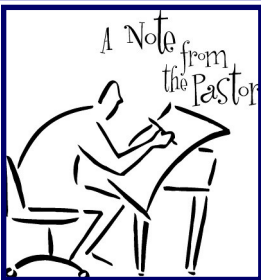


Wesley Witness



"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God." -Colossians 3:16

Our church family needs you. They need you to seek faithful living, show up, and serve. They need you to be engaged in the mission and vision we demonstrate, they need you to support our programs, and they need you to sing. Yes, that's what I said, your brothers and sisters in worship need you to sing.

For some, singing is their favorite part of worship. For others, music and singing is something to suffer through until the sermon starts. Possibly those uncomfortable with singing in worship find our style of music not to their liking or perhaps their inability to stay on-key makes them self-conscious. Nevertheless, you need to know that when your voice is silent in worship your church suffers.

Scripture is filled with singing – the largest book in the Bible (Psalms) is a collection of songs. Jesus sang (Mark 14:26) and the Apostle Paul makes a direct connection between Christ richly dwelling in us and our singing of hymns and spiritual songs (Colossians 3:16). Singing in worship embraces the truths in our minds and plunges that truth into our heart and soul in a way that draws us to dwell on God's presence.

This past Monday morning I awoke singing, "Stand up, stand up for Jesus...." On Tuesday it was, "Staaaanding, staaaanding, standing on the promises of Christ my Savior...." Both of these are lines from hymns sung in our worship on Sunday, still fresh and greeting my new day. There is power in singing these songs and we are transformed in a way that doesn't happen in word alone.

But, please do not think that singing in worship is only about you – there is more. Paul implies that singing together in worship lifts up the whole church. Using your voice to sing in church is your testimony to God's faithfulness. That voice lets everyone around you know that you love Jesus, you love his church, and you trust his Good News.

(Continued on page 3)



Bible Study



PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY—TIME

Please join us every Tuesday from noon to 1PM for Bible Study as we continue our study of the book of 2nd Samuel.

Labor Day Blessing

*Study to shew thyself
approved unto God,
a workman that needeth
not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the
word of truth."*

*2 Timothy 2:15
KJV*

*Have a Wonderful
and Safe Labor Day!*

Wesley United Methodist Church

Mission Statement

Celebrating God!

Growing in Faith!

Changing the World!

Pastor Kolby Gollhofer

826 NW 23rd Avenue
Gainesville, FL
32609

Office: 352-372-2845

We are on Facebook!!!

Pastor's E-mail:
Kolby@gainesvillewesley.org

Secretary's E-mail:
Terri Manche
secretary@wumc.cfcoxmail.com

Witness Articles E-mail:
Sharren Gibbs
sharrenleegibbs2020@gmail.com
Deadline for articles: 15th of each
month

Website:
www.WesleyUMCon23.org
www.facebook.com/WUMCGVL

Weekly Sunday Activities

Worship @ 10:45AM
(Sanctuary)



(continued from page 1)

Possibly you don't feel like singing – maybe your soul is pushed down and your faith is dried up. It's in those moments that you should sing the loudest! Let's face it, when life is good you should sing, and nobody is surprised when you do. (Actually, they may be surprised when they know life is good for you and you're not singing.) But when the wheels are coming off of your life and you're experiencing adversity and pain – that's the time when your singing becomes a powerful witness to God's faithfulness. Your singing in worship just may be the sermon someone close by needs to hear most. Let it out!

The most powerful way for you to serve your church family in worship this Sunday may simply be to sing. Don't underestimate what's about to happen when that music starts.

Blessings,
Pastor Kolby

Linda Baldwin

David Hodges

Rosie Leggett

Clydia Reichert

Joan Siegel

Christie Tattersall

Carla, Robert, Steve, Molly & Buddy

Carolyn Clarke

Cindy Holmes

Barb Loehr

Joe Reichert

Wayne Sims

Donna Weseman

Helen Goddard

Rachelle Hines

Beth Loehr-Moody

Beth Senn

Dale Smith

With God
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

FROM THE KITCHEN COMMITTEE



Well, it won't be long now! Summer is almost over, so we will be starting up our Wesley Wednesday Suppers again in October. I'm telling you this now so you can begin looking forward to it. I think we can manage to keep the price to last year's \$7.00 per meal, with a family cap of \$21.00. Our first dinner will be on Wednesday, October 9th at 5:30 PM. Don't worry—there will be another notice next month. We don't want you to miss out!

