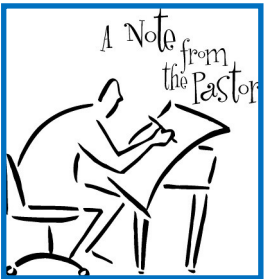


Wesley Witness



Dear Wesley,

Hannah and I recently had a few friends over for dinner. Before they came to visit, Hannah handed me a broom and followed behind me with a mop as we swept and mopped the whole parsonage... and then dusted, vacuumed, sprayed, wiped, etc. – I'm still a little sore from it all. But it sure was nice to have that deep cleansing of the place!

As we march into March and the first signs of spring emerge, there's a collective sense of renewal in the air. The blossoming flowers and the gentle warmth of the sun remind us of the beauty of God's creation and the promise of new beginnings. This Lenten season of growth and transformation serves as an opportune moment for us to engage in a different type of spring cleaning – a spiritual one that rejuvenates our souls and deepens our connection with God.

Just as we declutter our homes and sweep away the dust accumulated during the winter months, let us take a moment to reflect on the state of our spiritual lives. Are there areas that need cleansing? Habits that no longer serve us? Relationships that could use reconciliation and forgiveness?

In the spirit of spring cleaning for the soul, I invite each of you to join me in a period of self-examination and intentional reflection during this Lenten season. Together, let's commit to clearing away the debris of doubt, fear, and complacency, making space for the abundant grace and love that God freely offers.

One powerful way to engage in this spiritual spring cleaning is through prayer and meditation. Set aside moments each day to commune with God, to express gratitude for the blessings in your life, and to seek guidance on areas that may need attention. Just as we dust off the surfaces in our homes, let the light of God's presence illuminate the corners of our hearts.

Additionally, I encourage you to channel the energy of spring cleaning into acts of kindness and compassion. Reach out to those in our community who may be in need, offering a helping hand or a listening ear. As we extend God's love to others, we, in turn, experience the cleansing and refreshing power of grace.

May this season of Lent and spring cleaning be a time of renewal and rebirth for each of us. Let us open our hearts to the transformative work of the Holy Spirit, trusting that God is continually shaping us into vessels of love, mercy, and compassion.

Blessings on your spiritual journey,

Pastor Kolby

Breaking News

Bible Study



PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY—TIME CHANGE—Join us for Bible Study every Tuesday from 12:00PM-1:00PM.



Wesley United Methodist Church

Mission Statement

Celebrating God!

Growing in Faith!

Changing the World!

Pastor Kolby Gollifer

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)








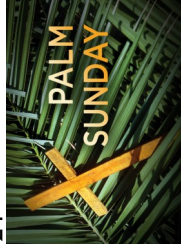

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

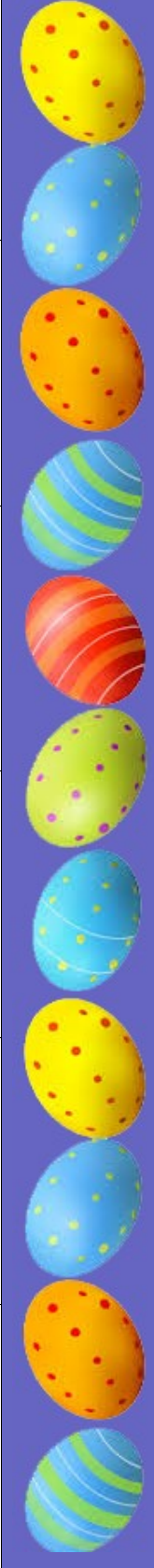
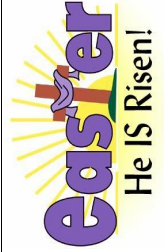
826 Northwest 23rd Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32609
352-372-2845

