

Information for Pastor Candidates
August 2018

**First Presbyterian Church
of Columbia, California**

Better known as

“Church of the 49ers - where God is the Gold”

Established December 19, 1854

11155 Jackson St.

Columbia, California 95310

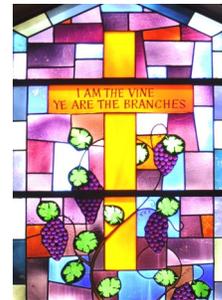
(209) 532-2441

FAX: (209) 532-1948

Web Site: www.49erChurch.org

E-mail: churchofthe49ers@yahoo.com

Facebook: [churchofthe49ers](https://www.facebook.com/churchofthe49ers)



An Evangelical Covenant Order (ECO)
of Presbyterians congregation.

Position Summary

- Position offered: Full time Solo Pastor/Head of Staff
- Education required: Master of Divinity preferred
- Statement of Faith and agreement with ECO Essential Tenants: Required
- Ordained (or immediately ordainable) as a Pastor in the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians or other Reformed denomination if approved by ECO
- Experience: Some inter-personal hands-on ministry/mentoring to congregants preferred

Job Description

Functions listed in general order of priority

1. Worship

- A. Preaching/Teaching
- B. Worship planning
- C. Worship Leadership
- D. Administration of the Sacraments

2. Member Care

- A. Visit the sick and shut-ins
- B. Praying for the people and leading them to pray for one another
- C. Visit new members and repeat visitors
- D. Guide the church toward growth
- E. Counseling on request and referrals to social services as appropriate

3. Administration

- A. Head of Staff
- B. Moderate Session
- C. Attend Presbytery meetings and serve on an entity of that council
- D. Assist and/or attend committee meetings as needed
- E. Advise and teach the Deacon Board

4. Other Functions

- A. Conduct weddings and memorial services on request
- B. Participate in community activities

Special Skills Desired

Computer, vocal/instrumental music, Christian education, organization/leadership

Salary & Benefits

Salary & Housing: up to \$52,000, 4 weeks vacation, 2 weeks study leave, travel and media allowance, medical benefits as prescribed by ECO policy, retirement: (403(b)(9)) per ECO minimum requirements.

WHO ARE WE?



Covenant Partners: 141 plus several regular non-members: 50% aged 70 & older; 30% aged 50—69; 20% younger than 50

Average Worship Attendance: 80

Annual Budget: \$238,250 (see page 8 chart)

Staff: 1 each part-time Office Administrator, Sexton & Pianist

Succession Plan: Overlap incoming Pastor with retiring Pastor for up to several months.

Mission Statement

We are the Church of the 49ers where *God is the gold*. We serve and worship God in spirit and in the truth of the scriptures. We live by faith and will be known by our love for others and our voice of hope.



Ready to serve Community Christmas Feast



"Holy Rollers" for Habitat

Our Values

- We are a caring and nurturing place in which all are welcome to worship.
- We are a Christ-centered church in which the Bible is the true word of God.
- We minister to the needs of our members and others through loving discipleship.
- We are a strong and compassionate member of the community by providing for the spiritual and physical needs of our neighbors, especially the disadvantaged, abused and powerless.
- We support Christian missions locally, nationally and internationally.
- We are a Presbyterian (ECO) structure in worship and governance.
- We celebrate life as God's gift.
- We faithfully pray for those in need.
- We believe Jesus Christ has sent the church into the world to make and multiply his disciples.
- We are culturally relevant while adhering to the Essential Tenets of ECO.

Strategy

- We will grow as a community organization with greater presence in Tuolumne and Calaveras counties, in support of the Great Commission to preach and live the word of God.
- We will protect and grow the Helen Johnson Community Dinner Program including development of Spiritual Roads as an integral part of our mission.
- We will embrace becoming a church that reflects the diversity in our community through multiple generations, socio-economic status and ethnicities.
- We will agree on the professional, theological and personality traits for the candidates for Pastor and fully vet the applicants.



