsored mission to participate in work on construction at an orphanage on Ometepe Island in Nicaragua for two weeks in February 2000.

Russian and Ukrainian Orphans [155]

Group arranges foreign orphans' trip, Valley families looking to adopt await children from Russia, Ukraine.
Published in Fresno Bee, by Bethany Clough, June 27, 2004

For now, children a world away are only photos and short biographies to central San Joaquin Valley families. But in a few weeks, the children now living in orphanages in the former Soviet Union, will come to the United States and meet people who may become their parents. The 30 orphans will come to Porterville and Hanford for three-week stays in the home of host families during July and August. A handful of families have already started paperwork to adopt the children before they've met them. Organizers hope other families will be moved to adopt the children after the visit. The trip also will be a vacation for the children from cash-strapped orphanages where hot water and balanced diets are hard to come by. The program is the first of its kind by the nonprofit Richmond-based Adoption Ark, though other adoption agencies have found homes for children this way. Volunteers are raising money to help pay the $2,000 per child it cost to bring the children here, said Rhonda Smith of Hanford, whose group, Rachel's Hope, is helping organize the trip. They will hold day programs for the children at churches, including a week of vacation Bible school and a language program with interpreters. Informational meetings and picnics at which potential parents can meet the children will be held during each trip. A fundraiser with information about adoption is scheduled for today in Hanford. Ten to 15 children, ages 5-9 from

[155] Group arranges foreign orphans' trip, Fresno Bee June 27, 2004 front page.

an orphanage near Kiev, Ukraine, will come to Porterville during the first week of July. Sixteen children ages 6 and 7 will come from a Russian orphanage about 190 miles outside Moscow to Hanford the first week of August. Exact dates aren't set because Adoption Ark still is awaiting approval of the children's visas. Mary and Sam Closs of Terra Bella are anticipating what could be the newest members of their family. They will host siblings Andrei, 8 and Alina, 7, from Russia. Nine years ago, the couple adopted Alexander, now 12, from St. Petersburg. The only information the Closses have about Andrei and Alina comes from a pair of photos and a few short sentences. Andrei is pale and unsmiling in his photo, but loves to play soccer and tell his little sister what to do. In her photo, Alina wears pigtails and a dress and clutches a doll. Her bio says her favorite toy is a Barbie and that she hopes to own one of her own someday. Russia and Ukraine don't have foster-care systems like the United States, said Elina Filippova, Adoption Ark's president. Then orphanages aren't "evil places," she said, but they aren't places run by Daddy Warbucks, either. "A lot of these kids will be seeing a banana for the first time, or ice cream, or talking on the phone for the first time," Filipp[ova said. The Russian orphanage does not have hot water during the summer, and fruits and vegetables aren't plentiful. "We have a lot of kids who have food-related anemia," she said. A few of the Russian children's photos show skinny legs clad in tights. Some children were abandoned at birth or found roaming on the streets as older children. Other' parents rights were revoked. "They actually don't allow us to bring out kids with remote relatives. They have to be true orphans," Filippova said. Adoptive parents must go through a long process that includes in-home interviews and background checks. The Russian and Ukrainian governments usually require parents to make two trips to meet with the children, but the children's trip to the United States will mean families will only make one trip to Europe. If all goes well with the Closses, they hope to fly to Ukraine in the fall to pick up Adrei and Alina. The total cost to adopt – including court fees, translator fees, drivers and other expenses - is $15,500 for Russian children and $12,500 for Ukrainian children. It's a financial sacrifice, said Cassandra Garcia, who hopes to adopt 60year-old Alek from Ukraine. She and her husband Dago already have three daughters, ages 8, 6 and 10 months, and would love to have a boy. She said children in the United States will always have a foster home with a family to take care of them and a good education. "Children in the orphanages…they may not be getting that, and they may never have a chance of having a family," she said. The Garcias know almost nothing about Alek. All they have is a picture. But they already know he will be the perfect addition to their family.

Orphans from Europe will come to the Valley this summer in an effort to find parents for them. Mary and Sam Closs, above, adopted Alexander from Russia. They hope to adopt Alina, 7, and Andrei, 8, at right.

CHRISTIAN PARLEY — THE FRESNO BEE

Rhonda Smith is at the organization board, listing each orphan and the activities and potential parent adoption meetings and activities. All 13 orphans sponsored by the Hanford Methodist Church were adopted, although there was anxiety until the last minute that some were to be returned without an adoption

Comments from Desi Curtis-Chono - Rhonda Smith was the one that was the initiator and leader of the event and asked for and was granted the ok by the Administrative Board for the Methodist Church to host the event.. We set up the Social Hall (Founders Hall) as a dormitory with beds. None of the children spoke English. The orphanage sent two chaperones with the children, and the chaperones disappeared on us after the first day. The kids were unruly, but we did eventually get it under control. We had to wing it a lot. The language barrier had a lot to do with the problems. All 13 of the orphans brought to Hanford were adopted, some on the last day.

Nunn Estate Endowment

In 1969, Daniel Fadenrecht, a member of our church and a practicing attorney-at-law in Hanford, assisted Mrs. R. E. (Alice) Nunn and later the executor of her estate in creating an endowment to give $5,000 to the Hanford Methodist Church. The money was invested through the California-Nevada Conference United Methodist Foundation. The interest income created from the investment was divided between reinvestments in the endowment, fund maintenance fees and an annual payment to the church. The Hanford Methodist Church has been receiving approximately $300 per year from the Nunn estate endowment.

Rev. Rufus E. Nunn was a minister and rancher. He was a former pastor of the Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church, and for some years was a supply pastor, occupying the pulpits of different churches in the area. The couple transferred from Kingsburg Methodist Church and joined the Hanford Methodist Church on June 3, 1941. He had a fruit orchard southwest of Hanford. Rev. Nunn died on February 9, 1950.[156]

The Nunn estate trust, as of December 1995, had $10,312 in it. The Foundation office manages the fund, which is invested in stocks and bonds. The fund has also distributed earned interest amounting to $8,721 to our local Hanford church. All this is from the original investment of $5,000 in 1969.

In June 1999, at the request of our new Vision Board, the Nunn estate endowment was dissolved and transferred into the Hanford First United Methodist Church endowment fund. This fund is to continue to be managed by the United Methodist Foundation, whose office is in Sacramento. The Nunn estate endowment no longer exists. However, it is acknowledged that the family had the vision to set up the endowment to provide a financial gift in perpetuity to the church. This is to be commended. Each year, we are grateful for the earned interest income from the fund and the generosity and vision of the Nunn family.

Organ

The church organ is called the queen of instruments, the heart and soul of a church. It is also beautiful, with a warmth and range. Organ music is an old sound, magnifying the sound of humanlike breath through venerable technology in large spaces, all relics of time long past. The music is a kind of shrine to the past. It is hard to resist the instinctive pull toward preserving the organ as part of our history.[157]

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[156] Hanford Sentinel, February 11, 1950.
[157] Hanford Sentinel, June 23, 2008, exerts from article published by Anne Midgette, The Washington Post

An undated page of notes was compiled by Reverend Alfred Boyer, a retired Methodist pastor, listing information about the church organ. It is a seven-rank Wicks 1920 organ, from Highland, Illinois, where the blueprints are kept. It has Mass cathedral chimes.

The Board of Trustee minutes of October 24, 1991 has a lot of information on potential repairs to the organ. Dick Cencibaugh, an organ enthusiast from Fresno, has informed the trustees that the organ needs repair and needs to be played regularly, two to three times a week.

Summer Picnic

A picnic was held once a year at Doug and Renee True's home on 10th Ave. every July, following Sunday service. The Sunday chosen was dependent on when Harold Griswold's sweet corn was ready. These photos are from July 1982. Youth always looked forward to the games and swimming pool. Adults were content to gather at the tables in the shade of the walnut trees.

Preparing for the Pastoral Ministry

We have four "of our own" in the pastoral ministry.

Galen Griswold is the son of Harold and Lois Griswold, who were lifelong members of Hanford UMC. Galen is a graduate of College of Sequoias and Fresno State College in 1959. He graduated from Claremont School of Theology in 1964. Galen served Burlingame United Methodist and Sunnyvale United Methodist Churches from 1964 through 1971. He is currently the owner and CEO with INEX Development, specializing in helping companies grow their business in tough markets. Galen and his wife, Maureen, live in Cayucos. He is an "artist by avocation and a golfer of sorts."

Randy Jones was a student at Talbot School of Theology, the Biola University seminary in Southern California. He is preparing for a new role in the service of the Lord. He had been with the Athletes in Action ministry of Campus Crusades for Christ at Stanford University for nine years. He and his wife, Ivy, have two children, Michael and Robbie. In 2013, Randy is the assistant pastor at Cornerstone Church, in Long Beach, California. We can be proud that we have sent one of our own into the ministry.

Brian Parcel was enrolled at Claremont School of Theology in Southern California. He worked in youth ministry for three years while attending Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. He is originally from Southern California. The Parcel family settled in Hanford when Brian's father was transferred to the area by Shell Oil Co. Brian formally affiliated with Hanford

FUMC on August 3, 1997.[158] Brian has become ordained in the United Methodist Church and was the pastor at Santa Maria UMC and is currently the pastor at Chula Vista UMC, as noted in his Facebook page.

Roxane Zielke graduated with an English major from California State University, Fresno in June 2008. In the fall of 2008, after much prayer and concernment, she began her calling with co-leading the leadership committee and the evangelism team with Intervarsity Christian Fellowship at CSUF.

Potlucks

The church has traditionally had potlucks every first Sunday of the month, except during the summer months. This is a time of fellowship and breaking bread together. For a number of years, Doug and Renee True have hosted a potluck in July at their home on 10th Avenue. This is a time for eating, swimming, volleyball, viewing the Trues' miniature horses and fellowship. The exact Sunday in July usually was predicated on when Harold Griswold's sweet corn was ready to pick.

Quest for Quality

In May, 1997, Pastor Phil Greer, Patty Ferrell and the author, at the request of Bishop Talbot, attended a weekend seminar in Sacramento called Quest for Quality. The concern is that our denomination has been in a membership decline for the past 30 years. The message received from the conference was that the United Methodist Church has been using a business model, having a number of committees for the various parts of the church's work during this period of time. This is good for business, but the United Methodist conferences across the country have come to realize that this model does not necessarily fill the needs of the local church membership. *Roberts Rules of Order* may be a good business model, but it is not necessarily the best format for church meetings.

The workshop in Sacramento kept using the word "paradigm." When Jesus started his ministry, He changed the paradigm or model. We are now being asked to change the paradigm in our local churches. After a 30-year period, we have found that having a committee structure in the local church does not fill the needs of many of our membership. People want help in finding the answers to the questions of life. It was mentioned at the seminar that we need to develop a vision statement. We need to develop a concept of what our church should be to our membership and community. To that end, the Vision Board was organized to replace the Administrative Board. With all groups represented, its role is to look at where we want to go, and how to mobilize all our resources.

Redwood Christian Park

Shortly after Pastor Phil Greer's arrival at Hanford, we started to hear about the wonderful camping ministries at Redwood Christian Park, or RCP. RCP is located in the Santa Cruz mountains above the community of Boulder Creek. Before long, Phil was taking men to the men's retreat. Diana was taking women to the women's retreat and the Holy Spirit retreat. Families were going to week-long summer family camps and youngsters and teens were going to their own age level camps.

[158] The Methodist Messenger, September 1997

This was and continues to be a wonderful Christian experience for all age groups from the Hanford church. Phil recounted the time of the Loma Prieta Earthquake in October 1989. The earthquake started when he was in the chapel at RCP. Phil said it was the first time that he was literally driven to his knees to pray! The group pictures in Founders Hall are illustrative of the members of our church who have attended summer camp at RCP for a number of years.

Youth Camping

In August 2006, junior high youth, Stormie True, attended the **Alive Now!** High Sierra Adventure Camp at Kings Beach UMC at Lake Tahoe. Also, in August, three youth, Jay Gozun, Brent Noonen, and Joann Valle attended **Super Kid Camp 2006** at Camp Lodestar, a Methodist Church owned camp in Calaveras County. All four youth had a very positive experience and expressed a desire to return next summer.

In 2007, two fifth grade youth, Brittney Parsons and Shawna Wilson, attended the junior camp at Hartland Christian Camp on the weekend of February 9 to 11. The following week-end, from February 16 to 19, Amber Menendez and Stormie True attended the Junior High weekend camp at Hartland Christian Camp. Hartland is a non-denominational Christian Camp and Conference Center located near Badger, in Tulare County and in the Sequoia National Forest. The camp's website is: http://hartlandcamp.gospelcom.net/

Five youth: Christa Gillio, Jay Gozun, Joann Valle, Angel Valle, and Christopher Donez, Jr. attended **Toyon Kids Camp,** a Methodist Conference sponsored camp for youth entering the 3rd-6th grades, on July 15 to 20, 2007. The following week, from July 22 to 27, four junior high youth: Stormie True, Brooke Parsons, Brent Noonen, and Kelsie Cuelho also attended Monte Toyon. **Camp Quest** was for youth entering 7th-9th grades. They enjoyed the exciting new climbing wall and challenge course at Monte Toyon.

Five 4th to 6th grade students: Brittney Parsons, Shawna Wilson, Joann Valle, Angel Valle, and Christa Gillio attended the junior camp at Hartland Christian Camp on the weekend of February 8 to 10, 2008. Kathy Gillio also attended the camp as a counselor. The following three-day week-end, from February 15 to 18, three Junior High youth: Breanna Parsons, Kelsie Cuelho, and Brent Noonen attended the Junior High weekend camp at Hartland Christian Camp. The following weekend, from February 22 to 24, three youth, Brooke and Brandie Parsons, and Stormie True attended Senior High Camp at Hartland. All the campers reported a great experience at winter camp. There was also lots of snow. There was an extra camper one night, when Verne Adams, one of the volunteer drivers, was forced to stay overnight because of a snow storm.

Ten church sponsored youth: Brittney and Breanna Parsons, Joanne and Angel Valle, Sage and Saul Wyman, Brent Noonan, Jay Gozun, Kelsie Cuelho, and Taylor Harmon attended **Toyon Kids Camp** and **Camp Quest**, which were held at the same time at Monte Toyon, from July 13 to 18, 2008. The following week, two high school youth: Brooke Parsons and Stephanie Joy, attended Senior High Summer Camp at Hartland Christian Camp from July 20 to 25.

During the week of July 12 to 17, 2009, ten junior and junior high youth attended the United Methodist sponsored camp, Monte Toyon, near Santa Cruz. **Toyon Kids Camp**: Saul Wyman,

Christa Gillio, and Stevie McFall. **Camp Quest**: Brent Noonen, Jay Gozun, Tayler Harmon, Angel Valle, Joann Valle, Kelsie Cuelho, Shawna Wilson and Lena Strong.

February 2010, eight youth from Hanford UMC traveled for the two-hour trip after school to Hartland Christian Camp for the annual Junior High Winter Camp. Since this was a three-day week-end, the camp was for three nights. The eight youth who attended the camp were: Kelsie Cuelho, Taylor Harmon, Lena Strong, Shawna and Ashley Wilson, Angel and Joann Valle, and Jay Gozun. A special thanks is to be given to Kathleen Wilson for volunteering and giving of her weekend and being a driver, counselor and chaperone for the group.

Eight youth attended senior high winter camp at Hartland Christian Camp, on the three-day weekend of February 18 to 21, 2011. Youth who attended were: Brittany Parsons, Breanna Parsons, Kelsie Cuelho, Tayler Harmon, Lena Strong, Jay Gozun, Cory Diaz, and Brent Noonen. Chris Payne accompanied the girls as a chaperone and counselor.

Youth preparing to depart for Hartland Christian Camp Winter Camp, February 2011

Nine youth attended high school winter camp at Hartland Christian Camp, on the three-day weekend of February 17 to 20, 2012. Youth who attended were: Kelsie Cuelho, Tayler Harmon, Lena Strong, Jay Gozun, Cory Diaz, Brent Noonen, Ashley Wilson, Shawna Wilson, and Natasha Makaruva (Pastor Susan's high school exchange student from Russia). Pastor Susan accompanied the girls as a chaperone and counselor until 7 AM on Sunday, when Patty Ferrell took Susan's place for the remainder of the camp retreat.

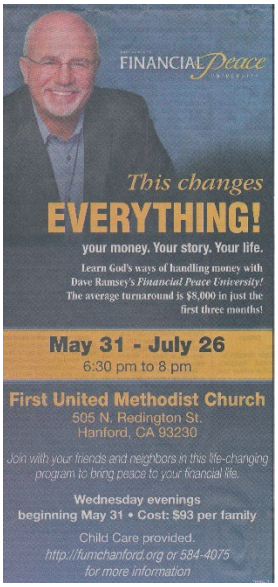
Three youth, J.J. Gozun, Brent Noonen, and Cory Diaz attending a weekend youth retreat, **FX West** at Mt. Hermon Conference Center, near Santa Cruz from January 11 to 13, 2013, for a spiritual growth event for youth. The retreat was sponsored by the California Nevada Conference. Jim Gregory accompanied the youth as a chaperone. There were many young ladies who attended from around the conference who did not know of Hanford, but they did after the weekend!

Four youth attended senior high winter camp at Hartland Christian Camp, on the three-day weekend of February 15 to 18, 2013. Youth who attended were: Jay Gozun, Cory Diaz, Brent Noonen, and Ashlee Wilson.

Hartland Junior High Junior High Winter Camp, February 7-9, 2014: Leon McDonald. High School Winter Camp, February 14-17: Ashlee Wilson, Joseph Gozun, and Samantha McDonald.

Leon McDonald attended High School Winter Camp at Hartland Christian Camp February12-15, 2016. Cat Barclay also attended as an adult chaperone/councilor for a girls' cabin. Leon also attended February 17-20, 2017.

Financial Peace University



On nine evenings, from 6:30 to 8 PM, starting in the spring of 2014 a course on Dave Ramsay's Financial Peace University is held in Founders Hall or Mary Lane Hall, and is available to the public. Cost is $93 for the course materials per couple. Coordinators are Jim and Peggy Gregory. FPU is repeated once a year. ¼ page ads are placed in the Hanford Sentinel

Sunshine Singers

Jan MacDougall Creelman originally started the sunshine singers, which is a youth group of singers, up to the sixth grade. Candy Bertania continued the program later. The group meets every Wednesday at 5:15 pm for practice. The church congregation can count on the sunshine singers singing a song during the Sunday morning worship service.

Vacation Bible School

Since 1988, there has usually been a vacation Bible school (VBS) for one week in the summer. Some years a packaged VBS program was purchased and used and some years a self-developed program has been used. One year, the theme was a depiction of life in Bible times. Gary and Emma Glover were our VBS directors one year when a program was developed from scratch. The couple was very capable and creative when working with this sort of curriculum. Shortly after that, Emma was recognized as one of six California state teachers of the year. There is a different focus each year. One year the focus was on parables. The story of the Good Samaritan was made real as the children acted it out. VBS usually includes a snack. Most years the UMW coordinated bringing and serving the snack, even when the program called for something special, like blue popcorn. VBS always has music. Candy Bertaina and Diana Greer, when not directing the whole VBS, were great music leaders. One year the theme was *Celebrate Jesus*. The students made percussion instruments and held daily parades, singing through the streets just west of the church.

It was well received by the neighbors and we had children asking when the next VBS would be held.[159]

VBS was not held during the time of Cynthia Statemen. In July 2019, the theme of Vacation Bible School was: *To Mars and Beyond*

Photo credit: Debbie Hedrick

Use of Facilities for Local Hispanic Ministry

The leadership of the church has been interested in a Hispanic ministry. The site of our facilities seemed to be a good location for this, since we are on the fringe of low-income housing. In 1999, the trustees completed an agreement with the pastor of a Spanish-speaking congregation, which was meeting in a house across the street from the church, to meet for worship and fellowship in Founders Hall on Sunday afternoon. Jose Ramon Palafox's congregation, affiliated with Assemblies of God, numbers about 35 adults and some events have drawn up to 75 persons. This Hispanic ministry did not come from a Methodist outreach, as much as we wish that it had.

Due to declining attendance, in 2016, a downstairs classroom in the education building was refurbished as a worship chapel, and the Hispanic ministry was moved from the sanctuary to this classroom.

Spanish Seminary

Good Samaritan biblical institute holds its first graduation ceremony

By Martha Martinez
Hanford Sentinel, page 15A
September 9, 2006

[159] Personal correspondence, David Beeman, March 12, 2000.

The Good Samaritan biblical institute started off to teach people how to better serve their churches. The biblical Christian school, taught in Spanish, also teaches theology, history of the church and evangelism, among other topics. "The intentions of the institute are steady." Said Cecilia Fernandez, director and pastor of the classes in Spanish. "As pastors, we want to train them." The students read books, study and take tests, just like at a traditional school. The purpose of the institute is to form honest ideals, have a complete devotion to God, confront life's daily problems, form a string personality and prepare for service as a minister. It was Mauricio Fernandez, Cecilia's husband, who wanted to have classes. Cecilia said Hispanic people in the United States are not prepared and they don't have the means to be pastors or ministers. Mauricio Fernandez was already involved in prayer and lectures through the radio. For more than 17 years, Mauricio Fernandez has been the director of the radio program "The Good Samaritan." The program airs on 620 AM Monday through Friday from 4 to 8 a.m. and Saturdays from 4 to 10 a.m. In 2002, the couple opened a biblical school at the mechanic's shop that Mauricio rents in Armona. During the first semester of the class 14 students started the class, three dropped and another 12 enrolled. The classes area now held at the Methodist church in Hanford, and occasionally the class will reunite at the shop to do some studying. Cecilia Fernandez said that it is their dream to someday have their own building with classrooms to offer the classes. For now, they have to settle with renting a room at the church. Cecilia said she and her husband teach the class "based on experience and biblical knowledge." What the couple wants is for people to have their own experience with God, Cecilia said. She added that what they do not want is to "change people's thoughts or religion." After taking the classes for three years students who pass are eligible for graduation. Those who graduate from the institute can receive a diploma and license to be ministers. On Saturday, Aug. 12, the institute's first graduation took place. Five students graduated and another five are expected to graduate next year. Rafael Munoz, one of the five students who graduated, is now a pastor in Alpaugh, a small community outside of Corcoran. Munoz said the work is "heavy" because it is three years of work but said in the end, many opportunities open up because of the diploma. The majority of the students are adults and field workers, Cecilia said. They usually go to class straight from work. "It's difficult for them to study, but they manage." Cecilia said. Munoz finished his studies and said "ministers are better recognized because of the studies." The institute is recognized at the federal level, Cecilia said. The federal government requires that people who graduate from the institute be prepared to perform weddings, funerals and all other duties that are required from a pastor. "We are public people," Cecilia said of the responsibilities hat they have as pastors. She said the government has to be involved because they have to make sure that there is no fraud and they do not take advantage of people.

Outside Groups Using Church Facilities

By Glen Lenox
July 16, 2016

For several years our Church has hosted numerous outside groups that have their regular meetings in our Church spaces. These have included: Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Praise Chapel (an independent recovery group), Healing Waters Ministry (an independent recovery group), a Spanish Language Worship Group, a Boy Scout Troop, a Cub Scout Troop, and a Girl Scout Troop. Each of those groups hold weekly meetings (Scout Groups monthly) in spaces on our Church property that we make available to them. In return for our hospitality, those groups

make a voluntary donation to our Church. We are the designated hosts for the Scout Troops and we ask no donation from them.

In prior years the administrative process of welcoming these several groups and spelling out some details for their use of our facilities required a signed Request Form from them, but provided no copy of that Form back to the user group. A new form was developed several months ago with a more detailed description of the responsibilities of both the user group and our Church, along with the prohibition of any alcohol on the Church property. This revised Form includes the specific identification of someone in each group who would be their designated representative and also someone responsible for the custody of the key(s) provided to them.

For several years these various groups made voluntary cash donations that were of various amounts. In order to avoid any inconsistency among the groups and their donation amounts, we concluded several months ago that there should be no discrimination. It was therefore suggested to all groups that our Church would appreciate a donation of $50 per month to help offset the costs of utilities, cleaning, etc. All have willingly complied. Further, it should be noted that while some of the various groups have been hosted for many years, we have had no problems or incidents of damage or conflicts arising from their presence on our campus.

All Saints Day

In the United Methodist Church, All Saints' Day is on the first Sunday in November. It is held, not only to remember Saints, but also to remember all those that have died that were members of the local church congregation. A candle is lit by the acolyte as each person's name is called out by the pastor. Prayers and responsive readings accompany the event.

Local Christians pursue giving alternatives

Hanford Sentinel
By Seth Nidever, December 24, 2011

At Hanford's First United Methodist Church, alternative gift giving has become something of a holiday mainstay, with a variety of different organizations highlighted every year. This time it's Habitat for Humanity, Heifer Project International and Si a La Vida.
Founded by former President Jimmy Carter, Habitat for Humanity has become well known internationally and locally, building or renovating seve4ral homes in Kings County
The other groups are probably less well publicized. Heifer Project International, based in Little Rock, Ark., takes donations and gives farm animals to poor families around the world, seeking to create self reliance and financial stability. One of the requirements is that the recipient has to give away the first offspring of the animal to another family. "They give rabbits, cows, goats," said Susan Foster, pastor of First United Methodist. "It just depends on the region."
The church is also focusing this year on Si a La Vida, a charity that helps rehabilitate young street boys in Managua, Nicaragua.
"It's crazy, and unfortunately we've come to make our economy dependent on all the (Christmas shopping)." Foster said. "We could solve world hunger with what we spend on Christmas in one year. Being able to give at least some of our resources to help others is a really powerful thing."

Chapter 8

ORGANIZATIONS

Merri-Weds

The Merri-Weds, as an organization in the church, no longer exist. The organization was started by Rev. Bert Week's wife, as a fellowship for young married couples. It seems that over time, the Merri-weds became Methadults, and at a point in time, the Merri-Weds ceased to meet. Louie and Ruth Gomes were co-presidents for a number of years. The group had a number of enchilada dinner fund-raisers for the church.

The following is a newspaper clipping: A group of the Merri-Weds of the First Methodist Church enjoyed an April Fool's Day party at the ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Howe, Lakeside district, Friday evening. Mrs. George Shaw won the prize in the men's tie tying contest and O. D. McCutcheon won the prize in the cotton game. Mrs. and Mrs. Marshall Williams won the prize in the soda water drinking contest and Mrs. Louis Gomes won the prize in musical chairs. Participants in all the games were blindfolded. Dr. Barrett Charmichael, vice-president, was in charge of the business session. The possibility of organizing a soft ball team out of the group was discussed. McCutcheon, accompanied by Mrs. Russell Bope, led the group in community singing. Those present were Mrs. and Mrs. Ernest Sargent, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Beckman, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Beckman, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Fadenrecht, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Fadenrecht, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Gomes, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. McCutcheon, Rev. and Mrs. Edward Smith Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Williams, Dr. and Mrs. Barrett Carmichael, Mrs. Russell Bope and Mr. and Mrs. George Shaw. Refreshments were served by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Howe.[160]

Methadults

Methadults meet on the third Tuesday of each month. Betty Mizner has been president and Gerald Schumacher has been program chairman for some time. The couples who attend always enjoy potluck dinner at 6:30 pm., followed by a program. Later, the group met in the Friendship Room once a month. The organization frequently gave to mission projects, such as the Salvation Army and missionaries. The group disbanded in 2004.

Trustees

According to the Book of Discipline, the Board of Trustees has the supervision, oversight, and care of all real property owned by the local church. The Board of Trustees shall consist of not fewer than three nor more than nine persons, and at least one-third shall be laywomen. The Trustees meet monthly. Maintenance needs and work projects are faithfully performed by this dedicated group.

United Methodist Men

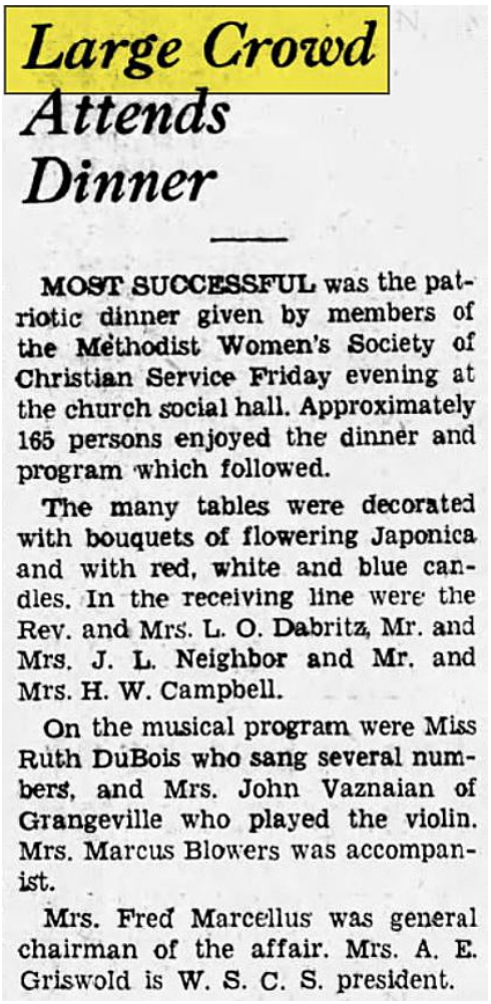
[160] April Fool's Party is Given by Merri-Weds, Hanford Sentinel, April 2, 1949, pg. 4.

The group normally meets in Mary Lane Hall. The UMM meet on the second Monday of the month, at 6:30 pm, except for the summer months, for dinner and a program. Different men, on a rotating basis, take care of providing the meal for the group. John Humfreville always gave a devotional. The men take the ladies out for dinner for the December and February meeting. Traditionally, the first Friday of the month in December is the day for bell ringing for the Salvation Army at the post office. However, there was a disruption in 1999. There was a professional singer performing at the Fox Theater, who was staying at the Irwin Street Inn, which is across the street from the post office. She got the police to go to the post office shortly after 8 am, where Terry Tomkins and Jim Martin were merrily ringing the salvation army bell. The police told our men to stop ringing the bell on that morning. Every December the UMM sponsor Project Angel Tree. It started with Stan Cotta's Kings County jail chaplaincy program. Church families would sponsor a family, where one or both parents are in jail during the Christmas holidays. In mid-December, a party is held, a short message is delivered and refreshments are served. The highlight is when the presents are distributed by our own Santa Claus, also known as Jim Martin. Later, the program was expanded and the families of state prisoners who lived in Hanford were included in the Angel Tree program. Every January a lamb stew is served, with the meat provided by Clarence Garner, who is a sheep grower. The February meeting is sweetheart night, when the group invites their spouses or special friends out to a restaurant for dinner and program. Every March meeting has corn beef and cabbage as a tradition as the main course. April is the Dads and Lads dinner. All members invite a son or grandson or father or grandfather as a guest. A part of the tradition at this dinner is the introductions and a statement of how old is the oldest dad, and how long they have been coming to Dads and Lads. Ray Noland always won the prize. The UMW graciously provides the meal for the men at this annual event. The biggest fund-raiser in years' past was taking down and cutting up walnut trees at George Thyarks' place. It took three winters to cut all the old wood out. The wood was then sold by the pick-up load.

The UMM sponsors Troop 400 of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scout Pack 400. Bob Jensen was the church representative for about 25 years. It was during this time that there was also an eagle scout troop affiliated with our church. Later, Gil Veatch was the Boy Scouts representative for a number of years. Jack Card was a Boy Scout master for a while.

United Methodist Women

The Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) was changed to United Methodist Women (UMW).



Large Crowd Attends Dinner

MOST SUCCESSFUL was the patriotic dinner given by members of the Methodist Women's Society of Christian Service Friday evening at the church social hall. Approximately 165 persons enjoyed the dinner and program which followed.

The many tables were decorated with bouquets of flowering Japonica and with red, white and blue candles. In the receiving line were the Rev. and Mrs. L. O. Dabritz, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Neighbor and Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Campbell.

On the musical program were Miss Ruth DuBois who sang several numbers, and Mrs. John Vaznaian of Grangeville who played the violin. Mrs. Marcus Blowers was accompanist.

Mrs. Fred Marcellus was general chairman of the affair. Mrs. A. E. Griswold is W. S. C. S. president. [161]

The UMW president was asked this question recently: "What do United Methodist Women (UMW) do besides having monthly meetings?" There are three groups of women (circles) totaling about 50 members. Two groups meet monthly for Bible study, special speakers and social engagements. The third group is composed mostly of working women and does not hold regular meetings. The organized circles make monthly pledges and, with the third circle, are called on for coffee hours, food and bazaar contributions, and other help when needed. The executive board and a regular meeting are held once a month. UMW pays for the baby-sitting during Sunday church services and has donated for youth camperships. The organization contributes memorial funds for deceased members, provides hams for families of deceased members, and serves luncheons after funeral services. UMW prepares the dinner for Dads and Lads banquet, with each circle providing five home-made pies! One of our members is in charge of finding hosts for coffee hour. One member finds hosts for potluck each month. Another is in charge of the Flower-Food Calendar. She calls on circle and church members for contributions of food (given to the Salvation Army) and flowers for the altar. The group supplies new dishtowels for kitchen use. Once a year they clean kitchen cupboards and closets. Our Sunshine chairperson sends cards, and visits and encourages visits to shut-ins. There is a bazaar each fall, with members contributing baked goods,

[161] February 8, 1942, Hanford Sentinel, page 4

home-made articles, and "white elephants." This has been their main fund-raiser. [162] December 2018 was the 70th annual arts and crafts bazaar and luncheon, and it is to be the last, due to declining membership and declining participation.

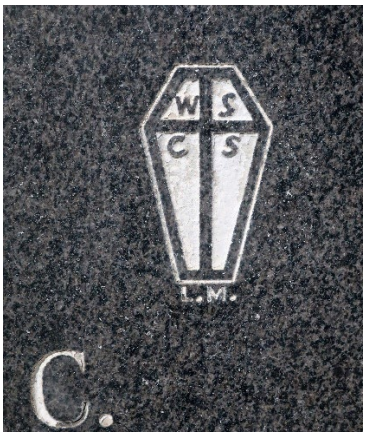
The general meeting of UMW is monthly, where all members attend. The UMW has speakers at the meetings, who give programs on social issues, such as volunteer groups in the community, and book reviews by members. The UMW has refurbished the rest rooms, helped buy a stove in Founders Hall, purchased a new refrigerator, installed carpet and curtains in the nursery, and redecorated and purchased two new chairs in the pastor's office. Painting and drapes are provided as needed. The UMW also participates in sending money to various missions.[163] Every spring, the UMW hosts a Mother-Daughter luncheon.

The members of the organization are just like sisters. They are willing to help each other out without being asking. Jane MacCutcheon was treasurer for 25 years.
Once a year, a committee of three members is appointed to pick one new life member. There are no set rules on how a life member is chosen, but the criteria is generally if a person does a lot of work in UMW. The length of service or attendance is not a necessarily taken into consideration. The judging is done on the amount of work done and the value to the organization. A pin is presented in the fall to the new life member.

Women's Society of Christian Service Life Members

Mrs. Harold Griswold	Mrs. Alma Crain	Mrs. Amy Neighbor
Mrs. Anna Dishman	Mrs. G. T. Reinhard	Mrs. Shannon Alcorn
Mrs. Vena Adams	Mrs. E. S. Rucker	Mrs. Ethel Beckman
Mrs. John Hanse	Mrs. W. D. Cackler	Mrs. Hattie Ragan
Mrs. Syd Schellinger	Mrs. Wm. Crain	Mrs. Ora Rea
Mrs. Cora Johnson	Mae D. Deacon	Mrs. George Shaw
Mrs. Eula Samson	Mrs. C. A. Kilmer	Mrs. Forest Speck
Mrs. Wilma McCutchen	Mrs. Claude Morrow	Mrs. Leborn Stevenson
Mrs. Harold Cannon	Mrs. Alpheus E. Griswold	Mrs. Stanley Reinhard
Mrs. C. S. Denham	Mrs. Pearl Limerick	Mrs. E. E. Spittler
Mrs. G. K. Spike	Mrs. Stella Hinkle	Mrs. Marshall Williams
Mrs. Jesse Lane	Miss Grace Reinhard	Mrs. Ethel DeBoe

[162] The Methodist Messenger. April 1996.
[163] Personal correspondence, Marie Wiles, UMW President, February 27, 2000.



Eva Cackler's family had Women's Society of Christian Service Life Member engraved on her gravestone in Hanford Cemetery

United Methodist Women Life Members

Lela Taylor	1987	Betty Mizner	1988
Nell Bourne	1989	Lala Philips	1990
Ruth Hunter	1991	Merle Tuck	1992
Helen Alcorn	and	Joyce Lundy	1993
Opal Wells	and	Renee True	1994
Pat Schumacher	and	Roberta Tomkins	1994
Hilda Douma	and	Frances Creelman	1995
Lois Peden	and	Louise Card	1996
Jane McCutcheon	and	Unis Hoff	1997
Barbara Bock	and	Vicki Beeman	1998
Abigail Thyarks	and	Marie Martin	1999
Vitalice Hardcastle	and	Edna Hathaway	2000
Caroline Humfreville	and	Gloria Brown	2001
Marie Wiles	2002		2003
Millie Dodge	2004	Janet Keislar	2005
	2006		2007
	2008	Candy Bertaina	2009
	2010	Sue Hensel	2011
Jan Franke	2012	Peggy Gregory	2013

January 1973, there was a name change to United Methodist Women, UMW, from Women's Society of Christian Service, WSCS.
Special Honors Planned for WSCS Past Presidents[164]

Special recognition will be given to all past presidents of the Women's Society of Christian Service at a noon luncheon on Thursday. The group meets in the social hall of the First United Methodist Church. Circle one, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Cora Johnson, will be hostess. "Rejoice" will

[164] January 8, 1973, Hanford Sentinel, page 9

be the title of the program led by Mrs. Gerald Schumacher. At the December meeting the group voted to retain the current slate of officers for the new year. The WSCE will be combined with the Wesleyan Service Guild and the name of the new organization will be United Methodist Women. Mrs. James Peden will lead the group again this coming year. She will be assisted by Mrs. Schumacher, vice president; Mrs. Marshall Williams, secretary; Mrs. O.D. McCutcheon, treasurer. Chairmen include Mrs. Vena Adams, missionary education; Mrs. Ernest Spittler, social relations; Mrs. D. S. Alcorn, spiritual growth; Mrs. Sydney Schellinger, local church responsibility; Mrs. Johnson, secretary of program materials, and Mrs. David Alcorn, sunshine lady. The LARCH cluster of the Fresno district will meet at the Hanford church with the UMW for a workshop on the Readiness-to-Move Events on Jan. 30 at 2 p.m. Included in the cluster are Lemoore, Armona, Corcoran, Riverdale, Caruthers and Laton, and the first letters were combined to form the cluster name.

Methodist Women Plan Golden Harvest Bazaar

By Ruth Gomes, Special to the Sentinel

Fifty years ago, a member of the Cordell Circle suggested a Harvest Tea and Bazaar as both a social event for the community and a fund-raising opportunity for the then-Women's Society of Christian Service at First United Methodist Church. Cordell Circle, named for Verda Cordell whose husband Robert as pastor at First UMC at one time, was comprised of the "young" women of the church – mostly young mothers, but full of enthusiasm and energy. The president was Bernice Dixon. As plans fell into lace, all of the church women's circles became involved. The event was a resounding success that grew into an annual affair. The women's organization, with roots in the old Ladies Aid, became United Methodist Women after the merger of the Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren denominations in 1968. Makeup of the circles has changed to involve women of all ages. The annual bazaar has continued uninterrupted for a half-century. This year's Golden Harvest Bazaar from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13, will be the 50th staging of the event, with attractions including luncheon, a white elephant sale, needlework, baked goods, gifts and toys.[165]

[165] October 31, 1998, Hanford Sentinel

In 2019, the United Methodist Women at Hanford UMC closed, due to a decline in membership.

In March 2022, United Methodist Women nationally changed its name to: United Women in Faith! The move is part of a refreshing of the organization that includes a new logo and an array of new and improved programs to nurture current members and welcome new women to join to put their love in action on behalf of women, children, and youth. Website is: uwfaith.org

Youth Exchange

Mrs. Robert Bair, chairman of the committee for the international Christian youth exchange, read letters from the students from Iceland and Korea who will be coming to live with two of the church families for the next school year.[166]

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

The youth group (UMYF) has been a part of our church for a long time. Up until several years ago, Dian Chono had been working with the youth. The church decided to make youth activities more of a priority and hired Tim Greilich as a youth pastor. Tim and Dian worked with the youth at the junior high and high school level. They went on outings, including a visit to the Santa Clara UMC where the youth went on Saturday night to Great America for several Christian concerts and slept at the church. The youth groups from a few other UMC's gathered there for the night and practiced songs the youth would sing for the Santa Clara church the next morning. Another highlight for the youth was the annual summer high school youth camp at Redwood Christian Park.

[166] May 20, 1965, Hanford Sentinel, page 9

After Tim left, Dian Chono carried on and the youth group ebbed and flowed. This has continued even today as the leaders have changed and so have the youth. Currently John Haley is the youth leader. The annual events that the youth have been involved in recent years are the 30-hour famine, trip to Spirit West Coast, and youth-led Sunday morning services. The last three years have seen as many as 50 youth participating in various events at various times, even though with no real consistent pattern. We know that the youth fellowship and activities are touching lives for the future.[167]

Chapter 9

Church Leaders[168]

STAFF	1975	1976	1977	1978
Pastor	Doyle H. Porter	Doyle H. Porter	Doyle H. Porter	Doyle H. Porter
Director of Music				Gloria Sadler
Organist			Helen Alcorn	Ruth Verboon
Custodian				Ray Evers

CHAIRPERSON	1975	1976	1977	1978
Administrative Board	Ray Wiltshire, Jr.	Pat Schumacher	Pat Schumacher	Pat Schumacher
Admin Board Vice Chair	Louise Card	Melvin Hall	Phil Maroot	Phillip Maroot
Administrative Board Recording Secretary	Marie Wiles	Marie Wiles		Margaret Zumwalt
Boy Scout Representative	Robert Jensen	Robert Jensen	Robert Jensen	Robert Jensen
Camps		Audrey Soluri	Rachel Altamirano	Rachel Altamirano
Enlistment and Career Planning	Abbie Thyarks	Abbie Thyarks	Anna Garner	Anna Garner
Church & Society	Virginia DiMuccio	Virginia DiMuccio	Virginia DiMuccio	Virginia DiMuccio
Communion Steward	Clarence Garner Anna Garner	Ruth Verboon	Ruth Verboon	Nell Bourne Lala Phillips
Council on Ministries		Wilma McCutchen	Wilma McCutchen	Wilma McCutchen
District Steward				Gayle Cannon
Ecumenical Relations	Harold Griswold	Harold Griswold	Harold Griswold	
Education	John Humfreville	John Humfreville	John Humfreville	John Humfreville Dorothy Thomasson
Evangelism	Gayle Cannon	Lew Frasieur	Lew Frasieur	J. Walter Fowler Lew Frasieur
Finance & Stewardship		O. D. McCutcheon	O. D. McCutcheon	Jack Card
Financial Secretary	C. L. "Jack" Burnham	Rosemary Clark	Rosemary Clark	Rosemary Clark
Health & Welfare	Barbara Bock	Barbara Bock	Barbara Bock	Gayle Cannon
Historian	Evelyn Hanse	Evelyn Hanse		Ruth Verboon Lois Griswold
Lay Leader	William Hazen	Opal Williams	Opal Williams	Raymond Noland Opal Williams
Lay Member to Annual Conference - Alternate	William Hazen George Thomasson	Abigail Thyarks Virginia Porter	Abigail Thyarks Virginia Porter	Ina Van Leer Virginia Porter

[167] Personal correspondence, John Haley, March 19, 2000.

[168] The principal resources for this chapter were taken from the annual church directories and the charge conference reports. If fields are left blank, it is because the records do not list who filled the role for that year, or the committee structure was changed. Unfortunately, many wonderful people served tirelessly, and are not able to be recognized because there is no record of the committee assignment which they volunteered to serve.

CHAIRPERSON	1975	1976	1977	1978
		Ina Van Leer		
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Helen Alcorn	Vince Correll	Ina Van Leer	Vince Correll Abigail Thyarks
Lay Speaker	John Humfreville	John Humfreville	John Humfreville	John Humfreville
Missions	Eileen Barrios	Eileen Barrios	Charlotte Crisswell	Charlotte Crisswell
Pastor Parish Relations	Melvin Hall	David Alcorn	David Alcorn	James Martin
Religion & Race	Josie Garcia	Josie Garcia		Vivian Hernandez
Status & Role of Women			Jaclyn Voelz	Jaclyn Voelz
Treasurer	Ray Noland	Ray Noland	Jack Burnham	Jack Burnham
Trustee	George Thyarks	Tom Douma	Tom Douma	Ralph Green
United Methodist Men				Harold Griswold
United Methodist Women				Janis Hanse
Worship	Betty Fadenrecht	Betty Fadenrecht		Louise Card

STAFF	1979	1980	1981	1982
Pastor	Doyle H. Porter	Doyle H. Porter Brown Higginbotham	Brown Higginbotham	Brown Higginbotham
Director of Music	Gregory H. Miller	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber	Barbara G. Weber
Organist	Ruth Verboon		Diane Van Beek	Diane Van Beek
Pianist			Jaci Voelz	
Membership Secretary	Sadie Waanders	Sadie Waanders	Sadie Waanders	Sadie Waanders
Custodian	Mr. & Mrs. Ray Evers			Ray Evers Leo & Betty Mizner

CHAIRPERSON	1979	1980	1981	1982
Administrative Board	Lois Peden	Lois Peden	Lois Peden	Terry Tomkins
Admin Board Vice Chair	K. Phillip Maroot	John Humfreville	John Humfreville	John Humfreville
Administrative Board Recording Secretary	Willa "Niki" Correll	Willa "Niki" Correll	Gayle C. Cannon	Gayle Cannon
Boy Scout Representative	Gilbert Veach	Gilbert Veach	John Humfreville Gilbert Veach	Gilbert Veach
Camps			Jim & Marge Gregory	Jim Gregory
Career Planning	Anna Garner	Armine Buntz	Armine Buntz	Abbie Thyarks
Church & Society		Wilma McCutchen	Wilma McCutchen	
Communion Steward	Gladys & Forest Speck	Gladys & Forest Speck	Lois Peden Cora Johnson	Lois Peden Cora Johnson
Council on Ministries	Harold Griswold	Harold Griswold		
District Steward	Gayle Cannon	Gayle Cannon	Pat Schumacher	
Ecumenical & Interreligious Concerns	Pat Schumacher	Pat Schumacher	Harlan & Opal Bollman	David Potter Gayle Cannon
Education	Dorothy Thomasson	Dorothy Thomasson	Ellen Frasieur	Ellen Frasieur
Evangelism	J. Walter Fowler	J. Walter Fowler	Walt Fowler	David Potter
Finance & Stewardship	Jack Card	Jack Card	George Thyarks	George Thyarks
Financial Secretary	Betty Mizner	Betty Mizner	Armine Buntz	Barbara McGinty
Health & Welfare	Betty Fadenrecht	Betty Fadenrecht	Monte & Barbara McGinty	David Potter Gayle Cannon
Historian	Ruth Verboon Lois Griswold	Barbara Bock	Barbara Bock	Barbara Bock
Lay Leader	Raymond Noland	Raymond Noland	Ray Noland	Monte McGinty
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Vincent Correll Abigail Thyarks	Vincent Correll Abigail Thyarks	Abbie Thyarks George Thyarks	Abbie Thyarks George Thyarks

CHAIRPERSON	1979	1980	1981	1982
			Opal Williams	Opal Sargent
Lay Member to Annual Conference - Alternate	Ina Van Leer Virginia Porter	Virginia Porter	Lois Griswold, La Verne Higginbotham	Lois Griswold La Verne Higginbotham
Lay Speaker	John Humfreville	John Humfreville	John Humfreville	John Humfreville
Membership Nurture, Care			Ray Noland	Ellen Frasieur
Missions	Charlotte Criswell	Opal Williams	Opal Williams	Opal Sargent
Parsonage	Fran Hazen		Jim & Lela Taylor	Jim & Lela Taylor
Pastor Staff Parish Relations	James Martin	Vincent Correll Jan Junell	O. D. McCutcheon	O. D. McCutcheon Verne Adams
Religion & Race	Joyce Fadenrecht	William Hazen	Bill Hazen	Dave Potter
Status & Role of Women	Jaclyn Voelz	Catherine Dyksinski	Catherine Dyksinski	Gayle Cannon
Sunday School Superintendent			Jack Card	Candy Bertaina
Treasurer	C.L. "Jack" Burnham	Hilda Douma	Hilda Douma	Marge Gregory
Trustee	George Abel	Gerald Schumacher	Verne Adams	Jane McCutcheon
Trustees Vice President			Randy Jones	Jon Wiltshire
UMYF				Jon Spaulding
United Methodist Men	Jack Card		Terry Tomkins	Terry Tomkins
United Methodist Women	Lois Peden	Abbie Thyarks	Abbie Thyarks	Abbie Thyarks
Worship	Louise Card	Louise Card	Betty Mizner	Betty Mizner
Youth Council (UMYF)			Randy Jones, Paul Jensen	Jim & Jane Johnson
UMYF Adviser			Jim/Marge Gregory	Jim Gregory
Memorial				Lois Peden
Public Relations				Monte McGinty
Black Colleges				Dave Potter

STAFF	1983	1984	1985	1986
Pastor	William A. Birdsey	William A. Birdsey	William A. Birdsey	William A. Birdsey Charles Tanner-Dorn
Director of Music	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber
Organist	Diane Van Beek	Diane Van Beek		Ruth Beucler
Membership Secretary	Sadie Waanders Virginia Noble	Virginia Noble	Virginia Noble	Virginia Noble
Custodian	Leo & Betty Mizner	Leo & Betty Mizner	Leo & Betty Mizner	Leo & Betty Mizner

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	1983	1984	1985	1986
Adult Studies Teachers			Pat Schumacher David Potter Merle Tuck	Barbara Weber Merle Tuck
Church School Teachers				Heidi Birdsey Valerie Barber Ruth Verboon Wilma McCutchen Patty Ferrell
Preschool			Heidi Birdsey Wilma McCutchen	
Kindergarten to 1st			Ruth Verboon	
3rd to 6th Grade			Valerie Barber	
7th to 12th Grade			Rev. Bill Birdsey	

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	1983	1984	1985	1986
Pairs & Spares			Barbara G. Weber	
Home Bible Studies	Eloise Holmquist	Eloise Holmquist	Eloise Holmquist	

CHAIRPERSON	1983	1984	1985	1986
Official Board	Terry Tomkins	Terry Tomkins	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Official Board Vice Chair	Jack Card	Jack Card	Jack Card	Terry Tomkins
Official Board Recording Secretary	Gayle Cannon Ruth Hunter	Cheryl Lupercio	Cheryl Lupercio	Shirley McNeil
Acolyte Coordinator			Wilma McCutchen	Wilma McCutchen
Boy Scout Representative	Gilbert Veach	Gilbert Veach		Gilbert Veach
Camps	Jim Gregory	Daniel Kline	Daniel Kline	Duane Kerr
Church School Superintendent	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Tracy Yingst Mary Raper	Tracy Yingst
Coffee Hour			Armine Buntz	Armine Buntz
Communion Steward	Lois Peden Cora Johnson	Luci Burnworth	Luci Burnworth Michelle Reed	Luci Burnworth Michelle Reed
Christian Education	Candy Bertaina		Lew Frasieur	Tracy Yingst
Evangelism	David Potter	David Potter	David Potter	Roberta Tomkins
Finance	George Thyarks	Ron Raper	Gayle Cannon Jim Taylor	George Thyarks
Financial Secretary	Barbara McGinty	Barbara McGinty	Barbara McGinty	Barbara McGinty
Greeter Coordinator			Delana Embrey	Opal Sargent
Historian	Barbara Bock	Barbara Bock	Hilda Douma	Hilda Douma
Lay Leader	Monte McGinty	Monte McGinty	Abbie Thyarks	Danny Armstrong
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Abbie Thyarks George Thyarks Opal Sargent	Abbie Thyarks George Thyarks Steve Spalding	Mary Raper Ron Raper	George Thyarks Barbara Weber
Lay Member to Annual Conference - Alternate	Lois Griswold, La Verne Higginbotham	Jon Wiltshire		John Humfreville
Lay Reader				Jack Burnham
Lay Speaker	John Humfreville Gayle Cannon	Gayle Cannon	Gayle Cannon	
Membership Nurture, Care	Ellen Frasieur			
Memorial	Marie Martin	Marie Martin	Ruth Gomes Lois Peden	Ann Gross
MethAdults			George/Abby Thyarks	Leo & Betty Mizner
Missions	Gayle Cannon	Gayle Cannon	Gayle Cannon	Diana Armstrong
Parsonage	Daniel Kline	Daniel Kline	Mary Grant	Mary Grant
Pastor/Parish/Staff	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Pat Schumacher	Pat Schumacher Bob Junell
Pot Luck Coordinator			George/Abby Thyarks	
Potluck & Coffee Hour				Armine Buntz
Sick & Shut-ins			Wilma McCutchen	Wilma McCutchen
Singles			Ruth Verboon	
Treasurer	Marge Gregory	Marge Gregory	Marge Gregory	Marge Gregory
Trustee	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Bob Junell	Jack Card, Jim Taylor
Trustee Vice Chairperson	Jim Taylor	Bob Junell	George Abel	Jim Taylor
UMYF Leaders	Kevin/Vickie Mizner	Billie Hanse	Larry & Judy Burford	Larry & Judy Burford
UMYF Youth			Skeeter Evans	
United Methodist Men	Terry Tomkins	Gerald Schumacher	Gerald Schumacher	Gerald Schumacher

CHAIRPERSON	1983	1984	1985	1986
United Methodist Women	Lois Peden	Jane McCutcheon	Jane McCutcheon	Abbie Thyarks
Usher Coordinator			John Humfreville	Walt Russell
Worship	Betty Mizner	Betty Mizner	Verne Adams	Verne Adams

STAFF	1987	1988	1989	1990
Pastor	Charles Tanner-Dorn	Charles Tanner-Dorn	Charles Tanner-Dorn Dr. Philip C. Greer	Dr. Philip C. Greer
Youth Minister				Tim Greilich
Choir Director	Barbara Weber Gordon Wolf	Gordon Wolf Susan Borges	Matthew Burton	Matthew Burton
Organist	Ruth Malding		Cara Boyer	Cara Boyer
Pianist				Diana Greer
Membership Secretary	Virginia Noble	Virginia Noble Marie Gallagher Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman
Custodians	Leo & Betty Mizner	Leo & Betty Mizner	Leo & Betty Mizner	Leo & Betty Mizner

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	1987	1988	1989	1990
2-3 Year Olds	Patty Ferrell			
1st & 2nd Grade	Tracy Yingst			
3rd to 6th Grade	Marge Gregory			
Jr. & Sr. High	Susan Tanner-Dorn		Doug True	Monte McGinty
Adult	Merle Tuck Barbara Weber Valerie Barber		Merle Tuck Charles Tanner-Dorn	Philip C. Greer
Refuge Bible Study			David Beeman	David/Vicki Beeman
2nd to 6th Grade			Ruth Verboon	David Beeman
4 year to 1st Grade			Mike/Candy Bertaina	
4th to 6th Grade				David Beeman
4 year to 3rd Grade			Mike/Candy Bertaina	Mike/Candy Bertaina
Praise & Music			Candy Bertaina	Diana Greer
4-5 Year Olds	Mike /Candy Bertaina			

CHAIRPERSON	1987	1988	1989	1990
Administrative Council	Jim Gregory	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams
Admin Council Vice Chair	Terry Tomkins	Terry Tomkins	Terry Tomkins	Terry Tomkins
Ad Council Recording Sec	Ruth Hunter	Ruth Gomes	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman
Acolytes	Wilma McCutchen		Joyce Lundy	Joyce Lundy
Boy Scout Representative	Gilbert Veach	Gilbert Veach	Gilbert Veach	Gilbert Veach
Camping Interests	Terry Tomkins		Terry Tomkins	Terry Tomkins
Christian Education	Tracy Yingst	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell
Church Librarian	Diana Armstrong			Hilda Douma
Communion Steward	Ruth Verboon Helen Alcorn		Jan Junell Vicki Beeman	Jan Junell Vicki Beeman
Evangelism	Roberta Tomkins	Roberta Tomkins	J. Walter Fowler	Roberta Tomkins
Finance	George Thyarks	George Thyarks	Tim Small James Chevess	James Chevess
Financial Secretary	Barbara McGinty	Barbara McGinty	Barbara McGinty	Barbara McGinty
Greeters	Opal Sargent		Harold Griswold	Harold Griswold
Historian	Hilda Douma		Opal Wells	Opal Wells

CHAIRPERSON	1987	1988	1989	1990
Lay Leader	Danny Armstrong	Doug True	Doug True	Doug True
Lay Member - Alternate	John Humfreville			
Lay Member to Annual Conference	George Thyarks	George Thyarks	Doug True David Beeman	Doug True David Beeman
Lay Readers	Jack Burnham Walt Fowler		Fred Rader	Fred Rader
Lay Speaker			Patty Ferrell	
Librarian	Diana Armstrong			Hilda Douma
Memorial Funds	Ann Gross	Renee True	Renee True	Renee True
MethAdults	Leo & Betty Mizner	Gil & Kathryn Veach	Gilbert Veach	Gilbert Veach
Missions/Social Concerns	Linda Escobar	Linda Escobar	Linda Escobar	Linda Escobar
New Disciples				David/Vicki Beeman
Outreach				Linda Escobar
Sick & Shut-ins	Wilma McCutchen	Wilma McCutchen	Rev. Alfred Boyer	The Rev. Al Boyer
Staff Parish R. Vice Chair			Marge Gregory	Marge Gregory
Staff Parish Relations	Dr. Robert Junell	Dr. Robert Junell	Mike Bertaina	Mike Bertaina
Sunday School Superintendent	Tracy Yingst	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell
Treasurer	Marge Gregory	Marge Gregory Terry Tomkins	Marge Gregory Terry Tomkins	Marge Gregory Jack Card
Trustee	Jim Taylor	James Taylor	Jim Martin	James Taylor
UMYF Leader	Larry & Judy Burford	Dian Chono	Dian Chono	Dian Chono
UMYF President		Charles Steinway		Shawn McDougall
United Methodist Men	Gerald Schumacher	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
United Methodist Women	Abigail Thyarks	Abigail Thyarks	Opal Wells	Opal Wells
Ushers	Bob Jensen		Bob Jensen	Bob Jensen
Worship	Verne Adams	Fred Rader	Fred Rader	Fred Rader
Youth Coordinator	Dian Chono	Dian Chono	Dian Chono	Dian Chono
Trustee Vice President	Jack Card	Jim Martin	Monte McGinty	Terry Tomkins

