

May 2026



THE CALLER

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

First Christian Church

2026 Arrants St.

Selma, CA 93662

559-896-2691 ☩ fccselma@sbcglobal.net

www.selmadisciples.com

www.facebook.com/selmadisciples

www.youtube.com/selmadisciples



TO:

*As a result of all this, my loved brothers and sisters,
you must stand firm, unshakable, excelling in the
work of the Lord as always, because you know that
your labor isn't going to be for nothing in the Lord.*

1 Corinthians 15:58 (CEB)

The Caller

Your monthly newsletter



- OFFICE -

Tuesday - Thursday | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Phone: 559-896-2691
Email: fccselma@sbcglobal.net
Pastor Email: fccselmapastor@yahoo.com

- MISSION STATEMENT -

To grow our faith in Christ and share it with others;
 connect to God and to others through love;
 create hope by serving others.

- VISION STATEMENT -

To be a faithful community called to
 love, connect, equip, and serve.

- CORE VALUES -

- Love
- Inclusion
- Creativity

CHURCH STAFF

- MINISTERS** The Congregation
- SENIOR PASTOR**..... Rev. Chad Thompson
- Ministers of Youth & Young Adults** Charlotte Thompson &
Leah Torosian
- Minister of Music**Jordan Williams
- Organist**.....Anthony Imperatrice
- Administrative Assistant**.....Samantha Stellpflug
- Bookkeeper** Lorraine Adayan
- Child Care**..... Open
- Custodian** Josiah Thompson

CHURCH LEADERS

- Chair of the Congregation** Yolonda Gonzalez
- Chair of the Deacons**Marsha Staley
- Chair of the Elders** John Terry
- Children’s Ministry** Kathleen Schales
- Communications Coordinator**Leah Torosian &
Samantha Stellpflug
- Property**..... Board
- Stewardship & Outreach**Jennifer Earle & Jane Ono
- Technology** Omar Ruiz & Joey Thompson



Dear Church Family,

May has arrived!

In May, we celebrate

Pentecost. In the life of the church, few moments are as defining as Pentecost. It is the day when the Holy Spirit rushed in like a mighty wind, when tongues of fire rested on ordinary people, and when the Church was born, not as a building, but as a Spirit-filled community sent into the world. In the book of Acts, we hear of how people from many nations heard the good news in their own languages.

Pentecost reminds us that the Church is not sustained by our own efforts alone. It is the Spirit who empowers, guides, and renews us. When we gather at the Table, when we baptize, when we serve our neighbors, we trust that the Spirit is present, still moving, still calling, still transforming. But Pentecost is not just something we remember; it is something we live. To be a Pentecost people means we remain open to where the Spirit is leading us next.

It means we listen for God’s voice not only in familiar places, but also in unexpected ones. It means we embrace the courage to step beyond comfort, to welcome all, and to proclaim the good news in ways that can be heard in today’s world. The same Spirit that filled the early believers continues to unite us across differences and send us out in mission. So as we approach Pentecost, may we not simply look back at what God has done—but look around and ahead to what God is doing now. Come, Holy Spirit—renew your Church. Begin again with us!

~Pastor Chad

Youth & Young Adults

Dear Church Family,

Chad and I got a Sleep Number bed a while back. Have you ever tried to find your sleep number? You start out at 100 (extra firm) and then go down from there. But you don't really notice a difference until you hit about 70 or so and by then, it's kind of soft.

Chad goes for a walk every night to help control his diabetes. He said the other night that he didn't feel like going but he knew that if he skipped *one* night, he'd probably skip two, and then he'd keep skipping. I know what he's talking about: I've been skipping since February.

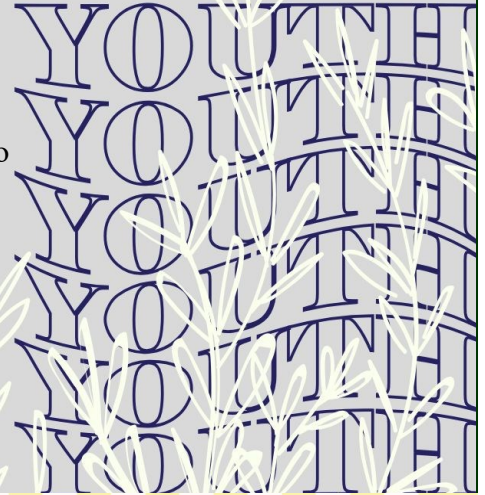
I think it's the same with going to church. We skip one because we're sick. Then we skip the next because our favorite football team is playing at 10:30. Then someone invites us to brunch. And by then we've gotten out of the habit. And then it's Christmas and we realize we haven't been since school started.

