

"...Having the eyes of your heart enlightened..." Ephesians 1:18

Welcome Visitors!

You are our honored guests and we are pleased that you have chosen to visit us today. Our goal is to do everything according to God's word, including respecting its silence. This is a church of Christ; we are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church and we have no earthly "headquarters." The five elders oversee this work and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily aimed at our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don't understand something, please do not hesitate to ask one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not correspond to God's word. We are here to serve; please help us do that.

Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection plate. Thank You

Schedule

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM – Classes

Auditorium: Deuteronomy

Room 13/14: Esther

10:30 AM – Assembly

Speaking today: David Posey

2 PM Class at the Building

Room 13/14

Minor Prophets

5 PM (building)

Fruit of the Spirit

Weekly Young Adults Class

This week: 5 PM @ Barrett and Aimee Cain's

Tuesday, 10 AM

Ephesians: "Rich Kids"

Wednesday, 7 PM

End of Quarter Singing

Singing at the Folsom Care Center

3rd Sunday each month at 3:15 PM (see Grant Mulligan)

Men's Saturday Morning Meeting

7 AM, second Saturday of the month (see Tyler Wade)

Information

Children's Classes

We have classes for children from 18 months and up. Please see the map in the hallway or ask any of the members which room is appropriate for you and/or your child. There are several Bible studies in progress on Sunday afternoon and evening. Check with David Posey if you have questions.

Restrooms

There are two sets of restrooms: one off the first hallway to the right of the lobby and another at the end of the first hallway to the left. Ask anyone and they'll be happy to point you in the right direction.

For Small Children

There is a special room for nursing mothers and a separate "cry room" at the rear of the auditorium. You enter them from the first hallway to the right, across from the restrooms.

Online

You can find copies of class material and archives of previous editions of the View and listen to sermons online at www.folsomchurch.com. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/folsomchurch>

View & Junior View

Be sure to pick up a copy of the View and Junior View; both are sent out weekly, plus there are some hard copies printed on Sundays and available in the foyer.

"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

Ephesians 4:1-3

State of the Church: Introduction

Last year, we commenced publishing our “state of the church” presentation in writing instead of setting aside assembly time to do it verbally. There are a few reasons for this. The times when the whole church gets together is precious and we want to devote as much of that time as possible to worship, prayer, singing and study. In the distant past, we would devote a whole Sunday night to this process; recently, we have completed these presentations in 20 minutes or less in a special Sunday evening service. Publishing it in the *View* allows us to go into more detail and also, since some are always missing from any service due to work, sickness or being out of town, publishing it gives everyone a chance to be informed.

As we move into 2019, I believe we can say, with few exceptions, that the state of the church at Folsom is strong. The only truly negative news is the decision of a few of our young people to cast their lot with the world instead of devoting their life to serving Christ. In two cases, we had to exercise church discipline, which is always difficult to do, and very sad for their families and the church.

We have enjoyed some great additions to our group in 2018 and early 2019, committed Christians who are anxious to help us spread the gospel in the greater Folsom area. We’re excited to work with these new brothers and sisters in Christ and we’re confident that they will find the church here to be a great help in their journey of faith.

Of course, as always, we welcome your comments, feedback, constructive critique and input. Never hesitate to come to any, or all, of the elders if you have any questions or concerns. *dp*

Group Meetings

The elders continue to feel strongly that our group meetings are important for our congregation and achieve:

- The important goal of growing closer in our relationships with one another.
- A better understanding of the needs and ways we can be of service to one another, as God has directed us.
- The goal of spending more time with one another, getting to know each other better and enjoying each others’ company.

The meetings will always have a planned agenda and short lesson, but it will also be a time when people should feel free to discuss anything else that they feel the small group, elder or deacons should be aware of.

To that end, we will continue to hold our small group meetings and the elders and deacons have decided to schedule the meetings on three of the four fifth Sundays during 2019, right after morning services. Those Sundays are **March 31, June 30 and September 29**. There will not be group meetings in the final 5th Sunday (December 29). **We will not be returning to the building** on those days, as we did in the past. *dr & dp*

Attendance

Sunday attendance averages were almost identical to last year, with the low and high about the same and an average of around 320.

Since these are reported in the members’ section on our website and also in weekly summaries sent to all the members, further details are not necessary.

Preacher Training

In 2018, we had two men participating in our preacher training program: Tyler Brown and Zach McGinnis. Tyler’s training period ended after January and Zach’s has been extended through June 2019. David Posey and Randy Clark are primarily responsible for the training and the men typically meet with them weekly and semi-weekly, respectively.

Training focuses on sermon preparation and delivery, how to study the Bible, teaching classes and some of the intangibles of being in the role of a preacher (church members expectations, views of compensation, working with elders or how to do the work when there are no elders, etc.).

If you know of someone who may be interested in preaching, please let David or Randy know.

dp

Other Items of Interest

Curriculum

We continue to rewrite our curriculum at all levels, from preschool to adult. In reality, writing and revising curriculum is a permanent work in progress here at Folsom.

Benevolence

Once again, we had an opportunity to assist our own members and saints in other locations. It's not appropriate to mention names, of course, but we do our best to come to the financial aid of our own members when we deem it is appropriate and authorized.

The terrible fires in Paradise provided us with another opportunity to help the saints, although most of that was done, this time, through individual efforts.

Security

We have a written security plan in place and weekly assignments for security personnel at each service. We've taken other steps to ensure, as far as possible, the safety of all of those who attend here at every service. If you would like more information, ask any of the deacons or elders.

Member's Needs

We want to be mindful of our members that may need extra attention — please take a look at the News section in the *View* for current needs. And also, please reach out with prayers, cards or calls; anything that we can do to comfort or assist our members will be appreciated.

Summer Program

We're going to devote our summer quarter this year to teacher training. More precisely, it will be a Bible study about how Jesus taught his disciples, and others, with an application to teaching. We'll have separate classes on Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings covering teaching children, teens and adults. The auditorium classes on Sunday and Wednesday will be devoted to doing a deeper dive into how Jesus taught.

We plan to use a variety of men and women in this endeavor. If you would like to participate at the teaching level, please see David Posey or Dennis Reagan (if we don't contact you first).

Finances

Our End-of-the-year budget and expenses worksheet for 2018 is posted in the foyer. We try to keep that current on a quarterly basis, but if you have questions or comments about how the Lord's money is spent please ask any of the elders at any time. We want you to be informed and comfortable with all our financial expenditures.

Our financial situation is very good. At the end of the year we had enough of a savings to authorize an additional \$75,000 payment on the principle of our mortgage. The posted budget sheet shows our mortgage balance, which obviously changes monthly. Our largest expenditure continues to be for preaching the gospel. It is for the wages for our own men, David Posey, Scott Gardner and Zach McGinnis (and Tyler Brown, in 2018). But it also includes support for 14 other men, both in the U.S. and abroad. We have the ability to do even more and are always ready to consider helping other men.

We have only one large expenditure, not currently on our budget, anticipated for 2019. We are hoping to erect a monument sign on E. Natoma street. When we originally built on this site in 2002 we had hoped to erect one but finances prevented it at that time. Now, we are now in a position to complete it. We will need approval from the city and will need to get bids and determine the overall cost before we move forward, but our hope is to have this done by the end of 2019.

Our contribution has remained consistently strong. We have always exceeded our budget and usually exceeded our goal (which is always set a little higher than our actual budget) and 2018 was better than all the previous years. Again, feel free to refer to the posted budget sheet for details.

The elders want to thank you for your commitment and continue to ask for your prayers in using wisdom and good judgment in determining how to use the Lord's money. **rc**