

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2023 SNAPSHOT



In the early days of praise songs, there was a song based on Psalm 23 called, I think, “Surely Goodness and Mercy.” It was one of the first songs I learned how to play on guitar in my preteen days, and it was the way I memorized Psalm 23:6 (which is also what the song may have been officially called). The 23rd Psalm ends with these words: “*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.*” Now, in the Modern Service, we’ve been singing a new song based on the same Psalm. It’s called “Goodness of God,” and I love it. During the refrain, the words repeat, “Your goodness is running after, it’s running after me.” As I’m writing this note for our 2023 church report, thinking of the 140th year of First Presbyterian Church Fresno, I can’t help but think of that refrain.

There were certainly some challenges in 2023, but in the midst of it all, it’s easy to see the goodness and mercy of God running after us. We see it in our growing participation. We see it in the generous financial support of the congregation. We see it in the many, many answered prayers of this last year. We hear it in the wonderful stories shared in each FPC Conversations podcast. We see it in the way people in the congregation are growing in faith, loving one another and reaching out to friends and neighbors. And we’ve experienced it in our worship, prayer and service together. All praise and glory be to God. Surely His goodness and mercy have followed after us in 2023.

What follows is a brief snapshot of His work among us. It’s meant to simply give you a taste of this last year in the life of FPC Fresno. I pray that as you look it over, you’re encouraged and filled with gratitude. I also pray that you are inspired to steward well the incredible faithfulness and goodness and mercy of God given to this congregation over these last 140 years. May the Lord help us to grow in loving God, loving neighbors, making disciples and pursuing shalom all so that it will be in Fresno as it is in heaven.

PASTOR JEREMY VACCARO

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FPC Home Improvement Drive

GOAL: \$ 650,000

RECEIVED: \$ 656,067

Three Projects Completed in 2023



HVAC SYSTEM
FOR OFFICE



LED SCREENS
FOR SANCTUARY



RESEALING OF
PARKING LOT

Two Projects in Process



HUB REMODEL
& UPGRADE



RENOVATE
RESTROOMS

Thank You!

FINANCES

BUDGET COMPARISON 2023 TO 2024

Ministry	2023 Spending	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2023-2024 Change
Administration	\$89,309	\$79,960	\$84,440	\$4,480
Children & Youth	\$47,742	\$51,525	\$51,525	-
Community Growth	\$30,597	\$29,100	\$26,700	\$(2,400)
Deacons	\$33	\$200	\$200	-
Facility & Grounds	\$151,425	\$118,752	\$163,662	\$44,910
Mission	\$147,114	\$150,000	\$150,000	-
Outreach	\$3,808	\$7,800	\$7,000	\$(800)
Personnel	\$1,012,651	\$1,098,258	\$1,119,208	\$20,950
Technology & Modern Worship	\$17,706	\$20,500	\$21,000	\$500
Worship	\$12,775	\$18,905	\$16,265	\$(2,640)
Totals	\$1,513,160	\$1,575,000	\$1,640,000	\$65,000



Total General Fund Giving for 2023 was \$1,507,012.

That's \$6,148 below spending for the year.

- Gifts from 320 giving families or individuals
- 59 first time givers!

We are grateful for your faithful & generous giving.

Everything you give fuels the mission & ministries of FPC and allows us to invest in ministry partners in our community & around the world.

FPC IMPACT

We Worshipped Together For 6,840 Minutes!

and had an average attendance of 357, compared to 303 in 2022



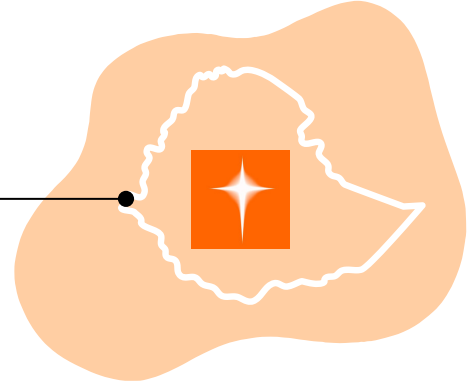
Our Youth & College Ministries Grew!

