



# Newsletter

volume//6

October 2010

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

**God is doing great things at the Gator Wesley Foundation!** We are averaging over 160 *Rev. David Fuquay* students each Sunday in worship and had over 80 students sign-up for small groups this fall! We have doubled our participation in intramural sports, in Emerge (our freshmen ministry) and for our upcoming fall retreat. Maranatha Choir re-launched this fall under the direction of one of our student leaders, Travis Hornsby, and many of our students continue to serve each month in mission and outreach ministries.

While we have seen strong growth over the past four years, we have obviously received a huge boost in the opening of our new student center. Many of you were present for our Grand Opening on August 28, and I know there were countless others who offered their prayers. Our new student center has been such a blessing, from a beautiful and functional worship space, to the college room that gives students a place to hang out, study, eat lunch and have fun together. I say again - God is indeed doing great things at the Gator Wesley Foundation!

**For Gator Wesley to continue to grow and thrive, we will need your support.** Our building is the lasting legacy of the faithfulness and commitment of University United Methodist Church. The support for ministry and staff in our future will rest solely on your generous and continual contributions. I ask your prayerful consideration of how you might become a regular contributor to our ministry so that each new generation of students can share in the experience that meant so much to you during your college years. In this newsletter, you will see a complete explanation of our financial needs, as well as an introduction of Buck Allen who has joined our staff as Director of Development. If we are to move forward in this ministry, we will have to move forward together as alumni, friends, students and staff alike!

I hope you enjoy reading through our fall newsletter to get a taste of the people and programs that continue to make Gator Wesley a special place for students.

Grace and Peace,  
David Fuquay



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**Our Vision:** "A new generation of college students boldly committed to Jesus Christ and characterized by their passionate worship of God, holiness of heart and life, and courageous witness in the world through mission and evangelism."

[www.GatorWesley.com](http://www.GatorWesley.com) | PO Box 13434, Gainesville, FL 32604 | 352.372.8183

# OUR MINISTRIES

**Wesley Worship**//Sunday Morning Worship - Sunday mornings are our primary worship experience as a community. Each week, we celebrate worship in a mostly modern style, however we use worship elements that both honor the incredible traditions of the Church as well as seek to experience God in new and creative ways.

**Wesley Wednesdays**//Bible Study, Small Groups, Dinner, and Worship - Each week we gather for dinner, small groups, and late night worship. All are invited to come and be a part of the discussion as we wrestle with issues of faith and life. Most weeks, the curriculum is based on the topic that will be the focus in the coming Sunday's worship service. It is written in such a way that those who attended will start the conversation that is continued in worship through the music, liturgy, and sermon. The discussion ends every week with a set of questions that focus on the spiritual lives and practices of the members, offering the groups a way to be in a covenantal accountability relationship that is positive and supportive. Each group is led by a trained student leader, and groups stay together for the full semester so students have the opportunity to grow closer and find encouragement, prayer, and support for the stresses and challenges of college life.

**Emerge**//Freshman Fellowship Group - Studies show that the decisions made during a student's freshman year, and most specifically during their first two weeks on campus, shape their college experience. It is a time of heavy transition and change from being at home to learning to live with new levels of independence and responsibility at school. Emerge offers to freshman students a group for fellowship, community support, and open, honest discussion about the reality of being a freshman in college. We hope to expand this program in the future in both directions- creating connections with high school seniors before they arrive on campus and offering Emerge 'graduates' a chance to connect with the next group of new students.

**The Love Campaign**//Campus Outreach - Each spring semester, starting in January and running through Valentine's Day, we start a conversation on campus by asking the question, "What is love?" This simple question opens many doors on campus and provides us the opportunity to share with other students our understanding of God's love for us. We return to campus for the campaign in February to offer a listening ear to our fellow students and to invite them to join us in a discussion about the deeper nature of love. Check out <http://www.GatorLoveCampaign.com> for more details.

**Mission and Service**//Local and Abroad - Each month we offer students opportunities to get involved in local service projects like serving meals at the Saint Francis House or working a Habitat-for-Humanity project on a Saturday morning. We have also created a strong connection with the LArche Community in Jacksonville, FL. This is a community where mentally and physically challenged adults live in intentional Christian community with caregivers. We send students there over the weekend a few times each semester to serve them, do work around their campus, and, most importantly, learn from them about unconditional love and community. We also want the impact of our service to be felt across the world. We send work teams nationally and internationally during break weeks throughout the year. Last Spring Break we worked with Henderson Settlement in Frakes, KY, and early this summer we worked with the United Methodist missional community Branches in Florida City, FL. We also seek to raise awareness of global justice issues through Invisible Children, Pray With Africa, Nothing but Nets, World Vision, and a missional focus in worship highlighting global concerns for prayer.

