



### Wesley United Methodist Church - Marco Island

#### ***Pastor's Letter***

##### **I miss playing "Muggins".**

For those of you who don't know, "Muggins" is an old card game with a special deck of cards in which you are trying to deplete your pile by playing either on another person's pile or on the stacks of cards in the center. If you have a valid play and you don't make it, whoever shouts "MUGGINS!" first gets to take one of their cards and add it to your pile!

It's a noisy, frantic game. I was taught it by Grandma Foster, my mother's mother. She took a wicked delight in just sitting there quietly, waiting for you to make a mistake, so that she could shout it out and laugh with glee!

As the years went on my grandma died, but my mother and I would still play. We played other games, too – "Liverpool Rummy", "Upwords", "Triominos".

But over the past two years, my mother has been losing her memory. At first we chalked it up to her not wearing her hearing aids, but it's more than that. Her basic concept of what is real and what isn't has begun to decline.

I came across the scripture the other day where the Jewish leaders were questioning John the Baptist – "*Who are you? Are you Elijah?*" He said, "*I am not.*" "*Are you the Prophet?*" He answered, "*No.*" Finally they said, "*Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?*"

"Who are you?" There's really more to that question than meets the eye. It's not just about your existential identity – it's a question about "Why should I listen to you? What is your connection to my life?" My mother has begun questioning that. As she declines in her mental abilities, her emotions become more raw and she becomes desperate to find a stable point again.

I started thinking about this in relationship to our church. My mother gets anxious when current reality doesn't fit with her memories, and she needs reassurance. Those of us who are connected with reality try to find a way to reassure her of her value and her place in the world.

As a church, we are called to do the same thing. "Who are we, as Wesley United Methodist Church on Marco Island? What does our community need from us, and how can God use us to help them find their place in His family?"

I know it's not quite the same thing, but it's helpful to remember that, if we are connected with God, then we can connect to those who are lost. Many of them may not even know that they are lost, the way that my mother will argue with you that she knows exactly where she is and what she's doing. And my sisters and I don't respond to my mother with anger or belittling her. We offer love and support the best we can.

That's what our community needs from us right now. So much has changed in the world and in our church that there is no option for trying to do ministry the way we used to. That worked for that time, but we are all now different. There is a different anxiety out there, a different daily life. God has not changed – but the way He offers His hope and healing is constantly changing to meet today's needs.

I read the scripture recently, "*The fields are ripe for the harvest.*" Right now, right here, in this community, in this context, there are people anxiously looking for something to hold onto! The Spirit of Jesus Christ is calling to them, and He invites us to join Him in bringing them home!

I miss the old ways. I miss the old conversations I used to have with my mother. I miss playing "Liverpool Rummy" and "Muggins" with her.

But this is our life now, and I will love her and rejoice in those moments when we can connect. And I look forward to the day when we will be together, with clarity of hearts and minds in Jesus.

*In Christ,*

*Rev. Bill*

# July 2021 Sermon Scriptures

**June 4, 2021** The Freedom to...

Galatians 5:13-18 CEB

Freedom in Christ

We are freest when we become  
servants of God.



**June 11, 2021** Beyond All of the Noise

Psalms 23 CEB

Simple trust

Walking with God carries us through  
the mountain peaks and the valleys.



**June 18, 2021** CAMP ABLE STORIES



**June 25, 2021** I Would Rather Be on the Church Staff...

Psalms 84 NIV

Serving God with humility

Serving God brings a reward that goes  
beyond what this world has to offer.



## *Wesley — In-Person and Online*

<https://www.facebook.com/WUMCMarco>

Please wear a mask if you are not yet fully vaccinated.

**Zoom meetings** – Specific for each meeting.

**Call church office for information 239-394-3734.**

Sunday – **9:45 am Music in Sanctuary before Worship Service**  
**9:45 am Virtual Worship Service** (Website or Facebook)  
**10:00 am In-person Worship** (Sanctuary)  
**10:30ish Virtual Coffee Fellowship Time** (Online)  
**10:40ish Children’s Formation/Sunday School** (In-person)  
**11:00 am Adult Formation/Sunday School** (In-person and Zoom)

Monday - **9:00 am Rebecca's Balance Boosters Fitness** (Gathering Place)  
**6:30 pm High School Students** (Youth Room)

