

## Celebrating the Retirement of Kate Freeman, AFS Chief Professional Officer

After eight years of remarkable leadership and more than a decade of dedication to the foregut community, Kate Freeman will retire from her role as Executive Director of the American Foregut Society on December 19.



Kate has been part of AFS from the very beginning as a founding member, helping to establish the Society and guiding it through eight years of meaningful growth. Her leadership, steady presence, and dedication to advancing collaboration in the foregut

community have been central to AFS's success. She has supported the expansion of the Annual Meeting, strengthened member engagement, and worked closely with volunteers and committees to move the organization forward.

Kate, along with her husband Dr. Bell, look forward to more time with their granddaughters — and to new adventures on mountain bikes and in their sprinter van. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the full membership, we extend our sincere gratitude for their contributions and wish Kate a truly rewarding retirement.

Please join us in celebrating Kate's lasting impact on the Society.



## Save the Date for AFS 2026



***One of our favorite moments of 2025?***

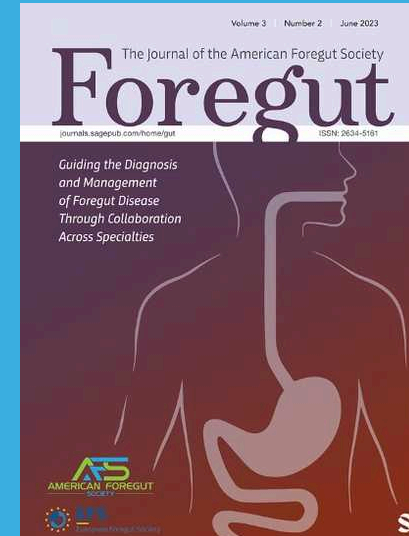
"Bringing the foregut community together in Dallas. As we look ahead to 2026, we're excited to keep that energy going."

## Foregut Journal Spotlights

**Save the date for 2026:** September 24-26, 2026 at the Gaylord National, Maryland. Want to get a glimpse of what you'll experience? Click through AFS 2025 photos [HERE](#).

*Check out some fan-favorite reads from 2025!*

- **"GLP-1 Receptor Agonist Use Is Associated with Small Intestinal Bacterial Overgrowth and Intestinal Methanogen Overgrowth"** by John A. Damianos, Thomas W. Fredrick, and Xiao Jing Wang.
- **"Impressions of Esophageal Clearance Under Two Conditions During the Modified Barium Swallow Study: A Pilot Study"** by Erin L. Reedy, Ashli K. O'Rourke, and Heather Shaw Bonilha.
- **"From Endoscopic Recognition to Public Health Reform: Chevalier Jackson and Peptic and Caustic Esophageal Injury"** by Sven E. Eriksson, Brian M. Johnson, and Shahin Ayazi.
- **"American Foregut Society White Paper Report on the Use of Potassium-Competitive Acid Blockers in the Treatment of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease"** with Stuart Spechler, Jennifer M. Kolb, and Peter J. Kahrilas.



## November Webinar Recording Available!

**Did you miss the November 17 webinar, Defining Bariatric Anatomy for the Foregut Specialist?**

You can now listen online as a panel of experts review real case studies, providing insight and guidance on how to navigate bariatric complications which may implicate foregut disease.

[LISTEN TO WEBINAR HERE](#)

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