**Fellowship**//Community Building - We give students a place to belong and a group of friends who are like a family to each other. We have tons of activities each semester that offer students the chance to get to know other students and build solid friendships. Whether it's tailgating before Gator football games, watching movies, participating in intramural sports, or hanging out at the Gator Wesley Center, we are always doing something that is fun and builds community.

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# ALUMNI UPDATES!

- **Jennifer Alexander** is serving as a missionary at the Internation House of Prayer (IHoP) in Kansas City, MO.
- **Justin Ward** is serving as a supervising felony attorney at the Public Defender's Office in Tallahassee, FL.
- **Chris and Heather Sell** have purchased a home in Audubon Park, FL.
- **Jay and Martha (Pennock) Schaub** celebrated their marriage in Tallahassee, FL this summer.

*If you have news you would like to share please email Pam at [pam@gatorwesley.com](mailto:pam@gatorwesley.com) and we will include it in a future edition of the newsletter!*



**Jorge Araujo**//Junior//Miami, FL



**Rebecca Barry**//Junior//Winter Haven, FL



**Sam Buckley**//Senior//Jupiter, FL



**Jessi Cunio**//Sophomore//Jacksonville, FL



**Travis Hornsby**//Junior//Pensacola, FL



**Rachel Lutz**//Sophomore//Miami, FL



**Alex Miller**//Senior//Panama City, FL



**Christina Sheperd**//Senior//Shalimar, FL



**Claes Westring**//Senior//Miami, FL



**Casey Zych**//Junior//Tallahassee, FL



# 2010-11 UPPER ROOM STAFF

student leadership development//

# WESLEY LEADERSHIP TEAM

In addition to the program staff, leadership and programming support are provided by the Wesley Leadership Team. This group gives students an opportunity to help lead at Wesley without having to be a member of the residential Upper Room Staff community. They are broken into different areas of focus and will help to bring the vision for ministry in their area into reality. Incoming freshmen are given the opportunity to join the group in the late fall. The 2010 Leadership Team participants are:

## Co-Chairs

Jeff Caldwell- Senior, Tampa, FL; Lake Magdalene UMC  
Christina Sheperd- Senior, Shalimar, FL; Shalimar UMC

## Discipleship

Vanessa Alvarez- Senior, Hialeah, FL; Jehova Proveera  
Becca Barry- Junior, Winter Haven, FL; St. John's UMC  
Rachael Pendleton- Sophomore, Tarpon Springs, FL  
Kellia Moore- Senior, Tampa, FL; St. James UMC

## Worship

Josh Bauer- Sophomore, Jacksonville, FL; Faith Community  
Serena Cook- Sophomore, Panama City, FL; St. Andrew UMC  
Rachel Lutz- Sophomore, Palmetto Bay, FL; Kendall UMC  
Nick Medley- Grad School, Bonifay, FL; First UMC

## Community and Fellowship

Travis Heatwole- Senior, Pensacola, FL; St. Mark UMC  
Chelsea McCarthy- Senior, Tampa, FL; Van Dyke UMC  
Samantha Parrish- Sophomore, Fort Pierce, FL; First UMC  
Casey Zych- Junior, Tallahassee, FL; Killlearn UMC

## New Student Outreach and Evengelism

Jorge Araujo- Junior, Miami, FL; Good Shepherd  
Catholic Church

Hansol Bae- Senior, Pensacola, FL; Korean Glory Church  
Travis Hornsby- Junior, Pensacola, FL; First Baptist  
Jessi Cunio- Junior, Jacksonville, FL; Christ Church  
Matt Parrish- Junior, Fort Pierce, FL; First UMC  
Laurie Tweed- Junior, Merritt Island, FL; Grace UMC  
Claes Westring- Senior, Miami, FL; Kendall UMC  
Alex White- Senior, Fort Lauderdale, FL; First UMC

## Missions and Service

Sam Buckley- Senior, Jupiter, FL; Oceanview UMC  
Sarah Haskins- Junior, Lakeland, FL; Lakeside Baptist  
Alex Miller- Senior, Panama City, FL; Forest Park UMC



## INTRODUCING BUCK ALLEN

Buck Allen joins the Gator Wesley Foundation Staff in 2010 as the Director of Development. Buck graduated from Lake Highland Prep and the University of Florida. His previous work in non-profit development includes Development Manager for Major Gifts at Give Kids The World Village and for the UCF Foundation in Orlando as Assistant to The National Capital Campaign Chairman. Additional professional work for non-profit organizations includes The Statue Of Liberty Ellis Island Foundation's Liberty Weekend & Op Sail NYC, and The Crawford Museum of Transportation & Industry - Cleveland. His volunteer non-profit engagement includes Board Of Directors membership for The Bob Allen Family Foundation as Vice President, The Orlando Ballet (past), and GlobalChange Inc. Buck is married to Amy Allen and has three children Layla -22, Shelby -13 and Harrison 11. The family attends church at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Orlando, FL. Buck is a member of the DGA - the Directors Guild of America and the WGA - the Writers Guild of America.

