

Templeton Presbyterian Church monthly newsletter

JUNE 2021

COMING UP THIS MONTH...

JUNE 6-YOUTH SUNDAY

Picture Day

Church Membership class (info p. 4)

JUNE 13 - STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Picture Day

JUNE 20 - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

JUNE 27 - PASTOR CHARLIE'S FAREWELL BBQ (info p. 3)



CHURCH MEMBERSHIP CLASS

JUNE 6

Details p. 4

PASTOR'S PAGE

I've been sitting, staring at my computer for a couple of days now, somewhat at a loss as to how to write my final Pastor's Page for the Templetones. How do I condense 23 years of ministry in 1+ pages? Or do I even try? How to put into words all that I'm thinking and feeling and hoping? What words best represent a final installment on this page which has been sent out to you, almost without exception, every month since August 1998?

In the midst of my contemplations, with today being the deadline Julie gave me, I was looking (in response to a request from the Personnel Committee) in a file cabinet located in our shed at home for the contract I would have signed upon beginning my ministry here. I couldn't find that exact document, but in looking, I came across a folder titled 'TEMPLETON' that had a bunch of documents – letters, statements, meeting notes, articles, picture etc. – related to my application, interviews, acceptance, and beginnings here. Wow! I was struck by so much of what I read thait took me back 23 years that oozed excitement and promise on both the part of the church and of me and my family.

This is the first-ever picture of me as part of TPC. It was taken on the Embarcadero in Morro Bay, following a sermon I preached at Morro Bay Pres, lunch, and an interview with the full committee. Taken by some unsuspecting passerby, my face is partially obscured by Becky Terry, co-chair of the committee with Walt Winfield (far left). Continuing from left to right are Jan Marrett, Bob Boulden (deceased), Jill Watson, Betsy Beatty, Shari Gahm, Leigh Ann Hollingsworth, Becky Terry (deceased), and Marlies Gould.

My first Templetones article began with this:

What a joy to write this first Templetones article! It means we really are coming to Templeton! Our family is looking forward with eager anticipation to becoming part of the life and ministry at First Presbyterian Church, Templeton, not to mention returning home to the great state of California!

We want to thank you for the outstanding weekend you gave us in May. We felt so wonderfully received by you...By Sunday we felt great assurance and confirmation that this was, indeed, God's call and not just yours.

I chuckled because I had considered, in light of last Sunday's vote to call Roger Patton as your next pastor, to begin this last Pastors Page with something like this: "It means I am really leaving TPC." But more than thoughts of my leaving, I found myself thinking that that Roger must have felt similarly as a result of his visit – "great assurance that this was, indeed God's call and not just (theirs)." If he did, I hope that whenever his season of ministry concludes, he can look back, as I do right now, and realize that those feeling of assurance and confirmation were from God.

Later in the article I wrote about my first week as one devoted to getting organized and acclimated to the church and community, and that my schedule would be flexible during this 'settling in' time. At one point I said, "so if my office door is wide open, please feel free to stop in and say hello (i.e. interruptions are welcome!)" Hah! I've been 'settling in' for 23 years! As many of you probably know, I rarely believe in 'interruptions,' they are simply God inserting his agenda into mine. (well, most of the time...)

The article concluded with these words:

By virtue of your call on May 31,1998, and my acceptance of it, we have covenanted together to love each other and seek God's unique fingerprint of ministry for the particular expression of the body of Christ called First Presbyterian Church, Templeton. I come grateful for the faithful ministry of those who served you well before me, and trust that by God's grace, together we can encourage and strengthen the good work already begun, as well as birth and grow new ministries as the Spirit leads and empowers.

We have done that. At times better than others. I see God's fingerprints everywhere. Seriously. I have deep gratitude for the mutuality of our time together, and for the threads of God's grace, interwoven throughout over the years, and especially this past, very difficult year. The birth and growth of ministries, new and old, are evident everywhere – from

SAVE THE DATE!



