

Wesley United Methodist Church  
1343 E Barstow Ave  
Fresno, CA 93710-6309  
(559) 224-1947  
www.wesleyfresno.org

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

*The Encounter*

*Wesley*  
United Methodist Church  
*A Place for You*



Volume 34 #6 June 2019

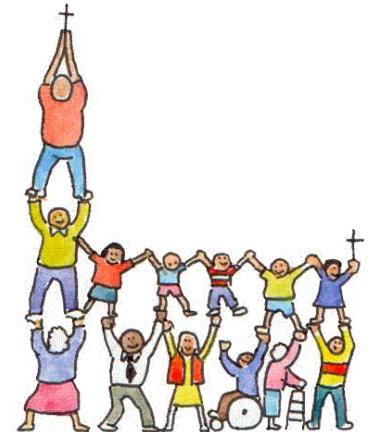
Mark your calendar!

You won't want to miss  
this...

June 23rd @ 10:30 a.m.

*"What Are We Afraid Of?"*

Rev. Jan Everhart preaching



4-4

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BILL  
and  
JEFF  
KEANE

"I did rise, Mommy, but it's gonna  
be a while before I shine."

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

*Wesley*  
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*The Andrews*

## WORDS FROM PASTOR KAREN

Help, GOD—the bottom has fallen out of my life! Master, hear my cry for help! Listen hard! Open your ears! Listen to my cries for mercy. I pray to GOD—my life a prayer—and wait for what God will say and do. My life's on the line before God, my Lord, waiting and watching till morning, waiting and watching till morning.

Psalm 130:1-2; 5-6 *The Message*

We are in a season of waiting and watching.

We are in a season of waiting and watching in our denomination. In February delegates, by a vote of 438 to 384, voted for punitive measures and restrictive language in our Book of Discipline regarding the full inclusion of LGBTQiA people. What will it mean for us at Wesley? What will it mean for our future? Bishop Carcaño has said that as a Conference we will continue to resist. In the last few weeks two different groups, UMForward and UMNNext have been meeting as progressive, centrist, LGBTQiA and allies to envision how we will resist these restrictive and punitive measures and how we might live into a future as a new type of Methodism.

I would challenge you to spend time in prayer for our church and denomination. Pray for our bishop as she prepares to lead us at the Annual Conference meeting in June. Pray for your elected lay members to AC, Paige Addington and Kay Docken and for me as we prepare to listen and vote on matters that come before us at conference. Pray for our LGBTQiA sisters and brothers at Wesley. Many are in pain from the decisions made in February. They wonder if they can continue to be members of a denomination that would reject them. Above all, listen to them when they share with you. Do not defend Wesley and the welcome and inclusion to be found here. They know the welcome that is here, it doesn't change their current pain. Simply listen and offer to walk beside them as we experience this season of waiting and watching.

We are in a season of waiting and watching. Let us be in prayer together, let us pray for a future that includes everyone and learn how to live into being a church where all still means all.

Peace,  
Karen



### Update from the Trustees

The Wesley Board of Trustees meets each month on the fourth Wednesday, 6pm in the Library to discuss the property and buildings, their usage, maintenance and long-term goals. The trustee meetings are open to all members of Wesley.

Over the past twelve months the trustees have worked on addressing utility costs. We met with a few solar companies in 2018 and determined that it is not feasible. Tax credits residential properties receive to offset the cost of the panels and installation are not available to the church as a non-profit. The only possibility for cost savings would be purchasing the panels and installation. The cost is prohibitive and beyond our budget.

However, the cost saving on electric costs from 2017 to 2018 was substantial due to the LED replacement of outdoor lighting. Costs went from \$30,000.00 in 2017 to \$23,000.00. Sewer water costs will be reduced as well in 2019 as most of water cost increases are due to irrigation of the property and do not impact water to the sewer. Low winter sewer water costs will be used all year round which should show a water cost savings of \$3-4,000.00 for 2019.

In other news, the bees are gone! The trustees found a beekeeper who was able to remove the bees, their queen and the 10 year old hive from our tower in JWH. They have continued to use natural methods to dissuade them from returning. This has been a several decade problem that we hope is solved.

