

# The Outlook

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

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Cindy Lawler, Pastor

January 14, 2026

## Worship on Facebook and In-Person

January 18: John 1:29-42, Isaiah 49:1-7, "You as a Light"  
January 25: Psalm 27:1, 4-9, Matthew 4:12-23, "Carrying the Light"  
Rev. Cindy Lawler, preaching

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## Human Relations Day

Human Relations Day is one of six church wide Special Sundays designated to support ministries and causes important to the entire United Methodist Church. This day invites congregations to strengthen communities, especially those facing poverty, injustice, or lack of opportunity. Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of the "beloved community." Human Relations Day calls us to build relationships rooted in dignity, equity, and love. There will be offering envelopes available in the bulletins. Thank you.

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Jeremiah 29:11 says, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you a future and a hope. And Proverbs 23:18 says, Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off. So as we begin this new year we can know with certainty that even though things are really rough in our world right now God has a plan to get us through it. My New years resolution was to try and listen more and do my best to see God in every person around me. I may not like them, or agree with them but maybe if I show Christian behavior, just maybe a bit might rub off on them. May God bless your 2026!

Hopefully yours, Pastor Cindy



## Meeting Reminder

Administrative Council will meet  
Tuesday, January 20, 5:30 p.m., on  
Zoom.

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## Thank You

I enjoyed the Christmas Carols coming  
to the Orchards Post Acute and singing  
Christmas songs in my room.

—Linda Tilton

\$70 was collected for United Methodist  
Student Sunday last month.

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## Deadline

Monday, January 26 is the deadline to  
submit articles to the next newsletter,  
*The Outlook*.



## God Community & Connection

The Women of Faith Group will meet  
Jan 29<sup>th</sup> at First United Methodist  
Church, 9am to 1 pm. Craig Harrison  
will be the speaker and “God  
Community and Connection” will be  
his topic. For more info please call  
Sharon Wainwright at 661-204-5685.  
The \$15 dollar registration fee  
includes Brunch.

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## KWESI Valentine Card Writing 2026

Thursday, February 5, 2026, 1:30 PM  
First Congregational Church  
5 Real Road  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
Parking lot-off Stockdale Highway  
beside white chapel  
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

Here are the prayers we shared on our Bethlehem Prayer wall. I know several of us tried to read as many as possible in church but that was not always possible. Please join me in praying for them this month. --Pastor Cindy

Stars; The joy of the help of my niece this week; For my family; Sarah was awarded the Early Music Educator for 2025 in Oregon by the Oregon Music Educators; Praise for Aaron and Skyla's 5<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary; Joy for Sarah's opportunity to sing with the Gospel Choir in Portland; Prayers that Nick is home from the hospital; Birthdays and memories; Joy worship and singing; As we celebrate Jesus's birth, may we all celebrate a new beginning of hope trust that God will take care of us all, Amen.; Siobhan's successful surgery; Praises for Arnie's amazing life; Praise that Jesus is coming; For my dear friends; Grateful for Pastor Cindy; Giving and sharing; God's presence in each moment; Thanks for my health that lets me hike; I Pray for Kingdom come has all been done; Praise for Sunrise and the mountains this morning; Family; Praises for all the Christmas lights; Praise the Lord for all the blessings of life and love, forgiveness and Grace!; Love you and your friends; -May unity unite us in Love; Wherever we are, God is; Thank for my Wesley family, thankful for the hope and blessings of Love, Rose Garcia; Great Joy and Thanksgiving; Concerns; Prayers to be seen and known; Prayer of peace; Prayers of comfort for all whom are looking to be comforted during this

special season. May our Lord hold you close, Amen; For all the homeless in this cold weather; Travel mercies for Rachel's travel; Pray for Matthew and Dani; Hope for the world; For discernment in decisions; Siobhan's Continuation of cancer treatments; Pray for everyone with a broken heart to find a way to fill it with love and things that bring them Joy; For immigrants, esp. those in detention at Mesa Verde California City; Hope for end of ICE detentions; Safe travel prayers for Jack Saba, returning to Bakersfield from Japan on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>; Prayers for shootings in Rhode Island and Australia; That we will be ready anytime when God asks us to help someone; Safe travels for Holiday travelers; Pray for my children, Rachel, Jacob, Zach, Ashley, Aaron & Skyla; Peace; Prayers for upcoming surgery; Help for my daughter; What the world needs now is love; Peace and comfort for Rosie; Prayers for honesty and truth telling for our political leaders; May you know that you are enough; Peace and comfort for Kevin and Pam's family; Peace and the world; Folks we know struggling with Cancer: Anna, Pat, Glenn, Terry; Be still and Know.....; Prayers that I get to see my Girlfriend and she says YES; Prayers for help with my insurance needs; Friends and family who need healing; For a sadness in my heart; Healing for my Dad; healing for Linda T's cough

## In The Military

Please keep those serving in the military  
in your prayers.

Chris Armantrout - Navy  
Nathan Ashlock - Marines  
Nick Buckridge - Army National Guard  
Mark Andrew Caldwell - Marines  
Alex Campbell - Navy  
Josh Caughran - Navy  
Megan Dexter - Army Reserves  
Bradley Delacruz - Army  
Jerome Garey - Air Force  
Dan Hanel - Air Force  
Greg Hanel - Air Force  
Kaylyn Dane-Kulland - National Guard  
Anthony Mitchell jr. - Air Force  
Kenneth Oberg - Navy  
Rebecca Oberg - Air Force  
Ellis Redmond - Marine Corp  
Carsten Strobel - Army  
Spring Walden - Air Force  
Joel Watson - Navy  
Josephine Wells-Ashley - Marines  
Laura Yoon - Navy  
David Yoon - Navy

The pillar candle on the altar is to  
remind us of our prayers for them.

*Behold.*

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THE LAMB OF GOD,

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JOHN 1:29

*Enjoy!* ART