

**I am not your
shepherd**

First Congregational Church of Fresno

The Big Red Church

July 22, 2018

A warm welcome is extended to all, especially those who are worshipping at First Congregational Church of Fresno for the first time or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us and enhances this time of celebration together.

(* Congregation may stand | Responses: Liturgist/Congregation/all)

Our Gathering

Prelude

Chorale Preludes
Pachelbel and J.S. Bach

Catherine English,
Organ

Welcome, Direction And Announcements

Please sign and share the red registration pads found on the inside center aisle of each pew.

* Call To Worship

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

(adapted from Psalm 23, as translated by Robert Alter)

One: The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want.

Many: It is you, Lord who gives us green pastures, plentiful valleys, and abundant nourishment;

One: It is you who guides us by the still, clear, refreshing waters.

Many: You revive our breath, and lead us on the pathways of justice and wholeness in your name.

One: Yet, we also walk through the long shadows of death,

Many: Saying that we will fear no hurt or harm, for even here, you are with us;
your rod and your staff console us.

One: You set out an abundant table in the face of our foes.

Many: You pour precious oil over our heads;

One: And our cups overflow.

Many: Let goodness and kindness pursue us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord for many long days.

* Hymn

"There Is a Name I Love to Hear"

#52, pew hymnal

* Call to Confession

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

***Opening Prayer (in unison):**

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

Caring and Gracious God, you are the shepherd who gathers us together today, to celebrate with grateful thanksgiving the community in which we live. We are nourished by its diversity, brought about by the unique gifts each person contributes. Enliven our worship together and lead us to never cease welcoming the strangers and travelers we meet, and accepting the gifts they bring. Grant that they will enrich our lives and will be a reminder of the joy that comes when all will be one in you. Amen.

***The Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***Gloria Patri**

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen. Amen.

God is Still Speaking

A Time for Discovery: *Children are invited to come up to the Chancel steps*

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still;
let this be our song — no one stands alone,
standing side by side. Draw the circle wide.
(Sing twice)

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Sermon Texts

Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Pg. 950 in your Pew Bible
Pg. 818 in your Pew Bible

Sermon

I am Not Your Shepherd

Rev. Raygan Baker

***Hymn**

"My Shepherd Is the Living God"

#247, pew hymnal

The Beloved Community

The Sharing Of Our Prayer Requests

Sung Call To Prayer

Lord, listen to your children praying:

Lord send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying:

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

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Prayers Of Joy And Concern concluding with The Lord's Prayer

Invitation To Offering

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

Offertory

"Herr Gott, Dich Loben Alle Wir"
Johann Pachelbel

Catherine English,
Organ

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Liturgist: Gayle Thornton

*Hymn

"Let Justice Flow like Streams"

#588, pew hymnal

*Blessing

*Sung Benediction

(We turn toward the center aisle and each other as a sign of mutual blessing.)

Go now in peace, never be afraid;

God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;

know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world will see

God will be there, watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

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It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.

Postlude

"In dir ist Freude"
J.S. Bach

Catherine English,
Organ

Everyone is invited to share in refreshment and conversation following this morning's service in Fellowship Hall.

Assisting in Today's Worship

Ushers:Harold Householder, Lester Leas, Richard van Wyhe, Donna van Wyhe
Liturgist:Gayle Thornton
Chancel Design:Jason Freeman
Flowers:Alan Fry
Hospitality:Marilyn Coles
Welcome Table:Mary Westrick & Stephen Monroe
Cover Art.....Kim Williams

First Congregational Church Board of Directors

Moderator

Scott Baucher
sbaucher3@gmail.com

Vice-Moderator

Robbyn Mosley
nyelsom@comcast.net

Chief Financial Officer

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lesterle@yahoo.com

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Peter Wall
peter-wall@gmail.com

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UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

www.bigredchurch.org

About First Congregational Church of Fresno

MISSION STATEMENT

God calls the church into being.

In response, we love God and each other.

- We provide a place in a changing world where the constancy of God's love and compassion is known through the example of Jesus Christ
- We celebrate our life together through ministries of prayer and worship, music and education, stewardship and outreach
- We share the stories of our faith and spiritual journeys
- We connect with the mysteries of God's grace, the miracle of restorative faith, and the power of ritual and myth
- We live with compassion for all God's creation
- We dispel isolation and alienation, witnessing to the joy of an open and affirming Christian life

Strengthened and transformed by our faith, we go out into the wider community offering the message of hope and reconciliation to all people.

