

The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Cindy Lawler, Pastor

March 11, 2026

Worship on Facebook and In-Person

March 15: UMCOR Sunday, Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22, John 3:14-21 "Light UP"

March 22: Psalm 51:1-12, John 12:20-33, "Lift UP"

Rev. Cindy Lawler, preaching

Potluck Luncheon

Please join us after worship on March 15 for a potluck luncheon in the Narthex (lobby). This will not be a sit-down meal, so "finger foods" are best. Let us all work together to make this a success.

Special Sunday Offering

UMCOR Sunday celebration is March 15, 2026. This offering is collected on the fourth Sunday in Lent and provides major support for immediate assistance in the wake of natural and human-caused disasters and helps support ongoing ministries of food, shelter, health and peace (*UM Communications*) and the gifts lay the foundation of all United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) work by covering the costs of doing business. This means all gifts designated to specific programs can go 100% to those programs because UMCOR's basic expenses are covered. There will be offering envelopes available in this Sunday's bulletins or you may mail a check to Wesley, designated UMCOR or give online. Thank you.

Meeting

The Administrative Council will meet Tuesday, March 17, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

From The Church Office

The church office will be open Tuesday, March 17, 9 a.m. to noon, instead of Wednesday, March 18. The next deadline to submit articles to the newsletter, *The Outlook*, is March 23. Thank you.

The Mighty Ant

The common ant is one of God's most amazing creatures. An ant is able to carry 50–60 times its own weight. An ant uses this ability in order to bring food back to the entire colony. People have amazing abilities too, as well as an imagination that allows us to put these abilities to a multitude of uses! You have no idea how much you can do to use your abilities to help mankind until you try. In our complex society, everyone's abilities and skills can be put to use to improve all of our lives. Christian stewards recognize that these abilities were all given to us by God and that the ultimate reward comes in putting them to use in God's service. In Galatians 5:13, Paul writes: ¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. Remember, we do not need to be goliath, or donate boxes and boxes of goods to the poor to be up to something good. We can be like the ant, and do little things all day long and show God's love all over the place. May you continue to have a blessed Lent!

Pastor Cindy

Prayers

Prayers of concern were expressed for service members who may have to fight in a war, may our country find a peaceful solution; for Jan's grandson who is in Bahrain (Navy) and asking "extra" prayers for all our servicemen and women there because it is "so scary"; for Sebastian and his family as he has RSV; for the group home that Linda T. is going to may they get their license soon.

KWESI Spring Card Writing 2026

Thursday, March 26, 2026, 1:30 PM
First Congregational Church, 5 Real
Road n, Bakersfield, CA 93309
Note this Change: Park in lot off Real
Road. Enter through the main gate to
get to the Fellowship Hall.
Bring your favorite pen.
Blank paper will be provided.
California City Detention Facility does
not permit cards.
Note: Postage stamp donations are
greatly appreciated.
Contact Person: June Braun (661)
205-4587