One of my favorite scriptures is from Hebrews 10: "And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Being in community is so important! We get to talk about how we've seen God, share ideas about how to show our city who God is, and learn more about his word. Even just being together makes our hearts happier.

I hope to see you all soon!

Love in Christ,

Charlotte Thompson and Leah Torosian, Youth and Young Adult co-directors



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, SELMA

JOIN US FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

ALL ARE WELCOME TO CELEBRATE WITH US!

MAY 24, 2026 @ 10:30 AM



2026 ARRANTS ST., SELMA, CA 93662



PRAYER PAGE

PRAYER REQUESTS, PRAISES, & GRATITUDE

PRAYER CHAIN: *Please send prayer requests and praises to
Karen Blanchard, 559-898-6700 or kablanchard17@gmail.com*

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Karen's friend, **Cindy Miller**, is asking for prayer for her sister, **Janice**. The oncologist says that one of her tumor markers are elevated. Pray that Janice is watched over and the doctors come up with a plan of action for her treatment. Also pray for Cindy to have comfort as she lives far from her sister and is very unsure and anxious.

Please pray for **Maria Tafoya**. A recent biopsy indicates pre-cancerous areas and she will be seeing a gynecological oncologist for treatment options. Pray for her strength and comfort, and wisdom for the doctors to know the best treatment for her.

Please pray for **Kathleen Schales**. She has been seeking help for her migraines and occipital nerves. Pray that she is able to get some answers and work of treatment options.



Vivian Abella is asking for prayer for her friend, **Marie**. She is going to have surgery for her stage 4 lung cancer. This is her second surgery and she is going to have another round of chemo treatment. Pray for the wisdom and guidance of Marie's medical team. Pray for Marie giving her comfort, relief, and strength.

Teresa Keck is asking for prayers for **Natasha** who has a brain tumor. She works for Teresa's friend Kim Craigo. Pray for comfort for Natasha, and guidance for the doctors in whatever treatment is needed.

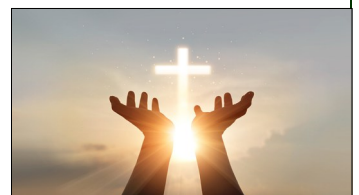
Janet Terry is asking for prayers for her granddaughter's husband, **Mike**. He had a dirt bike accident and went to the hospital in a lot of pain, with a possible broken leg. Pray for healing and strength on his recover from this injury.

Janice is asking for prayer for her friend, **Peter Garachana**. He has been sick for a couple of weeks with gastrointestinal problems and 2 different doctors have not figured it out. He went in for tests and a CT. He is in intense pain and says it would help to know what is wrong. He is grateful for prayer. Please pray for answers, and some relief while waiting.

Please Pray For **Teresa Keck** as she just had knee surgery. Pray for a fast and painless recovery, as well as comfort and strength.

PRAISES & GRATITUDE:

Thank you for the volunteers serving Christian Café for our Easter meal that was very much appreciated. Thank you **Pastor Chad, Josiah, William, Jennifer, Pat, Marsha, and Laurie** for being so willing to prep and serve our community. God provides, as we always have plenty to serve! ~ Liz Martinez



PRAYING FOR FELLOW DISCIPLES AND NEIGHBOR CHURCHES

Let us pray for the following churches, their vitality, and the mission God has called them to do.

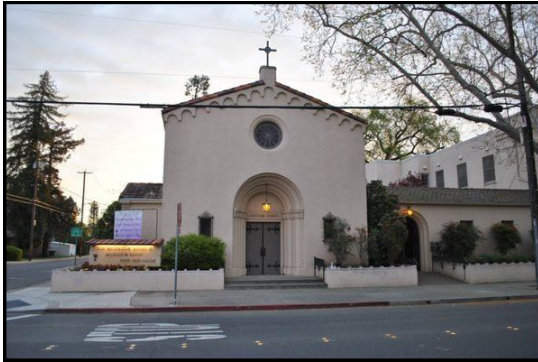
Feel free to send cards with words of encouragement for their members and ministry.

