

The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

November 24, 2021

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

November 28: Jeremiah 33:14-16, Luke 21:25-36, "Making Room"

December 5: Philippians 1:9-11, Luke 3:1-6, "A Place at the Table"

Anne Schlesinger, preaching

Charge Conference

Wesley's annual Charge Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, December 1, 6:30pm with the Administrative Council. Our District Superintendent, David Niu will lead our celebration. Staff-Parish Relations Committee will meet with him at 6:00 p.m.



From The Missions Committee

The Missions Committee went shopping and filled six boxes with a Thanksgiving meal.

The meals were then donated to the Boys and Girls Club on Niles Street.

They were very appreciative.

♪ A Note from the Pastor

Enter his gates with thanks; enter his courtyards with praise! Thank him! Bless his name! Because the Lord is good, his loyal love lasts forever; his faithfulness lasts generation after generation.
Psalm 100: 4-5

We begin a new worship series on Sunday, as we enter the season of Advent. The series is called *The Inn*, and the major theme is making room in our hearts and lives for the holy. Marcia McFee writes, “The pandemic has laid bare and widened economic disparity locally and globally. As we enter the Advent season, how can our churches become houses where the Holy will be born anew—offering respite, sustenance and care, opening the doors ever wider to those seeking shelter from the onslaught of life? No one church can do it all, but each can do something. As we study the biblical prophets that call us to care for our neighbors and “make room in the inn,” the lonely and frightened spaces within us are filled with the light of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.” Those are good questions in this season of abundance. The series covers the four Sundays of Advent, Christmas Eve, and the Sunday after Christmas. Please join us in person or online on Wesley’s Facebook page.

The Wednesday night study group will begin a 4-week study reading Amy-Jill Levine’s book, *Light of the World: A Beginner’s Guide to Advent*. However, since our DS David Niu will be with us for our annual Charge Conference on December 1, we will begin this study at 5:30 on **Tuesday**, November 30. The subsequent three weeks of the study will be on Wednesday evenings. We meet together on the Zoom platform. Because we will show a DVD at the beginning of each session, you may join the discussion even without reading the book. However, Dr. Levine writes with deep scholarship and witty humor, so I heartily recommend her books. If you would like an invitation to this study, please let me know. (My cell phone number and email address are in the church directory.)

Wesley needs several more volunteers. We need Sunday school teachers. We don’t have many children at this time, but they are wonderful and precious and need to hear God’s word. When we find two more teachers we will have a full roster, and then the commitment will be about once per month. Curriculum and all supplies are provided. In order to be welcoming to families with children, we need a good program in place. This is a wonderful opportunity for the right person! Please prayerfully consider joining our Sunday school team, and call Rob Bewley if you can help.

We also need two more volunteers for the tech team. Last Sunday we had fewer than 50 people in the sanctuary, but we had 87 people online during worship. Our online worship is wonderful outreach. With a full team, the commitment is only once per month. Linda Ramirez provides complete training for this important opportunity.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Pastor Anne

Joys and Concerns

Prayers for comfort and healing: • For Lee's niece and great-niece. Healing from feeling of desperation • For Chase—may he receive a good diagnosis and good prognosis • For Judy who is having surgery—for her healing and for the surgeon and all involved in her surgery and healing • For Barbara D—hip replacement surgery—May she be cleared of a minor infection on her foot so her surgery isn't delayed, and may her surgery be successful and her healing be complete. • For John—healing from a bad car accident. Healing will be a long process, may he receive comfort and patience. • For Liz B., having Mohs surgery on Tuesday • For Rob B—MRI on Tuesday • For Alejandra—upcoming surgery • For comfort for all of Barbara's family as her brother John enters hospice care • For Linda T • For Carolyn • For Linda T • For Barbara's continued healing • For Bill—hip replacement surgery • For David R—arthroscopic procedure on his knee • For June's upcoming foot surgery and patience as she heals • Junior—additional surgery for blood clots • Bob C—gall bladder surgery • For John H who has entered hospice—comfort for him and for his family • For Natalie—battling a delayed reaction to Chemo. We pray for release from pain • Peace for Carmen • For Bob & Nancy—Bob's healing from a fall, and Nancy's back pain • Andrew I. fell and broke his wrist • Continued prayer for Rob—his tests were inconclusive • Anne to have a kidney ultrasound on Tuesday • For Roxanne (in hospice) and for her family for comfort

Prayers for those who grieve: Carolyn on the death of her dear friend, and for Janice's family and all who loved her

Prayers for other needs: • For GC 2020 • For Lee's grandsons in foster care. May God bless their search for an attorney to help with the many intricacies of having them released from VA and brought to CA so she can give them a loving home—may the road be smooth • For all children in foster care. • That unmasked teachers will understand the example they're setting • For the drop in enrollment in community colleges across the state and country. • For Sal in detention • For Pat M. In strike negotiations with John Deere. • For Wesley's choir. May it grow and continue to praise God, and may God guide us. • For BC's senate meeting & for Nick to have discernment in creating a letter to instructors • For teachers who refuse to wear a mask. May they have a change of heart and adopt a viewpoint centered on loving their neighbors as themselves. • For Kelly S's discernment to know what she wants to do after college. • For a sincere effort and good will about finding solutions to homelessness. • Comfort and love for all caregivers—professional and family members alike

Prayers for Travel mercies: • For Stella (She has returned safely!) • For David and Jennifer R. • For Melinda, Lee's younger sister, and for her well-being • For all who are traveling for Thanksgiving • For Jerry L • For Anne S. • For Nick and Lisa • Rob's family en route to Bakersfield • Laura and Michael • Louise • Vance and Linda • All who drive in the fog

Prayers of praise and gratitude: • We are grateful to have Barbara back in our prayer circle • Barbara is grateful to all who had a part in her healing—the medical team, her family, her friends who prayed for her and all who gave her

support • Thanks for Shawn who brought the food ministry to Wesley. Friday 6 volunteers provided food to 78 households and 414 individuals. Thanks be to God! • Louise is able to provide her family with a Thanksgiving celebration before they travel elsewhere. • For vaccines to keep viruses away and for recovery from the (temporary) reaction to vaccines • For Rose G—a blessing to this church • That the John Deere strike is over. May the workers transition well as they return to work. • Thanksgiving celebrations—Rob and Liz get to meet their grand nephew & Janice meets her first great grandchild • That Bob S had no permanent damage to his heart muscle • Bill's hip surgery went well and he was sent home quickly as a result • That Liz's Mohs surgery went well and was successful • Thank God for all the blessings we will name on Thanksgiving • For answered prayer: Judy's surgery was successful, David S. And Terry G. who we prayed for are both feeling better • For veterans • For Tony's 13th birthday • Louise gives thanks for receiving text messages from both granddaughters just wanting to say hi. • For workers who give above and beyond the call of duty • That Kaiser Permanente has avoided a strike • For Stella's wonderful visit, her safe return, and the protection of her family members who stayed at home without her • For the COVID vaccine boosters • For the Taize service resumed at Emmanuel Lutheran Church • Gratitude for the daily noon-zoom prayer group, and the appearance of the prayer requests in *The Outlook*, so people know they're prayed over.

Happy December Birthday to.....

4	Alice Oberg
6	Pam Hall
10	Sarah Strobel
13	James Dethlefsen
16	Mike Hurry
25	Jamie Pickard
27	Freda Hamilton
30	Jennifer Armantrout

Happy Anniversary to....

15	Chris and Cindy Curtis
29	Larry and Carolyn Lonsinger