Work party photo-op



Helen Johnson Community Dinner
Free full-course meals served each
Monday evening— all are invited



“Spiritual Roads” meeting

Spiritual Roads is an independent non-profit that is partnering with our Helen Johnson Community Dinner program for the purpose of “helping people recover and heal from addictions and find freedom from unhealthy behaviors.”

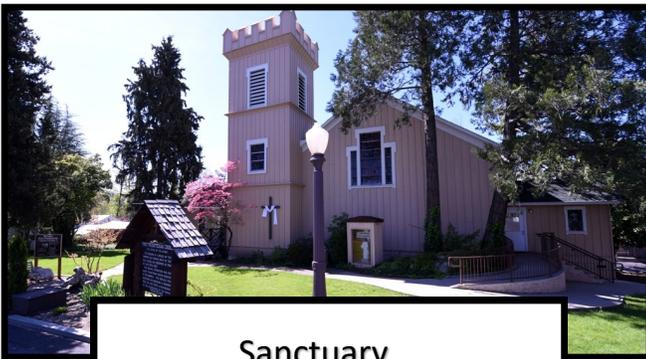
Worship Style

Theme and liturgy are always part of worship whether the service is classical, country-western or piano-led contemporary, which we alternate regularly.

Major Ministries

Weekly free public full course dinner program followed by “Spiritual Roads,” an independent non-profit dealing with addiction issues; Interfaith Community Services providing food, clothing, household items, personal care services, referrals for jobs, housing and other services for those in need; financial support for local, national and international non-profits and disaster relief; plus a host of fellowship and evangelical activities offered to any who will come.

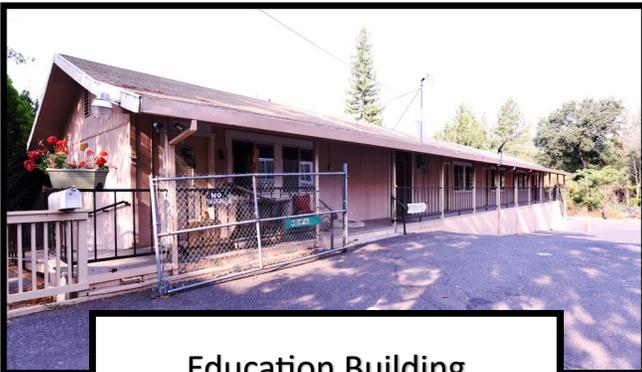
Church Campus



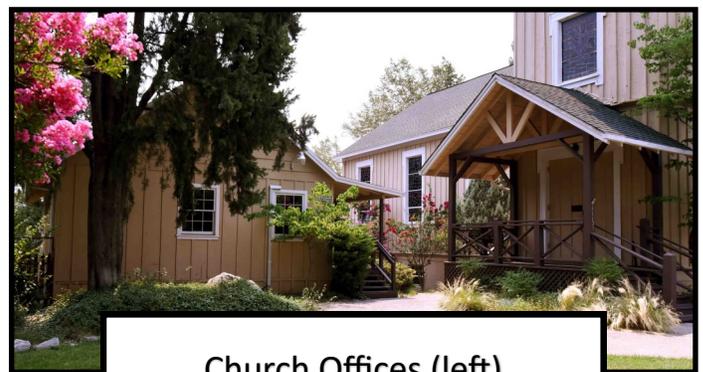
Sanctuary



Faith Hall



Education Building



Church Offices (left)

We have four main buildings: The Sanctuary built in 1954 will seat 180 people; Faith Hall built in 2000 that includes a commercial kitchen and a small workshop basement; a two story education building built in 1985 originally for Pre-school and Sunday School rooms; and the office building built around the mid '50s used for the Pastor's Study and church office with a small meeting room below. There is parking available for approximately 60 cars. The parking directly across from the Sanctuary is shared with the state park. In addition there is another church-owned lot behind Faith Hall.

There are issues with roof leaks in Faith Hall that are currently being addressed. Two sides of the Sanctuary Bell Tower are in need of repair or replacement. Although we do have designated funds available for this need, we are unable to determine the cost due to the lack of contractors willing to bid because of the complexity and historic requirement of the job. We are still seeking out contractors.