Rev. Kolby Gollmer, Pastor

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

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 	4	5 12:00PM Pastor's Class 1:30 Wesley Whittlers	6 12:00PM Pastor's Class 1:30 Wesley Whittlers	7  11:30AM Card Club	8 10:00AM UWF General Meeting	9 10:00AM UWF General Meeting
10 Did you set your clocks forward last night? 	11 6:30 Nightingales	12 12:00PM Pastor's Class	13 DAR 5:30PM WWVS 6:00PM SPRC	14  11:30AM Card Club	15 10:00AM UWF Spiritual Enrichment Day Trinity UMC	16 10:00AM UWF Spiritual Enrichment Day Trinity UMC
17	18	19 10:00AM Morning Stars 12:00PM Pastor's Class 1:30 Wesley Whittlers 7:00PM UWF Leadership Committee	20 10:00AM Morning Stars 12:00PM Pastor's Class 1:30 Wesley Whittlers 7:00PM UWF Leadership Committee	21  11:30AM Card Club 6:30PM Book Club	22 11:30AM YAHs Cedar River RSVP 3/17	23
24 	25	26 12:00PM Pastor's Class 6:00PM Leadership Board	27 12:00PM Pastor's Class 6:00PM Leadership Board	28  11:30AM Card Club 6:00PM Maundy Thursday Service	29 9:00AM—1:00PM and 5:00PM-7:00PM Good Friday self guided "Walking the Way of the Cross"	30 9:00AM—1:00PM and 5:00PM-7:00PM Good Friday self guided "Walking the Way of the Cross"



The Young at Heart fellowship met on Friday, February 9th, at the Weseman home for our annual Valentine's Day luncheon. The rustic table decorations by Sharren complemented the food cooked by both Donna and Sharren. We had a huge turn-out for this lunch—18 people! We ate fried chicken cutlets, corn pie, steamed broccoli with lemon butter, coleslaw, and apple crisp with ice cream. Wow!



Left to Right: Jim, Mary, Joan, Sonny, Helen, Cindy, Nancy, Sharren, Paula, Christie, Pastor Kolby, Kathy, Irma, Roy, Becky, Sherry, and Barbara.

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! We will take off the months of June-August, returning in September.

DATE	WHERE	RSVP BY:
March 22	Cedar River Seafood Restaurant	March 17
April 12	Piesano's Restaurant	April 7
May 10	Cedar River Seafood Restaurant	May 5

GAME NIGHT

It was a 45-year old game of Trivial Pursuit—the original game from way back when. Needless to say, some of it was ancient history to a couple of our players, but they soldiered on. I think Kathy won—congrats! You should join us next time!



Kathy, Roy, Sharren, Pastor Kolby. Hannah was taking the photo



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.

WESLEY UMC PRESENTS...

A Really Big Shew*

TALENT, TALENT! WHO KNEW???

FEBRUARY 23,

Front: Blake, Sharren, Hannah, Joyce, Debbie, and Carolyn
Back: Nancy, Chuck, and Jan

It was a lovely evening—all our good cooks brought side dishes to go with Publix fried chicken. Fabulous! Pastor Kolby even said we should make a new cookbook since we were such good cooks.



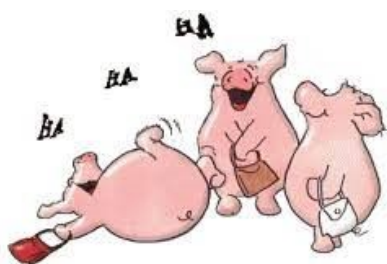
And speaking of good, we had some good entertainment. Debbie led off singing her favorite hymn, followed by Carolyn's homage to her mother with another hymn. Hannah sang a beautiful song, accompanied by a CD.

Next, Chuck played the guitar and sang a couple of ditties he wrote himself—he's quite a performer! Jan told several good clean jokes and got lots of laughs. Next in the line-up was Nancy, a certified storyteller. And she told a great story about Albert Kelly's funeral. Or was it really a funeral? And was it funny or ... scary? Then Sharren told us her version of growing up as an Air Force Brat. That was an interesting way to grow up told in a very funny



presentation! Last on the stage was Joyce and her granddaughter Blake, who sang a sweet duet. It was a great way to end a lovely program.. I hope you didn't miss it!