Tuesday – **9:00 am Tuesday Community** (Office)  
**9:00 am-1:00 pm MMO (Mother's Morning Out)** (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday -9:00 am-1:00 pm **MMO (Mother's Morning Out)** (Fellowship Hall)  
 9:00 am **Rebecca's Balance Boosters Fitness** (Gathering Place)  
 12:00 **Midweek Lift** devotional service  
 (in-person or website or Facebook)  
 2:00 pm **Pastor's Bible Study** (Church Office and ZOOM)  
 3:00 pm **Worship Team** (Sanctuary)  
 4:00 pm **Music Rehearsal** (Sanctuary)  
 5:00 pm **July 7 and 21 THE Table**  
 (In-Person in Fellowship Hall or online )  
 6:30 pm **Middle School Students** (Starbucks)

Thursday- **9:00 am-1:00 pm MMO (Mother's Morning Out)** (Fellowship Hall)  
**10:00 am UMW Bible Study** (call for location)  
**5:00 pm-6:30 pm Line Dancing** (Fellowship Hall)

Friday- 9:00 am Rebecca's Balance Boosters Fitness (Gathering Place)

**Saturday- 8:00 am-10:30 am Weight Watchers with Kim Fisackerly**

**OTHER ONGOING MEETINGS:** Church Committees and Business meetings  
Small Groups





# Online Grief Support Opportunities for July

Are you searching for understanding, encouragement, and practical advice from Christian counselors and others who are learning to rebuild their lives after losing a loved one?

If so, you're welcome to choose one (or both) of the following options:

A 13-week **GriefShare** seminar series/support group will be starting on **July 22**, for anyone grieving the death of a family member or friend.

It will be held online, **every Thursday at 6:30 PM**.

To learn more or register, please visit <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/135574>.

In addition, an online "**Loss of a Spouse**" seminar (only one session, specifically for widows and widowers) will be held on **Tuesday, July 27 at 6:30 PM**.

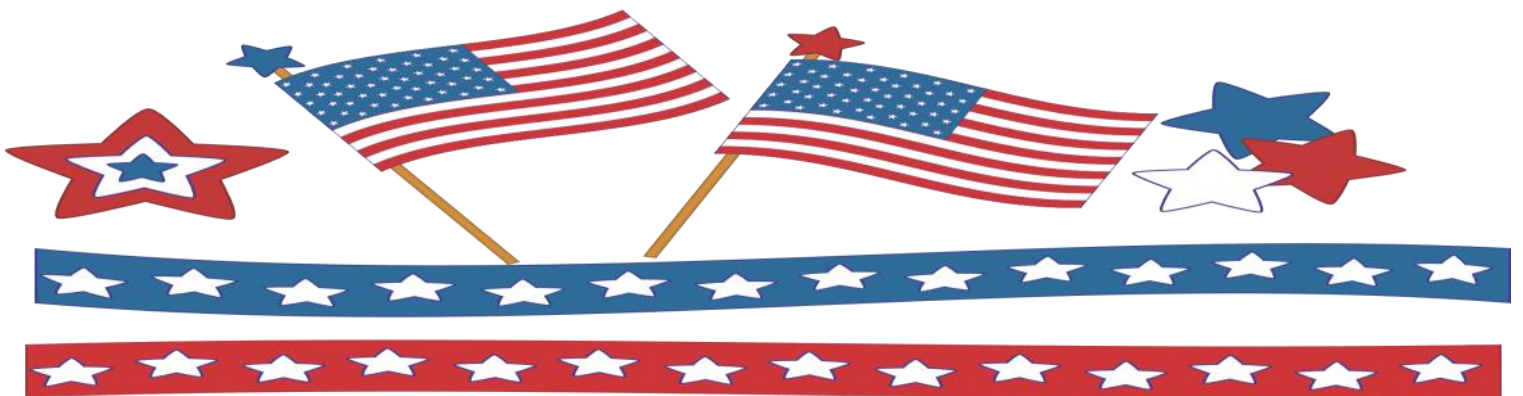
See details and registration information at <https://www.griefshare.org/loss/events/3184>.

(You don't have to join a GriefShare group in order to participate in this seminar, since it's not part of the 13-week series.)

You'll need a workbook for GriefShare (\$15) and/or Loss of a Spouse (\$5), which can be ordered when you register.

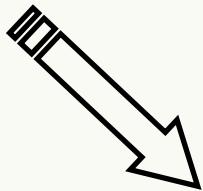
(They're also available from the church office at Wesley, even though these events are hosted by different churches in other cities. If you get yours here, just let your group facilitator know.)

You can also find lots of other helpful resources at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org).





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different!



