

The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

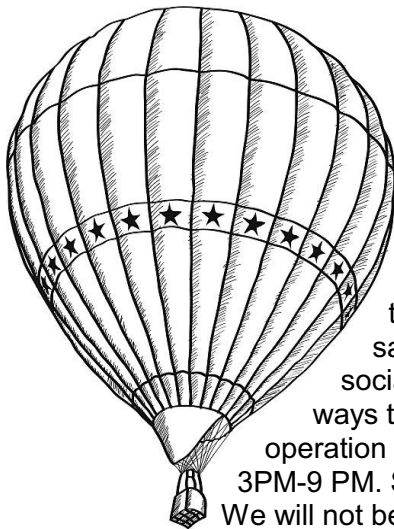
August 25, 2021

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

August 29: Psalm 36:5-9, John 15:1-17, "Returning Home"

September 5: Psalm 18, Mark 7:24-37, "Solid Rock"

Rev. Anne Schlesinger, Preaching



COMING UP! The Pumpkins Are Coming Sunday, October 10, 2021

On Sunday, October 10, 2021, the pumpkins are scheduled to arrive at noon. We will need your help to unload pumpkins and set up the patch. We will request that everyone wear masks and will have plenty of hand sanitizer available. We most likely will not be able to socially distance at that time, but will explore possibilities of ways to make it safer. Initially, we will reduce our hours of operation and make adjustments as needed. Monday-Friday 3PM-9 PM. Saturday 9 AM-9 PM, and Sunday 12 Noon-9 PM.

We will not be having a Community Fun Day with a bake sale and coat giveaway this time around. However, our bakery items are so much in demand that we ask that you donate them throughout the time of the patch and we will have them available for sale at the pumpkin check out area. We are exploring ways to still distribute coats, so donations are still being accepted. We are not sure about story time for the children at this time, but will keep you updated. The Adopt-A-Pumpkin Tree will be making an appearance in the lobby in the near future. Further details and updates will follow as the situation changes and more information is obtained.

Thank you for your continued support, prayers, and reflections of God's love through the Pumpkin Patch ministry. Call or text me anytime at 699-6625, to find out ways to help or email me at cgarnmpa@aol.com God's love abounds!

—Blessings, Carolyn

♪ A Note from the Pastor

“Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Whoever seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door is opened.”
-Matthew 7: 7-8

Many of us are looking forward to the end of the heat wave—as I write this, the temperatures have become much more reasonable, and I am certain that I am not the only person who is grateful. Keep on praying! *We give you thanks, Loving God, for every season, and we give you thanks for a break in the high temperatures. We give you praise in all things. Amen.*

Teachers and students have headed back school, and we are grateful for all the work; teaching, learning, and all the ancillary duties. May God bless all students and staff! We ask a special blessing for the brand new teachers who have worked so very hard to get their positions—Brendan and Ian Bewley and Sarah Strobel. What a testament to their parents, that these children of teacher-couples are following in their parent's footsteps.

Wesley is hiring a new choir director. Choir could not meet in the middle of COVID, so when our choir director, Kyle Ball, decided to go back to school to earn his Master's degree, we did not search for a replacement. Recently we decided it is time to start looking, and Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) has found two very eligible candidates. They will be interviewed after worship on Sunday with the choir and anyone interested in joining the choir is invited to be present to meet them. (Singers, please plan to stay approximately one half hour after worship.) I have seen both candidates' resumé's and have no doubt that SPRC will have a very difficult decision to make. Please keep them all in your prayers. I don't know how long it will be before the choir is ready to sing in church, and choir will need to be masked, which may muffle the sound, but a return to more music is something to look forward to with joy.

The final Sunday in our “Quest” worship series will be August 29. I hope contemplating spiritual and physical journeys has been illuminating for you. Many of us have stayed closer to home since the beginning of the pandemic, so pondering our inward journey during this time has been an act of discovery. Our next worship series is called “My God is a Rock,” based on the Psalms that showcase the steadfast nature of God. My prayer is that the series will be a message of hope for everyone.