STAFF	1991	1992	1993	1994
Pastor	Dr. Philip C. Greer	Dr. Philip C. Greer	Dr. Philip C. Greer	Dr. Philip C. Greer
Choir Director/Pianist	Diana Greer	Diana Greer	Diana Greer	Diana Greer
Organist/Musician	Cara Boyer	Jo Scarber Haley	Jo Scarber Haley	Jo Haley
Membership Secretary	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman Arlene Taylor
Youth Minister	Tim Greilich			
Custodian	Leo & Betty Mizner	Leo & Betty Mizner	Rick Stryd	Rick Stryd
Administrative Council Recording Secretary	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	1991	1992	1993	1994
1st to 3rd Grade	Mike/Candy Bertaina	Dawn/Marty Martin	Dawn/Marty Martin	
4th to 6th Grade	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman
Adult	Phil Greer	Phil Greer Doug True	Phil Greer Doug True	Phil Greer Doug True
Good News, Weekday		Dian Chono	Linda Escobar	Linda Escobar
Jr. & Sr. High	Tim Greilich	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Praise & Music	Diana Greer	Diana Greer	Diana Greer	
Preschool to Kindergarten	Ray & Bobbi Mueller	Ray & Bobbi Mueller	Ray & Bobbi Mueller	Ray & Bobbi Mueller

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	1991	1992	1993	1994
Refuge Bible Study	Randy & Dian Chono	David Beeman	David Beeman	
Preschool to 3rd				Laura Driver Ray Mueller
UMYF Bible Leader			David Beeman	David Beeman
Monday Evening Bible Study			John & Jo Haley	
Tuesday Evening Bible Study		Phil Greer	Phil Greer	
Friday Evening Bible Study			Robert Luksemburg	

CHAIRPERSON	1991	1992	1993	1994
Administrative Board	Verne Adams	Dr. Robert Junell	Dr. Robert Junell	Dr. Robert Junell
Admin Board Vice Chair	Terry Tomkins	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Acolytes Coordinator	Joyce Lundy	Joyce Lundy	Joyce Lundy	Arlene Taylor
Boy Scout Representative	Gil Veach/Phil Greer	Phil Greer	Phil Greer	
Camping Interest	Phil & Diana Greer	Phil & Diana Greer	Phil & Diana Greer	Phil & Diana Greer
Children's Coordinator	Eleanor Hamilton			
Christian Education	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell
Church Librarian	Hilda Douma	Hilda Douma	Carol Luksemburg	Carol Luksemburg
Communion Steward	Jan Junell Vicki Beeman	Jan Junell Vicki Beeman	Jan Junell Vicki Beeman	Jan Junell Candy Bertaina
Evangelism	Doug True	Doug True		
Finance	Jim Chevess	Jim Chevess	David Beeman	
Finance Vice President			Marty Martin	
Financial Secretary	Barbara McGinty	Barbara McGinty	Barbara Messier Betty Mizner	Barbara Messier Betty Mizner
Greeter Coordinator	Harold Griswold	Harold Griswold	Harold Griswold	Harold Griswold
Historian & Photographer	Opal Wells	Doug & Laura Driver	Doug & Laura Driver	Doug & Laura Driver
Lay Leader	Doug True	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman
Lay Member - Alternate		Diana Greer	Diana Greer	Diana Greer
Lay Member to Annual Conference	David Beeman Doug True	David Beeman Robert Luksemburg	Barbara Messier Robert Luksemburg	Barbara Messier Robert Luksemburg
Lay Readers Coordinator	Fred Rader	Fred Rader	Doug True	Doug True
Librarian	Hilda Douma	Hilda Douma	Carol Luksemburg	Carol Luksemburg
Memorial Funds	Bobbi Mueller	Bobbi Mueller	Roberta Tomkins	
MethAdults	Al Boyer/Gil Veach	Jim Martin	Jim Martin	
Missions/Social Concerns	Linda Escobar	Linda Escobar		
New Disciples	David/Vicki Beeman	David/Vicki Beeman	David/Vicki Beeman	David/Vicki Beeman
Outreach	Linda Escobar	Linda Escobar	Linda Escobar	Peggy Gregory
P. A./Audio Recording	Robert Luksemburg Jan McDougall	Robert Luksemburg Marty Martin	Robert Luksemburg Marty Martin	Robert Luksemburg Marty Martin
Parsonage	James Martin			
Praise & Music	Diana Greer	Diana Greer	Diana Greer	Diana Greer
Administrative Council Recording Secretary,	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman
Sick & Shut-in	Wilma McCutchen	Wilma McCutchen		
Staff Parish R. Vice Chair	Marge Gregory	Marge Gregory		
Staff Parish Relations	Mike Bertaina	Mike Bertaina	Raymond Mueller	Raymond Mueller
Sunday School Superintendent	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell		

CHAIRPERSON	1991	1992	1993	1994
Treasurer	Marge Gregory	Marge Gregory	Arlene Taylor	Arlene Taylor
Treasurer - Associate	Jack Card	Jack Card	Renee True	Renee True
Trustee	Renee True	Gerald Schumacher	Gerald Schumacher	Renee True
Trustee - Vice Chairperson	Jim Taylor	Jim Taylor	Jim Taylor	Candy Bertaina
UMYF President		Misty Escobar	Misty Escobar	Valerie Ferrell
United Methodist Men	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
United Methodist Women	Opal Wells	Abigail Thyarks	Abigail Thyarks	Abigail Thyarks
Ushers Coordinator	Dr. Bob Jensen	Dr. Bob Jensen	David Beeman	David Beeman
Worship	Phil Greer	Robert Luksemburg	Robert Luksemburg	Robert Luksemburg
Youth Coordinator	Dian Chono	Dian Chono	Dian Chono	Dian Chono

STAFF	1995	1996	1997	1998
Pastor	Dr. Philip C. Greer	Dr. Philip C. Greer	Dr. Philip C. Greer H. Richard White	H. Richard White Nadine R.M. Graham
Director of Music	Diana Greer	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber
Musician	Jo E. Haley	Diana Greer Jo E. Haley	Patricia George Diana Greer	Patricia George
Membership Secretary	Jo E. Haley	Jo E. Haley	Joanne Fansett	Joanne Fansett
Family Life Co-ordinate			Alexis Smith-Adams	
Custodian	Rick Stryd	Pete Simmons Jean Odland	Jean Odland	Jean Odland

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	1995	1996	1997	1998
Coordinator of Children's Church		Bobbi Mueller		
1st & 2nd Grade		Bobbi Mueller		
3rd & 4th Grade		David Beeman		
4th, 5th, 6th Grades	David Beeman			
5th & 6th Grade		Dawn Martin		
Adult	Doug True	Barbara Weber Phil Greer		
Friday Nite Flight Bible Study		Robert Luksemburg		
Jr. & Sr. High	Jim Gregory	Jim & Peggy Gregory		
Preschool to Kindergarten	Ray/Bobbi Mueller	Laura Driver		
Refuse Bible Study		Randy & Dian Chono		
UMYF Bible Leader	David Beeman			

CHAIRPERSON	1995	1996	1997	1998
Administrative Council	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Vice Chair, Admin Council	Dr. Robert Junell	Dr. Robert Junell	Erik Wilkins	Erik Wilkins
Acolytes Coordinator	Arlene Taylor	Arlene Taylor	Arlene Taylor	Arlene Taylor
Boy Scout Representative		Phil Greer	Phil Greer	
Business Committee			Verne Adams	Joe Casey
Camping Interest	Phil & Diana Greer	Phil & Diana Greer		
Children's Church		Bobbi Mueller		
Children's Choir	Candy Bertaina			
Christian Education	David Beeman	David Beeman		
Communion Stewards	Jan Junell Candy Bertania	Jan Junell Candy Bertaina	Jan Junell	

CHAIRPERSON	1995	1996	1997	1998
Congregational Life			Jan McDougall	
Finance		Verne Adams		
Financial Secretary	Barbara Messier Betty Mizner	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman
Greeters Coordinator	Harold Griswold	Harold Griswold	Chuck Taylor	
Historian & Photographer	Doug & Laura Driver	Doug & Laura Driver	Doug & Laura Driver	
Lay Leader	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell
Lay Member Annual Conference Alternate	Carol Luksemburg Diana Greer	Diana Greer	Diana Greer	Jim Gregory
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Barbara Messier Robert Luksemburg	Patty Ferrell Peggy Gregory	Patty Ferrell Peggy Gregory	Patty Ferrell Peggy Gregory
Lay Readers Coordinator	Doug True			
Lay Speaker				Patty Ferrell Russell Graham
Memorials	Roberta Tomkins	Roberta Tomkins		
MethAdults		Ruth Gomes	Betty Mizner	Betty Mizner
Missions				
New Disciples	Jo E. Haley	David/Vicki Beeman	David/Vicki Beeman	David/Vicki Beeman
Outreach	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	
P.A./Audio Recording	Robert Luksemburg Marty Martin	Randy Chono John Haley	Randy Chono John Haley	Randy Chono Aaron Klein
Parsonage				
Praise and Worship	Diana Greer	Diana Greer		
Sunshine Singers	Candy Bertaina Diana Greer			
Staff Parish Relations	Ray Mueller Marty Martin	Marty Martin Bob Junell	Bob Junell	Mike Bertaina
Treasurer	Arlene Taylor	Marie Wiles	Marie Wiles	Marie Wiles
Treasurer, Associate	Renee True	Renee True	Renee True	Renee True
Trustee	Renee True	Jack Card		
Trustees, Vice Chairperson	Candy Bertaina	Bobbi Mueller		
UMYF President	Melissa Denton			
United Methodist Men	Jim Gregory	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams
United Methodist Women	Abigail Thyarks	Frances Creelman	Frances Creelman	Pat Schumacher
Ushers Coordinator	Jo Haley	Gerald Schumacher	Gerald Schumacher	
Worship	Jan McDougall	Jan McDougall		
Worship Team	John Haley	John Haley		
Youth Coordinator	Dian Chono	Dian Chono	Dian Chono	Dian Chono
Youth Delegate to An Conf	Misty Escobar		Laura Gregory	Laura Gregory

STAFF	1999	2000	2001	2002
Pastor	Nadine Graham	Nadine Graham	David Niu	David Niu
Music Director	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber
Membership Secretary	Joanne Fansett	Joanne Fansett	Kaylan Clark	Cristin Haley
Musician	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George
Nursery Co-coordinator	Shawnee Toste	Shawnee Toste	Shawnee Toste	Shawnee Toste
Nursery Assistants	Dawn Escobar Zujeli Rios	Dawn Escobar Zujeli Rios	Dawn & Zujeli-6 mo. Jessica Rios-6 months	Jessica Rios
Custodian	Jean Odland	Jean Odland	Louis Cooper	Louis Cooper

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	1999	2000	2001	2002
Pre-Kindergarten - 4th Grade	Alison Klein David Beeman Candy Bertaina Mike Bertaina	Alison Klein David Beeman Linda Escobar Cassie Trzcinski	Alison Klein Shawnee Toste	
Adult	Nadine R.M. Graham Charlie Tanner-Dorn Jim Taylor John Haley	Nadine R.M. Graham Charlie Tanner-Dorn Russell Graham John Haley	David Niu David Beeman	Doug True Janet Keislar David Beeman
Pre-Kindergarten - 4th Grade - Assistants	Marie Wiles Joyce Lundy Edna Hathaway	Marie Wiles Joyce Lundy Edna Hathaway		Lisa Wegley
Junior Youth	Russell Graham Lisa Wegley	John Haley Cassie Trzcinski Russell Graham Cristin Garretson	John Haley Cristin Haley Melissa Denton	John Haley Cristin Haley Melissa Denton Jay Smith
Senior Youth	John Haley Cassie Trzcinski	Combined with junior youth		

CHAIRPERSON	1999	2000	2001	2002
Vision Board	Erik Wilkins	Erik Wilkins	Lisa Wegley	Lisa Wegley
Acolyte Coordinator	Arlene Taylor		Cristin Haley	Cristin Haley
Boy Scout Representative	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams
Business Committee	Joe Casey			
Children's Choir	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina
Communion Steward	Jan Junell Candy Bertaina	Jan Junell Candy Bertaina	Jan Junell Candy Bertaina	Jan Junell Candy Bertaina
Education	David Beeman	David Beeman		David Niu
Endowments	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Evangelism/Outreach	Ruth Gomes		Verne Adams	Verne Adams
Finance	Joe Casey	Cassie Trzcinski		Bob Junell
Financial Secretary	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman
Historian	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Lay Leader	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Peggy Gregory Patty Ferrell	David Beeman Patty Ferrell	David Beeman Patty Ferrell	David Beeman Patty Ferrell
Lay Member to Annual Conference - Alternate	Jim Gregory			
Lay Speaker	Patty Ferrell Russell Graham	Russell Graham		

CHAIRPERSON	1999	2000	2001	2002
MethAdults	Betty Mizner	Betty Mizner	Betty Mizner	Betty Mizner
Missions		Roy & Delfa Randles	Roy & Delfa Randles	Roy & Delfa Randles
Outreach	Ruth Gomes		Verne Adams	Verne Adams
P.A./Audio Recording	Randy Chono Aaron Klein	Randy Chono Aaron Klein	Randy Chono	Randy Chono Sky Sequin
Staff Parish Relations	Mike Bertaina	Bob Junell	Bob Junell	Doug True
Sunday School Superintendent	David Beeman	David Beeman		
Treasurer	Marie Wiles	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory
Treasurer, Assistant	Peggy Gregory	Marie Wiles	Marie Wiles	Marie Wiles
Trustee	Arlene Taylor	Arlene Taylor	Mike Wegley	Jim Gregory
United Methodist Men	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams
United Methodist Women	Pat Schumacher	Marie Wiles	Marie Wiles	Betty Mizner
UMYF leaders	John Haley Cassie Trzcinski Russell Graham Lisa Wegley	John Haley Cassie Trzcinski Russell Graham Lisa Wegley		
Worship	Nadine R.M. Graham	Nadine R.M. Graham		
Youth Delegate to Annual Conference	Laura Gregory	Laura Gregory		
Celebration & Remembrance Fund	Roberta Tomkins	Ruth Lucas	Ruth Lucas	Ruth Lucas

1999 Chancel Choir			
Barbara Ayers	Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown
Melissa Denton	Mildred Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Alysia Graham
Nadine Graham	Russell Graham	Peggy Gregory	John Haley
Janis Junell	Abby Thyarks	Amanda Wiles	

1999 Children's Choir			
Susie Chavis	Melanie Dutra	Alysia Graham	Kayla Griggs
Katie Harris	Jessica Rios	Jesus Rios	Thomas Trzcinski
Jessie Toste	Lexee Toste	Stephen Wegley	

2002 Sanctuary Choir

Vicki Beeman	Cristin Haley	Sue Hensel	Candy Bertaina
Louise Hubbard	John Simon	Gloria Brown	Jan Junell
Millie Dodge	Amanda Wiles	David Niu	Patty Ferrell
Marilyn Peden	Bob Peden	Jan Franke	Rosanne Freeburg
Peggy Gregory	Sky Seguin		

2002 Children's Choir			
Ruth Niu	Doyle Niu	Stormie True	Kayla Griggs
J.J. Gozun	Lexee Toste	Jesus Rios	Stephen Wegley

STAFF	2003	2004	2005	2006
Pastor	David Niu Heather Bailes	Heather Bailes	Heather Bailes	Heather Bailes
Music Director	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber	Barbara Weber
Membership Secretary	Cristin Haley	Cristin Haley Laura Gregory Diane Volcansek	Diane Volcansek Suzanne Paddock	Suzanne Paddock
Pianist	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George
Children's Ministry Coordinator	Shawnee Toste	Rhonda Smith	Rhonda Smith	Rhonda Smith
Nursery Assistant	Alison Klein	Alison Klein	Alison Klein	
Custodian	Louis Cooper	Louis Cooper	Louis Cooper	Louis Cooper

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	2003	2004	2005	2006
Adult	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman
Pre-Kindergarten – 3rd Grade				Carole Hester
4th -8th Grade Youth				Jim Gregory

CHAIRPERSON	2003	2004	2005	2006
Vision Board	Lisa Wegley John Haley	John Haley Doug True	Doug True	Doug True
Acolyte Coordinator	Alison Klein Cristin Haley			
Boy Scout Representative	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Heather Bailes	
Children's Choir	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina
Communion Steward	Candy Bertaina Jan Junell	Candy Bertaina Jan Junell	Candy Bertaina Jan Junell	
Education		Janet Kieslar		
Endowments				
Evangelism/Outreach				
Finance	Bob Junell	Bob Junell	Bob Junell	Bob Junell
Financial Secretary	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman
Historian	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Lay Leader				Patty Ferrell
Lay Member to Annual Conference	David Beeman Patty Ferrell	David Beeman Patty Ferrell	David Beeman Patty Ferrell	David Beeman Patty Ferrell
Lay Member to Annual Conference - Alternate				
Lay Speaker				
MethAdults			disbanded	
Missions	Roy Randles	Roy Randles	Roy Randles	Roy Randles
Outreach	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	
P.A./Audio Recording	Randy Chono Sky Seguin	Randy Chono Sky Seguin	Randy Chono Sky Seguin	Randy Chono Sky Seguin
Staff Parish Relations	Doug True	Doug True	Desi Chono	Desi Chono Jim Gregory
Treasurer	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory
Treasurer, Assistant	Marie Wiles	Diana Boone		
Trustee	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Bob Peden

CHAIRPERSON	2003	2004	2005	2006
United Methodist Men	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams
United Methodist Women		Louise Card	Janet Kieslar	Janet Kieslar
Worship				Jan Junell
Celebration & Remembrance Fund	Ruth Lucas	Ruth Lucas	Ruth Lucas	Renee True

2003 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown	Grace Diaz
Millie Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Cristin Haley	Sue Hensel
Janis Junell	David Niu	Bob Peden	Marilyn Peden
Sky Seguin	Amanda Wiles	Jan Creelman	Ruth Gomes
Ron Wong			

2003 Children's Choir			

2003 Acolytes

Stormie True Emily Klein

2004 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown	Greg Hain
Millie Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Ruth Gomes	Sue Hensel
Janis Junell	David Niu	Bob Peden	Marilyn Peden
Sky Seguin	Amanda Wiles		

2005 Acolytes

2005 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown	Janis Junell
Millie Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Ruth Gomes	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	Marilyn Peden
Sky Seguin	Amanda Wiles		

2006 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown	Janis Junell
Millie Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Ruth Gomes	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	Marilyn Peden

Amanda Wiles	Korean Student		

STAFF	2007	2008	2009	2010
Pastor	Heather Bailes	Heather Bailes Susan Foster	Susan Foster	Susan Foster
Music Director	Barbara Weber	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina
Membership Secretary	Suzanne Paddock Pricilla Carol Weisser	Carol Weisser	Carol Weisser Laura Callio Lupe Hernandes	Lupe Hernandes Traci Lundin
Pianist	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George
Children's Ministry Coordinator				
Nursery Assistant				
Custodian	Louis Cooper	Louis Cooper	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	2007	2008	2009	2010
Adult	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman
Pre-Kindergarten – 3rdGrade	Carole Hester	Carole Hester	Carole Hester	Carole Hester
4th – 11th Grade Youth	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Senior Youth				

CHAIRPERSON	2007	2008	2009	2010
Vision Board	Doug True			
Acolyte Coordinator				
Boy Scout Representative				
Business Committee				
Children's Choir	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina
Communion Steward	Candy Bertaina Jan Junell			
Education				
Endowments				
Evangelism/Outreach				
Finance	Bob Junell			
Financial Secretary	John Simon Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel
Historian	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Lay Leader				
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Sue Hensel Patty Ferrell			Patty Ferrell Peggy Gregory
Lay Member to Annual Conference - Alternate			Sue Hensel	
Lay Speaker				
Missions	Roy Randles			
Outreach	Verne Adams			
P.A./Audio Recording	Kirk Wyman Melonie	Kirk Wyman Melonie	Kirk Wyman Melonie	Kirk Wyman
Staff Parish Relations	Jim Gregory			

CHAIRPERSON	2007	2008	2009	2010
Treasurer	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory
Treasurer, Assistant				
Trustee	Bob Peden	Bob Peden	Bob Peden	Bob Peden
United Methodist Men	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams
United Methodist Women				
UMYF				
Worship				
Youth Delegate to Annual Conference				
Celebration & Remembrance Fund				

2007 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown	Janis Junell
Millie Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Ruth Gomes	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Robert Geissler	Robert Peden	Marilyn Peden
Amanda Wiles		Elizabeth Littrell	Kathleen Wilson

2009 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown	Janis Junell
Millie Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Kathleen Wilson	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	Marilyn Peden
Amanda Wiles			

STAFF	2011	2012	2013	2014
Pastor	Susan Foster	Susan Foster	Susan Foster	Susan Foster
Music Director	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina
Membership Secretary	Traci Lundin	Lindsay Wilson, Chelsea Larson	Chelsea Larson Mickey Lewis	Jan Franke*
Pianist	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George
Children's Ministry Coordinator				
Nursery Attendant				
Custodian	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado
Gardner			Jim Shoemaker*	Jim Shoemaker* John Meadows*

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	2011	2012	2013	2014
Adult				John Meadows Susan Foster

Pre-Kindergarten – 3rd Grade	Carole Hester	Carole Hester	Carole Hester Connie Cavavos	Connie Cavavos
Jr. High	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman
High School	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	

CHAIRPERSON	2011	2012	2013	2014
MST Chairman	Doug True	Jim Shoemaker	Jim Shoemaker	Jim Shoemaker
Acolyte Coordinator				
Boy Scout Representative				
Business Committee				
Children's Choir	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina
Communion Steward	Candy Bertaina Jan Junell	Jan Junell	Jan Junell	Jan Junell
Endowments				
Evangelism/Outreach				
Finance	Bob Junell	Combined into MST		
Financial Secretary	John Simon Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel
Historian	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Lay Leader	Merged into MST			
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Sue Hensel Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell	Jay Gozun	Jay Gozun David Beeman
Lay Member to Annual Conference - Alternate				
Lay Speaker				
Missions	Roy Randles			
Outreach	Verne Adams			
P.A./Audio Recording	Kirk Wyman Melonie	Kirk Wyman Melonie		
Staff Parish Relations	Jim Gregory	Combined into MST		
Treasurer	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory
Trustee	Bob Peden	Combined into MST		
UGC		Bob Junell	Bob Junell	Bob Junell
United Methodist Men	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams	Verne Adams David Beeman
United Methodist Women	Carole Hester	Carole Hester	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel
UMYF	Jay Gozun	Jay Gozun	Jay Gozun	
Worship				
Youth Delegate to Annual Conference			Jay Gozun	
Celebration & Remembrance Fund		Renee True	Renee True	Renee True
Webpage			Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory

2011 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown	Janis Junell
Millie Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun

Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	John Meadow	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Robert Geissler	Robert Peden	Kathleen Wilson
Amanda Wiles			

2012 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Gloria Brown	Janis Junell
Millie Dodge	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Kathleen Wilson	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	Marilyn Peden
Amanda Wiles	John Meadows	Jessica Brockie	

2013 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Andrea McDonald	Janis Junell
Samantha McDonald	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Kathleen Wilson	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	
Amanda Wiles	John Meadows	Jessica Brockie	

2014 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Andrea McDonald	Janis Junell
Samantha McDonald	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Kathleen Wilson	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	
	John Meadows	Jessica Brockie	

*Members who volunteer at previously paid positions

Ministry Support Team (MST) is the leadership group in our church that is tasked with caring for our resources; money, staff and building. Trustees, Finance, and SPRC have been combined into this one committee.

Board of Discipleship (BOD) is tasked with ensuring that we as a congregation are growing in the ways in which we follow Jesus. All are welcome!

Undesignated Gift Committee (UGC) is tasked with monitoring the investments and making investment reports and recommendations to MST.

STAFF	2015	2016	2017	2018
Pastor	Susan Foster/ Cynthia Stateman	Cynthia Stateman	Cynthia Stateman	Cynthia Stateman Pablo Rovere
Music Director	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina
Membership Secretary	Jan Franke*	Jan Franke* Jessica Brooke	Jessica Brooke	Stephanie Mendonca
Pianist	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George	Patricia George
Custodian	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado
Gardner	Jim Shoemaker*	Jim Shoemaker*	Jim Shoemaker* John Meadows	Jim Shoemaker* John Meadows

Children Nursery			Lynda Rodriguez	Lynda Rodriguez

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	2015	2016	2017	2018
Adult	John Meadows	John Meadows		
Pre-Kindergarten – 3rd	Connie Cavazos	Connie Cavazos	Connie Cavazos	Connie Cavazos
Jr. High	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman

CHAIRPERSON	2015	2016	2017	2018
MST Chairman	Glen Lenox	Glen Lenox	Doug True	Doug True David Beeman
Acolyte Coordinator				
BOD	Peggy Gregory		Andrea McDonald	Andrea McDonald
Children's Choir	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina
Communion Steward	Candy Bertaina Jan Junell	Jan Junell		
Finance	Bob Junell Combined into MST	Bob Junell Combined into MST		
Financial Secretary	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel
Historian	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Lay Leader	Merged into MST			
Lay Member to Annual Conference	J.J. Gozun Cat Barclay	Cat Barclay David Beeman	Cat Barclay David Beeman	Cat Barclay David Beeman
Missions	Roy Randles			
Outreach				
P.A./Audio Recording	Rebecca Eversall Leon McDonald	Rebecca Eversall Leon McDonald	Rebecca Eversall Leon McDonald	Rebecca Eversall Leon McDonald
Staff Parish Relations	Combined into MST	Combined into MST		
Treasurer	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory
Trustee	Jim Gregory Combined into MST	Jim Gregory/ Combined into MST	Jim Gregory/ Combined into MST	John Meadows
UGC	Bob Junell	Bob Junell	Bob Junell	
United Methodist Men	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman	David Beeman
United Methodist Women	Vicki Beeman	Vicki Beeman	Andrea McDonald	Andrea McDonald
Worship				
Celebration & Remembrance Fund				
Webpage	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory

2015 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Andrea McDonald	Janis Junell
Samantha McDonald	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Kathleen Wilson	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	
	John Meadows	Jessica Brockie	

2016 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Andrea McDonald	Janis Junell
Samantha McDonald	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Kathleen Wilson	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	John Meadows

2017 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Andrea McDonald	John Meadows
Samantha McDonald	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Jake Gozun
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Bob Peden	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler		

STAFF	2019	2020	2021	2022
Pastor	Pablo Rovere	Pablo Rovere	Pablo Rovere	Pablo Rovere
Music Director	Candy Bertaina	Candy Bertaina		
Membership Secretary	Stephanie Mendonca	Stephanie Mendonca		
Pianist & Organist	Patricia George	Patricia George	Tyrell McKenzie	Cavan O'Neill
Custodian	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado	Mary Delgado
Gardner	Jim Shoemaker* John Meadows*	Jim Shoemaker* John Meadows*	Jim Shoemaker* John Meadows*	Jim Shoemaker* John Meadows*
Children Nursery	Lynda Rodriguez	Lynda Rodriguez		

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS	2019	2020	2021	2022
Adult	Larry McDonald	Larry McDonald		
Pre-Kindergarten	Carole Hester	Carole Hester		
3rd & 4th Grade	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory		
Jr. High	David Beeman	David Beeman		

CHAIRPERSON	2019	2020	2021	2022
MST Chairman	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Steve Noel
Acolyte Coordinator				
Board of Discipleship	Larry McDonald	Larry McDonald		Peggy Gregory
Communion Steward			Janice Alves	Janice Alves
Finance	Bob Junell Combined into MST	Bob Junell Combined into MST	Peggy Gregory	Jeanette Keith
Financial Secretary	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel	Sue Hensel
Historian	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory	Jim Gregory
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Cat Barclay	Cat Barclay David Beeman	Patty Ferrell	Patty Ferrell
Missions	Roy Randles			
Outreach				
P.A./Audio Recording	Rebecca Eversall Leon McDonald	Steve Noel Leon McDonald	Steve Noel	Steve Noel
Staff Parish Relations	Combined into MST	Combined into MST	Monica Kuhl	David Beeman
Treasurer	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory
Trustee			Bob Junell	Bob Junell
UGC	Bob Junell	Bob Junell	Bob Junell	Bob Junell
United Methodist Men	David Beeman	Jim Shoemaker		
United Methodist Women	Vicki Beeman			
Celebration & Remembrance Fund	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory
Webpage	Peggy Gregory	Peggy Gregory	Pablo Rovere	Pablo Rovere

2019 Sanctuary Choir

Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Andrea McDonald
Samantha McDonald	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Sue Hensel
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden
Jake Gozun	John Meadows	

2020 Sanctuary Choir			
Vicki Beeman	Candy Bertaina	Andrea McDonald	John Meadows
Samantha McDonald	Patty Ferrell	Jan Franke	Sue Hensel
Mary Jane Gozun	Peggy Gregory	Jake Gozun	
Polly Geissler	Bob Geissler	Bob Peden	

March 2020 to the winter of 2021 was a challenging time for the church, due to the COVID-19 shutdown. Church services and all indoor activity ceased, according to the guidelines of the Kings County Health Department and the Methodist Conference office. Efforts were made to provide worship service on Zoom. During and after this time, church attendance and giving were down, but the pastor's salary and benefits remained. Building insurance and utility invoices were ongoing**.**

Chapter 10

Saints That Have Passed On Before Us

In the 1920's and1930's, many active women of the church were organized into three circles. Information taken from an old directory found in the church archives:

Circle Number 1

#	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE #
1	Mrs. Theo. Geisler	1214 W. Whitmore	1048-J
2	Mrs. Hattie Chase	Rte. 3, Box 518	
3	Mrs. J. W. Lane	208 W. Ivy Street	
4	Mrs. E. H. Howe	200 W. Grangeville Blvd.	1265
5	Mrs. C. W. Robinson	Hotel Whilton	
6	Mrs. M. Forest Speck	Rte. 4, Box 670	1382-W
7	Mrs. E. S. Rucker	1107 N. Whitmore	962-J
8	Mrs. W. E. Milwee	1430 Whitmore	1004-H
9	Mrs. & Miss Jean	519 N. Redington	723-J
10	Mrs. G. K. Spike	P. O. Box 88	1214-J
11	Mrs. M. A. Williamson	509 N. Kaweah	
12	Mrs. Minnie White	1016 N. Brown	
13	Mrs. Jos. W. De Boe	1310 N. Kaweah	421-J
14	Mrs. G. C. McMurry	411 E. 10th	
15	Mrs. G. T. Reinhard	319 Center	1136-W
16	Mrs. Chas. Denham	Rte. 1, Box 8	186-R
17	Mrs. Harold Ruhlman	425 W. Grangeville	442-W

18	Mrs. W. S. Davis	1620 N. Harris	
19	Mrs. Paul Francis	411 E. 10th	1376-W
20	Mrs. E. E. Wahrenbrock	1631 N. Harris	873-W
21	Mrs. Ida Shaw	224 E. 10th	419-M
22	Mrs. Etha Alexander	Rte. 5, Box 994	
23	Mrs. Lucy Kilmer	1016 N. Brown	
24	Mrs. Lettie Ratcliffe	119 N. Irwin	222
25	Mrs. Chester Howe	Rte. 3, Box 380	49-F-11
26	Mrs. Annie Sagaser	Rte. 4, Box 580A	
27	Mrs. Dapalene Winfield	Rte. 4, Box 201	

Circle Number 2

President: Mrs. Jake Neighbor **Secretary: Mrs. C. H. Bertram**

#	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE #
1	Abraham, Mrs. Walter	Rte. 2, Box 109 1131 W. 7th St.	1358-W
2	Baker, Mrs. Flora with Miss Elsie Smith	119 Bush St.	432-M
3	Barnett, Mrs. Z. T.	320 N. Douty	1874-W
4	Beckman, Mrs. Charlie (Ethel)	410 E. Myrtle	1426-J
5	Bertram, Mrs. C. E. (Mamie)	1500 N. Douty	1047-W
6	Bomar, Mrs. T. S. (Eula)	218 W. Elm	108-J
7	Brown, Mrs. J. L. (Grace)	328 W. Elm	352-W
8	Campbell, Mrs. Hugh (Lottie)	231 W. Myrtle St.	993-M
9	Chatom, Mrs. Tom (Grace)	515 Neville	952
10	Crain, Mrs. W. R. (Effie)	120 E. Florinda St.	165-J
11	Green, Mrs. R. A. (Eva)	611 E. 9th	584-M
12	Grimshaw, Ms. R. T. (Mary)	315 W. Ivy	424-M
13	Griswald, Mrs. J. C. (Gladys)	Rte. 1, Box 7 1810 N. Douty Ave.	735-J
14	Hinkle, Mrs. L. J. (Stella)	415 W. Elm	
15	Humphrey, Mrs. Effie	919 N. Harris	1028
16	Jenkinson, Mrs. T. A. (May)	1318 N. Irwin	1574-W
17	Knapp, Mrs. Guy	209 E. Myrtle	554-W
18	Logan, Mrs. Frances	P. O. Box 419 11th St. just off Brown	
19	McCormick, Mrs. Byron	407 Neville	1172-R
20	Neighbor, Mrs. J. L. (Amy)	1234 N. Redington St.	436-W
21	Pinney, Mrs. N. R. (Vera)	110 Irwin Court	50-J
22	Reinhard, Mrs. Stanley (Grace)	325 Center Street	673-W
23	Railsback, Mrs. Mary	132 E. 10th St.	1578-R
24	Railsback, Mrs. S. E. (Martha Ellen)	820 N. Irwin	531-M
25	Upchurch, Mrs. G. F. (Janie)	226 Bush St	1135-W

Circle Number 3

President: Mrs. Alpheus E. Griswold **Secretary: Mrs. E. J. Shofner**

#	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE #
1	Adams, Mrs. L. M. (Inez)	1418 Middleton St	166-M
2	Anderson, J. C. (Anna)	436 Ford St	1155-R
3	Anderson, Mrs. Mae	Rte. 1 Box 43, Douty Ave	10-F-11
4	Andrews, Mrs. A. B. (Josephene)	1120 Whitmore St	306-J
5	Baker, Mrs. Edgar (Effie)	128 W. Lang	646-J
6	Bourne, Mrs. J. R. (Nola)	1215 N. Kaweah St	1092-W
7	Bourne, Mrs. Rex (Nell)	227 W. 8th St	617-J
8	Cackler, Mrs. W. D. (Eva)	436 ? Porter St	312
9	Griswold, Mrs. Alpheus E. (Etta)	Rte. 5, Box 512	29-P-12
10	Harrington, Mrs. C. F. (Grace)	227 ? Florinda St	108-M
11	Kloinfelt, Mrs. Martin (Helen)	318 ? County Road	1096
12	Malott, Mrs. J. (Ellen)	Rte. 5, Box 967, W. Grangeville	550-W
13	Malott, Mrs. M. E. (Florence)	Rte. 5, Box 967, W. Grangeville	550-J
14	May, Mrs. Roy (Belle)	1316 N. Irwin St	634-W
15	Meldrim, Mrs. Mildred	818 N. Douty St	456-R
16	Montgomery, Mrs. P. L. (Myrtle)	304 N. Harris	
17	Morrow, Mrs. Claude (Grace)	Rte. 5, Box 411, McKinley	1430-J
18	Paula, Mrs. Geo. (Laveta)	514 N. Kaweah St	1196-J
19	Powell, Mrs. L. M. (Mary)	206 E. 11th St	895
20	Rea, Mrs. Ora	224 Katherine St	597-R
21	Roulsten, Mrs. R. H. (Jonnie)	123 E. 9th St	1881-J
22	Scazighjni. Mrs. Roy (Edith)	Rte. 5, Box 450	
23	Shofner, Mrs. L. J. (Ethel)	210 ? Myrtle St	643-W
24	Stewart, Mrs. Geo. (Pauline)	Rte. 3, Box 241	40-F23
25	Waggoner, Mrs. G. C. (Judy)	131 E. Grangeville Blvd	1399

Necrology – Almighty Father we ask your blessing on the souls of our departed members. We thank you for their membership in the Hanford First United Methodist Church these many years. And now that they have passed on to the greater light, that light which we cannot receive while here in body, we ask you to receive them under your protected care to the honor and glory of your holy name, Amen. May their souls rest in lasting peace.

This chapter is a biography of members who, in the last quarter of a century, have passed on before us. These are stories which are often the last memory loved ones have of someone cherished, and it's the deceased introduction to a sea of strangers. The names are listed chronologically, according to the date of death. The dates of birth, church membership and death, were primarily found in the official church membership books. Most of the biographical information was found in obituaries in The Hanford Sentinel.

Jan Creelman, Ruth Gomes' daughter, created a First United Methodist Church Virtual Cemetery, which contains, as of February 2014, 144 church members. The website can be found at: http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=vcsr&GSvcid=176742 Most of the Find A Grave records have a photo of the gravestone.

GUSTAV T. REINHARD - Funeral services for Gustav T. Reinhard, well known resident of Hanford for many years, who passed away at his home on Center Street early Monday morning, were held Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Methodist church, Rev. Robert E. Cordell officiated. Jacques Paschall of Selma sang a solo and joined with Miss Marjorie McLennan of Hanford in singing two duets. Vern Vickers and Miss Ansie Doup accompanied the singers at the pipe organ. The big church was thronged with friends of Mr. Reinhard who had long been a prominent member of the church and an active member of local Masonic orders. Members of the Knights Templar lodge who acted as pall bearers were George Fowler, Dr. R. S. Fulford, George Rogers, Alec Ballie, Robert McKim and C. N. Richardson. Masonic rites were observed at the graveside in Hanford cemetery. Interment was under direction of Peoples Undertaking Parlors. [169]

The office of biography is not to give voice to a man's estimate of himself and his accomplishments, but rather to leave upon the record the verdict establishing his character by the consensus of opinion on the part of his neighbors and fellow citizens. The life of G.T. Reinhard has been one of service, for in two distinct and important lines of effort he has been eminently successful in contributing to the pleasure and desires of the public. G.T. Reinhard is a native of the Keystone state, born in Bath, Pennsylvania, January 3, 1865. He received his elemental education in the public schools, and then, having shown marked talent in music, he became a student in the Bethlehem Musical Seminary, at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. For three years he studied pipe organ under Prof. J.F. Wolle, and became an expert player on this instrument, with which he had been familiar from the age of thirteen years. For many years thereafter he was pipe organist in eastern cities and since coming to California, his active service embracing a period of over thirty-five years. For five years he was organist at the Methodist Episcopal church in Hanford and is now organist for the Masonic lodge and commandery and for the Kiwanis Club. With a profound knowledge of music and a technical mastery of his instrument, he is thoroughly competent and his fine work has given pleasure to thousands who have heard him. Mr. Reinhard was practically reared to the life of a marble worker. His father owned and operated a granite and marble works in Easton, Bath, Pennsylvania, and his eight sons worked with him, all learning the trade and becoming skilled workmen. These sons have all been successful in life, one becoming a banker, another a government official, another an official of the United States Steel Corporation, and all standing high in their respective communities. G.T. Reinhard remained at home and eventually

[169] Hanford Morning Journal, October 8, 1937

became his father's partner in business. Later he went to Wesley, Rhode Island, where he was a runner for the Smith Granite Company, a large company employing four hundred men. Subsequently he became a traveling salesman, with headquarters in Philadelphia, for Tainter & Company, memorial art dealers in New York city, one of the most important concerns of its kind in the United States, employing fifteen traveling salesmen. He sold direct to people of wealth and prominence in eastern Pennsylvania and was very successful, leading the entire force of salesmen in the volume of his business. In 1909 Mr. Reinhard came to California on a six weeks trip and was so delighted with the state that he decided to make his future home here. He first located in Porterville, where for six months he was associated with his brother, H.J. Reinhard, who had preceded him to this state. In 1910 Mr. Reinhard came to Hanford and engaged in business for himself and has had no cause to regret his location here. From a modest beginning he has seen his business steadily grow until today he employs four men and enjoys his full share of public patronage. He produces marble and granite memorials of every character and among the fine monuments he has erected in the Hanford cemetery are those for the following families; Hefton, Finn, John Rice, Lacey, Ross, Prior and Banium. He uses much eastern and midwestern granite, but specializes in California granite, which is harder and more durable and takes a finer polish than other granites. He also imported some granite from Aberdeen, Scotland. Good work and courteous service have been the elements that have contributed to his success and he is held in the very highest esteem by all who know him. Mr. Reinhard was married to Miss Anna C. Miller, a native of Pennsylvania, and they have two children: Grace and Stanley. Mr. Reinhard is a Mason, in which order he has taken the Knight Templar degree of the York Rite and the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite. He is a member of the Hanford Kiwanis Club and takes a deep interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the community and the advancement of the city along all legitimate lines. [170]

Note - G.T. Reinhard was the organist at the dedication of the current Hanford United Methodist Church building in 1927. One of the gifts to the church was the cornerstone
which was presented by G.T. and his son Stanley.

Note - Located at the Hanford United Methodist Church Window # 6, "Blessing the Children," reminds us that Christ loved the children and taught that we must become as little children, with child-like faith and trust in divine love if we are to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

This window is a memorial to:
Gustav Theodore Reinhard 1865-1937
Anna Caroline Reinhard 1868-1970
Ruby Bloyd Reinhard 1887-1935
Grace Elizabeth Reinhard 1889-1963
Stanley Edwin Reinhard 1887-1964
Given by the family and friends

[170] History of Tulare County, California, Vol. II, 1926, by Kathleen Edwards Small

ALPHEUS E. GRISWOLD

August 29, 1955
Hanford Sentinel photo

ALPHEUS GRISWOLD - Retired Rancher Dies at Age of 79. Alpheus Edward Griswold, 79, retired Hanford rancher and long an active member of the First Methodist church here died Saturday in a local hospital. He was a native of Iowa and had lived in Hanford for the past 67 years. Griswold had been a member of the church since he was 13 years old and was a trustee at the time of his death. He had held the trusteeship since 1926. Born in Victor, Iowa, he was a son of the late Oscar Trout Griswold and Lucretia Griswold, who farmed at the north end of Douty street here. He attended the Cross Creek and Hanford elementary schools and late went into farming with his brother Ernest on the old Gant place on 11th avenue north of Hanford They raised grapes. Griswold retired 10 years ago. The ranch still is operated by the family. On May 4, 1909, he was married to Etta Center, member of an early Sanger family. Mrs. Griswold survives him, as do three sons, Edward, Lyman and George Griswold, all of Hanford; two daughters, Jeanette Powell and Evelyn Parker, also of Hanford, four brothers, Elmer and Ernest Griswold, both of Modesto, James C. Griswold of Shell Beach, and Perry Griswold of San Jose, and one sister, Mrs. Mae Anderson of Hanford. Ten grandchildren also survive. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. tomorrow in the First Methodist church with Rev. Harry Shaner officiating. Interment will follow in the Grangeville cemetery.[171]

MAUDE EVELYN WALTZ, born 1881, died 1957. Age 75 of Hanford died Saturday morning at her home. She was a native of Hanford. She is survived by her husband Royal L. Waltz of Hanford; one son Freeland Waltz of San Jose; one daughter Mrs. John Hanse of Hanford; two sisters Mrs. Mae D. Deacon of Hanford and Mrs. Ada Price of Placerville and six grand-children. She was a longtime member of the First Methodist Church of Hanford, a past matron and member

[171] Hanford Sentinel August 29, 1955, obituary and accompanying article and photo

of Cambria Pine chapter of Eastern Star, and a gold star mother of the American Legion Auxiliary. Funeral services will be held in the First Methodist Church here on Tuesday at 2 p.m. Rev. Harry Shaner will officiate. Interment will follow in the Grangeville cemetery under the direction of People's Undertaking Parlor. [172] Certificate of Transfer of membership from Grangeville Methodist Church to Hanford Methodist Church on September 26, 1937. Membership was transferred to Cambria Presbyterian Church on November 1945.

MAUDE WALTZ, Pioneer, 75, Dies in Sleep – Maude Evelyn Waltz, 75, a descendant of an early California family, did in her sleep this morning at her home in Excelsior Ave. She had been an invalid for the past ten years. She was born on Fargo Ave., in 1881, a daughter of Martha Robinson and Freeland Parrish. Mrs. Parish had come to what was then Tulare County in 1873, and Parrish came here from Santa Cruz County in 1878. Mrs. Waltz attended Pioneer Union school and moved in September 1900 into the North Redington St., home where she and Royal L. Waltz were married in 1902. They would have observed their golden anniversary next month. Waltz is a well-known dairy cattleman. In 1943 the couple moved to Cambria, where Mrs. Waltz was matron of Cambria Pines chapter 525, Order of Eastern Star, and a gold star mother in the American Legion. A son, Royal Lawrence Waltz, was reported missing in the fighting at Tawawa in 1943. The couple returned to Kings County in 1953. Besides her husband, she leaves one son, Freeland Waltz of San Jose, a daughter Mrs. John Hanse of the Hardwick district; two sisters, Ada Price of Placerville and Mae Deacon of Hanford; a niece Mrs. George Lopache of San Francisco, and six grandchildren. Funeral services will be held in the First Methodist Church at 2 p.m. Tuesday, with Harry Shaner officiating. Interment will follow in Grangeville cemetery. [173]

[172] Obituary published Hanford Sentinel, March 2, 1957.
[173] Hanford Sentinel, March 2, 1957.

H.W. Campbell Dies During Church Service

Seated in his customary pew at the First Methodist Church for Sunday morning services, Hugh W. Campbell collapsed yesterday and was pronounced dead on arrival at Hanford Community Hospital where he was taken by Sullivan-Odell ambulance.

Campbell, 83, was the dean of YMCA workers in the San Joaquin Valley and probably in the state. His association with the Y dated back to 1880 as a youth in Pittsburgh, Pa. He later helped organize the first YMCA in the Valley in Sanger in 1909.

When Campbell came to Hanford in 1918 his interest in the Young Men's Christian Assn. became a bolstering influence and he later was to serve the longest tenure of any man as its president for the 16 years between 1930 to 1946. For his continuing devotion to its work and principals, the Kings County YMCA bestowed upon Campbell the title of president emeritus and the main lodge at Camp Redwood also was named in his honor.

H. W. CAMPBELL

[174]

HUGH WALLACE CAMPBELL – Date of Birth, November 15, 1874 in Kentucky, Date of Death, December 8, 1957.

H.W. CAMPBELL, FORMER Y BOARD PRESIDENT, DIES

Hanford - Hugh Wallace Campbell, 83, died suddenly yesterday when he suffered a heart attack while attending services in the First Methodist Church. He was pronounced dead on arrival at a local hospital. Campbell, a native of Augusta, Kentucky, had lived in Hanford 39 years. He was a member emeritus of the Kings County Young Mens Christian Association board of directors and served as president of the board from 1930 to 1946. He became interested in the YMCA work while a resident of Sanger and was one of the early supporters of the YMCA in the San Joaquin Valley. Campbell was a member of the First Methodist Church. He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Lois Brekenridge of Fresno, Mrs. Grace Henderson of Fowler, and Mrs. Ruth Bock of Hanford; two sisters, Mrs. Christine Short of Sanger and Mrs. Elizabeth MacDonald of Los Angeles, and six grandchildren. Funeral services will be held at 2 PM tomorrow in the People's Undertaking Parlor. Burial will be in the Grangeville Cemetery.[175]

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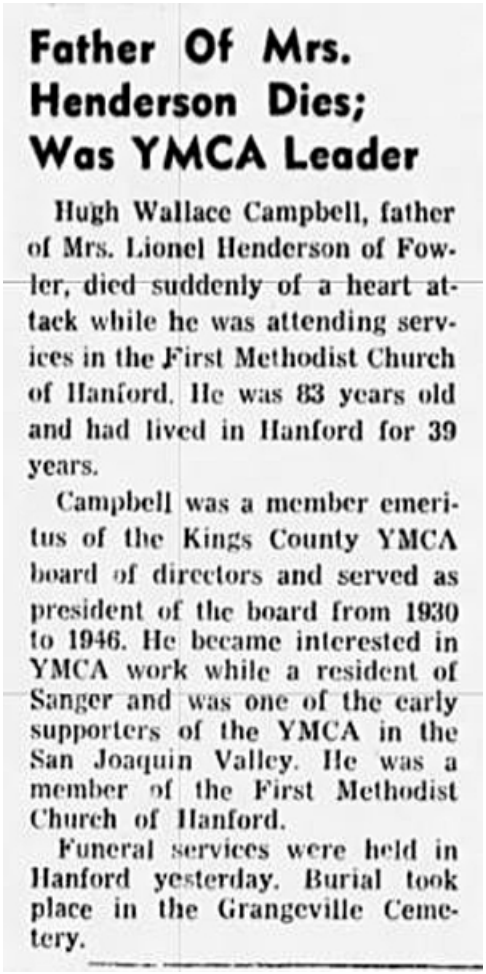
[174] Hanford Sentinel, December 9, 1957 Page 1

[175] Fresno Bee Republican, December 9, 1957



Father Of Mrs. Henderson Dies; Was YMCA Leader

Hugh Wallace Campbell, father of Mrs. Lionel Henderson of Fowler, died suddenly of a heart attack while he was attending services in the First Methodist Church of Hanford. He was 83 years old and had lived in Hanford for 39 years.

Campbell was a member emeritus of the Kings County YMCA board of directors and served as president of the board from 1930 to 1946. He became interested in YMCA work while a resident of Sanger and was one of the early supporters of the YMCA in the San Joaquin Valley. He was a member of the First Methodist Church of Hanford.

Funeral services were held in Hanford yesterday. Burial took place in the Grangeville Cemetery.

[176]

Ruth Gomes said Mr. Campbell was a real pillar of the Hanford Methodist Church. The morning he died he came down, sat in his usual place on the west side of the church, about six rows back, and collapsed, and the ambulance was called. Church proceeded on time that morning without missing a beat. I remember Helen Alcorn, who was the church organist, recognizing the seriousness of the situation, played the hallelujah chorus on the organ! I live in Hugh Campbell's house. He worked for Lacey Milling Company, possibly in accounting for many years.

EUGENIA ABAHAMS – Date of Birth July 2, 1905 in Seneca Falls, New York, Date of Death November 3, 1966. Eugenia Mae Abrahams, 61, died in a Hanford hospital Thursday. She was a native of Seneca Falls, N.Y. and had lived in this area for the past 21 years. She is survived by her widower, Kenneth Abrahams, Hanford; a son, Sgt. Edward Serry, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo; a sister, Mrs. Evelyn Laventure, Springfield, Mass.; a brother, Richard Guest, Burlington, Vt., and four grandchildren. Funeral services will be held in the Odell Colonial Chapel Saturday afternoon with the Rev. Fred Wilkins of the First Methodist Church officiating. Burial will be in the Hanford Cemetery.

[176] December 11, 1957, Fowler Ensign, Page 1-B

Find-A-Grave memorial # 172608344

[177]

JOSEPH DeBOE – Joined Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church by certificate of transfer from Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church in 1934. Joseph DeBoe, 61, died in a local hospital Friday evening. He was a native of Virginia and had lived in Hanford since 1928. DeBoe for many years had an egg and poultry business and more recently had worked for the Hanford laundry, retiring about six months ago. He was a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge. Survivors include his widow, Ethel of Hanford, one daughter, Mrs. Josephine McKee of Hanford; a sone, Jake DeBoe of Houston, Texas; two half-brothers, Thomas Ratcliffe of Elk Grove and Claude Ratcliffe of Longview, Wash, and five grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock in the Sullivan-Odell Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Robert M DeWolf of the First Methodist Church officiating. Interment will be in the Grangeville Cemetery. [178]

ETHEL DeBOE – Joined Hanford Methodist Episcopal Church by certificate of transfer from Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church in 1934. Ethel R. DeBoe, 74, died in a local rest home on Thursday. A native of Virginia, she had lived in this area for the past 40 years. Mrs. DeBoe was a member of the First Methodist Church, and a past district deputy of the Rebekah Lodge. Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Josephine McKee of Hanford; a son, Jake of Houston, Texas, and five grandchildren. Funeral services will be held in the Odell Colonial Chapel on Saturday morning at 10 o'clock with the Rev. Fred Wilkin of the First Methodist Church officiating. Interment will follow in Grangeville Cemetery. [179]

GLORIA McCUTCHEON – Born May 6, 1952, Died December 16, 1969

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[177] Ad in Hanford Sentinel, February 24, 1950
[178] Joseph DeBoe Dies at Age 61, Hanford Sentinel, June 6, 1960, page 6
[179] Hanford Sentinel, May 3, 1968, page 2

SALVATORE J. DiMUCCIO – Born April 9, 1919 in New Jersey, died June 9, 1970 in Kings County. VETERAN OF WWII 71st Fighter Squadron,

Sal served with the 71st Fighter Squadron, First Fighter Group in Algeria, Tunisia, Sicily, Napes-Foggia, Rome-Arno, Southern France and the European air offensive. He wore the Good Conduct Medal, the EAME Theater ribbon, and the Presidential Unit Citation with two Oak Leaf clusters. He was discharged in September, 1945. Sal was the son of early Italian settlers, Mike and Angeline DiMuccio. He was a graduate of Hanford Union High School, class of 1938, and of Woodbury College in Los Angeles, class of 1940. The DiMuccio family owned Hanford Bottling Company, at the corner of 7th Street and 10th Avenue where the Badaschi Tire Company is now located. He later worked at Van Andel's. His wife, Virginia, was a long-time school teacher. Their children are Michael, Sally and Stewart.

Located at the Hanford First United Methodist Church Window #2, "The Nativity," is the artist's conception of the infant Jesus in the arms of the virgin Mary. This signifies an important part of our faith and the beginning of a very important life. This window was presented by his wife Virginia and children in memory of Sal DiMuccio,

ROYAL WALTZ - born 1878, died 1970. Royal L. Waltz, a pioneer of Kings County, died Monday in San Diego at the age of 92. He is survived by his widow Ruth of San Diego; a son, Freeland of San Jose; one daughter, Mrs. John Hanse of Hanford; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Services will be held at the Wee Church of the Heather at Forest Lawn Memorial in Glendale Friday at 12:30 p.m. Those wishing may send donations to the memorial fund in his name at Wesley Palms, 2404 Loring St., San Diego. [180] Certificate of Transfer of membership from Grangeville Methodist Church to Hanford Methodist Church on September 26, 1937. Membership was transferred to Cambria Presbyterian Church on November 1945.

KENNETH M. ABRAHAMS – Date of Birth: January 6, 1909; Date of Death: February 21, 1973. Private services for Kenneth M. Abrahams, 64, who died Wednesday, will be held Friday at the Odell Colonial Chapel. He was a native of New York and had resided in the Hanford area for the past 28 years. He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the JU.S. Army, and was a retired school teacher. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Lodge 279 F. & A.M., the American Legion Post 3 and the Retired Teachers Association. Abrahams had taught at Mid-Valley School starting in 1948-49, was district superintendent at Kit Carson School in 1950-51 and late was with the Corcoran Unified School District. He is survived by one brother, Edward Abrahams, of Scottsdale, Ariz., and two nephews. Private interment will be in the Hanford Cemetery.

CHARLES DENHAM – Birth May 30, 1889 in Delano, death June 8, 1973 in Kings County. Charles was a native of Delano, CA, the son of Rollin J. and Ella Denham. He married Minnie A. Welton and they had two children, Herbert and Lucille (Denham) Rose. Charles was the accountant for Central Lumber Company in Hanford. Charles and Minnie were very active in the First United Methodist Church in Hanford.

[180] Obituary published Hanford Sentinel, October 15, 1970.

CLARENCE GILBERT CASEY – Born February 14, 1914 in Dover, Pope County, Arkansas. Died February 5, 1974. Farmer, employee of Boogard Appliances, and as a municipal civil servant. Clarence G. Casey, 59, died Tuesday evening in a local hospital. A native of Mena, Arkansas, he had lived in the Hanford area for 29 years. Casey had been employed by the City of Hanford as a traffic maintenance supervisor for a number of years prior to his retirement in 1967. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Hanford Masonic Lodge 279 F and AM, Lucerne Chapter 127 Order of Eastern Star, past noble grand of the Hanford Oddfellows Lodge 264 IOOF and he had served on the Kings County Grand Jury. Survivors include his wife, Emma Hanford; a son, Joe Casey, Hanford; a daughter, Mrs. Joyce Bezerra, Santa Clara; a brother, Charles Casey, Mapleton, Oregon; a sister, Mrs. Sarah Robbins, Indio; four grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.[181]

EVA CLARA CACKLER – Date of Birth April 22, 1880, Full Membership May 13, 1917, Date of Death January 30, 1975. Native of Iowa. She lived in Hanford for 70 years and died at the age of 94. She was the widow of W. D. Cackler, who was the Hanford Fire Chief for many years and a former city councilman.[182] Beloved for her concern to relieve suffering and need throughout the community. The Cackler family included six children: Vena, Wallis, Cody, Carl, William and Alice. In December 2021, Dan and Eva Cackler's great-granddaughter, Diane Sharp, was elected Mayor of City of Hanford.[183]

She was very close friends with my mother and father. Her husband was a fireman. I remember them as a wonderful couple. She was my mother's best friend. (Unis Hoff)

She was very active in the women's society and a friend of Gerald's mother. She had four daughters including a set of twins. (Pat Schumacher)

Her husband was Dan Cackler, a Hanford Fire Chief. Her daughter is Vena Adams. (Joyce Lundy)

CHARLES E. BOCK – Date of Birth March 5, 1906, Confession of Faith April 10, 1949, Date of Death February 17, 1975. Native of Hanford and a member of a pioneer Kings County family. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge. Charlie was one who found joy in construction of homes and buildings throughout the community and county. He was an area contractor and completed his first houses in Hanford when he was 18. Survivors include his wife Ruth, two sisters, Barbara Bock and Jeannette Eberle, and a stepson, James Orr.[184]

He was the contractor for the construction of the new education wing at the church (Tom Douma)

One of the last things I talked to Tom Douma about was Charlie and Tom crawling on the steeple and doing repair work on the roof. Charlie was very active in the church, was very well known and well liked for many years. If there was any work to be one on the church, Charlie was involved. (Gerald Schumacher)

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[181] Hanford Sentinel, February 6, 1974
[182] Hanford Sentinel, January 31, 1975.
[183] Hanford Sentinel, December 22, 2021
[184] Hanford Sentinel, February 18, 1975.

He was a building contractor. He was the one who was responsible for erecting the new wing we have on the east side of the main church. One of the things we asked Charlie about was that instead of having it look like a misfit, could we make it look like the existing church. That is the reason it looks like part of the original plant, which it is not, because Charlie had made sure the stuccoing on the outside was a matching product. (Ruth Gomes)

VERA B. PINNEY – Date of Birth November 8, 1891, Restored March 6, 1960, Date of death March 4, 1975. [185] Born in Hamburg, Iowa. She started many outstanding professional dancers on their career and was always willing to share their talent for charity.

She had Pinney Dancing Studio. Her granddaughter was a good friend of mine. She was a wonderful dancer. Pinney could make a costume out of anything and she put on these wonderful recitals every year for her dancing students. (Pat Schumacher)

Wyllien Pinney graduated from high school the same year I did in 1935. (Gerald Schumacher)

I took dancing lessons from her. We did some of the recitals on the stage of the Fox Theater. (Joyce Lundy)

Vera operated a dancing school for years and years. Her husband worked for Lemmon Brothers Garage. (Ruth Gomes)

NOLA ELIZABETH BOURNE – Date of Birth June 26, 1900, Certificate of Transfer from First Methodist, Marks, Mississippi October 13, 1940, Date of Death May 15, 1975. She died at the age of 74. She was a native of Darling, Mississippi and came to Hanford in 1930. She moved to Fresno ten years earlier. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.[186] Nola was the wife of John R. Bourne, Sr., who was a retired Sergeant Major and a veteran of World War I. John was injured in the service and was disabled. Beloved for her role as a homemaker with intense desire to maintain harmony.

