



# The BRIDGE

VOLUME L  
NUMBER 4

GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JANUARY 27, 2008



In just a few weeks Sharon and I, along with 50 other pilgrims from several United Methodist churches, will be journeying to Israel and Egypt. Rev. Sondra Jones, Pastor of Briarcliff United Methodist Church, and I will share the responsibility of leading worship throughout our journey. While you are experiencing Ash Wednesday here at GFUMC, we will be leading Ash Wednesday worship in the Garden of Gethsemane. We will be thinking of you and hope you will be thinking of us.

On February 8 and 9, we will be offering another 24-hour Prayer Vigil in the Sanctuary at GFUMC. It was so meaningful last year that all agreed to share in this experience of prayer again this year. I hope you will find a 30-minute period of time where you will come and pray. There will be prayer stations to guide you. Since Sharon and I cannot be with you in person, we would like to offer you a special opportunity. We would like to take your prayer requests with us to the Holy Land and present them at the Western Wall of Jerusalem. The Wailing or Western Wall is the last remaining bit of the original temple Jesus knew. For hundreds of years, people have prayed there, sometimes writing their prayers on paper then wedging them between the bricks of the ancient wall.

This Sunday, January 27, inserted in each of our Sunday worship bulletins will be a simple piece of paper for you to write your prayer requests. You will be given an opportunity near the end of each worship service to present them for prayer. We will then gather these confidential requests and take them with us to the land of Jesus. On Thursday, February 7, we will present them at this holy site for prayer. It is a moving experience to be in a place where people have brought their prayers for centuries.

It was Jesus who said, "...ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks it shall be opened." (Luke 11: 9-10) And when He said these words, the stones of the Western Wall were in place just as they are today.

Thank you for your prayers as we travel. Our thoughts and prayers will certainly be with you.

With Love and Care,

## Worship Services

### *"Gone Fishing"*

**Matthew 4:12-23**

8:30 a.m. & 10:55 a.m.

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Dr. Terry Walton

### *"Fishing for Gifts"*

**Matthew 4:12-23**

10:55 a.m. in the Reception Hall

Living Waters Contemporary Worship

Rev. Wendy Cordova

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### ATTENDANCE 1/20/08

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary:

10:55 a.m. Living Waters:

10:55 a.m. Sanctuary:

#### Worship Totals:

Sunday School:

### FLOWERS

Flowers are a beautiful expression of love and a gift from God. If you would like to have an arrangement of flowers placed in the Sanctuary or Narthex in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend, please contact **Shirley Corders** in the Church Office at 770-536-2341, Ext. 138, or simply fill out the form on the GFUMC website and forward your check in the amount of \$75 to the Church Office, specifying on your check it is for a flower reservation. In order to secure your special date, please make your reservation as soon as possible. Thank you.

### IN THE HOSPITAL

Northside - **Anna Gines**

NGMC - **Haley Bennett**

### NOW AT HOME

**Ray Burch**

**Art Schmelling** - Willow Brook

### CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

...to the family and friends  
of **Frank Green**.

...to the family and friends  
of **Jim Morrison**.

### ALDERSGATE OFFERING

The special offering received on for Aldersgate Homes totaled **\$7,242**. Thank you for your generous donations!



Notes of appreciation were received in the Church Office on behalf of the GFUMC church family. Below are a few excerpts from each of these notes. Thank you for your generosity to both Gainesville Action Ministries and Murphy-Harpst Children's Center.

*Thank you so much for your generous contribution to the Action Ministries Transitional Housing program. These funds will complete the match to fully fund one of our two Transitional Housing sites located in Gainesville.*

-Sara Evans, Director of Community Relations, Action Ministries

*Your gift allowed us to make a tremendous difference in many young lives. Just recently, for instance, we have had an eight-year-old boy admitted to our program. This child is one of the most severely abused children we have ever seen. It is truly a miracle that he has survived the abuse he has endured his eight years. Your gift will help us care for Sam so that we can help him become a happy and healthy child with the promise of a bright future.*

-Emily Saltino, Vice President of Development, Murphy-Harpst

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

### PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2008 - 2009

Registrations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. You may call the Preschool at 770.534.0409 for additional information.



**Tuesday, February 5 - Friday, February 8**  
**Open to Families Currently Enrolled at GFUMC Preschool.**

**Monday, February 11 - Friday, February 15**  
**Open to Current GFUMC Church Members.**

**Tuesday, February 19 - Friday, February 22**  
**Open to the Community.**

### 3rd Annual Winterfest

*Silent Auction to benefit the GFUMC Preschool*  
**Friday, February 8**  
**8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Artwork and performances by the Preschool,  
Silent Auction, and Lunch  
*Lemon Rosemary Chicken, Garlic Mashed Potatoes,  
Glazed Carrots, Salad, Rolls, and Dessert.*  
Lunch will be catered by Cane Creek Catering.  
Cost is \$10. Reservations are required.



Preview night **Wednesday, February 6**. Items WILL be available for bidding at preview and include a generator, professional photography packages, semi-precious gems, clothing for adults and children, jewelry, gift certificates to local restaurants, tickets to Fernbank and Stone Mountain, savings bonds, trips to Hilton Head and Sky Valley, original artwork, and hand-painted children's furniture.

## MISSIONS FOCUS



ARE YOU IN  
COLLEGE  
OR AGE 19-24?