826 Northwest 23rd Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32609
352-372-2845

Rev. Kolby Golliver, Pastor

September 2024

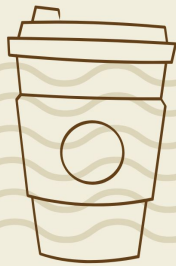
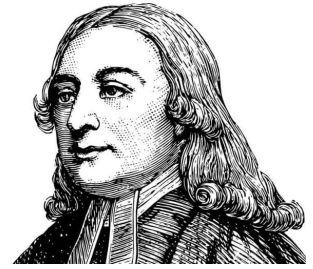
SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Worship Service—10:45AM

WEDNESDAYS
WW Supper 2nd Wed. 5:30PM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 Office Closed 	3 Noon Pastor's Class 1:30PM Wesley Whittlers	4	5  11:30AM Card Club	6  11:30AM Card Club	37
8	9 6:30 Nightingales	10 Noon Pastor's Class	11	12  11:30AM Card Club	13	14
15	16	17 10:00AM Morning Stars Noon Pastor's Class 1:30PM Wesley Whittlers	18	19  11:30AM Card Club	20	21
22 	23	24 Noon Pastor's Class 6:00PM Leadership Board	25	26  11:30AM Card Club 6:30PM Book Club	27 11:30AM YAHS Piesano's RSVP 9/22	28
29	30					

NEW WORSHIP SERIES: WESLEYAN ROOTS

This series will help us do all three: love God, love others, and share Christ. For those of us who have been United Methodist for a long time, it will recenter us on the foundations of Methodism and our founder John Wesley. For those who may be new to the UMC, it's a way to understand some of what makes us unique as Methodists. For all, my hope is that your heart will be filled with a rekindled sense of God's love at work, a greater motivation to follow the spiritual practices that will lead you to transformation in Christ, and a clearer and more passionate desire to engage in God's mission in the world.



COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

THURSDAYS - 8:30-10:30AM

9/5 - Curia on the Drag - 2029 NW 6th Street

9/12 - Coffee Culture - 2020 NW 13th Street

9/17 - Patticakes @ Tioga - 12921 SW 1st Road

9/26 - Opus Coffee Airstream - 403 SW 4th Avenue

Join Pastor Kolby for coffee or your favorite alternate beverage at the listed coffee shops on the listed dates.

Come with a question for him about the Bible, prayer, church activities, paleomagnetism, or church discipline. Whatever.

These should be some interesting and informative discussions and we all should learn something!



You should receive a sample ballot in the mail so you can go over the choices and plan your voting strategy before you go into the location. It really does save time! If you haven't registered to vote, or you wish to change your voter affiliation, NOW is the time to get that done. The deadline to register is October 7, 2024.

Our General Election Day is Tuesday, November 5th.

Early Voting: October 21 - November 2



Young at Heart
Senior Fellowship

Well, the long, hot summer is just about over and we are celebrating in a cool atmosphere with some great Italian food. Join us on September 27th at Piesano's in Hunters Crossing at 11:30 AM. Please RSVP to Terri by September 22nd. See you there!

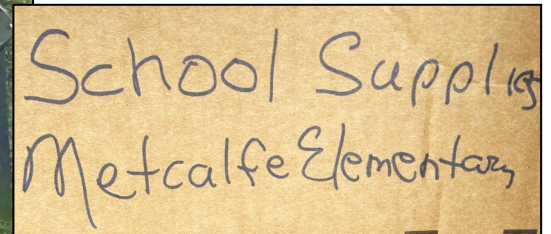
DON'T THROW AWAY THOSE PLASTIC BAGS OR PLASTIC FILM!

Instead, help us take them out of the waste stream as we partner with Southwest UMC to recycle these films and turn them into pretty, long-lasting park benches. Sarah Nussel, who spoke to us about Creation Care last year, is heading this NexTrex project. It *only* takes 1000 pounds of plastic film to make a park bench! Plastic films must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue. Please note that we **cannot** take water bottles, cracker trays, plastic utensils, or berry-box type plastics. If it crackles when you squeeze it, it's not the Right Stuff.