Camp Santa Cruz youth kickoff grew by 33% & College ministry attendance has grown 400% since 2017



We Were CHOSEN!

50 new sponsors added to our partnership with World Vision, now totaling 229



We Grew Together!

We met in 22 Growth Groups, 4 bible study groups & 1 Go Team



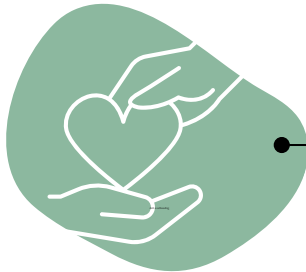
We Started A Podcast!

and released 24 episodes starting in February 2023



We Volunteered ... A Lot!

Thank you to our 257 volunteers & 12 volunteer teams

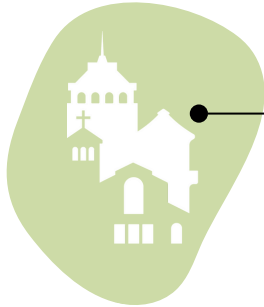


Pastor Jeremy traveled approximately 46,500 miles for church related events



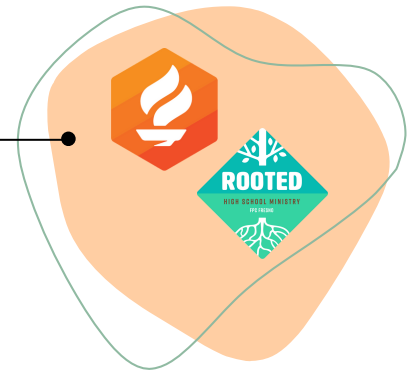
We Partnered In 18 Countries

-\$139,153 Invested Globally
-\$61,512 Invested Locally



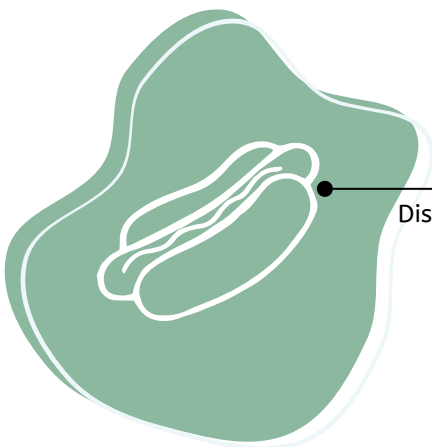
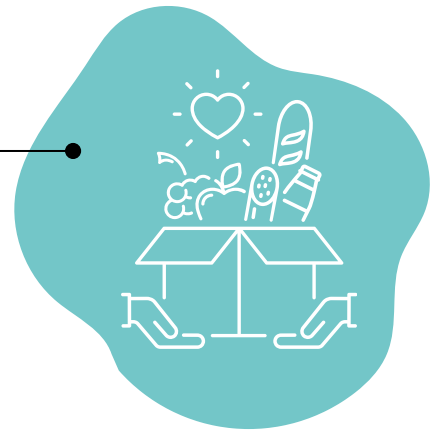
Leaders Stepped Up!

Youth Leaders increased from 8 in 2022 to 15 in 2023, an 87.5% increase



150 Pantry Food Boxes Assembled!

& distributed in partnership with 7
entities engaging 40 volunteers



SAINTS GONE HOME

ACTIVE MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY IN 2023

CLIFF BLOOM

BECKY BOURDET

KARIN COOK

NANCY CRUMP

CAROL DICE

JIM DICE

ANDY FLANIGAN

WES GUNTHER

ELSIE LAMBORN

ANNETTE LA RUE

SARAH ANN MITCHELL

H. SPEES

ROGER TAYLOR



**What will God do in & through us
in our 141st year of ministry?**



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