



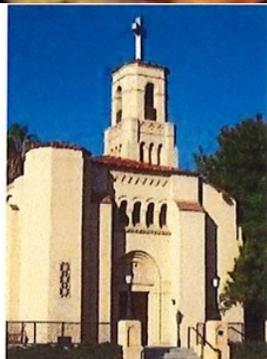
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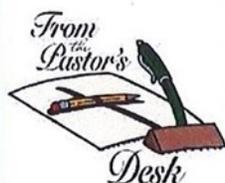
**October 2022**



### Mission & Vision Statement

We are a congregation United in God's love that seeks to live as Jesus lived. Sharing the message of Christ through community, compassion and faith. Committed people worshiping God, growing as disciples, and serving others through the gifts God has giving us.

We seek growth in the grace of God and reach out with the love of Jesus Christ, by connecting people to God, connecting people to people, and connecting people to service.



### Being a Good Steward

Our culture is enamored of wealth. We sigh at the lucrative contracts signed by movie stars and athletes. We are dazzled by the designer clothes worn by stars on the red carpet. We dream of living in the \$85 million home currently for sale in Beverly Hills.

If we are not attentive, our admiration of riches can turn towards idolatry. It can lead us to hold onto every dollar with the hope that, one day, we will live like the people we have come to envy. The life of luxury cars, gated mansions, and closets the size of bedrooms can become our ultimate concern.

This is not to say that wealth is bad in and of itself. It is a tool, and its moral value depends on how it is used. When wealth is used for self-promotion, to oppress others, or to insulate one from the sufferings of the world, it can be destructive. When it is used to feed the hungry, cure the sick, or strengthen community, it is constructive.

What is the secret to using our wealth wisely? It starts with seeing ourselves as caretakers or stewards of what we have been given. A steward is someone who has been placed in charge of another person's property. Our wealth belongs to God, and God has given us the charge to manage it wisely.

What does it mean to manage God's treasure wisely? It means being mindful of the proportion between what we keep and what we give away. The biblical standard has always been the tithe: "Set apart a tithe of all the yield of your seed that is brought in yearly from the field" (Deut. 14:22).

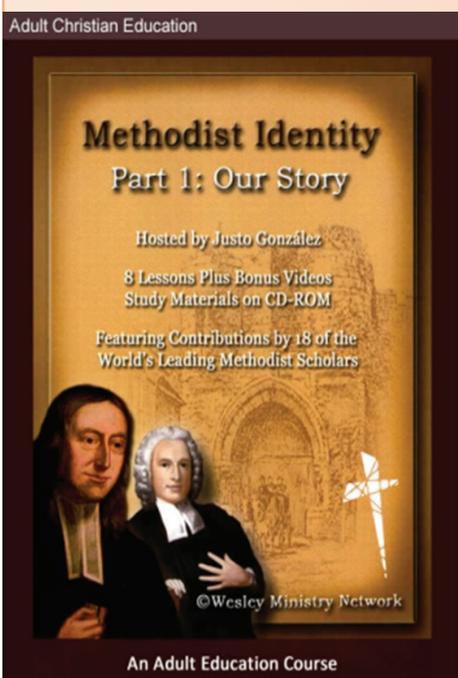
In today's terms, a tithe is ten percent of one's annual income. Using at least a tenth of one's income in redemptive ways, e.g. to lift up the weak, improve one's community, broaden our sympathies, etc. is to use our riches wisely.

Continued.....

This also means that it is moral to keep ninety percent of what God has entrusted to us for ourselves and our loved ones.

Contrast this with Warren Buffett's pledge to give ninety-nine percent of what he owns back to society through philanthropy! Let us strive to set aside at least ten percent of what God has entrusted to us for the work of God and God's kingdom. Doing so will help us live out what Jesus meant when he said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:34)

"Be a Channel of God's Grace" Pastor Pablo



## What does it mean to be a Methodist?

*This Fall we will Study: "Methodist Identity"*

***Wednesdays Until November 2nd - 6:30 pm***

*(Mary Lane Hall)*

*A study that describes the 18th-century Wesleyan revival in England and the growth of Methodism throughout the world. A video followed by discussion each week. Ideal for both lifelong*

*Methodists and those coming to Methodism from other traditions.*

## Still Time to Participate

**Oct 5: Early Methodist Revival: 1740-1760 | Methodism in Britain: 1760-1791**

**Oct 12: The Legacy of Charles Wesley**

**Oct 19: American Methodism: 1740s-1760s | African Methodism in Early America**

**Oct 26: The Holiness Movement and Missions**

**Nov 2: Methodism and Social Holiness**



### **Marilyn Peden**

Marilyn Peden was born to Forest and Gladys Speck in Hanford on May 28, 1928. Marilyn joined the Methodist Episcopal Church by Confession of Faith on March 17, 1940. She died on August 14, 2022. She had a job at Peterson Music Store where she met Bob Peden. They both were involved in youth activities at the Methodist Church. She spent many years singing in the church choir and had a beautiful voice. The couple recently celebrated 73 years of marriage, having married in the sanctuary of the Methodist Church. Marilyn was a member of the Methodist Church for 72 years. In June 2022, she was recognized as the oldest church member. She has three children: Candy, Craig, and Chris, 9 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren.

Marilyn's mother, Gladys Thompson Speck became a member of the Methodist Church on September 4, 1904. In May 1985, Gladys Speck was honored as the oldest living member of Hanford First United Methodist Church. Gladys was a Sunday School teacher and taught in one of the upstairs classrooms for many years. A street, Gladys Way, is named for her at the site of the former Speck dairy farm, east of 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. near Florinda.

Marilyn's brother, Robert Speck, was the Cubmaster for the Boy Scout troop at Hanford Methodist Church for a number of years.