I, for one, had no idea how much plastic film went through my house! Thank you so much for your tremendous response to this project.

The planet thanks you, too.

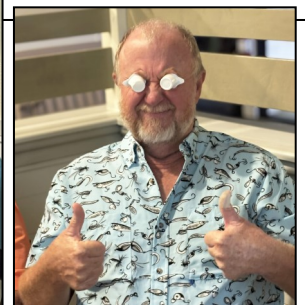




Donna hauled a PILE of school supplies to Metcalfe before she went in for surgery on her shoulder. We also fed the teaching staff during their pre-student getting-ready period—thanks, Kolby and Anne, for taking pizza in! We know all this was a blessing to this underappreciated school!



Nightingale Circle of the United Women in Faith meets regularly at Perkins Restaurant. While the ladies hold their meeting and have dinner, the husbands have a meeting of their own in another section of the restaurant. We refer to them as the NightinGuys. And you know Chuck *never* passes up an opportunity to clown around...



MISSION OF THE MONTH



Since 1926, the home has opened its doors to children with a variety of special needs. Some children are victims of abuse. In other cases, the justice system requires troubled youths who have broken the law to live at the home. Others at the home were abandoned and tried to survive on their own. Fortunately, social services stepped in to place them in a safe environment, the United Methodist Children's Home. You have been told this story before, but it is a never-ending story, and Wesley United Methodist Church continues to dedicate its time, resources, money, love, and prayers for these children.

A tremendous period of growth began in 1998 with the addition of several buildings on their campus. In 2002, they began Foster Care Services that currently licenses, trains, and supports foster parents in multiple counties. The Independent Living program was created in 2007, and serves young adults who are 18-26 as they transition into adulthood.

The Madison Youth Ranch opened in 2014 in North Florida, providing specialized residential care as well as Equine Assisted Psychotherapy. This has proven to be a very beneficial program for those children who don't respond as well to more traditional therapy plans.

Their Montessori program, originally opening in 1982 as *In As Much*, moved into the newly constructed Development Center in 2018. The new facility allowed for increased enrollment as well as expanding the program through the sixth grade. Circle of Friends Services, now known as Residing Hope Outpatient Counseling, became part of our organization in 2019, allowing us to provide trauma-focused services to children and families in the home, at school, or in an office setting, in ten different counties.

This month, September, is a month of five Sundays. Don't forget your change or checks that day. After that, we will not have another 5th Sunday for the rest of this year, but your donations for the children will still be welcomed any time! In addition to our change (or checks), we at Wesley dedicate October as our month to open our hearts and our pocketbooks to help these precious children of God.





Wesley UMC
celebrated the
Olympics with
games of our
own.





