

# Gulf Breezes

Monthly Newsletter of Gulf Cove United Methodist Church

*Helping Everyone*

EXPERIENCE EMBRACE ENGAGE

*Jesus & Community*

## From the Pastor

“This is the day the Lord has made; let’s rejoice and be glad in it!” — Psalm 118:24 (CEB)

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Dear Gulf Cove family,

Even after Easter Sunday, we are still living in the joy of the resurrection. This season reminds us that God is always at work bringing new life, new hope, and new purpose, often in ways we don’t immediately see.

The whole Weaver family, are truly grateful and honestly humbled to continue serving alongside you at Gulf Cove United Methodist Church. It is a real joy to be part of a church that cares deeply for one another and for our community, and we’re thankful to continue this shared ministry together.

What has been especially meaningful lately are the stories many of you have shared. Some of you came thinking you might simply sit in the background, but over time you found connection, purpose, and a place to serve. That’s not something we manufacture—that’s the Spirit of God at work.

Our heart remains clear: to help everyone experience, embrace, and engage Jesus and

community. We see that happening in worship, in small groups, through Stephen Ministry, recovery ministries, and in the everyday ways you care for one another and reach out beyond these walls.

As we move through May, we also begin to lean toward Pentecost—the moment when the Holy Spirit filled ordinary people and sent them out in extraordinary ways. In the Wesleyan understanding, Pentecost isn’t just about a powerful moment long ago, it’s about God continuing to work in us, shaping us in grace, and sending us into the world in love. It’s the reminder that we are not called to sit on the sidelines, but to be participants in God’s ongoing work of transformation.

And here’s the beautiful part: the Spirit often leads us to people we didn’t expect. To conversations we didn’t plan. To moments where we realize God is speaking not just to us, but through us. That’s how lives are touched. That’s how community is built. That’s how the church becomes more than a place—it becomes a living witness.

So, as we step into this month, I encourage you to stay open. Pay attention to those small nudges. Be willing to listen, to reach out, to show up. You don’t have to have all the answers—just a willingness to be used by God in the everyday moments.

It is a true gift to serve with you. I'm thankful for this church family, and I look forward to what God has ahead for us as we continue to grow, serve, and share life together.

Love ALL and Love Y'all

Mike

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

- 8am** Traditional Worship Service
- 9:30am** Contemporary Worship Service  
AND Kids Church (PK-5) #109
- 9:30am** Adult Sunday School - #Youth Rm
- 11am** Traditional Worship Service
- 4-6pm** Youth Group (gr 6-12) - #Youth Rm

**WEDNESDAYS AT GULF COVE**

- Midweek Boost** ~ meets with Pastor Mike at 12pm.
- Pastor's Bible Study** ~ meets at 4:30pm.
- Jesus Rocks** ~ Grades K-5 meet from 6-7:30pm.
- Youth** ~ Grades 6-12 meet from 6-7:30pm.
- Praise Band Rehearsal** ~ 6pm.

**VBS 2026**



**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

**IMPORTANT VBS DATES**

- Child Protection Training, Sunday, May 17, 12-3pm, includes lunch.
- VBS Decorations Prep, Saturdays, June 6 & 13, starting at 9am.
- Final Set-Up: Sunday, June 14, starting at noon.
- VBS, Mon-Fri, June 15-19, 5:30 -8:30pm.
- VBS Sunday, June 21. One service at 10am. No Potluck. Happy Father's Day!

Please contact Holly Tozer if you would like to help at [gcumckids@gmail.com](mailto:gcumckids@gmail.com).



**OFFICE CLOSED**

**Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.**



For June, the deadline to submit items is Thursday, May 21. Articles may be submitted by email to [gcreceptionist1@gmail.com](mailto:gcreceptionist1@gmail.com).



**What CAN you do?**

**Greeters/Ushers**-sign-up at the back of the sanctuary for 8am and 9:30am services. Talk with Nancy Spaulding at 386.868.8604 for 11am service.

**Hospitality** -Help when you can- one week or one month. It's up to you! Make beverages first thing, set out goodies before and after both the 8am and 9:30 services, or clean up at the end of the morning, either after the 11am service starts, or after it ends. Sign-up in the back of the sanctuary or call the church office at 941.697.1747.

**Barn Boys**-Mowing and trimming-contact John Furtado at 941.830.0121.

**First Impressions**-Weeding and pruning – contact Ken Priest at 941.769.0581.

**STEPHEN MINISTERS** ~ If you or someone you know needs one-on-one, confidential, Christ-centered care due to grief, illness, caregiving stress, job loss, transitions, and more, contact Andy Frick, our Stephen Minister Leader at 520.309.0098 or [andrewfrick30@gmail.com](mailto:andrewfrick30@gmail.com).



