

The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

February 24, 2021

10:30 a.m. Worship on Facebook

February 28: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Matthew 8:5-13: "Safe Keeping"

March 7: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25, Matthew 9:27-33, "Stories"

Anne Schlesinger, preaching

Join the Tech Team!

You get to worship in the sanctuary! The job is not hard and you will be trained. Commitment is several hours per month.

Feed Our Neighbors!

Shawn Collins fed 83 households totaling 372 people from Wesley's neighborhood this month. He needs help distributing food and praying with people on the third Monday every month from 11:30- 2 pm. Please consider helping in this vital ministry.

Chair the Finance Committee

Wesley's dedicated Chair of finance is retiring from that position next January. We need someone to fill that position in 2022. The sooner you volunteer, the longer training period you will have. You do not need to be an accountant! The accounting is done by Michael Daillak's accounting firm. We need someone organized who can work well with Terry Gonzales, learn to read a balance sheet prepared by our accountant, and report to Admin council monthly. Please contact Pastor Anne or Marv Davisson.

♪ A Note from the Pastor

What I received I passed on to you. And it is the most important of all. Here is what it is. Christ died for our sins, just as Scripture said he would. He was buried. He was raised from the dead on the third day, just as Scripture said he would be.~1 Corinthians 15: 3-4 (NIRV)

T.S. Elliot famously said that “April is the cruellest month...” (Elliot was unconcerned if he was misunderstood. He was a bit of a highbrow and uninterested in people with less intelligence, but that, I suppose, is beside the point.) The poem claimed that it was cruel to give people hope, but I so disagree. For those of us living in southern California, the signs of spring appear in February rather than April, and I find the flowers very cheery and hopeful. Our worship series this Lent has reminded us more than once that it feels this year as if Lent has been a year-long. I am very much looking forward to the celebration of Easter.

I have been taking an online class called “Teaching Biblical Faith to Youth.” I will be finished with the class on Friday, February 26. It has been fun learning what all you who are teachers already know about learning styles and keeping young people engaged. But it has made me quite anxious to get a youth group going. Cheyann Mitchell has asked to start a garden as a youth group project. Perhaps we could raise vegetables to provide food to people with food insecurity. Perhaps we could raise food to sell at church to raise money for a youth adventure. I don’t have a complete plan, because I need the young people to invest in that decision. But gardening is a good plan because the work will be outdoors so we will maintain a good level of safety.

That said, I would love to hear from the youth. Who is interested in getting started? What ages and or grade levels will be able to meet? What day(s) are the youth available to meet? I would like to gather that information before setting a date, but I also think our gardening project should get started soon. Please have interested youth call or text me. (If you text me, please make sure you include your name just in case I don’t have your cell number in my contact list.)

There are lots of other volunteer opportunities. Please keep reading to find out more!

Many blessings,

Pastor Anne

Prayers of Joys and Concerns

For healing:

- Genevieve's mother Jenny for continued recovery
- For Balthazar Ramirez
- Continued prayer for Maryanne Beuchler
- For Pastor Susan Foster
- For Brian Hill
- Comfort and healing for Stella's brother Jack.
- For Stella's grandson Charlie & blessing that he is feeling better
- Rev. Dawn Blundell
- Susan McQuerrey
- Katelynn Patterson's mother Brenda
- Ruth Jacobus
- Healing for Mary and for good decisions by her medical team and family
- For Erin, and comfort for her parent ----
-----s David and Beth
- For Jean Sidner
- For Stella
- For Linda Ramirez
- For Barbara's brother John and Stella's brother Jack.
- May God surround all people who have been ill for a long time with love and comfort

For people in need of other blessings:

- For all who are homeless, hungry and alone.
- May those who are not housed have protection from the cold
- For students, teachers and parents dealing with on-line education
- We pray relief for people suffering from storms, especially those without electricity and/or water.

- Prayers to sustain Laura and all people who have children facing difficult diagnoses
- Prayers for women expecting babies: Kirsten, Vanessa & Kaylen. Prayers for safe and successful births. (Update: Kirsten has a healthy baby girl! Welcome Lilia Rose.)
- For equitable distribution of COVID vaccine around the world. May people feel safe and assured
- For the women of Kabul, especially those who are educated and facing repression of their hard-won rights
- We pray blessing on all those who care for the sick, including Cameron who has to give antibiotics to a sick boa constrictor.
- For Craig Harrison as he searches for a way to serve God's people
- For all who are grieving, today, especially Sylvia Corson and her family and for Samantha who is dealing with too many losses

O God we are grateful and praise you for:

- For Caroline's 16th birthday. Thanks be to God for grandchildren!
- Gratitude for Linda Tilton's progress in therapy
- We are grateful for God's presence in Capitol during the impeachment process, especial for Senator Neguse's words in the summing up. (He was quoting Dr. MLK) "I decided to stick with love because hate is too big a burden to bear." We prayed all week for God's spirit to be present in the hearing, and we are grateful for the calm and reasonable speeches.
- For the Ashram group's work and ministry

- For the life and witness of Kathleen Antongiavanni. Grateful for the skillful and healing way Father Craig Harrison was able to participate in the funeral service.
- Gratitude that Ryan is doing better
- Thanks for our mothers
- Kurt Droste retired this week from the US Marines. May he receive God's blessing as he starts his life as a civilian
- For Frank Golding successful surgery •
- Mandi's 10th birthday
- For the life and witness of Rev. John Corson
- For the programs on PBS for Black History Month that teach us history many of us did not learn in school. May this awaken all of us and bring about justice and equality.
- For buds on a lilac bush, and all signs of spring
- For vaccines
- The joy of exploring on Mars and all the years of scientific work that made it possible
- For the wonderful Wesley volunteers who work hard and spread God's love.
- For Lisa Strobel—Nick's Valentine



The Wesley family expresses their sympathy to Sylvia Corson in the death of her husband, Rev. John Corson, on February 18, 2021. He will be greatly missed.

Happy March Birthday to.....

4	Michael Daillak
22	Linda Tilton
24	Laura Hanel
27	Sammye Jelletich
	Patrick Mitchell

Happy Anniversary to....

11	Tom and Gina Saba
20	David and Sherry Atkins