EMILY MILNE CRAIG – Date of Birth January 12, 1894. She became a member of the Methodist Church by Confession of Faith May 14, 1974, Date of Death July 21, 1975. A native of Orange, New Jersey, she died at the age of 81. She moved to Fresno in 1924 and resided in Hanford for the last four years of her life. She retired from the Monroe Calculating Machine Co.[187]

ELSIE G. SMITH – Date of Birth May 17, 1887 in California, Confession of Faith April 6, 1941, Date of Death October 14, 1975, in Tulare.[188] A native of Farmington, California, she died at the age of 88. Miss Smith taught fifth grade for over 40 years at Armona Elementary School and retired in 1952. She made a home for her mother and later for her brother. She was a member of National Retired Teachers Association and American Legion Auxiliary.[189]

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[185] Hanford Sentinel, March 7, 1975.
[186] Hanford Sentinel, May 16, 1975.
[187] Hanford Sentinel, July 22, 1975.
[188] www.ancestry.com
[189] Hanford Sentinel, October 15, 1975

EULA BROOKS WILSON – Date of Birth October 21, 1912, Certificate of Transfer from Armona Methodist Church 1948, Date of Death November 23, 1975. A native of Dover, Arkansas, she was the daughter of Grady and Eva Brooks, formerly of Grangeville.[190] Eula devoted her major efforts to the role of homemaker but gave much active support to the Women's Society of her church.

She was related to Joe Casey's mother. She helped her in the cafeteria at the high school. (Pat Schumacher)

MAE DELL DEACON - Date of Birth August 2, 1883, Certificate of Transfer from First Methodist Church, Fresno May 28, 1939, Date of Death December 31, 1975 at the age of 92. Born in Grangeville, the former Mae Dell Parrish was born on what was then known as the Grangeville Vineyard northwest of Hanford. Her mother, the former Martha Robinson, came to California in a covered wagon when she was six weeks old. The Robinsons had settled first in Gilroy then on a ranch at 15th Avenue and Lacey Boulevard. When the Parrish girls were ready to attend school, the family moved to Grangeville so they would be near the schoolhouse and the family was active in community and church affairs. In 1900, they moved to 618 N. Redington St. so the girls could attend high school. On 1907, Mae married Roual Deacon who was in the lumber business in Lemoore and later in Fresno. After his death in 1937, Mrs. Deacon moved back to Hanford and built a little house at 614 N. Redington St. next to the old family home. Mrs. Deacon had been active in Eastern Star, Order of the Amaranth, Hanford Woman's Club and PEO Sisterhood. Her main interest had been her church, and she had been a member of the Methodist congregation since 1900, serving on the official board and numerous offices of the Woman's Society of Christian Service and its predecessor, the Ladies Aid. Evelyn Hanse was her niece.[191] Her entire life was spent as a homemaker and community citizen with much service rendered through her church and its organizations.

She was a good friend of my mother and an old mainstay in the church. (Gerald Schumacher)

She was very active in the women's society. She always wore a hat and she always sat at the same place every Sunday for church. She was related to the Hanse family. (Pat Schumacher)

She was related to the Waltz and Hanse family. She was very outspoken in her devotion to the church and to her God. There was no question about where Mae stood on issues. She was very active in the women's society and instrumental in guiding a number of the young women into church work. (Ruth Gomes)

Mae was the first person who spoke to Mac and me when we arrived at this church, and made us feel welcomed. She always drank hot water, and not coffee or tea at the Women's Society meetings. (Jane McCutcheon)

JOHN HANSE – Date of Birth December 13, 1903, Certificate of Transfer from Kings River Methodist Church[192] September 26, 1937, Date of Death February 15, 1976. A native of the

[190] Hanford Sentinel, November 24, 1975.
[191] Hanford Sentinel, January 2, 1976.
[192] The Kings River Methodist Episcopal Church building still stands today at the northwest corner of 11th Avenue and Excelsior Avenues.

Hardwick area in Kings County, John, after attending local schools, was engaged in farming while continually serving the community and his church. He was a past member of the board of directors of Hardwick School and past member of the board of directors of Hardwick First Side Ditch. Co. John was beloved of family, friend and neighbor. [193] Certificate of Transfer of membership from Kings River Methodist Church on September 26, 1937.

John, his wife and his whole family were very active in the Methodist church. The daughter visited us about a year ago and we recognized her the minute she walked in the door. The family is well remembered. (Gerald Schumacher)

John was born in the house that he lived in all his life on the Hanse farm. (Walt Russell)

DR. KENNETH FRANCIS TUCKER – Date of Birth April 2, 1911, Full Membership/ Other Denomination/Certificate of Transfer from Fairview Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio December 18, 1955, Date of Death July 3, 1976. He was 65.[194] Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Tucker graduated from Western Reserve University as a dentist. His practice included some time in Ohio, 1 1/2 years with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theater, a time in Los Angeles before coming in 1954 to Hanford. He retired from his dental practice in January 1976. He was known for his gentle and kind consideration for all persons. His delight in the beauty of life and creation was often expressed in his skillful painting.

His wife is still living and she plays bridge with Jane McCutcheon. (Pat Schumacher)

He was a dentist in Hanford. He was the dentist that did some work on my teeth. He was active in the church, and was well liked and well known. (Gerald Schumacher)

ANNA E. DISHMON – Date of Birth July 31, 1892, Certificate of Transfer from Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church[195] April 6, 1952, Date of Death October 22, 1976. A native of Aurora, Arkansas, she had lived in the Hanford area since 1909. She was an active participant in the women's circles at church. Anna E. Dishmon, 84, died Friday at a local hospital after a short illness. She was a native of Aurora, Indiana, and had lived in the Hanford area since 1909. She was a member of the United Methodist Church, where she was an active participant in women's circles. She is survived by a son, Ernest Dishmon of Ahwahnee, and three daughters, Mildred Kraft of Hanford, Dorothy Allison of Fresno and Helen Hanford of Pomona, and 12 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at People's Funeral Chapel, followed by burial in Hanford Cemetery.[196]

Anna used to come to church every Sunday in a little electric car. She was the mother of Millie Kraft. (Pat Schumacher)

MINA ALAMEDA CLUTE – Date of Birth September 13, 1880, Certificate of Transfer from Kings River Methodist Church September 28, 1952, Date of Death June 8, 1977. Mina, 96, was a

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[193] Hanford Sentinel, February 16, 1976.
[194] Hanford Sentinel, July 6, 1976.
[195] The Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church building is a county historical site as the first church in Kings County. The church is located near the northwest corner of 14th Avenue and Grangeville Blvd.
[196] Hanford Sentinel, October 25, 1976.

member of a pioneer California family. Her grandparents came by ox team to Sutter County in 1856, and her mother was born at Marysville that year. The family later came to the Laton area and settled on land that had been claimed as part of the Laguna de Tache Grant. A native of this area, she was born on the old Eureka School site. During the San Francisco earthquake of 1906, she was attending the Deaconess Nursing School there. After returning to Hanford she did home nursing for many years and was office nurse for five years for the late Dr. Ralph Motheral. She married William E. Clute in 1924 and they farmed in the Guernsey area, where she continued to reside for six years after his death in 1941. She then sold the ranch and moved north of Hanford. She was active in community affairs and particularly in the Kings River Methodist Church and United Methodist Church of Hanford. In 1957 the pioneer reigned as Old Timer Queen for the Hanford Homecoming celebration.[197] Survivors include three sisters, Ida Garner and Irene Goodnight, both of Hanford, and Lucy Cope of Long Beach. Mina was the daughter of Amos and Mary A. (Wood) Smith. Mina was the second wife of William. His first wife was Alice (McCord) Clute. She died in 1920.

The Clute family was well known in the Guernsey area, southeast of Hanford. (Gerald Schumacher)

She had been a Sunday school teacher. (Ruth Gomes)

GRACE MORROW – Date of Birth November 5, 1892, Confession of Faith September 28, 1913, Date of Death June 28, 1977. A native of Melvern, Kansas, she was 84. She moved to Laton in 1904 and lived in Hanford since 1906. She was active in Women's Society of Christian Service, the Garden Club, and the Coterie Club.[198]

This is my mother. She and the women society always had large get togethers. My grandfather came from Kansas. They landed by train in Laton. Somehow, they acquired a tent, and pitched their tent beside a slough near Laton. (Gerald Schumacher)

I remember Grace as the ideal grandmother and ideal mother-in-law. She was really a neat lady. She was the one that got me started in the women society. She was always having rummage sales. She would always tell me that she would get someone off in the corner and she would say to them, how much are you willing to offer for that, and they would say two pennies and she might take it. (Pat Schumacher)

Before she was Grace Morrow, she was Grace Schumacher. I worked with her in Peden's Cafe when I first got out of high school, and she was wonderful to work with. (Unis Hoff)

My parents played cards with her husband Red Morrow was a barber. Red gave my son his first haircut. (Joyce Lundy)

LOSY KNAUER – Date of Birth August 5, 1895, Certificate of Transfer from First Methodist Church, Corona, CA May 29, 1966, Date of Death August 1, 1977. Age 81, she was a native of Coulterville, Illinois. She lived in Hanford the for 12 years prior to her death. She was a member of the Hanford First United Methodist Church and the PEO Sisterhood.[199]

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[197] Hanford Sentinel, June 10, 1977.
[198] Hanford Sentinel, June 29, 1977.
[199] Hanford Sentinel, August 2, 1977.

Her husband, Ernie took wonderful care of Losy, as her health declined. Her husband was Ernie Knauer. (Lois Peden)

HELEN J. BAGAR – Date of Birth August 6, 1916, Certificate of Transfer from Campbell Methodist Church, Campbell, CA March 4, 1962, Date of Death August 11, 1977. Age 61. A native of Nebraska, she had been a bookkeeper for a number of years at Lemoore Naval Air Station Exchange. She was a longtime Hanford resident.[200]

She came to church every Sunday and her mother helped her. (Pat Schumacher)

ARCHIE BASSETT – Date of Birth December 4, 1895, Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Madera May 5, 1963, Date of Death September 18, 1977. Age 81. A native of Hanford, he had farmed near Madera for many years and near Fresno for several years. He was a prominent livestock breeder, a member of the California Pork Producers Association., the California Hampshire Swine Association, a long-time member of the Agricultural Advisory Committee of Fresno State University, held an honorary State Farmer Degree from the Future Farmers of America.[201]

Archie grew up north of town. His dad and the whole family were raising purebred hogs. Later on, he moved from Hanford, then came back and became active in the Methodist Church. (Gerald Schumacher)
He married Lela Malott's sister, Florence. (Lois Peden)

FLORENCE L. FLAMME – Date of Birth, August 8, 1890 in Kansas, Certificate of Transfer from Trinity Methodist, Chico, CA May 24, 1953, Date of Death December 28, 1977 in Fresno.[202] Husband, Carl, was a gardener. Age 87. A native of Kansas, she had lived in the Hanford area from 1953 to 1966, and then moved to Fresno.[203]

Her daughter was Lois Van Gundy. Lois was a member of our church for quite a while. (Pat Schumacher)

VENA E. ADAMS – Date of Birth December 24, 1900, Full Membership May 13, 1917, Certificate of Transfer to First United Methodist Church Las Vegas on October 14, 1975, transferred membership back to Hanford United Methodist Church on June 6, 1976, Date of Death April 21, 1978. Age 77, of Las Vegas, she was a native of Lucas County, Iowa. She came to Hanford in 1905 with her late parents, former Fire Chief W. D. and Eva Cackler. She graduated from local schools. She lived in Las Vegas the last three years before her death. She and her late husband, Pete Adams, owned and operated Art's Print Shop in Hanford for a number of years.[204]

Vena Adams was one of the Cackler daughters. (Unis Hoff)

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[200] Hanford Sentinel, August 12, 1977.
[201] Hanford Sentinel, September 20, 1977.
[202] www.ancestry.com
[203] Hanford Sentinel, December 29, 1977.
[204] Hanford Sentinel, April 24, 1978.

Her husband was Pete Adams, who owned Art Print Shop in Hanford. (Lois Peden)
Vena was a Cackler. She was like her mother. She was a quiet soft-spoken woman. I also knew her through the association with the veteran's organization. Her husband was a member of the American Legion. She was in the American Legion Auxiliary. (Ruth Gomes)

1948 Woodrow Wilson Jr. High School Yearbook ad

MARGARET A. ZUMWALT – Date of Birth June 28, 1922, Confession of Faith from Reseda, CA March 30, 1947, Date of Death June 25, 1978. Age 55, she was a native of Lewisburg, Ohio. She lived in Hanford since 1946 and in California since 1928. She was employed by Kings County for 22 years. She had served as secretary to the county administrative officer and at the time of her death was supervising accounting clerk for the auditor-controller's office. She served for several years on the board of directors of the Kings Federal Credit Union. She was survived by her husband, Fred, and two sons, John and Bill.[205]
Buried in Grangeville Cemetery

Margaret worked as a judge's secretary in the old courthouse. She later worked at the Kings County auditor's office with me. She helped a lot of people get jobs with Kings County. Fred was her husband. (Louise Card)
I used to play bridge with Margaret. She was a good friend of mine for many years. We started our kids out in Armona School together. Now they are grown up. Bill works for the county. Her older son John is an engineer. (Pat Schumacher)
She was an associate through Cordell Circle. Her husband later became postmaster of Hanford. She also worked for Kings County government in the administrative office. She was very efficient, very orderly, and very well organized. (Ruth Gomes)

PEARL MAUDE SPITTLER – Date of Birth June 5, 1905, Certificate of Transfer from Hamburg, Iowa April 10, 1949, Date of Death July 6, 1978.

She was a lovely lady. She had terrible problems with arthritis. She used to come to all our meetings and she always took part in women's society and she was always an officer of some kind, and I can still hear her talk. (Pat Schumacher)

SADIE B. DOUMA – Date of Birth August 3, 1893, Full Membership January 2, 1921 from Compton, CA, Date of Death October 18, 1978. Husband, Rudolph was a rancher.

She was a faithful member of the church, and sang in the choir for years and years. (Hilda Douma)
She was the mother of Tom Douma. (Gerald Schumacher)
She taught Sunday school and also brought her two sons, Tom and Rudy, to Sunday school. She came every Sunday to church. (Joyce Lundy)

[205] Hanford Sentinel, June 26, 1978.

Sadie I fondly remember as one of the Sunday school teachers. We met in what is now the nursery. She was my second teacher that I had. She taught Sunday school and sang in the choir for many years. (Ruth Gomes)

APLAND L. EASTHOUSE – Date of Birth September 28, 1894, Certificate of Transfer from St. Paul UMC, Fresno December 18, 1955, Date of Death December 5, 1978. Age 84, he was a native of Emmetsburg, Iowa and came to Laton with his parents at the age of 5. Easthouse had lived in the Laton-Hanford area since that time. He was a Hanford letter carrier for 22 years prior to his retirement. He was a veteran of World War I, member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, and National Association of Letter Carriers.[206]

HARRY B. VAN GUNDY – Date of Birth August 8, 1890, Certificate of Transfer from First Methodist Church, Marysville, Kansas September 30, 1956, Date of Death May 18, 1979. Age 88, he was a native of Tarkio, Missouri. He lived in Hanford since 1956. He was retired, having been employed as a salesman by a local automotive agency. He was a member of the Hanford Noon Lions Club. He served at the Lions Club secretary for 23 years.[207]

Harry Van Gundy was Bob's dad. Bob is a jeweler and is still very active in Hanford. Harry moved here and was very active in the Methodist Church. He seemed to always present himself very well, and was well liked. (Gerald Schumacher)

BERT R. CARTER – Date of Birth September 4, 1914, Certificate of Transfer from First Methodist Church Hillsdale, Illinois November 20, 1960, Date of Death August 13, 1979. Age 64. A native of Keyesport, Illinois, he owned and operated Bert's Dari Delite on 10th Avenue. He was a member of First United Methodist Church, was a veteran of World War II, having served in the U. S. Army Air Corps in Italy, was a member and past commander of American Legion post 3 of Hanford, member of the Military Order of the Louse, Turtle Hut 36, and Philo Lodge, F&AM, of Port Bryon, Illinois. Survivors include his wife Mary of Hanford and five children.[208]

Veteran of WWII, US ARMY AIR CORPS
Bert, age 64, was a native of Keyesport, Illinois. He owned and operated Bert's Dari Delite on 10th Avenue in Hanford, California. He was a veteran of World War II, having served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in Italy. He was a member of United Methodist Church, a member and past commander of American Legion Post 3 of Hanford, member of the Military Order of the Louse, Turtle Hut 36, and Philo Lodge, F & AM, of Port Bryon, Illinois. Survivors include his wife, Mary M. of Hanford and five children.

Owned and managed the Dari Delite drive-in restaurant on 10th Avenue (Jane McCutcheon)

Bert was Mary Carter's husband. He ran a little Dari Delite. Our twin girls used to walk down there for lunch all the time and they thought he was the nicest man. (Pat Schumacher)

His children were also active in the youth group at the time. (Gerald Schumacher)

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[206] Hanford Sentinel, December 7, 1978.
[207] Hanford Sentinel, May 19, 1979.
[208] Hanford Sentinel, August 14 and 15, 1979.

EMILY ALICE MARCUM – Date of Birth February 5, 1892, Confession of Faith May 30, 1915, Date of Death October 21, 1979. Age 87, she was a native of Columbus, Ohio. She had worked as a waitress at Peden's Cafe for many years. She also was a nurse's aide at the Kings General Hospital.[209]

G. CLEVE WAGGONER – Born about 1884, Profession of Faith March 29, 1942, Removed by Charge Conference Action April 30, 1969, Restored March 16, 1975, Date of Death December 10, 1979. Occupation: Cotton Gin Manager. Age 95, he was a native of Ladonia, Texas. He owned and operated banks in Lubbock, Texas prior to moving to California in 1939, where he invested in commodities for Anderson & Clayton Company until retiring.[210]

Cleve was known all over the area since he was a gin manager with San Joaquin Cotton Oil. He was quite well known in the area. (Gerald Schumacher)

He lived at the corner of Harris and Grangeville Blvd. (Lois Peden)

His wife Judy was active in our church. (Ruth Gomes)

JUANITA SCANLAN – Date of Birth November 12, 1920, Profession of Faith, and baptized in Fresno Community Hospital, October 28, 1980, Date of Death November 4, 1980. Age 59, she was born in Calvin, Oklahoma. She lived in Hanford for 35 years and in California since she was age five. She had attended schools in San Jose. Scanlon and her family operated the 120 Club in downtown Hanford for many years. Her mother was Belle Tomlinson of Hanford.[211]

Her husband was a bartender at the 120 Club. (Verne Adams)

ALCYE M. SCHELLINGER – Date of Birth May 17, 1914, Confession of Faith October 6, 1944, Date of Death February 18, 1981.[212]

She is an original Exeter person. She was a girlfriend of my sister when they went all through high school. When Marie and I moved here from Corcoran, she sponsored us to come into the church. You can blame her for us being here! Her maiden name was Moore. (Jim Martin)

I think she was president of the women's society at one time. She was always really good at crafts and we would go over to her house and make angels and all kind of things. She was a good friend of Opal Williams. (Pat Schumacher)

Very talented in arts and crafts with accent on ceramics. For anyone who needed tender, loving care she was always there providing beyond the call of duty. She was my neighbor and friend for many years and a capable, cheerful survivor through tremendous hardships. (Joyce Lundy)

WAYNE CRAWFORD – Date of Birth November 27, 1923, Certificate of Transfer from Pacific Beach, CA on December 14, 1958, Date of Death April 1, 1981. Age 57, he was a native of Tracy.

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[209] Hanford Sentinel, October 22, 1979.
[210] Hanford Sentinel, December 11, 1979.
[211] Hanford Sentinel, November 5, 1980.
[212] Hanford Sentinel, February 19, 1981.

He had lived in Hanford for 30 years. He had been employed by Safeway Creamery for 27 years and had worked for Stauffer Chemical in Visalia for three years. He was a veteran of World War II, and a member of the Kings County Boat Club.[213]

An after-work trip that evening to join relatives in Paso Robles for dinner ended in tragedy for Wayne and Verla Crawford. The couple had flown to Paso Robles Wednesday evening and were met at the Paso Robles airport by her sister from Lompoc and a brother from Boston. After dinner they returned to the airport and the Crawfords took off about 10:30 p.m. About 11:45 a.m. the following morning, a Shandon crop duster sighted wreckage of the downed single engine craft. The crash site was in Cottonwood Canyon about three miles due south of Highway 41, not far from Cholame. Both Wayne, 57, and Verla, 54, were dead in the wreckage. Both of the Crawfords were qualified pilots and had logged considerable flight time. According to a Hanford airport source, they owned two small aircraft, leasing tiedown space at the Hanford Airport and occasionally rented out the planes.[214]

Wayne and Verla were both members of the First United Methodist Church in Hanford. They were very active in the church and also in the Merriweds group and working with the Methodist youth group. They were both full of whit and enthusiasm for life. Church records indicate there were three sons: David, Donald and Dan. Dan died on November 24, 1971. They also had a daughter, Lavonne Louise, born Sept. 16, 1946 and died Nov. 23, 1946. Wayne's father was a Methodist minister.

> *Wayne and Verla were both very active in the church and also in the Merriweds group, which was the younger set. One thing on the Crawford family is they had one of the swimming pools, and of course all the youth would end up out there and go swimming during the summertime. (Gerald Schumacher)*
>
> *They participated in the international student exchanges. One of their students was Rick, from Germany, and we still hear from Rick. He really thought a lot of the Crawfords. (Pat Schumacher)*
>
> *Wayne's father was a Methodist minister. (Jim Martin)*
>
> *They lived near Harold Griswold's place on 11th Ave. They were active in our couples' group. (Ruth Gomes)*
>
> *Wayne and Verla helped out with the youth group for a year or so. They were both full of wit and enthusiasm for life. They took our youth group out to their house. (Pat George)*
>
> *The couple had their funeral together in the Hanford Methodist Church.*

VERLA CRAWFORD – Date of Birth June 16, 1926, Certificate of Transfer from Pacific Beach, CA on December 14, 1958, Date of Death April 1, 1981. Age 54, she was a native of Ellis, Nebraska. She had lived in Hanford for the past 30 years and was a court clerk for former Superior Court Judge Robert Rosson. She was a member of the Kings County Boat Club.[215]

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[213] Hanford Sentinel, April 4, 1981.
[214] Hanford couple killed in private plane crash, Hanford Sentinel, April 3, 1981.
[215] Hanford Sentinel, April 4, 1981.

Worked for many years for the county clerk's department. She was the Superior Court clerk for a number of years. (Ruth Gomes)

MARSHALL S. WILLIAMS – Date of Birth July 19, 1902, Confession of Faith May 17, 1942, Date of Death June 9, 1981. Age 78, Marshall was a native of Maryville, Tennessee. He lived in Hanford for 58 years. He was employed by the Hanford Ice Company and the Hanford Oxygen Company for several years. Later he was the church custodian for the First United Methodist Church, retiring in 1976 after 32 years.[216] In 1942, his occupation was listed as "Delivers ice." In 1981, the Board of Trustees authorized the use of memorials donated to the church in memory of Marshall to be used for a baptismal font, an octagonal shaped oak baptistery, for the sanctuary.

Was Opal's husband. Worked as a custodian at the church. (Abbie Thyarks)

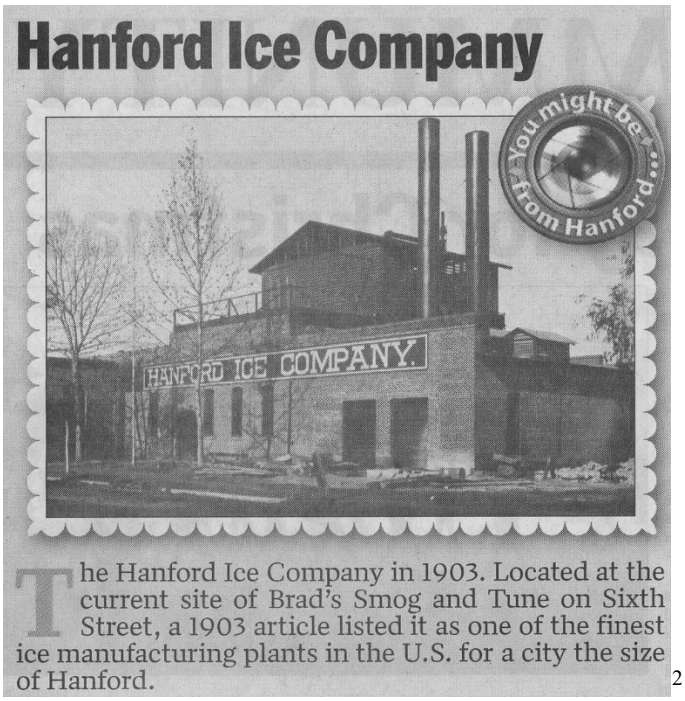
He was the one that knew where everything was and he could find anything and he could help you with anything. He was a dear, dear man, wonderful to Opal. (Pat Schumacher)

One time I worked with him at the old Valley Oxygen Company, and prior to that he worked for Hanford Ice. He was a great guy. (Chuck Taylor)

He was our neighbor on West Ivy Street. (Joyce Lundy)

He was an employee of the Hanford Ice Company for a number of years. Among other things he delivered ice. I believe he was a widower. He later was married to Opal. He had two daughters from his previous marriage. I believe the Williams girls were in their teens at the time they were married. Marshall was our custodian at the church for many years. Quiet individual. Things always got done. They were the sort of things that just happened. You expected things to be done. You didn't have to tell Marshall ten times to do it. They were done. (Ruth Gomes)

[216] Hanford Sentinel, June 10, 1981.



The Hanford Ice Company in 1903. Located at the current site of Brad's Smog and Tune on Sixth Street, a 1903 article listed it as one of the finest ice manufacturing plants in the U.S. for a city the size of Hanford.[217]

FRANCES HOUK – Born August 21, 1917 in Tennessee, Profession of Faith February 22, 1981, Date of Death July 17, 1981 in Kings County.[218] A native of Tennessee who made her home in Hanford for several years.[219]

BELLE P. TOMLINSON – Date of Birth in Calvin, Oklahoma October 21, 1902, Other Denomination/Restored December 18, 1977, from Advent Christian Church, Calvin, Oklahoma, Date of Death September 17, 1981. Age 78, a native of the Oklahoma territory, she lived in Hanford since 1967 and previous to that she lived in the Farmersville-Visalia area. She was a member of the Neighbors of Woodcraft and the Rebekah Lodge. A daughter, Juanita Scanlan, died a year earlier.[220]

RUBEN SCHWARZENBACH – Date of Birth September 22, 1892 in Missouri, Certificate of Transfer from Community Church, Oakhurst May 21, 1980, Date of Death November 16, 1981 in Madera.[221] Age 89, a native of Missouri. He formerly lived in Hanford and in later years had resided in Oakhurst. Survivors include his wife, Esther.[222] Occupation: rancher. Former member of Hanford United Methodist Church, transferred membership to Estero Bay First United Methodist Church in 1958. Moved to Oakhurst in 1974.

He was a carpenter by trade, and was very handy with working with tools and doing that kind of work. His wife was a teacher and taught in the Sunday school. (Ruth Gomes)

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[217] Hanford Sentinel, November 30, 2013, page B2
[218] www.ancestry.com
[219] Hanford Sentinel, July 20, 1981.
[220] Hanford Sentinel, September 18, 1981.
[221] www.ancestry.com
[222] Hanford Sentinel, November 18, 1981.

They were active in the church, and then they moved to Oakhurst. (Pat Schumacher)

MARY BUNDY – Date of Birth September 29, 1889, Confession of Faith October 18, 1964, Date of Death December 13, 1981. Age 92, she was born in Lincoln, Missouri. She lived in the Los Angeles area from 1918 to 1962 when she moved to Hanford. She was a member of A.A.R.P., the Women's Relief Corps, and the Kings River Grange. Survivors included a son, Floyd and a daughter Nelleta Scherf. [223] She was the wife of Lloyd Bundy.

She was as army wife. Her husband was in the service and they moved to Hanford. (Louise Card)

Mrs. Scherf lived on the corner of Hanford-Armona Road and 12th Avenue. She had a big house there and Mrs. Scherf would have the circle meeting there for her mother, Mrs. Bundy. She had a son, Floyd, who worked at the Kings Rehabilitation Center. (Pat Schumacher)

CLARENCE LARRY ALBERT LLOYD – Date of Birth December 16, 1898, Certificate of Transfer from Oak Lawn First United Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas October 18, 1981, Date of Death January 14, 1982. Age 83, a native of Oneida, New York, he attended Dartmouth College, Cornell University, Columbia University, and the University of Syracuse. He was a veteran of World War I. He was a member of New York Musicians Union, Atlanta Musicians Union, Miami Musicians Union, and Dallas Musicians Union. He was a singer in several bands, including those led by Paul White and Ted Williams. He was also a bandleader for 62 years.[224]

We played bridge with Clarence and Frances. The interesting thing is they were a dapper couple and he had had a band for many years. I remember him telling Lela because she comes from Colorado that he played at the big hotel, Broadmore Hotel in Colorado Springs. He loved to play golf and they loved to play bridge. They were a fine couple. Their son is still attached to the Navy, as an expert on corrosion. (Jim Taylor)

O. D. (MAC) MCCUTCHEON – Date of Birth October 7, 1918, Certificate of Transfer from Community Church, Davis, CA 1948, Date of Death March 27, 1982. A native of West Virginia, he left the university there just one class short of his degree, to serve in the military. He was a veteran of World War II, Lieutenant Jr. Grade, U.S. Navy. Following World War II, he finished his degree at UC Davis. Mac was the Agronomy Farm Advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension in Kings County from 1947 to 1982 serving as the cotton farm advisor for 35 years.

O.D. "Mac" McCutcheon, longtime Kings County farm advisor, died in Stuttgart, West Germany after being stricken and hospitalized. He was 63. McCutcheon was in Stuttgart with 40 other Americans to attend an international conference on plant growth regulators. McCutcheon was known throughout Kings County as an expert on cotton, which was his specialty. He also worked with alfalfa and safflower. He was the author of more than 75 papers on cotton and its culture in the San Joaquin Valley, and served on many committees on pest control management. During his

[223] Hanford Sentinel, December 14, 1981.
[224] Hanford Sentinel, January 16, 1982.

35 years in Kings County McCutcheon's meetings, seminars, and cotton tours became a trademark for the lively farm advisor. He was a frequent contributor to The Hanford Sentinel's farm pages.[225]

The $500 O.D. "Mac" McCutcheon Memorial 4-H Agronomy scholarship has been established and is awarded annually to a present or former Kings County 4-H member who is graduating from high school and planning to major in agronomy or another discipline in agriculture in college.[226]

The McCutcheon family donated the sanctuary oak double doors, as a memorial to Mac.

Was well respected throughout the state Extension Service system. His funeral in our church showed us how many people our church would hold! He had a lot of connections with friends up and down the state as a farm advisor. (Verne Adams)

Graduated from the Merchant Marine Academy and served in the Merchant Marines before joining the US Navy (Jane McCutcheon)

He moved to Hanford right after World War II and was a farm advisor in the Extension Service. The present front doors of the sanctuary are dedicated to Mac. He was very active in the church and he was very active in the younger groups. Mac was one of the one who helped get the parking lot which is to the east of the church. (Gerald Schumacher)

He made a trip to Germany for an agriculture convention, sharing what he knew with the people in Europe, and his poor widow had to go over there and make arrangements for his funeral. It was quite an experience for her. (Jim Taylor)

FRANCIS H. WACKER – Date of Birth April 2, 1915, Certificate of Transfer/Restored, from Grace Methodist Church, Stockton April 24, 1955, transferred membership to Bountiful Community Church, Bountiful, Utah on December 8, 1958, transferred back to Hanford First United Methodist Church on February 22, 1971, Date of Death May 5, 1982. Age 67, he was a native of Culbertson, Nebraska. He lived in Hanford since 1964. He was an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II and was a member of the Hanford Elks Lodge, in which he served as a trustee for 11 years.[227]

He was with one of the local milk processing companies. (Ruth Gomes)

[225] Hanford Sentinel, McCutcheon dies overseas, March 29, 1982.
[226] 4-H Youth Talk, February 2000.
[227] Hanford Sentinel, May 6, 1982.

EULA CURTIS BOMAR UPCHURCH SANSOM – Born on September 6, 1889 in Texas, Full Membership August 11, 1921, Date of Death May 7, 1982 in Kings County.[228] Age 92 and a longtime Hanford resident. A native of Texas, she moved to Hanford in 1915. She was a member of Neighbors of Woodcraft, Business and Professional Women's Club, City of Hope Auxiliary, Rebekah Lodge, A.A.R.P., and Hanford Royal Neighbors of America. She was Kings County Homecoming Queen in 1972. [229]Married to Thomas Bomar, who worked for the City Police. She married Francis Upchurch in August 1965. She married R. Sansom in August 1974.

Active in the Women's Society (Jane McCutcheon)

Most of us who knew her, knew her best by the name of Bomar, because she was married many years to Mr. Bomar who was a police officer, when the Hanford Police Department probably numbered no more than four or five officers, including the chief. Then in later years after she was widowed she remarried a man by the name of Sansom. (Ruth Gomes)

She married Ralph Samson. Ralph was a farmer south of town. I was a real estate agent for him and sold a ranch for him. I sold him a small ranch south of Armona. (Gerald Schumacher)

JOHNNY LEE WILSON – Date of Birth September 16, 1912, Other Denomination/Certificate of Transfer Shote Baptist Church, Kennedy, Texas 1948, Date of Death June 2, 1982. Age 69, a native of Hartburg, Texas, Johnny lived in Hanford 24 years. He was a member of the Hanford Lions Club. He worked for Hanford High School for 20 years.[230]

Johnny was married to Eula Wilson. Eula worked in the cafeteria with Emma Casey, who was her aunt. (Pat Schumacher)

JESS B. SCROGGIN – Date of Birth December 18, 1903, Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Morrilton, Arkansas September 28, 1952, Date of Death July 8, 1982. Age 79, a native of Center Ridge, Arkansas, Jess moved to Hanford in 1952. He was active in the Hanford United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife, Hazel.[231]

Jess worked as a butcher at Jiffy Market on 10th Avenue. (Mike Bertaina)

He was Hazel's husband. He attended church regularly with Hazel. (Ruth Gomes)

CHARLOTTE C. CRISWELL – Born on August 27, 1914 in Arkansas. Certificate of Transfer from Center Street First United Methodist Church, Tucumcari, New Mexico May 3, 1970, Date of Death July 13, 1982 in Kings County.[232] Age 67, she was a native of Paris, Arkansas. She moved to Hanford with her husband in 1968. She was a substitute teacher for a number of years and taught at schools in Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico during the time her husband coached high school athletics. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star, La Casa Garden Club, and First

[228] www.ancestry.com
[229] Hanford Sentinel, May 8, 1982.
[230] Hanford Sentinel, June 3, 1982.
[231] Hanford Sentinel, July 9, 1982.
[232] www.ancestry.com

United Methodist Church where she sang in the choir and was active in the United Methodist Women.[233] Charlotte Criswell Memorial Windows were installed in the narthex doors in 1983.

Find A Grave Memorial# 81984428

Charlotte sang in the church choir. (Louise Card)

She was a school teacher (Jane McCutcheon)

Charlotte was a member of Cordell Circle for years. Her husband was a teacher of athletics. She was a gardener and arranged flowers. (Pat Schumacher)

The two stained glass windows in the doors were made by Willie Green and dedicated to Charlotte. (Marie Martin)

She was a wonderful flower arranger and she loved to play bridge. We had a lot of fun together. (Lela Taylor)

See the plaque near the sanctuary front door. (Walt Russell)

[233] Hanford Sentinel, July 13, 1982.

GRACE M. SPITLER – Date of Birth June 5, 1907, Certificate of Transfer from Visalia First United Methodist Church June 7, 1981, Date of Death October 25, 1982. Age 75, she was a native of Selma. She lived in Hanford since 1928 and was a member of First United Methodist Church.[234]

She was one of the mighty arms of the Women's Society. She was a circle leader for years. A really nice lady. (Pat Schumacher)

EDITH MAY WILLIFORD – Date of Birth March 7, 1883, Full Membership transferred from Armona Methodist Church April 1, 1929, Date of Death February 28, 1983. Edith died in Chico, just one week before her 100th birthday. Born near Nortonville, Kansas, she lived there until 1899 when her parents, Daniel E. and Margaret Hivley, moved to Southern California. In 1903, they moved to Hanford. Formerly married to T. A. Jenkinson, she was widowed and later married Walter Williford, also now deceased. She moved to Chico in 1968 to live near her daughter. Surviving are two daughters.[235]

FRED ZUMWALT – Date of Birth May 4, 1921, Confession of Faith from Reseda, CA March 30, 1947, Date of Death March 4, 1983. Age 61, a native of Reno, he came to California in 1922 and Hanford in 1946. Fred served as Hanford's postmaster for eight years before retiring in 1978. Prior to joining the post office in 1954, he worked in farming and in the oil fields. He was a member of the Kings Country Club, the Hanford Blues Baseball team, and a co-founder of the Hanford Little League. He served in the U. S. Navy during World War II. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Margaret in 1978. Survivors include his wife Dorothy, and two sons by his first wife, John and Bill, both of Hanford.[236]
Buried in Grangeville Cemetery

He was the Hanford postmaster. (Louise Card)

Fred was well known. I first met Fred as a student at Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo. I was working on my house and a car pulled in, and who was in it but Fred Zumwalt. The reason he came and located here was the fact that his father and mother bought a 40-acre cling peach ranch just north of Armona and Fred decided to relocate here. They bought a place on Hanford-Armona Road between Armona and Lemoore. When the two boys were young, they attended Sunday school all the time. (Gerald Schumacher)

He worked for the post office for years. Both of his sons live in town. He was Margaret's husband. He later married Dorothy Peters. (Ruth Gomes)

STUART M. JORGENSON – Born on July 17, 1904 in Iowa. Certificate of Transfer from Correctionville, Iowa January 24, 1954, Date of Death March 23, 1983 in Kings County.[237] Age 78, a native of Iowa, he was a 30-year resident of Hanford, moving here from Southern California. He was a pharmacist for Thrifty Drug Store. Jorgenson had attended University of Iowa and University of Southern California and was a navy veteran of World War II.[238]

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[234] Hanford Sentinel, October 27, 1982.
[235] Hanford Sentinel, March 3, 1983.
[236] Hanford Sentinel, March 5, 1983.
[237] www.ancestry.com
[238] Hanford Sentinel, March 24, 1983.

His wife is still about and she is a good bridge player. (Pat Schumacher)

Stuart was a hard working husband who had a habit of showering his wife, Velma, with mints and diamonds. (Pat George)

Miss GRACE REINHARD – Date of Birth January 2, 1897, Full Membership October 1, 1922, Date of Death May 18, 1983. Age 86, Grace was a native of Kings County and member of one of this area's earliest families. Reinhard was one of nine daughters and three sons born to the William Stewarts, pioneers in the Lakeside area. Both William Stewart and Mary Rankin, who later was his bride, were born in Ireland and came to this country as youths in the 1870s. They married in 1880 and settled on a farm southeast of Hanford. Identified with educational circles in Kings County for 40 years, Reinhard had been principal at Lakeside and Delta View schools and was a primary school supervisor for the county superintendent's office. She also had been Sunday school superintendent for Lakeside Church, was a past worthy matron for the Order of Eastern Star, a past president of the Hanford Business and Professional Women's Club and past president of the Hanford Garden Club. Reinhard was a member of First United Methodist Church and had been active in its women's organization for many years. Other affiliations included the Retired Teachers Association. Surviving are two sisters, Madelyn Short and Ethel Stewart of Hanford.[239]

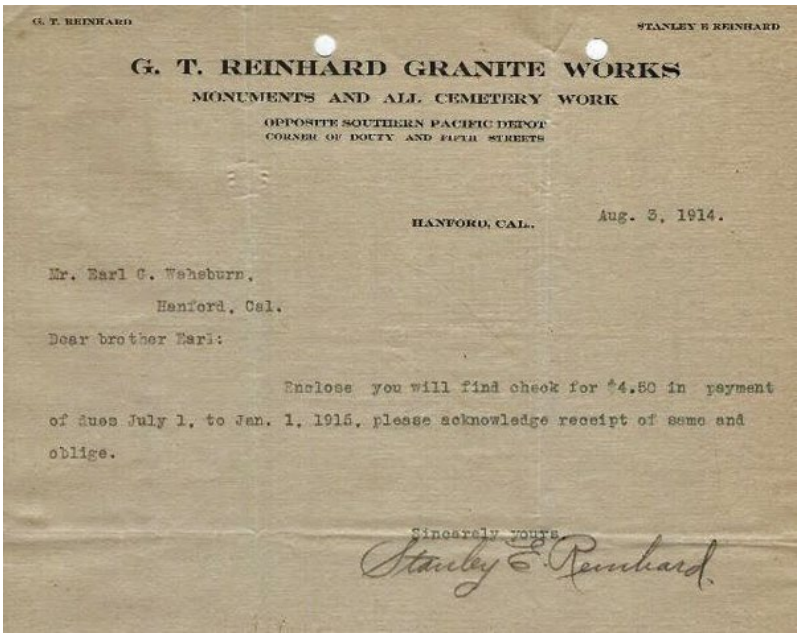
Grace is one of the old standbys of the Methodist Church, coming back from when the Methodist Church was at where the Fox Theater is now. There was Grace Reinhard and Stan Reinhard. The Reinhard family was very active in the Methodist Church for many years. In the old Methodist Church, I remember Stan making a musical tune with a saw. (Gerald Schumacher)

They lived next door to each other, one block west of the church. (Joyce Lundy)

There were two Grace Reinhards. There was Miss Grace Reinhard. They lived right down the street. Her father was the owner of the Granite Works at the corner of Douty and Fifth Street. Her brother, Stanley, when he remarried many years after losing his first wife, married Grace Stewart. If this is Miss Grace Reinhard, she was also was one of my early Sunday school teachers, meeting in the current nursery room (Millie Kraft Lounge). She and her mother regularly attended church. Her father was one of our early organists. He used to play the organ when I was a kid. (Ruth Gomes)

She lived in a big house on north Douty Street. (Jane McCutcheon)

[239] "Educator Grace Reinhardt dies," Hanford Sentinel, May 20, 1983.



G. T. REINHARD STANLEY E REINHARD

G. T. REINHARD GRANITE WORKS

MONUMENTS AND ALL CEMETERY WORK

OPPOSITE SOUTHERN PACIFIC DEPOT
CORNER OF DOUTY AND FIFTH STREETS

HANFORD, CAL. Aug. 3, 1914.

Mr. Earl C. Wehsburn,
Hanford, Cal.

Dear brother Earl:

Enclose you will find check for $4.50 in payment of dues July 1, to Jan. 1, 1915, please acknowledge receipt of same and oblige.

Sincerely yours
Stanley E Reinhard

SUSIE J. BELL – Date of Birth March 2, 1894, Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Corcoran Methodist Church March 26, 1961, Date of Death January 29, 1984. Age 89, Susie was born in Lindsay, Oklahoma, when the area still was Indian Territory. She came to California in 1935 with her husband, the late William Bell. They steeled in Corcoran where he was employed in ranching. He died in 1938 and she moved to Hanford in 1960. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, a charter member of the Golden Rule Club, a 58-year member of the Rebekah Lodge, a member of the AARP, Neighbors of Woodcraft, Kings River Grange, Women's Relief corps, and the United Methodist Women.[240]

She lived just a couple houses down from the church. She was very active in Corcoran. She was quite a gal. She would drive across the United States with a gun beside her. (Pat Schumacher)

She was a good friend of my mothers. (Ruth Gomes)

C. JOE HOOVER – Date of Birth August 1, 1912, Certificate of Transfer from Methodist Church, Italy, Texas 1948, Date of Death March 29, 1984. Age 71, Hoover was born in Italy, Texas and had lived in Hanford for 37 years. He was self-employed as a store planning consultant for 50 years until his retirement in 1982. He designed the city seal for Hanford. Hoover used his talents in commercial art and designed many of Hanford's well-established businesses, including Branch and Chambers Stationers, Workingman's Store for Guys & Gals, Ed's Tick Tock Jewelers and many other stores around the Valley. He was a member of the Kings Country club for 35 years, past president of the Noon Lions club and a member of the First United Methodist Church. Hoover also was a member of the organizing group that established Little League Baseball in Hanford and the group that established Y Indian Guides, a program of the YMCA. He also was a veteran of World War II and served in the Navy.[241]

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[240] Hanford Sentinel, January 31, 1984.
[241] "Designer of city's seal dies," Hanford Sentinel, March 30, 1984.

He would decorate windows professionally for business and stores. (Louise Card)

Joe was active in the church and the youth group. They had one daughter. His daughter was selected by the church to be an exchange student to Iceland for a year. (Gerald Schumacher)

He was the husband of Evelyn, now deceased. Joe had a daughter, Cindy. (Ruth Gomes)

JOE McKEE – Colonel Joseph "Joe" McKee died Tuesday at his home of a stroke. He was 78. Highly knowledgeable in the "lay of the land" in Kings County, McKee had been self-employed as a civil engineer for 50 years. A native of Gunnison, Colorado, McKee graduated with honors from the University of Colorado with a degree in civil engineering. He started practice in Oakland. McKee came to Kings County in 1947 to engineer a bridge for the county and decided to stay on, working part-time for the county and part-time in private employment. In 1950, McKee established his own firm in offices at Dewey and Irwin streets, later had an office on East Eight Street and about 20 years ago set up business at 609 N. Irwin St. He was joined by John Zumwalt in a partnership in 1973 and the firm was renamed McKee, Zumwalt and Associates. McKee retired in 1978 and the company recently took on the identity of the new partners, Zumwalt, Hansen and Associates. McKee had designed many bridges in Kings County and also was engineer for a number of subdivisions, curb and gutter, water and sewer projects in this area. During World War II, McKee worked in a manufacturing plant and prior to that was in the bridge department of the State Division of Highways. He was married March 12, 1938, to the former Josephine DeBoe of Hanford. He was a member of the First United Methodists Church, Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity, a former member of the Elks Lodge, Hanford Noon Lions Club and was a past chairmen of the Hanford Board of Buildings Appeals. Surviving are his wife Josephine; three daughters, Judith De Raad of Lemoore, Susan McKee of Fresno and Linda Habel of Ohio; and three grandchildren. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday in Whitehurst-McNamara Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in Grangeville Cemetery. The family suggests remembrances be sent to the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, 316 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 601, Chicago, Ill. 60601. [242]

NANCY ELIZABETH STEELMAN – Date of Birth July 28, 1954, Profession of Faith December 24, 1982, Date of Death June 1984. Her son John was born November 7, 1982.

Nancy was a young Navy wife who had a lot of difficulty getting to church. She and her little boy lived out south someplace and she managed to get herself to church. Various people took her home. She had not been here a long time. She was murdered by her husband. (Roberta Tomkins)

We picked her up and gave her a ride to church a couple of times. A very friendly girl. (Pat Schumacher)

VIVIAN JOANNA HAMBLIN – Born January 8, 1901 in Missouri, Profession of Faith August 3, 1980, Date of Death July 24, 1984 in Kings County.[243]

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[242] Engineer McKee dies, Hanford Sentinel, April 12, 1984, page 4.

[243] www.ancestry.com

I think she was a cook at County Hospital. My mother went on a trip to Hawaii together with her. (Joyce Lundy)

DOROTHY HOSKINS – Date of Birth August 28, 1916 in Nebraska, Profession of Faith May 24, 1953, Restored September 26, 1982, Date of Death August 21, 1984 in Kings County.[244] Age 67, she was born in Johnstown, Nebraska. She had been a local resident for 52 years. She had worked as a deputy county clerk. Survivors include her husband, W. Clay Hoskins, whom she married in 1937.[245]

She was one of the quiet people who was always there to pick up a dish towel and help with dishes. Was very quiet, retiring person. Part of the time she was in the church circle. I think she was in Cordell Circle at one time. (Ruth Gomes)

Her daughter, Nancy, was in our youth group. (Pat Schumacher)

MABLE BELLE MacALEESE – Date of Birth February 13, 1891, Profession of Faith June 29, 1983, Date of Death September 21, 1984. Age 93, she was a native of Wyoming. She had been a resident of Hanford since 1968. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star.[246]

VIRGINIA DiMUCCIO – Date of Birth December 24, 1920 in Pennsylvania. Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Mount Holly United Methodist Church, New Jersey January 12, 1969, Date of Death January 18, 1985 in Fresno.[247] The vestibule doors, between the narthex and sanctuary, are in memory of Virginia. A longtime teacher, she had worked for the Hanford Elementary School District for 31 years both in the classroom and as district librarian. Born in New Castle, Pennsylvania, she came to Hanford in 1946 following her marriage to the late Salvadore DiMuccio. He died in 1970. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Daughters of the American Revolution, American Association of University Women, Hanford Community Hospital Auxiliary, Kings County Symphony Orchestra Association and the Back Yard Players. [248] Virginia and Salvatore had three children, Michael Harrie, Sally Jane and Stewart James.

She was a school teacher at Hanford Elementary. She was active in Cordell, which is the predecessor of the United Methodist Women. (Louise Card)

She was a real strong member of our circle. She had lots of ideas. She was really a nice gal and hard working. If we had a fund raiser for a particular issue, Virginia would be a driving force. She had three children. (Pat Schumacher)

She was a seamstress. Virginia made a bathing suit for me. Her sister was a high school classmate of mine. (Joyce Lundy)

She was a school librarian for Hanford Elementary (Joan Russell)

Virginia taught in our own Sunday school class. Her children attended church for a number of years. (Ruth Gomes)

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[244] www.ancestry.com
[245] Hanford Sentinel, August 23, 1984.
[246] Hanford Sentinel, September 22, 1984.
[247] www.ancestry.com
[248] "Virginia DiMuccio dies at 64 in Fresno," Hanford Sentinel, January 21, 1985.

M. FOREST SPECK – Date of Birth March 25, 1894, Full Membership April 15, 1920, Date of Death February 25, 1985. Veteran of U.S. Army, World War I. Occupation listed as rancher. Forest came to Hanford 70 years ago. He was 90. Speck was born in Spickard, Missouri, and as a child moved with his family to the Los Angeles area where he and his brothers worked with his father, a merchant. He served with the United States Army during World War I and after the war settled in Hanford. One of his first places of employment was with the old Farmers and Merchants Bank. When the Bank of Italy, predecessor to the present Bank of America, started here he transferred to that firm and in the mid-1930s was assistant manager of the bank. Most of his banking experience dealt with agricultural lending. During the 1930s Speck established a family dairy with retail outlet on 10th Avenue, an enterprise he continued until about 1942. He also had other farming interests during that same period. During World War II, Speck served as office manager for Caldwell, Kelly and Eisenlauer Meat Packing Co. He was employed in the Kings County Assessor's office as a real estate appraiser for 10 years prior to his retirement in 1958. Speck was a member of the Kings Gem and Mineral Society, the Coin Club of Hanford and Visalia, California State Numismatists Association and a 50-year member of the American Legion. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and was on the board of trustees at the time of the construction of the present church. Surviving are his wife of 65 years, the former Gladys Thompson of Hanford; a son, Robert of Hanford; two daughters, Forestine Sanstrum of Fresno and Marilyn Peden of Hanford.[249]

His whole family was very active in the church. He had one daughter, Marilyn, who married into the Peden family. (Gerald Schumacher)

He was Bob Peden's wife's dad. (Ruth Gomes)

Forest was very involved in rock hounding. He was president of the Kings Stone crafters for about four years. He was also an avid coin collector. (Jim Martin)

He bought my pennies. There were about 5,000 Indian head pennies and he bought them from me. (Unis Hoff)

A street east of 10th Ave. is named for Forest Speck

ARTYE H. VICKERS – Date of Birth October 24, 1889, Full Membership/Restored December 16, 1962, Date of Death April 13, 1985. Age 95, she was born in Belvedere, Tennessee. She had lived in Hanford since 1906. She was a graduate of Tennessee Teachers College. In addition to rearing a family of eight children, she worked for many years as a practical nurse, retiring in 1960. She was a member of United Methodist Church, the Order of Eastern Star, Neighbors of Woodcraft, and the Women's Relief Corps.[250]

[249] Hanford Sentinel, February 27, 1985.
[250] Hanford Sentinel, April 15, 1985.

Mother-in-law of Carol Vickers (Jane McCutcheon)

I was born in Artye's house on West Myrtle Street. (Joyce Lundy)

They had a large family. They lived on Irwin, between Porter and Ivy Street, on the west side of the street. They had a big two-story house. They had seven or eight kids. She was a sweet little old lady. (Ruth Gomes)

She had a nice personality. She had all these kids. She was very friendly and smiled all the time. She came to the Women's Society meetings. (Pat Schumacher)

MARIE HEMPE – Date of Birth April 6, 1895, Other Denomination/Certificate of Transfer from Hollywood Blvd. Presbyterian Church, Hollywood, Florida, November 28, 1965, Date of Death May 8, 1985. Age 91, she was a native of Kentucky and had lived in Hanford for 23 years. She had been self-employed as an apartment owner, and was a member of United Methodist Church and the Moose Lodge in Visalia. She had no survivors.[251]

GLADYS SPECK – Date of Birth June 27, 1893, Full Membership September 4, 1904, Date of Death May 25, 1985. Gladys, 91, who earlier this month was honored as the eldest living member of the First United Methodist Church in Hanford. Born in Buttonwillow, daughter of George and Harriet Thompson, she had lived in this area since childhood. She had worked for about 10 years in the county clerk's office but had been a housewife and devoted most of her time to home, a family business and work of the church to which she had belonged for 81 years. She had been a church school teacher, member of the choir and active in the United Methodist Women and its forerunners, the Ladies Aid and Women's Society of Christian Service. She had been a member of the Coterie Club.[252]

Forest Speck's wife (Jane McCutcheon)

My mother used to take me out there, and we used to get our milk and eggs from her. (Unis Hoff)

Out where we live is where they had the dairy, on Elm Street. Of course it wasn't subdivided then. Forest and some of the other streets are named after them. (Jim Martin)

She was very active in the women's society. She has a daughter who lives in Fresno, and Marilyn, who is in the Peden family. (Pat Schumacher)

I always think of Gladys as being another one of my Sunday school teachers. She taught the intermediates. We met upstairs. Gladys was like a drill master. She would line us up. We had to learn all of our books of the Bible. We didn't do a lot of memory work, but she would drill us on the books of the Bible. She also played the piano. Like a lot of people who sometimes play by ear, she preferred certain keys in the music, because it was easier to play. I can still see her pounding the piano while we sang in our youth group upstairs. She was a no nonsense very good Sunday school teacher at that time. She taught for years. (Ruth Gomes)

[251] Hanford Sentinel, May 9, 1985.
[252] Hanford Sentinel, May 29, 1985.

A street east of 10th Ave. is named for Gladys Speck

LOUISE E. EASTHOUSE – Date of Birth August 4, 1900, Certificate of Transfer from Fresno December 18, 1955, Date of Death June 18, 1985. Age 84, she died in her home in Auberry. Born in Amity, Missouri, she came to California in 1911 and lived in Southern California for several years before moving to the Fresno area in 1917. She came to Hanford after marrying the late Apland Easthouse about 1950. She was a member of United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women.[253]

The Easthouse family was active in the Church when they were here. (Gerald Schumacher)

ROBERT MCCUTCHEN – Date of Birth October 11, 1906 in Oklahoma. Joined Kings River Methodist Episcopal Church in the 1920's. He later transferred his membership to Laton Methodist Episcopal Church. Certificate of Transfer from Laton Methodist Church April 6, 1952, Date of Death June 24, 1985 in Kings County.[254] Age 78, he was born in Tonkawa, Oklahoma. McCutchen came to this area at the age of three and had lived here all his life. He had been a self-employed farmer. Surviving is his wife Wilma, and a brother, Ray McCutchen, of Hanford.[255]

A very pleasant man. (Verne Adams)

Robert was well known in the church and in particular in the younger organization, the Merriweds. He farmed out in the Hardwick area with his brother. (Gerald Schumacher)

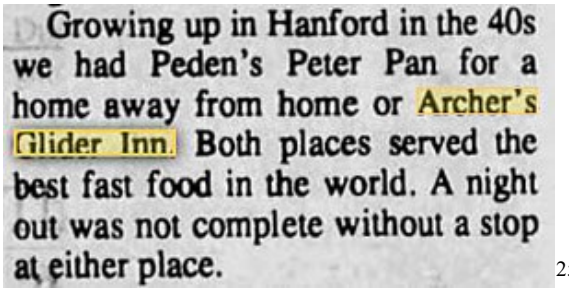
EARLE E. FULLER – Date of Birth July 14, 1923, Certificate of Transfer from Bolton Methodist Church, Arlington, Tennessee December 12, 1967, Date of Death October 29, 1985. Age 62, she was born in Chicago. He had lived in Hanford for 19 years and for the past 17 years had been employed as a civil service worker for the Naval Aviation Service Engineering Unit at Lemoore Naval Air Station. He was a Navy veteran of World War II and the Korean War. Fuller was a member of Hanford Masonic Lodge No. 279, Lucerne Chapter no. 127 Order of Eastern Star,

[253] Hanford Sentinel, June 21, 1985.
[254] www.ancestry.com
[255] Hanford Sentinel, June 26, 1985.

Scottish Rite, Fresno Tehan Shrine Temple, Fleet Reserve branch No. 261 and the Navy-Lemoore aero club. Surviving is his wife Eleanor.[256]

He was a retired Navy Chief. His wife was Eleanor. (Louise Card)
Earl was Navy retired. His wife, Eleanor, still belongs to our church and our circle. (Betty Mizner)
Husband of Eleanor Fuller. (Lois Peden)

ANNA J. ARCHER – Date of Birth December 22, 1898 in Kentucky. Joined Methodist Church in 1913 in Loveland, Oklahoma. Transferred from Puyallup, Washington on March 3, 1946, R June 2, 1977, Date of Death November 11, 1985 in Kings County.[257] Age 86, a native of Morgan County, Kentucky. She was a local resident for 42 years and was the owner of the former Archer's Restaurant in Hanford. She was a member of First United Methodist Church, past president of the V.F.W. Auxiliary, Hanford Craft Club and Neighbors of Woodcraft, an associate member of the Kings County Deputy Sheriff's Association, and a member of the AARP, and the Hanford Senior Citizens Club. She was the oldest displayer in the Kings County Fair and she owned and operated the Glider Inn in Hanford as well as Archer's Restaurant. [258]


Growing up in Hanford in the 40s we had Peden's Peter Pan for a home away from home or Archer's Glider Inn. Both places served the best fast food in the world. A night out was not complete without a stop at either place.

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[256] Hanford Sentinel, October 31, 1985.
[257] www.ancestry.com
[258] Hanford Sentinel, November 13, 1985.
[259] Doris Robertson Polly, Eating on the go, Hanford Sentinel, July 11, 1999

Some Hangouts

When I was in my teens, we loved the Glider Inn a kind of dumpy little drive-in. It wasn't like the ones we see in the nostalgia movies of the 1940's. The carhops were not on roller skates. They had enough trouble crossing the unpaved parking lot to take orders and hang trays on the doors of our cars. It was called the Glider Inn and was located across Irwin Street from the Veterans Hall and just a stone's throw from the Fox Theatre. It was an important place to see and be seen.

