

# The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

April 14, 2021

## 10:30 a.m. Worship on Facebook

Worship series from Easter through Pentecost Sunday: "Dare to Dance"

### **Worship 4/18:**

"While in Their Joy: Dancing Sure", 1 John 3: 1-3, Luke 24:36b-48

### **Worship 4/25:**

"By This We Will Know: The Dance of Love", 1 John 3:16-18, 23-24; John 10:11-17

Anne Schlesinger, preaching

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## *Native American Ministries Sunday Offering, April 18*

The Native American Ministries Sunday offering develops and strengthens annual conference Native American ministries, equips Native American rural and urban congregations, ministries, and communities and educates Native American seminarians. Checks may be made payable to Wesley Church, designated *Native American Ministries* or give online. Thank you.

## *Attention Wesley Graduates!*

If you are graduating from Jr. High, High School, or College/University, please email Terry at [office@wesleybakersfield.org](mailto:office@wesleybakersfield.org) by Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Announcements will be published in *The Outlook*. Please include the school graduating from, future plans, and any awards. Thank you.

## *Administrative Council*

The Administrative Council will meet on Tuesday, April 20, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Please make plans to attend.

## ♪ A Note from the Pastor

***Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. 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.***  
~Hebrews 10: 23-25

Happy Easter! What a blessing it is to meet together in person, even with COVID restrictions in place. We can “provoke one another in love and do good deeds” together at last! Many of us have had the opportunity to receive a full dose of one of the vaccines, and we continue to be masked and remain socially distant. But we are together at last! However, we continue to provide on-line worship as well, and our prayer group and studies continue online as well. We are still adjusting to hybrid worship. I am taking an online class about how to do hybrid worship well—the class starts tomorrow, and I hope to share what I learn with the tech team for their input as well. So far we have been unable to provide the text for the call to worship and opening prayer because we are not using worship bulletins or passing anything from hand to hand. However, if you request a copy of the “Worship Worksheet” which I have made in the past in order for the office to create the bulletin, I can email it to you.

Youth group is a joy to me. We have met four times at the parsonage to start a gardening project. The youth (who call the group “Gardening for God”) have decided that come harvest time they will take a bit of the produce home and share the rest with people with food insecurity. Last week the youth created a second raised bed, with the expert guidance of Dan O’Dell. What fun! The group is small—two or three adults and from one to three youth. I invite all young people who are old enough to have an interest. Give me a call so I have plenty of snacks available. (Only prepackaged snacks are allowed during COVID restrictions.)

Our after worship study is led by Barbara Dethlefsen and continues on the ZOOM platform. We are currently studying *I’m Black, I’m Christian, I’m Methodist*, a series of essays edited by Rudy Rasmus. The whole United Methodist denomination is focussing on racism and becoming anti-racist. Please join us! Let me know of your interest and I will send you the link. I hope to see you all soon!

Pastor Anne



## *Prayers of Joys and Concerns*

### **We pray for all who are sick and caring for the sick, including:**

- Barbara Knowlton • Natalie
- Barbara D's brother John
- Stella's brother Jack and sister Sylvia
- Corby's uncle Kevin • Brian
- Vivian Moore • Eddy's cousin Toby
- Ruth • Susan M.
- People suffering from COVID, especially those in India and Brazil
- We pray for healing of the world
- Guinevere—reaction to vaccine
- Our troubled planet
- And for all who are struggling in body, mind, relationships, and spirit.
- People with food insecurities
- Vanessa

### **We pray for all who are grieving losses:**

- The Torres family— April's service is Friday, April 16, 10 am graveside: Call Pastor Anne for details
- Carter Walkinshaw—for the loss of his Uncle Bob
- Mitchell family—following the death of a relative
- Schlager family and all who mourn the loss of a wonderful pastor and mentor (including Anne)
- Great Britain's Royal family
- For Carmen Curtis for the loss of her father

### **For now for discernment for people making decisions and facing challenges:**

- Safety for teachers and students returning to classrooms
- Ryan—pray for peace and calm
- For the Rous family: make good decisions regarding dealing with mold abatement

- Children in foster care

### **Our many blessings, including:**

- For Sarah's and Kelly's performance "Sing of the Holocaust and Healing"
- Brian is improving enough to have a long phone conversation with Laura and may go home soon
- For Rob's visit with his mother, Janice
- Praise God that Natalie's cancer has not spread
- The beauty of the world in all its diversity
- The ability to worship on-line and safely in person