

"The Messenger"

October 2026

Pastor Vicky Martinez
Pine Bluffs United Methodist Church

Editors:

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PB United Methodist Church



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INSPIRATIONAL SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed,
for I am your God.

Philippians 4:13 (NIV)

I can do all this through him who gives me strength.



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)*



A. S. A. P.
always say a prayer

PRAYERS

Heavenly Father, 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!

Bill & Jane Baker, Karen Waterman, Barb Dipple, Alice Theobald, Julie Butler, Linda Coffman, Jerry & Roxie Anderson, Helen Werner, Kay & Rich Finley



We are coming into one of my favorite seasons – fall. The leaves are turning and falling and it’s the best time to take a little hike. It’s the best time of the year!

We have lots to look forward to at this moment in time – yet we sometimes get in our own way when God is trying to get us into a new season with God! We sometimes think we must have our plans for the future all mapped out, yet God asks us to wait in patience for his plan. God asks us to be faithful and trust – be certain of the fact that God does have a plan and then for us to patiently wait for him to help us discern what that may be. (Oh, I know – the hardest thing ever.)

Many of us begin our adulthood thinking we need to get a job or go to college and get a certain degree – and honestly some of us don’t have a clue of what we are supposed to do (that was me. I thought, well, I’ll get a job first and then see what happens).

Back when I was young, my world was all about friends—hanging out, partying like it was 1975 (because it was), and stumbling through the kinds of mistakes you only recognize years later. I always had plans, always imagined what came next. But that fall, everything flipped upside down. My dad’s terrible head-on accident forced me, at just eighteen, into the role of head of the household. With my mother spending nearly a year at the hospital, I took care of my younger brother, cooked dinner every night, and kept my full-time job. The rest of my story I would have to put on hold.

Sometimes when a door closes, it is literally God telling us that he’s got something else in mind for us. When you’re 18-19-20, that’s sometimes a hard pill to swallow. But perseverance is the key. Perseverance and patience – two “p” words have served me well over the years. That doesn’t mean I’m great at it, it doesn’t. But I believe God has taught me the power of patience – not an easy lesson.

Do you ever have the feeling that God is steering you in one direction, and you are trying to go another? You’re answer, if it’s like mine, is “probably quite frequently.” I had it in my head that I would go to college, then meet someone special, then get married, etc. We have a plan and that’s what we want to see come to fruition. But God is asking us to go another direction.

After my dad’s accident, I met Jim and he asked me not to go to school and we got married with my dad in a wheelchair. I then felt like that was the new door (which it was!)

It has been three years this month since my mother passed away and since that time, I’ve honestly kind of pondered and wondered what God has in store for me next. This feels very vulnerable to me and risky and requiring patience. The last time I asked God which direction he wanted me to go, I (we) ended up moving to Wyoming! And honestly it was a welcome change, yet somewhat scary.

When we follow God’s leading and listen to the “still small voice,” we might be very surprised. When you utilize the prayer bead tool with your devotions, you may also come away very surprised at some of the things that you hear from God.

In saying all of this, I believe I have been listening and the only thing I’m hearing from God is “stay put” – so therefore, as I am now into the third year here at our churches, I am thrilled to be continuing as your pastor and what is coming around the corner for all of us - I have a feeling that there is so much more for us as followers of Christ and I’m excited for that. And as they say, perseverance and patience lead to “the best is yet to come.” May it be so! Peace and love my friends,

Pastor Vicky



WINDOW TO THE PAST

1968

In April, the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church merged and our church became the United Methodist Church.

1970

Reverend Steve Spear appointed as Pastor.

1972

A study committee conducted a survey of the congregation's needs and concerns. It was determined that a new sanctuary, classroom and pastor's study was needed.

1973

October 12, 1973, the administration board voted to build a new sanctuary on the site of the old brick building built in 1924. In November Reverend Steve Spear retired and Reverend Donald Forbes was appointed in December.

