

WELCOME

Pastor Beth Snarr

PRELUDE

Maggie Tran

CALL TO WORSHIP

Donna Wagner

The Holy Spirit is among us, giving us wisdom and courage.

We gather to worship the God who empowers us to witness.

The world needs to hear the good news of God’s love.

We come to be filled with the Spirit, that we may share it.

Let us worship the Lord!

Amen!

HYMN UMH 539 “O Spirit Of The Living God”

- ¹ O Spirit of the living God, thou light and fire divine, descend upon thy church once more, and make it truly thine. Fill it with love and joy and power, with righteousness and peace; till Christ shall dwell in human hearts, and sin and sorrow cease.
- ² Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow until our minds are free from mists of error, clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to thee. Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips with flaming love and zeal, to preach to all thy great good news, God’s glorious commonweal.
- ³ Teach us to utter living words of truth which all may hear, the language all may understand when love speaks loud and clear; till every age and race and clime shall blend their creeds in one, and earth shall form one family by whom thy will is done.
- ⁴ So shall we know the power of Christ who came this world to save; so shall we rise with him to life which soars beyond the grave; and earth shall win true holiness, which makes thy children whole; till, perfected by thee, we reach creation’s glorious goal!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Karin Jeter

We belong to God, creator of all that is and all that is to come, abundant provider of the gifts in this life and the gifts in our own hearts. It is God alone who gives life, who is generous beyond measure with grace and blessing.

We follow Christ, whom God sent to teach and heal. To show us a new way of living, with love, trust, and courage, with joy and generosity. Jesus gave of himself, even his very life; yet God raised him from death, and he lives among us, and grants his spirit to us.

We live by that Holy Spirit, and entrust ourselves to its guidance and empowerment.

As members of the church, the Body of Christ, we devote ourselves to lives of love, rejoicing in the power of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI UMH 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

STEPHEN MINISTRY MOMENT

Chuck Sanders

RECEIVING GOD’S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

“God is Our Refuge and Strength”
Allen Pote

Chancel Choir

CALL TO PRAYER UMH 408 (vs 3) “The Gift of Love”

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Alan Taylor

LORD’S PRAYER UMH 895

GATHERING SONG UMH 585 (vs 1) “This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m goin’a let it shine, this little light of mine, I’m goin’a let it shine; this little light of mine, I’m goin’a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Kathleen Ruby

SCRIPTURE

Pam Winn and Chris Qualmann

Acts 6:1-15
2 Timothy 1:1-7



HYMN UMH 555

"Forward Through the Ages"

- ¹ Forward through the ages, in unbroken line, move the faithful spirits at the call divine; gifts in differing measure, hearts of one accord, manifold the service, one the sure reward.
Forward through the ages, in unbroken line, move the faithful spirits at the call divine.
- ² Wider grows the kingdom, reign of love and light; for it we must labor, till our faith is sight. Prophets have proclaimed it, martyrs testified, poets sung its glory, heroes for it died.
- ³ Not alone we conquer, not alone we fall; in each loss or triumph lose or triumph all. Bound by God's far purpose in one living whole, move we on together to the shining goal.

BENEDICTION

Dan Greathouse, Kay Greathouse, and Tim Leslie

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE W&S 3154 "Draw the Circle Wide"

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song: no one stands alone. Standing side by side. Draw the circle. Draw the circle wide.

POSTLUDE

Maggie Tran

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ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given in celebration of our dedicated Stephen Ministers.

PRAYER CONCERNS

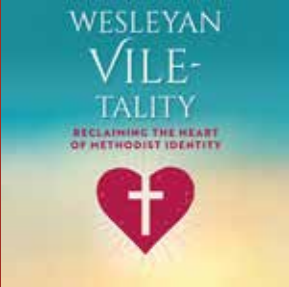
If you have prayers to be lifted up or wish to be part of the team who lifts up prayers, drop an email to prayer@fumcgnv.org or go to <https://fumcgnv.org/PrayerRequest>.

MINISTRY MOMENT - HELPING HANDS BLANKET DRIVE

With Fall drawing near, Helping Hands is preparing for the colder weather for their clients by collecting warm blankets and sleeping bags to hand out to those in need. During the month of October, you can drop off your new or gently-used donation at the Welcome Table on Sundays or the Church Office during the week.

OUR SERMON SERIES ENDS TODAY

Today is the final week in our sermon series titled "'Vile'-tal Vision: Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously". This series invited us to embrace the original Wesleyan spirit of faith and was inspired by the book, *Wesleyan Vile-tality* by Ashley Boggan, along with the new vision statement of the United Methodist Church. John Wesley, an Anglican priest who would become the founder of the Methodist movement, wrote in a journal entry from April 2, 1739, describing his decision to preach outside of a church, as: "I submitted to be more vile." In other words, *Wesleyan vile-tality* is a willingness to look beyond today's acceptable practices and norms, and bend the rules in order to ensure that more people can experience the love of God. This journey back to the heart of Methodism challenged us to live fully into today's new UMC vision statement by **loving boldly, serving joyfully, and leading courageously** with Jesus in the lead!



STEPHEN MINISTRY EVENT - OCTOBER 5

The Stephen Ministry leaders will be holding an educational Bible study and lunch at noon next Sunday, October 5 in the Fellowship Hall. This will be an opportunity to learn more about Stephen Ministry at First UMC. You can sign up or get more information after worship at the Welcome Table or by contacting them at StephenMinisters@fumcgnv.org.

COMMUNION AVAILABLE AFTER WORSHIP

A brief Service of Holy Communion will be held in the Shaw Memorial Chapel immediately after worship today. Everyone is welcome!



WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES



The light of Jesus shines most brightly when our God-given time and talents are shared in service to others. Learn where you can volunteer by using the QR code above or visit fumcgnv.org/ways-to-serve

GIVE BY CHECK

Mail or bring your check to the Church Office
419 NE 1st Street
Gainesville, FL 32601

Have you considered long-term support of our church ministries through our Legacy Endowment Fund? For more details, contact legacy@fumcgnv.org

GIVE ONLINE

use the QR code above or visit fumcgnv.com/GiveOnline or via the First UMC app