

# Wesley Witness

Easter Message  
from the  
Pastor



Hi Wesley!

We have been wandering through Lent together these past several weeks. Throughout Lent we have been thinking about what we might let go of. As we let go, we make room to perceive what God might be doing in our midst.

Sometimes ... sometimes as we let go and wander, we find old things. Old things that we need to return to. Things that used to ground us. Things that anchored us in that thin space between Heaven and Earth so that Heaven might be brought to Earth. Sometimes as we wander, we find that we are like the Israelites of old that have come to worship many idols and need to let them go, so that their focus might turn back to God. Sometimes as we wander, we find we have to let go of what we hold on to to pick up the faithfulness and trust of our youth.

Sometimes ... sometimes as we let go and wander, we find new things. New things that might be intimidating. New things that might take some time to adjust to. New things that God has placed in our path. Things so *much* in our path that we can't help but trip over them. New things that challenge us. New things that confront us. New things that call us to new seasons, as we find in Ecclesiastes.

And *sometimes* ... sometimes as we wander, there is an unveiling, a revealing or revelation of something that has been right in front of us for years. An unveiling like that of Saul who would become Paul. Sometimes, we find we are wandering down the road to Damascus, a well-trodden road, when we find we are blinded by a bright light. It is startling at first. Intimidating. But with a little bit of company and community, in the end we answer a call that reaches far beyond ourselves to the body of Christ that has been waiting for us on the other side the whole time. When we stop and listen, we find the scales fall from our eyes and the people we thought were outside of our community are actually inside of it and waiting for us like blind Ananias the whole time.

We have each found things to let go of throughout Lent. We have explored a variety of ways to wander, including some spiritual disciplines. As we have wandered through Lent together, what is it that Christ has called you to set aside for a while? Name it.

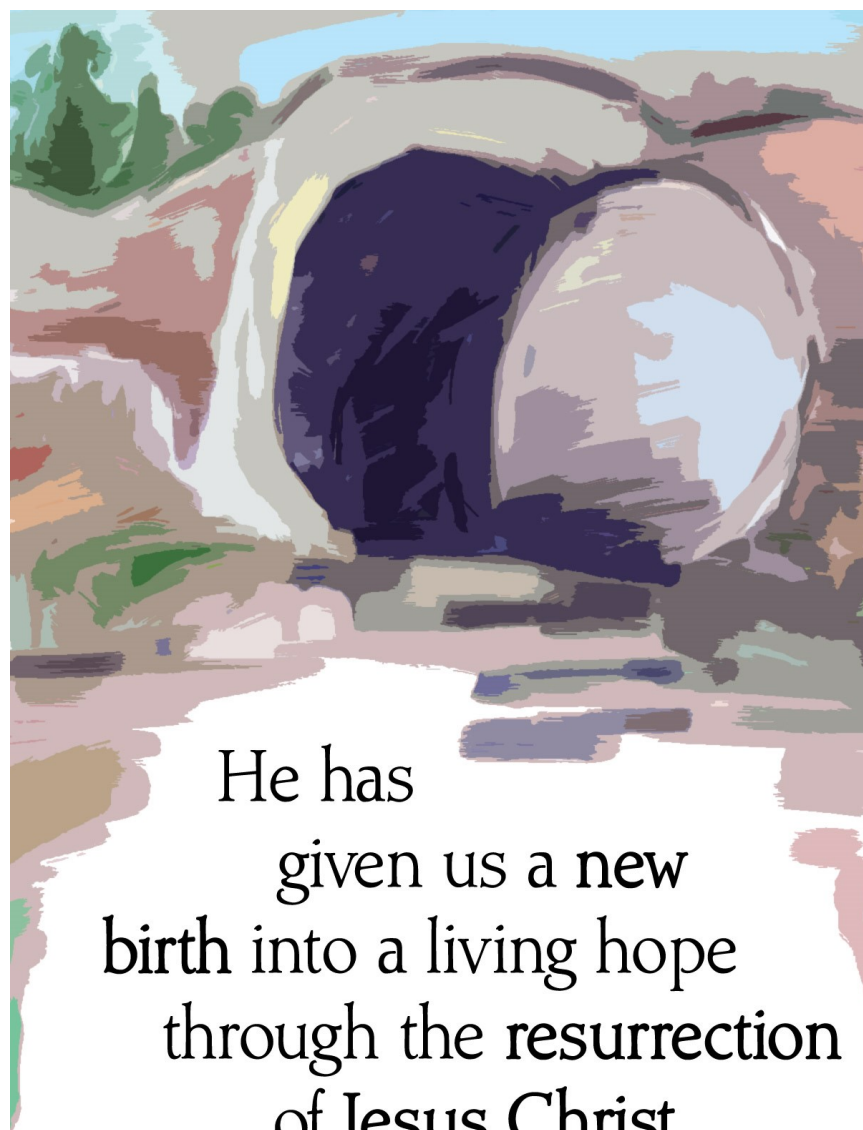
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# Breaking News