When the Archer family came to town they ran the Glider Inn and the boys loved to stop there to ogle not only the female customers but the pretty Archer girls, Rose and LaVerne, who worked there.

Later the Archers built a nicer drive-in and restaurant south of Hanford out on Tenth Avenue. [260]

13-- Help Wanted,Female

CAR hop and fountain girl. Apply Glider Inn 13-43-tf [261]

She was in the women's society. She used to make crafts. I have several things that she made for the bazaar. (Pat Schumacher)

LETA B. MARCELLUS - Date of Birth May 26, 1929 in Texas, Other Denomination/Certificate of Transfer from Visalia First Christian Church January 24, 1954, Date of Death November 23, 1985 in Kings County.[262] Age 56, she was a native of Texas. She had lived in Hanford for the past 30 years. A graduate of Redwood High School and College of the Sequoias in Visalia, she was women's editor of the Visalia Times Delta prior to her marriage. An award-winning amateur poet, artist and freelance writer, she arranged the art show and produced its catalogue for the California State Fair for several years and assisted in producing the Kings County and other county exhibits at the State Fair. Active in community affairs, she was a member of the Kings Guild of the Valley Children's Hospital, Kings County Art League, Carnegie Museum Heritage League, Sigma Gamma Sorority and the United Methodist Church. Marcellus also was a member of the California Press Women. For many years she was the window decorator for Mirviss and Ensign's women's clothing stores and wrote the scripts for numerous fashion shows presented by them at various community benefits. She also was associated with Alpha Arnold for three years in producing the annual Ten-Four magazine for the Kings County Peace Officers Association and Kings County Fair programs. At the time of her death she was employed in the business office of the Hanford Elementary School District. [263]

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[260] Food for thought, for sustenance, for society, by Doris Robertson Polley, Hanford Sentinel, March 7, 1993
[261] Hanford Sentinel, August 21, 1953. In that era, it was usual to segregate help wanted listings by sex
[262] www.ancestry.com
[263] Hanford Sentinel, November 26, 1985.

She was Bob Marcellus' first wife (Jane McCutcheon)

Leta was a very talented person artistically. She sort of stayed in the wings when she was married to Bob. They had three boys, two of whom are deceased. She had come from Visalia. She worked very actively with Bob in helping arrange some of the state fair exhibits, because he did those for years. Leta was very talented artistically and did a lot of work with him with that. (Ruth Gomes)

WILLIAM CLAY HOSKINS – Date of Birth July 20, 1895 in Nebraska. Profession of Faith May 24, 1953, Restored September 26, 1982, Date of Death December 7, 1985 in San Jose.[264] Age 90 of Santa Clara. He was a native of Nebraska. He had lived in Hanford for 74 years, and in Santa Clara for 15 months. Clay had been a self-employed auto mechanic for 50 years. He was a member of the United Methodist Church and also a member of the Hanford Elks Club for 50 years. Survivors include one daughter, Nancy Hunnicutt.[265]

They had a daughter who was active in the high school MYF. (Pat Schumacher)

He was the husband of Dorothy. (Ruth Gomes)

MINNIE DENHAM – Date of Birth March 24, 1891 Full Membership March 15, 1919, Date of Death January 24, 1986. Age 94, she was a native of Lakeside where she lived most of her adult live. She spent most of her adult life as a homemaker and was a member of the United Methodist Church. She also belonged to the Courterie Club of Hanford. She is survived by one son, Herbert Denham. [266]

Her husband, Charles, was the accountant for Central Lumber Co.

She was a long term member of the church. Right after retirement, she moved to Visalia. She had a son, Herb Denham, who became the principal of Armona Grammar School. (Gerald Schumacher)

I went to a lot of women society board meetings where Minnie was president. (Pat Schumacher)

They were really mainstays in our church. Minnie was a Welton from the Guernsey district. She and her husband Charlie were just very active in our church. He served on the finance committee and board of trustees and Minnie was very active on working on the women's society and church activities. (Ruth Gomes)

RAYMOND E. WILTSHIRE, JR. – Full Membership October 30, 1955, Date of Death March 30, 1986. Age 64, he was a Hanford businessman and civic leader for more than four decades. Born in Tennessee, Wiltshire had graduated from high school in Columbia, Tennessee, and attended Andrew Jackson University. He took his state examinations for certified public accountant in Tennessee and later qualified to practice in California, Arizona and Washington states as well. Wiltshire came to Hanford 41 years ago and was first employed with the accounting form of A.D. McNeil. After several partnerships, he started his own business. In 1970, Wiltshire received his law degree, equipping himself to better serve his clientele. Recently he closed his

[264] www.ancestry.com
[265] Hanford Sentinel, December 7, 1985.
[266] Hanford Sentinel, January 28, 1986.

Hanford practice to become controller for Beck Properties in Stockton, a real estate and property development firm which at one time had offices in Lemoore. The new post was one in which Wiltshire could utilize his expertise in both accounting and the law. A committed public servant, Wiltshire had chaired the Hanford High School board of trustees and had served as a member of the Hanford Elementary School District board, chaired the Democratic Central Committee for 28 years, was president of the Mt. Whitney Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, had been president of the Kings County Community Concert Association, and was the youngest president of the Hanford Kiwanis and lieutenant governor for the California-Nevada-Hawaii Kiwanis district at the time he served. He also was one of the youngest Hanford Chamber of Commerce presidents. Wiltshire was a former chairperson of the official board of the United Methodist Church and had been a member of various professional organization committees. He was a Sunday School teacher. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, four sons, Raymond III, David, Jonathan, and Christopher, and two daughters, Nancy Cecil[267] and Elizabeth Heimlich.[268]

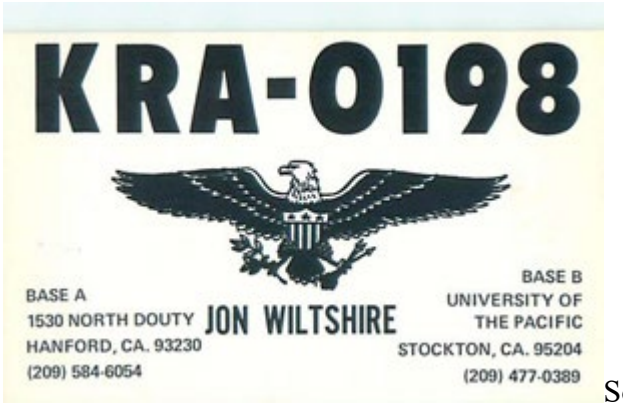
In the All-Church Conference minutes of 1978, the District Superintendent, Rev. Scott, requested the audit of the books. Rev. Porter reported that the accountant, Mr. Ray Wiltshire, had suffered a heart attack while working on the audit. The District Superintendent was assured he would have the report within a week.

He was a CPA with an office in Hanford. (Verne Adams)

He was well known and he and his children were very active in the church. (Gerald Schumacher)

He was a CPA and then he studied and became an attorney (Jim Martin)

He was a southerner and this southern accent. He met Wynne when she was an airline stewardess and they were traveling back and forth and he was a widower, and Nancy was just a youngster when he and Wynne married. He and Wynne had several children. We had the benefit of a lot of his accounting experience and his knowledge of financial affairs while he was working with our church. (Ruth Gomes)



Son Jon was a ham radio operator and a student at University of the Pacific

GEORGE SHAW – Date of Birth March 24, 1898, Full Membership January 16, 1918, Date of Death April 3, 1986. Age 88, George was a native of Larned, Kansas. He moved to the local area in 1913. He worked as a parts man for Davies Machinery Co. for 17 years. He was a member of

[267] Nancy Jo Cecil Wiltshie obituary: January 30, 2021 Hanford Sentinel
[268] Services set for civic leader, Hanford Sentinel, March 31, 1986.

the United Methodist Church, a charter member of the Christian Business Men, life member of the Y's Men, Kings Stone Crafters Club, United Methodist Men, and the AARP. Survivors include his wife Pearl Shaw, one son, George Shaw of Los Angeles, and one cousin, Glenda May Drennen of Hanford. [269]

George and Pearl owned a cabin at Camp Sierra, which they visited often.
A longtime member of our church. (Verne Adams)
George and his family go way back. His wife was Pearl, and they go back to the old Methodist Church where the Fox Theater is now. He worked for Cousins Tractor Company.
George worked for Cousins Tractor for years. He was an unassuming, rather straight guy. He did ride a motorcycle to work, back when it wasn't fashionable for a straight lined guy to ride a motorcycle. In later years, they lived out on North Douty Street, near the high school. Earlier they lived on Elm Street for a while. (Ruth Gomes)

HANFORD (Kings Co.) March 16, 1935 – George S. Shaw, a resident of Hanford for twenty-two years, died today in the home of his daughter, Mrs. Nellie Poole, two and a half miles southwest of Hanford. Shaw was born in Ohio. He was a member of the Old Fellows Lodge and the Methodist Church. Surviving him are two daughters, Mrs. Poole of Hanford and Mrs. Mabel Owens of Ventura; four sons, John Shaw of Winton, Herbert Shaw of Livermore, George and Clyde Shaw of Hanford; fifteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The body will be conveyed to Larned, Kansas, for burial. [270]

LLOYD HANSON CHADWICK – Date of Birth April 28, 1914 in Oklahoma. Date of Death May 20, 1986 in Kings County.[271] Age 72, born in Grandfield, Oklahoma, Lloyd had lived in Kings County since 1946. He managed Purity Market for 15 years. At one time he owned Jiffy Market. He was a former member of the Hanford Elks, and a charter member of the Hanford Lions club. He is survived by his wife, Ann Chadwick.[272]

Lloyd had a grocery store for many years. His wife is still around. He worked from dawn to dusk like most people do when they own their own businesses. (Ruth Gomes)

GOLDIE DuBOIS GEISSLER – Date of Birth September 20, 1905.[273] Confession of Faith May 30, 1915, Date of Death June 2, 1986. Age 80, she was born in Noitaze, Kansas. She was a resident of Hanford for 71 years. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church since childhood and a member of the Women's Society of Christian Service. She was a charter member and past president of American Legion Auxiliary unit No. 3; a past noble grand of Lady of the Lake Rebekah Lodge and a past district deputy of the organization; a member of Pomona Grange No. 28 and King River Grange No. 562, which she had served in several offices, including lecturer and musician. During the late 1930s, she was cook for summer sessions at YMCA Camp Redwood on Lake Sequoia. At one time, she and her late husband, Theodore A. Geissler, operated a small

[269] Hanford Sentinel, April 5, 1986.
[270] This would be the father of George Shaw, Fresno Bee, March 17, 1935.
[271] www.ancestry.com
[272] Hanford Sentinel, May 22, 1986.
[273] www.ancestry.com

counter restaurant in the bus depot located on the east side of the old Hanford Hotel in Seventh Street. Surviving are two sons, Robert of Corcoran and Franklin of Riverside; three daughters, Ruth Gomes of Hanford, Aida Prior of Visalia and Esther Geissler of Corcoran.[274]

Goldie was my mother. She was active in the women's society for years, the American Legion Auxiliary and various lodges. She is like her daughter; she'd like to be boss president. She was retreaded several times in these positions. She raised five children. We all toddled over here to church as soon as were able to toddle across the street. (Ruth Gomes)

She was a good friend of Gerald's mother for years. Her son Bob, has been a driving force for the Methodist Church in Corcoran. (Pat Schumacher)

ESTELLA M. HINKLE – Date of Birth January 22, 1893, Full Membership May 1, 1921, Date of Death June 25, 1986. Age 93, she was a native of German Town, Ohio. She lived in Hanford from 1909 to 1984, having moved to Auberry a year and a half ago. She was a homemaker and a member of United Methodist Church. She was also a charter member of the Women's Division of the Christian Service. Survivors include a son, Vernon Rogers of Auberry.[275]

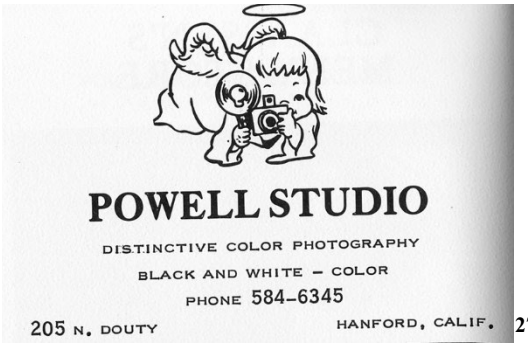
The family goes way back. Their son Vernon and her husband helped build the roof on my house. They were an old time family that goes back to the original church. They were members of the Methodist church for many years. (Gerald Schumacher)

Mother of Vernon Hinkle (Jane McCutcheon)

Estella was a little tiny lady. We often talk about the height of the drain boards and stuff out in the social hall. She was one of the few people who fit that low sink they had out there. When the men redid the kitchen they raised the height of the sink and the counters because it was a back breaker for everybody and I am it was wasn't even comfortable for Estella, but she was one of the little people that was at least close to the height of the sink. She worked for many years in the women's society. (Ruth Gomes)

Estella was one of Grace Morrow's best friends. The mother of Vernon Hinkle. She was a little homemaker, and kept her house spotless. (Pat Schumacher)

The Hinkles that helped in the planning and raising of the current Methodist church building. (Gerald Schumacher)



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[274] Hanford Sentinel, June 3, 1986.
[275] Hanford Sentinel, June 27, 1986.
[276] 1972 "Oak Leaves," Laton High School Yearbook ad, page 136

RALPH W. POWELL – Date of Birth August 8, 1908, Full Membership 1926, Date of Death February 4, 1987. Ralph Willford Powell, who had chronicled on film and artist's canvas the people, scenes and events in Kings County and elsewhere for more than four decades, died at the age of 78. Like his father before him, Powell made his livelihood as a photographer, continuing Powell's Studio as his own business until a few months ago when failing health prompted him to sell the firm. In addition to his skills behind the camera lens, Powell was a painter of considerable talent and among some of his best works are scenes that he knew and loved - in his own home town. As a matter of fact, Ralph didn't intend to be a photographer at all. He wanted to be an artist and to that end had attended the College of Fine Arts in Oakland from 1932 to 1935. As he reminisced in a Sentinel interview recently, he returned to Hanford and photography after he failed to get a job he applied for with Disney Studios. Philosophical about that turn of events, he said that the pay would have been great but the work would have been "monotonous, production-type work." In photography, portraiture was his favorite subject matter, and he approached it with the same perception he used with brush and canvas. Born in Hanford, Powell was a lifelong resident of the community except for his college years and during World War II when he served in the Army Air Corps. His parents were the late L. M. and Mary F. Powell. The elder Powell in 1898 established the family business which, during the early years, included all types of art supplies, wallpaper and paints as well as the photo studio which gained both him and Ralph enduring reputations as fine photographers. Ralph attended local schools, graduating from Hanford High. He was a member of the Hanford Rotary Club, Kings County Cultural Arts Council, Kings County Symphony and Hanford Chamber of Commerce and served on the board of Kings county Art League, of which he was a charter member. He is survived by a sister, Ruth Verboon of Hanford.[277]

Ralph and Ruth's father, Lewis Milton Powell was received in the Hanford Methodist Church on March 10, 1895. L. M. Powell's occupation was listed as photographer.

> *Ralph had a photography business and store in Hanford and many of his photos are on file with the Kings Art Center. (Verne Adams)*
>
> *Ruth Verboon's brother (Jane McCutcheon).*
>
> *His dad had a photography shop on Seventh Street for many years. (Gerald Schumacher)*
>
> *He attended our church for many years. He was married to the former Jeanette Griswold. He was extremely talented artistically as well as being an artist with the camera. I don't recall him being active in any church activities, but he regularly attended. (Ruth Gomes)*

The Tagawa family was among the hundreds of Hanfordites of Japanese descent who were interred after the Pearl Harbor attacks in 1941. Naomi has shared her experiences in the internment camp in numerous lectures, and conversations. She always mentions how fortunate her family was and how grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Powell for watching over and taking care of the

Tagawa family home and business property while they were interred. I share their gratitude.

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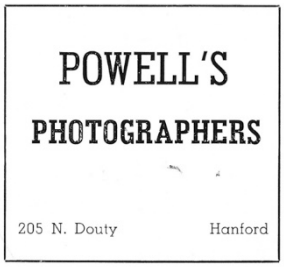
[277] "Powell, Kings County photographer, dies," by Ruth Gomes, Hanford Sentinel, February 5, 1987.

After their release from the camps, many returned home only find their properties and businesses stripped bare. This has made me wonder about some of our other iconic buildings and businesses that were owned by Japanese Americans. Who helped to watch over their properties? [278]



Ad in the 1948 Woodrow Wilson Jr. High School Yearbook

ETHEL J. BECKMAN – Date of Birth June 24, 1892, joined the Methodist Church in about 1905 in Bell Springs, Tennessee. Certificate of Transfer from Bell Springs, Tennessee March 17, 1940, Date of Death March 21, 1987. Age 94, she was born in Coffee County, Tennessee. Ethel came to the Hanford-Lemoore area in 1933. She was a homemaker, a member of United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women, and the Neighbors of Woodcraft. She is survived by two sons and a daughter, Frances Creelman of Lemoore.[279]

She is Frances Creelman's mother. (Jane McCutcheon)

She was one of these quiet people that always had her apron on and was busy behind the scenes. We need a lot of those people. There are enough chiefs. We need a few more Indians. Ethel was definitely one of those people. A real sweet lady. (Ruth Gomes)

Ethel's son Ed was active in the church. He moved to Corcoran to be a bank manager. He died very young. His wife is the sister to Guy Harden, who is the pastor of the Lakeside Church. (Pat Schumacher)

She taught Sunday School for several years and was very active in United Methodist Women. She was very proud of being presented with a United Methodist Women life membership pin. (Frances Creelman)

LOUIS O. GOMES – Date of Birth August 5, 1914, Confession of Faith April 6, 1952, Restored September 19, 1980, Date of Death October 4, 1987. Louis was 73, a native of Hanford and lifelong resident of the community. Born on the family ranch northwest of Hanford, he was the son of the late Antonio R. and Mary R. Gomes, pioneer sheep-raisers and farmers. He attended the old Lucerne School, was a 1933 graduate of Hanford High School and graduated from Visalia Junior College predecessor of the College of the Sequoias where he majored in business. He farmed the family ranch for a number of years, later was a partner in service stations at Hall's Corner and in Hanford before employment with the City of Hanford as a mechanic in the public

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[278] Hanford Gourmet: Imagine, by Arianne Wing, Hanford Sentinel, December 29, 2015

[279] Hanford Sentinel, March 23, 1987.

works maintenance shop for 14 years prior to retirement. He had been a reserve police officer for more than 20 years, starting under a California Highway Patrol training program for disaster preparedness volunteers and then serving with the Hanford Police Department reserves. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Class of '33 Club, Kings County Peace Officers Association, and had been a host and volunteer at the Hanford Senior Center since its inception. In earlier years, he served as a department chairman in the Farm Bureau and also had been a member of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee. Surviving are his wife, Ruth, a son, Lawrence, and a daughter Janette McDougall of Hanford.[280]

Louie Gomes was the husband of Ruth. He was a farmer. The whole Gomes family was well known over the history of Kings County. They lived north of Hanford. The home is still there now unoccupied. Louie attended the United Methodist Men meetings. (Gerald Schumacher)

He was born here and lived here all of his life. We lived on the ranch where he was born. He was born into the Catholic faith; he was not an active member in the Catholic church. I remember when we used to have people go out on campaigns to get people to join the church I had told Louie I think you can expect a call tonight. You will need to make up your mind if you want to join the church, because we had been active in the young couples group. So, Mr. Alpheus Griswold went out to call on him, and he was so proud when he came back because Louie said yes, that he would join the church. Louie ushered for a long time. We were active in the Merriweds, not the Methadults that was the old folks' group then. We had been co-presidents of them at one time. (Ruth Gomes)

FRANCES LLOYD – Date of Birth in Chicago, Illinois December 26, 1910, Certificate of Transfer from Oak Lawn United Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas October 18, 1981, Date of Death February 6, 1988. Age 77, she had been a resident of Hanford for the past 17 years. She was a homemaker and member of First United Methodist Church and the Women's Club.[281]

Her husband had a band and she sang in it. (Lela Taylor)

GEORGE E. THOMASSON – Date of Birth March 27, 1912. Joined the Methodist Church about 1922 in Chico, California. Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Pacific Grove Methodist Church on February 2, 1947, Date of Death April 13, 1988 in Kings County.[282] Age 76, George was born in Chico. He had lived in Hanford since 1946 when he became a teacher of industrial arts at Hanford High School. He taught there for 26 years, retiring in 1972. He was a member of the United Methodist Church, the Retired Teachers Association, the Kings Sammers and the San Juanderers. Surviving is his wife Dorothy.[283]

George was a mechanical arts teacher at Hanford High School. The whole family was active in the Methodist Church. They were active in the Merriweds. (Gerald Schumacher)

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[280] Hanford Sentinel, October 5, 1987.
[281] Hanford Sentinel, February 8, 1988.
[282] www.ancestry.com
[283] Hanford Sentinel, April 14, 1988.

As a high school shop teacher, he was good to our church in repairing or restoring woodwork or refinishing items in the church. (Terry Tomkins)

He was a high school shop teacher at Hanford High. He was a member of King Sammers RV Club. He enjoyed the outdoors. (Joan Russell)

They had two children. (Pat Schumacher)

George and his wife were sponsors of the Methodist youth for a number of years. (Pat George)

LOIS GRISWOLD – Date of Birth October 3, 1907, Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Jackson, California January 11, 1931, Date of Death May 22, 1988. Age 80, Lois was born in Amador County community of Jackson. She traced her roots to some of California's earliest settlers in the gold country. Her parents were Thomas Burrow Jr. and the former Mae Thorpe, both born in Murphys. Her grandfather, Edson Thorpe, built a bakery in Murphys that still stands. She attended college at what now is Fresno State University, and after receiving her degree in 1927 and a teaching credential, she came to Kings County as a home economics instructor at Hanford High School. She taught there between 1930 and 1937. During that period she met her husband-to-be, Harold Griswold, and they returned to Jackson to be married in 1935 in the Burrow family home. She joined the United Methodist Church here 58 years ago and for many years was involved in both youth work and women's activities. She and her husband were adult leaders of the Epworth League, late the United Methodist Youth Fellowship, and she also taught a high school age girls' class. She was active in the Women's Society of Christian Service and United Methodist Women, serving as president for several years and as a group leader, as well as on the district cabinet in charge of youth programs. She also was a member of the 20th Century Round table, the oldest study club in the county. The Griswolds served as Kings River-Hardwick King and Queen for the 1987 Homecoming celebration. Surviving is her husband, Harold, and two sons, Galen and Gerald.[284]
Burial in Grangeville Cemetery.

She came to Hanford High School. She actually took care of one of Pat's relatives in Jackson, California, when they were babies. She was the home economics teacher and then met Harold Griswold, and they were married. They led the youth group for many years. This is a person who should be remembered. (Gerald Schumacher)

She had quite an extensive collectible shoe collection. That was her hobby. (Roberta Tomkins)

She was very famous for her banana nut cake. (Jim Martin)

She was a home economics teacher in high school. She came here from Jackson to teach. She and Harold met in the kitchen here! For years she and Harold were youth leaders and young adult class leaders. You name it; they had done it. She was active in women's society. She had been a president. She had been a district officer. She was very involved in church activities both on her own and in the company of Harold. (Ruth Gomes)

PEARL SHAW – Date of Birth in Ravenna, Ohio January 21, 1898, Full Membership March 20, 1910, Date of Death June 13, 1988. She came to Hanford as an infant, arriving here in 1909. Age 90. After attending local schools and taking teacher training, she taught at Excelsior School District

[284] 87 Kings River-Hardwick queen dies at age of 80, Hanford Sentinel, May 24, 1988.

for ten years. She was a homemaker. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, had sung in the church choir, taught Sunday school and was a member of the United Methodist Women, the Retired Teachers Association, Y's Menettes Club (Life Member), Hanford Community Hospital Auxiliary, Women's Relief Corps., A.A.R.P., Golden Agers, Women's Republican Committee and the Salvation Army Auxiliary. Mrs. Pearl Shaw was a second grade teacher at Kit Carson Elementary School when the school first opened in December 1952.[285]

The Shaw Memorial Library was renovated in recognition of George and Pearl Shaw.

The library in the church is dedicated to the Shaws. Bill Birdsey put it together. Marie went to a meeting and talked about a little lady who shuttled through the whole meeting and never missed a stroke. She was tatting. (Jim Martin)

Pearl was a very small woman and very active in the women's society. She was very generous too. (Pat Schumacher)

Pearl was a school teacher. (Gerald Schumacher)

She did beautiful handwork. She used to do tatting and embroidery and all kinds of things, and for many years she sang in the church choir. She was active in the women's society. The reason I particularly remember her being in the church choir is because she wanted me to be in the choir and she gave me her choir robe. I was only 14 at the time I joined the choir, but I inherited Pearl's black robe to be in the church choir, because she was a little lady and her robe just fit me perfectly. (Ruth Gomes)

I remember one day Pearl brought a package to Women's Society and she handed it to me. It was pillow slips with tatting on the edges. I am still using those pillow slips. They were polyester, and you don't have to iron them. Another time she made vases for people. She made a vase for me that had roses all over it. She was always doing nice little things for people. (Jane McCutcheon)

BEAULAH GOODYKOONTZ – Date of Birth January 12, 1894. Joined the Methodist Church possibly in 1920 in Twin Falls, Idaho. Certificate of Transfer from Trinity United Methodist Church, Pomona, CA December 24, 1972, Date of Death June 20, 1988 in Kings County.[286] Age 94, she was born in Nebraska. She had lived in Hanford since 1976. Formerly of Pomona, she was a bookkeeper for the Claremont School of Theology for 15 years. Ellen Frasieur of Hanford is her daughter.[287]

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[285] Hanford Sentinel, June 14, 1988.
[286] www.ancestry.com
[287] Hanford Sentinel, June 21, 1988.

She was the mother to one of our former members, Ellen Frasieur. (Pat Schumacher)

SARAH HANSE JONES - November 16, 1903, Full Membership February 3, 1986, Date of Death June 16 or July 2, 1988. Graveside services will be held at the Grangeville Cemetery Monday at 10 a.m. for long-time Hardwick resident Sarah Cobb Jones, 83. She died Thursday at a Hanford convalescent hospital in Hanford. Born in Hardwick, she lived her entire life in the Hanford area until moving to Arroyo Grande 10 years ago. She had worked as a sales clerk at Singer Sewing Machine and at Case's Her Shop, for 15 years. She was a former 4-H leader and member of the First United Methodist Church of Hanford, Hardwick Home Department, Holland Benevolent Society and the Kings River Grange. Survivors include son Sheldon Cobb of Hanford; one grandson and numerous nieces and nephews.[288]

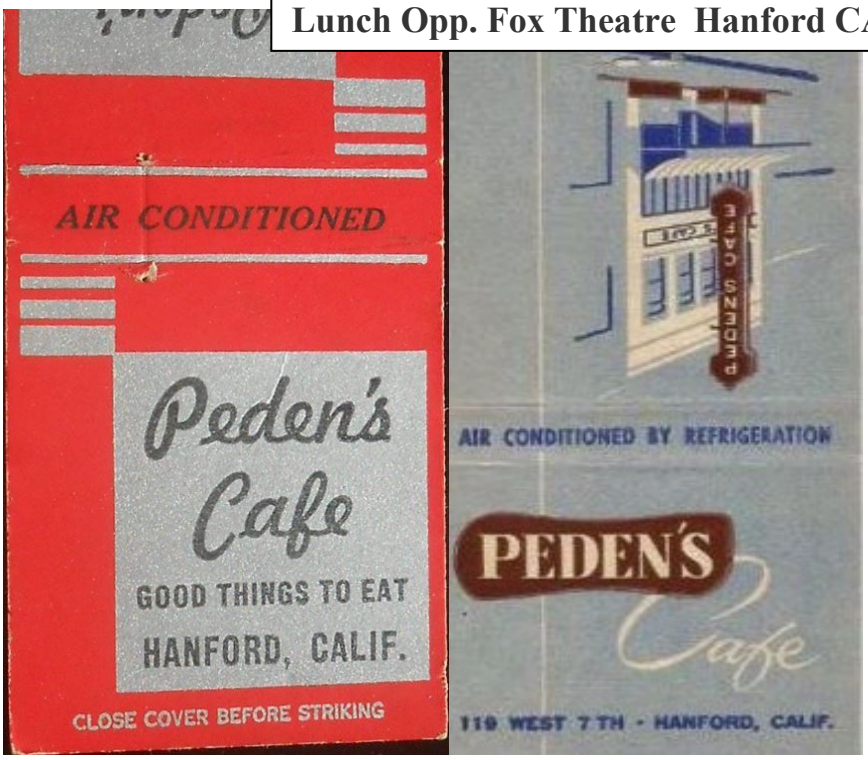
WILLIAM H. VICKERS – Date of Birth June 2, 1931, Confession of Faith June 7, 1981, Date of Death July 11, 1988. Age 57, Bill was born in Hanford. He was a retired chief petty officer in the U.S. Navy, a veteran of service in Korea and Vietnam, and had returned to Hanford to make his home 20 years ago. He had been employed for 18 years as an electronic technician at Lemoore Naval Air Station. He was a member of the United Methodist Church and had been active in the Hanford Babe Ruth program. He is survived by his wife, Carol, and their sons.[289]

I went to high school with Bill. He retired from the Navy. He was married to Carol. (Chuck Taylor)

Bill was one of the younger of the Vickers children. Bill did sing in the choir in later years while Carol became so involved in church activities. (Ruth Gomes)

[288] Hanford Sentinel, June 18, 1988
[289] Hanford Sentinel, July 12, 1988.

1940s Matchbook Peden's Cafe Fountain Lunch Opp. Fox Theatre Hanford CA



JAMES S. PEDEN – Date of Birth February 23, 1918, Full Membership/Confession of Faith February 15, 1970, Date of Death September 21, 1988. James Spencer Peden, founder of a landmark Hanford cafe and longtime restaurateur, died at the age of 92. Born in 1896 on what was known as the Packwood Ranch near the Kings-Tulare counties line, he was the son of Buford and Nancy Spencer Peden, early day settlers from Kentucky. He had lived in Hanford for 70 years. In 1922, he established Peden's Dining Room next to the Joseph Brothers store at the southwest corner of Seventh and Irwin Streets. When the Bank of Italy, predecessor to the Bank of America, bought the property to build on in the late 1920s, the restaurant moved to the next block east on Seventh Street, setting up business in the Kings Hotel building where, according to old advertisements, they offered "dinners well done and served right." After the big Kutner-Goldstein fire in 1928 which took with it a number of businesses in the heart of Hanford, including Peden's, the restaurant moved a little farther east into the quarters which had been occupied by Bernstein's, a fountain, confectionery and lunch room. There, the Peden family established a wide following and at one time nearly every service club in town met there. In addition to providing baked goods for their restaurant clientele, thousands of pies came out of their kitchens for many patrons' holiday dinners and special occasions. They also installed a laundry section to take care of the table linens. Peden and his wife Lois had an agreement that he would run the business and she would manage the home and family, but busy times often found her, their sons and daughter helping out at the restaurant. Eventually, all three sons established careers in the food trade. During the 1930s, Peden also created the Peter Pan, which catered to fountain trade while Peden's Cafe concentrated on full menu service. In the mid-50s, the elder Peden turned over the reins of Peden's Cafe to son Bill, while sons Jim and bob presided at Peter Pan. Peden's and Peter Pan later were sold to others. Young Jim Peden had a fast food outlet in Huron. Bill went into the management end of restaurateuring and Bob opened The Koop in Hanford. When the downtown Peden's went out of

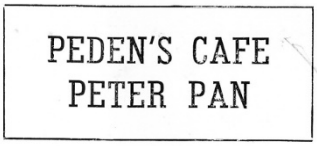
existence, following later downtown fires, Bob proudly reclaimed the name for his restaurant at 11th Avenue and Grangeville Boulevard. The elder Peden was a member of the First United Methodist Church and an Army Veteran of World War I. Active in Masonic circles for many years, he was a member of the Hanford Masonic Lodge, Royal Arch Masons and Order of Eastern Star, had served as chapter dad for the Order of DeMolay and had received the Hiram Award for dedicated service to the Masons. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Lois; two sons, Bob Peden of Hanford and Bill Peden of Carmel Valley; a daughter, Nancy Harrower of Sutter Creek. Son Jim died in a traffic accident near Huron in 1982.[290]

Jim and Lois Peden were the old mainstays with Peden's Cafe on 7th Street.

He had the same great personality as his son Bill. (Louise Card)

Jim is my brother-in-law. I know him from the restaurant. He was a stinker to work for. You had to scrub everything every night. He was a wonderful brother-in-law, though. (Unis Hoff)

One of our Super Sunday dinners will make you and enthusiastic patron of Peden's – Try it next Sunday. Drive over from Lemoore, Stratford, or the island. Peden's Café, next to Kings Hotel, Hanford. – Paragraph in September 19, 2015 Hanford Sentinel page B2l: Looking Back in Lemoore, 115 years ago. (Original article was published in 1900)



1948 Woodrow Wilson Jr. High School Yearbook Ad

Ernie Knauer,
George Thyarks,
and Leo Mizner

ERNIE E. KNAUER - Joined Methodist Church in 1915 in Ava, Illinois. Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from First Methodist Church, Corona, CA May 29, 1966, Date of Death November 13, 1988. Ernie liked people and believed in keeping busy; he combined both to lead an active life right up to the end, at the age of 96. He had "re-tired" about a year ago from his part-time job with a local men's clothing store. Born in Campbell's Hill, Illinois, he had lived in Hanford since 1965. As a youth, he worked in a confectionery store in his hometown. After graduating from high school, he made his first trip to California and went to work for a department store in Los Angeles. Returning to Illinois, he married his boyhood sweetheart and bought the store where he had worked as student. He and his wife Losy moved to California, settled in Corona and with his father-in-law purchased a grocery store which Knauer operated for 20 years. After selling that business, he joined the Kleen Line Corp., a janitorial and sanitary supply firm in which he eventually became a co-owner. When he retired in 1965 at the age of 72, the Knauers moved

[290] Landmark founder dead at 92, Hanford Sentinel, August 22, 1988.

to Hanford to be near their only daughter, Martha Renfro, and family. His wife died in 1977. After 12 years in retirement, he started working part-time for Leonard's menswear store, (now Lord's). He'd never sold men's apparel before, but the personable Knauer understood salesmanship, quickly learned about the merchandise and he enjoyed people - a happy combination for any store and its customers. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, a 70-year member of the Free and Accepted Masons and a member of the Hanford Masonic Lodge No. 279. He was a 74-year member of Rotary International with a 55-year record of perfect attendance, a charter member of the Corona Rotary Club, a member of Hanford Rotary Club, and a recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow award for outstanding service to Rotary. He also was fond of dancing and was out whirling on the dance floor only a week before his death. [291]

Ernie was very active until he died at about 95 and attended dances until nearly the end. (Verne Adams)

Ernie was still driving his car and working in a men's store as a salesman in his 90's. He had a girlfriend that he brought to church when he was in his 90's. (Louise Card)

Ernie moved to Hanford and became active in the Methodist Church. The interesting thing about Ernie was not only his smile and attitude influenced everyone else. (Gerald Schumacher)

He took wonderful care of his wife Losy. He was so solicitous, even when she was in a rest home. Ernie then went on to bachelorhood. (Pat Schumacher)

Ernie was a wonderful man. He had been a salesman most of his life. He had his own business. Up in his 90s, he was still working in a haberdashery here in Hanford. He was the best-dressed man in town. The thing that I remember particularly about him was that he was out dancing one night, and then he took his lady friend home, and he left there, and he got a little too far on the right shoulder, and he hit a steam roller and demolished his car, and he walked back to his girlfriend's house, and she took him home. (Jim Taylor)

You never saw a person with a better attitude towards life. Ernie was always a pleasant person to be around. (Gerald Schumacher)

His wife didn't precede him in death very much, but he did leave church early in order to go down to the rest home and help feed her. After his wife died, interestingly enough, Ernie loved to dance. When he would go to dances after his wife's death, it was the first time he had danced in years, he said, because his wife did not dance, but Ernie loved to dance. I can remember him apologizing to me at one affair I was with Harold that evening, and he came over and greeted me, apologizing to me saying that I have a whole table full of ladies over here that I have to alternate among to dance with them. He did keep company with a lady who was Harold's bookkeeper. (Ruth Gomes)

KATHRYN M. VEATCH – Date of Birth July 31, 1915. Joined the Methodist Church in 1931 in Chowchilla. Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Madera Methodist Church December 10, 1961, Date of Death December 5, 1988. Age 73. With her husband, Gilbert, she owned and operated the A & W drive-in restaurant on 10th Avenue for 31 years. Born in Tulon, Illinois, she had lived in Hanford for 31 years. She was a member of the United Methodist Church, had served as president of the church's Methadults group, was a member of the Kings Stonecrafters

[291] Hanford Sentinel, November 15, 1988.

and the Hanford Chamber of Commerce. In addition to her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Jeanne Kerr of Hanford.[292]

She belonged to the United Methodist Women. (Louise Card)

Kathryn and Gil were both rockhounds, and I got acquainted with them between the church and the rock club. She was active as a historian for the rock club. (Jim Martin)

They had one daughter. (Gerald Schumacher)

Wife of Gilbert Veach (Joyce Lundy)

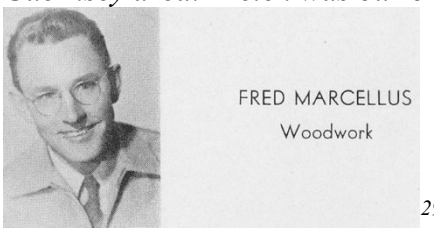
The Veatches ran the A & W stand out on 10th Avenue and were regular attenders at church. She was in United Methodist Women. (Ruth Gomes)

DAVID SHANNON ALCORN – Date of Birth August 5, 1903 in Oklahoma. Joined Alpaugh Methodist Church in 1931. Certificate of Transfer from Alpaugh Methodist Church February 14, 1937, Date of Death January 28, 1989 in Kings County.[293] Age 85, Shannon was born in Oklahoma. He was a retired farmer and had lived in Hanford for the past 51 years. Surviving are his wife, Helen, and two sons, David and John. [294]

Injured early in his life. (Verne Adams)

Shannon was a farmer south of Hanford. He and his wife Helen, were active in the church. They had two boys who still live in Hanford. (Gerald Schumacher)

They had property up in Oregon, and they were up there one time when he suffered a head injury. For more than 25 years, Helen had a great responsibility with him. He survived the accident, but it left him severely handicapped. He had been a rancher in the Guernsey area. Helen was our organist and active in women's society. (Ruth Gomes)



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FRED A. MARCELLUS – Date of Birth November 6, 1896, Certificate of Transfer from Santa Barbara August 31, 1924, Date of Death February 22, 1989. Thousands of pieces of furniture and wood-crafted articles came out of Hanford High School under the tutelage of Fred Marcellus, who shepherded droves of students through woodshop classes during these 39 years of teaching. Marcellus was 93. Equally well known for his professional quality photography, Marcellus devoted much of his time in recent years to providing slide shows for many groups and organizations. A native of Foreman, North Dakota, he came to California on foot, as part of a St. Paul, Minnesota Boy Scout troop that trekked to 1915 World's Fair in San Francisco. He decided to remain in California and settle in Exeter where he had a cousin. He graduated in 1917 from Exeter High School where he met his wife, Grace, while both were students. They married in 1922 after he had completed military service in the U.S. Navy during World War I and graduated from Santa Barbara College, now University of California at Santa Barbara, where he served as student

[292] Hanford Sentinel, December 7, 1988.
[293] www.ancestry.com
[294] Hanford Sentinel, February 1, 1989.
[295] Hanford High School Yearbook: JANUS, 1943

body president. He also took graduate work at Fresno State College and was a member of the industrial arts fraternity, Epsilon Phi Tau. In 1964, he won a national award as Outstanding Teacher of the Year. He retired from the Hanford High School faculty in 1965. Marcellus had won many natural awards for his photography and was a perfectionist in that are, as he had been with woodworking. An active outdoorsman most of his life, he had been a skier, fisherman, camper and biker. For more than 40 years, the Marcellus worked a gold claim in the Trinity Alps in Northern California. They also had traveled to many countries around the world, capturing their journeys on film which in turn were compiled into many travelogues and still photos. He had been one of the main project workers on the restoration of the old Carnegie Library as it was converted to a museum. He and his wife were Hanford King and Queen for the Kings County Homecoming celebration several years ago. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the American Legion, Carnegie Museum and Kings County Art League as well as several prestigious photography organizations. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Robert of Hanford, a daughter, Dorothy Walker of Los Altos. [296]

In the fall of 1923 Fred was employed as an industrial arts instructor at Hanford High. Fred worked closely with the architect in the planning of the new shop building. Two new buildings were built in 1950. One of the buildings housed the auto laboratory and advanced auto shop and the other housed the general wood shop, general metal shop and the advanced metal shop. Fred Marcellus had made studies of shops around the state and again worked closely with the architect so that the shop and all details in them were designed to fit the type of courses to be taught in them. The industrial arts facilities were recognized as the finest in the state. To this day, many students Fred Marcellus and his talented instructors taught are successful in the trades they learned in Hanford High School's industrial arts program. When he retired in 1962, Marcellus was revered as the "Dean" of industrial arts in the state of California. [297]

> He w*as a high school woodworking teacher (Jane McCutcheon).*
>
> *He was a wonderful photographer (nature pictures), made slide shows with sound. Member of the King Sammers RV Club. (Walt Russell)*
>
> *He was a marvelous photographer, and he was a perfectionist. Anybody who was ever in his shop classes knew that when you left the shop that place had better be left clean. His students won many prizes with their works from his classes. (Ruth Gomes)*

Hanford memoir recalls epic hike to Panama-Pacific Expo 100 years ago

OCTOBER 31, 2015

The Panama-Pacific International Exposition was held in San Francisco in 1915

[296] Former teacher dies, Hanford Sentinel, February 23, 1989.
[297] "History of Kings County Public Schools," by Harold "Hoot" Gibson, Hanford Joint Union High School, reprinted in Hanford Sentinel, March 13, 2005, page 2C.

Fred Marcellus and fellow Boy Scouts walked there from Minneapolis

He kept a notebook and wrote a personal account of the expedition

BY LEWIS GRISWOLD

lgriswold@fresnobee.com

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco, which Robert Marcellus of Hanford grew up hearing about because his father walked from Minneapolis to attend the 1915 World's Fair. That's right, he walked, except for a multi-day car ride from Salt Lake City to Reno. His name was Fred Marcellus, he was 18, and he kept a notebook that he later used to hand-write a chronological account of the journey. (Hanford old-timers may remember Mr. Marcellus as the wood shop teacher at Hanford High.) His daughter, Dorothy, who recently died, copied her father's account in longhand and, about five years ago, it was typed into a computer. Robert made it into an 8 1/2 -inch-by-11-inch booklet, including photos taken by the cross-country hikers.

IT'S AMAZING THEY COULD DO A WALK LIKE THAT.

Robert Marcellus, son of Fred Marcellus

The memoir has details about the Panama-Pacific International Exposition not found in Wikipedia "The Ford Company had an assembly exhibit and 25 Model T's were assembled each day," Fred wrote. Also, expo visitors could not simply take photos willy-nilly. "While at the fair, anyone with a camera had to get a dated camera license for twenty-five cents each day," he wrote, noting that selling pictures was prohibited. Fred grew up on a farm in North Dakota, but his father died suddenly from flu while visiting relatives in New York, so his mother sold the farm and moved the family – Fred, his older brother, Harry, and a sister – to Minneapolis. Fred and Harry joined a Boy Scout troop and, on April 11, 1915, six Scouts and an adult leader set out for San Francisco, hauling a cart with a sign that read "Boy Scouts of America of St. Paul, Minnesota. Hiking from St. Paul to San Francisco. Distance of 2,800 miles."

THEY HAD TWO CAMERAS, A BROWNIE 2 AND AN EASTMAN KODAK 3 1/4 X 5 1/2 , AND TOOK PHOTOS THAT STILL EXIST.

"He talked about it quite a bit," Robert said of the trip. "It's amazing they could do a walk like that." They endured rain, cold, a tornado and muddy roads, camping along the way or finding shelter, often in beautiful locations. They hiked from Minneapolis to Kansas City, to Topeka, to Grand Junction, to Salt Lake City, stopping to watch horses being branded on the prairie, tour a mine in the Rockies and climb Pike's Peak. They had two cameras, a Brownie 2 and an Eastman Kodak 3 1/4 x 5 1/2, and took photos that still exist. They had postcards made that they sold along

the way to earn money to fund their trip. They bought fruit from farms, and once paid a farmer the exorbitant price of 75 cents for a two-pound chicken. The group split up in Salt Lake City. Fred caught a ride in an automobile that had a top speed of 35 mph. Much of the time was spent fixing flat tires, he wrote. The Scouts reunited in Reno and started walking again with their cart, hooking it to the back of horse-drawn wagons and pushing from behind to get up the grade to Truckee. They camped a few nights at Donner Lake. While near Roseville, someone in a passing train waved at them vigorously but they didn't know who it was. They learned later that it was a friend from Minneapolis also going to the Panama Pacific Exposition. The hikers – now four Scouts and an adult leader – arrived in the city on Oct. 17, 1915, six months after leaving Minneapolis. They visited the exposition several times. Memorabilia in the Marcellus family includes an admission ticket dated Nov. 2, 1915. At the expedition's end, Fred and his brother moved to Exeter, got jobs at a dairy earning $55 a month for both, including room and board, and graduated from high school. Fred served in the Navy, graduated from both Fresno State and Santa Barbara College, and married Grace Henderson of Exeter. They settled in Hanford, where he lived until his death in 1989 at age 92. [298]

MARY ANN SANDS – Date of Birth March 29, 1930, Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Methodist Church at Coolidge, Arizona September 24, 1961, Date of Death September 14, 1989.

> *The brain tumor that took her life progressed over a long period. During my first year teaching, I was assigned to the classroom next to hers. She was on a medical leave of absence and her class was taught by a long term substitute. The class wound up with three different subs over the year, a big disappointment to the parents who had requested that class for their children because Mary Ann Sands was held in such high regard. I listened to the rest of the teaching staff talk about what a good teacher she was. She would come in when she could that year and do demonstration lessons for the other teachers. She did one for my class on poetry. "These kids are too little to write poetry," I thought. In one brief session, all the students had learned a pattern and produced a piece of poetry that satisfied them. At the end of the day, the other teachers were saying how sad it was to see how much Mary Ann Sands had slowed down, but I was marveling at how much she had been able to accomplish. This would have been late '88 or early '89. (David Beeman).*

NELL R. BOURNE –Date of Birth in Mississippi July 23, 1902. Joined Methodist Church in 1916 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Reaffirmation on September 26, 1976, Date of Death October 15, 1989. A homemaker, she was a native of Mississippi and had lived in Hanford since 1934. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church. Mrs. Bourne is survived by a son, George Bourne of El Cajon and a daughter, Jean Hames of Sacramento.

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[298] Fresno Bee, October 31, 2015

She is a grandmother to Allison Kline.

She lived across the sidewalk from Mrs. Peden and Unis Hoff. She was a delightful lady. (Pat Schumacher)

DOROTHY YOUNG – Date of Birth February 10, 1898, Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from St. Luke Methodist Church, Webster Co., Missouri November 5, 1961, Date of Death December 5, 1989. A native of Missouri, she lived in Hanford from 1938 to 19__ when she moved to Coulterville. Mrs. Young was a member of the First United Methodist Church, She was a homemaker. Survivors include a daughter, Florene Moore of Coulterville.

She used to come to church with some of her friends. (Pat Schumacher)

FLORENCE BASSETT – Born in Iowa December 19, 1899. Confession of Faith April 23, 1916, Date of Death December 23, 1989.

Find A Grave Memorial# 78556313

Florence was a Mallot for many years. She was married to a Mallot. She married a Bassett in later years. (Ruth Gomes)

CHARLES O. CRISWELL – Date of Birth January 3, 1909, Certificate of Transfer from Center Street Methodist Church, Tucumcari, New Mexico May 3, 1970, Date of Death January 4, 1990. A native of Oklahoma, he was one of 10 children. He had lived in Hanford for 20 years. Mr. Criswell devoted 30 years to teaching, retiring in 1974 as a teacher for the Lakeside School District special education classes. After retirement he spent much of his spare time with his rock collecting hobby. Prior to coming to Hanford, Mr. Criswell taught in the New Mexico public school systems for 23 years, devoting his attention to coaching football, teaching drivers' education and general science. In 1948-49, he was chosen Football Coach of the Year for the Tucumcari High School Rattlers. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Retired Teachers Association, Hanford Rock Club and the Masonic Lodge. Surviving are two daughters, Virginia Lou Dougherty and Jackie Sue Davidson. He was preceded in death in 1982 by his wife, the former Charlotte Sue Conley whom he married December 25, 1936 in Logan County, Arkansas. [299]

Find A Grave Memorial#

He was a rockhound and an avid football fan. He was a coach in New Mexico. He won the state championship back there. He gave up coaching with his teaching. (Jim Martin)

He was active in the United Methodist Men. (Gerald Schumacher)

SARAH E. DOWNEN – Date of Birth September 21, 1901, Full Membership April 2, 1939, Date of Death March 28, 1990. A native of Manhattan, Kansas, Mrs. Dowen had been a Hanford resident since 1919 and was a telephone operator for Pacific Bell for 36 years, retiring in 1961.

[299] Hanford Sentinel, January 9, 1990.

She was active in the United Methodist Women. She is the mother of Joyce Lundy. [300] Her memorial funds were used to pay for a corner sign.

Sarah married Mr. Downen, who was the YMCA director. (Louise Card)
She actually worked for the telephone company for 40 years. The company gave her credit for 36 years only because she took more time off for maternity leave than management allowed. (Joyce Lundy)

LORA BRADLEY – Date of Birth March 8, 1902, Confession of Faith April 14, 1968, Date of Death July 28, 1990. Lora had been a resident of the Hanford-Armona area since 1940. Born in Ashgrove, Illinois, Miss Bradley had been a homemaker.

SAMUEL STONE – Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Chehalis, Washington, April 22, 1951, Date of Death April 15, 1990.

He was a high school music teacher. He directed and sang in the church choir. (Louise Card)
He was a band director at Hanford High School. For quite some time, he directed and sang with the church choir. One of the things I remember that is in our music library, was we worked very hard one time to do a sun eucharist. We did that a number of times with the communion service. Because a lot of it was in chants, it was all foreign to us. (Ruth Gomes)
He was the choir director for years. (Gerald Schumacher)

EMMAREE GIBSON – Date of Birth January 19, 1904, Certificate of Transfer/Other Denomination Baptist church in Kentucky December 14, 1952, Date of Death October 15, 1990. Mrs. Gibson, age 96, was a native of Lodiburg, Kentucky, she had lived in Hanford since 1952. Mrs. Gibson was a homemaker. Surviving are a son Harold Gibson, and a daughter Mary Hill, both of Hanford.[301]

She was quite a short person. (Joan Russell)
She is Mary Hill's mother. (Joyce Lundy)
They had lived in the Guernsey district at one time. (Ruth Gomes)

GEORGE THYARKS – Date of Birth December 3, 1910, Certificate of Transfer March 6, 1960, Date of Death November 10, 1990. Age 79, George was born in rural Hanford. He lived in this area most of his life. He was the last survivor of four children born to George and Daisy Thyarks, both native Californians, who settled in the Grangeville area before the turn of the century. He still lived on the family ranch. In addition to operating his fruit and walnut ranch, Mr. Thyarks was employed as an appraiser for the Kings County assessor's office for ten years. As a young man, he was employed at the Orton Ranch at Stratford and later was manager of the 8,000-acre Lyon-Hoag Ranch at Firebaugh for 20 years. Mr. Thyarks graduated from Hanford High School in 1930 and attended 4C's Business College in Fresno. He was a member of United Methodist Church where he held numerous positions, including serving as a conference lay delegate, trustee,

[300] Hanford Sentinel, March 30, 1990.
[301] Hanford Sentinel, October 15, 1990.

on the administrative board, chairman of the finance committee, and singing in the choir. He was a member of the Dos Palos Masonic Lodge No. 681. He had served as a school trustee for Pioneer Union School District and also was a trustee for the Ora Loma School when he lived and worked in Firebaugh. He had been a 4-H leader for a number of years. Surviving are his wife, Abigail, three daughters, Mary Stryd, Joanadel Hurst and Georgianna Lacher, and a son, John, who died in 1967.[302]

In 1991, a memorial bench was installed east of the sanctuary, with memorial funds, in honor of George.

Earlier, he had been a manager of a large farm on the West Side. (Verne Adams)

George was the unofficial church photographer. At every church function, he was there with his camera, taking pictures. (Vicki Beeman)

I remember one year he was the photographer for Vacation Bible School. His pictures were great and covered all the activities. Curiously, they all seemed to also feature his grandchildren. (David Beeman)

George was a farmer and very active. He was a forerunner to the Over The Hill Gang. He did much of the work around the church. He was head of the board of trustees. (Jim Taylor)

George was the church photographer. He always had a camera with him. (Roberta Tomkins)

George was the instigator on putting the paneling on Mary Lane Hall. He donated many, many chords of wood from his walnut orchard, and that is what the Methodist Men lived on for quite a few years by selling his wood. (Jim Martin)

Outside of photography, he was a devoted worker within the church to repair, refinish things and served willingly on any committee freely. (Terry Tomkins)

The Thyarks was an old family in the Grangeville area. Everyone knows George and Abby. (Gerald Schumacher)

[302] Hanford Sentinel, November 12, 1990.

George was the deepest singing bass that I think I have ever heard at church. He loved to sing. He was also very committed and loved his church a lot. He served on a number of committees. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

CARA W. BOYER - Date of Birth June 14, 1916, in North Dakota. Date of Death April 12, 1991 in Kings County.[303] Age 74, Cara was a native of North Dakota. She was a Hanford resident for the past four years. She was a church organist for the United Methodist Church. In 1980, she was voted Sherman County, Oregon's "Mother of the Year." Surviving is her husband, Alfred Boyer of Hanford. [304]

Al was a Methodist minister, and his wife was talented as an artist. She would take burls out of trees. She would dry those and make scenes out of them. I bought one of them from her, and it is standing up very well. She was a very good artist, organist, and pianist. (Jim Taylor)

She dressed so pretty. She played the church organ so well. (Joan Russell)

Accomplished pianist. Suffered a paralyzing stroke but recovered to walk again and play the piano and organ for our church. (Joyce Lundy)

Cara and her husband came here partly at the request of Karen Griswold, because they were her former in-laws. Her husband was a minister for many years. Despite the fact that she had a stroke, and at one time they had predicted that she would never play again, she was persuaded to try to play here and so she did play the organ. I know at one time she said she didn't want to play anything that was very intricate or difficult because she said her mind and her fingers didn't work together after her stroke. She succumbed to complications of diabetes after she had eye surgery. Then her husband moved back to the northwest. (Ruth Gomes)

LEWIS M. COLES – Date of Birth May 27, 1913, Certificate of Transfer from St. Lukes United Methodist Church, Fresno April 10, 1983, Date of Death June 15, 1991. Lewis died at the age of 78 and had lived in Hanford for the last seven years. Born in Selma, Mr. Coles grew up in that community where his grandfather was in the construction business and his father also was a builder and farmer. He was a 1935 graduate of the then-Fresno State College, where he starred as a football player, and he maintained a lifelong interest in sports. After college, Mr. Coles moved to Southern California, but returned about 1940 to become athletic coach at Selma High School for four years, an assignment that involved all sports. The then went to Parlier as woodshop teacher/coach for another four years. Mr. Coles left education to enter the insurance business in Fresno for 12 years, but in 1968 returned to his first love - working with school children - and he taught woodshop and history at junior high school in Malaga. After the Malaga schools were absorbed into the Fowler School District, he became principal/teacher of Fowler High School continuation school, a post he held until retirement in about 1973. A number of Kings County residents also remember Mr. Coles as a fruit buyer for a major cannery during the summertime. He attended the Hanford First United Methodist Church and was a member of the Kiwanis Club of Hanford.[305]

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[303] www.ancestry.com
[304] Hanford Sentinel, April 14, 1991.
[305] Hanford Sentinel, June, 18, 1991.

Lewis was married to the former Elsie Bennett. (Ruth Gomes)

MELVIN W. HALL – Date of Birth January 18, 1905, joined the Methodist Church in 1915 in Stewardstown, Pennsylvania. Certificate of Transfer from Porterville April 12, 1936, Date of Death August 30, 1991. A native of York County, Pa., Mr. Hall had been living in Hanford since 1936. He worked as an insurance salesman for New York Life Insurance Co. for 52 years. Melvin belonged to the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1920 to 1922. Husband of Vivian Hall.[306]

Insurance salesman. He and Vivian had a neat house on Redington Street. We got to see it because of the small group ministry that Walt Fowler ran. (David Beeman)

He was preceded in death by his son. (Ruth Gomes)

Mel was an early trustee of the Methodist Church. He was a New York Life insurance agent. (Gerald Schumacher)

EVELYN MAE HOOVER – Date of Birth June 2, 1921, Other Denomination/Certificate of Transfer from Congregational Church, Hyannis, Nebraska 1948, Date of Death September 12, 1991. She was a "goldmine of information" at the Hanford Library where she worked. Born and raised in Hyannis, Nebraska, Mrs. Hoover received her teaching degree from the University of Nebraska. While on a visit to Southern California during World War II, the then Evelyn Bestol met Joe Hoover and after a brief courtship they were married. Mrs. Hoover remained in Laguna Beach while her new husband was in the U.S. Navy. They moved to Hanford in 1947, drawn here through his acquaintanceship with a local druggist. Her husband, who died in 1984, was involved in merchandise design and marketing. Mrs. Hoover entered teaching, working first at Kings River School, joined the faculty at Pioneer Union School for five years and taught at Delta View School for another four. She joined the staff at the Hanford Library in 1965, working there until her retirement in 1985. During that time she helped establish the reference library and her work as a reference librarian was held up as a model throughout the San Joaquin Valley Library System, according to colleagues. Although she had no formal education in library science, Mrs. Hoover displayed an amazing facility for retaining facts ranging anywhere from politics to auto repair, fine arts to patenting inventions. What made her especially valuable to library patrons, remarked one associate, "was her talent for finding out what people really needed, which not always was what they came in and asked for." Mrs. Hoover was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the Philomathian Study Club, previously was a member of the Lady Lions and was listed in "Who's Who in American Women" during the 1960's.[307]

She started the Coop Preschool at our church.

They had a daughter, who was active in the youth group, and became an exchange student to Iceland for a year. (Gerald Schumacher)

ELOISE HOLMQUIST – Date of Birth August 1, 1921, joined MC in 1933 in Seattle, Washington, Certificate of Transfer from Audubon Methodist Church, Spokane, Washington September 24, 1961, Date of Death December 8, 1991. Mrs. Holmquist, who had been a registered nurse for 45 years, devoted 20 years of her professional career to her role as director of nursing for the Kings County Health Department. She also had been a school nurse for the Hanford

[306] Hanford Sentinel, September 1, 1991.
[307] Hanford Sentinel, September 14, 1991.

