

Wesley Witness



As we approach our upcoming Charge Conference, I want to take a moment to explain what this important event means for our church and why your participation is crucial.

Charge Conference is an annual meeting where our church gathers to reflect on our mission, assess our progress, and set goals for the future. It's a time for us to come together as a community to celebrate our accomplishments, discuss our challenges, and make decisions that will shape our ministry in the coming year.

During this conference, we'll review important aspects of our church life, such as membership, finances, and engagement in ministry. We'll also celebrate the ways we've made a difference in our community and beyond. This is a time for us to be transparent about our journey, as we seek to fulfill God's calling in our lives.

So why is it important? Well, here're a few reasons:

- Charge Conference allows us to hold each other accountable. We review our commitments and the ways we've lived out our faith collectively. This transparency helps us grow as disciples and as a church family.
- It's a chance to recognize and celebrate the leadership within our congregation. We'll discuss leadership roles within our church and reaffirm the newly elected leaders who will help guide our ministry in the coming year. This is a vital process for ensuring our church remains vibrant and effective.
- Together, we'll look ahead to set goals and create a shared vision for our church. Your input is crucial in shaping the direction we take as a community.
- Charge Conference is not just about reports; it's about coming together as a family in Christ. In that way, it's a reminder that we are part of something larger than ourselves—we're an interconnected body. It's a chance to engage with one another, share ideas, and strengthen our bonds.

"(Continued on page 3)"

Breaking News

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.

Early voting in Alachua County starts on October 21st and ends November 2nd at numerous locations around the county.

Let your voice be heard!



'This is my commandment, that you



love one another as I have loved you.'

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)

I encourage each of you to attend Charge Conference and bring your thoughts and ideas, even though it's unfortunately a bit farther away this year (in Cross City as opposed to here in Gainesville). Your participation is vital as we discern how to move forward in ministry together. Whether you're a long-time member or newer to our community, your voice matters.

As we prepare for this year's Charge Conference, let us pray for guidance and wisdom. Together, we can continue to be a light in our community, sharing God's love and grace with those around us.

Blessings,
Pastor Kolby



Teresa Alfieri

Helen Goddard

Cindy Holmes

Beth Loehr-Moody

Beth Senn

Christie Tattersall

Carla, Robert, Steve, Molly & Buddy

Linda Baldwin

John Hodges

Rosie Leggett

Clydia Reichert

Joan Siegel

Donna Weseman

Carolyn Clarke

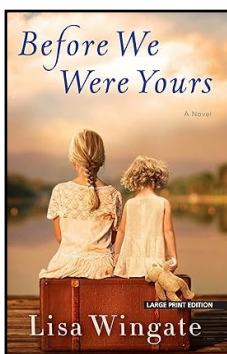
John Hodges Jr

Barb Loehr

Joe Reichert

Dale Smith

With God
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE



BELOVED COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB



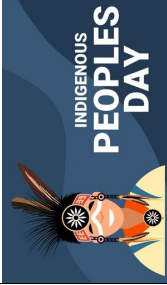

Hi, everyone. As you know, Hurricane Helene has interfered with our meeting to discuss our last book, *Before We Were Yours*. I've moved it to Thursday, October 10th at 6:30 PM. If you would like a copy of the discussion questions, please contact Sharren at (352) 538-6307 or sharrenleegibbs2020@gmail.com.

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October 2024

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Worship Service—10:45AM

WEDNESDAYS
WW Supper 2nd Wed. 5:30PM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 	7 	1 1:30PM Wesley Whittlers	2	3 9:30AM Coffee with the Pastor 11:30AM Card Club 6:00PM Sisters in	4	5
13	14  6:30 Nightingales	15 16 10:00AM Morning Stars Noon Pastor's Class 1:30PM Wesley Whittlers	9 5:30PM WWS	10 9:30AM Coffee with the Pastor 11:30AM Card Club 6:30PM Book Club	11	12
20 Noon UWF Executive Meeting	21	22 Noon Pastor's Class 6:00PM Leadership Board	23	17 9:30AM Coffee with the Pastor 11:30AM Card Club	18 11:30AM YAHS Cedar River RSVP by 10/13	19
27 4:30PM Dinner, Costume Party, & Game Night	28	29 Noon Pastor's Class	30	2 9:30AM Coffee with the Pastor 11:30AM Card Club	25	26
				31 9:30AM Coffee with the Pastor 11:30AM Card Club		



BLESSING BAGS

For several years, this was a project near and dear to Cindy Holmes. She purchased most of the elements for each bag and assembled them at her home. As you know, she is no longer able to do this.

