

The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Vol. LXIV, #12

Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

June 22, 2022

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

June 26: Jeremiah 2: 4-13, Luke 9: 51-62. "Cracked Cisterns Can't Hold Water"

July 3: Jeremiah 18: 1-11, Luke 10: 1-11. "Potter's Wheel: Reworked, Not Thrown Away"

Anne Schlesinger, preaching

♫ A Note from the Pastor

I shared this report about Annual Conference Session (ACS) in church last Sunday, but I also want to share it here because we should all feel connected to Annual Conference. Nick Strobel has written a very detailed report you can find on the website, and I have printed out one copy of that for people who are not connected to the internet. It is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you you like a copy mailed to you, please let us know.

My report about ACS: First, the good news—Bishop Sally Dyck had a very healing presence during ACS. It was very needed in a time that is so tumultuous in our world, our country, our denomination, and in our conference. We of course heard no news about the status of Bishop Carcaño, so I would like to keep her in our prayers, but Bishop Dyck is a wonderful speaker and an accomplished bishop, and she encouraged both laity and clergy to keep on doing the jobs to which God has called us.

Second, my two favorite parts of Conference are worship and the announcement of Central Valley appointments, including my own. I am very happy and blessed to be re-appointed to Wesley for at least another year. As always, I loved worshipping with hundreds of other United Methodists every day.

Another of the highlights for me was a change in the way we are sending candidates to Jurisdictional Conference for election to Bishop. In the past we have heard speeches and gone through a really long voting process. It's not a horrible process, of course, but it's very political. This year 19 persons accepted a nomination and will spend many months, praying about and discerning their call and their readiness to do that difficult job. This period of reflection and discernment seems to me to be a more God-centered process. Some will proceed to Jurisdictional Conference, and God willing, the best will be elected there, to begin serving as Bishop in January of 2023.

~continued on the next page~

At the end of the conference, the Conference Lay Leader Micheal Pope asked all churches to post the suicide prevention hotline. In light of a prayer request we had this week, I have decided to keep the number on one of our slides every week.

These are just the elements of the four days together that seemed most important to me. Please read Nick's full report. Four of us from Wesley attended, so please also feel free to ask questions of any of us. We all want you to feel connected to the whole Conference.

That said, between the Women United in Faith retreat where I preached and presided at Communion, and the Annual Conference session, I have been away for two weeks. I am very glad to be back, but I am so grateful for my colleagues who filled in for me! Thank you Pastor Alice and Bill and Rob. What a wonderful church I serve! I write this on the first day of summer, and the temperature is now 87, but forecasted to reach the triple digit mark, so I will remind you to please stay hydrated.

Blessings,
Pastor Anne

Prayers

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

- Linda's Daughter-in-law, Jenifer
- All people with COVID, including
- Sarah S.,
- Stella's sister-in-law Geri,
- 2 of Nick's brothers, and a niece;
- the person (or persons) who tested positive at a nursing facility and protection for others who live there, including Rob's mother Janet.
- Healing prayers for a CNA at Linda's nursing facility named Serjeet who was in an auto accident
- Joyce, Jimmy and Ovalia who will have a very long recovery time
- Carolyn L's granddaughter Missy
- George was in a hit and run accident while riding a bicycle—he has been released from the hospital; may he have continued healing
- Barbara's sister Carol—healing for her eye (shingles?)
- For Louise's niece Kimberly—more

tests, and discernment for the medical team

- Continued healing for Terry's mom Angelina. She is ordinarily the caregiver for Terry's dad who has dementia, but now both their care falls on Terry and her sister—so prayers for caregivers, too!
- Linda T's roommate Lisa
- Quick recovery for Louise who is having surgery on Thursday
- Cindy Lawler to have surgery on Tuesday—asking for prayer to calm her nerves

We pray for people grieving:

- The Latrell family—Kevin's father passed

We pray for travel mercies:

- For Barbara and her whole family traveling from various places to vacation together, and prayers that they all stay healthy
- For Linda R.

We pray for other needs:

- Relief of stress for Linda's family whose CPS home visit has been postponed
- Prayers for our country in light of the January 6 hearings—may democracy be protected, may all hear the truth, and may we all be healed
- For Sarah's students—because of her dx., she is missing the last week of school
- Protection for teachers
- Discernment that Danny and Jenifer make the right decision about their upcoming concert
- For Skip (Louise's BIL)—pray for comfort for him and his family
- Healing of relationships: David and Vanessa
- An 8th grader whose good friend committed suicide. For all teens suffering with mental health issues due to so many problems including fear of gun violence and trauma of isolation.
- For John R—in need of up-lifting. And prayers for his family to know how to help him
- For our nation and the strength of democracy in the US
- For the people of Ukraine

In gratitude, we give thanks for our many blessings:

- Many joyful birthdays, including Terry's son JT, Anne's brother Robert, Louise Clay, Linda's nephew Joseph, Jack's birthday—we thank God for you!
- The life and witness of Archie Sherman
- The work of GEM helping young girls whose mothers are in prison
- Sherry shared a story about learning from a man who came to repair their refrigerator. (He is of Russian origin). She is thankful for people who enrich our lives and help us understand other

cultures. We are grateful for people like Sherry who reach out to learn from strangers

- Eddy's friends—Jose has a job and Eileen has gotten a new job. Thanks be to God
- For Stella Rous' oldest grandchild Parker R's graduation from Cal Poly, SLO

Happy July Birthday to.....

2	Austin Cusator
8	Lisa Strobel
24	Kelly Strobel
28	Sarah Balzer
29	Barbara Knowlton
31	Donna Adams

Happy Anniversary to...

1	Doug and Carolyn Anglin
18	Dell and Marcia Whitten
26	Bob and Martha Covey

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
Mark Andrew Caldwell - US Marines
Alex Campbell - Navy
Josh Caughran - Navy
Megan Darling - Army Reserves
Bradley Delacruz - Army
Jerome Garey - Air Force
Rebecca Garey - Air Force
Dan Hanel - US Air Force
Greg Hanel - US Air Force
Anthony Mitchell jr. - Army
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