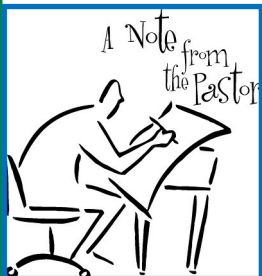


Wesley Witness



Dear Wesley Family,

When Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away, her question was, what have they done to my Lord? In those first moments of the very first Easter, location was the key to everything. Where was Jesus's body? The answer is the reason for our faith ... Jesus's body was no longer in a tomb, because he was alive! Jesus was out in the world, appearing to the disciples and then (as we celebrated last month) united in Spirit at Pentecost and with the faithful of all times and places as the resurrected Lord.

This miracle of the resurrection means that Jesus is no longer limited in terms of location. No one place is privileged over another; all are equidistant from God as well as equally accessible to God. No place is beyond God's realm of love and justice; therefore, we are linked to all people, everywhere, near and far. As the apostle Paul wrote, "*If one member [of the body of Christ] suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it*" (1 Corinthians 12:26).

I was blessed in seminary to have an opportunity to take a class with Rabbi Steven Sager on the ancient tradition of rabbinic storytelling. According to an old Jewish legend, long ago, a man named Isaac lived in Cracow. He was very poor, but he dreamed three times about a great treasure buried under a bridge in the distant city of Prague. So he journeyed there to find it, but discovered that the bridge he had seen in his dream was patrolled day and night by the king's guards. He circled the spot from a distance, when one of the guards noticed him and called him forward. When asked what he was doing, Isaac quickly told him about his dream. The captain laughed at the idea of believing in such night visions. "If I believed in dreams, I would have to go all the way to Cracow and find some man named Isaac, because I have dreamed that a great treasure lies buried beneath his bed!" Isaac thanks the captain, returned home, pushed aside his bed, and dug up the treasure that had been there all along.

The story has a moral to it that's true for both Jewish and Christian listeners: "What we are seeking is not in the past or in the future. It is not far away or in the possession of others. It is exactly where we are."

(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 books of Samuel 1 and Samuel 2.



DAD

BLESSED IS THE MAN
who remains steadfast

UNDER TRIAL.

FOR WHEN HE HAS

STOOD THE TEST

HE WILL RECEIVE THE

crown of life

JAMES 1:12



Wesley United Methodist Church

Mission Statement

Celebrating God!

Growing in Faith!

Changing the World!

Pastor Kolby Gollhofer

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Gainesville, FL
32609

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We are on Facebook!!!

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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)



(Continued from Page 1)

Friends, as we enter the season of warm weather, graduations, extended travel, summer vacations and relaxation, remember, God is ... where you are. Psalm 139: *"If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me ... and hold me fast."* By going out into the world, we're living out our worldwide faith and moving in places where God is already active. Be an ambassador for Christ this summer – wherever you are!

Blessings,
Pastor Kolby

Jim Arnett

Diane Blucher

David Hodges

Rachelle Hines

Beth Loehr-Moody

Sonny Robertson

Dale Smith

*Carla, Robert, Steve,
Molly & Buddy*

Barbara Baldwin

Carolyn Clarke

Cindy Holmes

Rosie Leggett

Clydia Reichert

Beth Senn

Christie Tattersall

Linda Baldwin

Helen Goddard

Jim Harris

Barb Loehr

Joe Reichert

Joan Siegel

Clarence Witt

With God
ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE

What does the Kitchen Fund do with all that money they earn?

We like to think we put it to good use.

At the end of our cooking year we assess how much we have earned, and then send it out to work for God's people. Each month we contribute \$50 to the Mission of the Month. Then, we consider what the needs of the church may be for the foreseeable future, then divvy up the remaining funds to charities that the members suggest. Last month we donated \$500 each to the following: United Methodist Children's Home, Faith Mission, St. Francis House, Bread of the Mighty Food Bank, Peaceful Paths, and the Gainesville Community Ministry.








We just thought you'd like to know!



June 2024

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Worship Service—10:45AM

WEDNESDAYS
WW Supper 2nd Wed. 5:30PM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 	3	4 Noon Pastor's Class 1:30PM Wesley Whittlers	5	6  11:30AM Card Club 6:00PM Sisters in Faith	7	1/8
9	10 6:30 Nightingales	11 Noon Pastor's Class	12	13  11:30AM Card Club	14	15
16 HAPPY Fathers DAY 	17	18 10:00AM Morning Stars Noon Pastor's Class 1:30PM Wesley Whittlers	19 	20  11:30AM Card Club	21	22
23	24	25 Noon Pastor's Class 6:00PM Leadership Board	26	27  11:30AM Card Club	28	29



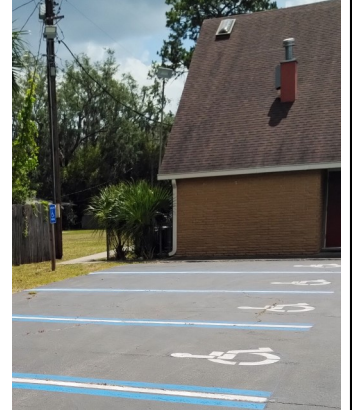
30 Fifth
Sunday
Collection
for Resid-
ing Hope



THANK YOU, CHRISTIE



Special thanks to Christie Tattersall, who underwrote (paid for) the re-striping of our parking lot. So many people were having trouble seeing where they were supposed to park that it led to some really wonky parking. Trustees was already working to get this done when Christie learned of our funding difficulties. She stepped in, offered to fund the project, and off it went. Thank you!!!