Rhythmic
Gymnastics to
the Olympic
Theme music

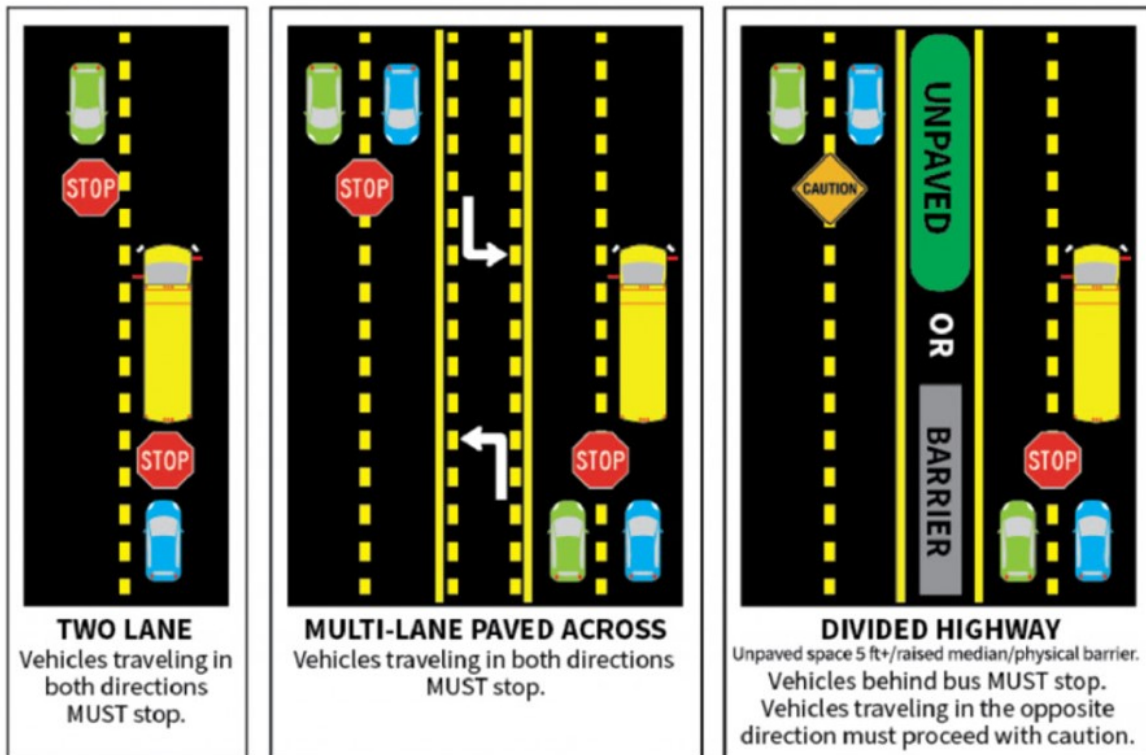


Sherry was a
bit ahead but a
little “freak-
out” moment
let Pastor Kol-
by win this
round.



Lots of visiting and eating and
fun and games. We are going to
do this again!





School Bus Safety Reminders for Drivers

Motorists are required to stop when approaching a school bus that is stopped with its red lights flashing and stop arms extended (see the above diagrams for visual examples).

- All drivers moving in either direction on a two-way street must stop for a school bus displaying a stop signal and must remain stopped until the road is clear of children and the school bus stop arm is withdrawn (see diagram Two Lane). Think of NW 34th Street and most city streets and two-lane county roads.
- On a highway divided by a paved median, all drivers moving in either direction must stop for a school bus displaying a stop signal and must remain stopped until the road is clear of children and the school bus stop arm is withdrawn. (see diagram Multi-Lane). Newberry Road is a good example of this type road.

The only time traffic approaching an oncoming school bus does not need to stop is if there is a raised barrier such as a concrete divider or at least five feet of unpaved space separating the lanes of traffic (see diagram Divided Highway). Drivers moving in the opposite direction do not have to stop for the bus (painted lines or pavement markings are not considered barriers). However, these motorists should slow down and watch for students loading or unloading from the bus (see diagram Divided Highway). An example of this is Northwest 39th Avenue.

The penalty for failure to stop for a school bus is \$265. If a second offense is committed within five years, the drivers' license will be suspended for up to one year.

The penalty for passing a school bus on the side that children enter and exit when the school bus displays a stop signal is \$465. If a second offense is committed within five years, the drivers' license can be suspended up to two years.



Committee Meetings

9/24 6:00PM Leadership Board



September Birthdays

- 1st Sharren Gibbs
- 2nd Richard Crenshaw
- 8th Barb Loehr
- 11th Jade Marie Martin
- 14th Sonny Robertson
- 17th Michael Weseman
- 21st Stan Salisbury
- 23rd Richard Yaxley, Jr.
- 24th Chris Robinson
- 26th Dee Holder
- 29th Roy English



September Anniversaries

- 22nd Linda & Frank Nosko
- 27th Bonnie & Jim Carlin



FUN AND GAMES

Join the Canasta card club at Wesley United Methodist Church! Have fun and meet great people! Invite family and friends, the more the merrier!

When: Thursdays, 11:30 AM (except holidays)

Where: Wesley United Methodist Church
826 Northwest 23rd Avenue
Fellowship Hall

We have wonderful members waiting to teach you Hand and Foot Canasta!



Card Club Guidelines

- Bring a sack lunch and beverage if you wish.
- Please arrive on time if possible.
- Please help clean up after the games end.
- Please give us your email address and phone number in case of scheduling changes.