

# The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

August 11, 2021

## 10:30 a.m. Worship on Facebook and In-Person

**August 15:** Ephesians 4:1-16, John 4:7-40, "The Encounter"

**August 22:** Revelation 21:22-26, John 6:56-69, "The Reflection"

Rev. Anne Schlesinger, Preaching

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### ♫ A Note from the Pastor

***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. Isaiah 43 1b-3a***

This is from the California/Nevada Conference Newsletter: "Now the largest such fire in California History, the Dixie Fire, is a devastating moment in time. Small towns, like Greenville, Crescent Mills, Canyon Dam and others virtually wiped off the map. No lives lost yet, but many lives changed. The California Nevada Conference is responding to help. The UMC churches in Quincy, Portola, Greenville and Susanville are assisting evacuees. The Conference Early Response Team served for three days at the Local Assistance Center in Quincy this past weekend. We expect to return as the next assistance locations open. We will be responding over the coming weeks as survivors need help with housing, food, clothing and living expenses." The article continues with ways we can help. Fifty fire recovery buckets have been assembled and delivered to South Reno, an UMCOR depot for the Great Northern District. Pastors from Greenville, Quincy and Grass Valley are helping evacuees with counseling, prayer, services and also with practical support such as gift cards for replacing personal essentials. One, Pastor Mele Vakapuna began her very first appointment on July 1 in Greenville UMC. After only one month on the job, the church building is a complete loss. But the church is the *people*, so much recovery work needs to be done. Bishop Carcaño says the best way to help is through cash donations that will purchase gift cards to provide essentials to evacuees in shelters. You may make donations through Wesley (please make note on

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your check or on-line donation so it is properly credited) or to <https://calnev-reg.brtaapp.com/disasterresponse>, (Conference Fire relief) or <https://advance.umcor.org/p-620-umcor-us-disaster-response-and-recovery.aspx> (UMCOR). All roads to Greenville are closed, so please don't attempt to drive there to help. If you would like to deliver practical help, please complete the Volunteer Training application on the Conference website. (<https://calnev-reg.brtaapp.com/CANVfires>.)

In local news, Wesley began the *Quest* worship series on August 8. It will continue the next three Sundays. If you attended in person and received a "Travel Journal" notebook, please bring it with you each Sunday in the series. We purchased only enough for each person to have one. We are traveling the world in the comfort of our sanctuary (or in your homes via Facebook).

We began a Wednesday Evening Bible study on Zoom. If you would like an invitation to join the study, please call my cell phone or send me an email. We are using Amy-Jill Levine's book, *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven*. It is available from Amazon and other vendors, but you are welcome to join the discussion without the book if you will read the Sermon on the Mount from Matthew's Gospel, chapters 5-7.

I pray you're staying as healthy as possible. Through this record high heat. Please stay hydrated.

Blessings, Pastor Anne

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## *Joys and Concerns*

### **In need of comfort and/or healing:**

• Estella • John • Carol • Linda  
• Carolyn A and Jerry S • Barbara D's sister Carol and her brother John & his wife Pam • Toby • Adele C. • Fred C.  
• Daniella and her mother & Caretaker Rose • Fenton • Brian and all who love him • Larry L and all who love and care for him • Mike • Alison • Alice

### **For people and places that need God's intervention:**

• All teachers in new situations • The rising number of COVID cases: may we truly come to a time of POST-pandemic  
• Stella—for strength • Firefighters and all affected by raging fires—human and

animal and environment alike • All involved in the Olympic Games: travel safety, peace of mind and respect for each other • On Wesley UMC as we play for a return of children's programs and choir/ hiring of a new choir director/ safety for all as COVID cases rise in Kern • Greenville CA and all affected by the devastating fires, especially the Dixie and River fires—people, animals, environment and landscape • All firefighters

### **For People who grieve:**

• The Corson family • Barbara K  
• The family and friends of the 5 dead and injured in Wasco this month

- Susan M • The Jacobus family
- Claudia R. whose mom and brother died recently • The Gonzales family, especially Rose • Walter Woods and all who grieve the death of (retired) Bishop Beverly Shamana

### **We pray blessings:**

- For people looking for jobs, especially Ian B. And Kelly S. • For Elizabeth who begins new job training • On BC's vaccine clinic—may it be well attended • On the schools with unfilled positions • On all children in foster care • On the upcoming election regarding Gov. Newsom's recall. May we all have clear and open minds and have discernment. May all who are eligible vote. • On Sarah S and her friend Emily and Emily's 9 year old sister.

### **For Travel mercies:**

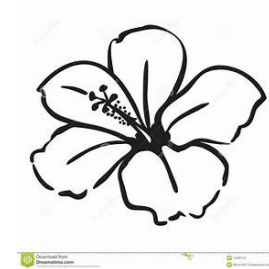
- The Bewley family • Louis Clay

### **We lift prayers of concern for:**

- Domestic violence victims. We ask for a way to find an end all gun violence • David R—managing his business, extra paper work due to pandemic, all the stress and his focus on his patients. May he have awareness of what he can handle and what he can delegate to others • Law enforcement: that they be appreciated for their hard work, may God guide them in their work, may God give them wisdom, especially in difficult situations • For Bobbi, CASA supervisor who is under stress. May she be given peace of mind • The Atkins family for discernment as they plan to purchase a condo

### **We give you praise, God:**

- The connection of family and friends • Barbara's visit with her family (and travel mercies coming home)
- Elizabeth's new job • Parker's summer job • Brendan's teacher shower • The trustees and their work on the sprinkler system, the air conditioner • Jerry's wonderful help getting Eddy's book edited and to the printer • A good visit with Jerry's grandson and his friend
- Rain—and we pray for more
- Laura's trip and visit with family and dear friends • New sound system • Terry's 2 daughters expecting babies in late August (Tiffany) and early September (Kristyn) • For the Prayer Quilt ministry at Wesley begun by Dolores Shumate and others, and for wonderful fiber artists who continue the work, Jennifer Armantrout and Louise Clay • For Barbara Knowlton's witness • NPR program that exposed common misconceptions about COVID, masking, and vaccines • For Barbara D's safe return from her travels and the visit with family • The life and witness of Terry's Father-in-law, Jonathan Gonzales Sr. • For Brian's 38th birthday celebration at Disneyland • For Carolyn D's writings and remembrances



## *In The Military*



Please keep those serving in the military in your prayers.

Chris Armantrout - US Navy  
Nathan Ashlock - US Marines  
Nick Buckridge - Army National Guard  
Alex Campbell - Navy  
Josh Caughran - Navy  
Megan Darling - Army Reserves  
Bradley Delacruz - Army  
Kurt Droste - US Marines  
Rebek'ah Fore - Navy  
Jerome Garey - Air Force  
Rebecca Garey - Air Force  
Dan Hanel - US Air Force  
Greg Hanel - US Air Force  
Colin Harrigan - US Marine Corp  
Kenneth Oberg - Navy  
Ellis Redmond - Marine Corp  
Tiela Roland - US Air Force  
Spring Walden - US Air Force  
Joel Watson - Navy  
Josephine Wells-Ashley - US Marines  
Shon Willis - US Army  
Laura Yoon - US Navy  
David Yoon - US Navy

The pillar candle on the altar is to remind us of our prayers for them.

## *Administrative Council*

The Administrative Council will meet Tuesday, August 17, 5:30 p.m. in person at The Gathering Place. Please make plans to attend.

## *Church Directory 2021*

The new directory will be printed September 7. If you have had changes since the last directory please email or call the church office and leave a message. Thank you,