ANGIE'S BOOT SCOOT

COUNTRY LINE & PARTNER'S DANCE

Line Dancing @ Wesley United Methodist Church  
350 S. Barfield Dr, Marco

THURSDAYS

5 - 6:30 PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Angie Moore

angiesbootscoot@gmail.com

As we continue to find ways to grow in community, Wesley's Formation Team introduces a Line Dancing Community. Our instructor, Angie, knows that line dancing is fun and a great workout, but the true goal of this class is to create an opportunity for fellowship. All ages and ability levels are welcome to attend. Invite a friend and drop in because there is no need to register.

Angie is a Registered Nurse currently working in the operating room of a local hospital. She is a certified yoga instructor with a passion for bringing people together. Angie recognizes God's call to live life in community in times of joy, struggle, and those times that are just average. Dance has helped her mental and physical well-being, and she cannot wait to share the gift with Wesley.

*Bring water,  
smooth sole shoes,  
and a smile.*

Monthly Giving Update: MAY 2021

	May Offering	Year-to-Date
Budget	\$ 23,843	\$ 246,415
Actual	\$ 30,262	\$ 178,288



# **Florida 2021 Annual Conference**

## **Summary Report**

The Florida 2021 Annual Conference was held June 11 and 12 via Zoom. Several topic sessions were available to the participants June 6 – June 10<sup>th</sup> along with the normal “Pre Conference” sessions conducted both by the Fl. Conf. and the Districts. Your Lay Delegate (Chuck Nelson) and Rev. Bill attended the Annual Conference.

### **Some key points:**

Well run Conference and we all continue to enjoy the time saved by using the Zoom voting. Votes were presented, taken, counted and reported within minutes vs at least 15 minutes or more under the old process used at the last in person Conference in 2019. Well attended — over 1,200 participants. Cost savings vs “in person” but for me, I miss the “in person” feeling, excitement and side conversations of the “in person” conference.

**Bishop Carter conducted a Pre Conference session on the future of our church:**

- a. Anticipated business at the **next General Conference Aug 27 – Sept. 7, 2022** is expected to vote on the question of LGBTQ marriages and clergy which some feel will cause some local churches to leave the United Methodist Church or lose members.
- b. He wants all of us to understand there is no rush to do anything and no one is being asked to leave or vote on anything. Relax and let GOD and some time do its good work. We want everyone to stay. No one is being asked to leave.
- c. Traditional pastors will continue to be assigned to more traditional local churches and more progressive pastors will be assigned to more progressive local churches.
- d. The COVID pandemic has caused a pause in the discussion.
- e. It is possible the General Conference, planned for 2022, could be again postponed as COVID is causing greater problems in other parts of the World and we are only one part of our World church.
- f. When having discussions in the local church, have these discussions in the open and always present and discuss the different views.
- e. This session with Bishop Carter was recorded and will be available on the Conference web site.

Our Conference Bishop gave an impressive opening to the Conference by focusing on the word “WE” and tied it to a repeated topic of this Annual Conference:

**“Every person WE encounter was created in the image of GOD.”**

**Bishop Carter is starting his 10<sup>th</sup> year as our Conference Bishop and has recently been appointed to also serve as the Bishop for the Western NC Conference. Because of his travel needs, the Bishop’s current home in Lakeland (owned by the Conference) was approved to be sold.**

**(Continued on next page)**



#### **FOUR MAIN INITIATIVES:**

- a. **Dismantling Racism** –Bishop Carter feels this must be a major thrust for us
- b. **Viable Local Churches** (includes more effort in “Fresh Expressions”)
- c. **Finishing “Fill the Table”** — goal was to provide 3 mil. meals and we have reached over 5 million plus. Local churches are encouraged to continue helping provide food for people in need.
- d. **Clergy Care** --- was established to help our clergy who are under new pressures added because of COVID pandemic. Grants are still available to help our clergy with their physical and mental health. Program will end this year.

#### **Conference Budget:**

- a. 391 of our local churches gave 100% of their apportionments.  
We are part of the 391!!!
- b. The approved 2022 budget is down \$478,000 from 2021. Budget reduction of over \$4.5 million or more than a 21% decrease since 2017.

#### **Local Church discontinuances and disaffiliations:**

6 local churches were approved for discontinuation and 3 for disaffiliation.

**Resolutions:** Note: Resolutions are an expression of feeling at the Conference and while they are presented to encourage thinking or action to be in line with the vote of the Conference participants, they only apply to that Conference year and are not binding on the local churches. Most resolutions are submitted by clergy or lay conference delegates and may represent positions which are contrary to those of the Florida Conference.

