

Wesley United Methodist Church
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The Encounter

Wesley
United Methodist Church
A Place for You



Volume 34 #5 May 2019

In this issue...



- Early morning prayer schedule
- New book studies for Wednesday & Thursday morning groups
- May 2019 Adult Forum topics
- New Ministry opportunities
- ... and more



Growing in Christ to be a
Bold Witness to God's Love

Wesley
United Methodist Church
A Place for You



The Andrews

Growing in Christ to be a Bold Witness to God's Love

WORDS FROM PASTOR KAREN

So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it. Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Colossians 3:12-16 from *The Message*

When I have time, I enjoy watching home improvement and house hunting shows on television. What often seems to surprise folks is how limited closet space is in older homes. They seem amazed that the closets are so small. It was common for most people to have only one or two items of clothing (your Sunday best), a set of work clothes, a few undergarments and a sleep shirt. You don't need a walk-in closet when your clothing needs are simple!

The writer of Colossians (some say the author is the apostle Paul, others think it was someone writing in Paul's style) uses the metaphor of putting on values such as love, compassion, kindness like they are clothing. We are to wear love, let peace guide our steps and cultivate thankfulness.

What if the month of May the Wesley Church family let these words be our guides to how we live in community together? Spend time each morning in prayer considering the values listed in Colossians. Which virtue is the Holy One calling you to clothe yourself with for that day? Spend time in prayer deciding what outfit you will wear that day. Then chose to clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline, peace, forgiveness, love or thankfulness.

May your spiritual life require a HUGE walk in closet. May you always remember your all-purpose garment of love. May we invite others to join us in a place where all are welcome, affirmed and celebrated. Praise will be our song as we sing, sing our hearts out to God!

Peace,



Pastor Karen

Did you know?

The Nurture and Care Committee has a program where meals will be provided for the families of members and friends who have been hospitalized or had surgery. If you are aware of any of the Fresno Wesley family that is having surgery or has been in the hospital, please contact the church office. They will then contact Carolyn Scott who will coordinate with the family for meals to be delivered.

If you would like to provide a meal for someone now and then, contact Carolyn Scott 559-903-4240 or cscott93630@gmail.com.

Be a MAGI (Ministry Area Giving Investor)

Would you like to give intentionally to a ministry area of Wesley?

There are things we need to purchase on a regular basis and our budget could use some help in covering these costs. Here are some ideas of how you can help out: Office supplies (paper, envelopes, printer ink, etc.); Hospitality (coffee, cups, etc.); Children's Ministry (Sunday School supplies, books, etc.); Any other ministry you can think of

If you can give an additional monetary gift, write MAGI and the name of the ministry area on the memo line of your check. If you give electronically, talk to Vickie about ways to note your MAGI giving. Your monetary gift can make a big difference in balancing our budget. If you have any questions, please ask Kimberli Parenteau



Membership Class Forming Now



Are you interested in becoming a member of Fresno Wesley UMC? Are you seeking information about baptism? Pastor Karen is forming classes for anyone that would like to learn more about the United Methodist Church and Fresno Wesley church. If you or your children have not been baptized, a baptism service is planned for June 9th. Please contact the church office for more information and to sign up.

May 2019 Adult Forum Topics

Special Guest Speaker on Global Climate Change Adult Forum—May 5th

The bottom line on global climate change:

- it's bad
- we humans caused it
- we can fix it

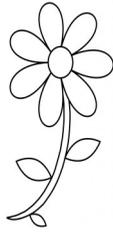
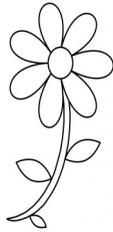
Citizens Climate Lobby is a grassroots, non-partisan organization which advocates a viable strategy to minimize climate change. Learn about it and find out what you can do to help on **May 5th** during **Adult Forum, 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room**. Our guest speaker will be Debra Westhaver-Church.

“The Challenge of Paul” Adult Forum May 12 and 19

What do you know about the Apostle Paul? How closely do you think Paul's message aligns with Jesus' message? John Dominic Crossan, acclaimed historical Jesus scholar, shares his insights in the new DVD series, “The Challenge of Paul.” On May 12 and 19, Wesley's Adult Forum will view and discuss this timely video. Join us at 9:15 am in the Fireside Room.

AED/Stop the Bleed Class Adult Forum—May 26

Adult Education and the Wesley Trustees have teamed up to help prepare us for potentially life threatening situations. We are offering a class on the use of our Automated Defibrillator (AED) and how to Stop the Bleed during a mass shooting. Please join us in the Fireside Room for this important training.