1974

Beginning September 1, 1974, church services were held in the fellowship hall of the educational building during the construction of the new sanctuary.

1975

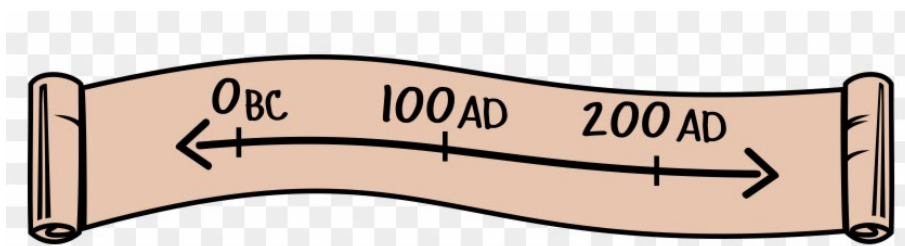
May 8, 1975, the first church service was held in the new sanctuary. May 25, 1975, a Laying of the Cornerstone and Consecration Service was officiated by District Superintendent Reverend Henry Baker. Reverend Forbes and former pastors Dirks, Markham, Kongable and Spear were in attendance.

1977

In June, Pine Bluffs received their first woman minister, Reverend Frances Bigelow. She served the Pine Bluffs and Hillsdale Methodist Churches. through 1979.

1978

January 29, 1978, Reverend Bigelow officiated at the dedication service for the new sanctuary. In June Reverend Gary Peters was appointed pastor of the church.



OCTOBER MISSION MOMENT

Operation Christmas Child - "Personal Care Items"



- Toothbrushes / Dental Floss
 - Washcloths
 - Hairbrushes / Combs
 - Small Manicure Sets
 - Lip Gloss
- Small Packs of Kleenex / Band-Aids / Cotton Swabs
 - Hair Clips / Barrettes / Hair Ties
 - Socks / Hats / Sunglasses



* Remember, all items must be able to fit in a shoebox!

** Please, **NO** toothpaste, liquids such as shampoo or lotion, gum, candy, used or damaged items, medications, vitamins or aerosol cans.

*** You can also contribute a cash donation to help with shipping (\$10/box).

October 2026

Church Calendar

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 PV @ PB	2 PV @ PB (B) Kendra Roeder (B) Chad Waterman (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group	3
4 8:15am Fellowship 9:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School Bread for the World	5 PV @ Grace (B) Mike Sayers	6 PV @ Grace	7 PV @ SLC 4:30pm Missions 5:30pm Trustees	8 PV @ SLC	9 PV @ SLC (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group	10 PV @ SLC
11 8:15am Fellowship 9:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (B) Elsie Sheets (B) Avery Sheets	12 	13 PV @ PB	14 PV @ PB (B) Bill Shain 5:30pm Finance 6:30pm Church Council	15 PV @ PB (A) M/M Todd Baker	16 PV @ PB (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group (B) Pam Sayers	17
18 8:15am Fellowship 9:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School Laity Sunday	19 PV @ Grace	20 PV @ Grace	21 PV @ Grace	22 PV @ Grace	23 (A) M/M Lloyd Sisson (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group	24
25 8:15am Fellowship 9:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School 10:00am OCC Shoebox Packing Party followed by Potluck	26 (A) M/M Lance Theobald	27 PV @ PB (B) Mike Reher (A) M/M John Wise	28 PV @ PB	29 PV @ PB	30 PV @ PB (L) 9:00am Women's Prayer Group	31 



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OCTOBER 2026 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SERMON</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>MESSAGE</u>
October 4th	Pressing On “Striving Side by Side”	Philippians 1:21-30	Pastor Vicky
October 11 th	Pressing On “In Full Accord”	Philippians 2:1-13	Pastor Vicky
October 18 th	Pressing On “The Heavenly Call”	Philippians 3:4b-14	Pastor Vicky
October 25 th	Pressing On “Rejoice in the Lord”	Philippians 4:1-9	TBA

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