**STEPHEN MINISTRY**



**Fellowship**



**Ladies Who Lunch** is a fellowship group open to all women of the church. They meet once a month to share a meal and fellowship. Meetings are usually on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, but in May, they will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday because of Mother's Day. Next meeting is Sunday, May 17, 12:30pm, Word of Mouth, 115 W Dearborn,

Englewood. Contact Nancy Spaulding to RSVP or if you have questions at 386.868.8604.

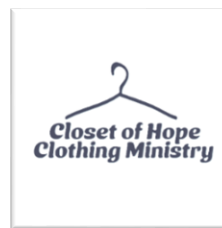


**Mahjongg with Friends** meets on Mondays at 9am for friendly games and fellowship. Any level player is welcome. Contact Linda Edwards at 253.350.7264 for more details..



**Englewood Helping Hand** needs the following: bar soap, toilet paper, shelf stable or powdered milk, condiments, instant mashed potatoes, ramen

noodles, rice, tuna, canned chicken, canned beans (kidney, black, refried, baked), canned pasta, canned chili, soups, peanut butter, cereal, or any shelf stable foods. Donations can be placed in the EHH bin in the Narthex entry. Please be sure items have not expired.



**The Closet of Hope** at Gulf Cove United Methodist Church offers free clothing for children and adults of all ages.

The Closet is open the first and third Saturdays of the month (except holidays), from 9:30am until 12pm. Donations can be brought to the Closet on Thursday mornings at 9:30am or when they are open on Saturdays. Anyone interested in helping with this outreach ministry should contact Sandy Palmer at 941.204.3322.

# Stewardship

is heart work



*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*  
Matthew 6:19-21



## COMMUNION OFFERING ENVELOPES

Each month a different fund is chosen by our church leadership to receive these special gifts. If you wish to give above and beyond your usual tithes for May, the Communion Offering is designated for Vacation Bible School.

**SECOND SUNDAY ~ SECOND MILE GIVING** is another opportunity to go above and beyond your normal giving to support the church. This collection always goes to our reserve fund, so that we may pay our bills when gifts and tithes will

MARCH		2026 YTD
Spendable Income Received	56,561.51	131,248.23
Expenses	42,801.84	132,970.13
Surplus/Deficit	13,759.67	(1,721.90)
Reserve Funds Used	0.00	0.00
Restricted Funds Recd	56,291.59	89,851.32
Restricted Funds Expenses	64,613.33	87,310.20
Surplus/Deficit	(8,321.74)	2,541.12

not cover our regular monthly expenses.



## FLOOR BY THE FOOT

We have met our original goal!!!! As of April 20, we have received \$40,587, and are expecting more pledges to roll in over the summer that should cover any unseen additional flooring costs. Thanks to all who participated. If you missed out and would like to participate, we still need money for other projects like painting and AC repair. Feel free to make a gift to the building fund, and the money will be used for repairing, upgrading or replacing things needed for our building.



## PIG PICKIN' FUNDRAISER REPORT

About 40 volunteers served 214 plates of BBQ to our friends and neighbors. Our profit after expenses and church tithes was \$3,425.42. Thanks, everyone. The Leadership Board has decided that all the profit will go into our General Outreach fund.



## SUMMER MISSION

The Youth have raised \$9,920.75 toward the intergenerational summer mission and camping trips. Addition donations are welcome. For more information about these trips contact Jackie Guerin at 941.661.6821.



Morgan Katsarelas	5/6
Beth Butts	5/6
Elaye Wong	5/8
Barbara Garafolo	5/10
Jim Marshall	5/10
Jim Brown	5/12
Zander Alvarez	5/15
Linda Tillinghast	5/16
Lori Perkins	5/16
Rebecca Eyer	5/20
Joan Priest	5/21
Debi Teune	5/21
Terry Hixson	5/21
Alice Horecki	5/22
Carol McGuire	5/24
Paige Kuhns	5/24
Beth Clarke	5/25
Grace Gray	5/28
Barb Carlson	5/28
Lily Crandall	5/29
Chris Andrews	5/30
Janet Rowe	5/31

Jerry & Judy Spurgeon	5/15
Jim & Lisa Brown	5/26

MAY SERMON SERIES	
May 3	<b><i>We Can Have Anything?</i></b> John 14:5-14
May 10	<b><i>This Sermon Is PG</i></b> John 14:15-31
May 17	<b><i>Where the Church Gets Its Power</i></b> John 17:6-19
May 24	<b><i>Don't Forget the Batteries</i></b> Acts 2:1-13
May 31	<b><i>No Time for a Knapsack Faith</i></b> Matthew 28:16-20



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