- a. **QAnon Movement:** Voted to not support QAnon Movement 57% in favor.
- b. **Non-Binary Gender for Church Statistics Reporting:** Voted to provide for designation of Female, Male and Non- Binary on church reporting forms. 52% in favor.
- c. **Advocate for Use of Solar Energy for local churches:** Voted to promote usage. 74% in favor.
- d. **An anti abortion position:** Voted to support this position. 58% in favor.
- e. **Call for gender and racial equity in Clergy compensation:** Voted to promote this position. 90% in favor.
- f. **Accountability in Dismantling Racism:** Voted in favor of this position. 61% in favor.

Note: There was a problem with some wording in the resolution which I believe reduced the number of “yes” votes . Overall I sensed a very strong backing for the Bishop’s and Conference initiative to Dismantle Racism.

- **Date set for 2022 Florida Annual Conference:** June 9-11, 2022, in person at Lakeland, FL

**Date set for 2023 Florida Annual Conference:** June 7-10, 2023, in person, location TBD

Several celebration and recognition services were held: Service of Remembrance, Local Pastor Recognition, Commissioning Service and the Ordination Service.

Additional information can be found on the Conference web site: [www.flumc.org](http://www.flumc.org) and select AC2021.

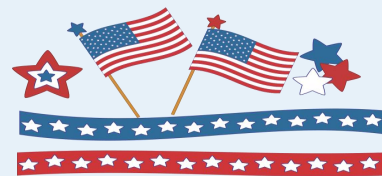
Submitted by: Chuck Nelson







## Mother's Morning Out July 2021



We are jumping right into Summer here at Mother's Morning Out. June was a fresh and fun month for us all! We collaborated with Josh's Christian Formation Team. So we were able to offer a "Parent's Night Out" for about 20 children in the community. It was a definite success, and we could not have done it without Josh and help from all our AWESOME volunteers! Thank you! At school we had our kick-off to summer with our first Water Play-Day. Both the children and teachers enjoyed a little break from the heat!

We are in a transition period here at school, and again want to thank everyone for their support. We look forward to July and our annual Patriotic Parade which happens on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July! Anyone is welcome to join in our march down Barfield's

*Blessing & Love,*

Claire Orgass, and the Mother's Morning Out Family





# WORSHIP AT WESLEY



While everything we do at Wesley is worship in some way, we have some specific experiences that are directed towards bringing us together to lift up God's Name. Some are more formal; some are contemplative; and some are trying out new things! Here are a few of the worship experiences that we offer:



## **SUNDAY MORNING, 10:00 AM**

**Location:** Sanctuary and Online

**Characteristics:** A service designed to unify us here at Wesley. We incorporate a variety of styles of music and liturgical components along with scripture reading and a message. Currently our largest worship gathering.

**Schedule:** 35-45 minutes long, gathering time afterwards

## **WEDNESDAY NOON**

**Location:** Sanctuary and Online

**Characteristics:** Formal elements of worship, with Bible reading, prayer, traditional hymns, and a 15-minute reflection on the scripture.

**Schedule:** 20 minutes

## **1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> WEDNESDAYS, 5:00 PM- The Table**

**Location:** Fellowship Hall, Online

**Characteristics:** Informal gathering with food, singing, and reflection time in small groups on a topic of discussion for the day. Children are present and active in this time. Music is more upbeat and diverse.

**Schedule:** Approximately 1½ hours, including food







# PARENT'S NIGHT OUT





## **July BIRTHDAYS**

**07/02 Mary Bulley**  
**07/05 Bill Adkisson**  
**07/06 Annie Biden**  
**07/07 Jeff Payne**  
**07/07 Thomas Pollak**  
**07/07 Barb Rola**  
**07/09 Michelyn VanNoord**  
**07/10 Sue Stone**  
**07/11 Mershon Niesner**  
**07/11 Alan Schneider**  
**07/15 Carolyn Burger**  
**07/16 Jin Boyer**  
**07/17 Van Gates**  
**07/18 Kathy Iturrino**  
**07/20 Barbara Ausbon**  
**07/20 Nanette Moll**  
**07/20 Thomas Rentz**

**07/21 Margaret Baudin**  
**07/21 Monica Turri**  
**07/23 Julie Nelson**  
**07/24 Paula Curry**  
**07/24 Debra Johnston**  
**07/26 Shirley Armentrout**  
**07/27 Jon Martin**  
**07/30 Brenda-Joyce Fletcher**

08/03 Cynthia E Lakus  
08/04 Paul S Lakus  
08/04 William Reynolds  
08/05 Doris Kosley  
08/05 Betty Larson  
08/08 William Beach  
08/08 Jeanne Bucklin  
08/11 Bill Cox  
08/11 Claire Orgass  
08/13 Julia Osterloh