Elementary School District and was on the nursing staff of the old Kings County Hospital. She was a member of the California Nurses Association, the First United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women and had served on various committees of both the church and its women's society. She was the daughter of a Methodist pastor, the Rev. Dr. John Benjamin Magee, who among other assignments was the president of Cornell College in Iowa at one time.[308]

They had two daughters who were active in the youth group. (Gerald Schumacher)
She loved the Pentecostal and charismatic experience of the Methodist church. She loved the Lord a lot, and she was constantly praying a lot for me and for her church as well.

HELEN STONE – Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Methodist Church at Chehalis, Washington April 22, 1951, Date of Death March 1992.

She was a teacher and the wife of Sam Stone. (Louise Card)
Elementary school teacher at Monroe School. (Lois Peden)
They had two daughters. (Ruth Gomes)
The couple was well known and well-liked. (Gerald Schumacher)

C. L. 'JACK' BURNHAM – Date of Birth 1903, Joined MC 1915 in Mason City, Iowa. Certificate of Transfer from First Methodist Church, Fresno January 25, 1959, Date of Death August 5, 1992. Mr. Burnham was manager for E and P Tire Co., for 15 years prior to retirement. He had been a Hanford resident for 35 years. Jack was born in Mason City, Iowa, and graduated from Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. He was a 32nd degree member of the Masonic Lodge, a member of the Order of the Shrine, and had served on the Kings County Grand Jury in 1973-74. He was a World War II veteran. Jack was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Hanford where he sang in the choir for many years, had served as choir director for a time and also had been the organist.[309]

He sang in the choir for a long time. One of the last times I heard Jack sing, he was 82, and he sang one Sunday in church, and I was so impressed. They made a provision for the church in their estate. (Ruth Gomes)
They were active in the MethAdults. (Gerald Schumacher)

MOLLIE BURNHAM – Date of Birth 1890, Certificate of Transfer from Fresno Methodist Church January 25, 1959, Date of Death August 31, 1992. Mrs. Burnham, who was born in Crawford County, Kansas, had lived in Hanford since 1957. She was a homemaker. During World War II, Mollie served in the Women's Army corps, with the rank of Captain. She was a member of the first United Methodist Church, Daughters of the Nile and Order of Eastern Star. She also served on the Kings County Grand Jury in 1970. She died the same month as her husband, Jack. She had no children.[310] Mollie's parents were Martin and Mary Stefancic.

With husband Jack, was very active in our church. (Verne Adams)

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[308] Hanford Sentinel, December 10, 1991.
[309] Hanford Sentinel, August 7, 1992.
[310] Hanford Sentinel, September 2, 1992.

She loved to visit and was a good conversationalist. She loved her pet dogs. She sold beauty products for a few years. (Joan Russell)

C**. C. VAN LEER** – Date of Birth February 9, 1902, joined Methodist Church in 1916 in Covode, Pennsylvania, Full Membership from Armona Methodist Church January 5, 1969, Date of Death March 3, 1992. Mr. Van Leer was pastor of the Armona Methodist Church for eight years during his ministry, which stretched from 1948 until his retirement in 1967. He was raised in Marion Center, Penn., and attended school there. In 1923 he married Ruth E. Simson. She died in 1963. He married Ina Peterson in 1967. Mr. Van Leer was employed as a salesman for the Willard Battery Co. in Punxatawne, Pa., and transferred to Fresno in 1928. He was employed for Strathmore Machinery for 13 years and was a chaplain for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) for seven years. He was ordained as a missionary for the Strathmore Baptist Church and in 1948 was ordained an elder for the Methodist Church in Farmersville. He pastored that church for six years. Mr. Van Leer was a member of the Armona United Methodist Church, the Retired Ministers Association and the CCC.[311] His wife, Ina, transferred her membership to Armona United Methodist Church on March 5, 1992.

He and Ina, for many years traveled to Florida in their R. V. where he was a pastor for seniors. (Joan Russell)

EILEEN McBRIDE – Date of Birth October 28, 1906, Certificate of Transfer from St. John, Kansas April 20, 1924, Date of Death November 1, 1992. Miss McBride, a former Jefferson School teacher, was born in Kansas and came to Hanford 70 years ago. She retired in 1971 after pursuing her profession for 44 years. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church where she also sang in the choir for a number of years.[312] She was active in the church, Sunday school and was a member of the choir. She lived her religion. Merle Tuck was her sister. [313]

Eileen McBride's mother was another of my Sunday school teachers when I was a little girl. She also worked at the dime store. I can still see her mother. She always had her scissors on a black ribbon around her neck so when you would measure off something, she could snip it off. A sweet little lady. She died of cancer. (Ruth Gomes)

She had three or four daughters, who were active in the youth activities. (Gerald Schumacher)

BARBARA BOCK – Date of Birth May 2, 1909, Confession of Faith May 16, 1948, Date of Death December 25, 1992. Ms. Bock lived her entire life in the area working as a bookkeeper in Hanford for 45 years for a local Hardware Store. She was a member of the Hanford BPW Association, Order of Eastern Star Lucerne Chapter and of Neighbors of Woodcraft.[314]

She is Charlie Bock's sister. She attended the United Methodist Women meetings all the time. (Jane McCutcheon)

She may have worked for Hanford Hardware. She received a bequest from the man that build that house on Grangeville Blvd. that Dr. Kerr lived in for years. It was the

[311] Hanford Sentinel, March 5, 1992.
[312] Hanford Sentinel, November 3, 1992.
[313] "The Methodist Messenger," December 1992.
[314] Hanford Sentinel, December 27, 1992.

former owner of Hanford Hardware. They had no family. She was left a bequest from him. (Ruth Gomes)

MARJORIE A. GREGORY – Date of Birth August 26, 1947, Certificate of Transfer from Sanger Christian Church August 3, 1980, Date of Death March 7, 1993. Born in Fresno, Marge was raised on the farm of her parents, George and Ruth Wolf of Sanger. As a youth, she was active in 4-0H, especially in raising swine. Marge graduated from Sanger High School in 1965, completed an AA degree in dental assisting at Reedley College, and continued her education at the University of Oregon, Portland, earning a bachelor of science degree in dental hygiene in 1972. She had served on the staff, teaching dental hygiene in the Dental Hygiene Department at Fresno City College. After moving to Hanford 14 years ago, Marge was employed as a dental hygienist for Dr. Allyn Walker. She was a member of the California Dental Hygienists' Association and the San Joaquin Valley Dental Hygienists'' Association. She served on the board of the Fresno Evangel Home. she often volunteered her time to give oral hygiene presentations to elementary school classrooms. After reducing the hours of her hygiene practice because of declining physical stamina from her cancer treatments, she often volunteered her time in her daughter's classroom at Armona Elementary School. She served as church treasurer from 1980 to 1993 and also sang in the choir for a time. Mrs. Gregory is survived by her husband, Jim, and a daughter, Laura, both of Hanford.[315]

She fought a long and, at times, painful battle with cancer. Marge was committed to her patients. She was always sharing with them from all that she had, let be faith or her knowledge of dentistry. There was no separation between her professional life and her life of faith because that carried into all parts of her life.[316]

Was active in many aspects of our church. (Verne Adams)

At Marge's funeral, I was impressed with how many people's lives she had touched with her faith in God. (Vicki Beeman)

Marge shared with me a vision for an after-school program that could be run in our church facilities not by the church but by people from our church. (David Beeman)

Marge was not only a lady but a beautiful Christian lady. (Betty Mizner)

She was a super special gal. She was always involved in the church. She felt that she really belonged there. I always found her very gracious. I enjoyed all the stories that were told when her service was held. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

[315] Hanford Sentinel, March 9, 1993.
[316] The Methodist Messenger, April 1993.

June 27, 1982. Marge Gregory with daughter, Laura, being held by Ellen Frasieur.

GILBERT A. VEATCH – Date of Birth March 26, 1914. Joined MC in 1931 in Madera. Certificate of Transfer from Madera Methodist Church December 10, 1961, Date of Death April 4, 1993. Age 79, Gilbert was born in Carmi, Illinois, lived in Madera for many years and came to Hanford in 1956. He and his late wife, Kathryn, operated the A&W Root Beer drive-in on 10th Avenue for more than 30 years and along the way had hired hundreds of young people as seasonal helpers. Mr. Veatch served in the Air Corps during World War II. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Methodist Men, the Madera Masonic Lodge No. 280, had served as president of the Methadults group of his church, was a former Boy Scout leader in Madera as well as heading the Boy Scout troop sponsored by the Hanford United Methodist Church, was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and the Kings Stone Crafters Club. He is the father of Jeanne Kerr.[317]

He was the Boy Scout liaison for our church. (Verne Adams)

Gil was very generous with his persimmons. He knew that I liked to make persimmon cookies, and he would bring me a box full and he always said as long as I get a batch of cookies, you can have them. (Roberta Tomkins)

Poor Gil, he never really got over Kathryn's death. (Ruth Gomes)

He was active in United Methodist Men. (Gerald Schumacher)

Hanford Resident Jeanne Kerr passed away July 30, 2007. Jeanne fought a long battle against cancer without ever complaining or saying "why me?" Jeanne was born in Madera on August 1, 1951, to Gilbert and Katherine Veatch. The family moved to Hanford in 1957 to open the A&W restaurant. Jeanne was probably California's first 5-year-old car-hop. She is survived by her lifelong friend, Duane Kerr.[318]

ELLEN PELLISSIER – Date of Birth August 8, 1901, Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Escondido, CA November 1967, Date of Death April 17, 1993. Born in Farmington, Wash., Mrs. Pellissier, age 91, was a homemaker and had lived in Hanford for 27 years. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and the American Association of Retired Persons. She is the mother of Marie Wiles.[319]

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[317] Hanford Sentinel, April 6, 1993.
[318] Hanford Sentinel August 8, 2007
[319] Hanford Sentinel, April 21, 1993.

She was active in the United Methodist Women. (Louise Card)

EVELYN W. HANSE – Date of Birth March 18, 1904. Joined Armona Methodist Church in 1912. Certificate of Transfer from Kings River Methodist Church September 26, 1937, Date of Death April 21, 1993. A native of Hanford, Evelyn attended Lemoore High School. After attending then Fresno State College, she received a lifetime teaching credential and taught third grade at the Mussel Slough School for some 12 years. Evelyn was a student and later a teacher at the Mussel Slough School. She started school there in 1912. In 1976 she wrote the following: "We lived two and one-half miles from the school. My father hitched a very gentle horse to a two-wheeled cart and I drove the first half-mile alone. Then I picked up my first passengers and by the time we reached the school, there were children sitting with me on the seat. Three were sitting on the floor and three more on the back of the seat with their feet hanging over the back. My friend, Frances Anderson, rode her donkey along beside us. When we arrived at school, we removed Dan's bridle and tied him in the horse shed."[320] During that time she met John Hanse at the local Grange. They were married in 1936 and she joined him in farming at their 14th Avenue farm. Mrs. Hanse was active in the first United Methodist Church where she enjoyed the Women's Society of Christian Service and taught Sunday School. She also was active as a 4-H Club leader and in the Home Department. She loved to share time with her family and enjoyed children. Her grandfather was a minister and helped to build the Grangeville church.[321] Certificate of Transfer of membership from Kings River Methodist Church on September 26, 1937.

Evelyn was Royal Waltz's daughter (Louise Card)

She would pick up my mom, Sarah Downen, after my mom was widowed, to go to church every Sunday, before she was incapacitated. She drove to church faithfully as long as she was able to drive. If Evelyn could find my mother's house, my mom could direct her to church. (Joyce Lundy)

They had several boys and a daughter. They were active in the youth activities. They lived in the Hardwick area. (Gerald Schumacher)

RAYMOND W. NOLAND – Date of Birth April 16, 1904, joined Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church in 1930. Certificate of Transfer from Trinity Methodist Church, Bakersfield March 22, 1959, Date of Death May 7, 1993. A native of Kings County, Mr. Noland was born in Grangeville. He attended Pioneer School and graduated from Hanford High School in 1922. Mr. Noland was employed with Central Valley Cooperative (CVC) for 32 years, first as office manager and then as general manager for 27 years. Prior to his employment with CVC, he had his own accounting business, was associated with a local clothing store, owned and operated his own service station and was employed with Southern Pacific Railroad Co., working first as clerk and advancing to the division auditor's office in Bakersfield. Mr. Noland served on the Hanford City Council from 196 to 1965 and was mayor for 18 months of that time. Besides his CVC and city government associations, Mr. Noland had served as president of the Hanford Chamber of Commerce, president of the California Cooperative Ginners Association, president of Hanford

[320] "History of Kings County Public Schools", exert from chapter on Mussel Slough School, by Hoot Gibson, Hanford Sentinel, August 14, 2005

[321] Hanford Sentinel, April 23, 1993.

Kiwanis, a director of the Agricultural Council of California and chairman of the Kings County chapter of the American Red Cross. He had chaired the Kings River District Boy Scouts of America and served on the executive committee of the Mt. Whitney Council Boy Scouts of America. In recognition of his volunteer service to the Boy Scouts, Mr. Noland had received the Silver Beaver Award, the highest recognition accorded to adults in Scouting. Ray was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church in Hanford and served in almost every capacity on the church's official board. He had held all the chairs in the local Masonic Lodge and was active in the Tehran Shrine Temple in Fresno.

He was the manager of the Central Valley Coop and knew everyone. He later became the mayor of Hanford. (Gerald Schumacher)

WILMA McCUTCHEN – Date of Birth May 1, 1912 in Kansas. She joined the Methodist Church in 1932 in Haven, Kansas. Other Denomination/Certificate of Transfer from Avenal Community Presbyterian Church April 6, 1952, Date of Death July 23, 1993 in Kings County.[322] Age 81, she was born in Haven, Kansas. She worked as a school teacher for 10 years before moving to California. She taught school in Avenal. She taught another 24 years at the Armona Union School District. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women's Organization, life member of the California Teachers Association and of the California Retired Teachers Association. She was married to Robert McCutchen in Avenal when she was 40.[323] Wilma will always be remembered for visiting sick and shut-ins, and taking food dishes to church families who were in crisis or grieving. She did not have any children.

The following autobiography was printed in a church newsletter in 1985. Wilma was the preschool Sunday school teacher at the time: In 1945 I came from Kansas to San Francisco. For two years I worked with 5th and 6th grades at Hamilton Methodist Church. In 1948 I went back to teaching school in Avenal. In 1951 I came to Hanford as a farmer's wife. We joined the Methodist Church in 1952. That summer I substituted for Esther Reed. My students were Jerry Griswold and Peter Dixon. In 1953 I again became a school teacher in Armona until 1974. I've always been involved here in some way and now find myself in the Nursery class. I don't seem to have time for other interests.

Wilma was always doing for others. One day when New Disciples showed up wanting to help do some yard work and cleaning, Wilma sent us away thinking the help shouldn't be directed toward her. (Vicki Beeman)

She took care of all kinds of other little jobs at the church, too, things nobody else would bother to do. (David Beeman)

There was never anything that she wouldn't attempt to do or help. She was a wonderful Christian woman. Very active in Women's Christian Society. (Lela Taylor)

Wilma was the visitor of the sick in our church. She was always telling me how the different people were doing. She was very giving of herself. If she had things at home, she would be willing to share with her neighbors. Everyone seemed to know her. She was always serving on the evangelism committee at the church. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

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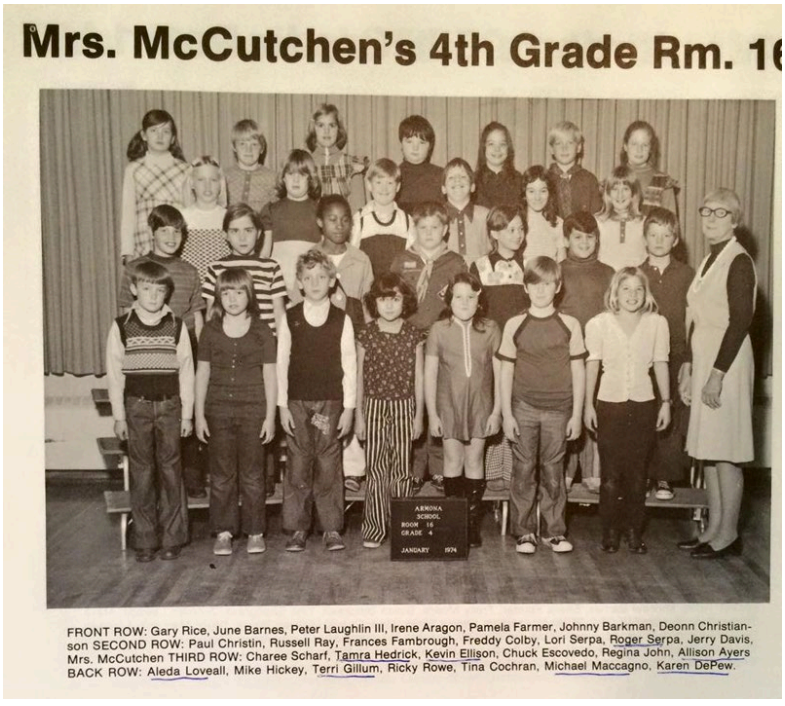
[322] www.ancestry.com
[323] Hanford Sentinel, July 24, 1993.

When I was in her class in 1965, she was mainly just a no-nonsense teacher, but I loved her. After the year was out, I thought I'd go over and help her clean out her room. It was just me and her and she was just so nice. She gave me some handmade Christmas ornaments that I still have to this day. When I worked at the hospital many years ago, I found out that she was a 'resident' at the Hanford Nursing and Rehab Home, so I went over to visit her. She was so happy to see me. Before I left, she asked me if I had a yearbook for the year I was in her class. I told her no. She had me write my name down on a piece of paper by her bedside with my phone # and the year of the book. She said she would give it to her daughter. I told her I would be back the next day to show her those Christmas ornaments. Instead, I got a call from her daughter saying she had passed away and asked me if I was ok! She also asked me if I wanted all of what was left of the yearbooks from Armona that she still had. The last thing she said to me before I left her room, was, "I love you, Linda". She had such a special smile on her face. (Linda Heinrich, a former student at Armona Elementary School, from Facebook page)

I had her for 5th grade in the 60's. She took every student in her class to her home for dinner every year. There were 2 or 3 of us at a time, and we sat down with her and her husband. She got to know each one of us like that. Lucky to have her. (Ty Green, Facebook page)

I remember going to her house for dinner too. She served us fried rabbit. I don't remember much of that evening except the rabbit and special I felt that I got that 'personal' time with her. I loved that woman. (Sheila Crain, Facebook page)



Wilma McCutchen's yearbook photo of 1974 4th grade class at Armona Elementary School

EDWARD H. GRISWOLD – Date of Birth March 9, 1910, Confession of Faith May 1, 1921, Date of Death November 11, 1993. Mr. Griswold, age 83, was born in Hanford and was a lifelong resident of this area. He was a farmer and had devoted his life to the creating and building of Griswold Brothers and Mussel Slough Farms. He was active in services to the community. For

several years Ed was on the board of trustees of Hanford High School serving during the time of the building of the West Campus. He also served for many years on the board of trustees for College of the Sequoias. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Kings County Sheriff's Posse, the Greater Kings County Navy League and was a supporter of the Kings County Art League, the Kings County Farm Bureau and many other civic causes. Survivors include his wife, the former Evalynne Fuchess.[324]

He was a brother of Lyman Griswold, George Griswold, Jeanette Powell, and Evelyn Parker. (Ruth Gomes)

He used to grow large wonderful strawberries. Ed used to let the boy scouts come out and camp on his property north of town by the Kings River. (Louise Card)

He was the son of Alpheus Griswold. (Gerald Schumacher)

ANNA PRICE GARNER – Date of Birth August 23, 1902 in Missouri. Certificate of Transfer from Corvallis, Oregon September 30, 1934, Date of Death June 28, 1994 in Kings County.[325] Anna Price Garner came to Kings County in the 1930's as one of the county's earliest University of California Extension Service home advisers. She was 91. Mrs. Garner was born in Missouri, graduated from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Teachers College and in what was then still unusual for career-bound women, she went on to Chicago University to earn a master's degree in home economics. Thus equipped with impressive academic credentials, she moved West to take employment at Corvallis (Oregon) University. When the Great Depression hit, the staff was cut back and she went job-hunting. She had worked about a year for a clothing store in San Francisco when she learned of an opening with the UC Extension Service in Kings County, applied and was hired. As Anna Price, she became part of a three-member staff then ensconced in the old National Guard Armory building on East Eight Street, across from the present Carnegie Museum. Taking the lead of the Extension Service emphasis, she helped organize women's home demonstration groups all over the county. Part of the thrust at that time was to offer farmwomen, in particular, educational opportunities relevant to their way of life. They, in turn, shared these skills with others. These were sessions on such topics as cooking, canning, sewing, home decorating and home improvements. The UC Extension went through a series of moves over the years, including occupying a former mortuary building at Eighth and Harris and an old bungalow on Lacey Boulevard before the county built new offices south of the old Kings General Hospital. She and other staff members helped design the quarters to accommodate the Extension Service programs. She retired in 1972. Through the course of employment and church associations, she met her husband-to-be Clarence Garner, and they were wed at Corvallis, Oregon in August 1938. Mrs. Garner was a member of First United Methodist Church, was a past president of Hanford Soroptimist Club, a member of Kings County Farm Bureau and professional organizations. She also was a genealogy buff and a member of the Mayflower Society chapters in Fresno, comprised of descendants of colonists who came to America aboard the Mayflower. She is survived by her husband and two sons, Leslie and John, both of Hanford. [326]

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[324] Hanford Sentinel, November 13, 1993.
[325] www.ancestry.com
[326] Hanford Sentinel, June 29, 1994.

Pattern Cutting Is Demonstrated To Kings Women HANFORD (Kings Co.), Feb. 16, 1935 – Two special meetings for the demonstration of pattern cutting were conducted at Grangeville and Paddock this week by Miss Anna C. Price, the home demonstration agent. At the home of Mrs. Hight at Paddock Tuesday members of the home department were assisted by Miss Price in cutting guide patterns. She also demonstrated the fitting of garments. A similar meeting was held in the Guernsey Hall on Wednesday. On February 36th (sic) and 28th two meetings for a demonstration on making American cheese in the farm house will be held the first at the Grangeville Social Hall of the Methodist Church at 1:15 P.M. and the second in the Guernsey Hall. [327]

70 Years Ago (In Lemoore) Pressure cookers will be tested at next Monday afternoon's meeting of the Food Preservation Class conducted weekly at the City Hall club rooms by Mrs. Anna Price Garner. Anyone in the community having a pressure cooker may take it to the meeting next week where they will be tested without charge. Grapefruit and peaches were canned by Mrs. Garner at last Monday's class. [328]

I worked for her when the farm advisor office was on 8th Street. (Joyce Lundy)
They had two boys, and raised the family on their ranch northeast of Hanford. (Gerald Schumacher)

RUTH BOCK – Date of Birth May 28, 1912, Confession of Faith April 10, 1949, Date of Death December 22, 1994. Wife of Charles Bock. Ruth taught at College of the Sequoias. In her will of 1994, she left the residual of her estate to the Hanford United Methodist Church. Her instructions, as paraphrased, were that the First United Methodist Church of Hanford is to use the funds as the Church feels necessary to develop a program to train lay members of the Church to help home ridden individuals, those that are bereaved, elderly, shut-in, ill, or emotionally distraught from the loss of family members, and who otherwise require emotional and sympathetic care and support because of their handicapped situations.

She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell. Ruth worked as a secretary or medical assistant in the office of Dr. Rosson, prior to going to College of the Sequoias where she taught business classes for a number of years. I can remember one time there was a bunch of mailing to be done here at the church and Ruth was one of those who volunteer to come down and I worked with her and boy, she took those envelopes, and she shuffled them and had them all in order so they were immediately ready to have inserts in them. I would have unfolded them one envelope at time and put them in, but boy, she knew how to shuffle them and zip them right through. She had one son, James, who became a lawyer, who primarily lived in Fresno. Her dad, Mr. Campbell, was a real pillar of the church. The morning he died he came down, sat in his usual place on the west side of the church, about six rows back, and collapsed and the ambulance was called. Church proceeded on time that morning without missing a beat. I remember Helen Alcorn, who was the church organist, recognizing the seriousness of the situation, played the hallelujah chorus on the organ! I live in Hugh Campbell's house. He worked for Lacey Milling Company, possibly in accounting, for many years. (Ruth Gomes)

[327] Fresno Morning Republican February 17, 1935, pg 40
[328] Hanford Sentinel, April 29, 2013, page A6

VITALICE E. HARDCASTLE – Date of Birth February 10, 1913, joined Methodist Church approximately 1930 in Lincoln, Nebraska. Confession of Faith May 25, 1945, Date of Death January 12, 1995. Age 81, born in Nebraska, Vitalice had been a homemaker living in Hanford for the past 51 years. Mrs. Hardcastle was a member of the United Methodist Church, the Lucerne Chapter, the OES, a former Noble Grand of the Neighbors of Woodcraft, the Rebekah's and the Women's Society of Christian Service. She is survived by four daughters and three sons. [329]

Was blind and attended church regularly. (Verne Adams)

She had very interesting family stories to tell, but I never saw any of her family at church. Being blind, she provided the occasional reminder to the pastor or lay worship leader that it's nice to say when the congregation should stand or sit. (David Beeman)

Vitalice lived right across the court from us. I have to admire her. There was nothing she couldn't do. She claimed she could see up until just a few years ago but she had no pupils in her eyes, but she claimed she could see and she did a beautiful job of upholstering a chair one time, for the condition she was in. I took care of her quite a bit when she was living in the court with us. (Unis Hoff)

Vitalice was a most unusual person. She married Mr. Hardcastle when she was middle-aged. He had a ready-made family that she helped raise in addition to having two children of her own. Despite her blindness, she did some absolutely beautiful craft work. She knitted and crocheted and made rugs and various things that you would never have known were turned out by someone with her particular disability. She was very devoted to her church. She was an excellent Bible student. She was very strong willed too. She had to be to raise a ready-made family and cope with her handicaps. In later years she had the opportunity to get a guide dog, but she did not work well with the guide dog, so finally she resorted to living the way she had. (Ruth Gomes)

She had a son and daughter in youth group. (Gerald Schumacher)

Vitalis always complemented me on the Lord's Prayer, because I didn't rush through it. She seemed to know where everything was in her home when I would go to visit. She enjoyed conversation. She was a strong woman. She would call every once in a while and let me know what was going on. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

EMMA CASEY – Date of Birth January 27, 1913 in Dover, Pope County, Arkansas. Joined Methodist Church in 1927 in Los Fresnos, Texas. Confession of Faith September 15, 1946, Date of Death May 22, 1995 in Hanford.[330] Age 82, Mrs. Casey had been a resident of the Hanford area for 59 years. She and her late husband, Clarence Casey, were married in 1934 and came to California that same year. They settled in Hanford in 1946. Mrs. Casey was manager of the high school cafeteria from 1950 to 1975. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church and Lucerne chapter of the Order of Eastern Star. She is survived by a daughter, Joyce, and a son Joe Casey.[331]

Find A Grave Memorial#. Grangeville Cemetery

[329] Hanford Sentinel, January 15, 1995.
[330] www.ancestry.com
[331] Hanford Sentinel, May 23, 1995.

She used to help with the United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women enchilada dinners. The organizations sold tickets for enchiladas as a fund-raiser. (Louise Card)

She was manager of the high school cafeteria for years. She spearheaded a lot of our enchilada dinners here that sold a lot of tickets and raised a lot of money for this church. (Ruth Gomes)

GRACE L. MARCELLUS – Date of Birth May 14, 1900, Certificate of Transfer from Santa Barbara August 31, 1924, Date of Death January 11, 1996. Age 95, she was a retired school teacher who taught first grade for 15 years at Island School. The San Diego native had been a Hanford resident for 72 years. She married the late Fred Marcellus in 1922 in Fresno and the couple was married for 65 years. For their honeymoon, the couple hiked from Hospital Rock to Giant Forest and a ranger met them halfway through their trek with snowshoes. Mrs. Marcellus was a 1922 graduate of Fresno Normal School with a teaching credential. Mrs. Marcellus was a member of the First Methodist Church of Hanford where she had served as president of the Women's Association. She was also a member of the California Teachers Association and the National Education Association. A life member of the Kings Art League, Mrs. Marcellus was also a past Homecoming Queen. She is Bob Marcellus' mother.[332]

Bob is her son. She and her husband had a place up in the Trinity Alps where they regularly went every summer, mining for gold. They had to pack back in, even way up in years. I believe she was in her seventies or eighties when she made one of her last trips up there on horseback. At one point I think she even fell into the water, but she wrung herself out and went the rest of the way. She was a very hardy woman. An excellent teacher. (Ruth Gomes)

DOROTHY M. THOMASSON – Date of Birth December 14, 1917 in California. Full Membership/Certificate of Transfer from Pacific Grove Methodist Church February 2, 1947, Date of Death February 8, 1996 in Kings County.[333] A retired school teacher, Mrs. Thomasson had lived in Hanford since 1946 and taught at Lincoln School for 22 years. Dorothy was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the Retired Teachers Association, and Kings Sammers and San Juanderers recreational vehicle clubs.[334]

She attended the womens society all the time and was always very helpful when there were things to do, up to the time she became ill. (Lela Taylor)

She enjoyed her grandsons and great grandsons They were her joy. (Joan Russell)

Dorothy was an excellent teacher who also taught in our Sunday school. They had two children, a daughter and a son. (Ruth Gomes)

The children were active in the youth group. (Gerald Schumacher)

LOUISA DAVIS – Date of Birth January 7, 1905, Joined New Land Methodist Church in North Carolina in 1913. Certificate of Transfer from New Land United Methodist Church, Elizabeth City, North Carolina April 2, 1972, Date of Death February 13, 1996. Margaret Louisa Davis, age

[332] Hanford Sentinel, January 13, 1996.
[333] www.ancestry.com
[334] Hanford Sentinel, February 13, 1996.

91, was born in Elizabeth City, N.C. and had been a private duty registered nurse for 60 years as well as a homemaker. She was a Hanford resident since 1944. She married Bill Davis in 1931 and they had marked their 64th wedding anniversary.[335] Louisa was always ready with a story. Louise was a skilled "tatter" and many of us were blessed with a hand-tatted gift from her. Tatting is a delicate handmade lace formed by looping and knotting with a single cotton thread and a small shuttle.

Louisa is the oldest of 11 children. She was a student at Norfolk School of Nursing in Virginia when she met Bill. Louise is a skilled 'tatter." Tatting is a delicate handmade lace formed by looping and knotting with a single cotton thread and a small shuttle.[336]

> *She played the piano for the 4th to 6th grade junior department at church. (Louise Card)*
>
> *Louisa never forgot a birthday in our household. It usually came a month or two before the birthday, but we always got a birthday phone call. (Jim Taylor)*
>
> *She called everybody in the church wishing them a happy birthday and she wanted to make sure she knew when your birthday was and she wanted to know how old you were too. (Jim Martin)*
>
> *Besides calling people on their birthday or anniversary, she spent a lot of time on the phone calling some of the elderly or shut-ins just to check on them. (Terry Tomkins)*
>
> *One of the things we think about Louisa is her keeping track of everybody's birthday and anniversary. You can always count on a call from Louisa on your birthday or anniversary, and she was very persistent. If she didn't get you one day, she would keep calling until she got you. She never lost track of any of the special days. (Ruth Gomes)*

CAROL JEAN VICKERS – Date of Birth October 12, 1932, Profession of Faith October 19, 1980, Date of Death March 24, 1996. Age 63, she was born in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. Mrs. Vickers lived in Hanford for 30 years. She was a homemaker. She was active in various organizations within the Methodist church. She also was an artist, and her work had appeared in numerous competitions and had been displayed around the area. With her late husband, Bill Vickers, she had been involved in Hanford Babe Ruth baseball activities.[337] The Hanford Babe Ruth Park Vickers Field is named after Bill and Carol. Known to many as "Miss Carol," she was always involved in church and community. Her giving, loving spirit, humor (and tenor voice) will be greatly missed. A talented artist, Carol was responsible for the lovely artwork in the church nursery.

Born in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, Carol grew up in Milwaukee. Carol met a lonely California sailor from Great Lakes Navy Base, and they married in 1952. Together they raised five sons. Carol is a very talented lady and many of her interests revolve around her artistic capabilities. She is an artist working in multiple mediums: oils, acrylics, watercolors, pen and ink, and charcoal. She was a "crafty person" doing stenciling, painting shirts, flower arranging, ceramics, and anything that looks "interesting." Many of us have been beneficiaries of her talent, whether through a gift of a purchase at the United Methodist Women bazaar. She sewed for herself and

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[335] Hanford Sentinel, February 13, 1996.
[336] "The Methodist Messenger," February 1996.
[337] Hanford Sentinel, March 25, 1996.

especially for the grandchildren. The is a terrific cook and baker, topping her cakes with artistic decoration. Through the years Carol has loved to dance. The church has been the beneficiary of her great tenor/alto voice in duets, women's groups, as well as in the choir. Carol loves to play board games, and she is a bridge player. You may think she has given in to her narcolepsy and is dozing, but don't be fooled. She'll come back and clean the board in one or two great moves, giving you that twinkling smile and "gotcha." Carol was the first member of this church to accompany the Greers to Redwood Christian Park, where she quickly asserted her dominance in the heretofore male domain of the horseshoe courts. Carol loves golf, and until recently, she maintained a country club membership.[338]

Each week, on the bulletin cover, you get a clear reproduction of one of the windows in our sanctuary. These beautiful drawings by Carol Vickers have inspired me to preach a series of sermons from the life of Jesus, during Epiphany. (Brown Higginbotham, the newsletter from 1981)

When, in the early '90s, a group was formed in the church for adults in their 30's to get together, Carol, who was somewhat past that age, decided to make that her group, and always had a great time with the New Disciples. (David Beeman)

Carol was a great artist. She Used to go to Yosemite in the summers to take art classes. (Louise Card)

Carol was a very good friend of the Greers. She was quite an artist. She decorated the nursery that we built. She did all the beautiful artwork in there. She was a very fine woman. (Jim Taylor)

She donated some artwork to the United Methodist Women organization to sell at their annual bazaar. (Terry Tomkins)

Many of the decorations in our nursery were done by Carol and finished up by some of the other people in the church after her death. (Ruth Gomes)

Carol was a member of the choir and enjoyed singing. She gave of herself in terms of church service. She really loved the Lord, and it showed when she came to practice with the choir. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

She met Jesus in a personal way through the Greers. (Pat Schumacher)

[338] "The Methodist Messenger," by Diana Greer, April 1966.

Carol Vickers painted the murals on the walls of Millie Kraft Lounge.

GERALDINE KRUMPE – Date of Birth 1910, Date of Death September 9, 1996. Geraldine, age 86, was a Hanford homemaker.[339]

Her husband, Tom, was a retired minister who had already retired when they moved to Hanford. Her husband had a stroke, and Geraldine took care of him every day at the Hacienda Convalescent Home (Jane McCutcheon)

She was a very upbeat, happy person, and it really was an unusual turn of events when she preceded him in death because she was so attentive to him. I do know that she went to see him every day at Hacienda, despite the fact that she herself was in a great deal of pain with arthritis and her own medical problems. She was just a neat little lady. She felt her husband needed more attention than she did. (Ruth Gomes)

MERLE M. TUCK – Date of Birth March 8, 1909, Joined United Methodist Church 1924 in Kansas. Confession of Faith March 18, 1953, Date of Death December 11, 1996. Age 87, Merle was born in St. John, Kansas. She came to California in 1919 and settled in Hanford. She graduated from Hanford High School in 1927 and attended San Jose State College. She worked as a librarian at Hales Department Store in San Francisco, then returned to Hanford in 1950. Mrs. Tuck had a special love for children and her Lord. She was a member of the United Methodist Church and was very involved in Ruth Circle and also taught Bible study. She served on a Kings County Grand Jury, was a volunteer for Teenage Hotline, March of Dimes, the Cancer Society and Alzheimer's Disease. She belonged to Sacred Heart Auxiliary and served as treasurer and worked for Sacred Heart Hospital as the director of volunteers for seven years.[340]

The following is an autobiography published in a church bulletin, as an introduction to Sunday school teachers in 1985. Merle taught the Older Adult class: I was born in St. John, Kansas, but spent most of my life in Hanford except for twenty years in the bay area. I have three daughters. The oldest, Adele Hawley, lives in Tucson, Arizona, with her husband, Steve, a construction engineer. They have three sons, two of whom have graduated from West Point. My daughter, Kay Philbrook, a retired teacher, lives in Ventura, with her husband David and son, Matthew. My youngest, Patricia, is a Probation Officer in Fresno County. My occupation is a Volunteer. My interests are reading the Bible and religious books. My favorite author is Charles Swindall. I spend my days "one day at a time" trying to practice what I have learned.

She was active in Cordell Circle and taught Sunday school. (Louise Card)
Merle taught adult Sunday school here for quite a few years. (Roberta Tomkins)
Sister of Eileen McBride. Taught Sunday school. (Joyce Lundy)

Merle was the daughter of Mrs. McBride. She was one of possibly six girls. Her daughter, Maxine Jones, is still here in town. On rare occasions, she comes to our church. Merle was real active in teaching Sunday school classes. She taught adult Sunday school and was quite a Bible student. She has two daughters who live in Fresno. (Ruth Gomes)

She was very committed to the Bible, and loved it, and loved teaching it. She was involved in Christian education. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

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[339] Hanford Sentinel, September 10, 1996.
[340] Hanford Sentinel, December 13, 1996.

Merle was very active in United Methodist Women. She had definite beliefs. She believed in every word in the Bible, and she didn't hesitate to say so. (Frances Creelman)

JOHN HUMFREVILLE – Date of Birth October 27, 1912, Certificate of Transfer from Santa Clara Avenue Methodist Church, Alameda, CA June 28, 1964, Date of Death January 7, 1997. John had been a local resident since 1961. He was married to Caroline Presser Humfreville for 36 years. He worked at the Kings County Library and was a retired parts man for Wallace Machinery Co. John had many interests and talents, including needlework, sewing, knitting and crocheting. The church and his faith were important to John. He served as chaplain to the Hanford City Council for 13 years, was honored as Man of the Year for his many services in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), served as a volunteer librarian at McCarthy School and, as a long-time railroad enthusiast, boosted for passenger services. He had been a Scout leader, member of the YMCA and of the Commission on Aging. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the Kings River Grange. He was a Navy veteran.[341] John also believed in miracles.

John was active in the community in a lot of ways. He was actually the chaplain to the city council. (Verne Adams)

He was active in Methodist Men. (Gerald Schumacher)

He always researched various materials to give a short devotional at all the Methodist Men meetings. (Terry Tomkins)

[341] Hanford Sentinel, January 8, 1997.

FLOYD BUNDY – Date of Birth October 1, 1918, Confession of Faith October 18, 1964, Date of Death March 21, 1997. Age 79, he lived at Oakhurst Community Living Center. Mr. Bundy is formerly from Hanford.[342]

He worked at Hanford Rehabilitation Center. (Lois Peden)
He often came to church on his bicycle or occasionally in a taxi. (Ruth Gomes)

FRED RADER – Date of Birth November 24, 1916. Certificate of Transfer from Methodist Church at Richland, Washington June 25, 1939, Date of Death December 7, 1997, in Kings County.[343] Fred, age 81, was a long-time active participant and member of the Kings Players Community Theater in Hanford. He was a member of the Kingsmen Chorus barbershop quartet singing society, a member of the Hanford Methodist Church for 60 years, a member of Kings Country Club and was an avid golfer. Fred was a veteran of World War II. Fred worked as an agriculture and irrigation salesman, until his retirement. Fred is survived by his wife, Muriel; two sons James of Hanford and Michael of Hisperia.[344] He owned a cabin at Camp Sierra.

From barber school or barbershop singing, this self-taught musician has done it all. Born in Cheweliah, Washington, he moved to the San Joaquin Valley in 1930 and graduated from Edison High School in Fresno. While at Fresno State, he joined Leo Busby's Band as vocalist and guitarist, where he earned a whopping $60 a week. He plays the harmonica, guitar, saxophone, ukulele, banjo, trombone, and bass horn. His first ukulele was a gift from his wife, whom he first met at this church in December of 1938. The story goes that it only took him a year to convince her to marry him, which she did, on December 3, 1939. Fred was inducted into the service in 1941 where he served 4 years in the Hawaiian Islands and later in Texas. Discharged in 1945 he came back to Hanford and settled down. His employs included owning his own barbershop, working as an accountant, as an office manager at Schaffer's, playing in his own 3 piece-band and eventually working for Flow-Away Pump in Fresno. Fred has been in more than 35 plays. You probably have had a chance to see him perform at the Temple Theater. He has served in many capacities in our church, including as a long-time choir member and instrumentalist on the Praise Team.[345]

He often played his guitar in church. He worked until shortly before his passing. (Verne Adams)

He was a member of the church choir and he played the guitar as long as he was physically able. (Vicki Beeman)

The one thing I remember about Fred was him and his guitar at church, and he also loved to play golf. I used to play golf with him every once in a while. (Terry Tomkins)

I can remember him, when I was a teenager, coming to the young adult group, and bringing along his guitar even then, and playing. Then he and Murial were very active in the Kings Players. He played on stage in a number of productions and both he and Murial handled ticked sales, staffed the ticket booth with the little theater for years. He was active with the original barbershop singing group here in Hanford. (Ruth Gomes)

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[342] Hanford Sentinel, March 26, 1997.
[343] www.ancestry.com
[344] Hanford Sentinel, December 9, 1997.
[345] "The Methodist Messenger/" May 1996.

Fred was a member of the choir and could sing his heart out. He had a great voice. He also was an actor in the community with the community players. He never liked the triplets in contemporary music that we have today. He and Murial really loved the Lord. They were a matched pair. I remember Fred bringing Murial into church many times from the convalescent home. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

LEANNE JUNELL NISHIDA – Date of Birth April 23, 1970, Profession of Faith April 10, 1983, Date of Death May 23, 1998. Leanne, graduated from Hanford High School in 1988. She attended College of the Sequoias and Fresno City College, where she was pursuing a degree in Radiologic Technology. Fond of animals, over the years Leanne had a menagerie of pets, including a horse that she rode in parades. The effervescent Leanne always was a people person who never knew a stranger. Her zest for life proved an inspiration to others, struck by her courage, fighting spirit and unswerving faith. She lost her seven-year battle with cancer at the age of 28.[346]

She was a great woman of faith. I visited her or I would call her in Fresno to see how she was doing, and she would tell me about her experiences, of how people would reach out to her, to strengthen and support her because of her dealing with cancer was not easy. She was so excited that she had met someone that she wanted to marry, and that was Phil. She loved him very dearly and he loved her very dearly. Her faith was so strong at all times that I never saw it waiver. I remember on time I invited Crista over to sing for her in her home. Leanne thoroughly loved the singing and the old hymns. She was an example of faith for young people of today. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

VIVIAN HALL - Date of Birth September 28, 1904, joined MC in 1915 in Dublin, Texas. Certificate of Transfer from Porterville April 12, 1936, Date of Death August 27, 1998.

Vivian was active in the church and for a number of years organized blood donor drives by our members. (Verne Adams)

She was past worthy matron of Eastern Star. (Louise Card)

Wife of Mel Hall. She was active in Women's Society and Eastern Star and White Shrine (Jane McCutcheon)

Vivian was on the trustees in the middle to late 70s. (Verne Adams)

She was very active in women's society and other organizations. She also had been very active in Hanford Womens Club. Was also active in a garden club. She was extremely talented with handicrafts. She used to knit her dresses. They were just works of art. You couldn't touch them in the most exclusive women's shops. She did beautiful work. When Vivian died, the kids didn't want to give any information on her. (Ruth Gomes)

HELEN L. ALCORN – Date of Birth February 11, 1907.[347] She joined Methodist Church in 1913 in Ridgeway, Colorado. Certificate of Transfer from Alpaugh Methodist Church February 14, 1937, Date of Death September 10, 1998. She was born in Gothenburg, Nebraska to Rev. and Mrs. John Carson. Being the daughter of a Methodist minister, Helen traveled throughout the United States with her family. She met her future husband when her family lived in Alpaugh,

[346] Hanford Sentinel, May 26, 1998.
[347] www.ancestry.com

where her father was the Methodist minister at the local Methodist church. Helen and Shannon married in 1930 and made their home in Alpaugh until 1936 when they moved to the Guernsey area where they farmed. In 1964 Helen and Shannon moved to Oregon, but due to Illness, they returned to Hanford in 1966. Helen was active in the community playing and singing at various funerals and weddings. She was the Hanford Methodist Church organist for over 20 years and actively involved in the women's auxiliary at the church, and enjoyed cooking and crocheting. Mrs. Alcorn is survived by her sons David and John, both of Hanford.[348]

I remember the joy she took in keeping up with her great-grandchildren's doings. (David Beeman)

She was a real music lover of church music. It was very seldom that she used a hymnal or sheet music, she knew it all. (Terry Tomkins)

She was torn between Oregon and California. Every summer she would go to Oregon. She used to play the organ. For 25 years, she took care of her husband. She had an organ at home that she loved to play. She supported the ministers that came here because she knew what they went through because her dad was a minister. She would tell my daughters that she knew what the life of a preacher's kid is. She was a very gracious lady. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

Helen always came to Woman's Society. One year she crocheted afghans, and they were given to the minister for his Christmas present. When my daughter, Gloria died, Helen asked me if she could play What Child is This on the organ. (Jane McCutcheon)

HAROLD GRISWOLD - Date of Birth October 20, 1908, Confession of Faith May 30, 1915, Date of Death October 7, 1998. Harold, a long-time pillar of the Kings County community, lived in the community for all of his close to 90 years. His grandfather settled in the area in the late 1880s. He was born and died in the same family home. He has been a Farm Bureau member since 1935 and has been a long-time member of various farm commodity-related organizations. Harold graduated from Hanford High School in 1928 and studied pomology at the University of California at Davis, business at Humphries College in Stockton and Biblical history at the College of the Pacific. He taught veterans education and shop courses after World War II. He served on the Pioneer Union School District Board of Trustees. He was a member of the Hanford Rotary Club for 22 years. He spent most of his life farming 50 acres at his farm at 11th and Flint Avenues. Griswold was also active in the preservation of the history of Kings County. He served on the Kings County Advisory Board and the Museum Foundation's Board of Directors. It was largely through his efforts that the old Methodist Church at Grangeville was designated a Kings County Historical Site. He was also very active with the youth of the community through the YMCA, at Hanford High School, and through his church. He was the organizer and driving force behind the annual Christmas parties for the Shelly Baird School. [349]

Harold is the son of Ernest O. and Halcyon Starr Griswold. Ernest came to Hanford from Iowa in 1888 with his parents. Harold's father received 20 acres from his father at 11th and Flint in 1904. Harold's parents built the three-bedroom house where Harold was born. Harold graduated from Lucerne Grammar School (now occupied by Hanford Christian School) and from Hanford High in 1928. From there, he went to Humphrey's Business College in Stockton, completing a one and

[348] Hanford Sentinel, September 11, 1998.
[349] Hanford Sentinel, October 8, 1998.

a half year business course, and also attended Old and New Testament classes at College of the pacific. In 1931, Harold enrolled at the University of California, Davis, to study pomology. Due to his father's illness, he returned home to run the ranch, before completing his degree. Harold was married in 1935 to the former Lois Jeanette Burrow, a native of Jackson, who came to Hanford as a Home Economics teacher at Hanford High School. Until 1952, Harold operated a small dairy and raised fruits and nuts. Gradually, he took out the grapes and fruit, leveled the land and planted walnut trees. Harold and Lois served as Homecoming King and Queen, representing the Kings River-Hardwick area, in 1987. A community service-oriented man, Harold was on the Pioneer Union School District board for fourteen years, was a member of the Kings County Board of Education and the Kings County School Redistricting Committee.

Not to be confused with voodoo, Harold is one of those rare individuals with a talent for 'witching' wells. With uncanny accuracy, he can single out a suitable location to tap underground water sources. As Harold tells it, his family became Methodists because a Methodist preacher got the better of a deal with his grandpa. A horse trader himself, Grandpa figured "anyone who could beat him at this own game had to be okay."[350]
Buried in Grangeville Cemetery.

Was a rare person in that he was never known to say a bad word about anyone. (Verne Adams)

Harold always had a story or joke to tell. (Vicki Beeman)

He never raised his voice to anyone and was always methodical in the task he would help with at the church. (Terry Tomkins)

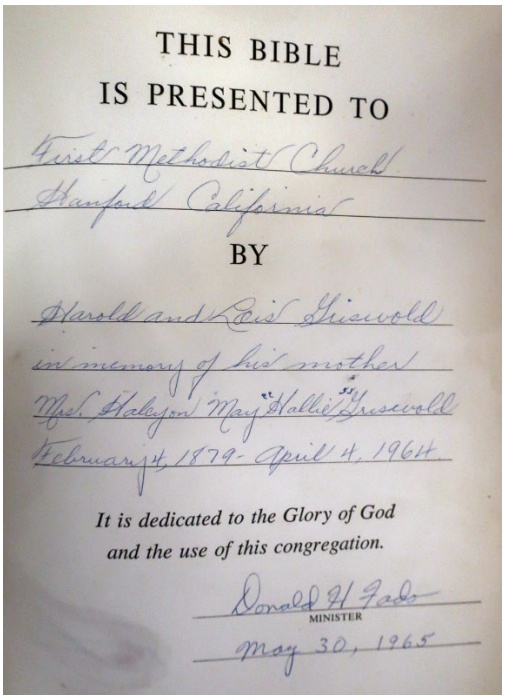
Harold and Lois had two sons, one who became a Methodist minister and later changed his occupation. Gaylen, his son, is still related to our church through our sponsoring of people when they retain their clergy credentials. (Ruth Gomes)

Harold grew up in the church with his brothers and sisters. Harold and Lois headed up the Epworth League for years. The family was active in the construction of the present church building. (Gerald Schumacher)

Harold was like oil over troubled waters! He always had a story or a joke or two to tell. The church was almost his life. I remember on time one incident when I was late for a graveside service. He had already started the service, and as soon as I walked in, Harold stepped aside, and said, "you take over now." Every time I went to their home, his wife was the most important thing in the world to him. Their relationship was a magnificent thing to see. I am filled with admiration for what they were able to accomplish. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

Harold was our Sunday School teacher. A couple of times, we were able to convince Harold to take the class to Superior Dairy instead of class upstairs. (Lois Jensen)

[350] "The Methodist Messenger, October 1996.


THIS BIBLE
IS PRESENTED TO
First Methodist Church
Hanford California
BY
Harold and Lois Griswold
in memory of his mother
Mrs. Halcyon May "Hallie" Griswold
February 4, 1879 - April 4, 1964
It is dedicated to the Glory of God
and the use of this congregation.
Donald H Fabs
MINISTER
May 30, 1965

Sanctuary Alter Bible donated by Harold and Lois Griswold in 1965.

JAY Q. DODGE - Date of Birth February 27, 1920, Certificate of Transfer from Methodist Church at Haven, Kansas September 30, 1956, Date of Death February 11, 1999. Age 78. Jay served in the Army and saw action on the European front during World War II, where he was awarded the Bronze Star. He was educated at Wichita University, Wichita, Kansas, where he earned his Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in music. Music was his life. Mr. Dodge will be remembered for his work as the Central Valley Festival Coordinator, organizing musical competitions for students in the valley. In addition to teaching band, Mr. Dodge taught privately and also taught guitar at the Hanford Adult School. Weekends found him playing with the King's Men Band and also sang in the church choir on Sunday mornings. Mr. Dodge will be remembered as an inspiring and respected band and music teacher. He had a long and successful career as the band director for Woodrow Wilson Junior High, Hanford High, and Armona Elementary. He was a lifetime member of the Methodist Church and directed the choir for a few years. He was a charter member of the Hanford Breakfast Lions Club. He is survived by his wife, Mildred.[351]

The daughter, Pat, was active in the youth group. Pat is the current church pianist. (Gerald Schumacher)

He was always most gracious. He always greeted me with a smile when I came into the church. I did not find out until later about his involvement in music at the high school. One of the things that Jay used to do, was that he would get upset if one of the students were to drop even a drum stick because that was a musical instrument. He was very proud because his daughter was beginning to play the piano for the church, and felt very happy about that. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

[351] Hanford Sentinel, February 13, 1999.

RALPH A. GREEN, JR. – Date of Birth June 23, 1917.[352] Confession of Faith April 9, 1929, Date of Death March 14, 1999. Ralph attended local schools, graduating from Hanford High School in 1935. He then earned his BA from the University of California at Berkeley in 1942. He served in the Navy during World War II as an Ensign, retiring with a disability in 1944. In 1946, Ralph established the first Veterans Service Office in Kings County where he served until 1948 at which time he opened his own business. He owned Ralph Green Real Estate/Insurance Office in Hanford until his retirement in 1978. Ralph was a lifelong member of our church and was a 40-year member of the Hanford Kiwanis Club, and a 50-year member of the Hanford Elks Lodge.[353]

Quite often served as an usher. (Verne Adams)

As long as he was physically able, Ralph sold tickets for the annual Kiwanis Mother's Day breakfast. The congregation expected to get them from him. (David Beeman)

You always knew when the Kiwanis were going to have their breakfast. (Verne Adams)

For many years he took care of the insurance for the church until the conference went to a group insurance policy for all churches in this conference (as of 1991). (Terry Tomkins)

If my memory serves me correctly, his mother was a child of missionaries. His daughter lives in Lemoore. Ralph and his brother Bob both attended our church clear into their young manhood. His dad was an electrician. When the old J. C. Penny store at the corner of Eight and Irwin Street burned his dad was on a ladder and suffered a fall and was really injured during that episode when they were mopping up on that fire that destroyed half a city block. It destroyed a furniture store, and a meat market and for a long time there was a big hole in the middle of the block there, as a result of the fire. I worked at Penny's when I was a teenager. (Ruth Gomes)

He had a brother and sister, and they were active in the Epworth League years ago. (Gerald Schumacher)

Ralph every once in a while used to walk by the church and stop in and say hello. He was always very pleasant. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

VERNON HINKLE - Date of Birth April 12, 1912, Confession of Faith May 1, 1921, Date of Death March 7, 1999. Mr. Hinkle, age 86, was born in Hanford. He was a carpenter contractor for many years in Hanford.[354] He retired in the Auberry area.

One son named John. Husband of Bonnie Hinkle. (Joyce Lundy)

He had been previously married, and then he married Bonnie back in the '40s. He had been married some 25 years to Margaret Douma, a cousin of Tom's. (Ruth Gomes)

He was the son of Estella Hinkle. His parents were active in the Methodist Church and were active in the construction of the present building. He was active in the church until their retirement, and then they moved to the mountains. He was a carpenter, and his dad and his uncles were all carpenters. George Shaw purchased his house and lived in it after Vernon died. (Gerald Schumacher)

He was the contractor for remodeling my house (Dorothy Jensen)

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[352] www.ancestry.com
[353] Hanford Sentinel, March 16, 1999.
[354] Hanford Sentinel, March 18, 1999.

Vernon lived his last 20 years near Meadow Lakes, Alder Springs, and Bald Mountain Road, four miles from the top of the 4-lane highway going to Shaver. He was a general contractor and cabinet maker. Penny and I lived there for five years. (John Meadows)

Ceremony Unites Couple At Hanford

HANFORD (Kings Co.), Nov. 7. —With the First Methodist Church as the setting, the wedding of Miss Margaret Douma, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Douma of Hardwick, to Vernon Hinkle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lumin J. Hinkle of Hanford, was solemnized last Sunday. Rev. Charles H. Pool performed the ceremony.

Attending the bride as matron of honor was Mrs. Mary Bernstein Baxter. John Douma was best man and Austin James and Roscoe Little served as ushers.

A reception was held at the home of the bridegroom, 415 West Elm Street. Later the couple left for a week's honeymoon on the coast.

They will reside in a home that Hinkle is building on Whitmore Street.

[355]

TOM J. DOUMA - Date of Birth July 26, 1923, Past Member/Confession of Faith April 2, 1939, Date of Death June 10, 1999. Age 75, Tom was born in Compton. He was a farmer.[356] His home and farm was at 15th and Elder Avenue. He also did custom grain harvesting. Tom loved machinery. Tom was part of the "Over The Hill Gang," which does most of the maintenance on the church buildings. He was active in Methodist Men.

He could fix almost anything. He was very responsive to charitable needs. (Verne Adams)

As church secretary, I would look forward to the Over the Hill Gang 10 am coffee breaks. I would enjoy listening to Tom, and the others tell their stories from their past history. (Vicki Beeman)

Tom was a real gentleman. Very caring and quiet with what he did, but he was always very dependable. (Roberta Tomkins)

With the Over the Hill Gang, anytime we started to do anything, with Thomas, he would say Roudolf and me, we did this, and we did that when we were kids. There wasn't a thing or a place in this church that Tom didn't know where it was and when it was built and what it was built out of. He was really a fine, fine gentleman. (Jim Martin)

He would help with any project in the church as long as it involved tools, machinery or muscle. He had a great memory and loved to talk about the past. (Terry Tomkins)

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[355] Fresno Bee, November 8, 1936

[356] Hanford Sentinel, June 11, 1999.

He had quite an interesting background. He loved to talk about his war experience too. He was very talkative about his experiences, particularly with the fellows. (Ruth Gomes)

His mother was active in the church with the two boys. Tom was one of the fellows who did all the maintenance of the church. (Gerald Schumacher)

He was a hard worker and quite a man. He had some really neat skills. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

BETTY E. GREEN – Date of Birth December 27, 1916.[357] Confession of Faith July 30, 1967, Date of Death July 26, 1999. Age 82, Betty was born in New Jersey. She was a homemaker.[358]

Ralph Green's wife. She worked at State Market and then at Bartholomew Drug Store (Jane McCutcheon).