Many of you have asked about them, as well as some of our target audience members, so it's time to resurrect this mission. I propose that we do this in honor of Cindy's contributions to the life of this church over many years, as she, herself, is near and dear to us.

Staying at a hotel? Bring back the little bottles of shampoo and conditioner, and cakes of soap. Each bag contains a new t-shirt, pair of socks, comb, razor, toothbrush, toothpaste, bottle of water, Vienna sausage, cheese crackers, and whatever else we can cram in a gallon Zip-lok bag. We need you to donate these materials, then we will have an assembly "party" to make the bags.

Watch for a donation bin in the Narthex!

I think Cindy would be so pleased.



COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

EVERY THURSDAY 9:30-11:30AM

10/3 Opus Airstream - 403 SW 4th Ave

10/10 Kolby traveling back from Leesburg

10/17 Curia On The Drag - 2029 NW 6th St

10/24 Foxtail Coffee Co - 2851 SW 35th Dr

10/31 108 Vine - 3735 W University Ave

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

Come with a question for him about the Bible, prayer, church activities, string theory, 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

**Your Vote.
Your Voice.**

**REGISTER TO VOTE OR UPDATE
YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION**

REGISTERTOVOTEFLOIDA.GOV



I would like to thank everybody who prayed for me and sent cards, emails, texts, and phone calls, as well as those who brought lunch to me or just visited with me as I recovered from my shoulder surgery. God is good!

Love to my church family, Donna



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

Hurray! Southwest UMC's bench is ON ORDER—we have collected over 1,000 pounds of plastic films through our multicenter recycling group. Next to be ordered when we reach our second 1,000 pound goal will be Wesley UMC! So keep these items coming. 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.

Thank you so much for your tremendous response to this project. I think the spot where the gazebo used to be would be a good place for the bench. And some flowers, too!

The planet thanks you.



UWF

Nominations for 2025

We know that it is early to be thinking about this, but somebody has to. 2025 will be here before we know it, and we need to be ready. We would like to hear from anyone interested in being PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, or TREASURER of the Local Unit. Remember that GOD DOES NOT CALL THE EQUIPPED, HE EQUIPS THE CALLED. District will also offer training in January. Please pray about this and if interested in any area, please give one of us a call or text. Thank you for any consideration that you give this request.

Sincerely,
Yvonne Hodges (352-262-7398)
Nancy Slaydon (352-317-6858)



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UWF Unit Meeting

All ladies of the church and friends—please join us on Saturday, November 16th, at 10:30 AM for a brunch in the fellowship hall. We will begin with a business meeting, then the program “World Thank Offering.” The brunch will be a covered dish affair, with food offerings from different countries.

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Caring for Your Soul Retreat and Workshops

CONNECTING IN SISTERHOOD: ABOUNDING IN HOPE

Rev. Dr. Mary Mitchell, Guest Speaker

Epworth By The Sea, St. Simons Island, GA - March 7-9, 2025

Rev. Mary L Mitchell has been a guiding light as the Senior Pastor of the Bartley Temple United Methodist Church in Gainesville, FL., for the past twelve years. Rev. Mitchell’s unwavering commitment to her primary goal in life and ministry, to make disciples for Christ, is truly inspiring. She passionately teaches others how to apply the Word of God in their everyday lives, a testament to her dedication.

Rev. Mitchell's extensive educational background is a testament to her knowledge and expertise. She graduated from Asbury Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree and received a Doctor of Ministry at Emory University. Her ordination as a provisional Elder in the United Methodist Church in June 2011 and as an Elder in Full Connection in the United Methodist Church in 2016, further solidifies her position as a respected leader.

Workshops include: How Is It with Your Soul?; Pampering for Your Soul; Gardening for Your Soul; an Movement for Your Soul.

Deadline for registration: February 3, 2025

Watch your email for more information and registration forms



FOR THE WELL-BEING OF US ALL

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Faith Mission

Faith Mission, located at 3701 NE 15th Street, is a campus of Trinity United Methodist Church. Continuing the 50-year legacy of the church that started on the property, Faith Mission serves the East Gainesville community through its commitment to social empowerment through place-based learning for the well-being of us all.

