

# The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Anne Schlesinger, Pastor

September 11, 2024

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

September 15: James 3: 1-12, Luke 6: 17-26.

"Living a Life of Awe"

September 22: Proverbs 31:10-31, James 3:13 – 4:3, 7-8a, Mark 9: 30-37.

"A Woman of Valor"

Rev. Anne Schlesinger, preaching



## *The Pumpkins Are Coming Sunday, October 13, 2024*

The pumpkins are scheduled to arrive at noon, Sunday, October 13, 2024. But we need help even before they come. We need help putting up the lights during the last week of September. More info will follow, but if you will be able to help, please let me know.

We will then need your help to unload pumpkins and set up the patch. We have again reached out to the local high schools to offer community service hours for the students help with unloading. The truck will most likely arrive while we are in church or shortly thereafter, so please plan to bring "pumpkin unloading clothes" to change into if needed. We will have hot dogs, chips, dessert, and water to keep up your energy. We will also need help setting up, decorating, or selling during the rest of the day as we will be selling pumpkins until 9 PM. In the past, we have even sold pumpkins during unloading.

Our hours of operation will be Monday-Friday 3 PM-9 PM. Saturday 9 AM-9 PM, and Sunday 12 Noon-9 PM.

Thank you for your continued support, prayers, and reflections of God's love through the Pumpkin Patch ministry. Call, text, or email me anytime at 699-6625, [cgarnmpa@aol.com](mailto:cgarnmpa@aol.com) to find out ways to help. God's love abounds!

–Blessings, Carolyn

## ♪ A Note from the Pastor

***“Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” And He took the children in His arms, placed His hands on them, and blessed them.”***  
- Mark 10:14b-16

### **Can YOU help with our Sunday school program?**

Rob Bewley is our Sunday School chairperson, and though he and his wife Liz taught public school for many years, professional teaching experience is not required to teach Sunday School. At Wesley, we use a curriculum that's easy to follow, and with minimal training and a lot of care for these precious children, we can nurture their spiritual growth together.

Right now, we only have two teaching teams, but if we can build up to four, each team would only miss one worship service a month! Please prayerfully consider how you might help. A visiting family last week shared how much their children enjoyed Sunday School. In fact, the children begged their dad to bring them back! (They have two more children at home!)

We truly believe that a vibrant and fun children's ministry can help our church grow, but we need your support to make that happen. We also have policies to ensure our children's safety, including a training program and background checks for all teachers. Please contact either me or Rob Bewley for more details.

### **Christmas Play Volunteers Needed**

On a similar note, I asked one of our regular kids if they would be interested in a Christmas play, and they enthusiastically said, "Yes!" While I don't have much experience with children's theater (aside from painting some pretty awesome scenery), I'm willing to help in every way I can. If we gather enough volunteers, I'll get a script, and we can start planning! It's never too early!

### **Worship Series Update**

This Sunday, we'll conclude our "Awe" worship series as we reflect on how to live a life filled with awe. After that, we'll have a stand-alone service focused on "Women of Faith," particularly the Woman of Valor from Proverbs, a follow-up to our discussion on Lady Wisdom.

Then, we'll begin a new series called Do Unto Others, which was created in collaboration between Adam Hamilton's worship team at the Church of the Resurrection and Worship Design Studio. This series is designed to help us navigate the often-contentious political season with grace. Although I've seen no signs of tension in our church community, political conversations can be tricky elsewhere—in families,

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workplaces, and beyond. I hope this series will help us all approach these conversations lovingly and thoughtfully as we head toward Election Day.

### **Did you enjoy the choir's return?**

I sure did!

It's still HOT! Please stay hydrated!

Blessings, Pastor Anne

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### ***Prayers***

We pray for our friends and family serving in the military

#### **We pray for those in need of healing—body, mind and spirit:**

- Retired pastor Alan Cook had a malignant melanoma removed; continued prayer for peace as he awaits biopsy results
- Jenifer—prayer for relief of discomfort and stress
- Monica—pain relief
- Nick—pain relief
- Bonney F
- Bill B
- Barbara's brother-in-law
- Bill—healing and comfort
- Tyler—hospitalized in Florida
- Michael D—rapid recovery from cold (or allergy symptoms)
- Carolyn A—her procedure went well and she is home from the hospital; pray for full recovery
- Linda T—release of pain
- Jim
- Steven B to have peace in his hands, heart and mind
- Jack—peace and comfort and to accept the reality that he is forgiven
- Lea—relief of pain
- Danny, Jenifer, Barbara and Balthazar
- Barbara D—relief of headaches. May she get answers and treatment from her ophthalmologist
- Tish—and may her medical team look at the whole health picture and treat it all, including scoliosis

- Monica—relief from pain and discernment
- peace for the Lopez, Perez, and Ramirez families
- Susan McQuerrey's new foot fracture and healing for her knee

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

- Peace in the world, especially in Sudan, the Middle East and Ukraine
- Comfort Lisa S. and her cousin Kim's family. Kim, a young mother of two young children passed away from cancer
- More Sunday school teachers & growing classes
- Benjamin Netanyahu to have a change of heart and work harder for peace
- For the 117 million refugees in our world
- Peace in the US political process
- That John R will stay in contact with his mother
- Peace, especially in Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Sudan

#### **Travel mercies:**

- Nick & Lisa
- Sherry and David
- Tyler's parents and grandparents driving to Florida to assist him
- Liz Bewley's sister, Ann and her husband, Brian, traveling in Iceland and Croatia.

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**In gratitude, we remember and praise  
God for our abundant blessings...**

• For answered prayer: Stella's friends for whom we have been praying have had successful surgeries • Charlie is doing well in school and has been hired as a TA in a classroom of upper class men & women • Penelope: age 14 attending 3 college classes along with her high school studies. This week she entered a classroom for the first time! (She has been homeschooled) • Linda T. had a visit from her mother, sister, and brother-in-law. • Barbara D; her bank caught a case of identity theft before real damage was done, but there has been stress of getting all cards & accounts changed over • People have been experiencing more optimism in the democratic process • The hard work of Trustees • The alliance with our neighbors • Disciple Bible study • The return of choir • Gratitude for a hometown newspaper. Although there are impending changes, gratitude that we have a source for local news • Linda T was able to have a phone conversation with her daughter, Portia. • from Carolyn Ashlock for the love, support, and prayers of her loving church family always, but especially recently with her cardiac procedure which was successful • for Virginia's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday and Bill and Cindy Wilson's 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary on Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, blessings and love on all!

***Charge Conference***

This year's Charge Conference is scheduled for Monday, November 4 at 4:30 (SPRC) & 5 for general meeting. Please make plans to attend.