She was an accomplished seamstress. (Joyce Lundy)

I have known her for years. (Ruth Gomes)

The couple was active in the church. (Gerald Schumacher)

IRENE HODGES – Date of Birth November 10, 1926.[359] Certificate of Transfer/Full Membership April 2, 1950, from Westmoreland Methodist Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Date of Death November 27, 1999. Proud of her Irish heritage, Irene was born in County Antrum, Northern Ireland, and emigrated to Canada as a child, growing up in Toronto. She and Bill were wed in Toronto in 1946 and come to Hanford in 1949. The ever-personable Irene worked at the Kings County Sheriff's Department, the Hanford Chamber of Commerce and most recently for local optometrist J. Brent Madill.[360]

Irene was active in Sunday school as a teacher. (Jane McCutcheon)

WILHELMINA 'WILLIE' GREENE - Date of Birth May 5, 1915, Certificate of Transfer from Tulare Methodist Church March 22, 1959, Date of Death November 30, 1999. Willie was a native of Windsor, Colorado and had lived in Hanford for the past 41 years. Willie's parents were Russian immigrants from Donhoff, Russia. Before Willie was born they packed up their belongings and put them on a ship bound for America. However, as they prepared to board the ship they were stopped by the immigration authorities and placed into quarantine because one of their three daughters had come down with the measles. The ship, with all of their possessions on board left without them. That ship was the Titanic. Willie was a student at Fresno State and the office manager for the Remington Ram typewriter company. In 1950 Bob and Willie moved their family to Tulare. They lived there until 1958, when they made the move to Hanford. Willie kept herself busy raising her children and staying active in her community. Willie taught Sunday School for a while and was an active member of the United Methodist Women. She was also involved in the study club, The Kings Country Club, and had been Worthy Matron of the Lucerne Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star in Hanford. Bob and Willie sometimes traveled on business. Willie loved these trips to Europe, Alaska, and the Caribbean. Willie also loved to create

[357] www.ancestry.com
[358] Hanford Sentinel, July 30, 1999.
[359] www.ancestry.com
[360] "The Methodist Messenger," February 2000.

wonderful works in stained glass. She even gave lessons for a time. She loved poetry and committed many of them to memory along with scripture and prayers. For Willie, life was a blessing to be shared. She was a person of integrity and strong moral character and expected that in others.[361] Burial in Grangeville Cemetery

HAZEL C. SCROGGIN - Date of Birth July 23, 1901, Joined MC in 1912 in Blytheville, Arkansas. Certificate of Transfer from Morrilton, Arkansas September 28, 1952, Date of Death December 8, 1999. Hazel was born in Blythesville, Arkansas, the youngest of 10 children. She married at age 16 and is the mother of five children. During the early years of their marriage, Hazel and her husband owned a dairy. In addition to family chores, she also shared in the care and milking of the dairy cows. Widowed at 45, with two children to support, Hazel got a job with a photographer in Morrilton, Arkansas and learned to color photos in oils. After her marriage to Jess Scroggin, they moved to Hanford in 1952. She worked at Powell's Photo Studio for 37 years, until she retired in 1976 at age 75, but continued to color photographs until age 80. A life-long Methodist, Hazel had taught Sunday School, played piano or organ for services, sang in the choir, belonged to the women's society, where among other things she prepared tatted and crocheted items for Christmas bazaars, and generally did whatever was needed at her church. After Jess's death, Hazel lived independently, taking care of her house on Elm Street and driving her own car until age 91.[362] Hazel died in Santa Monica at the age of 98.[363]

Hazel colored photographs for Ralph Powell's studio. She was quite an artist. (Roberta Tomkins)

Hazel was a woman of great faith. You knew that she loved the Lord Jesus Christ. He was the center and focus of her life. She was always very supportive and eager to do whatever she could do. She was involved with the United Methodist Women. She seemed to care a lot about what was going on in her church. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

THOMAS P. KRUMPE, SR. - Date of Birth August 15, 1906, Baptized in 1906, Date of Death January 20, 2000. The Rev. Krumpe was born in Peoria, Illinois.[364] During his ministerial career, Krumpe served two Fresno District appointments: Fresno, St. Paul's, from 1950 to 1957, and in retirement, Caruthers, from 1983 to 1986.[365]

Thomas Purtscher Krumpe, Date of Death: January 20, 2000, Place of Death: Hanford, age: 93; 41 years in ministry. [366]

He married George and me in 1956 at St. Lukes. He was a minister for a long time at St. Lukes in Fresno. (Abbie Thyarks)

Tom was a predecessor of mine when I was an associate pastor at St. Pauls Methodist Church in Fresno, although he wasn't there when I was assigned there. I saw him when he came to Hanford, and we would always talk. I visited them a few times when they had

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[361] The Methodist Messenger, by Pastor Nadine Graham, January 2000
[362] The Methodist Messenger, by Ruth Gomes, January 2000
[363] Hanford Sentinel, December 10, 1999.
[364] Hanford Sentinel, January 25, 2000.
[365] California-Nevada United Methodist Review, Fresknow Edition, February 18, 2000.
[366]://calnevada.s3.amazonaws.com/3130F24ACEE04FE5877040570F3C4004_2012_RollHonoredDead_092712.pdf

a mobile home in the park at Hanford-Armona and 11th Avenue. The two of them were very gracious. He was very dedicated to the California-Nevada Conference. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

WILLIAM S. DAVIS, JR. - Date of Birth February 23, 1904, in Alvarado, Texas, Confession of Faith April 2, 1972, Date of Death January 20, 2000. Bill was a resident of Hanford for over 50 years. He was a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, retiring as a Chief Warrant Officer. He was also a self-employed carpenter. He was widely recognized by his wooden, hand-crafted bow ties. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Hanford.[367]

Bill is the middle of 11 children. He is a retired Navy man. Before joining the service, Bill was a woodworker. One day he came across a pattern for wooden bow ties in the local newspaper. He figured he could make his own patterns and ties for considerably less than the merchant was charging. Thus was born a hobby and passion. Bill has over a dozen wooden ties in his collection; each one has a story. In Bill's home is a sofa sized portrait of the Lord's Supper, carved out of wood. There are over 1,000 pieces of cut, shaped, and glued wood in this work of art.[368] In 1995, Bill generously gave of his time and talents in refurbishing and refinishing the chairs in the nursery. These chairs had been given back to the church from the preschool as unusable. Thanks to Bill, the church now has some very lovely chairs, fit for use once again. Bill and Louisa had one son, William Senter Davis III.

He had one boy, who participated in the youth groups. (Gerald Schumacher)

The man with the wooden bow ties! I admired the two of them very much, for they cared for each other very much. Bill was always attentive. If Louisa needed to go to the hospital, Bill took her to the Lemoore Naval Air Station Hospital. I remember going to his house, and Bill had all kinds of roses growing around. Bill had made the swing on the front porch at the house that we lived in, on Douty Street. When we moved to the new house, the swing was given back to him. He had a large collection of wooden bow ties. They were at church every Sunday. The Lord was very much a part of their lives. (Rev. Charlie Tanner-Dorn)

Bill and Louisa Davis
June 1982

[367] Hanford Sentinel, January 26, 2000.
[368] "The Methodist Messenger," by Jo Haley, February 1996.

MILDRED JANE KRAFT – Date of Birth January 25, 1917.[369] Full Membership/Profession of Faith on April 4, 1993. Date of Death February 4, 2000. Age 82, she was a native of California. She enjoyed gardening and all the arts including oil painting. She enjoyed her dogs and cats very much. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, United Methodist Women, and the Walnut Association. She was a licensed vocational nurse at the old Kings County hospital. She was preceded in death by her first and second husbands, William Van Zanten and Alex Kraft.[370] She and Alex lived in their farmhouse on their walnut orchard on 14th Avenue north of Lacey Blvd. In her will, Mildred bequeathed her estate to Hanford United Methodist Church.

In her will, Millie gave her estate to the Hanford First United Methodist Church. We are very appreciative of this gift and use the interest from the investment account continues to support grants for the work of the church.

ARMINE B. BUNTZ – Date of Birth January 22, 1912.[371] Confession of Faith/Full Membership/Profession of Faith November 5, 1961, Certificate of Transfer to Visalia United Methodist Church on August 18, 1970, reinstated in Hanford United Methodist Church in 1971, Certificate of Transfer to Lafayette United Methodist Church on September 29, 1987, Date of Death: February 9, 2000. Age 88, of the Bradley area. Mrs. Buntz was born in Peacock, Texas and attended the Salvation Army Training College in San Francisco. She was stationed in Hawaii at Pearl Harbor from 1939-1942. There she met her late husband, Howard Buntz. The couple moved to the States and eventually Hanford, which became her home until 1988. Her ailing health brought her to the Bradley area in 1997 to be with family. Mrs. Buntz enjoyed sewing, cooking and playing dominos.[372] Her son, Edward, graduated from West Point in 1972. Among her activities in the United Methodist Church, she had served as career planning chairman on the Administrative Board in the 1980's. She is survived by a son, Ed Buntz of Bradley; a daughter; Janet Hardcastle of Rohnert Park; two brothers and three sisters, including Earl Irby and Ruth Yarbrough both of Hanford. [373]

Find A Grave Memorial#. Hanford Cemetery New Lot 770 Space 5.

Armine had two daughters and a son. One daughter married Vitalis Hardcastle's son. The second daughter was killed. After her death, Armine took care of her grandchildren. I had all three as students at Hanford High School. (Abby Thyarks)

LYMAN D. GRISWOLD - Date of Birth 1914, Full Membership 1924, Date of Death March 9, 2000. During Lyman's 85 years, he played a large role in shaping the economic and physical landscape of Kings County. He was a public speaker, champion wrestler and rancher who became one of the most influential water lawyers in California and also played a role in securing a naval air station for Kings County. Griswold was born in Hanford in 1914, becoming part of the third generation of Griswolds to farm in Kings County. His grandfather Oscar had brought his family to Hanford in 1888 and started to ranch. At Hanford High Lyman was often honored for his

[369] www.ancestry.com
[370] Hanford Sentinel, February 8, 2000.
[371] www.ancestry.com
[372] Hanford Sentinel, February 11, 2000.
[373] The Methodist Messenger, March 2000.

speaking ability, and he took that talent to the University of California, Berkeley, where he was in the Senate Debating Society. He also excelled at wrestling, and tried out for the 1936 Olympics, placing second. Eventually, Lyman married Olga Telonicher, and together they had three children: Craig Griswold, who followed his father into law and ranching, Margot Griswold, Ph.D., and Charlotte Griswold-Tergis. He now has three grandsons, who are the fifth generation of Griswold ranchers. One thing his son Craig Griswold will always remember about this father is his work ethic. Because the Griswold family has been in Kings County and Hanford for over 100 years, Griswold himself was a living history of the area. His son said that one thing that is legendary is his love of hunting, and the annual dove hunt he used to host. Celebrities such as Bing Crosby and Fred Harris would come to Apex Ranch for the hunts. Once Griswold earned his economics and law degree from Berkeley, he returned to Hanford and went to work for the district attorney, Roger Walch. Griswold and Walch eventually opened their own practice, the oldest in Hanford, and it currently runs under the name Griswold, LaSalle, Cobb, Dowd & Gin. It is the only law firm in Kings or Tulare counties to be honored with the inclusion in Martin Dale Hubble "Bar Register of Pre-eminent Lawyers." The firm represents more ag cooperatives than any other law firm in California, and has represented ag interests for its entire existence. Griswold is to be remembered for many things, but it was his involvement with farming cooperatives, as a water lawyer that he changed the agricultural face of Kings County. Before he died Griswold had incorporated and organized over a 100 cooperatives in the farming industry, including cotton, orange packing, corn, bean, grain, fresh fruit and pistachios. The largest of these is CalCot LTD, the largest cotton marketing cooperative in the United States. Aside from organizing them, he was also heavily involved in the cooperative movement. He was the General Counsel and Director of CalCot from 1949 at its inception, until 1982, he was also a director for the Central Valley Cooperative from 1946 to 1977, and the California Cotton Growers Association. He was secretary and legal consul from 1950 to 1989 and authored the articles of incorporation and bylaws in 1950, as well as director. But where Griswold truly influenced Kings County was as a water lawyer. As a lawyer representing local water interests, Griswold organized the Kings County Water District, the Lakeside Irrigation District and the Liberty Water District. He had a long career in water law, with a constant advocate of keeping water costs low and water practices fair. [374] He was married to Olga for 58 years.

Lyman and I attended the old Methodist Episcopal Church before he was married. (Clarence Garner)

DOROTHY GARRETT – Dorothy became a member of Hanford UMC by Certificate of Transfer from Norwalk on June 5, 1949. She transferred her membership to the Episcopal Church on July 9, 1970. Dorothy Muzetta Garrett, 81 passed away August 3, 2000 in Hanford. She was born in Hudson, Wisconsin September 22, 1918. Mrs. Garrett was a member of the United Methodist Church in Hanford, a former member of the Kings County Grand Jury, past president of the Hanford Women's Club. She worked for Beacon Oil Company as a secretary; for 35 years. Mrs. Garrett is survived by her husband, Sidney; and brother, Phillip O. Bertsch of Chandler, Arizona. [375]

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[374] Lyman Griswold, influential water lawyer, dies at 85, Hanford Sentinel, March 11, 2000.
[375] Hanford Sentinel, August 5, 2000, page 2A.

ROBERTA TOMKINS – Date of Birth March 17, 1922. Roberta became a member of Hanford UMC by Certificate of Transfer from New Salem UMC, New Berlin, Illinois on February 22, 1981. Mary "Roberta" Paulen Tomkins, 78, a longtime Hanford resident and volunteer, passed away August 27, 2000, of cancer at a Visalia hospital. Born and raised in Springfield, Illinois, she attended Illinois State University and obtained a teaching certificate. It was here she met Lewis Tomkins, her husband of 55 years. Their life together started with 26 years of naval service, finishing here at Lemoore NAS in 1971. She was employed for 20 years as a school librarian at Akers Elementary School. A housewife and mother, her life revolved around her family and friends, volunteer and committee work for the First United Methodist Church in Hanford, and over 40 years as a Red Cross Volunteer at various sites, the majority here at Lemoore NAS. Survivors include her husband, Lewis "Terry" Tomkins; a daughter, Ruth Anne Lyon and her husband Richard; a son, Philip Tomkins and his wife Elizabeth; four grandchildren, Zachary and Joshua Lyon, Ryan and Heather Tomkins; a sister, Eloise Marr of Springfield, Illinois.[376]

LOLA M. HUGHES – Date of Birth September 7, 1905.[377] Hanford resident Lola M. Hughes, 95, passed away October 28, 2000, of natural causes at a Hanford hospital. Lola was a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was a member of the Ed Couch Methodist Church in Texas, the Texas Teachers Association, was a volunteer for Hanford Community Medical Center, and a teacher of 47 years with the Elsa Elementary School District in Texas. Lola enjoyed working crossword puzzles. She is survived by a son, Don, and daughter-in-law Shirley Hughes of Hanford; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leslie Hughes, in 1948. [378]

OPAL WELLS – Antioch resident Opal Seleta Wells, 86, died April 14, 2001 in Antioch. Opal was born in Wayne, Oklahoma on November 20, 1914. Opal was a Hanford resident for 68 years, from 1937 to 2000. She lived in Antioch for ne year. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Hanford. Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Grangeville Cemetery in Armona. A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the First United Methodist Church in Hanford.[379] Opal's previous husbands were Marshall and Williams.

PAT SCHUMACHER – Date of Birth July 19, 1922. Pat became a full member of Hanford UMC by a Certificate of Transfer from Clarksburg, California on May 25, 1947. Hanford resident Patricia Verlin Schumacher, 79, passed away December 3, 2001 in Hanford. Mrs. Schumacher was born Patria Learned, the daughter of Roy and Adah Learned in Los Molinas, Calif. She graduated from McClatchy High School in Sacramento. Patricia then attended San Jose State University for Home Economics, where she made her wedding dress. In the spring of 1941, she went on a blind date where Patricia met Gerald Schumacher. They were married on July 4, 1942. Gerald, like most men at that time, joined the military. When he returned from World War II they settled in Hanford. Patricia was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Hanford and past president of the Methodist Women. She held several offices with the Women's Aglow and

[376] Hanford Sentinel, August 29, 30, 2000, page 2.
[377] www.ancestry.com
[378] Hanford Sentinel, October 31, 2000, page 2.
[379] Hanford sentinel, April 17, 2001, page 2

the PTA. Patricia counseled at the Probation Office in the Premarital Department and with Parents Anonymous. Patricia and Gerald were counselors for the Methodist Youth Fellowship. She was a past Hanford Volunteer of the Year. Mr. And Mrs. Schumacher were past Armona Homecoming King and Queen. Patricia was a lifetime homemaker and loved to sew. She is lovingly known by her family as the "Premier Martha Stewart". She was a loving grandmother, and a wonderful mother and mother-in-law. Her life reflected her desire for friends and family to know Jesus Christ. She is survived by her husband, Gerald Schumacher of Hanford, four daughters, Marjorie Eldevik of Blue Jay, Calif., Susan Kennedy of Hanford, Marilyn Irwin of Fresno, and Janet Adams of Kingsburg; her brother Vincent Learned of Chico; six grandsons; and one granddaughter. [380]

JACK CARD – Date of Birth July 27, 1919. Certificate of Transfer to Hanford UMC from Tulare on April 1, 1956. Hanford resident, formerly of Exeter, Jack Holmes Card, 82, passed away January 22, 2002 in Hanford from congestive heart failure. Jack is best remembered for working with Troop 400 Boy Scouts, Welcome Lodge No. 255 Free and Accepted Masons of California. He was a member of the Board of Trustees at First United Methodist Church. Jack served in the 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army during World War II. He is survived by his wife, Louise Card, his son, Dave Card of Hanford; his daughter, Joan Card Redemer of Bonn, Germany; his sister Janelle Card Snyder; and five grandchildren. He was well-loved by all who knew him. [381]

VETERAN OF WORLD WAR II, 1ST LT US ARMY, 601ST TANK DESTROYER BATTALION, PURPLE HEART

Hanford resident, formerly of Exeter, Jack Holmes Card, 82, passed away January 22, 2002 in Hanford from congestive heart failure. Jack was the son of Wallace Stuart Card and Elsie L. Holmes. He married Miss Louise Shaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Irvin Shaw, at a ceremony in the Park Place Baptist Church in Hot Springs, Arkansas, in March 1945. After the ceremony, the couple left for a wedding trip to Dallas, Texas. Jack was a graduate of Exeter High School. He is best remembered for working with Troop 400 Boy Scouts, Welcome Lodge No. 255 Free and Accepted Masons of California. He was a member of the Hanford United Methodist Church by Certificate of Transfer from Tulare on April 1, 1956. He was a member of the Board of Trustees at First United Methodist Church. Jack served in the 601st Tank Destroyer Battalion, United States Army during World War II and served overseas in the African-Italian theater of operations. He is survived by his wife, Louise Card, his son, Dave Card of Hanford; his daughter, Joan Card Redemer of Bonn, Germany; his sister Janelle Card Snyder; and five grandchildren. He was well loved by all who knew him. Buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.

JAMES WILLARD CREELMAN – Declared Profession of Faith and joined Hanford UMC on February 13, 1983. James Creelman of Hanford passed away Saturday, November 30, 2002, in a Hanford hospital, just two days after his 56th birthday. He had been a longtime night custodian with Central Union School District. Born in Hanford on November 28, 1946, he was the son of Frances Creelman and the late Willard Creelman of Lemoore. His grandparents, all longtime Kings County residents, were the late Charles and Ethel Beckman of Hanford and the late John and Margaret Creelman of the Island District. Jim attended Island School and graduated in 1966

[380] Hanford Sentinel, December 9, 2001.
[381] Hanford Sentinel, January 24, 2002.

from Lemoore High School. He was active in 4-H and Future Farmers of America as a youth. He enlisted in the U.S. Army shortly after graduation from LUHS, was assigned to Fort Ord for basic training, saw overseas duty in Vietnam through 1969 and was honorably discharged in 1972 at Fort Benning, Ga. Upon completion of reserve status. He had received the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, two overseas Bars and Army Commendation Medal as well as a Marksman Medal. He attended West Hills College in Coalinga after his military service. Jim was a member of the Hanford First United Methodist Church, where he had served as an usher and participated in the United Methodist Men's group. He is survived by his wife, Janette; his mother, Frances Creelman of Lemoore; his brother, Stanley Creelman and wife Denise of Tulare; his sister, Cheryl Scruggs and husband Bill of Yreka; two stepsons, John M. McDougall of Hanford and Shawn J. McDougall of Lompoc; four granddaughters and several nieces and nephews.[382]

BARBARA JEAN McGINTY – Profession of Faith and membership into Hanford UMC on August 3, 1980. Date of Birth September 11, 1939.[383] Hanford resident Barbara Jean McGinty, 63, passed away January 10, 2003 to rest by her son, Mark at Oak Grove Cemetery in Laton, after a lengthy illness. Barbara is best remembered for her wonderful smile and service as financial secretary for the First United Methodist Church of Hanford. She had been president of the Kings County 4-H, the Fair Board, 4-H Community and Project Leader, and National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA). She was also a supervisor for Kings, Tulare and Fresno Counties. Barbara is survived by her husband, Monte; three children, Debra, Robert and Jean; her brother, Bob Thompson; step-children, Larry, Beverly and Daniel; and six grandchildren, Rheannon, Rebecca, Nathaniel, Erin, Robert and Sarah.[384]

EVAN ROLLO KEISLAR – Date of Birth August 8, 1913.[385] Evan Rollo Keislar, a resident of Hanford for four years, passed away on January 1, 2003. He was 89 years old. The son of Methodist missionaries, Evan was born in Mussouri, India. He returned to the United States for higher education and received his B.A. from College of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif. in 1933. He subsequently went on to earn an M.A. in Theology in 1936 from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif. and eventually a PhD. in 1944 from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Keislar taught Educational Psychology first at Princeton University, then at Tufts University and finally at UCLA from which he retired in 1983 after 35 years of service. As a dedicated educator, he always strove to ensure the success of children in the classroom. He approached everything in life with an intellectually enthusiastic attitude. Dr. Keislar was preceded in death by his parents, Rev. Mott and Dr. Edna Keislar and by his three brothers: Dr. Henry Keislar, Horace Keislar, who died in infancy, and Rev. Marvin Keislar. A loving husband and father, Evan is survived by his wife of 54 years, Janet; and his three children, daughter Helen, son Robert, and daughter Kathryn. He also leaves behind six grandsons, John and Peter Boyer, Kyle and Garrett Keislar, and Samuel and Adam Shedd.[386]

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[382] Hanford Sentinel, December 4, 2002.
[383] www.ancestry.com
[384] Hanford Sentinel, January 14 & 16, 2003.
[385] www.ancestry.com
[386] Hanford Sentinel, January 16, 2003

ROBERT ERVIN GREENE – Joined the Hanford UMC with full membership by Certificate of Transfer from Tulare First UMC on March 22, 1959. Hanford resident Robert Ervin "Bob" Greene, 90, passed away Feb. 9, 2003 at his home. Bob was born to the parents of Fred and Eula Mae Greene in Talequah, Okla., on Dec. 10, 1912. Fleeing the hardships of the depression, bob left the Midwest for the greener pastures of California, eventually settling on Fresno in 1935. It was at this time that he met his wife Wilhelmina, when he was employed at Jack's Used Cars as a lot boy and later as a salesman. An opportunity to become office manager took Bob to Floyd Gibson Ford in Tulare in 1950. In 1958 he bought out Bill Stevenson Ford at Seventh and Harris in Hanford, and eight years later moved the franchise to the corner of Lacey and 11th Avenue in Hanford, a site that was then out in the country, surrounded by dusty cotton fields. Bob also established Kings County Auto Lease in conjunction with the franchise and developed along 11th Avenue northward from his agency to the Baskin-Robins ice cream parlor. Bob leased his auto facilities to Kingsrow Ford in 1971. In 1995 he sold his 11th Avenue and Lacey Boulevard corner to Gary Ryan of Valley Ford. In 1973 Bob joined Bob Hill in buying out McKoane Chevrolet of Hanford. For a time he simultaneously owned interests in both the Ford and Chevrolet agencies in town. Bob was a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge and a member of the Hanford Lodge of the Free & Accepted Masons. Bob was a member of Hanford Rotary for over 30 years and was a Paul Harris Fellow in 1989-1990, he served on the board of directors of the Hanford Chamber of Commerce, served on the board of directors of Northern California Motor Car Dealer Association District 19, and served on the 1973-74 Kings County Grand Jury. Bob was the founding director of Citizens National Bank in 1974. He was an avid golfer and member of the Kings Country Club. He is survived by two sons, Stephen and daughter-in-law, Rosemary Greene of Fresno, Rodney and daughter-in-law, Lynell Greene of Hanford; a brother, Fred Greene of Tulare; four sisters, Freda Lee Kalua of San Jose, Melba Paszek of Carmichael, Ruth Myers of Webb City, Mo., and Joanne Lewis of Joplin, Mo.; a grandson, Shawn Greene of Hanford; two granddaughters, Jennifer Wilkerson and Sherry Vilalbos both of Hanford; six great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife Wilhelmina.[387] Burial in Grangeville Cemetery

WALT FOWLER – Became a member of Hanford UMC by Certificate of Transfer on February 17, 1957. Hanford resident James Walter Fowler, 93, passed away August 6, 2003 of natural causes in Hanford. Walt was born in Palermo, Butte County, California on April 6, 1910. He was in the grocery business for 22 years and an insurance agent for about 20 years. Walt lived in Visalia for 20 years, Tulare for 14 years and Hanford since 1957. He was a member of the Methodist Church in Visalia, Tulare and Hanford. He was also a member of numerous committees in the church. Walt was president and district governor in international Y's men's clubs. He was President of Kiwanis club in Hanford, first Director of the Hanford Improvement Association, and older workers specialist at the Employment Development Department, retiring in 1982. He started the Miss Kings County Pageant in Hanford and was involved in all aspects of it for many years. Walt will be remembered for his love of his wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, and also for his love for his church and church family. Walt is preceded in death by his father, Isaac O. Fowler; mother, Anna M. Fowler; sisters, Alice M. Ware and Louise B. McClure; brothers, William (Bill) Fowler, Earl V. Fowler, Carl M. Fowler, Albert Floyd Fowler and George F. Fowler. Walt is survived by his son James Walter Fowler Jr. of West Covina; three daughters, Ann Cody of Paso Robles, Carole Hester of Hanford, and Janice Madruga of Hanford;

[387] Hanford Sentinel, February 12, 2003.

and his brother, Isaac Orin Fowler of San Jose. [388] Walt was the Sunday School Superintendent at one time.

Son James Fowler Jr. was on hospice and died November 18, 2020

ELIZABETH (BETTY) ANNE FADENRECHT – Became a member of Hanford UMC on April 10, 1949. One September 13, 1920, Betty Anne Bright was certified born to Thomas and Gladys Bright in Washington, D.C. Her arrival was the lighting of a candle with a radiant glowing light. This candle gave out light, warmth and love for over 83 years. About 10 years ago, the light began to flicker until gradually it flickered no more. The light went out as a candle with no more wax left to burn. Alzheimer disease had collected its toll. Her final certificate was issued as of December 21, 2003. Betty's father was a naval officer. Her growing up years were spent in Washington, D.C., Honolulu, San Diego and the San Francisco area. Her early education was at various elementary schools including a girl's boarding school where she was tutored in courtesy and manners, training which she exhibited all her life. She even tried to pass on some of this knowledge to her husband and children. This is more evident in her children than in her husband. Betty graduated from Point Loma High School in San Diego and then attended San Diego State University. Later she transferred to the University of California at Berkeley where she graduated with honors in 1941. She completed her graduate studies there as well and was certified as a Registered Social Worker and licensed Martial Counselor. While at the University she met a country boy, Daniel M. Fadenrecht from Hanford, California. As often happens when girl meets boy, courtship ensued and they were married in 1942. Then there was World War II. She wrote him a letter every day for 42 months while he was in England and France with the 8th Army Air Corps. Their 61 year marriage was a marvel of symbiosis. After Dan's graduation from Stanford Law School and a belated honeymoon trip across America, Dan and Betty returned to Hanford in 1948. In spite of Betty's early years of being a city girl, she took to Hanford as if she had been raised here. The next decades were busy years for Betty as a homemaker and the mother of four girls. Betty encouraged her daughters to obtain professional degrees and three of them obtained law school and/or architect6ural degrees and are licensed lawyers; one has a Master's Degree in Special Education with graduate training in Dance Therapy and satisfied the family law tradition by marrying a lawyer. In her spare time, Betty enjoyed singing in the choir at the First Methodist Church and especially enjoyed baking breads and sweet rolls for sale at the United Methodist Women's fall luncheon and bazaar. Betty also belonged to the American Association of University Women in which she served as an officer and was a member of the bridge, varied interest and music sections. She was also active in Republican women. She was a charter member of the Hanford Cooperative Nursery. She and Dan also enjoyed playing bridge with a group of friends, a close-knit bridge club with the same members for over 40 years. An emptying nest prompted her to revive her social worker skills through volunteer work, coordinating day activities for clients of Kings Mental Health. Betty was the oldest of four sisters and the last survivor among them. She is survived by her husband, Dan; their four daughters, Joan Fadenrecht Richard, Joyce Fadenrecht, Anne Fadenrecht, Gail Fadenrecht; sons-in-law, Michael Richard, Clint Horwitz, John Noonan and Walter Flom, as well as four grandsons and four grand-daughters. If she had been able to, Betty would have joined her husband and daughters in saying thank you to the nurses and

[388] Hanford Sentinel, August 8, 2003.

aides at Hacienda Rehabilitation and Health Care for their assistance and concerns during her final years.[389]

WYNNE WILTSHIRE – Transferred membership to Hanford UMC on October 30, 1955. Wynne Williams Wiltshire was born on December 7, 1920 in Beaufort, South Carolina. She passed away on March 11, 2004. Wynne was the daughter and sister of United Methodist ministers. She was raised and educated in South Carolina, graduating from Columbia College (South Carolina) as a music major. She taught music in elementary school for two years. She then became a stewardess for American Airlines, quite an adventurous profession for a young woman at that time. Because of her occupation as a stewardess, she moved to California in the mid-1940s. Wynne will be remembered for her love of the arts – music, literature and theatre. She enjoyed reading, traveling, cooking and gardening. Her beautiful yard and flowers were enjoyed by all who passed by the family home on Douty Street. She was a member of Friends of the Library, P.E.O., American Association of University Women, and a life-long member of the United Methodist Church. She was also a member of a Monday bridge group who met and enjoyed each other's company for over 40 years. Wynne is survived by her two daughters, Nancy Cecil and husband Tom of Hanford, and Elizabeth Heimlich and husband Steve of Mammoth Lakes, Calif. and three sons, Raymond Wiltshire III of Oakland, Iowa, Jonathan Wiltshire of West Sacramento, Calif. and David Wiltshire and wife Tracey of Fair Oaks, Calif. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Jonathan Wiltshire, Luke Wiltshire, Halle Wiltshire, Ryan Heimlich, Corey Heimlich and Tyler Heimlich. She is also survived by her brother, the Rev. C.D. Williams of Columbia, S.C. Wynne instilled her love of the arts and a love of nature in her children and grandchildren.[390]

CORA LORRAINE JOHNSON – Baptized in the Hanford UMC in November 1959. Cora Johnson, 88, peacefully went home with the Lord on April 10, 2004. Cora was a longtime Hanford resident. She was born February 3, 1916 in Bismarck, North Dakota, the middle child of Michael and Carolina Schmierer's seven children. Cora left the family farm and as a young woman worked in Yellowstone National Park and as a governess in Burlingame, Calif. She attended North Dakota State College where she met her husband, Earl F. Johnson, former Hanford High School principal. It was love at first sight and forever more. Her beloved husband died in 1967, and she was always proud of his many contributions to education and the community, including the Earl F. Johnson Continuation High School and Earl F. Johnson Park established in his honor. The Earl F. Johnson Memorial Fund was established in 1967 to provide loan opportunities for students who have graduated from Hanford Union High School.[391] She was a loving mom to Daryl of Hanford, Sharon of Portland, Ore., Ron of Hanford and Janice of Berkeley, Calif. She enjoyed nothing more than gathering her family around her at the holidays and engaging them in hour-long discussions about the world. Cora shared her family's enthusiasm for adventure and nature, and after her husband's death, worked in Glacier, Grand Canyon, Glacier Bay and Denali National Parks. Still active in her seventies, she took a whitewater raft trip and a dog sled ride in Alaska, plus several plane rides over the rugged Alaskan glacial landscape. Cora was a long term employee with the food services division of the Hanford Elementary School District, active member of the First United Methodist Church and an avid walker (Presidential Sports Award recipient for 1988). She

[389] Hanford Sentinel, December 24, 2003
[390] Hanford Sentinel, March 13, 2004.
[391] Hanford Sentinel, August 14, 2005

had a great curiosity about history and the natural world, and enjoyed world travel, reading, gardening, cooking and sewing. Her family will always treasure her zest for life, fun-loving attitude, independent spirit and tireless energy. In addition to her children, she is survived by her sister, Clara Krook of Fargo, N.D.; brother Cliff Schmierer of Everett, Wash; Ron's spouse Tora Bourgeois, and Sharon's spouse William Patten, and a number of nieces and nephews.[392]

JEANETTE GRISWOLD POWELL – Jeanette passed away at her home in Hanford on Sunday, Oct. 10, 2004, at the age of 92. She was born May 28, 1912, on a ranch north of Hanford to Alpheus and Etta Griswold. Jeanette was the second child and the last of five Griswold children having been preceded in death by siblings, Edward Griswold, Lyman Griswold, Evelyn Griswold Parker and George Griswold. Jeanette attended Lucerne and Pioneer Elementary schools and Hanford High School. She went on to Fresno State University where she obtained her B.A. and M.A. degrees. She served as a teacher, principal and supervisor in Kings County schools. She was principal of Lucerne School in 1941. [393]She also taught for Fresno State University and worked for the State Department of Education in Sacramento. During World War II, Jeanette served with the American Red Cross on Kodiak Island where she operated a ski chalet providing an R&R facility for members of the Armed Services. Jeanette was a very adventurous person and during one summer break from teaching she and her good friend Leila spent the summer exploring the island of Cuba, from end to end, in Leila's new convertible. When Jeanette was 69, she started backpacking in the high Sierras doing 100-mile treks to raise money for the Mid Valley Lung Association. In fact, she climbed Mt. Whitney when she was in her mid-70s. She was one of 17 people to participate in the first bicycle tour in China bicycling over 600 miles. Together with her sister Evelyn, she traveled to Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Australia, and New Zealand. She also visited Panama, Italy and England. Jeanette was recently recognized as being a member of the First United Methodist Church longer than any current member. Jeanette is survived by her sister-in-law, Evalynne Griswold and Audry Griswold; nieces and nephews, Tedra Battaglia, Jocelyn Wright, and Charlotte Griswold Turgis, Wendy Lewis, Craig Griswold, Toni Huston, Renee Goldberg, Margot Johntz, Edward Griswold Jr., George Griswold Jr. and numerous great-and great-great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her niece Carol Cordano and nephew Michael Parker. During her life Jeanette was a member of the United Methodist Women, American Association of University Women, Readers Forum, Retired Teachers Association, Kings County Art League, Delta Kappa Gamma, the Heritage League and the Carnegie Museum. [394]

RUTH LUCAS - Family and friends gathered February 18 at Hanford UMC to celebrate the life of Iva Ruth Lucas, known best as Ruth. She passed away in a Fresno Hospital on February 16, 2005 on her 78th birthday, of complications following a heart attack. Ruth was born in Texas and grew up in Stratford, attending local schools. During World War II, she met and married a young serviceman, and Alabaman by the name of Orville Lucas, assigned to the Army Air corps base near Lemoore. That marriage was to last 60 years. As a young woman, Ruth worked at an old fashioned telephone switchboard (at Stratford), like that on display in the Kings County Museum at Burris Park. After Orville's discharge from service, the couple moved to Pecos, Texas, rearing two daughters. Ruth was employed by the Peco Barstow School District for 14 years. Later, they

[392] Hanford Sentinel, April 14, 2004.
[393] Hanford Sentinel, History of Kings County Public Schools, History of Pioneer School, September 11, 2005.
[394] Hanford Sentinel, October 16, 2004

settled in Alabama, buying his family's home ranch. Their daughters completed college, married and went to pursue careers of their own. But not long after, their lives were cut short in their prime, both by cancer, the Lucases had to bid goodbye one at a time to their girls, Marjorie Bellinger and Bonita Johnson. They are buried in the Old Town Cemetery at Evergreen, Alabama, which also will be Ruth's final resting place. In addition to her husband, Ruth is survived by two brothers, Bob Atkinson of Hanford and Larry Brazell of Armona, and two sisters, Ora Thomas and Wanda Sherwood, both of Hanford. With Ruth still having relatives in Kings County, the Lucases moved back to California six years ago, establishing a home in Hanford and promptly became involved in life of the church. For her devoted service, the United Methodist Women named her their Woman of the Year in 2003. During the celebration of life, many warm memories were shared of a gentle woman, sensitive to the needs of others, loving and encouraging, fond of children, always ready to serve, a reader who never stopped learning, and one who loved music. Final rites and internment were held in Evergreen, Alabama. [395] [396] On April 4, 2005, her husband, Orville, moved to Alabama, to be with his family. Buried in Conocuh County, Alabama.

ELSIE COLES – Born December 7, 1920, died May 9, 2005, in Kings County. Graveside services for Elsie I. Coles, 84, of Hanford will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Selma District Cemetery. Ms. Coles, a homemaker, died Monday Visitation will be from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday at People's Funeral Chapel.[397]

CAROLINE HUMFREVILLE – Became a member of Hanford UMC on June 28, 1964, by Profession of Faith, on the same day her husband, John, transferred his membership from Santa Clara Methodist Church of Alameda, California. Caroline (pronounced Carolyn) Humfreville passed away on Sunday Nov. 6, 2005. Caroline was born to Ludwig and Sophia Presser in Maxwell, North Dakota on April 29, 1909. She moved to Dayton, Wash., where, in a cannery, she was a mechanic's assistant. She handed tools as required to the mechanics working on and under the conveyor belt. Then to Central California. Caroline held a number of interesting positions, including ownership of the Blue Ribbon Restaurant in Ripon, and managing a harbor on Bethel Island on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. She married John Humfreville and moved to Fresno and then to Hanford. John passed away in 1997. As an entrepreneur, she excelled in an unbelievable multitude of crafts including stained glass, doll making, needlework, leather work and the one shown on her business card, "TIN CAN CRAFTING!" This is just a partial list!! Caroline is survived by her daughter, Sophie Eyrl of Coulterville, Calif.; her son, Roland Parker of Oak Harbor, Wash.; three grandsons, two great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren. [398]

MARY ELIZABETH HILL –She was born on Aug. 19, 1917 to Hewitt H. and Emmaree Gibson. She became a member of the Hanford UMC on December 14, 1952. Date of Death: November 14, 2005. Mary's birthplace was in Webster, Kentucky. There as a young child she knew she wanted to be a school teacher. Mary accomplished the required studies for her educational goals in Ojai, Calif., part of Ventura County. All her hard work and determination sent her onwards to the University of California of Los Angeles where she obtained her bachelor's degree. Mary began

[395] Hanford Sentinel, February 17, 2005
[396] The Methodist Messenger March 2005
[397] Fresno Bee, May 11, 2005
[398] Hanford Sentinel, November 9, 2005

her lifelong dream as an elementary school teacher with Nordhoff Elementary in Ojai. She taught there from 1940-1942. While Mary was attending UCLA she met her late husband, Ernest C. Hill. He too was a UCLA student and played football for the UCLA Bruins. They were married on Aug. 16, 1942 in Ventura County. She then followed her husband back to Kings County and settled in Hanford where Ernest lived and farmed. Mary began teaching for Lakeside Elementary School and taught many children in various grade levels for 20 years. She left Lakeside to begin educating children for the Hanford Elementary School District. Her specialty was for children who had difficulty reading and writing. She taught at Lee Richmond School for 12 years. Mary retired from teaching on June 10, 1981. After retiring, Mary didn't stay still for long. She loved giving and helping family and others in the community. A friend suggested to her to see about the Senior Citizens Center in Hanford. There she began holding various offices at the Senior Citizens meetings and started volunteering through the Kings/Tulare RSVP agency. Her last position with the Senior Citizens was helping as a cashier and putting together the bingo packets for every Monday afternoon. Mary volunteered for them for at least nine years. For eight years five days a week, before the sun arose each morning, Mary was off to the Salvation Army to help with the setting up and serving of breakfast to those who needed a warm meal. One morning a week her day began at 4:30 in the morning so she could be at the Salvation Army to help with the breakfast for the Christian Business Men's meeting, and then later serve breakfast to others. Mary was acknowledged this year for her dedication and giving of 4,398 hours of volunteer service from July 2001-2005. She received the Lifetime Service award from RSVP. Mary was one of six persons to receive this award for this year. Mary was an avid sports fan. She really enjoyed going to a San Francisco Giants game once in a while. Her other interests were playing a good card game, bingo or playing keno when she was in Reno, Nevada or Laughlin for three days once a month. She was also a traveler. During her lifetime after retirement she had been to Europe, the British Isles, Alaska, Hawaii, Australia and New Zealand. She had made trips to many states here in America as well. Mary loved the family gatherings, or going shopping, a dinner out with family or friends and her trips to Morro Bay and Pismo Beach to walk on the sandy beaches and eat seafood. Mary will always be remembered by her family and friends for her positive attitude about life as well as her never endless devotion to the teaching of many children in this community. Her compassion for others touched many. The loving sacrifices she made for her family will be embedded into their hearts and minds for a lifetime. Mary is survived by her brother, Harold Gibson; daughter Jeanne (Hill) Brock and husband Fred; son Gary Hill and wife Marjorie, grandchildren, Justin Brock and wife Jackie, Jennifer Thomas, Corey Brock, Richard Brock, Diane Spradlin and husband Ryan. She also has six great-grandchildren. A nephew, Greg Gibson and niece, Terri Brice. Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest C. Hill; a loving companion Rod Rimmer; her parents, Hewitt and Emmaree Gibson, and her dear sister-in-law, Beverly Gibson. [399]

GERALD SCHUMACHER – Received as a full member of Hanford UMC by Certificate of Transfer from Clarksburg, California on May 25, 1947. Gerald Schumacher, who played a key role in organizing the Kings County Water District and willing compromise among competing water users, died January 18, 2006 in a local convalescent home. There are no services. Mr. Schumacher was 87. A Hanford-area farmer and real estate agent, Mr. Schumacher succeeded Ralph S. Morgan as secretary-manager of the district in 1956. He had been active in the Kings County Water Protective League for years before that. The league formed during efforts by smaller

[399] Hanford Sentinel, November 17, 2005.

farmers in the area to defend their underground water rights against the growing power of larger farming operations. Stan Azevedo farms in the Hanford area and says Mr. Schumacher helped him start out in agriculture. "He hired me to pick cotton," says Azevedo, who also does commercial hay baling. "He hired me to pick cotton with my one-row cotton-picker. He was the kind of guy who cared about his fellow man. He encouraged me, and he was like that with everybody." "I remember one farmworker. He was trying to attach gear to his tractor," Azevedo says. "Gerald jumped out of his car and helped him do it." Cheryl Lehn, agricultural water specialist for Rep. Jim Costa, D-Fresno, remembers Mr. Schumacher as a wood shop teacher and general advisor. "I looked to him as my mentor," Lehn says. Mr. Schumacher and the water district arranged for area growers to testify in 1977 with representatives of Sen. Alan Cranston about a crippling drought that plagued the San Joaquin Valley. Hanford lawyer Robert M. Dowd remembers Mr. Schumacher as an advocate for all Kings County farmers, both in public and behind the scenes. "Gerald Schumacher was one of the finest human beings I ever had the pleasure of knowing," Dowd says. "He was the most brilliant, unassuming, extremely confident and overwhelmingly modest people." Mr. Schumacher was ahead of his time in urging Valley farmers not to rely on imported surface water, Dowd says: "He was in the forefront, trying to keep as much water as possible for farmers of Kings County. For me, I remember his constant teaching. He mentored and inspired me to become a water manager. He was already thinking about preserving water in the 1950s." [400]

Gerald Henry Schumacher, date of birth February 4, 1917,[401] 88, of Hanford, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2006 in Hanford. Gerald was born in Hanford on Feb. 4, 1917 to Conrad and Grace Schumacher. He was raised and educated in Hanford, graduating from Hanford High School in 1935. Gerald attended UC Berkley, graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry in 1939 and then went on to attend UC Davis for his graduate work. He married Patricia V. Learned in 1942 and they began their life in Clarksburg, Calif. Gerald was drafted into the United States Army, serving from 1944 to 1945. Following his discharge the couple moved to Hanford where he taught woodshop at Hanford High School. He was a sales rep for "Best Fertilizer" in Hanford for several years. In 1955, Gerald became a real estate agent and went on to become a real estate broker. In 1987 he retired from the Kings County Water District as secretary manager after 30 years of service. Gerald continued in real estate until his late 70s, at which time he retired. He was co-owner of Mussel-Slough Farms in Hanford and was also co-owner of a walnut ranch with his brother, Herman, for many years. Gerald enjoyed working, traveling to Europe, Hawaii, Iceland, Canada, Spain, and Australia. He also enjoyed going to the mountains to spend time with his family and clearing wood. He is survived by four daughters, Marjorie Eldevik and husband Jarle of Blue Jay, Calif., Susan Kennedy and husband Jerry of Hanford, Janet Adams and husband Bruce of Kingsburg and Marilyn Irwin of Fresno; seven grandchildren, John Eldevik, Leif Eldevik, Jed Irwin, Travis Irwin, Holly Kampsen, Brett Adams and Kirk Adams and one great-grandchild is on the way. He was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia, on Dec. 3, 2001. [402]

There was no funeral service.

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[400] Former water district official Schumacher dies, Fresno Bee, January 21, 2006, page B5.
[401] www.ancestry.com
[402] Hanford Sentinel, January 26, 2006.

RUTH HUNTER – Date of Birth October 8, 1918.[403] Ruth was received as a full member of the Hanford First UMC by Certificate of Transfer from Des Moines Methodist Church, Des Moines, Iowa on April 8, 1964. Ruth Elizabeth Fielder Hunter died March 31, 2006 at a Bremerton, Washington hospital. A longtime Hanford resident and member of our church, she had moved to Poulsbo, Wash., about a year ago to be near her family. Born in Burt, Iowa, to Brown and Bernice Fielder, she and her family settled in Eagle Grove, Iowa where they had many close relatives. After high school graduation, she attended community college where she met her future husband, Cubert Ernst Hunter. They married in Iowa in 1945. The family later settled in Hanford, which became Ruth's home for 40 years. She was retired from employment as an adjudicator for the State of California. A vivacious individual, Ruth was active in our church, enjoyed sharing stories, travel and reading. Her family's reminiscences also noted she "ate chocolate, played bridge, baked sour cream coffee cakes to give to others, and shopped." Preceded in death by her husband, parents and a brother, Ruth is survived by her daughter Nancy and son-in-law Doug Whitney of Seattle; a son, Ron and daughter-in-law Kathleen of Poulsbo, Wash., and four grandchildren, Chris, Jeff, Macall and Kellen. [404]

MARY M. CARTER – Born March 28, 1916 in Illinois. Died in Kings County October 11, 2006. Husband was Bert Carter. Services for Mary Margaret Carter, 90, of North Fork will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Whitehurst-McNamara Funeral Home in Hanford. Mrs. Carter, a business owner, died Wednesday.[405]

NOTICE OF INTENT
TO TRANSFER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mary M. Carter whose business address is 1300 North 10th Avenue, Hanford, California, intends to transfer to Milton W. Church and Jeanette D. Church, whose business address will be 1300 North 10th Avenue, Hanford, California, the following property now located at 1300 North 10th Avenue, Hanford, California; all the stock in trade, merchandise, fixtures, equipment, goodwill, and trade of that certain business known as "Carter's Dari Delite" and located at 1300 North 10th Avenue, Hanford, California. The transfer of the property is subject to Commercial Code Section 6106.

Within three years last past, so far as known to the undersigned transferee, Mary M. Carter has not used any other business name or addresses.

[406]

[403] www.ancestry.com
[404] The Methodist Messenger, May 2006.
[405] Fresno Bee, October 14, 2006
[406] Hanford Sentinel, June 15, 1981

ROBERTA WACKER – Received at Hanford UMC on April 24, 1955. Roberta transferred her membership to Bountiful Community Church, Bountiful, Utah on December 8, 1958. She transferred her membership back to Hanford UMC on February 22, 1971. Roberta Alice Wacker, 88 years old, passed away on Dec. 7, 2006 at her home in Hanford. Roberta was born Oct. 7, 1918 in Chicago, Illinois. She was under hospice care in her home since Nov. 10. Roberta was preceded in death by her parents, Adolph William Parchmann, born in Hamburg, Germany, and Genevieve May Barron Parchmann of Chicago, Illinois; her husband, Francis H. Wacker who died in 1982; her son, William Francis Wacker, who died in 1973; her sister, Jean Elinor Porter of Illinois; her twin brothers, James Adolph Parchmann of Ohio and Raymond Benjamin Parchmann of Chicago. Roberta is survived by her daughter, Barbara Grace Griffin and her husband Dalton of Hanford; her son, Robert Francis Wacker of Sonora; her grandchildren, Eric Wayne Griffin of Yuba City, Ashley Marie Wacker of San Diego, Jake William Wacker of Sonora; her great-grandchildren, twins Katherine Maya Griffin and Ava Trinity Griffin of Yuba City. Roberta was called "Bobbi" by her family in Illinois. She graduated from Proviso High School in Maywood, a Chicago suburb. After high school she went to work as a secretary for an office supply company. Roberta married Francis H. Walker from Culberson, Nebraska, in Illinois on June 28, 1941. The marriage was conducted by Reverend Bert Wagner, a Methodist minister and an uncle of Francis Wacker. Roberta was active in the PTA when her children were in elementary school. She worked for the Kings County Credit Bureau for a year. Later she went to work for the Kings County Welfare Department as a supervising account clerk. Roberta retired from the Kings County Welfare Department in 1981. She lived in Hanford since 1964. She had previously lived in Chicago, Illinois; Stockton, Oildale and Hanford, Calif.; Bountiful, Utah and Houston, Texas. Roberta lived in Hanford during World War II when her husband, Francis, was stationed at the Lemoore Army Air Force Base. Roberta enjoyed going to functions associated with the Elks Club. Francis was a member of the Elks for several years. Roberta was active in the Emblem Club and Jolly Bunch Dance Club. She enjoyed her family, traveling, gardening, playing pinochle and canasta. She also took classes in Spanish and traveled to Spain and Oaxaca, Mexico. Roberta enjoyed listening to the Spanish singer, Julio Iglesias. [407]

1965-67, Clarence Garner [408]

The Garner Family Trust made a donation to sponsor the sheep barn at the new student ag farm at Sierra Pacific High School at the corner of Centennial and Greenfield Ave. The dedication of the buildings were held on January 19, 2018

CLARENCE GARNER – Joined the Hanford UMC by a certificate of transfer from the Kings River Methodist Church, which was on the northwest corner of 11th Ave. and Excelsior Ave. on April 2, 1944. Clarence Raymond Garner, 97, departed this life on Thursday, Dec. 21, 2006 at his Hanford home after a long illness. Clarence was born in Hanford on Oct. 23, 1909 to the late

[407] Hanford Sentinel, December 14, 2006.
[408] Kings County Farm Bureau, December 2018. Clarence was President 1965-67.

Grant Garner, who served on the Kings County Board of Supervisors for 32 years, and Elsa Garner. He had three sisters, Grace, Hazel and Ruth and an older brother, Leslie; all of whom predeceased Clarence. He was a devout member of the First United Methodist Church of Hanford his entire life and was one of the first babies baptized in the church. Clarence attended grammar school in the Kings River School District, Hanford High School and the University of California at Davis where he majored in animal husbandry. After graduating from UC Davis, Clarence returned to Hanford, and bought his ranch on Highway 198 and 7th Avenue. Sheep were always his first love and he raised several prize winning champions that won at the Kings County Fair and California State Fair. He was a member of the California Wool Growers Association and elected Farm Bureau Association president in May of 1965. Clarence will be remembered for the many lambs he sold to young Future Farmers of America and 4-H students to raise for judging in local and state fairs. Clarence married Anna Charlotte Price on Aug. 12, 1938. Anna was a home economics advisor in Kings County for the University of California at Berkeley. In 1938, 13-year-old Marie Chevallier of Hanford was taken in and raised in their loving care until she was an adult. In 1946, they took in one of Clarence's nieces to raise as their own, when 15-year-old Lorraine Kelly (now Parsons) was left without parents. Their two sons, Leslie Raymond Garner, born on May 2, 1944 and John Grant Garner born on Aug. 14, 1946 survive them. Clarence and Anna were always interested in community affairs, politics and the preservation of historical buildings. As members of the Historical Society of Kings County, they worked diligently to prevent the main building of the old Hanford High School from being torn down, but sadly lost the battle. However, they also worked to preserve the Kings County Courthouse Square and successfully saved this historic building from demolition. Clarence became a member of the Mayflower Society when Anna discovered, through her genealogy work, that his descendants crossed the Atlantic on the Mayflower. Clarence is survived by two sons, Leslie (Les) and wife Debra of Bluffton, S.C., John and wife Sylvia of Hanford; four grandsons, Alan and wife Eileen of Sunland, Eric of Palm Desert, Jeffrey and wife Joni of Hanford, James and wife Mandy of Galt. He is also survived by two great-grandsons, Aidan and Reed of Sunland. Clarence was preceded in death by his wife, Anna, June 1994. [409]

JIM MARTIN – Full membership by certificate of transfer from Corcoran UMC on November 10, 1968. James "Jim" Rudolph Martin, 84, of Hanford, passed away on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 in Visalia. Jim was born in Manzanola, Colorado to Eugene Taylor and Rosa Trent Martin. He was raised and educated in Exeter. Jim served during World War II in the South Pacific with the United States Marine corps from July 1942 to December 1945. Safeway employed him as a meat cutter for 42 years, first in Tulare, then in Corcoran and finally in Hanford. He was a faithful member of the United Methodist Church in Hanford. Jim was a lifetime member of the VFW, a member of the Kings Stonecrafters and FFA/HH Mentor. His hobbies included rock hunting and polishing, vegetable gardening, gleaning and fruit drying, cooking for crowds and telling jokes. Driving roads less traveled was a lifelong avocation. His generous spirit was most evident each December since his retirement as he portrayed Santa for children of all ages. Jim never met a stranger. He will be remembered by family and friends as kind, caring and humorous. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, J. Marie Martin of Hanford; daughter and son-in-law Sandra Martin and Arthur Winterling of Watsonville; step-grandchildren, David Winterling and his children, Rachael, Adam and Hannah of Portland, Oregon, Peter Winterling and his wife, Debra

[409] Hanford Sentinel, January 3, 2006.

of Cameron Park, California and Matthew Winterling of Berkeley. He was preceded in death by a son, J. Ronald Martin, his parents and eight brothers and sisters. [410]

RUTH GOMES – Membership restored on September 19, 1980. Old records show Ruth was a member since May 23, 1937. Her maiden name was DuBois. Hanford resident Ruth Jeanette Gomes, 83, a prize-winning orator and debater in her teens and a journalist for nearly five decades, passed away Sunday, Sept. 23, 2007 following a long illness. Ruth was born on August 1, 1924. She was a newspaper reporter for The Hanford Sentinel for over 52 years. She covered every beat from sports to governmental affairs, crime and courts, farm, social and church news, plus editing. Ruth found her greatest satisfaction in music and writing and won numerous honors as a journalist. Ruth began her career at The Hanford Sentinel as a proofreader. When typesetters told her she wouldn't be so fussy if she had to make corrections, she learned typesetting. She always had a penchant for writing, but it was not until the paper went to a 44-hour workweek that she was given the opportunity to serve as a substitute to cover reporters' days off. Before long, she had covered every beat. In her final years at The Sentinel, she was able to concentrate on proofreading, copy editing and "culture" pages, focusing on the arts, music, plays and various entertainments, with emphasis on local news events. Among her favorite assignments were those related to entertainment, such as theatrical productions and concerts. This interest led to inauguration of the Kings County Historical Society's annual storytelling contest, which she chaired for over a decade. She also served as a judge for numerous speaking events, including Lions Club and Optimist Club competitions. Her interest in oratory began at Hanford High School where she was a debater and a winner of an American Legion award in oratory. She served as state president of the California Press Women, was on the board of the National Press Women, serving as regional director and co-chairing the national organization's annual journalism contest. When Sigma Delta Chi, now called the Society of Professional Journalists, finally opened its ranks to women, she was one of the first in the area to join. She frequently served as a judge for Sigma Delta Chi contests. She was also a longtime member of the Investigative Reporters Association. She served as chairman of the California State University, Fresno, Journalism Advisory Board, being - for a number of years - the only "working press" member of the board. Ruth will be missed by her family, friends and a grateful community. She is survived by a daughter, Janette Creelman of Hanford; a son, Larry S. Gomes of Torrance; two sisters, Aida and Russell Arnold of Visalia and Esther Geissler of Corcoran; two brothers, Robert and Apolonia Geissler of Corcoran and Frank and Betty Geissler of Riverside; grandsons, Marc Gomes; John Michael Mc Dougall and daughters Emily and Kristina; Shawn and Raena Mc Dougall and daughters Aspen and Isa. She was preceded in death by her husband, Louis O. Gomes; mother and stepfather, Goldie and Theodore Geissler. A Celebration of Life Service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the First Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington St., in Hanford. Private family services will be at Grangeville Cemetery in Armona. Remembrances may be sent to The Smile Train, P.O. Box 96231, Washington, D.C. 20090-6231, http://www.smiletrain.org.[411]

Ruth Gomes, perhaps the most identifiable name with The Hanford Sentinel during her half-century-plus reporting career, has died at the age of 83. Ms. Gomes, who passed away Sept. 23 after a battle with cancer, was a reporter for the Hanford Sentinel on a full-or part-time basis for 52 years beginning in 1949. She covered all beats during an award-winning career. After retiring

[410] Hanford Sentinel, August 16, 2007.
[411] Hanford Sentinel, October 4, 2007

from full-time reporting in 1988, she continued with the newspaper on a part-time basis through 2001. Paul S. Chaffee, director of the Chaffee Zoo in Fresno, said that in 1974 a session with Gomes stood out from the countless times he had been interviewed before. "Quite often the written article appears different than one's recollection of the interview. (Gomes') article, on the other hand, was extremely well done, interesting, and above all, accurate." Gomes began work at The Hanford Sentinel on Sept. 15, 1949 as a proof reader. During her time on the staff, she eventually wrote for every section of the paper, edited each page, did type-setting, sorted mail and even swept the building on a few occasions. "I can say Ruth Gomes has throughout the years consistently been an accurate reporter, which is the greatest compliment a reporter can be paid," County Counsel Charles Leach said in 1963. Gomes received numerous awards during her tenure at The Sentinel, including recognition from the Press Women's Organization, the San Francisco Press Club and was the first woman to win a California Bar Award. In a 1987 letter, Gomes wrote of her work, "There are few professions that provide such a window on the world and a front seat to community goings-on. To share that view with others with honesty and integrity is an awesome responsibility that we all must take very seriously." Gomes also served as state president of the California Press Women, was regional director of the National Press Women, worked as a chairman of the California State University, Fresno Journalism
Advisory Board and chaired the Kings County Historical Society's annual storytelling contest. [412]

LEBORN STEVENSON – Certificate of Transfer from Tulare First Methodist Episcopal Church on February 14, 1937. Leborn Taylor "Steve" Stevenson, born August 23, 1914 in Licking, Missouri, passed away December 3, 2007 of an apparent heart attack in his home in Oakhurst. He was the son of Earl and Alta Taylor Stevenson of Tulare. Steve was a graduate of Tulare High School and moved to Hanford where he was employed in the butcher shop at the old Safeway Grocery Store, formerly located at the northeast corner of Douty and Seventh streets, where he met his first wife, Edith Gallup (HUHS Class of 1932), daughter of Elmer and Ethel Gallup, formerly of Hanford. Edie died many years ago. They had one son, John Charles Stevenson, (HUHS Class of 1956) who died June 8, 1958. Steve later remarried a long-time neighbor and friend, Hetty (Mitchell) Tarr, who died recently in Oakhurst. Steve was also employed during the 1960's at Kings County Feed Company, Purina Company, and Lacey Milling Company – then was employed by J. Daniel Humason, Realtor. After moving from Hanford to Oakhurst, where he built a new home, he was also employed as a Realtor. A lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church, Steve was also honored as a recipient of the Golden Veteran Award for over 50 years membership in No. 379 Hanford Masonic Lodge. Steve enjoyed life – was an avid golfer in his latter years, enjoyed fishing and dancing and Hetty's grandchildren, David and Susie Lancaster. Steve is survived by a brother, Vernon Bertram (Bert) Stevenson and wife Cindy of Modesto; several nieces and nephews; a brother-in-law, Robert Gallup and wife Virginia of Hanford; a nephew Bobbie Gallup and wife Emily of Fresno; a step-son, Steven Hammond Tarr and wife Joanne of Lodi; and his sister, Diane Ruby (Tarr) Lancaster, wife of Gordon Lancaster, mother of David and Susie. [413]

ABBIE THYARKS – Transferred membership to Hanford UMC on March 6, 1960. Abigail "Abbie" Thyarks, 91, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday, March 22, 2008. Abbie

[412] "Former Sentinel reporter Gomes leaves legacy," Hanford Sentinel, Page 1, October 3, 2007
[413] Hanford Sentinel, January 8, 2008

was dearly loved by all who knew her. She was born in Swanton, Ohio on Aug. 28, 1916. She graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1938 and earned her Master's Degree from Ohio State. She began her teaching career in her hometown of Swanton. Being an adventurous young woman, she moved to California and obtained a teaching position in Beaumont, Calif. She later relocated to Fresno and taught at Roosevelt High School. She married George Thyarks in 1956 and moved to Hanford where she continued her teaching career and eventually became a college prep counselor. Abbie was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Hanford where she sang in the choir and served as the United Methodist Women president for a number of years. She also was a 4-H leader and a hospital volunteer. Abbie is survived by her daughter, Mary Stryd and her husband Rick of Hanford; her grandchildren, Nick Stryd of Hanford and Lyndsie Stryd of Hanford; her step-daughters and their families, Joanadel Hurst of Elk, Calif., and Georgianna Lacher of Fargo, North Dakota. She was preceded in death by her husband, George Thyarks and her son, John Thyarks. [414]

Mary and John Thyarks, November 1962

Abbie Thyarks and Betty Mizner August 1982

She went through more sadness than most people. She lost her mom when she was a toddler and then her dad when she was twelve. She finally married and had what she had always dreamed of, a family. My brother was born when she was 40 and I was born when she was 43. Just ten short years later, my brother was killed in a bicycle accident. She always said that those events made her stronger. She taught me to look for something good even in the worst situations. I feel so very blessed to have been raised by this wonderful woman. I love you mom! Mary Thyarks Stryd

Abbie became friends with my mother, who was the college guidance counselor at Laton High School, the position Abby also held at Hanford High School – Jim Gregory

JANE ADELL JOHNSON 10/31/1944 - 6/30/2008 Jane Adell Johnson, most recently of Auburn, California, went to be with the Lord on Monday, June 30 after a prolonged illness. Born on October 31st, 1944 in Tulare, Calif. to Grant & Verlee Squire, Jane was raised in Corcoran and on their Mountain Ranch in the Coalinga hills with her sister, Judy (Harrison), and surviving brother, Bill Squire. She graduated from Corcoran High School in 1962 and soon thereafter was married to Charles 'Butch' Jones. They moved to Hanford in 1968 with her two sons, Randy and Phillip Jones. After being widowed in 1973, she married her surviving husband, J.R. (JJ) Johnson in 1979, and her life began anew. Together, Jane & JJ built a longstanding and respected CPA practice in downtown Hanford, where friends became clients & clients became friends for

[414] Hanford Sentinel, March 26, 2008.

the next 25 years. Along the way Jane was involved with the Methodist Church, Kings Guild, and the Hanford High Booster's Club. Baseball, football, wrestling, student government & FFA for her boys filled many evenings & weekends, a joy for her as she was her sons' number one fan. She loved to be creative in cooking, needlepoint & crochet, and she dearly loved her family and friends. She was at her absolute best hosting holiday gatherings & family reunions. Jane had such a love for animals from her pet dogs, cats & horses, as well as wild deer, tree squirrels & humming birds. One of her neighbors once joked that he didn't care what he came back as in his next life, as long as he was one of Janie's animals. In recent years, one of her greatest passions became her role as Grandma Jane. She loved to dote over and spend quality time with her five grandkids, spoiling them on birthdays and at Christmas, and playing games with them until way past their bedtime. As Jane slipped into eternity with her Savior on June 30, JJ was right by her side, lovingly caring for her to the very last moment. She is survived by her husband, brother, 2 sons, 5 grandchildren, 2 step-children, 6 step-grandchildren, 2 step-great-grandchildren, and will be missed dearly by all those she touched. She also looks forward to being reunited with those family and friends who also trust in the Lord. Her funeral service will be on Tuesday, July 8, 2008, at 10:30 am, at the First United Methodist Church of Hanford. A graveside service at Grangeville Cemetery will follow. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Sutter Auburn Faith Hospice (11795 Education Street, Suite 224; Auburn, CA 95602-2410), who so incredibly helped JJ care for Jane in her last weeks. [415]

LELA TAYLOR - Lela M. Taylor passed away at home in Hanford on Saturday Oct. 4, 2008 at the age of 93. She was born in Arriba, Colorado on Jan. 25, 1915 to Charles and Ollie Magnetta Carlbom. She moved to California as a newly licensed registered nurse to care for a sister and met her future husband, James M. Taylor. They were married in 1937 in Los Angeles where they lived for 40 years. She continued to work as a nurse as family obligations allowed. The Taylors moved to Hanford to be near family upon their retirement in 1977 where Lela was active in bridge groups, The First United Methodist Church and the Hanford Garden Club and their Arrangers Guild. She is survived by her husband of 70 years, her loving and faithful caregiver, Jim; daughters Janis Junell and husband Dr. Robert Junell of Hanford, Katherine Murphree of Aurora, Oregon; two grandsons, Dale Harmon and wife Jill of Fort Smith, Arkansas and Greg Junell and partner Dorene Garvin of San Luis Obispo, and grandson-in-law Philip Nishida of Fresno. She is also survived by a niece, Dorla Menmuir of Grass Valley, and nephew, James Emrich of Novato and their families. The middle child in a family of seven children, Lela was preceded in death by all six of her brothers and sisters and their spouses and her beloved granddaughter, Leanne Junell Nishida. [416]

UNIS HOFF – Unis E. Hoff, 93, of Hanford entered into eternal rest on March 19, 2009 in Hanford following a battle with cancer. Unis was born in Illinois in Dec. 30, 1915 to William and Effee Crain. She came to Hanford as a child and was raised and educated in Hanford, graduating from Hanford High School in 1933. Unis married Max Ellis Hoff on New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, 1936. Max and Unis enjoyed traveling together. She enjoyed making baby blankets for Lemoore Naval Base, playing cards with her many friends and volunteering at Hanford Community Hospital with the auxiliary for many years. Max preceded her in death in 1990. She was also preceded in death by her son, Ed Hoff and by her grandson, Dagen Hoff. Unis leaves to cherish her memory, one

[415] Published in Gold Country Media Newspapers on July 8, 2008
[416] Hanford Sentinel, October 9, 2008

son, Tom Hoff and his partner, Ron Aird of Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, Canada and one daughter, Peggy Beverly and her husband, Doug of Sacramento; one sister, Lois Pedan of Hanford, and two grandchildren, Jessica Hoff Reed and Jennifer Hoff. Celebration of Life Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 25, at the First United Methodist Church of Hanford.[417]

The stained glass window #9 in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church: "The Crucifixion," shows the culmination of all of Christ's teachings. It should remind us of all the tenets of this Christian faith, including divine love, forgiveness to each of us, and by us to all who wrong us, and of our needed total commitment to God and the kind of life for which He stands. The stained glass window is dedicated in memory of Effie E. Crain, November 14, 1880 - August 22, 1971 and William R. Crain, December 19, 1879 - September 25, 1959. What a wonderful gift and a way of honoring Unis Hoff's parents and family. Unis remained faithful to her faith throughout her life.