This month:

Woodland Christian Church

509 College St., Woodland, CA 95695

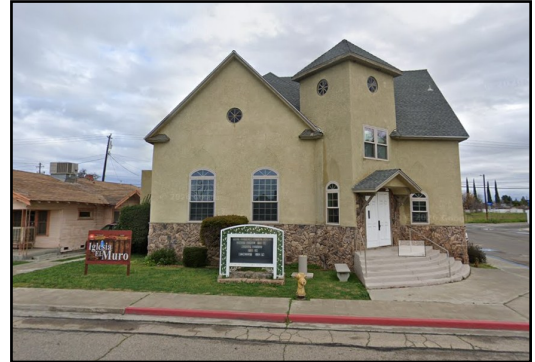
Pastor Shannon Gomez



First Southern Baptist

1606 Mill St., Selma, CA 93662

Pastor Franco Atkinson



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Extending Hand Ministries** gives out food to the public every 2nd and 4th Monday @ 8:00 AM
- **Cans for Camp:** We are still accepting cans/bottles to fund our scholarships for future campers.
- **Bible Study:** Thursdays @ 4:00 PM
- **Choir Rehearsals:** Saturdays @ 10 AM
- **Elders' Meeting:** Sunday, May 3rd @ 11:45 AM
- **Men's Devotional Prayer Breakfast:** Saturday, May 2nd @ 9:00 AM at Denny's
- **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:**
 - **Esther Group:** Saturday, May 9th @ 9:30 AM at Liz Martinez's
 - **Miriam Group:** Tuesday, May 12th @ 9:30 AM at Marsha Staley's
- **Mother's Day:** Sunday, May 10th all day.
- **Pentecost:** Sunday, May 24th all day.
- **Spiritual Growth:** TBA
- **Board Meeting:** Sunday, May 17th @ 11:45 AM

If you would like an announcement in the Caller, contact the office by the third Monday of the month.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 19, 2026

Present were :Yolanda Gonzales, Lisa Piper, Jane Ono, Leah Torosian, Jordan Williams, John Terry, Marsha Staley, Kathleen Schales, Laurie Fitzgerald, and Pat Adams.

Yolanda opened the meeting at 11:53 by lighting the Christ Candle. All read aloud the Mission and Vision statements and scriptures. Yolanda then prayed.

Minutes – Minutes of the March meeting were read. Marsha moved to accept the minutes as printed. John seconded, motion carried.

Financial Report – Marsha reviewed the budget and explained that we are meeting payroll but are unable to put money away for insurance and taxes. Pat moved to accept the financial report as printed. Marsha seconded, motion carried.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

Communications – We are saving costs by printing the Bulletin in black and white and printing fewer of them.

Education – Kathleen wanted kids to participate in Camp Sunday so there was no junior church. Next week will return to the regular schedule.

Property – Fellowship Landing Leak – Andrew is looking into solutions

Stewardship and Outreach – We had a successful reception after the Easter Cantata. Jane is working on fund raiser ideas.

Technology – Not much to report. Need a ram stick to finish the new connections. Inputs are going out.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Preached 4 sermons and led 3 Bible studies, worked at the Food Bank, and the Christian Café. Made 6 pastoral visits, attended an Elder's meeting and a board meeting. He worked with Methodist Church for a Maundy Thursday service and Good Friday service. Chad meets with 8 individuals for counseling sessions, support, and prayer during a variety of life circumstances. Chad will be on vacation April 17 through April 23 and the Annual Gather from April 24 through April 25.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT REPORT

We are still having the same issues with times. Kids are not fully committed. Charlotte and Leah will not give up and don't want to leave any body behind.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CRV recycling – After much discussion we decided to review the plan again next meeting. We would like to have Bobby come and explain more fully. Board members have many questions.

Jordan shared some new information about our relocation and new property. We thank Jordan for all of his work on this ongoing project.

Fellowship landing leak – Andrew is checking into pricing. We need to pray for a solution.

NEW BUSINESS

Parking problem – It was suggested that we change our time of worship to ease the parking situation.

Methodist to nest? – Jordan will speak to Laurel Ridgway and Rick Lenocker about the possibility of Nesting with The United Methodist Church.

Graduation Sunday – June 7th was chosen for our Graduation Sunday. So far our list of graduates include: Alicia Palomino, Makayla Sierra, and Jorge Flores.

Yolanda closed the meeting with prayer at 1:07 p.m.

Next Board Meeting will be May 17, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Adams, Board secretary

THOUGHTS ABOUT

Stewardship

It has been said, you can't serve God and money. But you can serve God with money. Thank you to everyone who has begun giving on a regular basis and to all who continue to give every month.