OPEN & AFFIRMING STATEMENT

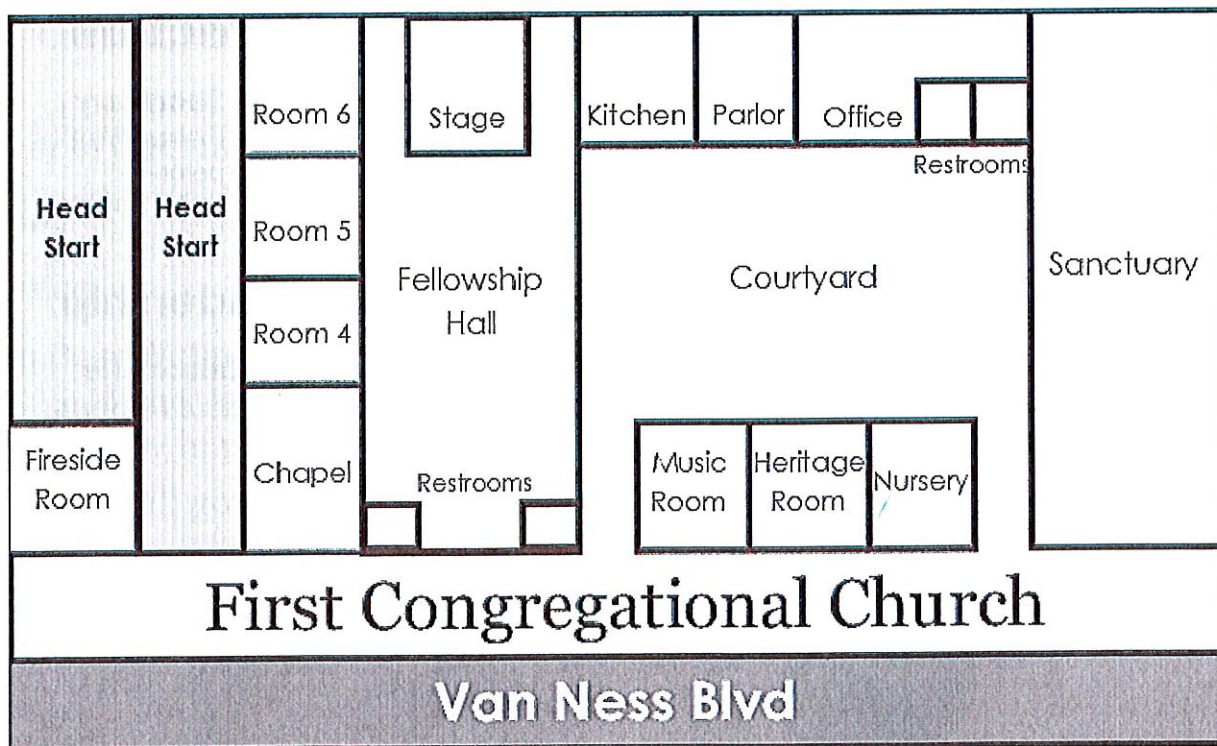
We believe that all people are sacred creations of a loving God. We affirm the diversity that exists among us. We strive to answer the call of Christ by extending his love, compassion, and acceptance to everyone. In this spirit, we open our family of faith to people of every religious background, sexual orientation, family composition, and physical and mental ability, race, age, and gender.

As Christians, we experience God's reconciling love.

In response, we stand with those who suffer discrimination, isolation, and alienation.

We welcome all people to participate fully in our church's life and ministry.

We celebrate the variety of talents and perspectives which flow into our spiritual community, continuing to enrich us in ways we could not have predicted or envisioned.



First Congregational Church of Fresno

2131 N. Van Ness Blvd., Fresno, CA 93704 | (559) 227-8489

Office Hours: Monday – Friday
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Raygan Baker

Interim Pastor

Rev. Ara Guekquezian
Pastor.fccfresno@gmail.com

Director of Facilities, Technology, and Communication

Kim Williams
Office@bigredchurch.org

Music Director/Organist

Scott Horton
scottulare@aol.com

Caretaker

Pat Morales
Patmorales40@gmail.com

Superintendent of Facilities and Grounds

Sarkis Kglyan

Accountant

Penny Leas Peterson

Support Staff

Interim Coordinator of Caring Ministries

Gayle Thornton

Covenanted Minister to Hinds Hospice

Rev. Stephanie Doss
Grief Counselor
sdoss@hindshospice.org

Coordinator of Youth & Children's Ministries

Scott Hancock
Scott.bigredchurch@gmail.com

Coordinator of Nursery

Patsy Finster
patsyfinster26@comcast.net

Nursery Personnel

Zorayda Darce
Cassie Mytton



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRESNO
BIG RED CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

This Week at the Big Red Church

Sunday, July 22

Bible Study	Fireside Room	8:30 am
Worship	Sanctuary	10:00 am
Pantry Meeting	Parlor	11:45 am
Tamarack Junior High Camp starts		

Monday, July 23

Comm Comm	Library	12:00 pm
Movers and Shakers Yoga	Room 1	5:00 pm

Wednesday, July 25

Ooooby	Fellowship Hall	3:00 pm
Living Through Transitions	Fireside Room	4:00 pm
Movers and Shakers Yoga	Room 1	5:00 p
Niners	Parlor	7:00 pm

Friday, July 27

Food Distribution set-up crew	Fellowship Hall	9:00 am
Food Distribution	Fellowship Hall	10:00 am

Saturday, July 28

Big Red Groupies—The Little Mermaid Mercedes Edwards Theater	2:00 pm
Tamarack Junior High Camp ends	