## WESLEY BOARD

Rev. David Fuquay

Mr. Jim Alexander

Mr. Jeff Caldwell

Ms. Jean Chance

Mr. Roland Daniels

Mr. Chris Fortner

Dr. Harold Henderson

Dr. Troy Holloway

Rev. Allen Johnson

Dr. Dan Johnson

Rev. Geraldine McClellan

Dr. Rebecca Pauly

Rev. Annette Pendergrass

Mr. James Perkins

Dr. Richard Scheaffer

Ms. Christina Sheperd

Mr. Emory Springfield

# **SUPPORT THE GATOR WESLEY FOUNDATION**

As you can see throughout this newsletter, what a truly exciting time it is for the Gator Wesley Foundation. As we move beyond the grand opening of our new student center to the day-to-day ministry to students, we face significant financial challenges.

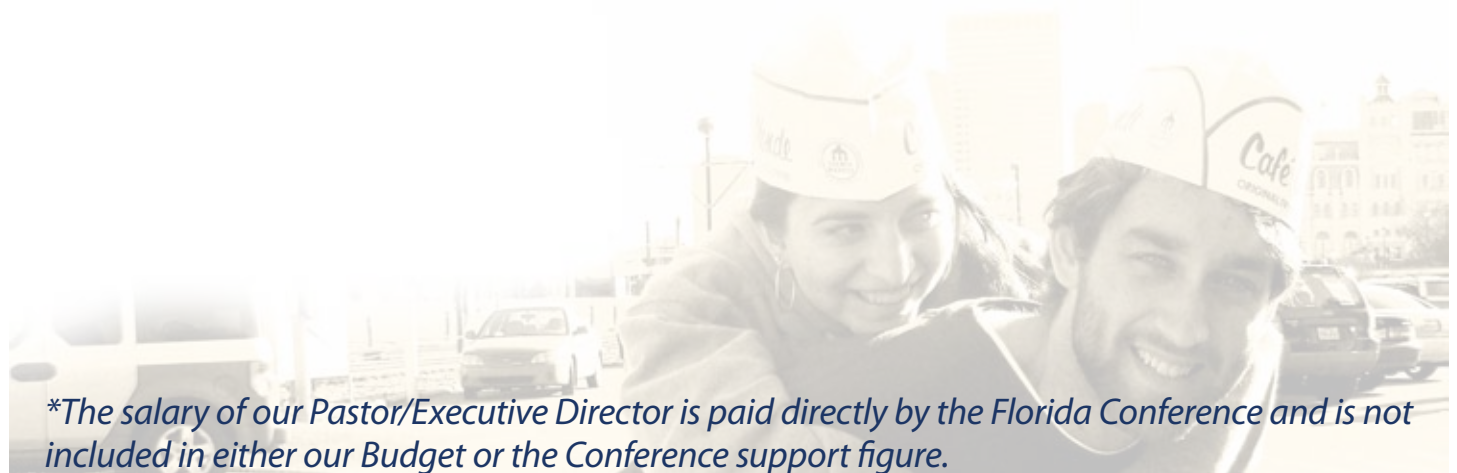
Our 2010 Budget is \$224,000. The Florida Annual Conference strongly supports campus ministry at all of our universities, but is only able to contribute \$73,000 toward our total budget.\*

This year we have established a modest alumni and friends Annual Fund goal of \$40,000. Through August, we have received donations of \$19,000 leaving us \$21,000 short of this year's goal. Monthly expenses are exceeding our current income by about \$5,000 per month, forcing us to begin drawing on our reserves. We need your ongoing support to help us continue our growth in this wonderful new facility!



Enclosed you will find a donation envelope for your convenience. Donations can also be made on-line at <http://www.gatorwesley.com/Donate/>. For more information about how to make Annual Gifts, Major Gifts, or Planned Giving including wills, estate gifts, and trusts, please contact our Director of Development, Buck Allen: **Phone:** 407-922-3822 | **Email:** buck@gatorwesley.com.

Your financial support of Gator Wesley is greatly appreciated and essential for our continued vitality! Thank you in advance for all that you can do!



*\*The salary of our Pastor/Executive Director is paid directly by the Florida Conference and is not included in either our Budget or the Conference support figure.*



## FEATURING CHEF JJ LAYTON, GATOR WESLEY ALUMNUS

**Saturday, November 13th (UF-South Carolina game day)  
at the new Gator Wesley Center**

Enjoy fellowship with Gator Wesley Friends Family & Alumni,  
and help support the mission and ministry of the Gator Wesley Foundation.

*Event time TBA pending announcement of game time.*

*Watch for our Facebook Event Page as well as links on our Web Page for invitations and to RSVP.*