The Outlook

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

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Vol. LXIV, #14 Anne Schlesinger, Pastor July 27, 2022

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

July 31: Hosea 11:1-11, Luke 12:13-21, "Cords of Kindness" August 7: Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20, Luke 12: 32-40; "Learn to Do Good" August 14: Isaiah 5: 1-7, Luke 12: 49-56; Yielding Wild Grapes" Anne Schlesinger, preaching

Disciple Bible Study

Pastor Anne is considering at least two Disciple Bible Studies for the fall. These are for people dedicated to know the Bible in depth and require a dedicated commitment both to the class and to daily homework. Disciple I class for those who haven't taken the course before. Disciple IV class for those who have taken at least Disciple I. Is there someone who is willing to lead the class in spanish? Below is a survey for you to complete so she can know the best time to plan these studies.

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Disciple Bible Study Survey

Your Name
I am interested in participating in Disciple I Bible Study
I am interested in participating in Disciple IV Bible Study
Estoy interesado en participar en el Estudio Bíblico de Discípulos en español.
(Puedo liderar: S / N)
I am interested in participating in Disciple Bible Study for youth
I am available in the morning afternoon evening on
T W Th F Sa Su
(Please make this as clear as possible. You may write in your answer or circle day/time
of your availability. I will do my best to accommodate all who are interested.)
The cost of the study books range from \$20 to \$40, depending on the edition.
I can afford to pay for my book
I need scholarship help to pay for the book

♬ A Note from the Pastor

Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Don't suppress the Spirit.

—1 Thessalonians 5:17-19

Although I am grateful for all of you, and Wesley is full of extraordinary and faithful people (well, it could be a little more full...perhaps we can each invite one person to church?) every once and awhile I need to express my gratitude for one particular person. Today that person is Bill Blair. Bill is Wesley's Certified Lay Servant. Lay Servant training prepares individuals to volunteer assistance in many church situations, including but not limited to preaching and leading worship. While Nick and Lisa were on vacation this month (two more people who I can never thank enough), Bill has volunteered to fill in as liturgist and worship leader. Thanks to Bill, worship has run much more smoothly than at other times Nick has been gone. Thank you Bill!

That said, there are many who work "behind the scenes" who should be thanked more often. I thank people publicly each week in worship, and I am indeed grateful for your hard work. I also thank the team of Trustees who work almost non-stop to keep the almost 60 year old buildings and the rest of the church grounds operating smoothly. There is always something that needs attention, and the Trustees get the work done. The Finance Committee creates a budget based on what we hope will come in from all of you who donate to this church, implement that budget, and make sure all money received and paid out is properly documented. This is very ably assisted by our irreplaceable staff member Terry, who makes so much possible it would be impossible to list here. Many people work in Mission by donating needed items and serving in the mission field, and these efforts are spearheaded by Louise and her assistants, June and Ernestine. I had better not forget all the people involved with the care of our children. staff and volunteers alike. The children themselves are a wonderful blessing for whom I am grateful. I am blessed by all the people who study with me on Wednesdays and Sundays—you truly enrich my life by giving me perspective and insights different than my own. The danger of thanking people is that I will inadvertently forget to mention someone, so please let me say that I am so grateful for everyone in this church. You are a blessing. Thank you!

This Sunday our worship series changes a bit, although we will continue focusing on prophetic voices. We have heard extensively from Jeremiah this summer, but for the next several weeks we will hear from the prophets Hosea, Isaiah, and Amos. May their voices be a blessing throughout the ages.

As always during the summer months, may I remind you all to stay hydrated.

Blessings, Pastor Anne

Prayers

We lift up the names of people in need of healing:

- People who have tested positive for COVID including: • Eddy L • James, Guinevere & Joesphine D. • Lissy
- Matthew & Hannah R Penny
- Prayers for Lea's grandsons who are both sick,
 Cindy C
 Jeanie Z and her daughter Jill
 Ruth S

Travel mercies:

• For all who are traveling this summer

For all who grieve, especially:

• The Simpson family, including Brittany's children, her parents Joni and Rayburn, and her grandmother, Monica

We pray for other needs:

• All who suffer from the hot weather, especially those without adequate shelter • For the people in Europe unprepared for the extreme heat • All who suffer suicidal thoughts • We pray protection from COVID over David, Sherry, Samantha and Cameron & Trevor • Ukraine and the ships moving grain • For the containment of a fire burning out of control in Mariposa County • For Linda T and all affected by a "lockdown" at The Orchards due to COVID infections. • For Linda T's mother Linda

In gratitude, we give thanks for our many blessings:

• Terry is grateful that Tiffany has passed a major exam • Lea's ability to visit her grandsons • Michael A's successful job interviews and his new job • We give thanks for answered prayer, including healing • Eddy, Lissy and Penny are feeling better • Brittany's

life, and that her memorial service went well • Thanks for all Rita has done to make Lea's trip successful. The court hearing was successful, and the boys should be able to come to CA in early August. • Cassidy's medical treatment has been successful and she is feeling better. Prayers for continued healing • Natalie has completed Chemo therapy and her doctor has declared her cancer. free! • Victoria has "graduated" to a walking cast and is healing • For Rosanna who assisted a family in need • For an advocacy effort that led to the Kern Co. Parks department agreeing to reopen restrooms in 7 metropolitan parks • Birthday blessings for Eddy—he is a blessing to this community • For Wesley's wonderful tech team who make worship accessible to people who cannot attend in person

Happy August Birthday to

- 2 Josh Forquera
- 3 Cleona Cope
- 6 Cindy Wilson
- 9 Jerry Smith
- 10 Carolyn Ashlock
- 12 Kristyn Gonzales
- 14 Ashley McCaslin
- 15 Jeanne Allen
- 18 Beth Davisson
- 21 Parker Rous
- John S. Rous
- 25 Marilynn Barnes Terry Gonzales
- 30 Berkeley Hanley
- 31 Rose Lester

Happy Anniversary to ...

- 5 Jerry Smith and Carolyn Ashlock
- 12 Nick and Lisa Strobel
- 13 Bob and Lisa Neath
- 20 Bill and Cindy Wilson
- 24 Scott and Kacey Pipkin

Thank You

Thank you for your support of these United Methodist Ministries:

\$50 was collected for the Annual Conference special offering supporting Tonga.

\$45 was collected for Peace With Justice Sunday.

\$1,151.00 has been collected so far for United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) designated to Ukraine.