Sunday, July 29

Bible Study	Fireside Room	8:30 am
Worship- Pastor Ara's Last Sunday	Sanctuary	10:00 am
Tamarack Senior High Camp begins		

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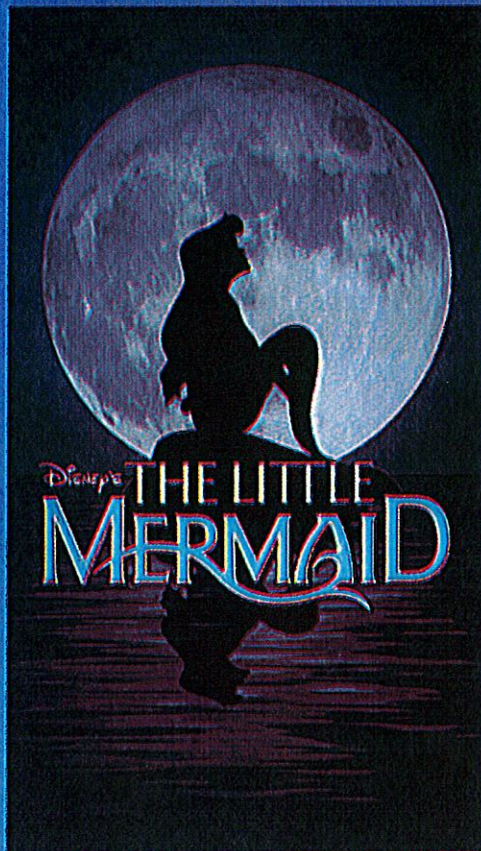
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The Big Red Church GROUPIES EVENT:



An Afternoon Under The Sea!



SATURDAY – JULY 28TH

2:00PM – Matinee

centerstage
CLOVIS

Production of:

Disney's The Little Mermaid

Mercedes Edwards Theatre

902 5th Street

Clovis, CA 93612

\$15.00 per Person

**Includes exclusive backstage
tour after the show!!**

Please contact JASON FREEMAN to make reservations!

559.907.5684

There Is a Name I Love to Hear

(O How I Love Jesus)

Frederick Whitfield, 1855; alt.

1 There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
 2 It tells my Sav - ior's love for all; Christ died to set us free;
 3 It bids me serve a - mid the wrath God's peo - ple face each day,

It sounds like mu - sic to my ear, the sweet - est name on earth.
 What - ev - er prob - lems may be - fall, we'll live in dig - ni - ty.
 And sheds a - long life's trou - bled path bright sun - shine on my way.

Refrain

O how I love Je - sus, O how I love Je - sus,

O how I love Je - sus, whose love has first found me.

Frederick Whitfield was ordained in the Church of England and served several English parishes. This hymn is a combination of Whitfield's stanzas and a refrain by an unknown author, both set to an existing nineteenth-century tune. The text was published in a leaflet in 1855.

Tune: O HOW I LOVE JESUS C.M. with refrain
 United States, 19th century

My Shepherd Is the Living God

Ps. 23; John 10:11, 27-30

Composite from Thomas Sternhold, 1549, and Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

C G C G7 C F G F C

1 My shep-herd is the liv - ing God, I there-fore noth-ing need;
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

Am G C F G Am G7 C G C

In pas - tures fair, near pleas - ant streams you set - tle me to feed.
 A word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.

C F C Dm G C Am Dm Am FM7

You bring my wan-dering spir - it back when I for-sake your ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers come and go—

Em C Am Dm Am Em C G7 C

And lead me for your mer - cy's sake in paths of truth and grace.
 My cup with bless-ings o - ver-flows, your oil a - noints my head.
 No more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

Isaac Watts, London's leading Congregational minister, wrote more than 600 hymns. His paraphrase of Psalm 23 has been altered here by combining a few phrases from Thomas Sternhold, a sixteenth-century English hymnwriter who also wrote metrical psalm texts.

Tune: CONSOLATION C.M.D.
 Southern Harmony, 1835
 Harm. Erik Routley, 1976
 Alternate tune: CRIMOND (Each stanza
 above becomes two stanzas.)

rich, the dai - ly fed.
is our so - cial brand.
lib - er - ty pass by.
touch us, make us yours.

Shirley Erena Murray's text addresses "the Christ presence in the victims of the world, including the differently abled and AIDS sufferers." Calvin Hampton's innovative tune is named for Vernon De Tar, organist and retired faculty member of The Juilliard School of Music. Hampton served as music director at Calvary/St. George's Episcopal Parish in New York City.

Tune: DETAR L.M.
Calvin Hampton, 1973
Alternate tune: GERMANY

Let Justice Flow like Streams

588

Jane Parker Huber, 1984

Amos 5:14-15, 24; 7:7-8

1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spark - ling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,

En - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
An ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
And jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

This is one of two hymns Jane Parker Huber wrote for special events emphasizing economic justice for women at the time of the reunification of two Presbyterian denominations in 1983. The text's brevity underscores the urgency of Amos' pronouncements against injustice.

Tune: ST. THOMAS S.M.
Aaron Williams' New Universal Psalmist, 1770