## **July ANNIVERSARIES**

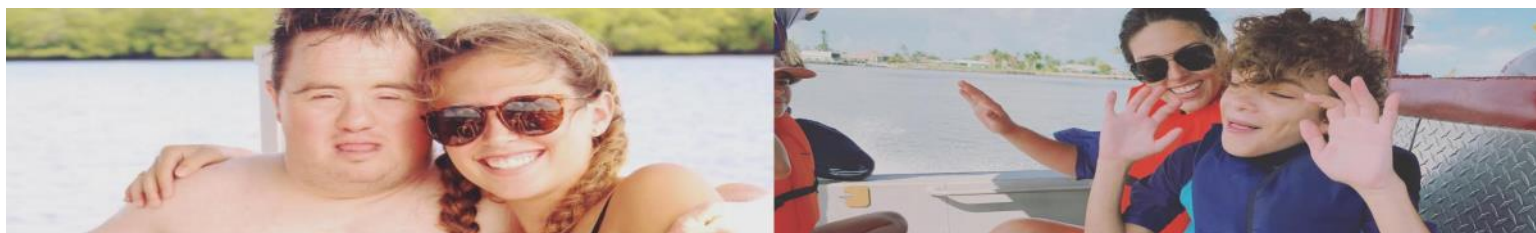
**07/11 Bob & Sue Stone**  
**07/24 Robert & Debra Johnston**



08/02 Tim & Sue Keay  
08/04 Greg & Barbara Frey  
08/11 William & Kimberly Fisackerly  
08/11 Merle & Janet Wetzel  
08/12 Alan & Kathleen Schneider  
08/15 Richard & Eileen Carlsen  
08/22 Charles & Cynthia Sedgwick  
08/31 Thomas & Patricia Pollak








# Save the Date | 7/11-7/17 CAMP ABLE 2021



Check out  
[wesleymarco.org/camp](https://wesleymarco.org/camp)  
for info & serving  
opportunities



THREE WAYS TO GIVE



- 1

**CHECK OR CASH**

mail to 350 S. Bariel Dr. Marco Island, FL 34145 or drop in box when in-person services resume
- 2

**GIVE ONLINE**

[wesleymarco.org/give](https://wesleymarco.org/give)  
checking account, debit card, credit card- one time gift or recurring
- 3

**MOBILE APP**

download "GivePlus Church" from the App Store or Google Play and follow the prompts



## AmazonSmile

Thanks to customers shopping at [AmazonSmile](https://www.amazon.com/smile), everyday purchases generated over **\$200 million** in donations to charities worldwide so far.

Track [your AmazonSmile impact](#) at any time.

Thanks for supporting **Wesley United Methodist Church of Marco Island** and continuing to generate donations by shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

**amazon smile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.



## Wesley UMC, Marco

*LOVE God  
LOVE People*

*Walk together in the  
Way of Jesus*



### Wesley United Methodist Church

350 S. Barfield Dr.

Marco Island, FL 34145

Wesley Church Office **239-394-3734**

E-Mail: [wumcmarco@comcast.net](mailto:wumcmarco@comcast.net)

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

FACEBOOK: WUMCMarco

### WESLEY STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Bill Fisackerly  
Office Manager.....Nanette Moll  
Financial Secretary ..... Gail Gates  
Christian Education Director.....Joshua Baudin  
Communications Director.....Joshua Baudin  
Youth Worker .....Christopher Reyes  
MMO Director .....Claire Orgass  
Custodian.....Claire Orgass  
Audio-Visual Technician. ....Matt Conley

### August WAVE

#### *Newsletter Deadline*

- ALL entries must be **SENT to the Church FIRST** :  
**wumcmarco@comcast.net**
- We really do love to receive photos; however,  
**ALL PHOTOS MUST BE TITLED.**  
(Example: "Youth Camp 2020" and not "0234.jpg")  
And please supply the "who, what, when, where, why  
and/or how" of the photo; at least provide the **name**  
of adults the photo, listed from left to right.  
Note: we do not give names or information that  
might compromise any minors.
- Limit your entries to **under 200 words** and  
**un-formatted.**
- **Cambria 12** for Headlines and **Cambria 9**  
for text. (NOT in all Caps)
- **WAVE deadline is**  
**Third Monday of July**  
**(July 19)**
- ♦ Please plan accordingly.
- ♦ THANK YOU and God bless.



Newsletter Editor—Kathleen Schneider