## Bible Study



**PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY**—Come join Pastor Ben *in person* in the conference room or via ZOOM from noon to 1:00 PM on Tuesdays. All are welcome and we would love to have you join us as we study *Revelation*. Contact the church office if you need a link for ZOOM.



He has  
given us a new  
birth into a living hope  
through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ  
from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3, NRSV

## Wesley United Methodist Church

*Mission Statement*  
*Celebrating God!*  
*Growing in Faith!*  
*Changing the World!*

*Pastor Benjamin Spangler*

826 NW 23rd Avenue  
Gainesville, FL  
32609  
Office: 372-2845  
Fax: 372-9544

We are on Facebook!!!

Pastor's E-mail:  
Ben@GainesvilleWesley.org  
352-234-6708

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

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

Website:  
[www.WesleyUMCon23.org](http://www.WesleyUMCon23.org)

## *Weekly Sunday Activities*

Worship @ 10:45AM  
(Sanctuary)



*Barbara Baldwin  
Carolyn Clarke  
Mary Harris  
Betty Holder  
Barb Loehr  
Paula Mathis  
Clydia Reichert  
Margie Sapp  
Dale Smith  
Clarence Witt*

*Linda Baldwin  
Helen Goddard  
Rachelle Hines  
Bonniesue Humphlett  
Beth Loehr-Moody  
Billy Moring  
Joe Reichert  
Beth Senn  
Linda Smith*



*Prayer Requests*



*(Continued from Page 1)*

Write it down on a piece of paper.

Now, what do you think Christ is calling you to pick up? Is it something old, from when you were a child? Is it something ancient from the very early church like Israel of Old when Christ called us to the year of Jubilee? Is it something new that you have been tripping on because God has put it in your path? Is it a call to action you can't shake and keep stubbing your toes on until you know it's time to take hold of? Is it something that has always been there and, just like Paul who had been in the church for years, you never realized it was right in front of you? Whatever it is, Name It. Write It Down. Keep wandering with God.

*This is a time for discernment.*

I look forward to sharing Holy Week with you all! Good Friday when we might let go of what we nailed to the cross. Holy Saturday when we grieve things we let go of. Then, look forward to Easter morning when, in community, we might pick up something wholly resurrected!

In the name of Christ who was killed, gave us Holy Saturday, and is Resurrected,  
*Pastor Ben*



# SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship Service—10:45AM

# WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Wesley Wednesday suppers—5:30PM

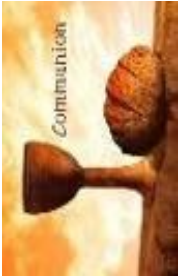



*Most meetings are Wednesdays at 6:00 unless otherwise noted*

# April 2022

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

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

**Pastor Benjamin Spangler**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>3</div> 	<div>4</div> <div>7:00PM Nightingales</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Noon Pastor's Class</div>	<div>6</div> <div>8:30AM Garden Work Day</div> <div>6:00PM Worship</div>	<div>7</div> <div>11:30AM Card Club</div> <div>6:00PM Sisters in Faith</div>	<div>1</div> <div>11:30AM YAH's NW Grille RSVP 3/27</div>	<div>2</div>
<div>10</div> 	<div>11</div> <div>10:00AM Morning Stars</div> <div>Noon Pastor's Class</div>	<div>12</div> <div>10:00AM Morning Stars</div> <div>Noon Pastor's Class</div>	<div>13</div> <div>5:30PM WWS</div> <div>7:00PM Missions Meeting</div>	<div>14</div> <div>11:30AM Card Club</div> <div>5:30PM Maundy Thursday service</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Good Friday Stations of the Cross (outside) all day</div> <div>5:30PM Good Friday Service</div>	<div>16</div> <div>10AM UMW Brunch</div> <div>12-2PM Holy Saturday Sanctuary open for prayer</div>
<div>17</div> 	<div>18</div> <div>Office Closed</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Noon Pastor's Class</div> <div>7PM Finance Meeting</div>	<div>20</div> <div>8:30AM Garden Work Day</div> <div>6:00PM Care Team</div>	<div>21</div>  <div>11:30AM Card Club</div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div>
<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Noon Pastor's Class</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>  <div>11:30AM Card Club</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div>