SO, JUST WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?

Juneteenth, officially **Juneteenth National Independence Day**, is a federal holiday in the United States. It is celebrated annually on June 19 to commemorate the ending of slavery. The holiday's name is a portmanteau of the words "June" and "nineteenth," as it was on June 19, 1865, when Major General Gordon Granger ordered the final enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation in Texas at the end of the American Civil War.

Early celebrations date back to 1866, at first involving church-centered community gatherings in Texas. They spread across the South amongst newly freed African American slaves and their descendants and became more commercialized in the 1920s and 1930s, often centering on a food festival. Participants in the Great Migration brought these celebrations to the rest of the country. During the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, these celebrations were eclipsed by the nonviolent determination to achieve civil rights, but grew in popularity again in the 1970s with a focus on African-American freedom and African-American arts. Beginning with Texas by proclamation in 1938, and by legislation in 1979, every U.S. state and the District of Columbia has formally recognized the holiday in some way.

The day was recognized as a federal holiday in 2021, when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law. Juneteenth became the first new federal holiday since Martin Luther King Jr. Day was adopted in 1983.



The holiday is considered the "longest-running African-American holiday" and has been called "America's second Independence Day." Historian Mitch Kachun considers that celebrations of the end of slavery have three goals: "to celebrate, to educate, and to agitate."

What a Great Party! Special thanks to Chuck, Pastor Kolby, and Ron, who braved



the heat to grill dogs and burgers to perfection and Donna and Nancy S worked in the kitchen to provide baked beans (my favorite!), coleslaw, chips and desserts



to go with the grilled items. It was a fairly small crowd that gathered to partake, but we all enjoyed both the food and the fellowship. After all, isn't that what a "fellowship dinner" is all about?

When we start back up in October after taking the

summer months off, we hope you will join us and see what I'm talking about. Yeah!





More dining and fellowship as the Young at Heart Senior Fellowship met at Cedar



River Seafood restaurant. And the group has really grown! Top left is Jim, sitting at the far end of the table. To the right are Mary, Joan, Sonny, Helen, Kathy and Roy, and below are Paula, Pastor Kolby, Nancy, Barbara, Carmen, and Jim.

Good food, good friends, good God!

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 Nex-Trex project. It *only* takes 1000 pounds of plastic film to make a park bench! Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue. The planet thanks you, too.



RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!



✓ Produce bags



✓ Store bags



✓ Ice bags



✓ Ziploc® & other reclosable bags



✓ Cereal box liners



✓ Case overwrap



✓ Bread bags



FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR



MISSION OF THE MONTH

Grace Marketplace

MISSION: Our mission is simple: to end homelessness. We achieve that goal by removing the typical barriers that keep people from getting help and providing them with safe shelter, effective services, and permanent housing solutions.

VISION: Our staff, volunteers, and donors work together to make GRACE the best-choice shelter and service center for our guests, volunteers, and donors, and to earn widespread community support.

Our comprehensive services meet people where they are and cover the basic necessities of life, including housing, healthcare, and employment.

There are no requirements and no barriers to getting help here. Our campus gives people the space and security to get back on their feet and on with their lives.

TRAUMA-INFORMED: At GRACE, we treat everyone with safety and respect. We know that each person has different needs, and we have a variety of different services for every stage. We are there for immediate needs, comprehensive help over the long haul, and support even after a person has found housing.

PROGRESS: In just under 10 years, GRACE has had unprecedented success helping people experiencing homelessness recover. Since we opened, we've helped reduce homelessness in Alachua County by 40%, down to just over 700 people on any given night.

Our progress is encouraging, but there is always more to do.

You can help by joining the ranks of GRACE donors and volunteers. Without the support of everyday people like you, we could not do what we do. Volunteering at GRACE is just one of the rewarding ways to give back and help people who need it most.

From planting a garden to retrieving basic needs items for guests, compassionate volunteer work is essential to our operation. You can make a donation or sign up as a volunteer to contribute to our cause. Every donor and every volunteer at GRACE helps us make positive and lasting changes in our community and put an end to homelessness in Gainesville.

For more information, visit <http://gracemarketplace.org/>



Committee Meetings

6/25 6:00PM Leadership Board



June Birthdays

- 1st Chuck Adams
- 3rd Barbara Loehr-Fox
- 9th Sam Adams
- 17th Robert Loehr
- June Voyles
- 19th Jeffrey Carlin
- 23rd Linda Crenshaw
- 24th Pastor Kolby
Golliher
- 25th Janis Bishop

Our dear, sweet Hannah lets us know all is well after having surgery on her right arm to repair damage from an earlier traffic accident. Let's all pray that her arm is now on the mend and she will soon be free of pain!

June Anniversaries

- 2nd Sherry & Chuck Adams
- 16th Donna & Gary
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.