HAROLD "HOOT" GIBSON – Born January 10, 1926. Joined Hanford UMC by Certificate of Transfer from Ventura, California on December 14, 1952. Hoot was removed from the rolls on September 24, 1990 by Charge Conference action. Surrounded by his family in his home, Harold "Hoot" Gibson went home to be with our Lord on August 20, 2009, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Hoot was born in Bakersfield, California on January 10, 1926, to Emmaree and Hewitt Gibson. Hoot served as an educator in Kings County for over 38 years as a teacher at Lakeside Elementary School; Principal/Teacher at Kings River Elementary School; Principal – Lee Richmond Elementary School; Principal – Woodrow Wilson; Assistant Superintendent – Hanford High School; and retired as Kings County Superintendent of Schools. After retirement, he continued serving as an educator by assisting individuals to obtain their Master's Degree as a fieldwork supervisor at California State University Fresno. He was very active in giving back to the community he loved, as a Boy Scout Leader, a member of the Noon Lions Club, and Kings County Historical Society. Hoot spent 30 years researching the history of the development of schools and school districts in Kings County, and published a book, "History of Kings County Public Schools." Proceeds from the book were donated to the Tom Lasek educational scholarship fund and excerpts of the book were featured in the Sentinel's Lifestyle section as "Hoot's History." Hoot was an avid fisherman, and loved to see the vegetables and fruit trees in his garden grow, and always had bags of seasonal vegetables available for neighbors, friends and strangers. He was a friend to the young and old alike and was always there whenever you needed a helping hand, advice, or just someone to talk to and listen. Hoot is preceded in death by his parents, his loving wife of 56 years, Beverley Gibson; and his sister, Mary Hill. He is survived by his daughter, Terri Brice of Bakersfield; his son Greg Gibson of Cameron Park; grandchildren, Erin, Danielle, and Grant; four great-grandchildren; and special daughter, Helen Atwell. [418]

January 1982 - Kings County Superintendent of Schools Harold "Hoot" Gibson announced that he will be seeking a third four-year term during the June primary election.[419]

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[417] Hanford Sentinel, April 22, 2009.
[418] Hanford Sentinel August 23, 2009 page A2
[419] Hanford Sentinel, January 21, 2017, page B6, Looking back in Lemoore, 35 years ago

LOIS PEDEN – Longtime Hanford resident, Lois Peden, age 105 and 11 months, entered into eternal rest on December 3, 2009 in Hanford. She was a homemaker. [420] Lois Peden, age 105 of Hanford, entered eternal rest on Thursday, December 3, 2009. She was born on January 4, 1904 in Villa Ridge, IL to William and Effie Crain. Lois was a member of the first graduating class of Hanford High in 1922. She was a member of Order of Eastern Star for 86 years. Lois served 3 times as Worthy Matron and Guardian of Job's Daughters for 13 years. She was founder, with husband Jim, of Peden's Café in 1922. Lois was homecoming Queen at the age of 100. She had a love of salmon fishing on Rogue River, Ore. and received 2 salmon "Buttons" for catches over 30 pounds. Lois visited all 48 states by motor home when she retired in 1960. She was a lifetime member of Methodist Church. Lois was a devoted parent and grandparent to her own family in addition to the many youth in Job's Daughters and De Molay from 1940 to the 1960's. Lois was preceded in death by husband; James Peden in 1989, son; Jim Peden, parents; Will and Effie Crain, brothers; Lee Crain and Ray Crain and sister; Unis Hoff. She is survived by two sons; Robert Peden of Hanford and Bill Peden of Fresno and one daughter; Nancy Harrower of Hanford. She will also be greatly missed by her 14 grandchildren, 33 great grandchildren and 12 great, great grandchildren.[421]

Leo & Betty Mizner
Custodians

LEO MIZNER – Certificate of Transfer from United Methodist Church, Alexandria, South Dakota on November 5, 1977. Death December 24, 2009. Leo Theodore Mizner was born February 3, 1910 in Litchfield, Nebraska to John Franklin Mizner and Carrie Barbara Mizner. Leo left us December 24, 2009 to be with the Lord, surrounded by family and friends. As dear family friend and Pastor Gary Neilan likes to say, he was 99 years, 10 months and 21 days old. Leo married his first wife, Ruth Marie Eaton in 1930, and from this union three children were born, Shirley Mowry (George) of Presho, SD, Bernice Thury (Jack Schneider) of Bloomington, MN, and Gene Mizner (Marina) of Caldwell, ID. After the passing of Leo's wife Ruth, Leo married Betty Jane McCaffrey in 1952 and from this union were four children, Bill Mizner (Kathy) of Norfolk, NE, Barb Curry (Russ) of Hanford, CA, Kevin Mizner (Sharon) of Tulare, CA and Keith Mizner of Fresno, CA. Leo and Betty had been married 57 years at the time of his passing. Leo spent his life serving the Lord as well as serving the communities he has been a part of in numerous ways. As a young man, he worked for the Weston Oil Company in Nebraska and Wyoming. He later moved to South Dakota where he had several work opportunities. He operated a general store on the Rosebud Indian Reservation, owned and operated a locker plant,

[420] Hanford Sentinel December 11, 2009
[421] Hanford Sentinel December 14, 2009

farmed, was a meat cutter in a local market, was a school bus driver and custodian. After moving to California in 1977, Leo managed the Learner Service Station on Grangeville Blvd as well as served the Lord's Housekeeper with his wife, Betty at the First United Methodist Church in Hanford, California. Leo worked well into his nineties and was a living example of a strong work ethic. Leo was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings, Opal, Bing, Virgil (Shorty), and Tot. Leo is survived by his wife, Betty, his sister, Merna of Payson, AZ, as well as all children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. [422]

DANIEL M. FADENRECHT

Daniel, better known as Dan, a longtime resident of Kings County, passed away on Wednesday, December 30, 2009. He was born on June 2, 1920, in Bradshaw, Nebraska and was 89 years old at the time of his death. Dan grew up in a Mennonite community near Henderson, Nebraska, speaking German and learning German script in Sunday school. The family farm was sold and the family moved to California when he was 12 years old, settling in Armona. Dan lived on his own in Hanford while attending Hanford High School, working at the public library and janitoring at the courthouse to help support himself, graduating in 1938. While in high school he participated in the National Guard and enjoyed running cross country. Although he was recommended for an appointment to West Point he chose to attend the University of California, Berkeley, graduating in May 1942, with a degree in political science. After four years of ROTC Dan not only got his diploma but the rank of 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He married his dancing partner and college sweetheart, Betty Bright, and then reported for World War II duty, postponing their honeymoon. Dan was stationed in England with the 92nd Bombardment Group of the Army Air Corps. After three and a half years of participation in the European Theater of Operations Dan attained the rank of Major (O-4) and an honorable discharge. Dan returned from the war to spend another intense 2-½ years in law school at Stanford Law School, passing the bar in 1948, then traveled with Betty to see the USA on a belated honeymoon. Dan came home to Hanford to work as the Assistant District Attorney at a time when there was only the District Attorney and one assistant, and a single judge in the Kings County Superior Court. He then spent 60 years in private law practice. Shortly before the first vaccines were introduced in 1953, Dan contracted polio and was totally paralyzed. Eventually through therapy he was able to regain his upper body strength and some capacity in his left leg. This didn't stop him from walking with a brace and crutches, returning to work as an attorney, driving cars, flying airplanes, enjoying hunting, farming on the side, and volunteering in the community. Dan was a member of Kiwanis, the Elks Lodge, and the First United Methodist Church. He served 15 years on the Board of the Kings County YMCA, ten of which were as President. He and Betty were honored as King and Queen of the Kings County Homecoming celebration in 2000. He and Betty were able to travel much of the United States and Canada and toured such countries as New Zealand, India, Thailand, Burma, Peru, Chile, Mexico, Panama and Kenya. Dan continued to actively practice law until September 2009, when he was diagnosed with cancer. He saw many changes in the law profession during his 60 year career, and he continued to enjoy advising clients and solving their problems. Dan had a comforting demeanor and wisdom to spare. He was an inspiration to his children and many others as he persevered through physical difficulties and always approached life with a "can do" attitude. Dan lost his wife Betty in 2003, after 62 years in a loving marriage. The remnants of the wartime correspondence

[422] Hanford Sentinel, December 29, 2009, page A2

between he and Betty are a treasured legacy for their family. Dan is survived by his four daughters and their families: Joan Richard and her husband Michael and children Helen and Samuel; Joyce Fadenrecht and her husband Clint Horwitz and children Rebecca and David; Anne Fadenrecht and her husband John Noonan and children Daniel and Casey; and Gail Fadenrecht and her husband Walter Flom and children Zachary and Hannah. Of Dan's seven brothers and sisters, only his older sister, Viola Wood, of Hanford, survives. [423]

"SKY" DAWN SEQUIN – died May 3, 2010

LETITIA J. CUELHO (1967-2010) Letitia J. Cuelho entered into eternal rest after she succumbed to cancer on June 28, 2010 at the age of 43 years, in Fresno, California. She was born on February 2, 1967 in Hanford, California, to Sherrill and Lyle Ellingsworth. Letitia graduated from Lemoore High School in 1985, after that she attended College of the Sequoias receiving her AS degree. She worked for Kings County Sheriff's Office as an Office Assistant II. She was a member of SIEU. In her spare time she loved spending time with her family and friends. She is survived by her daughter, Kelsie Marie Cuelho; mother, Sherrill York; sister, Lynell Gonzalez; step-father, Grover York; step-brothers, Mark York and James York Galea; step-sister, Tammy Reulman; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews and her caregiver Ed McKinney. She was preceded in death by her father Lyle W. Ellingsworth. She will be missed dearly by everyone that knew her. There will be a Celebration of Life Service at 10 a.m., Saturday, July 3, 2010 at the First United Methodist Church in Hanford, Ca. There will be a private burial at Calvary Cemetery.[424]

LEWIS AUSTIN "TERRY" TOMKINS (1919-2010) Lewis "Terry" Austin Tomkins, 91, went to heaven to join his beloved Roberta on August 31, 2010. He passed away at the Hacienda Rehabilitation and Health Care Center in Hanford. Terry was born to Ernest and Jean Tomkins on July 11, 1919 in the small town of Cuba, Illinois. The family farm and school were his priorities in his early years. He graduated from Cuba High School in June 1937 and went on to attend Illinois State as a math major. In December 1941, his studies were interrupted by WWII. He became a

[423] Hanford Sentinel, January 1, 2010, pg. 2; Fresno Bee, January 2, 2010
[424] Hanford Sentinel, July 2, 2010, pg 2

Navy F4U pilot and was dispatched to the western Pacific in the 1942. As a carrier aviator, he participated in all of the island battles that helped bring the war to its conclusion. Getting leave in the spring of 1945, he married his college sweetheart Mary Roberta Paulen on April 21, 1945 in New Salem, Illinois. He later graduated from Chapman College and then went on to earn an MBA about the time he retired from the Navy. Terry was a Navy pilot for 29 years, being stationed in VA, NJ, FL, CA, Washington DC, RI and back to CA. As Commanding Officer, he brought the first A-4 squadron, VA-113, to NAS Lemoore when it opened in 1961. After being Executive Officer of the Lemoore base, he retired in July 1971. He earned many service awards including the Distinguished Flying Cross, numerous Air and Combat Medals, and all the campaign medals associated with the Pacific in WWII. Terry was loyal to the First United Methodist Church of Hanford and served in several capacities there. For the last 39 years, he has been a member of the Lemoore Rotary Club, and was a Past President. He is a shining example of Service Above Self and his generosity is seen in his multiple Paul Harris Fellows. Terry felt strongly about the education of youth and has donated to Fresno State Athletics and Band with scholarships. He loved his family, friends, golf, travel, barbequing, Fresno State football and baseball, and wine. It is safe to say his homemade peppermint stick ice cream was a hit whenever it showed up. He was preceded in death by his wife Roberta, of 55 years. He is survived by two children, Ruth Lyon and husband Rich of Lake Forest and Phil Tomkins and wife Liz of Hanford; four grandchildren, Zach Lyon, Josh Lyon and wife Amy, Ryan Tomkins and wife Toni and Heather Tomkins; and two great-grandchildren, Jordan Lyon and Kingston Sotomayor.[425]

RUTH IONE (POWELL) VERBOON (1915-2011 - Ruth Ione Verboon was born in Hanford, California on May 24, 1915. She passed away on January 24, 2011 at the age of 95. She was one of three children born to Lewis and Mary Francis Powell. She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Ralph and Robert Vernon Powell, her grandson, Michael Mitchell and her late husband, Jake who died in 1980. They farmed in the Lake Bottom area for over 25 years. Lewis and Ralph Powell owned and operated Powell's Photography Studio in Hanford for 98 years. Ruth is survived by two sons, Gary, who lives in San Jose and Bob, who lives in Clinton Arkansas, where Ruth spent the last year. She missed Hanford, and her friends and family very much. She is also survived by four grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Doris Verboon and Babe Verboon of Hanford and numerous niece and nephews. Ruth was very active in 4-H, the Garden Club and the First Presbyterian Church, where she was a deacon. She loved to play the organ and piano for church. She also in her younger days enjoyed dance competitions and won various awards. Ruth has made pre-arrangements for her cremation and will be buried next to her beloved Jake in the Hanford Cemetery. She will be greatly missed and leaves behind a loving family and a lifetime of cherished memories and friends. [426]

JANE McCUTCHEON – Jane Walker McCutcheon, 94 of Hanford passed away on July 20, 2011 in Hanford. She was a homemaker and is remembered as a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother by her family. Jane was born in Butler, Pennsylvania on July 4, 1917 t Homer and Ethel Walker. She was raised and educated in Butler, Pennsylvania and graduated from Morgantown High school in Morgantown, West Virginia in 1934. Jane received her Associate of Arts Degree in Business from Duffs and Iron City College in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania in 1935 and worked as an Executive Secretary. In 1945 she met Mac McCutcheon while he was serving tin

[425] Hanford Sentinel, September 8, 2010, pg 2
[426] Hanford Sentinel, February 1, 2011, pg 2

the United States Navy and they marries shortly after in New York. Following their marriage, Mac returned to California and shortly after Jane followed to make their home in Davis, California. Following his discharge from the military Jane worked to help Mac complete his education and then moved to Hanford, California in 1947 to make their home and raise their children. During the war, Jane volunteered at Walter Reed hospital and volunteered countless hours with the Ladies Auxiliary at Hanford Community Hospital where she served two terms as president. She served as Treasurer for the Hanford Senior Center and Trustee for the United Methodist Church of Hanford. Jane traveled extensively and especially enjoyed cruising. Her hobbies include knitting, working in her yard and oil painting. Jane and Mac were preceded in death by their daughter, Gloria in 1969 and Mac preceded Jane in death in 1982. Jane leaves to cherish her memory, her son Barry and wife, Brenda of Hanford, CA; three grandchildren, Nancy and husband, Michael, Brian and wife Katie, and Matthew and wife, Amy; five great-grandchildren, Raine, Colten, Kaia, Ava and Kaylin and one on the way. Jane and Mac were active members of the First United Methodist Church n in Hanford. The current front doors of the sanctuary were dedicated in Mac's name. Located at the Hanford First United Methodist Church Window #1, "The Annunciation," This portrays Mary, receiving the news of her part in the coming birth of Christ. Even though this was a thing not completely understood by her, she was resigned and committed to God's will. This window was presented by the McCutcheon family in memory of their daughter, Gloria Marie McCutcheon – May 6, 1969.

NOLAND PETERSEN (1918-2011)

Noland Petersen passed away December 23, 2011, at age 93. He was born on the 4th of July, 1918, to Nels and Marie Petersen of Del Rey, CA. Upon the death of his mother in 1932, the family went to live with an aunt, Ida Petersen, until Nels later married Dena Kaarsberg.

Noland was the beloved husband of Thelma for 62 years; she preceded him in death in 2002. Noland and Thelma lived most of their married life in Fresno. In retirement, they moved to Vista in 1986; then to Redlands in 1994. In 2003, Noland moved to Hanford. He began working for the Santa Fe Railroad in 1937, and retired from his career as a train dispatcher in 1980. Throughout his life, he was a student of the Bible and enjoyed his church life; he was also an avid baseball fan. He attended the Methodist Church with his kindhearted friend, Evelyn Sarquis.

Noland was also preceded in death by a sister, Geraldine, and son, Ronald. He is survived by a brother, Clyde (Ann) Petersen of Selma, CA; sister, Gertrude (Ed) Bowen of Calgary, Alberta; two daughters and their husbands: Linda Frye and Doug Patterson (The Sea Ranch), and Marsha and Steve Robinson (Hanford); and his granddaughters and great-grandchildren: Kelly (Dave) Rogers, Katie and Maggie; and Kristin (Tim) Hollabaugh, Kyle and Luke. He is also survived a cousin, Lois Johnshoy, sisters-in-law Edna (Ed) Daves and Doris (Don) Johnstone, and by several nieces and nephews.

For the past six months, Noland was a resident of Valley Christian Home. The family wants to thank the caregivers for their compassion and patience each day.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Methodist Church on Friday, December 30 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the First United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington, Hanford, CA 93230.

"I love you all dearly;
now don't shed a tear,
I spent my Christmas

with Jesus this year."

Published in The Hanford Sentinel on December 28, 2011

Dr. ROBERT LUND JENSEN

Dr. Robert L. Jensen, 84, was born to Emanuel Alfred & Andrea Augusta Lund Jensen on October 14, 1927 in Hutchinson, Minnesota. Robert grew up Hutchinson and Brainerd, Minnesota, moving at age 14 with his family to San Francisco and again in 1945 to Reedley, California. Robert graduated in 1945 from Abraham Lincoln High School in San Francisco, California, later attending San Francisco City College and Reedley City College. He proudly served in the U.S. Army at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland where he was an instrument repair tech and marksman, and received the WWII Victory Medal. Robert married the love of his life Dorothy Quist on February 5, 1949 at the First United Methodist Church of Las Vegas, Nevada. He then went on to receive his B.S. and O.D. from University of California, Berkeley, graduating with honors from the School of Optometry. Soon after his graduation in 1952, Robert and Dorothy moved to Hanford, California where they settled and raised their family of four children. Dr. Jensen practiced optometry in Hanford for 59 years until his retirement in July 2011, the last 52 from his office on the corner of Grangeville & Douty.

Some of Robert's favorite Minnesota boyhood pastimes included ice skating, sledding, and rafting down the Mississippi River. In his youth he was an active Boy Scout, as an adult he helped lead the Hanford Explorer Scout Troop 400 for 25 years. Dr. Jensen continued hiking and backpacking in the Sierras with some of those same scouts until well into his 80's. Robert also enjoyed photography, fishing, woodworking, gardening, and was an avid bicycler who was regularly seen cycling to work and on longer rides around the San Joaquin Valley. Dr. Jensen was a member the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, longtime member and president of both the Hanford Lions Club and the Tulare-Kings Optometric Society. Robert also served as vice chair of the Republican Central Committee of Kings County. He was appointed to the board of the Hanford Community Hospital in 1953, and performed pro bono optometry screenings at Hanford Elementary and other area schools. Dr. & Mrs. Jensen have been members of the First United Methodist Church of Hanford, California since 1952, where Robert served as a Trustee, Chairman of the Board and Chair of the Building Committee for the church over the years.

Dr. Robert L. Jensen is preceded in death by his parents Emanuel & Andrea Jensen, and sister Constance Jensen Ragus. Robert is survived by his beloved wife of 63 beautiful years, Dorothy Quist Jensen of Hanford, California. He will be truly missed by his four loving children; Dr. Lois Jensen of Santa Rosa, Dea Jensen of Los Angeles, Paul & his wife Karen Jensen of Plano, TX, and Kristen Jensen & her husband Fernando Nell of Scotts Valley, CA. Dr. Jensen leaves behind five precious grandchildren; Kristen & Joanna Proctor of Santa Rosa, and Kayla, Andrew & Erika Jensen of Plano, TX.

Dr. Robert L. Jensen will be missed by all his family, friends and many patients!

A Visitation will be held on Friday, June 1, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at People's Funeral Chapel; 501 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA 93230 559-584-5591. A Celebration of Life memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 2, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Hanford; 505 N. Redington Street, Hanford, CA 93230 (559) 584-4075. A private burial will take place at Reedley Cemetery District, Reedley, California.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be sent in Dr. Jensen's name to First United Methodist Church of Hanford; 505 N. Redington Street, Hanford, CA 93230 (559) 584-4075, U.C. Berkeley School of Optometry; 397 Minor Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720 (510) 642-9537 or to the Boy Scouts of America; www.aplacetogive.scouting.org [427]

GREG JUNELL Gregory Robert Junell of San Luis Obispo passed away on August 11, 2012 at City of Hope in Duarte, CA. He was 44 years old. Born in Hanford on January 12, 1968, Greg attended local schools and graduated from Hanford Union High School in 1986. He showed an early interest in the rapidly emerging computer technology, and he earned his BS degree in Computer Science from Cal Poly SLO. He began working in computer programming and software development in San Luis Obispo and in the Bay Area but soon realized a desire for a more people-oriented career. In order to blend his two talents, he earned his teaching credential, and was subsequently hired as a teacher and Director of Information Technology at Mission College Preparatory School in San Luis Obispo. As a teacher, tennis coach, and mentor in a variety of school activities, Greg quickly earned the respect of his peers, his students, and their families.

Greg loved music, and he dabbled in piano, string bass, and drums. Outdoor activities were also important to him, and he frequently organized hikes, camping trips, and group bicycle rides. For many years he participated with a group of friends in preparing for Burning Man, and each September he would drive his friends to the playa in his old bus. Greg was also qualified to officiate at weddings, and over the years he performed more than 35 wedding ceremonies as a gift to his friends.

Above all, Greg felt most fulfilled when surrounded by his family and his wide circle of friends, including his fellow faculty, administrators, and his students at MCP.

Greg is survived by his parents, Dr. Robert and Janis Junell, his grandfather, James M. Taylor, his aunt and uncle Toby and Sharon Junell, his aunt, Carol Junell Donnel all of Hanford, by his brother-in-law Philip Nishida of Fresno, and by many beloved cousins. He was predeceased by his sister, Leanne Junell Nishida, by his grandparents Toby and Ilene Junell and Lela Taylor, his aunt, Kathy Murphree, and his uncle, Doug Donnel.

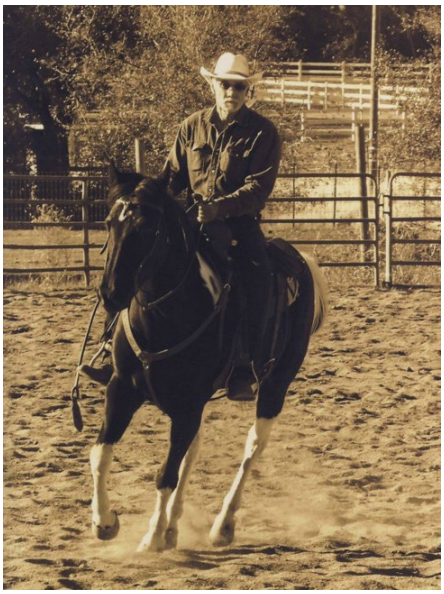
A memorial service will be held on August 27 at 4:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church located at the corner of Irwin and Dewey Streets in downtown Hanford.

A memorial celebration of Greg's life will also be held in San Luis Obispo at a future date.

Remembrances in Greg's name may be sent to Mission College Preparatory High School, 682 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93401.[428]

[427] Hanford Sentinel, May 30, 2012, pg 2

[428] Hanford Sentinel obituary, August 18, 2012



JAMES "JJ" RUFUS JOHNSON

James "JJ" R. Johnson, a Hanford resident, passed away on April 18, 2013. He was at home, in the company of his wife, Pamela Madill-Johnson, and his family. He was born on February 15, 1941 in Magnolia, AR to the late Vernon and Bessie Johnson. JJ proudly served in the United States Navy and was honorably discharged in 1972. He was a Certified Public Accountant, maintaining his office in Hanford for many years. Additionally, he was a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Hanford and he enjoyed riding a Harley Davidson as much as riding a horse or learning to play golf. His good sense of humor and fair play is legendary and will live on in the memories of his friends and those who loved him. In addition to his wife, JJ is survived by two children, Jamie Jeannine Rice (and husband Jason) of Medford, NJ and James Russell Johnson (and wife Tammy) of Haughton, LA; four stepsons, Randy Jones (and wife Ivy) of Fullerton, CA, Phillip Jones (and wife Christina) of Hanford, CA, Craig Stiff of Los Angeles, CA, and Jeffrey Stiff (and wife Kristi) of Los Angeles, CA; one sister, Verna Dean Johnson Clark of Magnolia, AR; and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Cancer Society, 1443 West 7th St., Hanford, CA 93230, specifically for research into the cure of pancreatic cancer, or to the Kings SPCA, 8084 E. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA 93230 A memorial service for JJ will be held on Tuesday, April 30, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Saviour, 519 N. Douty St, Hanford, CA.

JJ was my company's CPA and my personal CPA for tax preparation. His CPA office was on the southwest corner of Irwin and Ivy St. - Jim Gregory

MONTE M. McGINTY - Monte M. McGinty, longtime resident of Hanford, and most recently Los Osos, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on May 15, 2013, in Kelowna, British Columbia from complications of a blood clot. He was 84. Monte is best remembered for his self-

reliant "can-do" spirit, giving nature and devotion to his family.
Monte and Barbara moved from Los Angeles to Hanford in 1963, where he taught various subjects at Hanford Union High School for 23 years, including civics, math, special education and driver's education. They raised four children out on their small farm "the menagerie" on Excelsior Avenue. He then worked for NASDA (California Agricultural Statistics Service) for another 20 years alongside his beloved wife Barbara, now deceased.
Monte believed deeply in contributing to his community and throughout his life, volunteered as a lifeguard, fireman, Indian guides and 4-H leader, foster parent and played the harmonica for the Salvation Army up until Christmas

012. Monte's legacy of love and devotion for his family is remembered by his five surviving children, Larry McGinty, Beverly McGinty, Debra McGinty-Poteet, Robert McGinty, and Jean McGinty; his six grandchildren, Rebecca, Nathanial, Rhiannon, Erin, Sarah and Robert, Jr.; and his one great-granddaughter, Ava Marie.
Services will be held Saturday, July 13, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church on Redington Street conducted by Pastor Susan Foster. An Irish Wake will follow the ceremony. The family requests that remembrances be sent to the Salvation Army.

Published in The Hanford Sentinel on June 29, 2013 [429]

JUANITA MARIE MARTIN

Juanita Marie Martin, 89, passed peacefully on June 28, 2013 with family and friends at her side. Marie was born to Ellsworth and Bettie Dobbs Franklin in Darwin, Oklahoma. Later she and her family moved to Exeter, California where she was raised and attended school. She married James R. Martin on November 14, 1942. During WWII, Jim served in the United States Marine Corps in the South Pacific Theater, while Marie he helped build P51 fighters in San Diego, California. After the war, she and her husband lived in Tulare, California, where daughter Sandra was born, and they then moved to Corcoran where her son Ronald was born. Marie worked in the Corcoran City Clerk's Office until 1968 when she and Jim moved to Hanford, California.
In Hanford, she was an active member of La Casa Garden Club and the Women's Group of the Hanford Methodist Church. Her hobbies were growing and arranging flowers, especially the Japanese style Ikebana.
In 2010 she moved to Santa Cruz, California to be closer to her daughter Sandra. She lived at Kindred Nursing and Transitional Care-Santa Cruz where she participated in art projects, wheelchair dancing and socializing with her many friends. She was a loved resident.
She is survived by her daughter Sandra and son-in-law; Arthur Winterling, step-grandchildren; David Winterling and his children; Rachael, Adam and Hannah of Portland, Oregon, Peter Winterling and his wife Debra of Cameron Park, California, Matthew Winterling of Berkeley, California and her sister Lois Landers of Sonora, California.

[429] Hanford Sentinel, June 29, 2013 pg A2

She was preceded by the passing of her parents, husband Jim, son Ronald and seven siblings.
Remembrances can be made in Marie's name to the First United Methodist Church; 505 N. Redington Street, Hanford, CA 93230 559-584-4075.
Family and Friends are invited to view Marie's legacy at www.peoplesfuneralchapel.com and send condolences to the family.
A Visitation will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2013 from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. at People's Funeral Chapel; 501 N. Douty Street, Hanford, CA 93230 559-584-5591 followed with a Graveside Service at 2:00 p.m. at Grangeville Cemetery; 10428 14th Avenue, Armona, CA 93202.
A Celebration of Marie's Life will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at Kindred Nursing and Transitional Care-Santa Cruz; 1115 Capitol Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95062.
Services are under the direction of People's Funeral Chapel.

Published in The Hanford Sentinel on July 6, 2013 430

DAVID STANLEY BOONE (1938 - 2013) - David Stanley Boone passed away Sunday December 22, 2013 in Hanford, Ca. David was born in Stockton, Ca. July 31, 1938 to Lawrence and Lucille Boone. He was the baby of the family with three older siblings. He grew up in Stockton on 25 acres in the Morada district. FFA

and 4-H kept David very active as well as tending to a farm. David graduated from Lodi High School. He later enrolled at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA while serving in the Army National Guard, graduating with his BA in Biology. He married Evelyn Jean Boone and had a daughter by the name of Diana Boone. They later moved to Hanford, Calif. where David started working for Penzoil. David worked as a chemist by trade. David was very active in his daughter's early school years, volunteering countless hours for Hanford Elementary School District. He worked for several companies in his lifetime retiring from Leprino Foods East. David is survived by his daughter Diana Boone and granddaughter Lily Boone, his niece Laurie Westover (husband John Westover) of Santa Maria, Ca, Ann Harbert (husband Tom Harbert) of Roseville, Ca. , and nephew Mark Boone (wife Fran Boone) of Dixon, Ca. And also survived by several great-nephews and great-niece. He was preceded in death by his parents, three
siblings and his wife. David was greatly loved and will be dearly missed. Celebration of life services will be at the First United Methodist Church in Hanford, Ca. Saturday January 11, 2014 at noon.[431]

DAVID L. ALCORN (1934 - 2014) - David Alcorn (10/17/1934 to 1/31/2014), a resident of Tehachapi, passed away in his home Friday, January 31st, 2014. David lived most of his life in Hanford, was a member of First United Methodist Church, and graduated from Hanford High School in 1952. He went on to play football at COS and pursued a degree in criminology. In 1954 David married his high school sweetheart, Ruth Fry. David was employed by the Kings County Sheriff's Office and eventually served as Undersheriff. While with the Sheriff's Office he was chosen to attend the FBI academy in Quantico, Virginia. David spent his free time fishing and going on trips with his RV club and camping with his family. He moved to Tehachapi in 2002 to be closer to his children.
David is survived by his wife Ruth Alcorn, brother John Alcorn, daughter Renee Nicovich and

[430] Hanford Sentinel, July 6, 2013, pg A2
[431] Hanford Sentinel, January 6, 2014

husband Bruce, daughter Brenda Raphael and husband Tommy, four grandchildren, one great granddaughter, and numerous nieces and nephews.
Memorial service will be held on February 8th, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Hanford. Friends and family are welcome to attend a gathering following the service. Memorial contributions may be made to Optimal Hospice Foundation. [432]

Bakersfield National Cemetery

AMANDA WILES - Amanda Ellen Wiles, 61, passed away on Sunday, June 1, 2014 in Hanford. A memorial Service will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington Street, Hanford, CA. 559-584-4075. Services under the direction of People's Funeral Chapel. [433] Born January 30, 1953, age 61. She joined Hanford UMC on May 29, 1966 by Profession of Faith. Married Jackson in 1977.

In her estate, Amanda gave a significant gift to the Methodist Church endowment fund, for which we are very grateful. Amanda was the caretaker of her mother, Maria, who was in a convalescent home in Kingsburg.

FRANCES CREELMAN - Frances Elizabeth Creelman, age 94, died peacefully on Sunday, November 2, 2014. Born near Manchester, TN, she had been a resident of Kings County for 80 years. In 1943, Frances Beckman married Willard H. Creelman. They established a home and ranch in the Island District of Kings County, where they farmed, loved and raised three children: James, Stanley and Cheryl. Frances was active in the Island Elementary School Mothers' Club, later renamed the Island Parent Teacher Association. She was also a project and community leader for the Island 4H Club. She was a member in the Island District ladies social club, "The Jolly Dozen", for over 50 years. This club still meets. A devoted member of the Island Baptist Church, she served as a Sunday school teacher and librarian. In later years, Frances was an active member of the Hanford United Methodist Church and Womens' Missionary Group. As well as active in her community organizations, she was employed for over 25 years as a medical transcriptionist for Dr. James Dean of Hanford.

Frances was predeceased by her Husband, Willard H. Creelman and her son, James W. Creelman. She is survived by her son, Stanley, his wife, Denise, and their children Patrick, Nicholas, Leslie and six great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her daughter Cheryl Scruggs and her daughters, Janae and Rana'.

A dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, friend and community member, a humble woman who always put others ahead of herself, Frances touched the lives of all who knew her.

A graveside service will be held at Grangeville, Cemetery on Monday, November 10, at 10:00 am. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the American Cancer Society, 2222 W. Shaw Ave., #201, Fresno, CA 93711.

Lemoore native San Creelman has been named "Ginner of the Year" for 2001 by the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association (CCG). The son of Island District farmers Frances and

[432] Hanford Sentinel, February 5, 2014, page A2
[433] Hanford Sentinel, June 25, 2014, page A2

the late Willard Creelman, he graduated from Island Elementary and with the Lemoore High School Class of 1967. He holds a B.S. in agronomy and business ag.[434]

In her estate, Frances made a wonderful undesignated financial gift to Hanford UMC. By MST board action on February 9, 2017, the funds were applied to help repay the loan to the sanctuary roof repair.

HILDA IRENE DOUMA, 94 was the youngest of three sisters in her family when she was born on July 28, 1920. She grew up in Waterloo, Canada. Her parents, who are deceased, were Clinton Hahn and Clara Sattler Hahn. Hilda's oldest sister Reta L. Hahn predeceased her in 1999.

After the end of World War II, Hilda met her husband Thomas Douma while vacationing with her Canadian friend Verna in Michigan. As the story goes, the Canadian girls both were impressed with two returning American soldiers and coupled up with Tom and (Folpert) Phil Douma, cousins from the far-away town of Hanford. Hilda and Tom Douma were later married on September 21, 1949, as was Verna to Folpert Douma. Tom brought Hilda (a city girl) to Hanford to live on his family's farm and Hilda began her married life in the United States. Hilda spent the rest of her life in Hanford and she became a United States citizen in 1995. Thomas, her only love, passed away on June 10, 1999.

Hilda was a decades-long member of the First United Methodist Church of Hanford, 40 years a member of the Hanford chapter of the PEO Sisterhood and a familiar face in the lobby of the Adventist Medical Center as a member of the hospital's Volunteer Service League. Hilda's involvement with the First United Methodist Church included stints as the church treasurer, historian and librarian and she received the Special Mission Recognition Award from the United Methodist Women in 1980 and the United Methodist Women's life member award in 1995. Hilda and Tom were also members of a small informal bridge club, along with three other married couples, who met once a month to share dinner and play bridge for 30 years or longer.

[434] Hanford Sentinel, March 25, 2017, Looking Back in Lemoore, 15 years ago, pg B2

Hilda was known for her kind and reserved disposition and a strong concern for everyone but herself! Hilda was especially a softie when it came to animals, ready to offer her lap to any cat or dog and she was heartbroken at the death of her 22 year old cat Charlie a few years ago.

Despite her physical distance from her Canadian family, Hilda remained close to her sister Wilma Welker of St. Jacobs, who survives her, and her surviving niece and nephews, Margaret Welker, Thomas Welker and Andrew Welker, all of Waterloo, who came to visit almost every year. In the past, Hilda was able to visit them regularly as well.

A special recognition should be extended to Hilda's caregivers during the last period of her life: Angel Rivera, Maria Boylan and staff at Comfort Keepers. Angel and Maria were loyal and caring companions who cheerfully assisted Hilda in her home.

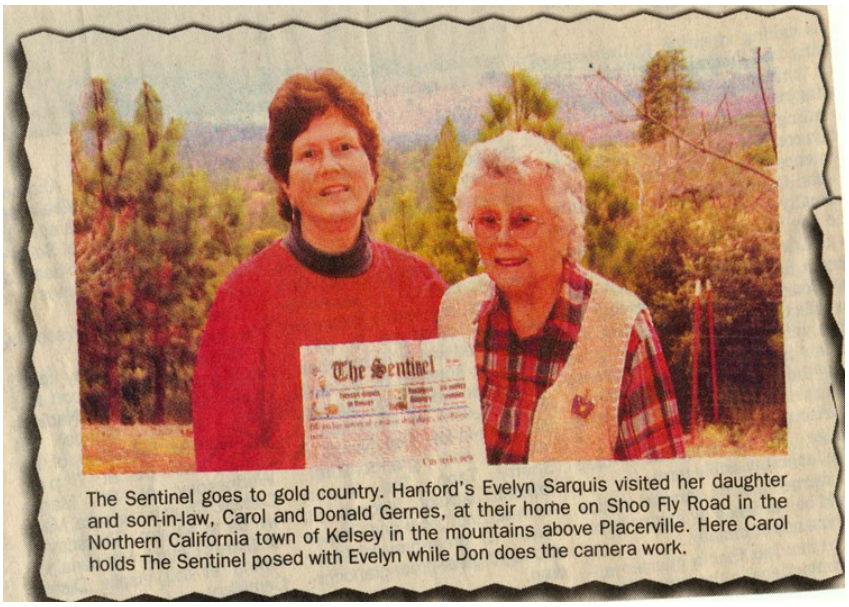
Hilda will be missed by her neighbors and many friends who rallied to support her in her declining health. Although Hilda at 94 had outlived many of her peers, numerous friends and family members remained active in Hilda's life to the end, a testament to Hilda's giving nature and involvement in the community.

A Graveside Service will be held on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. at Grangeville Cemetery; 10428 14th Avenue, Armona, CA 93202 with a luncheon reception following at the Hanford First United Methodist Church; 505 N. Redington Street, Hanford, CA 93230

Donations in Hilda's memory may be made to the First United Methodist Church; 505 N. Redington Street, Hanford, CA 93230 559-584-4075 or to Kings S.P.C.A.; 9071 16 ½ Avenue, Lemoore, CA 93245 [435]

To honor her husband, Tom, Hilda's estate gave a gift to Hanford UMC, to be used by trustees. The funds were used in 2015 to replace the sidewalk along Center Street and the sidewalk to the choir room double doors, including an upgraded AHA compliant handicap ramp with metal hand rails.

[435] Hanford Sentinel, December 1, 2014, page A2



The Sentinel goes to gold country. Hanford's Evelyn Sarquis visited her daughter and son-in-law, Carol and Donald Gernes, at their home on Shoo Fly Road in the Northern California town of Kelsey in the mountains above Placerville. Here Carol holds The Sentinel posed with Evelyn while Don does the camera work.

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EVELYN MARIE (NEAL) SARQUIS - Long time Kings County area resident Evelyn Marie (Neal) Sarquis passed away on Saturday, January 31, 2015, three months after she celebrated her 100th birthday. Evelyn was liked by all and passed in the same way she lived – with quiet dignity. Evelyn was born in Island District of Lemoore, November 6, 1914, the daughter of Claude and Marie Neal. She attended the Island School and graduated from Lemoore High School with the class of 1932. Shortly after her marriage in 1940, she moved to the Delta View community. She resided in that community until moving to The Remington in Hanford from 2003-2011. Most recently she lived at Gold Country Retirement Center in Placerville close to her daughter Carol.

Evelyn worked in the Kings County Court House until she began to raise her family. While raising her family in Delta View, Evelyn was an active member of the Delta View Women's Club and the

[436] Hanford Sentinel, January 23, 2007

First Methodist Church Women's Circle in Hanford. In her later life, she took a few classes at College of the Sequoias and took up painting for a time. Willard Scott recognized her this fall on the Today Show on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

Evelyn is survived by her son Jerry Sarquis and his wife Mickey of Healdsburg, CA, her daughter Carol Gernes and her husband Don of Kelsey, CA, her grandchildren Russell and Kimberly Sarquis, and Brian and Jeffrey Gernes. Evelyn was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Leon, in 2003, her parents, brothers Reed, Russell, John, and Norman, and her sister Emily.

Remembrances may be sent to the First United Methodist Church of Hanford, 505 North Redington St., Hanford, CA 93230. [437]

The Sarquis farm was on the Kings/Tulare county line and the farm home which Evelyn lived in during her marriage was removed due to the widening of Highway 198. Because the family had a recent celebration of Evelyn's 100th birthday, the family decided not to have a funeral or memorial service.

ESTHER C. GEISSLER - Esther C. Geissler of Hanford, CA went to be with the Lord on February 23, 2015 at the age of 83. She was preceded in death by her parents Theodore A. Geissler and Goldie L. Geissler and her sister Ruth Gomes. She is survived by her sister Aida Arnold of Visalia, CA, her brothers Robert T. Geissler of Corcoran, CA and Frank D. Geissler of Riverside, CA. A graveside service will be held Monday, March 2, 2015 at 1 p.m. at Grangeville Cemetery 10428 14th Ave Armona, CA [438]

FRANCES LEE KNIGHT

Frances Lee Knight, age 90, passed away on Wednesday, April, 8, 2015. She was born to the late Clifford L. Knight and Edith Mills Knight on March 27, 1925 in Marshalltown, Iowa.

She graduated from the University of Iowa and taught kindergarten and music in Iowa and Kings County for 40 years. Music and children were her life and she was very active in the community. She was a member of the music section of the American Association of University Women, Retired Teachers, Book Buddies of the Hanford Library, Reader's Forum, and the Young at Heart Singers. She helped put on the Backyard Musical in Hanford for 17 years. She put on a full bunny outfit during Easter and read to the children at the Hanford Library. She gave private piano lessons for 50 years.

Fondly referred to as "GG", she is survived by her three children, seven grandchildren, twenty great grandchildren and five great-great grandchildren.

Viewing will be Friday, April 10, 2015 from 10:00 – 1:00 pm at Whitehurst-McNamara Funeral Chapel in Hanford, CA. Services are Monday, April 13, 2015 at 2 p.m. at the Hanford First Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington, Hanford, CA 93230.

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[437] Hanford Sentinel, February 11, 2015, page A2
[438] Hanford Sentinel, February 28, 2015, page 2A

Donations in her name may be made to the Hanford First Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington, Hanford, CA 93230 or Valley Christian Home, 511 E Malone, Hanford, Ca 93230 [439]

DARRELL HESTER

Darrell Hester entered into eternal rest on April 6, 2015. He attended schools in Wasco, Fresno, and Armona before graduating from Hanford High in 1958. He served in the US Army from 1959 to 1962, married Carole Fowler in 1963, and attended CSU Fresno, earning his Bachelor's Degree in 1967 and his Master's degree in 1975. During his career in the Tulare County Probation Department, he served as the Division Manager at Glenn Moran Juvenile Hall and Director of the Robert K. Meyer's Youth Center.

Born November 2, 1940, he was preceded in death by his parents, Marvin and Dorothy Hester. He is survived by Carole Hester, his wife of 51 years; two daughters, Lynnette Hester and Denise Pedersen; as well as his son-in-law, Allen Pedersen, and grandchildren, Sean and Alyssa Pedersen.

Celebration of Life Services will be held at 11:00 on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at Hanford First United Methodist Church, reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to CASA of Kings County at 101 N. Irwin St., Suite 208 Hanford, CA 93230. [440]

MILDRED GRACE DODGE

Mildred G. Dodge passed away at her home in the Remington on August 31, 2015 after a brief illness and short stay at the hospital. She narrowly missed celebrating her 95th birthday coming in October. We remember her fondly as a teacher who served the Hanford Elementary Schools for 20 years. The viewing will be Friday, September 11, from 8:30am to 12:30pm at People's Funeral Chapel .The graveside ceremony will follow the viewing on Friday 1:00pm at the Grangeville Cemetery. The memorial will be Saturday, September 12, at 10 am at the First United Methodist church where she was a lifetime member. The reception at the church will follow. Her two children, Patricia George and James Dodge, survive her. [441]

[439] Hanford Sentinel, April 10, 2015, page 2A
[440] Hanford Sentinel, April 16, 2015 page 2
[441] Hanford Sentinel, September 10, 2015, page 2

BETTY MIZNER - On October 2, 2015, Betty Jane McCaffrey Mizner went home to be with her Lord Jesus. Born on December 9, 1922, to William and Winifred McCaffery, in Alexandria, South Dakota, Betty spent the first 55 years of her life living in that small rural farming community. Betty graduated from the Alexandria High School and worked in the local dry goods store and Post Office. Betty had a wonderful singing voice and played the organ for her church. She was often requested to sing at local weddings and funerals. In 1952, Betty married Leo Theodore Mizner. From that time on, she became a homemaker. Betty and Leo had four children: Bill, Barb, and twin sons, Kevin and Keith.

In 1977, Leo and Betty moved to Hanford CA, where they managed the Lerner Oil gas station on Grangeville Blvd and later became the Lord's housekeepers at the First United Methodist Church. In the later years of her life, she attended Hanford First Baptist Church. Betty was always known for her quick wit and love of a good joke, her love for Christian mystery novels, crossword puzzles and Scrabble, and her baking skills, particularly her wonderful pies. Her pies were always a favorite at church functions and family gatherings. Betty truly loved the Lord and was a good friend indeed, a wonderful mother and grandmother. There was always room at her table and room in her heart.

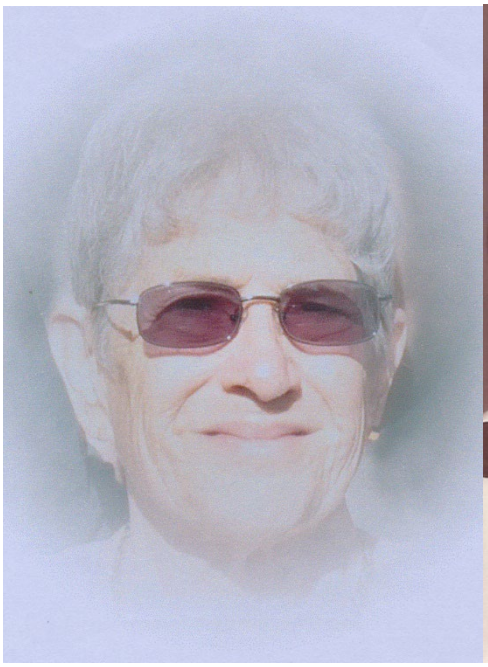
She was preceded in death by her husband Leo, and her brothers Art and Robert. She is survived by her step-children, Shirley (George) Mowry of Presho, South Dakota, Berne Thury (Jack Schnieder) of Bloomington, Minn, and Gene (Marina) Mizner of Caldwell, Idaho, her children Bill (Kathy) Mizner of Norfolk Nebraska, Barb (Russ) Curry of Hanford, CA, Kevin (Sharon) Mizner of Tulare, CA and Keith Mizner of Fresno, and 23 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

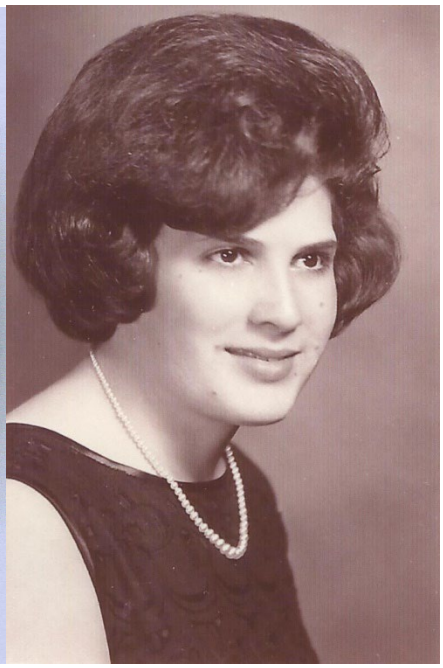
The celebration of her life well-lived will be on Saturday, October 24th, 2015, at 10:30 AM, at First Baptist Hanford, located at 13½ Avenue and Grangeville Blvd. Immediately following the service, lunch and family-made pies will be served in her memory. In lieu of flowers, remembrances can be made to the First United Methodist Church – Hanford or First Baptist-Hanford. [442]

ELEANOR FULLER - Born December 21, 1921, died January 2016, age 94. Address: 1931 N Douty St, Hanford, son Edward Fuller

[442] Hanford Sentinel, October 16, 2015

BONNIE HINKLE - Died 2016. Bonnie joined Hanford UMC by Certificate of Transfer from Methodist Church in Cheyenne, Wyoming on April 10, 1949. She is John Meadow's mother-in-law. She has five children: John, Crystal, Penny, Leroy, and Dorothy.





PENNY MEADOWS - Penny Lucille Meadows, 69, fondly remembered as friend, mother, Loving, full of dreams, forgiving, understanding, never judging, and always seeing the good in others; passed away on April 13th in Hanford, Ca. Penny was predeceased by her mother Bonnie Hinkle; father Walter Meadows; dad Vernon Hinkle, infant sister Sandra Meadows; and bother Leroy Hinkle. Penny leaves her loving memories to be cherished by her husband John Meadows, two sons Sean Meadows and Peter Meadows, sisters Crystal Hodby and Dorothy Metz, and brother John Hinkle. A memorial service will be held on Friday, April 29, 2016 at 1:30 pm at the first United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington St., Hanford, CA 93230 [443]

MARIE WILES Died August 2016, age 94, in Kingsburg. Born March 17, 1922. Joined Hanford UMC by Certificate of Transfer on May 20, 1962 from Tulare Methodist Church. Marie was the church treasurer in 1997-1999.