BELOVED COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB

We will meet on Thursday, March 21st, in two sessions, one at 1:30 PM and one at 6:30 PM. You can also tune in via ZOOM as we discuss the meaning of this book.



THE BOOK WOMAN OF TROUBLESOME CREEK - Kim Michele Richardson, Sourcebooks Landmark (2019)

Inspired by the true blue-skinned people of Kentucky and the dedicated Kentucky Pack Horse library service of the 1930s, this bestselling historical novel follows packhorse librarian Cussy Mary Carter and her quest to bring books to Troublesome Creek. The last of her kind, her skin a shade of blue unlike most anyone else, Cussy has to confront prejudice as old as the Appalachians and suspicion as deep as the holler to bring the joy of books to the hill folks. The Book Woman of Troublesome

Creek is a story of raw courage, fierce strength, and one woman's belief that books can carry us anywhere—even back home.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

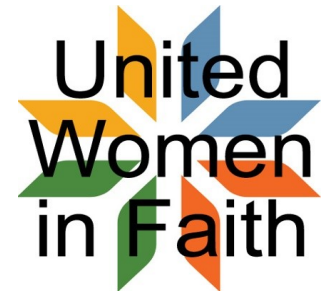
March is a busy month for UWF members with 2 events planned:

Wesley Unit of UWF

March 9th at 10:00 AM in Wesley's Conference room will be the annual Call to Prayer and Self Denial Program and offering. This call to prayer will remind us that the work of caring for God's creation is part of our Christian covenant, and a way to honor our ancestors and care for our children and future generation.

Please bring the following items to the program:

- Elements of creation that speak to you such as a rock, leaves, flower, shell, etc.
- Your Call to Prayer and Self Denial Offering. This offering will be joined with the offerings from other United Women of Faith around the world and used to support programs for climate justice put into action by United Women in Faith. Checks should be made payable to Wesley UMW with a note on the memo line "Call to Prayer." If you are unable to attend the March 9th meeting and will like to contribute to the offering, you can contribute at your next circle meeting or give your offering directly to our unit treasurer, Mary Harris
- Sanitary Napkins, ultra-thin, super long, unscented. These will be taken to the district meeting on March 16 and sent to UMCOR with special designation for use in Florida.



North Central District Spiritual Enrichment Day

- March 16th from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Trinity United Methodist Church in Gainesville will be the district-wide annual Spiritual Enrichment Day. Dr. Lorraine Mayfield-Brown, Assistant Dean for Mission U, will be our speaker. Dr. Mayfield-Brown brings a passion for social justice. As a long-time UWF member, she knows the inherent strength and potential we have to be "instruments of change" for our world.
- Special Mission Project is the collection of ultra-thin, super long, unscented sanitary napkins. They will be sent to UMCOR with special designation for use in Florida.
- Reservations are required. Lunch is \$10.00 per person, pay at the door. If you plan to attend, please let Joyce Welsh or Sherry Adams know by March 8th.

Spring Women's Social

- March 19th at 7:00 PM—Planning Meeting via ZOOM. Watch for the April Witness for details on this event—you will have a great time and we hope you will come. Everyone liked the theme we came up with.
- Below is the zoom link. Sherry also sent a separate invitation to your calendar. To join the Zoom Meeting—<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/7521000693>





Committee Meetings

3/13	6:00PM	SPRC
3/19	7:00PM	UWF Leadership
3/26	6:00PM	Leadership Board



Pastor Kolby is all dressed up and ready for a Gator Basketball game.

Go, Gators!

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

None!



Celebrate!

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

Call Cindy Holmes at 352-256-9485 for information.

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.