Christmas to Easter, from, from children to youth, from small groups to corporate worship, from Stephen Ministry to the IF Conference, from housing homeless in our own CE Building to building a school half-way around the world, from worshiping in the sanctuary to a tent and back again (well, almost), from ______ to ______, as examples are too numerous to include them all... plus, I'm sure you have your own personal connections to the ways that TPC has impacted your life. It might have been a sermon, a song, a prayer, a greeting, a conversation, a relationship, a meeting, an event, an act of service or kindness, or any number of ways we experience the body of Christ...including those ways that include some measure of hurt and pain. God uses those things, too, for the benefit of our growth and the display of his grace.

And now, as I am about to become one "of those who served you well before…" (at least I hope that can be said of me), my great hope and prayer is that God's work will go forward: that whatever foundation that has been laid with me will be built upon … whatever remains undone will be finished … whatever is weak will be strengthened …. whatever is lacking will begin … whatever is not working or unneeded will stop, or be replaced … and that whatever is good will become better — whatever is worthwhile, valuable, and fruitful will continue to bless and give witness to the kingdom of God.

I will surely miss you, but I won't disappear. And I haven't left yet! I look forward to the next/last three times I will be preaching, especially on my last Sunday, June 27, when I hope to share with you some of what has been underneath and within much of what I referred to above.

Faithfully yours in Christ Jesus,



MEMBERSHIP CLASS / PARADE





TPC is joining Templeton's 4th of July parade!

You can help make it happen! Contact Diane to join the Float Construction Team: children@fpctempleton.org.

NEW PASTOR CALLED TO TPC



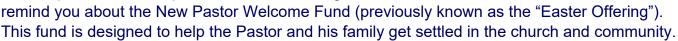
-Favorite Restaurants

At our congregational meeting on May 23, TPC members unanimously approved Pastor Roger Patton to be TPC's next lead pastor. Pastor Roger, his wife Karis, and their daughter Hannah, will be moving from Tennessee to Templeton over the summer, with an official start date for the new pastor of August 2nd. Hannah will be a freshman at Templeton High, while Hunter, their son, will continue college in Tennessee.

A warm welcome to the Patton family!

"New Pastor Welcome Fund"

Hopefully most of the congregation had the opportunity to meet Pastor Roger Patton when he visited on May 23. Now that his position as new pastor is official, it is a great time to





-Favorite Beach -Best Stores/Coffee Shops

-Best Golf Courses/Lessons (for Pastor Roger)

-Best Surfing Beach/Lessons (for Hannah)

- -Suggestions for Doctors, Realtors/Dentists, Mechanics, etc.
- -Anything else you think would be helpful to a new family moving here.

-Favorite Hikes

If you would like to contribute your suggestions to the welcome book, please fill out a Suggestion Card on Sunday morning or email your suggestions to Kathy Westphal at westphalslo@att.net.

Financial contributions for the New Pastor Welcome Fund can be made online at: **templetonpres.org/giving** or by check made payable to **TPC** (please indicate "New Pastor Welcome" on memo line).



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

Proverbs 22:6

Children's Ministry

TPC Kids

Rocky Railway VBS...Coming Soon! We need undecorated Christmas trees for the scene. If you have a tree that we can borrow, please reach out to Diane. Thank you!

Pool Party...

Unfortunately, our Pool Party on Saturday, May 22, was cancelled due to weather. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 26. Bring a chair or picnic blanket, your swim suit, a towel and your favorite ice-cream treat! We will provide water and the lasting memories! Please email children@fpctempleton.org for more information.

Charity...

The Children's Ministry has been contributing to an offering jar every
Sunday. We have
proudly accumulated
\$50 which we have
chosen to donate to
Woods Humane Society.
We already have \$14.26 towards our next charity.

Calling all Families...