Faith Mission is committed to social empowerment. This is primarily done through Trinity's justice ministry, *Circles Gainesville*, which meets regularly at Faith Mission. Circles Gainesville is part of a national movement to help families move out of poverty and towards economic stability while removing local barriers that keep families in poverty. In addition to Circles Gainesville, Faith Mission partners with other local organizations such as *Health Promotion Camp*, *Wellness Coalition*, *GFR's Community Resource Paramedicine*, *Poverty Solutions Group*, *First Love Yourself*, *Women on a Mission*, and *Chef Empowerment's Underground Kitchen*.

Faith Mission is committed to place-based ministry, not ministry done from afar. Through our campus, we have a permanent presence in East Gainesville that acts as a welcoming, safe space in our local community. Additionally, Faith Mission is committed to learning for the well-being of us all. As the church strives to learn more about the complexities of poverty and racism and our role in these issues, we value the wisdom of the neighborhood. When we learn together, listening to a diversity of voices, we are able to build a more just and inclusive Gainesville.

Faith Mission serves as a tangible presence of Trinity United Methodist Church's ongoing passion for long-term, sustainable, and transformative missions in Gainesville. Learn more about how you can join the conversation at <https://trinitygnv.org/faithmission>.





FREE TO A GOOD HOME!

If you would like to own this beautiful hutch/china cabinet, all you have to do is bring it home from the Village.

Contact Jane Nelson to arrange a date and time for your pick-up. Be sure to bring someone to help you move this onto your truck or trailer...



COVERED DISH DINNER AND GAME NIGHT

Remember how much fun you had in August when we celebrated the international Olympics? Let's do it again! Not the Olympics though—I think I can think of something else to celebrate...

Sunday, October 27 4:30 PM

Bring a side dish or dessert that can feed 12 people

We will provide fried chicken again—(everybody loves fried chicken, right?)

We will celebrate



HALLOWEEN



Dress up as your favorite old-timey TV or movie character. I hope to see Barney Fife,* or the Lone Ranger,* or June Cleaver, or ... who knows? We will have games, too. I already have a request for the cornhole game. If you have ideas for others, please let me know!



* only toy firearms, please—no real ones! But you knew that...

WESLEY WEDNESDAY SUPPER

FROM THE KITCHEN COMMITTEE



We start back regular Wesley Wednesday suppers on October 9th at 5:30 PM. In addition to a salad bar and dessert selections, we will serve a plated dinner consisting of a protein, vegetable, and starch, and a roll for only \$7.00 per meal. And for a family of three or more, you get a special price of \$20 max. We need at least 25 people to sign up for this to happen, so come and get a meal, either take-home or dine-in, but we hope you'll stay to eat with your faith family and enjoy the fellowship. After all, this *is* our FELLOWSHIP dinner!

Please RSVP to the office by October 4th.

Donna Weseman



CHRISTMAS DINNER CORNBREAD DRESSING

I know you aren't ready to think about this yet, but we need to. We need ten bags of baked and crumbled cornbread in order to make our usual cornbread dressing for our December holiday dinner, and we need it by November 3rd. Please bake your cornbread in a 9x13 pan, then when cooled, crumble up and put in a gallon Zip-lok bag, and write your name on the bag. We would prefer the non-sweet variety, since our dressing is on the savory side.



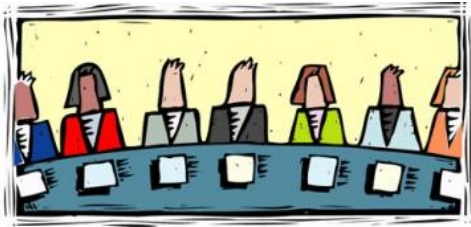
YOUNG AT HEART SENIOR FELLOWSHIP



Young at Heart
Senior Fellowship

Here are the upcoming dates and places through the next few months. As always, we meet at 11:30 AM for this fun and purely social event. Also, as always, you need to RSVP to me the Tuesday before the meeting on Friday so I know how many tables and chairs to reserve. Join us!

DATE	WHERE	RSVP BY:
October 18	Cedar River Seafood	October 13
November 22	Covered Dish at the Weseman Home	November 17
December 6	Christmas Covered Dish at Weseman's	December 1



Committee Meetings

10/22 6:00PM Leadership Board



October Birthdays

- 8th Susie Aguila
- 13th Misty Jacquin Martin
Jim Harris
- 14th Kathy English
- 21st Richard Yaxley, III
Beth Senn
- 23rd Sharon Easter
- 28th Linda Baldwin
- 29th Kelly Crenshaw

October Anniversaries

- 13th Ashley & William
Weseman



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.