

"The Messenger"

July 2026

Pastor Vicky Martinez
Pine Bluffs United Methodist Church

Editors:

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PB United Methodist Church



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TID-BITS

In fact, this would be a good month to pray for our country. Instead of your usual "grace before meals" why not sing "God Bless America"? But sing it as a prayer.



FELLOWSHIP/WORSHIP/SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fellowship - 8:15 a.m. *(every Sunday)*

Worship - 9:00 a.m. *(every Sunday)*

Sunday School - 9:15 a.m. *(every Sunday, except during the Summer)*

Women's Prayer Group - 9:00 a.m. *(every Friday)*



PRAYERS

Father God, we lift up all these individuals & families to your grace, comfort and love. We ask that you heal all of their hearts and bodies. Amen!

Family of Ruth Tipsword in her passing, Family of Rick Carpenter in his passing, Nicole Sisson recovery from two knee surgeries, Linda Jeffres recovery from hip replacement, Brinlee Baker cyst on tonsils, Beth Woods stroke, Jolene and Bob S. health, Monique P. Brown Family in her passing, Casey Hill, prayers for the families of the deceased firefighters in Western Colorado and the two firefighters in intensive care, praise for moisture, Bill and Jane Baker



It's summertime!

Come as you are—shorts, T-shirts, or whatever helps you feel comfortable—as we enjoy a relaxed summer season at church.

For the next eight weeks, we are going to be delving into the Lord's prayer. This is exciting because in addition, to the prayer itself, we will be utilizing Christian prayer beads. Initially, there will be prayer beads offered - this doesn't mean that you have to engage in this spiritual practice, which is what it will become, but everything will be tied together, so the more often you bring your beads, the more this will make sense.

Each Sunday there will be a scripture that ties together the practice of praying. And each week the focus will be on one sentence of the Lord's prayer, dissecting it if you will, to greater understand how Jesus prayed and as a template for how he lived. Jesus invites us all to be a part of the ministry of bringing a little 'heaven on earth.'

Have a blessed, safe summer with friends and family and see you on Sunday mornings! Don't forget to continue your giving through the summer as expenses continue whether we have a full sanctuary or not.

Another thing, is while you are out on the lake or stream, remember that there are those of us who are unable to be out fishing, but LOVE to eat trout - just sayin!

God bless you all and Peace,
Pastor Vicky



1 Corinthians 13: 4-7 (NIV)

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

CHURCH LAWN MAINTENANCE

On Sunday, June 28th, after Worship, Trustee President John Wise and Trustee Member, Greg Ornelas along with Sue Maxted and Diane Wise pulled weeds from the old signage and bell tower spots, leveled the ground and added new sod. Thank you to everyone who helped with this.



WINDOW TO THE PAST

1909: March 28, 1909 the Reverend F.W. Swanson of the Western Swedish Conference of The Methodist Church came to Pine Bluffs and organized this church in the old schoolhouse, which later was destroyed by fire. The charter members were Mr. & Mrs. Andy Anderson, Cornelius Blodgett, Siesus Blodgett, George Blodgett, S.H. Birdsall, Charles E. Carlstrum, Christina A. Carlstrum, Ned Olson, Sarah Olson and Mrs. W.N. Watson. Reverend Swanson began plans for the building of a cement block church at the corner of Main & 6th Street. Construction began September 17, 1909. The Methodist Episcopal Church of Pine Bluffs was dedicated on Sunday, December 5, 1909 by District Superintendent Rev. J.A. Gabrielson. One of the three services was conducted in Swedish. According to the memoirs of the late George Carlstrum, longtime church secretary/treasurer, tells of going to a Sunday afternoon meeting held at the building site where the foundation and floor joists were completed. The church still needed \$108.00 to complete the construction of the church after members had given all they could afford. C.E. Carlstrum, George's uncle asked George to give \$60.00 to help out. Although George did not have the money C.E. Carlstrum was willing to advance him the money and take it out of his wages as George was employed by his uncle. He also, resided with his uncle, so his room and board were free. Since George had no expenses or family to support C.E. Carlstrum felt George could afford the \$60.00, a month's wages. George consented and never regretted it.



KITCHEN / FELLOWSHIP HALL REMODEL

The remodel of the kitchen and fellowship hall areas officially started on June 22nd. The kitchen cabinets have been set and a first coat of paint was done. The countertop company will be taking measurements on June 30th with an expected install date of 10-15 days. Flooring installation also starts on next week along with a second coat of paint.