We need you! We are entering a float into the Templeton 4th of July Parade. If you are interested in driving the float, donating materials, helping to build/construct, or participate in the float, we could definitely use you! Please email Diane at children@fpctempleton.org for more info.

Pen Pals...

If you have participated in the Pen Pal program through COVID, you are cordially invited to

have donuts and coffee/hot cocoa with your pen pal on Sunday, June 13 at 9:40 am. We will meet in Butler Hall for a few minutes to chat with your pen pal. Don't



forget to tell them your favorite part of the letters!

ROCKY RAILWAY VBS



There's still time to REGISTER!

Join us for a fun-filled week

JULY 6 - 9

1st-5th graders
Sign up for one of our two sessions:

8:30-10:30am OR 11:00am-1:00pm at templetonpres.org

Jesus' power pulls us through.

ALL ABOARD!

Volunteers, donations, and prayers are much needed as we prepare for a fun time on the Rocky Railway!

Volunteers can register online at templetonpres.org.

In addition to in-person help, we could also use packaged snacks for volunteers (nuts, granola bars, dried fruit, for example) and drinks (fruit juice, Gatorade, cold coffee, etc.). Monetary donations for craft supplies, decorations, and costumes are much appreciated as well. Checks can be made payable **TPC** (please indicate VBS on the memo line). Or give online to the **VBS 2021** fund by going to templetonpres.org/giving.



STEPHEN MINISTRY / DEACONS

TPC STEPHEN MINISTRY BEGINS 22ND YEAR OF SERVING

During the most difficult months of the COVID 19 pandemic, Stephen Ministers continued to be available to those needing Christian support when face-to-face visits were not possible by using phone, Face Time, Zoom, and text contacts. As people get vaccinated and are achieving immunity to the COVID 19 virus, Stephen Ministers are able to meet face-to-face once again. Contact Lois Ecklund, Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator, for a confidential consideration of your need for a supportive Stephen Minister (408-718-8613 [cell] 805-461-1470 [home]). The Stephen Ministry team continues to meet twice a month for supervision, continuing education, and team building. If you are interested in serving as a Stephen Minister, please contact Lois, Susan Hayward, or myself for more information about the training program, which is provided here at TPC.

God be with you and bless you, Frank Bush, Stephen Leader



DEACONS DELIVER DINNER FOR 80 TO ECHO SHELTER

The Templeton Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons took its turn to provide the monthly dinner to the ECHO Homeless Shelter in Atascadero on Monday, May 17th. A group from TPC provides this dinner on the third Monday of each month as an outreach service of the Mission Committee. If you or your group would like to sign up for one of the 12 months, please contact Kathy Westphal of the Mission Committee. The dinner provided by the Deacons, guided by a menu planned by Renee Bush, included pork loin roast, scalloped potatoes (Robin's secret recipe), mixed green salad, rolls and butter, and cookies and brownies. ECHO staff were delighted with the nourishing meal from TPC, as they serve it up on a take-out basis to community members because of COVID guidelines. Shelter residents also enjoyed the meal at 6 pm when it was their turn for dinner.

As for outreach, the Deacons continue to be a resource to church members and friends and the wider community as people advise us of their needs. A benevolence request can be made through any deacon, Pastor Charlie, or Julie in the front office. The Deacons have appreciated the support of Pastor Charlie as we have addressed the needs within our church and across North County. We look forward to serving in the coming months as our new Pastor Roger Patton shares his thoughts about how the Board of Deacons can serve under his leadership.

Blessings to all in the name of Jesus, Frank Bush, Moderator, Board of Deacons.