> *Marie trained Peggy Gregory on bookkeeping required for the church financial records. – Jim Gregory*

[443] Hanford Sentinel, April 23, 2016

***K*ATHLEEN WILSON**

Kathleen Jean Wilson 74 of Hanford, California joined her Savior November 24, 2016. She was born in Fort Madison, Iowa to William Earnest Miller and Linda Vada Wilson (both deceased) August 18, 1942. Married May 3, 1965 to Clarence LeRoy Wilson (Roy) and widowed in 1981. Kathleen is survived by her companion Bob Ramos of Hanford, daughter Lea Kathleen Haga of Oregon, son James LeRoy Wilson of Hanford, son Alan Eugene Wilson of Hanford, daughter Shawna Lynn Wilson of Washington, daughter Ashlee Renee Kathleen Wilson of Hanford, 9 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson. She lost her sister Lavirda Brown in 1993 but is survived by her brother William (Bill) Miller of Texas and several cousins. Kathleen was a graduate of College of the Sequoias where she earned an AA degree. She became a pioneer for women in Real-Estate and earned an award for Top Sales in Kings County in 1976, while associated with Smith and Dority Reality. She later worked for the Department of Defense an N.A.S Lemoore. In 1999 she adopted 2 daughters Ashley age 2 and Shawna age 4 and reared them to adulthood. She was formally an active member in The Eastern Star and a member of the choir at the First United Methodist Church of Hanford. She spent her summers and Christmas' in Oregon where she attended the Unity Church of Bandon. In years past, when possible she attended Relay for Life activities and gave of her time to The Salvation Army during the Thanksgiving celebration. Kathleen had a 13 year fight with ovarian cancer and while in the presence of her family went peacefully to her heavenly home. A Memorial will be held December 15, 2016 at 1:00 pm at The First United Methodist Church. [444]

Kathleen Jean Wilson was born on August 18, 1942 in Iowa. She entered into eternal rest on November 24, 2016 in Hanford, Ca.[445]

[444] Hanford Sentinel, December 10, 2016
[445] Hanford Sentinel, December 1, 2016, pg B2

ETHEL FUNCHESS - Ethel Elizabeth Funchess, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A.C. Jamison passed away on December 30, 2017 in Hanford, CA. Ethel was born on July 2, 1919 in Davenport, Iowa. She joined the Hanford UMC on March 29, 1953 by Confession of Faith. Ethel was preceded in death by her husband Jack Funchess and son-in-law George Carroll. She is survived by her three children; Gary Funchess and wife Pam of Hanford, CA, Sharon Carroll of Bend, Oregon and Mark Funchess and wife Tammy of Bend, Oregon. She also leaves behind 8 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. Ethel belonged to the Beta Sigma Phi sorority for 60 plus years and the Red Hats. She especially enjoyed making miniature doll houses; some taking years to complete. Ethel was known for her giving and caring personality and will be greatly missed by family and friends. Ethel loved to travel and made trips around the world with family and friends. In lieu of flowers please send a donation to your favorite charity. A Celebration of Ethel's life will be held on Saturday, January 6th at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington St., Hanford, CA 93230 [446]

Ethel was a Special Ed teacher at John Muir School in Corcoran – Bob Geisler

Gary Funchess owned Hanford Rug on Grangeville Blvd. – Jim Gregory

[446] Hanford Sentinel, January 4, 2018, page B2

ONDAY, APRIL 12, 1937

Funeral Rites Held For Victim Of Kings Crash

HANFORD (Kings Co.), April 12.—Funeral services were held in the Peoples Funeral Chapel this afternoon for Fred Funchess, 42, local piston ring manufacturer, who was killed Saturday morning in an automobile accident south of Lemoore. Rev. R. E. Cordell, pastor of the First Methodist Church, officiated. Interment was in the Hanford Cemetery.

Miss Margaret Evelyn Bay, 23, of Fresno, who was injured in the accident in which Funchess was killed, is in the Hanford Sanitarium.

An inquest will be held in the Phipps Undertaking Parlors at Lemoore Wednesday afternoon.

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LEW and ELLEN FRASIEUR - Ellen Louise Goodykoontz was born in Twin Falls, Idaho on May 21, 1927. Cecil Lewis Frasieur was born in Oakland, Ca, on December 24, 1924. Mom died on March 3, 2007 and Dad died on May 14, 2012. [448] Two children, Jeff Frasieur and Caralee Frasieur Stevens.

Church record shows Lew and Ellen dropped their membership at Hanford UMC during the ministry of Bill Birdsey, without a date in the record. However, the couple continued to be a part of the church life. Once a year, Lew could be counted on to fill the pulpit during a pastor's absence and give a presentation on Gideon's International Bible outreach.

[447] Hanford Sentinel, April 12, 1937. Fred is Ethel's father-in-law. This is a reflection of multi-generational families with church membership. A piston ring manufacturer is an occupation not seen for some time.
[448] Email from their son, Jeff Frasieur on April 1, 2019

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JULISSA ZAVALA, THE SENTINEL

Caralee Stevens, Jeff Frasieur and Jeane Amos chat in the kitchen of the Frasieur Home, a new sober living residence run by Champions treatment agency.

Frasieur Home, a vision fulfilled

New sober residence finished for Hannah's House graduates

JULISSA ZAVALA
Staff Reporter

HANFORD —When Cecil Lewis "Lew" Frasieur and Ellen Frasieur celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1999, they received a photo album; and in the back of that photo album were numerous letters thanking the Frasieurs for their kindness over the years.

The Frasieurs had lived in a home that sits on the corner of Redington and Keith streets since the summer of 1967. When the couple's three children grew up and moved out of the house, they rented the rooms out to anyone who needed a place to stay — for only $50 a month.

The Frasieurs helped so many people, not even they could remember the names of all the people they took in, son Jeff Frasieur said.

After they both died, their children, Forest Frasieur, Jeff Frasieur and Caralee Stevens contacted Champions about taking over the house to be used as a sober residence for Hannah's House women and their children.

The Frasieur children wanted the house — which sits right next door to Hannah's House — to be kept for the original purpose that their parents lived by: which was community giving and community mindedness

The new sober residence, aptly named the Frasieur Home, had a grand opening Monday and is nothing short of an homage to the type of people the Frasieurs were.

"This is really what my mother and father would have loved to have done with the house,"

Please see HOME, Page A8

JULISSA ZAVALA PHOTOS, THE SENTINEL

The Frasieur Home, a new sober living residence run by Champions treatment agency, had its grand opening on Monday.

Members of Champions treatment agency, Hanford Chamber of Commerce and Soroptimist International of Hanford cut a ribbon during the grand opening of the Frasieur Home.

Home

From A1

Stevens said.

It's been around 10 years since the Frasieurs advocated on behalf of bringing residential treatment program Hannah's House into the Hanford community. Jeff Frasieur said when there were complaints from residents about the kind of women that would be living in Hannah's House, his father went to a public city meeting and said he didn't have any problem at all with the women moving into the neighborhood.

Crystal Hernandez, executive director of Champions, previously told the Sentinel places like Hannah's House — which provides substance abuse treatment, counseling and education to women — are not always welcomed into a community, so the Frasieur's help was instrumental in getting the residence opened.

Hannah's House houses around 20 women, whose length of stay depends on the level of the individual client's needs. The Frasieur Home will be a sober living residence for five graduates at a time from Hannah's House before they find a permanent home.

Hernandez said the home will give clients a cushion between treatment and finding a permanent home. While at the home, the women will continue to volunteer in the community, participate in alumni functions with Champion's, and most of all, stay connected with the support system they created while at Hannah's House.

While at the Frasieur Home, clients can look for jobs and begin looking for their own apartments for themselves and their families when they are ready to move to the next step in their lives. They will also get to continue outpatient treatment with Champions.

Different organizations and individuals came together and sponsored rooms and decorated them differently and uniquely. Hernandez said bringing in community sponsors gives the women a sense of being embraced and supported by the community.

Visitors take a tour of the Frasieur Home, a new sober living residence run by Champions treatment agency.

"Everything in this house has been donated," Hernandez said, adding many of the donors set up the furniture and decorated the rooms themselves. "There are just a lot of little touches that they put into this to really make it personal."

The house was completely remodeled, though many of the structure's original features, like cabinets and windows, remain the same. Jeff Frasieur and Stevens were amazed at the home's transformation, calling it "absolutely beautiful."

"I really love what they've done with it," Stevens said.

"This is perfect for their house," Jeff Frasieur said.

Hernandez said there are just a few more finishing touches left, but for the most part, the home is ready.

She said the home's first resident, a graduate from Hannah's House, will be moving into the home with her children in the next couple weeks. She said other women at Hannah's House are excited about the future because they know there will be someplace for them to go after they graduate.

In addition to Hannah's House, Champions operates Samuel's House, the Rylie Brennen Home and Amanda's Home, which are all residential treatment programs that cater to specific populations.

The reporter can be reached at 583-2423 or jzavala@hanfordsentinel.com

Hanford Sentinel, January 17, 2018

JIM TAYLOR - James M. Taylor was born in New Jersey on July 25, 1914. He passed away in Hanford, CA on December 20, 2017 at the age of 103. When Jim was about 6 years old, his father decided to move West, so Jim and his dad rode the train across country to Coalinga. An uncle helped his dad get a job with Standard Oil Co., which provided them with a very basic home on the oil lease. Jim's mother and sister then followed them out. A brother and another sister were then born in Coalinga, completing the family. Jim's summers in Coalinga were filled with many adventures, roaming the hills with his best friend Roger. Often they would be gone all day long. After Jim finished high school, his mother drove him to Los Angeles, where he began trade school as a printer and found 'piece work' wherever he could. While living in a boarding house, he met Lela Carlbom, a cute registered nurse from Colorado who had moved to Los Angeles to care for an ailing sister. They were married in 1937, a marriage lasting more than 71 years. At the outbreak WWWII, Jim was directed to 'war work' making aircraft parts at Garrett Air Research near the Los Angeles Airport. By the time he retired in 1977, he had advanced from a drill press operator to Director of Manufacturing Services, supervising over 200 employees. During those years he and Lela were responsible for most of the upbringing of their grandson Dale. Soon after his retirement, Jim and Lela moved to Hanford in order to be closer to their daughter Jan, son-in-law Bob Junell, and tier two children. Jim loved his grandchildren, and they adored him. They spent many precious hours and days sharing each others' lives. Jim was a Past Master in the Masonic Lodge in Los Angeles. After moving to Hanford he became active in the United Methodist Church, serving on most all leadership committees. For many years, he and his buddies of the 'over the hill gang' did most of the maintenance at the church. Jim also enjoyed serving on the Kings County grand Jury for two terms. Jim and Lela enjoyed traveling to Europe, Africa, the Caribbean, and Hawaii, and they did a grand travel trailer trip across the United States with Lela's brother and wife. One of their most memorable trips was a trip early on to Alaska while Bob and Jan were living there. That trip included camping in Denali National Park. Jim was an avid reader of h history, biographies, and nature. He was very interested in geology and collected rocks wherever he went. He was analytical and excellent

with mechanical things, and cold fix just about anything that was fixable. While living at the Remington Retirement Community Jim became involved with the Remington Ramblers writing group, and had many of his life's short stories published in the Hanford Sentinel. He had quite a local following. He was sharp witted and a good conversationalist, and had a great sense of humor right to the end. He was methodical, practical, polite, and always appreciative of any care or attention. He made caring for him a joy, and he was, in the opinion of many, an 'old school gentleman.' Jim was preceded in death by his wife Lela; brother Ashworth Taylor; sister Harriett Buell; daughter Kathy Murphree; grandson Gregory Junell; and granddaughter Leanne Junell Nishida. He is survived by his sister Mary Emerich of Southern California daughter Janis Taylor Junell and husband Bob of Hanford; grandson Dale Harmon and wife Jill of Ft. Smith, AK; grandson-in-law Phil Nishida of Fresno; and several generations of nieces and nephews. The family would like to thank Erin Alvidrez of Valley Christian Home and her most dedicated and caring staff for making Jim's last years as enjoyable as possible. He appreciated them so much. Also thanks to nurse Jennifer and Optimal Hospice Care, as well and to Dr. Jay Kerr for his many years of professional and personal care. A Celebration of Life will be held at the First United Methodist Church on January 20, 2018, at 11:00 AM with a reception following in Founders Hall. In lieu of flowers remembrances may be sent to: First United Methodist Church of Hanford, 505 N. Redington St., Valley Christian Home, 511 E. Malone St., or to a charity of the donor's choice. [449]

VERNE ADAMS - Verne Alton Adams was born to Alton and Maisie Adams October 17, 1933 and passed away November 18, 2018 peacefully with family by his side. He was received in the Hanford First United Methodist Church by Certificate of Transfer on April 13, 1977 from First United Methodist Church of Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania. Verne was a humble servant to church, community, and friends. He was an old dairy farmer at heart and loved talking cows. Verne grew up in Bedford, Massachusetts and attended Lexington High School. He spent time at Cushing academy where he played hockey and then went on to University of Massachusetts.

[449] Hanford Sentinel, January 12, 2018 pg B2

He lettered in football while playing for the Minutemen. While attending UMass, Verne entered the ROTC program and after graduating was a tank squadron commander in the US Army stationed in Germany during the Korean War. Upon returning from the Army, Verne finished his studies at the University of Connecticut receiving a Master's Degree in Animal Husbandry. After College, Verne moved to Brattleboro, Vermont in 1956 to manage the family diary while teaching agriculture at the local high school. This is where he met Pauline Rivers and they were married in 1958. Soon after Verne sold the family farm and started his long career in dairy genetics. Verne moved around between Massachusetts and Pennsylvania spending many long hours on the road breeding cows, all the while raising a family. In 1975 he had the opportunity to move the family west from Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania to Hanford, California to work for Bill Clark and World Wide Sires as the Marketing Director of Sales. He absolutely loved his job and was able to see many parts of the world in his business travels. Verne was an active member of the First United Methodist Church in Hanford for over 40 years. He was also very involved with the Lions Club in Hanford. Verne was truly part of the greatest generation as he served his community in many ways. One of his favorite things to do was hunt white tail deer with his brother John and cousin Bill Betterley. He also enjoyed fishing and going anywhere in the Sierra Nevada's. He always had a big smile on his face when he was around his grandchildren John, Brian, Trent, Reid, Jamie, and Alycia. Verne was and avid Boston Red Sox fan and would always find time to catch a game when they were in California. He was lucky enough to see them win another World Series in October. Verne is survived by his wife of 60 years Pauline Adams and his three sons, Brian (Teresa) Adams of Bakersfield, Bill (Chris) Adams of Visalia, and Jeff (Kris) Adams from Tustin, along with six grandchildren and his brother John Adams from Erie, Pennsylvania. He was preceded in death by his sister Jane Mack in 2014. The family would like to thank the staff at Valley Christian Home, Delta Nursing and Rehabilitation, and Optimal Hospice. All of these folks treated Verne with great care, dignity and respect. A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, November 30, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at First United Methodist Church; 505 N Redington St., Hanford, CA 93230. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the First United Methodist Church of Hanford to honor this great man. [450]

Verne and Polly Adams raised three sons in Hanford. Verne worked as a manager for World Wide Sires and its owner Bill Clark. He made several international trips carrying bull semen to sire better herds abroad. Verne came to Hanford from a dairy background in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. He served one tour in the US Army at the end of WW II and during the ensuing occupation. Verne was sponsored into the Hanford Breakfast Lions Club by Walt Russell in January of 1978, so as of January this year he had completed 40 years as a Lion and earned the 40-year chevron. Verne had 100% attendance for 25 of those 40 years. He served the club as president in 1983-84, and the very next year was the Zone Chair. In 86 through 88 he was the editor of this Eye-Opener. In 1997 he was elected First Vice-President, but after less than one month, the president resigned and Verne found himself serving as President a second time in the 97-98 year. He also served as Director, Membership Director, Tail Twister, and Treasurer. Verne chaired several major club projects, including the project to buy the City of Hanford pool cover for the Plunge on Lacey Blvd., so seniors could exercise in a heated pool in the off-season months. He was also White Cane chair, rummage sale chair four times, Fair Booth co-chair, and for many years the program chair, arranging and scheduling interesting speakers for lions Club meetings. Lion Verne became a Melvin Jones Fellow in January 1995. Lion Verne sponsored Rev. Bill

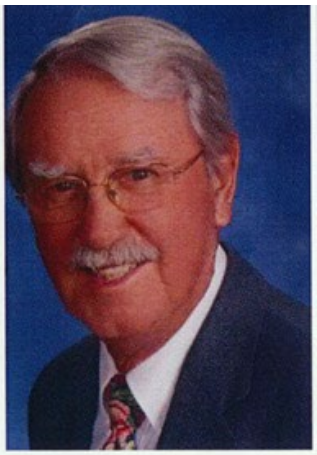
[450] Hanford Sentinel, November 24, 2018, page B2

Birdsey into the Lions Club in 1984; He sponsored Irene Mendes and Jim McWay in 1994 and Claudia Walthing in 2013. He sponsored Alice Stevenson, who was a cousin of his, and also a professional artist after whom our Peace Poster cash awards are named, in 2002. In 2014, Lion Verne sponsored optometrist Dr. Aakash Shaw. [451]

ROBERT EUGENE MARCELLUS - Robert Marcellus was born in Hanford, CA on May 14, 1929 to Fred and Grace Marcellus, joining his sister, Dorothy. Died March 26, 2019. He graduated from Hanford High School in 1947. He att3ended Fresno State where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Art, as well as his teaching credential. Bob began his teaching career in Modesto prior to returning to Hanford teaching Industrial Arts with his father for 10 years. During this time, between teaching and raising his three boys, Andy, Scott and Dion, he pursued his Master's Degree successfully completing it in 1965. Bob was always an artist and sculptor and it was through his are work that he was recognized and offeree a position within the Art Department at College of Sequoias in Visalia. Bob taught at College of Sequoias for more than 30 years. He retired in 1990 and was inducted into the College of Sequoias Hall of Fame for his o outstanding achievement and d3edication to the Arts. During his time teaching in Hanford and college of Sequoias, he started Marcellus Displays. He worked designing and completing window displays for local Hanford businesses. He also designed and built displays for not only Kings County but also Tulare, Stanislaus and Kern County for the California Exposition and State Fair in Sacramento. He held the position of Show Coordinator and Designer for a number of years. In 1980, bob married Sallie Goldenstein and two families were blended. Bob and Sallie, both actively involved in the Arts were instrumental in establishing the Bastille Gallery, the Courthouse Gallery and the Kings Art Center. Bob was Director/Curator of the Kings Art Center for nearly 20 years. They both taught classes, took excursions to California galleries and encouraged the community to embrace the Arts as much as they did. They spent many days during retirement traveling throughout the United States. Bob was fortunate to be able to intertwine his appreciation for the outdoors with his love of teaching and art. Bob had a definitive love of nature. He started with his parents and their gold mine in Trinity County in the 1940's. His passion for sharing his love of art with others was exemplified in his summer art classes he hosted in Kings Canyon, Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks. He was an avid hiker, camper, fisherman and skier, even teaching skiing in Squaw Valley for multiple winters. He backpacked with family and friends with his greatest accomplishments being climbing both Half Dome and Mt. Whitney. His acquisition of golf came after retirement and he spent many days "paring the course." Bob is survived by his wife, Sallie; son, Scott, and his family Nancy, Christopher and Leta Marcellus; son, Kim, and his family Kimberly, Corey and Cassy Goldenstein; daughter Leslie Orradre, and family Peter Orradre, Courtney and Sydney Crawford; and daughter-in-law Sue Goldenstein and family, Maggie and Emily Goldenstein. He was preceded in death by sons Andy and Dion Marcellus and Reid Goldenstein. [452]

[451] The Eye-Opener, Official Bulletin of the Hanford Breakfast Lions Club, 21 November 2018
[452] https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/hanford-ca/robert-marcellus-8230181

Remembering Robert Marcellus, Founding Director



Bob Marcellus graduated from Hanford High School in 1947. He attended Fresno State where he earned his Bachelor's degree in Art, as well as his teaching credential. Bob began his teaching career in Modesto prior to returning to Hanford, teaching Industrial Arts for 10 years. Later, Bob taught at College of Sequoias for more than 30 years. He retired in 1990 and was inducted into the College of Sequoias Hall of Fame for his outstanding achievement and dedication to the Arts.

Robert Marcellus had a vision to provide a place where artists and art enthusiast could call home - a place to not only appreciate art, but also learn and grow as an artist. With the tireless partnership of other like-minded visionary founders like Dr. Lloyd Christensen, William Banister, and Sidney J.W. Sharp Jr., Bob saw that vision become a reality. Now almost 30 years later, the Kings Art Center remains a place for people of all ages to exhibit and experience art. We are committed to continue honoring the legacy that these founders established from the ground up.

Robert Marcellus was not only a founder of the Kings Art Center, he was the Executive Director and Curator of the organization for nearly 20 years, he was an art teacher and connoisseur. A skilled sculptor and wood craftsman, he was most known for his watercolors. His vibrant works brought to life his love for nature.

A great loss to our community, Robert passed away at the age of 89 on March 26, 2019. The community feels the loss of this innovator, artist, teacher, and leader. In honor of Bob's invaluable impact and leadership in our community, our main gallery continues to bear the name, Marcellus Gallery. This gallery hosts exhibits by local and regional artisans, continuing the powerful impact of this luminary Art Center Founder.

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[453] Kings Art Center Newsletter, December 6, 2019

JOSEPHINE AUSTIN McKEE – April 27, 1917 – April 28, 2020. Age: 103. Church membership, along with her parents, was transferred from Grangeville Methodist Episcopal Church in 1934 by Certificate of Transfer. Josephine Austin McKee passed away on April 28, 2020, in Hanford California, one day after her 103rd birthday. She was born on April 27, 1917, in Rural Retreat, Virginia, to Joe and Ethel DeBoe. The family relocated to Lemoore and then Hanford when she was 11 years old. She is a graduate of Hanford High School and Visalia Junior College, where she graduated with honors. She worked for the Edison Company in Visalia before she married her husband C.J. (Joe) McKee in 1938. At the time, Mr. McKee was employed in the bridge department of the State Division of Highways and they traveled up and down the state, staying in each place for about 3 months until the particular bridge job he was working on was completed. In 1947, they settled in Hanford, where Mr. McKee began working for Kings County in the Surveyor's Office, eventually opening up his own Civil Engineering business in 1950. He was joined in partnership by John Zumwalt in 1973, and the firm was renamed McKee, Zumwalt and Associates. Josephine worked at the firm in a secretarial bookkeeping type position until her husband retired in 1978. Josephine was a member of Delta Theta Tau Sorority and a few bridge groups, where she quite regularly won. She and her husband enjoyed playing golf a Kings Country Club, and she continued playing with her friends after her husband passed away in 1984. She loved her children and grandchildren and always wanted to make sure they were all doing well. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and her brother, Jake W. DeBoe. She is survived by her three daughters, Linda Habel of Kings Mountain, North Carolina, Susan (John) Henderson of Clovis and Judith (Bill) DeRaad of Hanford. She is also survived by a niece, nephew, 5 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Private graveside services will be held at Grangeville Cemetery where she will be buried beside her husband. Services by People's Funeral Chapel. [454]

[454] Hanford Sentinel, May 2, 2020

Jan used to play bridge with Josephine – Bob Junell

COLLEEN SIMMS

JAN McDOUGALL CREELMAN - Born April 1, 1948, baptized March 18, 1951, Methodist church member February 19, 1961, church membership was restored September 19, 1980. Died July 25, 2020 in Kaweah District Hospital in Visalia. Children: John Michael and Shawn, who were baptized at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, Long Beach, CA

Find-A-Grave Memorial Number

JANET KEISLAR – The Memorial Service for Janet Louise Keislar (1925-2021) is set for 4:00 pm. Saturday, October 2, 2021, at the First United Methodist Church, 505 North Redington Street, Hanford, CA 93230. A reception in the Prayer Garden will follow the service.[455] Janet was born June 15, 1925 and married Evan Keislar June 16, 1948.

[455] Hanford Sentinel, September 25, 2021

JAN JUNELL - Janis Taylor was born February 10, 1942 and baptized March 1954. She was received at Hanford UMC on June 5, 1966 by transfer of membership from First Methodist Church of Anchorage, Alaska. Janis Junell left her earthly home Friday morning December 11, 2020 after a battle with Alzheimer's disease complicated by Covid-19. Jan was born in Los Angeles, California, February 10, 1942, to James and Lela Taylor. She attended Santa Monica College for two years and then was accepted at the University of Southern California where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene. It was at USC that she met senior dental student Bob Junell. In 1963 after a brief courtship, and in the space of 10 days, Jan graduated, was married, took her California state board exams and flew off to Anchorage, Alaska, to join Bob serving in the United States Air Force. In 1965 Jan and Bob relocated to Hanford, California, and together established a successful dental practice. She worked full and part time depending on the needs of their family. A son Gregory was born in 1968 and a daughter Leanne in 1970. Jan was an active member of the First United Methodist Church and sang in the choir. She supported the YMCA, serving on its Board of Trustees for many years. She served as CEO and also as its Executive Director for a brief period of time. She was recognized as YMCA Volunteer of the Decade in 2011. Jan was a member of the Hanford Garden Club, the Grandslammers and other bridge groups. Bob and Jan enjoyed the family travels in their 5th wheel trailer and by airplane covering the western one half of the US over the years. The family enjoyed 49 years of summers at Huntington Lake hiking, sailing and visiting with their mountain family friends. Jan was preceded in death by her parents Jim and Lela Taylor, her sister Kathy Murphree, son Gregory Robert Junell and daughter Leanne Junell Nishida. She is survived by her husband of 57 years Bob, son-in-law Philip Nishida of Fresno, nephew Dale (Jill) Harmon of Fort Smith, Arkansas, sister-in-law Carol Donnel of North Carolina, brother-in law Toby (Sharon) Junell of Hanford and numerous cousins and in-laws. The family would like to give special thanks to LVNs Angela and Jacqueline and their compassionate staff at Quail Park Memory Care of Visalia and to RN Cheryl and the team at Kaweah Delta Hospice. Plans for a memorial service for Jan are pending at this time. Remembrances may be sent to The First United Methodist Church of Hanford, Childrens Storybook Garden and Museum in Hanford, Quail Park Memory Care of Visalia or the donor's favorite charity. [456] Memorial service was held September 18, 2021 at Hanford Presbyterian Church.

JOSEPH CASTANON – Died January 8, 2021 in Veterans Hospital in Fresno. Wife Diana and two children.

First UMC of Hanford offers its deepest condolences to the Castanon family in this time of grief and loss. At this time, we come together in Christian community to surround the family and to honor the life of Joseph. We give thanks to God for their life and our hope of resurrection.
"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14: 27)

- Public viewing will be held Thursday, January 21 from 4 to 7pm at the Phipps-Dale Funeral Chapel, Lemoore. Address: 420 W D St, Lemoore, CA 93245 (Masks are required during viewing)

[456] Hanford Sentinel, December 20, 2020

- Graveside service will be held Thursday, January 28 at 2pm at the Lemoore Cemetery. 1441 N. Lemoore Ave. Lemoore, CA 93245

We are saddened, yet we rejoice that he is pain-free in the presence of Almighty God. Joseph has received the ultimate reward as a Christian. Our continued prayers will be with the family in the days ahead. May God's grace be sufficient.[457]

PATRICIA GEORGE - July 12, 1944 – July 10, 2021 - Patricia Ann George (Dodge), 76, passed away at her home in Hanford on July 10th, 2021 a couple of days short of her 77th birthday. Patricia was born to Jan and Mildred Dodge on July 12th, 1944 in Haven, Kansas. Patricia is survived by her immediate family, her brother James Dodge, many friends and her beloved cat, Blossom. The family would like to especially acknowledge and thank Peggy Gregory, Daisy Montijo and Scott Rhea for their care and support before and during her illness. Patricia was the drum majorette for the Woodrow Wilson JR High and Hanford High School Bands. Many people in the community will remember Pat, statuesque and beautiful, with baton twirling, leading the band onto the field during halftime at football games. Pat was also a part of the AAU swim team in High School. At the age of 12, Patricia moved with her family from Haven, Kansas to Hanford, where she attended Woodrow Wilson Jr. High. From an early age Patricia demonstrated her talent for art and music. She played the piano, oboe and cello. She painted in oil and watercolor and created beautiful and unique pieces in clay. Throughout her Jr and Senior High School years she won many prizes for her paintings. She was awarded first chair placements and awards for her piano and oboe performances during numerous music festivals. She was also on the swim team. Patricia also enjoyed and wrote short stories and poems, some of which were published. Patricia truly had the gift of creating beauty through her art, music and writing. Patricia, also, was an early advocate for women in student government. In 1957 she ran for student body president at Woodrow Wilson. Her campaign speed included the need for a change of president from boy to girl. Although the boys mounted a might effort to retain the presidency, Pat swept the field. On August 11th, 1964, Patricia married Raymond George. They lived in Fresno while Patricia completed her degree in music from Fresno State College. Later she and Ray moved to Colorado where Pat taught elementary school. During the mid-nineties, Pat returned to live in Hanford. She worked at Hanford High School as the piano accompanist for the choir between 1995 to 2015. Patricia worked closely with Aaron Mosley who was the choir director during that time. Her high school students will remember Patricia not just for her music, but as a trusted confidant and beloved mentor. For 27 years, Patricia was the piano accompanist for First United Methodist Church children and adult choir. Now this beautiful and accomplished woman has joined the Seraphim, but during her life on earth, she so enriched the lives of those who knew and loved her. A memorial service for Patricia will be held at 11:00 AM, on Sunday, July 25th, at the First United Methodist Church, 505 N. Redington Street, Hanford, California. [458]

Patricia was received by Confession of Faith to Hanford Methodist Church from the Methodist Church of Haven, Kansas on April 21, 1957. She graduated from Hanford High School with the class of 1962. Pat was an excellent musician and very faithful to being a part of the church worship service. Pat was the church pianist from 1997 to 2020. During those 23 years, she seldom missed a Thursday evening choir practice or a Sunday worship service. Per her wishes, Pat was cremated

[457] Email from Pastor Pablo Roviere January 15, 2021
[458] Obituary published Hanford Sentinel July 21, 2021.

under the Neptune Society and her ashes were spread at sea. Pat is survived by her brother, James Jay Dodge, of West Linn, Oregon.

ROYAL WALTZ

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS: Thanks for the remembrance

By Jim Marvin, Lemoore, published Santa Maria Times, September 30, 2021

The outstanding coverage of the memorial ceremonies for Pfc Royal Waltz, published this week, were, well, outstanding. The reporter/photographer Donald Promnitz, captured the fallen Marine's life and death story with the dignity many veterans of America's wars don't get. Speaking as a retired Marine, and a current member of the USMC Kings County League, I pray many boosters of America, unable to attend the service at the Hanford Methodist Church followed by the burial at Grangeville Cemetery, will remember to remember the love shown. The dress blues of the United States Marine Corps burial detachment sparkled as the men guarded his flag-draped casket the way Waltz may have helped comrades on their way home from war. The Marines, many no older than Waltz when he was killed at Tarawa, sat and stood at attention in the historic church, in respectful duty. During the church service officiated by Pastor Pablo Rovere, the photo display showed Waltz's life from a Sunday and elementary school youth to the times he posed, rigid and proud, as a Marine going to his final war. The photos of the 1920s and 1930s displayed showed his family and friends – close together- much as today's family and friends were together, as descendants of those in the Kodak pictures. After the church service, the respect was shown by various fire companies, Kings County Sheriff's Department, Hanford police, veterans organizations and citizens with their final salute as the procession rolled to the flag-covered cemetery for his burial. Pfc Royal Waltz, a local boy, paid the supreme price for our freedom in one of the most fearsome battles of World War II. And although it took many years, and the efforts of many people, young Royal fulfilled America's military promise to "never leave anyone behind." The family members and the rest of us at the memorials will remember Pfc Royal Waltz as a combat Marine, a symbol of freedom, and as a Hanford/Lemoore boy who wasn't left behind. He came home.

Find-A-Grave Memorial ID

Jim Gregory photo

Newspaper articles on the homecoming of Royal Waltz:

1. Fresno Bee, September 26, 2021, page A1
2. Fresno Bee, September 29, 2021, page A1
3. Hanford Sentinel, September 30, 2021, page A3, A4
4. Visalia Times-Delta, September 28, 2021, page A3
5. Hanford Sentinel, September 28, 2021, page A1
6. Hanford Sentinel, September 15, 2021 Page A1, A2

Four television stations also covered the service.

Marilyn Peden

Marilyn Peden, loving wife and mother, went home to be with the Lord on August 14, 2022. She was born May 28, 1928 to Forest and Gladys Speck in Hanford, CA. Marilyn joined Hanford Methodist Church by Confession of Faith on March 17, 1940. As a child she attended Hamilton Elementary followed by Hanford High School, class of '46. She went on to attend a year at COS where she was active in orchestra as a first chair violinist. She also had a job at Peterson Music Store where she met the love of her life, Robert Peden. They recently celebrated 73 years of marriage. In the course of the marriage, she found great joy in providing a home, loving care, and support for her family. Marilyn loved decorating her home and was proud to have been chosen as part of the Hanford Garden Club annual home tour. She was a good seamstress and made clothing for the family in addition to items for the home. Later she extended her artistry to include oil painting. She took art lessons at the old Van Strickland building and proudly displayed her works throughout the home. For recreation, she was a member of the Kings County Club. After a round of golf she enjoyed socializing with her friends. She was also a member of the Delta Theta Tau Sorority. Marilyn was a member of the United Methodist Church for 72 years. She was recently recognized by the church as the eldest member. She spent many years singing with the choir and had a beautiful voice. Occasionally she contributed with a solo. Marilyn is survived by her husband, Robert Peden. They had 3 children, Candy, Craig, and Chris, 9 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, and 7 great-great grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at United Methodist Church, 505 N Redington, at 11 a.m. on Thursday August 25. Friends and family are welcome to join the family in the church social hall for refreshments after the service.[459]

[459] Hanford Sentinel, August 20, 2022

Bob Geissler- Died December 24, 2022 at home in Corcoran. Born in Hanford on January 31, 1931, Robert Geissler went to local elementary schools and graduated from Hanford High School in 1950. He joined the Army in 1950 and was deployed to Korea in 1951. After a year in Korea, Geissler came back to the United States before he was discharged in 1953. He finished his three years of military service at Fort Sill Artillery in Oklahoma where he served as an instructor. He returned to Hanford and resumed his job with Branch and Chambers until he returned to college to become an industrial arts teacher. Geissler earned a bachelor's degree in Industrial Art from California State University, Fresno in 1955. He also had a special secondary credential in all the areas of shop class. Geissler's first teaching job took him to Baldwin Park in Southern California where he taught machine shop and metal shop. He returned to the Central Valley and attended CSUF to take courses in all the areas of industrial art he taught. When he first started teaching welding in 1956, Geissler said there were 16 ways to weld. "Now there are over 300 ways." "In order to teach, you have to keep up to date," Geissler said of continuing education to keep up with the latest in his field. He also taught woodwork, metalwork, and auto mechanics in Lindsay, and served as a part-time lay pastor at Laton Methodist Church for three years. Geissler moved to Corcoran in 1966 and started working for the Corcoran Unified School District as a teacher at the junior high school level. Bob and Pollie met in 1971 when both were part of the Methodist Church's choir. They were married two years later. "She is a very wonderful lady," he said of his wife. Geissler was in the field of education for 33 years and taught in Corcoran for 24 years before retiring in 1990. He also worked for Del Monte cannery in Kingsburg as a mechanic for 18 summers in between school years. Bob kept busy with church and other volunteer activities. He was a lay leader in church. He also was very active with the Corcoran Christmas Tree committee, PTA, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, summer camp Scout staff, YMCA volunteer, senior lunch program, and EED job fairs among other activities. He and his wife were honored as the Citizens of the Year in Corcoran in 1999 and that same year they were selected to represent Corcoran as Area King and Queen for the 1999 Kings County Homecoming. Geissler served as c commander with the Corcoran Legion Post 144. He was active with the Optimist Club in Corcoran and the California Retired Teachers Association. He also served as a board of directors for Fast Federal Credit Union for 30 years. He was a member of the Kings County Pomona Grange and Kings River Subordinate Grange. He was active in the Corcoran Christmas Parade and part of the Kings County Homecoming Committee and served as a distinguished lieutenant governor of Optimist Clubs in the area and past distinguished president in the club. Bob enjoyed making wooden toys and had his own wood shop at home, he also loved restoring his Ford Model T.

Bob was a regular participant in the activities of the Methodist Youth Fellowship in Hanford. He graduated from Hanford High School in 1950. He graduated from Fresno State College with a degree in Industrial Arts. July 1950, with a few other Hanford scouts, he participated in the Boy Scout National Jamboree in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. This was called the "greatest youth gathering in the history of the Western Hemisphere" where 47,000 scouts attended the jamboree. President Truman and General Eisenhower were speakers at the event. Bob spent more than 40 years as a member of the Kings River Grange, a farming fraternity. The Grange met at the former Kings River Methodist Church at the corner of 11th and Excelsior. Bob and Pollie were married in the Corcoran First United Methodist Church in September 1973. After 24 years of teaching at John Muir Middle School, Bob retired in 1990. Pollie commented that Bob was busier with projects after retirement. Bob is survived by his wife Polly, of Corcoran, his first wife Elizabeth Sterling and son Bill of Milan, Missouri, and daughter Betsy of Corcoran. The funeral was held at Corcoran Nazarene Church on January 11, 2023, led by Pastor Pablo Róvere of Hanford UMC. Burial was at Corcoran Cemetery with military honors.[460]

INDEX OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED ON BEFORE US

The gravesites identified can be found by going to the website: www.findagrave.com and inserting the memorial identification number. Jan Creelman, who went by the initials, JC, created most of the memorial sites of Methodist church members.

NAME	PAGE	CEMETERY	FIND-A-GRAVE #
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Alcorn, Helen L.	271	Hanford	62937447
Alcorn, D. Shannon	245	Hanford	62937228
Alcorn, David L.	308	Bakersfield	
Archer, Anna J.	230	Hanford	61080522
Bagar, Helen J.	212	Hanford	61084981
Bassett, Archie	212	Grangeville	79610739
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Bock, Ruth	262	Grangeville	61305734
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[460] February 2023 Methodist Church newsletter

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Cackler, Eva Clara	207	Hanford	63296176
Campbell, Hugh Wallace	203	Grangeville	68730747
Card, Jack	283	Arlington	49163579
Carter, Bert R.	214	Grangeville	63297918
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Crawford. Verla	206	Grangeville	62013999
Crawford, Wayne	215	Grangeville	62013730
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Davis, Louisa	264	Grangeville	82016591
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DeBoe, Ethel	205	Grangeville	
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Denham, Charles	206	Grangeville	62175986
Denham, Minnie	232	Grangeville	62175266
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DiMuccio, Virginia	226	Grangeville	63287667
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Dodge, Jay Q.	274	Grangeville	25212671
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Douma, Hilda Irene	310	Grangeville	138990396
Douma, Sadie B.	213	Grangeville	62458185
Douma, Tom J.	276	Grangeville	82057024

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Greene, Robert Ervin	284	Grangeville?	
Greene, Wilhelmina “Willie”	277	Grangeville ?	
Gregory, Marjorie A.	256	Sanger	58879294
Griswold, Alpheus	201	Grangeville	35673581
Griswold, Edward H.	260	Kings River	20359215
Griswold, Harold	272	Grangeville	35673632
Griswold, Lois	239	Grangeville	35673664
Griswold, Lyman	280	Grangeville	46440473
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Junell, Jan	328		234737829
Keislar, Evan Rollo	284		
Knauer, Ernie E.	243	San Jose	236646975
Knauer, Losy	211	San Jose	239409524
Kraft, Mildred J.	280	Hanford	65742939
Krumpe, Geraldine	268		
Krumpe, Thomas P. Sr.	278		
Lloyd, Clarence Larry	218		
Lloyd, Frances	238		
Lucas, Ruth	288	Conocuh, AL	82181818
MacAleese, Mable Belle	226	Coalinga	158682901
Marcellus, Fred A.	245	Grangeville	63597095

Marcellus, Grace L.	264	Grangeville	63597153
Marcellus, Leta B.	231		
Marcellus, Robert Eugene	324		
Marcum, Emily Alice	214	Grangeville	62452471
Martin, Jim	294		
Martin, Juanita Marie	307		
McBride, Eileen	255	Hanford	63519468
McCutchen, Robert	229	Grangeville	64097178
McCutchen, Wilma	259	Grangeville	64097216
McCutcheon, Gloria	205	Grangeville	138451174
McCutcheon, Jane	303	Grangeville	73825236
McCutcheon, O.D. “Mac”	219	Grangeville	63968720
McGinty, Barbara Jean	284	Oak Grove, Laton	79956691
McGinty, Monte M.	306	Oak Grove, Laton	
McKee, Joe	225		
McKee, Josephine Austin	326	Grangeville	209680404
Meadows, Penny	316		
Mizner, Betty	305	Grangeville	153515624
Mizner, Leo	300	Grangeville	46134316
Morrow, Grace	211	Grangeville	62988055
Nishida, Leanne Junell	271	Cremated	132391064
Noland, Raymond W.	258	Reedley	65577782
Peden, James S.	242	Fresno	242981400
Peden, Lois	299	Fresno	45451083
Peden, Marilyn	332	Cremated, Fresno	242874679
Pellissier, Ellen	257	Big Pine, Inyo Co	222835247
Petersen, Noland	303		
Pinney, Vera B.	208	Hanford	64968195
Powell, Jeanette Griswold	287		
Powell, Ralph W.	236	Grangeville	63971597
Rader, Fred	270		
Reinhard, Grace	223	Hanford	65279814
Reinhard, Gustav T.	199	Hanford	65386301
Sands, Mary Ann	248	Hanford	65778757
Sansom, Eula Bomar Upchurch	220		
Sarquis, Evelyn Marie (Neal)	312		
Scanlan, Juanita	215	Hanford	108645476
Schellinger, Alcye M.	215		
Schumacher, Gerald	290	Grangeville	76506599
Schumacher, Patricia	282	Grangeville	76506598
Schwarzenbach, Ruben	218	Grangeville	65087664
Scroggin, Hazel C.	278	Hanford	88171660

Scroggin, Jess B.	221	Hanford	70429878
Sequin, Dawn “Sky”	301		
Shaw, George	233	Grangeville	62549934
Shaw, Pearl	239	Grangeville	62459307
Simms, Colleen	327		
Smith, Elsie G.	208	Manteca	248322977
Speck, Gladys	228	Grangeville	63326715
Speck, M. Forest	227	Grangeville	63326525
Spitler, Grace M.	222	Selma	216977442
Spittler, Pearl Maude	213	Hanford	65793233
Steelman, Nancy Elizabeth	226		
Stevenson, Leborn	296		
Stone, Helen	254		
Stone, Samuel	250		
Taylor, Jim	321	Grangeville	57016412
Taylor, Lela	298	Grangeville	57016448
Thomasson, Dorothy M.	264		
Thomasson, George E.	238		
Thyarks, Abby	296	Grangeville	42396772
Thyarks, George	250	Grangeville	42396728
Tomlinson, Belle	218	Hanford	77688008
Tomkins, Lewis Austin “Terry”	302		
Tomkins, Roberta	282		
Tuck, Merle M.	268	Hanford	79950300
Tucker, Kenneth Francis	210	Grangeville	75466608
Van Gundy, Harry B.	214	Grangeville	64097083
Van Leer, C.C.	255	Lindsay	62923118
Veatch, Gilbert A.	257	Hanford	77706833
Veatch, Kathryn M.	244	Hanford	77706842
Verboon, Ruth Ione (Powell)	303	Hanford	65046674
Vickers, Artyle Helen	228	Grangeville	62454404
Vickers, Carol Jean	265	Grangeville	208791012
Vickers, William H.	242		
Wacker, Francis H.	220		
Wacker, Roberta	292		
Waggoner, Grover Cleveland “Cleve”	205	Grangeville	63053632
Waltz, Maude Evelyn	201	Grangeville	55870974
Waltz Royal	206	Forest Lawn, L.A.	85542194
Waltz, Royal	330	Grangeville	66011420
Wiles, Amanda	309		
Wiles, Marie	316		
Williams, Marshall Soloman	217	Grangeville	63082690

Williams, Opal also Wells	283	Grangeville	68703441
Williford, Edith May	222		
Wilson, Eula Brooks	208	Grangeville	77733555
Wilson, Johnny Lee	221	Grangeville	77733883
Wilson, Kathleen	307		
Wilshire, Raymond E.	232		
Wilshire, Wynne	286		
Young, Dorothy	249	Grangeville	63091385
Zumwalt, Fred	222	Grangeville	64203413
Zumwalt, Margaret A.	213	Grangeville	64198960

Chapter 11

Statement by Pastor Nadine Graham

Our Mission: Bringing faith into life by loving God and all people as he loves us.
(Adopted November 1999)

In recalling the history of Hanford First United Methodist Church, I find myself in awe of what God has created here. I am not talking about the building or the funds that were raised but the people God called into the community over the years in this place. For when we look at their lives, their leaders and the circumstances they faced, we begin to uncover where, when and how God was at work shaping and molding this community of faith through good times and bad.

When money was short, God was there. When tragedies happened, God was there. When struggles and uncertainty and fear threatened to overwhelm them, God was there not only to see them through it but also to use those times to strengthen and encourage and prepare them for what was yet to come.

In January of 1999, First United Methodist Church set aside its Administrative Board and replaced it with our current Vision Board in the hopes of re-discovering the fervor and the faith and the desire to follow God that help give birth to this congregation more than a hundred years ago. Much time has been spent in study, prayer and preparation in an attempt to uncover God's mission and vision for this community of faith as we move into the 21st century.

To do so requires an understanding of where we have been and how God has acted in the life of this church in the past. Just as the study of Scripture is crucial to our understanding of God and His work, revisiting our own history is crucial not only because of how it has shaped who we are

here and now, but also because it helps us to discern how God has been preparing us for what is yet to come.

While there is no way to predict what will come next, the history of this church tells us that God will continue to be there both in the lives of its members and the community as a whole as long as we are willing to trust in him. As long as the congregation and its leaders are seeking to do God's will, God's work will continue to be done here for many years to come.

Chapter 12

Graphs and Photographs

YEAR	EXPENDITURES	MEMBERSHIP
1975	36,907*	310
1976	42,868*	303
1977	37,838	302
1978	42,767*	294
1979	45,398*	266
1980	83,217*	290
1981	75,077*	324
1982	71,106	317
1983	80,209	345
1984	88,536	335
1985	73,067	324
1986	68,761	320
1987	92,868	296
1988	99,758	278
1989	98,384	254
1990	98,384	247
1991	106,647	236
1992	100,456	233
1993	99,189	231
1994	103,264	232
1995	108,157	234
1996	115,452	230
1997	138,601	227
1998		212
1999		

* These amounts are the actual total cash disbursements, from the annual audits of the church books, which were done and the work was donated by Ray Wiltshire, Jr. and his accounting firm.

The increase in income in 1980 is attributed to the arrival of Rev. Brown Higginbotham.

50 Year Plus Members

First United Methodist Church

November 2002

Name	*Years of Membership*	*Date Membership Received*
Powell, Jeanette	81 years	May 1921
Sarquis, Leon	72 years	June 1930
McKee, Josephine	68 years	1934
Gomes, Ruth	65 years	May 1937
Stevenson, Leborn	65 years	February 1937
Peden, Marilyn	62 years	March 1940
Shaw, Ralph	61 years	April 1941
Chadwick, Ann	60 years	March 1942
Geissler, Esther	60 years	March 1942
Garner, Clarence	58 years	April 1944
Schumacher, Gerald	55 years	May 1947
Dixon, Anna Bernice	55 years	March 1947
Coles, Elsie	55 years	February 1947
McCutcheon, Jane	54 years	1948
Sarquis, Evelyn	54 years	1948
Fadenrecht, Betty	53 years	April 1949
Fadenrecht, Daniel	53 years	April 1949
Hinkle, Bonnie	53 years	April 1949
Douma, Hilda	52 years	April 1950
Jensen, Dorothy	50 years	September 1952
Jensen, Robert	50 years	September 1952
Hill, Mary Ellen	50 years	December 1952

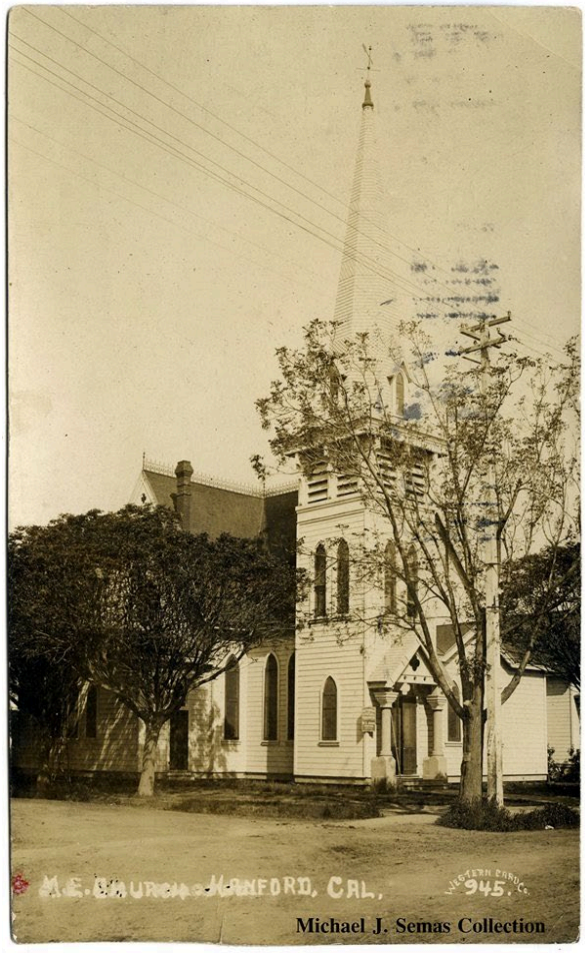
50 Year Plus Members, June 5, 2022

On Pentecost Sunday, June 5, 2022, we celebrated 50 days from Christ's resurrection and His ascension, as described in Acts 2. Red is traditionally worn. We also celebrated ten members having achieved 50 plus years of church membership: Marilyn Peden, 82 years; Robert Geissler, 80 years; Dorothy Jensen, (not pictured), 70 years; Carole Hester, 65 years; Robert Peden, 65 years; Jim Shoemaker, 64 years; Janice Alves, 63 years; Robert Junell, 56 years; Jeanette Keith, 55 years; and John Meadows, 50 years. Congratulations on your many years of faithful service.

In May, 1985, 23 members were recognized with a special presentation, who held their membership in the church for over 50 years, with Gladys Speck, who is Marilyn Peden's mother holding the record of 81 years of church membership.[461]

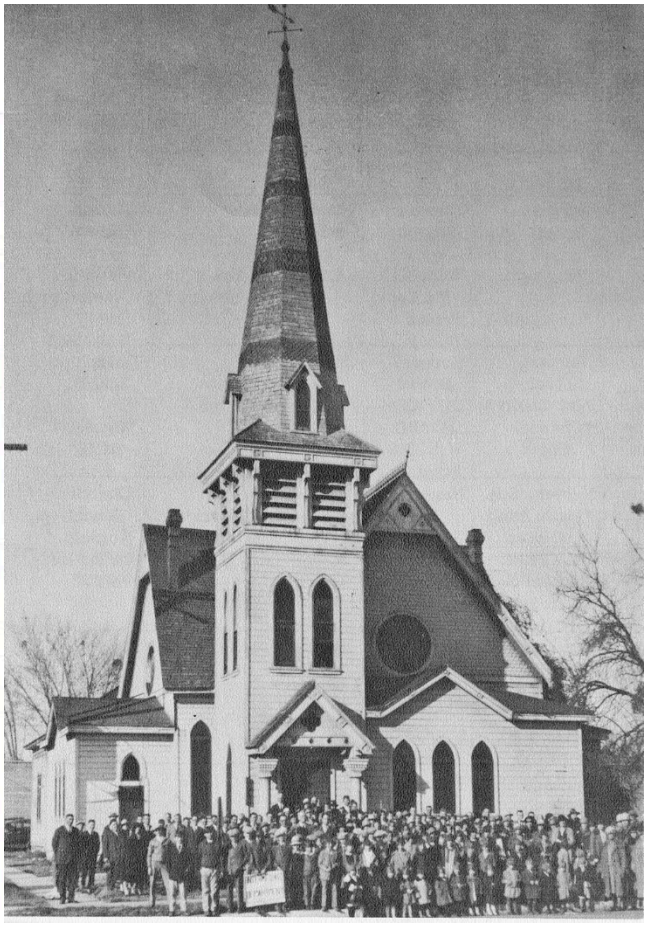
[461] May 4, 1985, Hanford Sentinel

© 2017 Google
Center St
Google Earth
1994
36°19'49.69" N 119°38'55.56" W elev 72 m eye alt 186 m



Michael J. Semas Collection

Michael J. Semas Collection



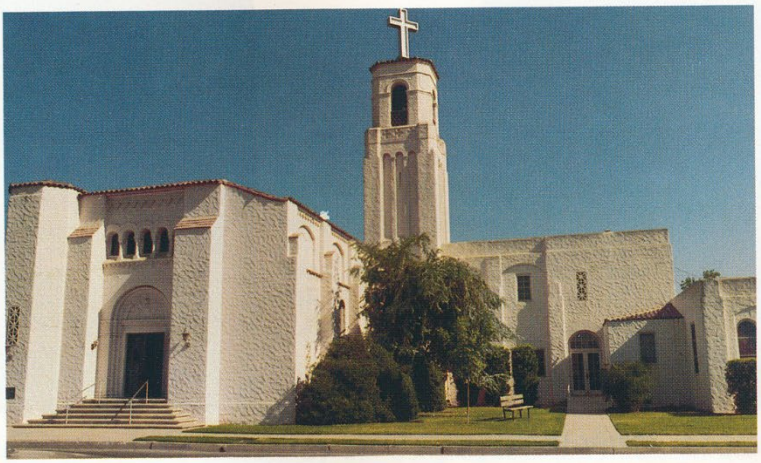
Choir rehearsing for Christmas service

The church logo was created shortly after 1968 and represents two flames: The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren joining to form the United Methodist Church

1980 photos. The Chinese pistache tree to the right of the sanctuary was recently planted. The Chinese pistache tree was donated and planted commemorating the marriage of Galen Griswold.[462]

[462] Conversation with Bob Junell

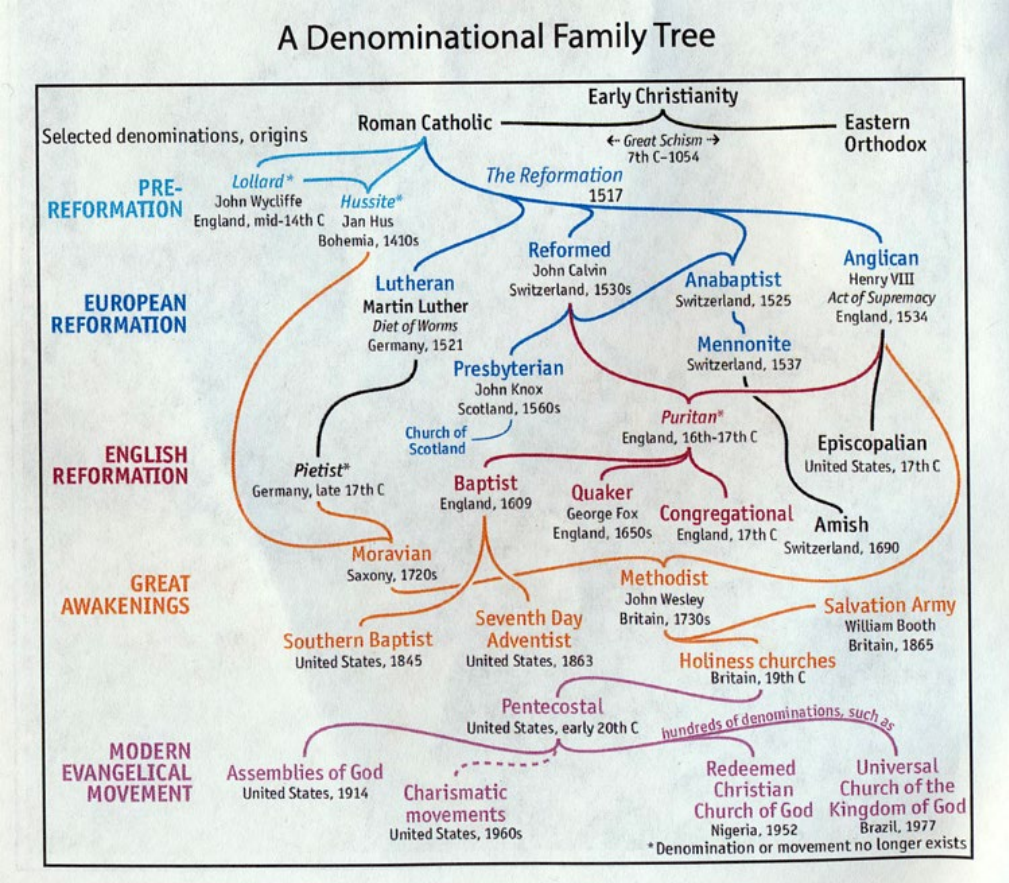
COME GROW WITH US AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Church Buildings

Chancel Choir

1987 Directory of First United Methodist Church, top row: Betty Mizner, Abby Thyarks, Amanda Wiles, George Thyarks, Betty Fadenrecht, Monty McGinty, Patty Ferrell, Fred Raider, Virginia Noble ? Bottom row: Barbara Weber, choir director, ? Cindy Steinway, Jack Burnham, Barbara McGinty, ? ? Tracy Yingst



The accuracy of this demoninational chart, from an unknown source, can be debated, but it depicts the concept of the history that Protestant Christian churches are connectional.

Celebrating 500 years of Protestants

Fresno Bee Oct. 28, 2017

BY PHIL FULLERTON

We are nearing the 500th anniversary of perhaps the most important date in Western Civilization: Oct. 31, 1517. This is the date on which Martin Luther tacked to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany, his 97 theses that launched the Protestant Reformation. From this simple if rebellious act emerged the burgeoning Protestant movement and its myriad branches and churches.

Starting with Fresno, the importance of this Protestant Revolution against the Catholic Church of the time is overwhelmingly apparent. The Protestant churches of Fresno can be seen in innumerable places. It is hard to drive anywhere in Fresno without seeing such a church.

Their impact on the citizens is first of all, of course, spiritual, giving a moral and ethical base to its adherents. It is hard to think of our community without this immense pillar underlying the moral and ethical conduct of its citizens.

But these churches do far more. They are active in multiple charitable efforts from succoring the poor to providing education to young and old alike.

More controversially, they are a political force in such issues as abortion, gay marriage and the prohibition of narcotics.

And the Catholic Church was, itself, transformed in response to this movement beginning with the Counsel of Trent (1545-1563). The Catholic Church we see today was completely revitalized in response to this Protestant movement.

The impact of this Protestant movement looms over much of United States history. The Pilgrims landing on Plymouth Rock in 1620 were Protestants leaving England to protect their version of worship. And the flood of immigrants who followed them were frequently motivated by their Protestant faith. And these New England settlers left an indelible mark on our society.

Perhaps the greatest impact is suggested by Max Weber in his "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism." Weber writes that modern economics and the frugality and industriousness of Protestants and Protestant nations were the source of modern economic systems and prosperity.

It is easy to find support of this theory. The Industrial Revolution began in Protestant Great Britain in the early Nineteenth Century. Why there and not elsewhere? Weber would surely claim that the deep Protestant roots of England motivated folks to seek this revolutionary economic transformation.

And it is easy to look beyond England to the vibrant lands that were Protestant: Holland, Belgium, Northern Germany, the Scandinavian Countries. All of them prospered in the 19th and 20th centuries while Catholic Spain, Italy, Portugal, and France lagged then and, by many measures, lag today.

In this setting then, one must pause as he looks to the future. Charles Murray in his book "Coming Apart" notes a serious decline in church support and attendance. And he applies this to his view of the founding virtues of our country: industriousness, honesty, marriage, and religiosity. He notes a serious decline in these values, especially in the underprivileged.

For example, couples living together out of wedlock are proliferating among those without a college degree. Per-capita incarceration in the U.S. rates are the highest in the developed world. And work force participation percentages are at all-time lows; out-of-wedlock births are soaring.

Indeed, one can find in the recent populism of the Republican/Trump resurgence a desire to return to these values by reducing dependence on government, increasing employment, and increasing job availability. Query if these adherents can set back the clock.

So, as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Movement, are we looking at the ebb tide of its immense influence in the U.S.? It is the very heart of the America we know. It is time to celebrate this great achievement but also to pause and think about what made America a "shining light on a hill."

Time to look into the future and ponder what we need to do to keep our nation compassionate yet supportive of our founding Protestant values.

Phil Fullerton of Fresno is a retired lawyer.

Chinese Pistache tree displaying Fall colors
December 2, 2017