## Annual Teacher Appreciation

Everyone is invited to honor our volunteers in Wesley's Christian Education Program

### Lifted by Love



Program by Jim Healy

Sunday, June 2, 2019  
9:15 am Fireside Room

A continental breakfast will be served.



"Spring being a hard act to follow, God created June."

-Al Bernstein



**Wesley Hikers**

**2019 Schedule**

Saturday, June 22 Carpool 7am sharp  
**Sentinel Dome & Taft Point**

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

## Lydia's House

Saturday, June 15—9:00 a.m.—noon  
Fireside Room

"Being an Advocate"

Theme for 2019: Making Sense of Life's Changes"

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



Greetings from Joellyn & James on vacation: "Hello from Northern Germany! To our friends at Wesley, Pink Cow, and Tuesday Crew. Beautiful Lübeck is a medieval town that escaped WW II bombing and now is an UNESCO World Heritage site. Having fun with our German friends Eiske & Masako Olsen. Eiske was Carroll & Evelyn Moen's (Wesley members) German exchange student "son" in Fresno. He & Masako have been awesome hosts. Brother Gary & Denise are traveling with us presently staying in a hostel in Warnemünde—on the Baltic Sea. Hope all is well with all of you!"  
*Love, Joellyn & James*

## 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 you would like to help.

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.

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
6/2	Acts 16:16-34	Hymn Sing or Jail Break?
6/9	Acts 2:1-21	Spirit Fire
6/16	John 16:12-15	Sophia Speaks
6/23	Luke 8:26-39	What Are We Afraid Of? Rev. Jan Everhart preaching
6/30	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18	Know Your Worth Conni Bryant - guest speaker

**Wesley United Methodist Church**

Phone 559-224-1947  
wesleyfresno.org

**Contact Wesley's Staff**

Pastor	Karen Stoffers-Pugh	karen@wesleyfresno.org
Office Secretary	Myra Cubos	myra@wesleyfresno.org
Bookkeeper	Sharon Sanchez	sharon@wesleyfresno.org
Music Director	Elizabeth Layous	
Accompanists	Peggy Copp, Carol Presley	
Custodian	Dolores Lopez	
Sunday Custodian	Beth Janeway	

**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

**June 9th 12:00 noon Brown Bag Lunch & Church Update**

Bring a lunch and plan to attend the church review and update following worship. We will hear a first quarter financial review from our church treasurer, discuss the meetings with Bishop Carcaño, UMNNext, and UMFoward responses to the Special General Conference and Judicial Council decisions this spring. We will vote on and approve the lease agreement between Wesley and the Fresno Jewish Day School and hear about the property evaluations recently completed by consultants hired by the Conference. Please RSVP for childcare at 224-1947.

**July 14th 12:00 noon Potluck & Games**

Bring a dish to share and your favorite board game for a time of fellowship and fun. There will be a sign-up sheet coming soon so we know how many to set up for.

**August 9th Christian Fellowship Night at Fresno Grizzlies with Post-Game Concert**

More information will be coming in the near future.

**August 11th 12:00 noon Potluck & Hymn Sing**

Bring a dish to share and a list of your favorite hymns. We will spend time in fellowship and song. It's a beach theme. So wear your favorite beach attire to church & potluck.

**August 18th Fresno Jewish Day School Open House**

More information will be coming in the near future.

**Sept. 21st Faith & Family Night for FSU Bulldogs**

More information will be coming in the near future.

**Oct. 18th Annual Shredding Date**

Watch the Encounter for more information.

**Dec. 7th Prison Holiday Gift Bag Project Packing Day**

# Study Opportunities



**Sunday School—on summer break**  
Childcare will continue 9:00 - 11:30am *Ed West*

## **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*

“SUMMER AFTERNOON—  
SUMMER AFTERNOON; TO ME  
THOSE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THE  
TWO MOST BEAUTIFUL WORDS IN  
THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.”

-HENRY JAMES



## Who do you know?

We are in the process of updating our list of people connected to Wesley that are serving in the U.S. military. Do you have a family member that is serving? Are they currently on our prayer list? Please contact the church office to get their name on the list. We want to have a current list because we are planning a project to honor them.