PICTURE DAYS / VOLUNTEERS



TPC 2021 Church Directory

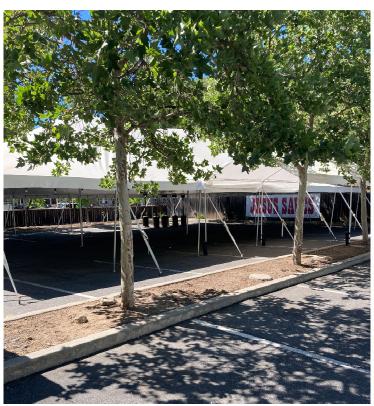
PICTURE DAYS

- *May 30*
- *June 6*
- *June 13*

TPC LIBRARY

Immediately after service





Can you lend a hand for Sunday morning setup? Bringing out chairs and supplies or helping with coffee? See Marc Ristow or Margaret Ybarra to sign up—or just show up early and see how you can help.

Many hands make light work!



SCHOLARSHIPS / PRAYER

CONGRATULATIONS Scholarship Recipients!

The TPC Academic Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the award of four academic scholarships for 2021. These scholarships are not only important financially to the students and the families of students attending college or graduate school, but also represent our church family's prayerful support for them. Since initiated in 2016, TPC has awarded 11 scholarships totaling \$39,500.



This year's awardees are:

Taryn Estes (\$4,000) who will be attending Biola University in Los Angeles to pursue a degree in Bible Theology and Christian Ministries.

Grace Alsup (\$4,000) who will be attending Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo to pursue a Nursing or Cognitive Science major.

Kéli Janzen (\$2,000) who will be continuing her studies in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, AZ.

Dave Johnson (\$2,000) who is working on an online Masters in Theological Studies at Westminster Theological Seminary (Glenside, PA).

All our awardees have demonstrated exceptional academic records, leadership roles in athletics and community activities, and a commitment to TPC's mission statement: *Introduce* people to Jesus, *Include* them in His church, *Imitate* His life, *Ignite* service in His name, and *Inspire* glory for God.

Students who have received scholarships in the past include: Kéli Janzen (2020); Sam Alsup, Chris Murray and Colby Grey (2019); Maddison Miller (2018); Alyssa Price and Greg Fredericks (2017); and Alyssa Price and Jennifer Mariscal (2016).

Congratulations to our awardees!



Prayer requests can be submitted Sunday mornings or by phone or email to the church office (805/434-1921 or admin@fpctempleton.org). All prayer requests are kept confidential.

If you would like to join the Prayer Team, please call the church office for details.

YOUTH MINISTRY



TPC YOUTH SUMMER MINISTRY: KOINONIA

When you think of fellowship, you might think of eating, playing games, sharing stories, listening to others, etc. It's a word that sort of encapsulates the idea of community. The word fellowship comes from a Greek word "koinonia". The Greek word "koinonia" (κοινωνία) means "The act of sharing in the activities or privileges of an intimate association or group; especially used of marriage and churches." Luke, the author of Acts, writes in Acts 2:42 "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship (koinonia), to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

It wasn't JUST that they spent time together, but the time that they spent together was in "koinonia". It was grounded in Christ, much like our relationship with the Church or Marriage. The early church's relationship with one another was just as strong as a marriage, because it was grounded in Christ-like community.

This summer we are going to plan to share in "koinonia". We are going to be meeting at the beach, park and at different peoples homes, and when we do we will be hanging out, playing games and sharing food but at the end of the night each week, we will also jump into Bible study and a time to pray for one another. Although these nights are filled with a ton of *fun*, they will be grounded in Christ, and the goal of these nights will be *discipleship*.

We hope to see your students this summer, for a time of "koinonia".

Dave Johnson, Director of Student Ministries students@fpctempleton.org





Templeton Presbyterian Church 610 South Main Street Templeton, CA 93465 805.434.1921 templetonpres.org

Pastor Charlie Little, ext. 2
pastor@fpctempleton.org
Youth Ministries Director, Dave Johnson
students@fpctempleton.org
Children's Ministries Director, Diane Terrell
children@fpctempleton.org
Administrative Assistant, Julie Bower, ext. 0
admin@fpctempleton.org.
Worship Director, Kellie Wenzel

kellie@fpctempleton.org

