

Wesley Witness

Joel K. Roemer

Dear Wesley,

If you missed worshipping with us last Sunday, Hannah and I had some wonderful news to share: we're expecting! Yes, we are thrilled to announce that we are preparing to welcome new life – a baby boy – into our family. Baby Golliher is due August 22nd, which funnily enough is my sister Ciara's birthday. If he comes early, he might share a birthday with my mom, or if he's late, my uncle.

This news isn't just exciting for us as a couple, but it's also an exciting reminder of the blessings that God pours into our lives each day. As we embark on this new chapter, we're filled with awe at how God continues to work in and through us, and we're reminded of the beauty and mystery of God's creation.

We ask for your prayers as we navigate this new season of life together. Parenthood is a beautiful calling, and while it brings its challenges (Hannah tells me the acid reflux is no joke), it also brings deep joy and moments of reflection on the ways God is present in the ordinary and extraordinary moments of our lives.

As a congregation, we have always shared in each other's joys, struggles, and milestones. Your support and love mean the world to us, and we're excited to share this journey with you. We ask that you keep us in your prayers for a healthy pregnancy, for wisdom as parents, and for strength as we continue to serve God and one another.

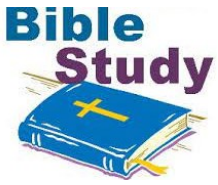
I also want to take a moment to reflect on the importance of family within the body of Christ. We are not just a church; we are a family—one that walks together through all of life's seasons, lifting each other up and sharing in the joys and challenges alike. As we prepare to welcome this little one, we are reminded of the gift of community, and I'm so grateful to have each of you as a part of our journey.

Thank you for your ongoing love and prayers. We look forward to sharing more with you as we walk this beautiful path of parenthood, trusting in God's perfect plan for our growing family.

Blessings,

Pastor Kolby & Hannah





PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY-TIME

Please join us in person every Tuesday from noon to 1PM for Bible Study as we continue our study of 1st Corinthians.



ASH WEDNESDAY
March 5, 2025

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
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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)



Linda Baldwin
John Hodges
Carolyn Joiner
Beth Loehr-Moody
Joe Reichert
Dale Smith
Scott, Judy, Anne & Arden

Michael Gibbs
John Hodges Jr
Rosie Leggett
Frank Nosko
Beth Senn
Christie Tattersall

Helen Goddard
Betty Holder
Barb Loehr
Clydia Reichert
Sonya Stack
Carla, Robert, Steve,
Molly & especially Buddy

With God
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE



VISITING PASTOR TOM








Rev. Tom Vencuss and his wife, Wendy, visited us last month to talk about their time as missionaries in Haiti for more than 20 years. Tom also serves as a Disaster Early Response Trainer with UMCOR. We sang one of my favorite songs—*"Here I Am, Lord"*—as he played along on his guitar. Of course, Hannah lent her beautiful soprano to the mix as she led the singing.



SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Worship Service—10:45AM
WEDNESDAYS
WW Supper 2nd Wed. 5:30PM

March 2025

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
826 Northwest 23rd Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32609
352-372-2845
Rev. Kolby Golliver, Pastor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3 6:30PM Nightingales	4 Noon Pastor's Class 1:30PM Wesley Whittlers	5 6:00PM Ash Wednesday Service	6  11:30AM Card Club	7 	1 
9	10	11 Noon Pastor's Class	12 DAR 5:30PM WWS 6:00PM SPRC	13  11:30AM Card Club	14 11:30 AM YAHs Cedar River RSVP 3/9	15 10:00AM UWF General Meeting
16 	18 10:00AM Morning Stars Noon Pastor's Class 1:30PM Wesley Whittlers	19	20 11:30AM Card Club 7:00PM Young Adults meet at Gainesville Community Playhouse	21 9:00AM Coffee w/Pastor at Coffee Culture	22	29
23	24	25 Noon Pastor's Class	26	27  11:30AM Card Club	28	29
30 12:30PM Leadership Board	31					

FROM THE KITCHEN COMMITTEE



WESLEY WEDNESDAY SUPPER

Our next regular Wesley Wednesday supper will be on March 12th at 5:30 PM. In addition to a salad bar and dessert, we will serve a plated dinner consisting of a meat, green beans, 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, and 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 March 9th.

Donna Weseman



COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

Join Pastor Kolby this month at Coffee Culture at 2020 NW 13th Street for some spirited conversation, good coffee (or other libations are available) and good company. We will gather at 9:00 AM on March 21st. See you there!



MUSIC NEWS



Our choir will join with the choir of Southwest UMC for an Easter choral presentation, written by SWUMC's Sarah Nussel. You will remember her from her talk about recycling a couple of years ago, and she also coordinates the plastic film collection for a group of churches—of course, you know we are one of those!

Our new choir director, Sam McHenry, is looking at music for the choir, as well as trying to bring in musicians to add to our own music program. Didn't we enjoy the euphonium quartet last week? If you would like to join the choir, the bell choir, or just do a solo on the musical instrument you favor, please let Sam know!!



February's Fellowship Dinner really had a great turnout—over 30 people attended! I have to say though, it was the MEAT-LOAF that brought us out in droves, and it didn't disappoint. Yummm!!!

Pastor Kolby, Ann, Leeann, and Bryce



Nancy, Jan, Kathy, Roy, and Hannah



Ron, Kris, Kerry, Terri, Chuck, Sherry, and Nancy



Diane, Joan, Mary, Jim, Sonny, Bill, and Stan



Chris, Kathy, Sharren, Paula, Marilyn, Patsy, and Debbie

Our rummage sale last Saturday was a HUGE success. We made \$3,098 at the final count and got rid of most of the items we had for sale—at least in the fellowship hall. God's work was done by many people, but we need to lift up Donna and Sherry for their *incredible* work unloading a whole house and several rooms around church property, and organizing and pricing everything in three sales areas. The money will be split among three organizations—UMCOR (\$1,240), Faith Mission (\$1,240), and our own Capital Fund for painting (\$618).



YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON

Our February outing was at the Weseman home for our traditional Valentines' Luncheon. Sharren decorated the table, but couldn't attend the lunch, and Donna cooked a dynamite dinner consisting of pork roast and several sides, as well as a fresh strawberry dessert. Thanks to Kathy English for stepping up to help with the cooking and clean-up on Friday!



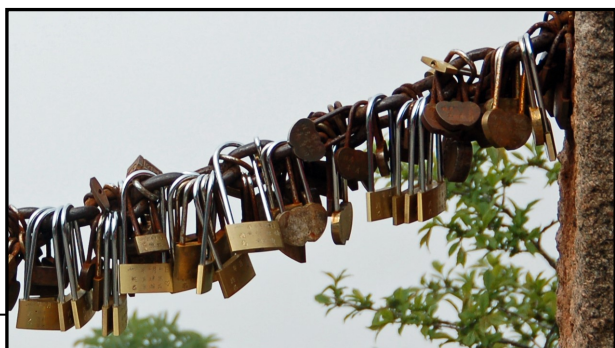
Below Front Row: Roy & Kathy, Joan, Sherry, and Stan

Back Row: Jim, Barbara, Mary, Pastor Kolby, Chuck, Nancy, Paula, Janice, Sonny, and Bill



"Locks of Love"





Our decorating theme was springtime in Paris, and I think we did it! The locks in the lower left corner on the previous page represent the “locks of love” that you see all over the world—signifying that the lovers will remain together as long as the lock stays locked on the rail, or chain, or whatever. Unfortunately, the weight of all these locks (some are really big) has led cities to have to remove them!



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 Donna the Tuesday before the meeting on Friday so I know how many tables and chairs to reserve. Join us!

DATE	WHERE	RSVP BY:
March 14	Cedar River Seafood	March 9
April 25	Piesano's Italian Restaurant	April 20
May 30	Northwest Seafood Restaurant	May 26



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

Hurray! We have met our goal to collect 1,000 pounds plastic film! Our beautiful bench made of recycled plastic film should be on the way to us sometime in the near future. Now that we have met our goal, we will work to help other churches in the group meet theirs. The next on the list is Temple Shir Shalom. Keep up the good work! I don't know about you, but I just can't put this stuff in the trash anymore...

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 think the spot where the gazebo used to be would be a good place for the bench. And some flowers, too! We even discussed what color bench we wanted at the January Leadership Council meeting! Thank you so much for your tremendous response to this project.

The planet thanks you, too!



Here's another 48.1 pounds of plastic at the collection place.

REMEMBER HOPE

SATURDAY, MARCH 29 AT 7:00 P.M.
AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



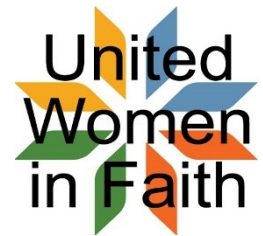
Remember Hope is a concert sponsored by First UMC and others in our community celebrating the 200th anniversary of Alachua County through our shared history of civil rights, women's suffrage, LGBTQ+, veterans, and all those who struggle for equality and to be seen in North Central Florida.

DISCOVER
200
1824 – 2024
ALACHUA COUNTY
BICENTENNIAL



Portions of the AIDS quilt, on loan from the Matheson History Museum, will be displayed in the Chapel prior to and following the performance.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF-DENIAL PROGRAM for the general meeting of the United Women in Faith will be held in the Conference Room on March 15th at 10:00 AM. An offering for missions will be taken. Program will be presented by Morning Stars Circle. All interested persons are invited to attend.

What is United Women in Faith?

We are women like you, a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children, and youth, we act for justice and transform communities. Join us, because love in action can change the world.

Make a meaningful impact

Put your talents, energy, and ideas to work. You'll find flexible opportunities for spiritual growth and ways to act for social justice, support your community, live your faith, and enrich your life.



MISSION OF THE MONTH

Gator Wesley is the United Methodist Campus Ministry serving the college campuses of the University of Florida and Santa Fe College. It is their mission to offer God's radical love to every student in Gainesville and to form a community of disciples grounded in Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. It is their vision to see students boldly committed to following Jesus and characterized by their living out the Gospel in every aspect of their lives, passionate worship, holiness of heart and life, and courageous witness in the world through evangelism and mission bringing God's kingdom to earth. District churches are encouraged to invite a student to attend a Sunday worship in March and make a brief presentation about Gator Wesley either as an announcement, mission moments, or any other way that is helpful. We here at Wesley UMC are eager to participate in this mission.



MISSION OF THE MONTH

I don't know how she did it, but Donna found time to haul our food collection down to Bread of the Might Food Bank last month, too. We collected a whopping 96 pounds of food for the cause. Thank you, Wesley!





COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3/12 6:00 PM SPRC
3/30 12:30PM Leadership Board

March Birthdays

2nd William Strawder
4th Madison Holder
6th Lori Hales
7th Keith Holder
8th Michael Trimm
9th Thad Martin
14th TJ Martin Jr. (Linda Yaxley-Nosko's grandson)
15th Steven Robert Holder
16th Donna Dotts
Beth Loehr-Moody
19th Diane Blucher
23rd Allan Holder
25th John Hodges

March Anniversaries

22nd Chris and Kathy Robinson



Celebrate!



St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland.

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.