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Electronic gifts:

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If you would like to give electronically, visit our website and go to the “Donate” page. Or, you can download the free GivePlus Mobile App wherever you get your apps. We are using Vanco Payment Solutions to facilitate our electronic giving.

**For more information, contact
Vickie Healy 559-285-6635**

“People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

— Maya Angelou



Wesley Hikers

2019 Schedule

For more information and to RSVP contact
**John Presley @
(559) 457-9475**

Sat. May 11 Mariposa
Grove—Carpool 7am

Sat., June 22
Sentinel Dome & Taft
Point—Carpool 7am

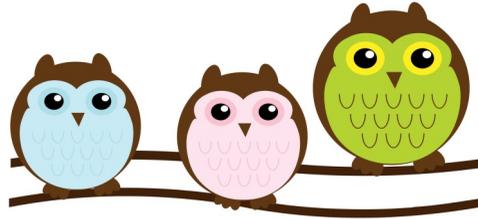
Lydia's House 26th Birthday

Presentation by Pastor Karen Pugh,
Wesley UMC Fireside Room
“The Long and Winding Road”

All women are invited. Bring a mug and fruit (cut up) or bakery item to share.
For more information contact:
Sally Adlesh 559-324-9608 or
Sylvia Pethoud 559-438-7705

For information about including articles or announcements in the Encounter, please contact
Carolyn Scott cscott93630@gmail.com or
559-903-4240 The deadline for publication is the
15th of each month.

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Sunday	Scripture	Sermon
5/5	John 21:1-19	Breakfast BBQ
5/12	John 10:22-30	Shepherd Calling
5/19	John 13:31-35	Love Commands
5/26	UMW Sunday	Rev. Vickie Healy



Did you know? Our church has a committee: That offers ongoing Christian fellowship through personal contact, prayer, concern, support, and hope to members who are hospitalized, in skilled facilities for rehabilitation, living in assisted care facilities, or who are confined/restricted to their homes by illness or disability.

**This is the mission of the
Wesley Nurture & Care Committee**

If you are interested in joining the committee or ever have information on a church member who may need the support of the team, please contact Lynn Slaw Severson 559-706-3672



NEW BOOK STUDIES



Wednesday mornings @ 10:00 a.m.
Library

Contact CJ Pitcher @ 559-301-2357 or cjpitcher93710@gmail.com

New book beginning on May 8

A Companion for the Hospice Journey: Thoughts on Life's Tough Decisions

By Larry Patten

Larry was pastor at Wesley for almost nine years, leaving in 2007 to return to hospice work and his passion of writing. Larry has a way of talking about death and dying that doesn't scare or depress people, but rather draws them in so they can begin to open up to what is happening—or will happen one day.

Thursday mornings @ 10:00 a.m.
Library

Contact Carolyn Scott @ 559-903-4240 or cscott93630@gmail.com

New book & video study beginning on May 16

The Girl's Still Got It:

Take a Walk with Ruth and the God Who Rocked Her World

By Liz Curtis Higgs

Follow Ruth and her mother-in-law, Naomi, as they travel from Moab to Bethlehem to find God's call on their lives. A real rags-to-redemption story.

Wesley United Methodist Church

Phone 559-224-1947

wesleyfresno.org

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Our United Methodist Connection California-Nevada Annual Conference Phone (916) 374-1500

www.calnevumc.org Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño/Debra Brady, Central Valley District Supt. Email:

debrab@calnevumc.org

Study Opportunities



Sunday School Classes

Children 10:15 - 11:30am *Ed West*

Adult Forum 9:15 - 10:15am *Fireside Room*

ONGOING SMALL GROUPS

SUNDAY Meditation 9:15am, *Winterberg #2*

MONDAY Bible Study 11:00am, *Winterberg #3*

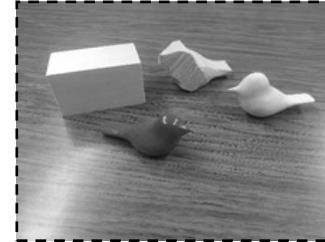
“Confucius, Buddha, Muhammad, and Jesus...”

MONDAY 6:00pm, *Parsonage (call office for address),*
Reading the gospel of Luke.

