

The Outlook

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

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Vol. LXVI, #14

Cindy Lawler, Pastor

July 23, 2025

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

July 27: Psalm 138, Luke 11:1-13, "Keep on Knockin' and rockin'"

August 3: Psalm 49:1-12, Luke 12:13-21, "Is our rich man a fool?"

August 10: Luke 12:32-40, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, "You must be ready"

Rev. Cindy Lawler, preaching

My Dad and I have gardened as long as I can remember. He is a midwestern farm boy so it is in his blood, and I got the gene from him. Normally we begin the year with seeds I start in the house, tomatoes first and then beans, peas, cucumbers, squash, etc, etc. This year, things did not go as planned. I started the tomatoes, then ended up in the hospital for two months. This was not enough to stop us so we put out the baby tomatoes and Dad put seeds in the ground for the majority of the garden. Nothing came up! How could this be? We had empty bed after empty bed. I admit I had thoughts of giving up. Dad still went out every morning to water, mostly he was watering dirt but he was not giving up. I remembered a Bible verse that helped me when I was hospitalized, *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* – Jeremiah 29:11. So even though we should be harvesting now we are on our third attempt. Baby green beans are up, and squash plants are proudly showing off three or four leaves. I even went to the Home Depot and bought a few plants that were on their last legs and we are nursing them back to health. We are not giving up.

I have heard from a few church members that the church is too small to do much now. And maybe some projects should be dropped, but please lets not give up now. We may need to plant a few new seeds but we can do it! I look forward to the day I can chase new members down with fresh squash!

With Christ's love and blessings,
Pastor Cindy



Prayer List

Concerns:

Terry G undergoing chemo for breast cancer; Siobhan Oliver surgery this Friday; Martha and Bob Covey his health; travel mercies for Linda R and cousin, Rita; Glen, cancer has spread; Linda T's final answer from Delano house is no because of her weight and limited mobility.

Thanksgiving:

Pastor Cindy for the continued support of the team that gets her to Church on Sunday.

Deadline

The next deadline to submit articles to the newsletter, *The Outlook*, is Monday, August 11.

Thank you for your donations

Native American Ministries \$163
UMCOR \$50
Peace With Justice \$130

United Methodist Women's Retreat

Landscapes of CHRISTIAN FAITH
Saturday, July 26, 2025, 9 am - 4 pm
First United Methodist Church,
4600 Stockdale Hwy., Bakersfield

Guest Speaker is Rev. Dr. Mary Maaga,
\$10 registration fee
To register, you may call
First U.M.C. at (661) 325-1267

Happy August Birthday to.....

6	Cindy Wilson
9	Jerry Smith
10	Carolyn Ashlock
12	Kristyn Gonzales
14	Ashley McCaslin
18	Beth Davisson
21	Parker Rous
22	John S. Rous
25	Marilynn Barnes
27	Adrian Bateman
30	Berkeley Hanley
31	Rose Lester

Happy Anniversary to ...

5	Jerry Smith and Carolyn Ashlock
12	Nick and Lisa Strobel
13	Bob and Lisa Neath
20	Bill and Cindy Wilson
24	Scott and Kacey Pipkin