

PRESS-BY-LINE CONNECTIONS

Letter from the Pastor

BY PASTOR LARRY THORSON

Yeah, we've moved into our new Worship Center! Thank you to all who worked so hard physically and/or gave generously to make this move possible. As of mid September we've raised over 1/3 of our \$30,000 goal. Thank you so much. Let's believe God for the whole amount.

The electrician is finishing up his work and then the painter will give the room some attractive designer colors to enhance worship. Awaiting funding is a new floor, some landscaping and better exterior signs.

Recently a concerned person driving by our church decided to leave a message on our church phone expressing concern about how poorly our facility was looking. She wondered if we were moving or having trouble keeping the doors open. Neither is true but that's the impression we've apparently been giving as the renovations have gone on. Our Session has now hired Robert Schertiger for a tiny monthly stipend to maintain the exterior grounds so our message on the street will be much clearer.

On Robert's first day I brought my own lawn equipment and helped him mow and edge the lawn. It was an interesting experience when I'd look out at the street and realize we had an audience of people sitting in their cars at the light watching us work. As a church in our location we really have a lot of visibility with people sitting at a very long light with nothing else to do but look at our building and grounds and read our sign. That's a great opportunity to witness for Christ. Let's enhance it.

Earlier that week a Lutheran seminary intern wanted to interview me about what ministry in Manteca is like. I was leaving another meeting at city hall when she called and said she couldn't find the front door of our church. I had that exact same experience eleven months ago when I first visited MPC on a weekday. GPS takes one to the Main St.entrance of our church but there's no parking there and that's when the confusion starts. We badly need signs.

So we need to believe God for the full \$30,000 that will allow us to finish this project and look like the welcoming family of God we really are. Would you pray about what you can give?

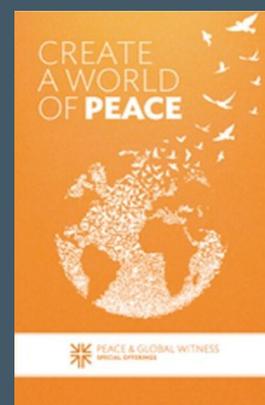
I've found MPC to be a wonderful place to worship God, grow in Christ, develop friendships and have a place to belong. Let's finish sprucing up the old package so the world can see the beauty of Christ that's here in you. God has us on a mission, join us and see what God can do.

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Capital Campaign for Renovations

BY PASTOR LARRY THORSON

Our campaign is still underway! Thank you for what you have already given! You can now give online via our website as well. Visit www.mantecapc.org and click on the button "Donate Now". Come and join us for this exciting journey that God is leading us on. Everyone is needed.

- **The Peace and Global Witness offering will be collected on October 6th. Through the Peace & Global Witness Offering, congregations are encouraged and equipped to find and address the anxiety and discord that is prevalent throughout this broken and sinful world.**
- **Presbyterian Women's Bible study is underway. It is titled "Love Carved in Stone". We will be studying the 10 Commandments on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10am. All women are welcome to join us.**
- **Oct. 10th Mission Co-Worker, Jeff Boyd who is serving in West Africa will be our guest speaker at Fellowship Thursday dinner**
- **Session would like to report that it is time to work on finding a Pastor. Pastor Larry has recruited a team who will begin the first step: the Mission Study for Manteca Presbyterian Church. Please include this process in your prayers as we move forward. The next step will be to form a Pastor Nominating committee (PNC) which is made up of church members. Prayerfully consider your possible involvement.**
- **Come one, come all! Join in the 'Art of Neighboring' during the Annual Fall Gathering this year at Geneva Presbyterian Church on October 19th, in Modesto. Together we will study what kinds of things we can do in our own neighborhoods to get to know one another.**



He that
loveth
another
hath
fulfilled
the law.

ROMANS 13:8