WEDNESDAY 10:00am, Library, Book Study, *A Companion for the Hospice Journey by Larry Patten*

THURSDAY 10am, Library, Women’s Bible Study,
The Girl’s Still Got It by Liz Curtis Higgs

“You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working; in just the same way, you learn to love by loving.” -Anatole France



Carvers & Painters Wanted

We have a new ministry opportunity but we need your help! Would like to help carve small wooden birds or paint them when they are ready? These small, smooth wooden birds are then given to folks in the Wesley family who need a bit of comfort, a bit of care. Teaching us will be Ben Horner who brings this ministry from his former church Lincoln UMC. See the photo and if you are interested, contact Ben Horner (559) 375-1365

Holiday Gift Bag Project

Wesley will once again be hosting the Holiday Gift Bag project for the women incarcerated at the Central California Women’s Facility near Chowchilla. We had an incredibly successful project last year, and were able to deliver 3000 gift bags each filled with 20 small items. We hope to do the same this year.

Packing day is Saturday, December 7th in John Wesley Hall.
Mark your calendars!

Please start gathering gift items for the bags. Donated items may be left in the church office. Due to very strict prison rules, we are able to use only the items on the approved list.

Examples of items on the list include:

Greeting cards (7.5”x6.5” or smaller, no glitter or glued on items)

Picture postcards

Scratch pads (5’x7’ or smaller, no sticky notes)

Pencils or pens (no clickers)

Personal items: (stick type lip balm, indiv. packaged toothbrushes, 2 oz or smaller toothpaste, combs (no rat-tails), tissue packets, 2 oz or less soaps, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, lotion

Individual packets of hot chocolate or coffee

Prayer Update: Service Personnel

Please help us update the list of those connected to the church family who are serving in the military. Call the church office if names need to be added or removed. This is the current list: Joshua Anderson, Ben Boggs, Matthew Cano, Eric Correa, Sebastian Cyran, Cara Hamaguchi, Jeff Hood, George Johnson, Richard Johnson, Chris Kuipers, Randy Lyness, Mack E. McSperitt, Trent Ozburn, Matthew Riley, Lauren Robles-Rummer, Joshua Shepard, and Andy Willis

May 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Regular Sunday Activities:

9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
 9:15 AM - 11:30 AM Childcare
 9:15 AM Meditation Group
 9:15 AM Adult Forum
 10:15 AM Sunday School for Children
 10:30 AM Worship
 11:30 AM Snack & Chat Fellowship

Early Morning
 Prayer Schedule
 May 2019
 7:30 a.m.
 Winterberg #2

5/6, 5/10, 5/13,
 5/15, 5/17, 5/20,
 5/22, 5/24, 5/31

			1 10 am-Book Study group 3 pm-Reading & Beyond	2 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open 10 am-Womens' Bible Study 5:30 pm-Base Camp	3 (Office Closed)	4
5 Adult Forum: Citizens Climate Lobby	6 11 am-Mon. Bible Study 1 pm-Prison Gift Bag sorting 3 pm-Reading & Beyond 6 pm-Bible Study @ parsonage	7 8 am—Tuesday Crew 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open	8 10 am-Book Study group 3 pm-Reading & Beyond	9 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open 10 am-Womens' Bible Study 5:30 pm-Base Camp	10 (Office Closed)	11 Wesley Hikers Mariposa Grove Carpool from Church 7:00 am
12 Adult Forum: "The Challenge of Paul" video	13 11 am-Mon. Bible Study 1 pm-Prison Gift Bag sorting 3 pm-Reading & Beyond 6 pm-Bible Study @ parsonage	14 8 am—Tuesday Crew 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open	15 10 am-Book Study group 3 pm-Reading & Beyond	16 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open 10 am-Womens' Bible Study 5:30 pm-Base Camp	17 (Office Closed)	18 9:00-Noon Lydia's House Fireside Room
19 Adult Forum: "The Challenge of Paul" video	20 11 am-Mon. Bible Study 1 pm-Prison Gift Bag sorting 3 pm-Reading & Beyond 6 pm-Bible Study @ parsonage	21 8 am—Tuesday Crew 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open	22 10 am-Book Study group 3 pm-Reading & Beyond	23 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open 10 am-Womens' Bible Study 5:30 pm-Base Camp	24 (Office Closed)	25
26 Adult Forum: AED/ Stop the Bleed class UMW Sunday-Vickie Healy preaching	27 Memorial Day office closed 1 pm-Prison Gift Bag sorting 6 pm-Bible Study @ parsonage	28 8 am—Tuesday Crew 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open	29 10 am-Book Study group 3 pm-Reading & Beyond	30 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow open 10 am-Womens' Bible Study 5:30 pm-Base Camp	31 (Office Closed)	