

The Outlook

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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Cindy Lawler, Pastor

September 24, 2025

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

September 28: Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16, Luke 16:19-31, "God's 911 plan"
October 5: Psalm 137, Luke 17:5-10, "Faith the size of a mustard seed"
Rev. Cindy Lawler, preaching

World Communion Sunday October 5, 2025

On this Sunday, United Methodists join Christians around the world in celebrating Holy Communion, remembering that we are one in Christ, no matter our background, language, or culture. But it's more than just worship. It's also a time to support scholarships and leadership training for students from underrepresented communities—helping the Church become more inclusive and better equipped to serve (umc.org). Offering envelopes will be available October 5. You may mail a check to Wesley, designated World Communion Sunday or give online. Thank you.

The Pumpkins Are Coming

The pumpkins are scheduled to arrive at noon, Sunday, October 12, 2025. We will 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 stay awhile and help us. Be sure to bring "pumpkin unloading clothes" to change into if needed. If you are unable to help unload pumpkins, don't worry because we will have other activities that you can help with; like: packaging pumpkin poop; assembling coloring packets; cutting stickers; making goodies bags; or painting signs. 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 8 PM. In the past, we have even sold pumpkins during unloading.

Ideas, ideas, ideas! The time has come to begin thinking of ways to grow our outreach and our attendance. No Idea is too crazy. Traditional methods of word of mouth etc are just not working. I am thinking of three types of ideas, One, we start a Spanish speaking outreach/service to better reflect our neighborhood. This will require support from conference because we would need to hire a Spanish speaking church planter. My second idea would be Messy Church. Messy church is kind of like a mini Vacation Bible School, just weekly or every two weeks which ever we decide. The sessions are fun, a touch rowdy, slightly messy, and can be as involved as we decide. This would target local families. For the third idea I will watch a seminar on livestream in October on "Fresh Expressions" to seek suggestions.

What do you think? No Idea is wrong or too crazy. We will most likely only choose one because we have to do this right, not just give growth lip service. Please, If you have an idea, let me know! Together we can reach out and reach more of God's children right here in our corner of the world.

Pastor Cindy

Trustees' Activity

The Trustees recently removed a large limb that fell in the children's playground. We have an evaporative cooler pump to replace in one of the coolers over the kitchen. Two of us are restricted on ladders so we need a trustee that can manage a ladder for the minor roof work such as changing sanctuary air conditioning filters or blowing debris from rain gutters and winterizing evaporative coolers. Jose Bautista, gardener, takes over the Ed. Bldg. front and Children's lawn October 1st. Trustees also discussed coordination of pumpkin patch lighting work with fence installation, so all is ready for pumpkins' arrival.

The Ed. Bldg. center-north room may be rented to Bakersfield Burrito Project for an office and meeting area. The rent of \$200 per month was established at the Trustees' meeting. An alarm control pad will be added, and an adult size toilet will be installed in the room's half bath. We do not have costs on those items, yet.

Trustees are coordinating preparation of the parsonage for rental. A door replacement, replacement of carpeting, locks changed, painting, fence-gate post replacement, and general cleaning are needed. It is one step at a time. A property management company has been helpful and proposed parsonage rent at \$2K- \$2400.00 per month. Their charge is 5% of rent, no charge when not rented. We may consider a painting and cleaning party as we progress with preparations.

Nick Strobel & Marv Davisson, Co-chairs

Coats Needed for Neighborhood Distribution

Gently used coats in all sizes are needed for Wesley's neighborhood coat distribution set for October 25 during Community Fun Day. This is an annual event that attracts families and individuals in need of warm winter coats. Go through your closets and ask neighbors, family and friends if they have an extra coat or two to donate. They need to be clean and in good condition. Good coats also may be found at the Discovery Shop, Goodwill, Salvation Army, and other used clothing stores.

Prayers

Prayers of concern for Charles 50 days in hospital and facility. Prayers of thanksgiving for Lea who has a test date December 2; for Nick Strobel's clear skies last weekend for the Dark Sky Festival at Sequoia National Park, for night time temps that got to the 60s this past week.

Deadline

The next deadline to submit articles to the newsletter, *The Outlook*, is Monday, October 8.

Save The Date

Wesley's Annual Charge Conference
Sunday, November 16
at noon

Happy October Birthday to...

5	Katelynn Cavazos
16	Emma Neath
22	Aubree Chavez
26	David Atkins Cindy Lawler
27	Shyann Nelson
28	Tom Saba

If you would like to add your birthday and/or anniversary please notify Terry at 872-8741 or email at office@wesleybakersfield.org

First UMC's
Fall Gathering

Saturday, October 25,
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.,
4600 Stockdale Hwy.

We can overcome challenging obstacles by coming together and sharing our personal experiences while supporting others. When women support women, they create a powerful force for positive change. This support can be seen in various ways from celebrating each other to offering help and encouragement. When we lift each other up, we all rise. Women supporting women is not a competition. It is a collaboration of help, sharing and encouragement.

At the Gathering we will experience and enjoy fellowship, a devotional, short program and offer encouragement for one another. *"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up on meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but by encouraging one another." Hebrews 10:24*