Our Area

The Church, rightfully known as “Church of the 49ers” is located adjacent to Columbia State Historic Park which is comprised of the original town settled in 1850 by gold miners. We are also within the Tuolumne County designated historic zone that is dedicated to the preservation of the history of the California Gold Rush. Sonora, the largest town in the county — and county seat — is just 4 miles south.

Outdoor enthusiasts relish the variety of activities: boating, fishing, water and snow skiing, hunting, hiking, golfing, camping, backpacking and climbing. Tourists and residents alike enjoy the numerous lakes and streams in the area. The temperature ranges from a winter low in the 30’s to a summer high in the high 90’s. A thirty-minute drive will take you to the mountains and the Stanislaus National Forest. Yosemite National Park is 53 miles from Columbia.

The population of Tuolumne County is approximately 54,000. The median age is 48 while the fastest growing segment of the population is over 60. This is an area that attracts retirees. The median household income is \$51,000 and the median value of owner occupied housing units is \$260,000. Tuolumne County has very little ethnic diversity.

Columbia Elementary School, serving kindergarten through eighth grade students, is less than a mile from the church. In addition, there are 30 other public schools, and several charter, private and Christian schools in the county. Columbia College is an accredited community college located in Columbia offering a two-year program. Adventist Health Sonora serves as the primary critical care hospital in the community located in the Sonora City limits. In addition to the main hospital, the new Health Pavilion and Diana J. White Cancer Institute will be opened soon.

Tuolumne County is a place which celebrates its historical roots, strong work ethic and community giving. This is a caring and compassionate place filled with people from diverse backgrounds, education and experience.

Additional information can be found at:

<https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov>

<https://www.visittuolumne.com>

A Brief History

The discovery of gold in California attracted pioneer spirited men and women to the area with the lure of quick and easy wealth. By the early 1850s Columbia boasted a population as high as 6,000. Much of the infrastructure of the town was hastily built and re-built due to the ravages of fire. Civic order was not the primary focus of the people’s attention. There were, however, those who were civic minded who saw to the establishment of schools and churches in the area. At one time there were 5 churches in the town.

By the 1860s the glory days of Columbia were fading and the population dwindled to some 500. Membership in this church dwindled as well. At one time during the 1930s recorded membership was only two members. At that time we became a mission church operated by the Presbyterian National Board of Missions with services performed by seminary students.

When the State of California declared Columbia as a State Historic Park in 1945, the town and the area again began to grow. With an improving economy, the then deteriorating Sanctuary was in dire need of restoration. By the spring of 1950, the church was restored and rededicated. We remain the only full-time church in Columbia.

It was seven weeks later that an accidental fire completely destroyed the Sanctuary and the near-by Manse. There was no insurance. A rebuilding campaign was immediately undertaken by offering recovered square-headed nails in return for contributions as well as a massive letter campaign. The Sanctuary was rebuilt to closely resemble the 1864 building and was rededicated December 19, 1954 — the 100th anniversary of the church. Only a few changes have been made to the Sanctuary since, including the addition of a main floor restroom, an ADA access ramp and a recently added modern audio/video system.

References for addressing questions and how to apply

ECO Website: www.eco.pres.org

Presbytery of Northern California & Nevada

Terri McNabb, Presbytery Liaison

e-mail: terribmcnabb@gmail.com

Pastor Janet Russell:

Phone (209) 532-2441

e-mail: rev.janet.russell@gmail.com

Pastor Nominating Committee:

Gary Davis, Chair

Phone: (209)532-6604

e-mail: davisgold@hub.net

Jim Brandt, Vice-Chair

Phone: (209)532-3059 or cell phone (209)559-6938

e-mail: jbrandt60@att.net

Judy Haughton, Corresponding Secretary

Phone: (209)586-9096

e-mail: jandrhaughton@aol.com

To apply

Please provide by mail to the church office your cover letter and resume, including a statement of faith, to the corresponding secretary noted above.

Church Of the 49ers Financial Trend Analysis 2012 -2020 (JHW Rev. 7-10-18)

