

The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

office:(661) 871-3030

e-mail: office@wesleybakersfield.org

website: wesleybakersfield.org

Facebook: [WesleyUMCBakersfield](https://www.facebook.com/WesleyUMCBakersfield)

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Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

November 23, 2022

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

November 27: Romans 13: 11-14; Matthew 24: 36-44; "Sacred Time"

December 4: Romans 15: 4-13; Matthew 3: 1-12; "Sacred People"

Anne Schlesinger, preaching

United Methodist Student Day *November 27*

United Methodist Student Day calls the church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. Gifts on United Methodist Student Day support U.M. scholarships and the U.M. Student Loan Fund. Offering envelopes will be available in this Sunday's bulletin. Thank you.

Pledge Sunday Celebration *December 4*

We began our stewardship campaign this month. During worship until pledge Sunday on December 4, we have a witness to what church stewardship means to a family in our congregation. On December 4 we will celebrate with a potluck. Regardless of your ability to pledge, let us celebrate together! Please join us after the service for a Potluck in the Gathering Place. It will be a true potluck, so whatever we each bring will be our meal.

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Deadline to submit articles to *The Outlook* next month are Monday, December 5 and Monday, December 19. Thank you for your cooperation.

♪ A Note from the Pastor

And over all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. The peace of Christ must control your hearts—a peace into which you were called in one body. And be thankful people. —Colossians 3: 14-15

Happy Thanksgiving!

Fall has long been my favorite time of the year. The days can still be quite warm, yet there is welcome relief from the very hot days and nights of summer. The leaves on many trees turn brilliant colors, and we are all encouraged to count our blessings and be thankful. I cannot possibly list all of the people and things for which I am grateful. I just returned from a vacation spent with family at Playa del Carmen on the Yucatan peninsula. I went swimming in the waters of the Caribbean Ocean and visited Mayan ruins including at Chichén Itzá, one of the seven wonders of the world. Family and ocean and history and God's beautiful creation are just a few of things for which I am grateful. What are you grateful for today? Let us all give thanks to the Lord our God!

This Sunday we celebrate the first Sunday in Advent, and we begin a new worship series called "Reflecting the Sacred." This is what Dr. Marcia McFee says about the series: "As religious folk, it is imperative that we grapple with our incarnational faith and what it calls us to be and do. Advent and Christmas is as good a time as any to talk about incarnation... [This series] invites us to imagine that indeed, every thing, every one, every encounter, is pregnant with the sacred. Not in a "where is God in this?" notion, but in a much more radical "Christ is here and permeating and radiating from everywhere" kind of way. [Richard] Rohr calls this the "Christ Mystery" or "Christ Mirror" and, as the Gospel of John says, it was there "from the beginning." Rohr's question to us is this: "What if Christ is another name for everything—in its fullness?" Fullness. Pregnant. Always birthing in and through all of us." Advent is a time for waiting and preparing for Christ to be born to us and in us anew. Let us spend some time in wonder and thankfulness this season looking for the sacred worth of everything and everyone. If we are able to determine that all creation is sacred, won't it affect the way we treat each other and all of God's good creation? Let us attempt to see the light of Christ in each moment.

Our Advent study on Wednesday evenings uses a book by Whitney R. Simpson called *Fully Human, Fully Divine: An Advent Devotional for the Whole Self*. It includes daily meditation techniques that are consistent with what Pastor Alice taught during her sermon on Attending on the Ordinances of God. If you wish to join our weekly meeting, please let me know and I will add you to the Zoom invitation. If you just want to use the devotional, the book is available as a hard-back or an e-reader version.

Blessings,
Pastor Anne

Prayers

For healing of body, mind and/or spirit:

- Lea, who has a broken ankle-prayers for healing and patience
- Balthazar—healing and patience for a back injury
- John F
- Bonney F who suffered a fall
- Nancy J—in rehab center as she recovers from a serious infection
- Linda T—comfort and healing
- Nicolas J's friend Barbara with a cancer diagnosis—comfort and healing
- Country Music Singer Travis Tritt who will have surgery next month for a torn meniscus in his left knee. That the Lord will be his surgeons and that it may all go well.
- Alvisa Chavez just getting over the flu, broke her tooth
- Bill Blair: facing surgery next week. Prayers for his healing and patience, plus prayers for Marlene, who will be his caretaker.

Other Concerns:

- Prayers of support for Shawn C. the disciple house that he started and the men who will be living there.
- For Nick S's niece Kirsten & husband Brandon and their developing baby
- For Nicolas J— for God's wisdom and discernment to deal with increased responsibilities

Travel mercies:

- For all who are traveling for Thanksgiving

Prayers of gratitude for blessings:

- Cindy W's trip to be with family celebrating her Dad's 90th birthday
 - Joel W's 31st birthday
 - Pastor Anne is grateful for so many things including
 - family,
 - this church,
 - the leadership of Pastor Alice and Lay Leader Nick Strobel,
 - vacation,
 - the beautiful Caribbean Ocean...Thanks be to God!
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The Wesley family expresses their sympathy to the Henderson girls in the death of their father, **Jack Henderson**, on November 8, 2022.

Jack was a member of Wesley since 1967. He will be greatly missed.

In The Military

Please keep those serving in the military
in your prayers.

Michael Ahumada - Army
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
Josephine Imperial - Marines
Anthony Mitchell jr. - US Air Force
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
Laura Yoon - US Navy
David Yoon - US Navy

The pillar candle on the altar is to
remind us of our prayers for them

Happy December Birthday to.....

4	Alice Oberg
6	Pam Hall
10	Sarah Strobel
13	James Dethlefsen
16	Mike Hurry
30	Jennifer Armantrout

Happy Anniversary to....

15	Chris and Cindy Curtis
29	Larry and Carolyn Lonsinger