Team Reports

<u>United Women in Faith</u>	<u>Finance / Church Council</u>
UWIF will meet on July 12 th at 10:15 a.m. following worship for a regular meeting. All are welcome to attend.	Finance and Church Council will meet on July 15 th at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. respectively for regular meetings. All are welcome to attend.
<u>Trustees</u>	<u>SPRC</u>
Trustees will meet on July 1 st at 5:30 p.m. for a regular meeting. All are welcome to attend.	SPRC will meet on July 29 th at 5:30 p.m. for a regular meeting. All are welcome to attend.
<u>Membership</u>	<u>Missions</u>
Sue is currently entering data about the members of the 1950s in the new membership database. Here is a little information from 1936 and 1946: 90 Years Ago - In 1936, 3 new members joined the Pine Bluffs United Methodist Church. Russell and Hazel Amack were received into full membership by CT - Certificate of Transfer, while it was not indicated the method that Mrs. Ray (Edith) Karlstrum was received. 80 Years Ago - In 1946, Pine Bluffs UMC welcomed 15 new members. Wm. & Phyllis Behrends, were both received by PF - Profession of Faith as were Ralph Walters, Dale Birt, and Leonard Ekstrom. The other ten members were received into membership by CT - Certificate of Transfer. These members were Earl and May Burrows, Mrs. Ralph (Mabel) Walters, Milton Gibson, Mrs. Dale (Laveta) Birt, Mrs. Leonard (Alice) Ekstrom, Mrs. C.A. Bayne, Mrs. Floyd Carpenter, Edythe Millett and Mrs. Earl Ross.	Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 21st at 4:30 pm. We will be discussing future Mission Moments and chairs for the youth room downstairs. You do not need to be a member of the committee to attend; anyone is welcome! The joint campaign with UWIF finished up with the blessing of the Life Choice baby bottles and the blessing of the prayer shawls and prayer bears on June 28th. There will not be a Mission Moment in July, stay tuned for August. Thank you for your continued support of the monthly Mission Moments.

Team Work

Just for Laughs

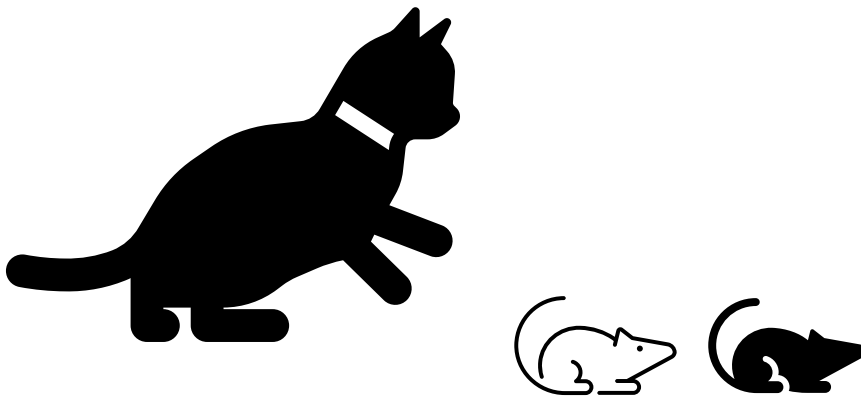
By: Helen Werner

A CAT GOES TO HEAVEN

A cat dies and goes to Heaven. God meets him at the gate and says, “you have been a good cat all of these years. Anything you desire is yours, all you have to do is ask.” The cat says, “well, I lived all my life with a poor family on a farm and had to sleep on hardwood floors.” God says, “say no more.” And instantly a fluffy pillow appears.

A few days later, 6 mice are killed in a tragic accident and they go to Heaven. God meets them at the gate with the same offer that He made the cat. The mice said, “all our lives we’ve had to run. Cats, dogs and even women with brooms have chased us. If we could only have a pair of roller skates, we wouldn’t have to run anymore.” God says, “say no more.” And instantly, each mouse is fitted with a beautiful pair of tiny roller skates.

About a week later, God decides to check and see how the cat is doing. The cat is sound asleep on his new pillow. God gently wakes him and asks, “How are you doing? Are you happy here?” The cat yawns and stretches and says, “Oh, I’ve never been happier in my life, and those Meals on Wheels you’ve been sending over are the best!”



July 2026

Church Calendar

(A) - Anniversary (B) - Birthday (FH) - Fellowship Hall (L) - Library (PV) - Pastor Vicky

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 (L) 5:30pm Trustees	2	3 (B) Pat Reher (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group	4 (B) Kraig Baker Happy 4 th of July
5 8:15am Fellowship 9am Worship	6	7 (B) Hunter Jeffres PV @ PB	8 PV @ PB	9 (B) Ruth Tipword (<i>in memory</i>) PV @ PB	10 (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group PV @ PB	11
12 8:15am Fellowship 9am Worship (B) Shyla Martinez	13	14 (B) Bill Baker	15 (L) 5:30pm Finance (L) 6:30pm Church Council	16 (A) MM Tony Crecelius	17 (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group	18
19 8:15am Fellowship 9am Worship	20	21 (L) 4:30pm Missions PV @ PB	22 PV @ PB	23 PV @ PB	24 (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group PV @ PB	25
26 8:15am Fellowship 9am Worship	27	28 PV @ PB	29 (L) 4:30pm Worship (L) 5:30pm SPRC PV @ PB (B) Ana Shmidl	30 PV @ PB	31 (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group PV @ PB	
			Celebrating 250 Years			

Lets make Heaven Crowded





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JULY 2026 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SERMON</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>MESSAGE</u>
July 5 th	Be Still and Know	Philippians 4:4-7, Matthew 7:7-8	Pastor Vicky
July 12 th	Presence	Roman 8:15-17, Mark 14: 35-36	Pastor Vicky
July 19 th	Praise	Gensis 2:2-3, Philippians 4:8-9	Pastor Vicky
July 26 th	Purpose	James 2:2-5, Luke 17: 20-21	TBA

Communion Stewards:	Mary Cushing, Diane Wise, Linda Coffman, Roxie Anderson
Music Leader:	Heather Sisson
PowerPoint / Facebook:	Helen Werner, Karen Waterman
Video:	Jim Martinez, Mary Cushing
Website:	Helen Werner