The Young at Heart senior fellowship met at the Northwest Grille last month. Around the table from the left is Joan, Sonny, Mary, Jim, Becky, Paula, Cindy, and Nancy. The April gathering spot will also be at the Northwest Grille. As you can see, it's a group favorite! We will meet on Friday, April 1st at 11:30. Please let Donna or the office know if you plan to come by March 27th. We want to be sure to have a big enough table! Our next outing will be on May 13th, at Northwest Grille. Your RSVP is needed by May 8th!



#### FROM THE KITCHEN COMMITTEE



What a nice group we had last month for our Wesley Wednesday supper! The aroma of meatloaf wafting out the door certainly didn't hurt, I'm sure! We plan to hold our next fellowship dinner on Wednesday, April 13th at 5:30 PM. As usual, please call or e-mail the office by Sunday, April 10th to let them know you are coming or not. We're having some good ol' fried chicken that night, so we look forward to seeing you! You can come early and get a take-home box, or let us know to put one in the fridge for you to pick up the next morning (9AM-1PM). If you go with the second option, please pay Terri for your meal. Easter blessings on you and yours!



# Remember when?



## Let's do it again!

**Saturday, April 16**  
**10:00AM - 12:00 Noon**

Speaker: Vivian Filer  
Tea & refreshments will  
be served

Bring a friend or two!

*Please RSVP by Monday, 4/11*



**Vivian Filer**

Vivian Filer is a long-time resident of Gainesville, Florida. Her professional career includes employment at Shands Teaching Hospital as both a Nursing Assistant and a Registered Nurse and at Santa Fe College as a professor of nursing. Vivian has served on a remarkably diverse number of committees, boards, and auxiliaries, often as chair or president. She is also co-founder of the Springhill Neighborhood Association, and the Greater Gainesville Black Nurses Association. In her present role, she is founder and Chair of the Board of the Cotton Club Museum and Cultural Center. Vivian's leadership role started and flourished at Mt. Olive AME Church where she has served all her adult life. Vivian enjoys singing with her sisters in the a capella trio known as the Washington Sisters and entertaining audiences of all ages with her story telling skill. She is the widow of Delano Filer Sr. and the mother of two sons, four grandsons, and two grand-daughters.



*United Methodist Women*

All Ladies of the church are invited to attend Wesley's annual celebration of women on Saturday morning, April 16th. We will begin with a brunch, then segue into a presentation by Vivian Filer about the history of Black Americans in this area. You won't want to miss this interesting and informative speaker! See a member of the UMW for a (free) ticket! This will help us estimate how many people to plan for. Bring a friend or two and family members, also! And **please RSVP by Tuesday, April 12th!**



## 2022 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

### Church Council Officers

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Nancy Slaydon (2022)</b>	<b>352-376-7842</b>	<b>nancyw3320@hotmail.com</b>
Treasurer	Carmen Arnett (2022)	352-804-4996	arnett5778@gmail.com
Financial Sec'y.	Terri Manche	352-372-2845	secretary@wumc.cfcoxmail.com
Lay Member			
To Annual Conf.	Cindy Holmes (2022)	352-373-1279	holmesmc@yahoo.com
Lay Leader	Chuck Adams	352-316-3672	cmadams@ufl.edu
Recording Sec'y.	Sharren Gibbs	352-377-8834	sharrenleegibbs2020@gmail.com
Campus Ministry			
Children's Home	Diane Blucher (2022)	412-614-1700	DBlucher352@gmail.com
Coordinator			
Membership Sec'y.	Linda Smith	386-518-6109	smith4kw@aol.com
Disaster Coordinator			

In addition to the officers listed above, this council includes all chairpersons of all administrative and specialized ministry committees.