## Amazon Smile

For the time period Jan. 1-Mar. 31, 2019 we received a donation of \$143.97 from Amazon Smile as a result of the designated shopping on Amazon. We appreciate that you have designated Wesley as your recipient. Call the church office if you have any questions about how to make Wesley your designated charity on Amazon.



## E-Giving News

Did you know you can give to Wesley electronically through Vanco? Loading the application on your phone or going on line is easy and you save Wesley administrative dollars by giving in this way. When you donate with a check, whether in the plate or from your bank, staff and volunteers handle that transaction five times. Through Vanco the same transaction is only handled twice. Here are the numbers since launching Vanco: February \$578, March \$2827, April \$5589. Talk to Vickie Healy about how to sign up. Vickie is in the office on Thursday afternoons and her phone number is in the directory.

For more information you can contact the office 224-1947.



# June 2019



Regular Sunday Activities:

- 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 AM -11:30 AM Childcare
- 9:15 AM Meditation Group
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 11:30 AM Snack & Chat Fellowship

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

- 6/1, 6/3, 6/5, 6/7, 6/10,
- 6/12, 6/14, 6/17, 6/21,
- 6/24, 6/26, 6/28



**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

						1 9:30-noon-Pink Cow Open
2 9:15-10:15 a.m. Teacher Appreciation Fireside Room	3 11 am-Mon. Bible Study 6 pm-Bible Study @ parsonage	4 8 am--Tuesday Crew 10am-2pm- Pink Cow Thrift Shop open 10-11 am-Ad Hoc Bal. Class <i>FSR</i>	5 10 am-Book Study group <i>Library</i>	6 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow Thrift Shop open 10 am-Ad Hoc Balance <i>FSR</i> 10 am-Womens' Bible Study <i>Library</i> 5:30 pm-Base Camp <i>FSR</i>	7 office closed	8 9 am Food Not Bombs <i>FSR</i> 
9 11:45 am-Blood Pressure 11:45 am-Soc. Just. Action 12:00 noon-Church Financial update 2 pm-PFLAG-WEC#5 6 pm-Wild Wes. Women Joyce Fadenrecht	10 11 am-Mon. Bible Study 6 pm-Bible Study @ parsonage	11 8 am--Tuesday Crew 10am-2pm- Pink Cow Thrift Shop open 10-11 am-Ad Hoc Balance Class <i>FSR</i>	12 10 am-Book Study group <i>Library</i> 6 pm-WE Circle 7 pm SPRC	13 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow Thrift Shop open 10 am-Ad Hoc Balance <i>FSR</i> 10 am-Womens' Bible Study <i>Library</i> 5:30 pm-Base Camp <i>FSR</i>	14 office closed	15 9 am-noon--Lydia's House
16 2:00 pm--LGBTQ & Allies potluck WEC#5	17 1 am-Mon. Bible Study 6 pm-Bible Study @ parsonage	18 8 am--Tuesday Crew 10am-2pm- Pink Cow Thrift Shop open 10-11 am-Ad Hoc Balance Class <i>FSR</i>	19 10 am-Book Study group <i>Library</i>	20 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow Thrift Shop open 10 am-Ad Hoc Balance <i>FSR</i> 10 am-Womens' Bible Study <i>Library</i> 5:30 pm-Base Camp <i>FSR</i>	21 office closed	22 9 am Food Not Bombs <i>FSR</i> 7 am Carpool Wesley Hikers Sentinel Dome & Taft Pt.
23 12n-2pm- Finance Committee	24 1 am-Mon. Bible Study	25 8 am--Tuesday Crew 10am-2pm- Pink Cow Thrift Shop open 10-11 am-Ad Hoc Balance Class <i>FSR</i>	26 10 am-Book Study group <i>Library</i> 6-7 pm-Trustees	27 9 am-Food Pantry open 10am-2pm- Pink Cow Thrift Shop open 10 am-Ad Hoc Balance <i>FSR</i> 10 am-Womens' Bible Study <i>Library</i> 5:30 pm-Base Camp <i>FSR</i>	28 office closed	29 9 am Food Not Bombs <i>FSR</i> 
30						