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday:Sunday School 9:15 AM
Worship Service..... 10:30AM
Iglesia DC 4:30 PM & 6 PM
Youth and Young Adult Group 7 PM

Monday:Iglesia DC Food Distribution2:30 PM
Narcotics Anonymous 7 PM

Wednesday:Iglesia DC Food Distribution1:30 PM
Choir Rehearsal (intermittently)..... 7 PM

Thursday:Bible Study (Pastor's Office) 4 PM
Iglesia DC 6 PM

Friday:.....Iglesia DC Food Distribution2:30 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous 7 PM

Saturday:Community Choir (intermittently) 10:30AM

GIVING TO THE CHURCH

Thank you for financially supporting God's work in the various ways below!

IN WORSHIP: During the Offertory

MAIL: 2026 Arrants St., Selma, CA 93662

"BILL PAY": through online banking

MOBILE APPS

(download one or both at the Google Play Store or the Apple Store)



PayPal

(General Fund only)



Givelify

(Can designate giving)

Donating Supplies

The church is always in need of stamps, printer paper, paper towels, and toilet paper. Contact the church office to see what is currently needed.

NUMBERS FOR APRIL 2026

In-Person Attendance

SUN 5 WORSHIP 68

SUN 12 WORSHIP 32

SUN 19 WORSHIP 42

SUN 26 WORSHIP 30

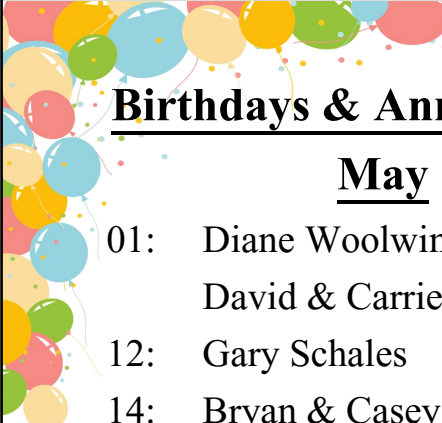
GIVING:

GENERAL FUND: \$ 7,022.50
 2026 MONTHLY GOAL: \$ 8,233.00

(This information is based on pledged and estimated giving for 2025. It does not include income from Facility Use, Fundraisers, or Parsonage Rental; and does not include designated giving.)

Thank you for your faithful support of our ministry in Selma through time, talent, and treasure!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Men's Breakfast 9 AM Choir Rehearsal 10 AM
3 Elder's Meeting 11:45 AM	4	5	6	7 Bible Study 4 PM	8	9 Choir Rehearsal 10 AM Esther Group 9:30 AM
10 Mother's Day	11 Food Bank 8 AM	12 Miriam Group 9:30 AM	13	14 Bible Study 4 PM	15	16 Choir Rehearsal 10 AM
17 Board Meeting 11:45 AM	18 Caller Submissions Due	19	20	21 Bible Study 4 PM	22	23 Choir Rehearsal 10 AM
24 Pentecost	25 Memorial Day Food Bank 8 AM	26	27	28 Bible Study 4 PM	29	30 Choir Rehearsal 10 AM
31						



Birthdays & Anniversaries

May

01: Diane Woolwine
David & Carrie Chavez '04

12: Gary Schales


14: Bryan & Casey DeBaets

19: Anna Armstrong

22: Tiffany Piper

28: Dorothy Babiarcz
Kimberly Cervantes

29: Caden Linhoff




Happy Anniversary

*Did we miss your special day?
Let the church office know so we can update our records!*


SERVING IN MAY

<u>PRESIDER</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
03: Makayla Sierra	Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16
10: Lisa Piper	1 Corinthians 13:4-7
17: Jessica Williams	Acts 1:6-14
24: Karen Blanchard	Acts 2:1-21
31: Kathleen Schales	Matthew 28:16-20



COMMUNION & OFFERTORY ELDERS

03: John Terry & Jessica Williams
10: Charlotte Thompson & John Terry
17: Jordan Williams & Pat Adams
24: Leah Torosian & Jennifer Earle
31: Jessica Williams & Charlotte Thompson



DEACONS

03: Marsha Staley, Lisa Piper, Karen Blanchard
10: Bryan DeBaets, Casey DeBaets, Liz Martinez
17: Brent Burwell, Tina Ritchie, Kathleen Schales
24: Tiffany Piper, Makayla Sierra, Marsha Staley
31: Will Thompson, Zoe Thompson, Laura Thornburg

JUNIOR WORSHIP LEADERS

03: Kathleen Schales & Makayla Sierra
10: Tiffany Piper & Lisa Piper
17: Laura Thornburg & Alicia Palomino
24: Karen Blanchard & Zoe Thompson
31: Liz Martinez & Makayla Sierra