### Committee on Pastor-Parish Relations (Staff Parish)

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Jim Harris</b>	<b>786-252-6980</b>	<b>jd1013@bellsouth.net</b>
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#### *\*Class of 2022*

Member	Cindy Holmes	352-373-1279	holmesmc@yahoo.com
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#### *\*Class of 2023*

Member	Jim Harris	786-252-6980	jd1013@bellsouth.net
Member	Joan Siegel	386-462-5938	joan.siegel36@gmail.com

#### *\*Class of 2024*

Member	Paula Mathis	352-371-6859	46nana06@gmail.com
Member	Becky Knight	352-372-8207	rhk0816@bellsouth.net
Lay Member			
To Annual Conf.	Cindy Holmes	352-373-1279	holmesmc@yahoo.com
Lay Leader	Chuck Adams	352-316-3672	cmadams@ufl.edu

### Committee on Finance

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Sherry Adams</b>	<b>352-316-0066</b>	<b>sadams@ufl.edu</b>
Treasurer	<b>Carmen Arnett</b>	<b>352-804-4996</b>	<b>arnett5778@gmail.com</b>
Lay Member			
to Annual Conf.	Cindy Holmes	352-373-1279	holmesmc@yahoo.com
Lay Leader	Chuck Adams	352-316-3672	cmadams@ufl.edu
Pastor	Ben Spangler	352-234-6708	ben@gainesvillewesley.org
Member	Paula Mathis	352-371-6859	46nana06@gmail.com
Financial Sec'y.	Terri Manche	352-372-2845	secretary@wumc.cfcoxmail.com

In addition to the members listed above, this council includes the chairperson of Administrative Council and chairperson or representative of SPRC and a representative of Trustees.

**Board of Trustees**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Ron Case</b>	<b>352-339-6402</b>	<b>ronaldcase@hotmail.com</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>			
<b>*Class of 2022</b>			
Member	Ron Case	352-339-6402	ronaldcase@hotmail.com
<b>*Class of 2023</b>			
Member	Dale Smith	386-518-6109	smith4kw2@aol.com
Member	Helen Tate	352-538-3819	tatehelen0819@gmail.com
<b>*Class of 2024</b>			
Member	Sonny Robertson	386-462-5938	sonny32605@hotmail.com
Member	Becky Knight	352-372-8207	rhk0816@bellsouth.net
Member	Derek Mallard	352-372-0904	dmallard7873@gmail.com

**Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominating Committee)**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Ben Spangler</b>	<b>352-234-6708</b>	<b>ben@gainesvillewesley.org</b>
<b>Vice Chair (Lay)</b>			
<b>Lay Leader</b>	Chuck Adams	352-316-3672	cmadams@ufl.edu
<b>*Class of 2022</b>			
Member	Cindy Holmes	352-373-1279	holmesmc@yahoo.com
Member	Chuck Adams	352-316-3672	cmadams@ufl.edu
<b>*Class of 2023</b>			
Member	Becky Knight	352-375-4472	rhk0816@bellsouth.net
Member	Diane Blucher	412-614-1700	DBlucher352@gmail.com
Member	Nancy Case	352-519-8883	pastorcasenl@gmail.com
<b>*Class of 2024</b>			
Member	Nancy Slaydon	352-376-7842	nancyw3320@hotmail.com
Member	Pamela Christensen	352-505-0694	pamelamckearn@sbcglobal.net

**Worship Team**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Sharren Gibbs</b>	<b>352-376-7842</b>	<b>sharrenleegibbs2020@gmail.com</b>
Acolytes	Linda Crenshaw	352-372-1995	lindacrnschw@yahoo.com
Altar Guild	Sharren Gibbs	352-377-8834	sharrenleegibbs2020@gmail.com
Tech Support	Linda Yaxley-Nosko	352-378-6396	lmyaxley@aol.com
	Ray Thomas	352-376-3728	raygthomas@cox.net
	Darryl Davis-Schulz	352-575-4009	lebrawnd@gmail.com
Pastor	Ben Spangler	352-234-6708	ben@gainesvillewesley.org
Banners	Cindy Holmes	352-373-1279	holmesmc@yahoo.com
Head Usher			
Handbells	Sharren Gibbs	352-377-8834	sharrenleegibbs2020@gmail.com
At Large	Paul Humphlett	352-376-0231	pkhumphlett@bellsouth.net