September will be here soon. We have been talking awhile about our Sunday school kick-off on September 12, and I hope all children and youth will be able to attend. The first week will be especially celebratory. Our youth group has been on hiatus for some time. The intense summer heat has been hard on the garden. We hope to resume soon. The Friday afternoon schedule did not work with everyone's schedule, so we had a very small (but hardworking and powerful!) group of youth. Is Friday at four still the best time? Please let me know your availability.
Blessings, Pastor Anne

Joys and Concerns.

Prayers for comfort and healing:

• Barbara's brother John and his family
• Toby • For people with COVID, especially for Brian and Joey and the Bender family (Brian is stable, but still hospitalized and in need of continued prayer) • Susan M • Gabriela P. • Karen O. • The Lonsinger family • Bob W. • Bob S. • Carolyn and Jerry • Fred C. • Cindy C. • Josephine • Carolyn A. • Harold (Cindy W's Dad) • Louie • Nick S • Carolyn and Jerry

Prayers for those who grieve:

• Corson family • Jacobus family
• Susan M. • Barbara K. • The Dethlefson family • Karen O • The Agenjo family • Florence's family
• Fred C.

Prayers for other needs:

• We pray for rain in places affected by fire and places affected by drought • Fire zones & aftermath • For people and all creatures in fire zones, and calming of the winds • For firefighters • For evacuees, especially Lynette M. • For teachers, students and staff during the first week of school (and beyond) • Discernment for all those making difficult decisions • Families who struggle • For Andrew's job interview • For Afghanistan— especially for the people fearing for their lives & those "left behind" • For Haiti • For the water shortage in the world—may God lead us through • All children in foster care • People living in poverty • For all new college students away from home for the 1st time, esp. Nathan • Discernment for those who have lost confidence in the work of Faith in the Valley, especially for Dawn—may we all seek appropriate ways to seek justice and

mercy • That Tish may feel God's love and care • Discernment for all those making a difficult decision • Families who struggle • Concern for the Lonsinger family—for peace and comforts in difficult times • Prayers that the US will carefully reconsider the situation in Afghanistan and how we are going to help our friends there, especially those who helped the US the past 20 years.

Travel mercies for:

• John R • Lissy and Scott • Stella • Laura, Sherry & their families

Prayers of praise and gratitude:

• For Ian's new job • Krystyn's 25th birthday • For Laura's good work at the hospital • For a 3-hour lunch with friends who had not seen each other for a long time • For the many people who volunteer in this community • The life and witness of Antonio Agenjo • New Babies! Terry G. has welcomed two new granddaughters—Madeline and Scotlyn and Barbara D. has welcomed a great granddaughter Leona. Blessings for these families! • Mandi's 1st day of school went well • Brendan's and Ian's 1st days of school went well, too • Barbara is able to do "Taxi duty" for granddaughters—thankful she can help • For our families who have formed us • For Stover who won an award for pole vaulting at age 70! • Stella is a blessing in her community • We give thanks for the COVID vaccines and all who helped create it • For the skill of workmen and women • For beautiful trees • Happy Birthday Terry G! • Cindy W. gives thanks for 37 years of marriage to Bill and thanksgiving for daughter Virginia's 36th birthday.

Church Directory 2021

The new directory is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex for any corrections (near drinking fountain) or if you have had changes since the last directory please email or call the church office and leave a message. Thank you.

Happy September Birthday to.....

5	Daniel Balzer-Hernandez
8	Rhylee Mae Miller
10	Donnel Lester
11	Anna Murillo
12	Gay Lynne Natho
15	Stacy Graupmann Lisa Graupmann
16	Carmen Hernandez
17	Evan Neath
20	Jack Saba
22	Bonney Friday
27	Laura Daillak
29	Marlene Moore
30	Ana Lester

Happy Anniversary to....

2	Scott and Lizbeth Hallam
9	Marvin and Marilyn Barnes
23	David and Jennifer Rous

Dear Wesley Family,

On behalf of all me and all my family I want to thank you for all your thoughtful cards, calls, personal visits, prayers and loving care and support during this sad time of loss. I deeply appreciate your many kindnesses.

Blessings and love,
Barbara Dethlefsen