Marilyn's father, M. Forest Speck became a member of the Methodist Church on April 15, 1920. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Army during World War I. Forest had a number of different occupations, including an assistant bank manager.

He was active in rock hounding with the Kings Gem and Mineral Society and was an avid coin collector with the Coin Club of Hanford. Forest was a member of the trustees in 1923 when the planning was underway for the construction of the present church. A Hanford Street: Forrest Way, is named for him at the former dairy and farm site east of 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. at Myrtle St.

A history of the Hanford Methodist Church's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was published on September 29, 1937 included the following story:

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 who are members of our church. 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).

Marilyn's grandparents, who became members of the newly established Methodist Church, befriended Reverend McKelvey and provided a place for his family to live when he started the Hanford Methodist Church as the newly assigned minister in 1877.

by Jim Gregory



**Laundry Love**  
**Thursday, October 20th**

*Our ministry to those in need of  
laundry services*

3pm to 7pm  
Where: Star Laundry  
136 S 11th Ave. Hanford  
(near Big Lots)



**Tuesday October 18th.**  
**9am-11am**

*Our ministry in partnership with  
Kings Community Action*  
Church volunteers distribute food to  
those in need.  
Walk through only  
First Come, First Served  
505 N. Redington St, Hanford

**Charge Conference Sunday, October 16**

Charge Conference is the annual business meeting of the church. Our District Superintendent, David Niu, will be worshipping with us and will preside over the conference following worship and a short coffee/fellowship time. We will elect church leaders, remember those members who passed away since the last year, and adopt the pastor's salary package among other items. Please plan to attend.

**Church Finance Update**

(Peggy Gregory)



<b>General Fund Budget Report as of August 31</b>	
Amount Needed Each Month for Budget	\$13,210
Amount Received in August	\$8,967
Amount Spent in August	\$13,224
Average Received Each Month Year-to-Date	\$10,861
Average Spent Each Month Year-to-Date	\$12,760
Current Deficit Year-to-Date	<b>-\$15,187</b>

## What I've learned about Stewardship and Generosity

by Peggy Gregory

I'm not sure why I have been led to this interest in stewardship, but the journey started about 35 years ago while listening to a message from the pastor about giving and generosity. Something struck a chord, **or maybe hit a nerve**, but something happened.

Was he really talking to me - a young single person living paycheck to paycheck and struggling with debt? Really? Maybe he means later after all the bills are paid and the debt has been retired, or at least until I have extra money at the end of the month.

But, no, he said giving was a blessing and a way of living - something that makes us feel good - not pressured or fearful, but peaceful and blessed. Okay. I'll stick my toe in the water. Who wouldn't want peace and blessings?

I respected my pastor and if he was asking me to think seriously about being **intentional** about giving, I could at least try. I decided I could try putting giving to the church at the top of the budget instead of at the end if there was anything left.

It worked! When I was faithful in my giving to the church, I was more peaceful and somehow there was enough money to meet all of my needs. But, I'm human and I would lose faith and hold back on the giving until the end of the month. It never worked! I would feel stressed and unblessed and usually there was nothing left at the end of the month for the church - I was not being a good steward.

After a few years of starting and stopping I finally learned that God instructed us to give first because of what it does for us. (Malachi 3:10) Faithful generosity makes us peaceful and joyful and blesses us in ways no bookkeeper can explain but which faithful givers all confirm happens. The more faithfully we give, the more abundant our life. God's math is incredible!

My recommendations:

1. Remember, God is the owner of all we have and we are the managers (stewards). Once we think about it that way, how much easier it is to be generous. It's not ours. God gives it to us to manage. If he gives us \$100 and instructs us to give \$10 for the furtherance of His kingdom on earth, what a deal!
2. Try giving 10% for God's work, and watch what God does with the other 90% in your life! It is truly a miraculous thing to experience - talk about being blessed! We get to live inside the miracle of generosity - the most fun we will ever have with money.
3. If you are not ready for 10%, try something less, but make it intentional and consistent.
4. Don't get hung up on the legalism of the tithe. This is not about buying God's love. God loves us no matter what. God instructs us to give because of how it changes us and reminds us that He is the original giver. If you cannot get to the tithe right away, make it a goal and head in that direction. Pay attention to how your spirit changes and how God blesses you. You will be amazed.



Let us know if you want to sign up for Coffee Hour or to be a Greeter.

Please sign up on the Bulletin Board or call the Office.

559-584-4075

### Fellowship - Coffee Hour

Oct. 2nd Patty Ferrell  
 Oct. 9th  
 Oct. 16th Mary Durham  
 Oct. 23rd The Gregorys  
 Oct. 30th The Shoemakers

### Greeters

Oct. 2nd  
 Oct. 9th Mary Durham  
 Oct. 16th  
 Oct. 23rd  
 Oct. 30th



*October 15 Jim Shoemaker*

*October 24 Trinity Róvere*

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know so we can update our records.



*October 19 Matt & Laura Brown*

## Upcoming Events

Oct 11<sup>th</sup>: ON Team (Outreach & Nurture Team) meeting 6:30pm  
 Oct 16<sup>th</sup>: Charge Conference with District Superintendent David Niu (follows Coffee Hour)  
 Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>: Food Distribution-9am to 11am (for volunteers-8am)  
 Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>: Laundry Love 3pm to 7pm (for Volunteers- 2:30pm)  
 Oct. 27<sup>nd</sup>: MST (Ministry Support Team) meeting 6pm

Every Sunday at 9:30 am. Worship and Sunday School for Children  
 Every Monday at 10:00 am Women's Bible Study (Mary Lane Hall)  
 Every Wednesday at 8 am Men's Bible Study (Mary Lane Hall)  
 Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm **Methodist Identity** (Mary Lane Hall)