**Missions Committee**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Cindy Holmes</b>	<b>352-373-1279</b>	<b>holmesmc@yahoo.com</b>
Member	Paula Mathis	352-371-6859	46nana06@gmail.com
Member	Donna Weseman	352-538-0559	mammadonna1957@yahoo.com
Member	Diane Blucher	412-614-1700	DBlucher352@gmail.com
Member	Nancy Case	352-375-4472	pastorcasenl@gmail.com
Member	John Easter	352-372-3069	

All persons interested in missions are encouraged to attend and will be considered members of this committee.



**Veterans Ministry Team**

<b>Chair</b>	<b>Danny Aguila</b>	<b>352-495-5074</b>	<b>augie139@hotmail.com</b>
Member	Ben Spangler	352-234-6708	ben@gainesvillewesley.org
Member	Danny Aguila	352-495-5074	augie132@hotmail.com
Member	Harley Christensen	352-505-0694	
Member	Chuck Adams	352-371-0369	cmadams@ufl.edu
Member	Pamela Christensen	352-505-0694	pamelamckern@sbcglobal.net
Member	Sonny Robertson	386-462-5938	sonny32605@hotmail.com
Member	Dale Smith	386-518-6109	smith4kw@aol.com

**Senior Adults/Young at Hearts (YAH)**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Donna Weseman</b>	<b>352-538-0559</b>	<b>mammadonna1957@yahoo.com</b>
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**Nurture & Care**

<b>Chairperson</b>			
Member	Nancy Slaydon	352-376-7842	nancyw3320@hotmail.com
Member	Cindy Holmes	352-373-1279	holmesmc@yahoo.com
Telephone Ministry	Yvonne Hodges	352-472-2039	
Visitation Ministry	Ben Spangler	352-234-6708	ben@gainesvillewesley.org
Hospitality Ministry			
Card Ministry	Nancy Slaydon	352-376-7842	nancyw3320@hotmail.com
	Cindy Holmes	352-373-1289	holmesmc@yahoo.com

**Memorial Committee**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Ben Spangler</b>	<b>352-234-6708</b>	<b>ben@gainesvillewesley.org</b>
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**Kitchen**

<b>Manager/Coordinator</b>	<b>Donna Weseman</b>	<b>352-538-0559</b>	<b>mammadonna1957@yahoo.com</b>
Member	Sharren Gibbs	352-377-8834	sharrenleegibbs2020@gmail.com
Member	Becky Knight	352-372-8207	rhk0816@bellsouth.net
Member	Cindy Holmes	352-373-1279	holmesmc@yahoo.com
Member	Paula Mathis	352-371-6859	46nana06@gmail.com
Member	Barbara Cleveland	352-372-1608	barb.cleveland@cox.net
Member	Dale and Linda Smith	386-518-6109	smith4kw@aol.com

**United Methodist Women**

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Sherry Adams</b>	<b>352-316-0066</b>	<b>sadams@ufl.edu</b>
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\*Class of a year represents the year those persons will rotate off of that committee as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. All persons listed are part of the committee until the end of their year of rotation.

**Thank you for your leadership and dedication  
to Wesley United Methodist Church**



## Committee Meetings

4/6	6:00PM	Worship Committee
4/13	7:00PM	Missions Committee
4/19	7:00PM	Finance Committee
4/20	6:00PM	Care Teams



*Happy  
Easter!*

## April Birthdays

5 <sup>th</sup>	Emily Newstadt
6 <sup>th</sup>	Yvonne Hodges
8 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Adams
10 <sup>th</sup>	Shaina Boyle
11 <sup>th</sup>	William Weseman
12 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Harris
15 <sup>th</sup>	Jessica Alday
17 <sup>th</sup>	Joan Siegel
18 <sup>th</sup>	Barbara Baldwin
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sara Reeves

## April Anniversaries

4 <sup>th</sup>	Jim and Carmen Arnett
16 <sup>th</sup>	Linda & Richard Crenshaw
19 <sup>th</sup>	Sandy & Robert Reeves
28 <sup>th</sup>	Diana & Keith Holder



*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! **Please have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccination, as well as the booster!**

### 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.

