

# The Outlook

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

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Vol. LXIV, #20

Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

October 26, 2022

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

Worship: (Series: Wesleyan Theology 101)

October 30: Proverbs 3: 29-30; Luke 19: 1-10. "The people of God Who Do No Harm"

Anne Schlesinger, preaching

November 6: Romans 12: 9-21; Luke 20: 27-38 "The People of God Who Do Good"

Alice Oberg, preaching



Don't forget to set your clocks one hour back  
on Sunday, November 6.

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## The Pumpkins Are Still Here in all Their Glory

We have once again been truly blessed in the pumpkin patch this year. We have had many families returning from previous years and sharing with us their joy from previous visits. There are still opportunities to help by donating baked goods, greeting and helping customers, and measuring pumpkins for sale. Our hours of operation are Friday 3-9pm, Saturday 9am-9pm, Sunday 12-9pm. We need volunteers to help clean up the patch on November 1. We will meet at 8 a.m. Can you help? Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the lobby. Thank you for your continued support, prayers, and reflections of God's love through the Pumpkin Patch ministry. Call or text me anytime at 699-6625, to find out ways to help or email me at [cgarmpa@aol.com](mailto:cgarmpa@aol.com) –Blessings, Carolyn



## ♫ A Note from the Pastor

***I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call, what is the richness of God's glorious inheritance among believers, and what is the overwhelming greatness of God's power that is working among us believers. This power is conferred by the energy of God's powerful strength.***

**—Ephesians 1: 18-19**

I give thanks and praise to God for the ministry to the people of Bakersfield. We begin a new worship series on Sunday to think about what it means to be part of the United Methodist Church. There are many denominations of Christian churches, all of us people of God, and it is wrong to think one is better than another. That said, some people feel drawn to one denomination over another. There are many reasons for that, but probably the most common is how we were raised or what church we attended when we first came to faith. Some of you are “cradle Methodists.” I am not. My dad was not raised in any church, although his mother was raised a Lutheran. My mother was raised in the Episcopal Church because her mother left the Roman Catholic Church because of some hurt she received from a priest. My mother took my brothers and me to a Presbyterian Sunday school when we were little, but we all stopped attending when I was about 10 years old. I came to faith through prayer, but when I started to need Christian community, I was invited to church by a friend who was United Methodist. The rest, as the saying goes, is history. So what makes the United Methodist Church like other Christian churches? What makes it unique? That is what we will be talking about in the next few weeks until Advent begins on November 27. This is a timely subject as Jurisdictional Conference meets November 2-5. We will hear more about who will serve the California/Nevada Annual Conference as resident Bishop from deliberations at that Conference. We may hear more about the churches who are planning to disaffiliate from the UMC. Please keep the Western Jurisdiction and all who are suffering from the conflicts in the church in prayer during that time.

Monday, October 31 is our annual charge conference. Each local church in the denomination is called to hold a yearly meeting to celebrate the past year of ministry and plan for the upcoming year. District Superintendent (DS) David Niu will lead our meeting which begins at 5 p.m. for the whole church—I meet with the DS earlier, as does the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC). If you have any questions about that, please be sure to ask. You can contact me or Terry Gonzales. Our numbers and email addresses are in the church directory—I hope you all picked up your new directory!

Thank you for all your work in the Pumpkin Patch. A few people have done a tremendous amount of work—Carolyn Ashlock and her whole family and the Trustees, especially Dan O'Dell seem to be in the Patch doing something all the time. Several faithful volunteers serve in the Patch measuring, pricing, and welcoming customers often. Others have volunteered behind the scenes providing baked good, purchasing and preparing coats for the give-away, and numerous other chores. (I don't dare name you, because I am sure to forget to name someone who had worked hard while my back was turned. But you know who you are!) My thanks go to all of you.

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I will attend the final “Called to Wholeness” retreat in Los Altos November 1-3, and I will be on vacation following that. I will return from vacation on November 18. I will be out of the country for much of that time, but you will be in the very capable hands and heart of Rev. Alice Oberg.

Peace and blessings to you all,  
Pastor Anne

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## Prayers

### **We lift up the names of people in need of healing in body, mind or spirit:**

- Linda T • Bill B • Larry L • Aaron L
- Luis • Kat—and patience for a long recovery • Michael A. • Rosetta • Nancy and Kerry J • John R
- Susanne—her surgery went well, but needs continued healing • Brian • Donna

### **Travel mercies:**

- Rose and Donnel L. • Allison and Mandi

### **We pray for other needs:**

- Bakersfield College, especially in the areas of inclusivity and equity
- Care givers, especially Carolyn L and the whole family • Joe’s tight finances
- For our country—healing from the events of January 6 • That John R can find an ophthalmologist covered by his insurance plan • Rain • Relief from mosquitoes • Patience to endure a tutor from far away • Sherry is asking for prayers for her church, Laguna Country UMC • Discernment when voting
- School board elections—that those elected have the interest of education at

heart • Tension at meetings at BC—may peace prevail • Sales • Charge Conference prep • Flood victims

- Exploded volcano and other national disasters • Foster child who is losing her placement—that DHS finds a good home quickly • Ukraine

### **In gratitude, we give thanks for our many blessings:**

- For Stella’s friend Rose—lovely family closeness • Successful dentist visits
- David and John enjoying a concert together • Sherry is grateful for the rain near her home • Eddy’s young friend Luis who has achieved stability • We are grateful for Marian Troyer’s art work
- Ron got a full-time job!!! • We give thanks for daily prayer group • Tiffany’s boyfriend David attending confirmation class • The hard work of Terry G. • Cooler weather • The students who volunteer their time to help in the Pumpkin Patch.

## Nursery Care Provider Position Opening

In late November there will be a job opening here at Wesley for the position of Nursery Care Provider. The job entails 2 hours a week every Sunday with payment at the rate of \$15.00 per hour. Previous experience working with pre-school aged children is preferred. If you or someone you know is interested in the position please contact Pastor Anne (Pastor@wesleybakersfield.org) or Rob Bewley ([robertbewley@att.net](mailto:robertbewley@att.net)).

## From Our Member

Thank you so much to Carolyn Ashlock for my Wesley Church Pumpkin Patch t-shirt after Pastor Anne left from visiting me I got my T-shirt in my hands and hugged it real tight. Thank you also for my pumpkin and the pumpkin poop.

Thank you so much to my Wesley Church family for all the greeting cards and envelopes. I love all of them!!

If I could and if possible can I take this time to ask a favor from my Wesley Church family.... I would like some lined stationary with envelopes. Thank you. God Bless you all. God is good all the time!!

Praise God!!  
Linda Tilton

### ***Happy November Birthday to.....***

7 Anthony Lee  
9 Susan McQuerrey  
11 Bob Neath  
12 Nathan Hallam  
14 Joel Wilson  
18 Liz Fariss  
22 Scott Hallam  
23 Jerilyn Smith  
28 Rebek'ah Fore  
30 Rob Bewley

### ***Happy Anniversary to....***

3 Jeryl and Dorothy Matthews  
4 Don and Jeanne Allen