A mission trip to the **Caribbean Christian School for the Deaf** in Montego Bay, Jamaica is being planned for **August 2 - 9**. For more information, contact **David Burchett** at 770.536.2341 ext. 115 or **Zach Propes** at 770.519.8262.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

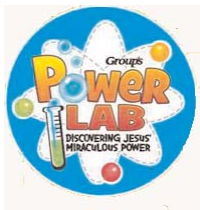
**CSI:**

CHRISTIAN SCENE  
INVESTIGATION



**4TH AND 5TH GRADE RETREAT**  
**FEBRUARY 8 - 10**  
**Camp Glisson, Cost: \$100**

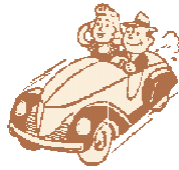
Last chance to register! Registration forms are in the Gathering Room and the Church Office. Deadline is **Sunday, January 27, 2008**.



**2008 Youth  
VBS Internship  
Positions**

We are now taking applications! As a youth intern, you will work alongside our VBS directors overseeing the VBS program from preparation through VBS week, June 16-20, 2008. You will recruit volunteers from the youth and act as a liaison between them and the VBS directors. ***What a great leadership position to list on college applications!*** You must be at least a rising junior in high school. If you are interested, please call **Meredith Pierce** at 770.532.8479.

## OLDER ADULTS



**GADABOUTS**

**Wednesday, January 30**  
11 a.m. in the Reception Hall  
Come, enjoy a time of fellowship and laughter with a delicious lunch!

**UPCOMING TRIPS**

Lunch at the  
**Oar House in Dahlonge**  
**Monday, February 4**  
Transportation will be provided from the church.  
Bring money for lunch!

**The Gaither Vocal Band  
Homecoming Concert**  
**Saturday, April 26**

The Arena at Gwinnett Center  
\$50 per person. The cost includes motorcoach transportation.

**Day Trip to Callaway Gardens**  
**Monday, May 12**

\$35 per person includes a buffet lunch and all tours. Transportation provided from the church.

**Caribbean Cruise**  
**December 6-13**

Come and sail the high seas with your friends from GFUMC.  
As low as \$859 per person.

If you are 50 and older, GFUMC would love for you to be a part of our Older Adult Ministry. To register or for more information about any of these trips, please contact **Beth Swenson** at 770-536-2341, ext. 139 or [bswenson@gfumc.com](mailto:bswenson@gfumc.com).

## STUDENT MINISTRY

**THE  
HARBOR**

Join us for more Questions & Answers along with another game show. If you've ever had questions about your faith or Christianity, you need to come to The Harbor! This week we'll be looking at the issue of prayer and as always, we'll have a great time of worship.

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

**Spring Break Mission Trip**  
**(Ringold, Georgia)**  
April 6 - 10

**GAP: Gainesville Aid Project**  
June 4 - 8 & June 18 - 22

**BigStuf Summer Camp**  
July 6 - 10

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

There will be no activities for students on **February 6**. Please join us for the Ash Wednesday service that evening.

**FAMILY SUPPER**

**Wednesday,  
January 30**

5 - 6:30 p.m. in the  
GREAT Room



**Baked Lasagna, Garlic Bread,  
Antipasto Salad, Garden Green  
Salad Bar, Waldorf Salad,  
Asparagus Salad, and Fresh  
Baked Cookies.**

**Kid's Meal: Pizza**

Cost: \$5/adult, \$3/child, \$15 family maximum. Call **Stan Bearden** at 770.536.2341 ext. 114, by 12 noon on Monday of each week to make your reservation for supper.

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE GFUMC FRONT OFFICE STAFF



GFUMC is very fortunate to have exceptional individuals with amazing hearts for serving that make up the front office staff.

**Nancy Mote-Ledford** is our newest Administrative Assistant for Student Ministry and Christian Education. Nancy's extended experience in the corporate world and organizational skills coupled with her quiet, sweet personality makes her a wonderful addition to this team.

**Lynda Petty** is the professional, welcoming voice you hear when you call the Church Office. Lynda also assists the Music ministry, directs all incoming visitors, and always offers assistance with a warm smile. Lynda came to us last summer from South Carolina, bringing her expertise of 20 years working in the church environment.

**Pam Spivey** joined the staff in December 2006 and serves as Administrative Assistant for the Children, Nursery, and Recreation ministries. Pam's creativity and attention to detail makes her invaluable to this team. Pam is a resident of Gainesville and a graduate of Brenau University.

As Office Manager, I am excited to work with these amazing women with unique gifts and talents. They are a wonderful blessing for GFUMC and all serve with such willing, sweet spirits. Please do not hesitate to contact them if they can be of assistance in their respective areas.

-Shirley Corders, Office Manager

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### FROM THE OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM

Did you answer the questions from last week correctly? Find out...

The continent of Africa has over 360 million Christians, and experiences over 500 new church plantings a week, and over 250,000 new Christians a week. This is also where the average church pastor has less than six-months of formal theological training.



WATS delegation meets with the president of Nigeria.

The country of Nigeria is the seventh most populous in the world and is where over 50% of the population are Christians.

In 1989 a new seminary called West Africa Theological Seminary (WATS) was founded with the goal of training Christian pastors, teachers, missionaries, and church leaders. In 2001, the main campus moved to the city of Lagos, which has a population of 24.5 million people and is the commercial capital of Nigeria. The seminary has over 300 students and 21 full-time faculty members. They have graduated over 870 students.

Gainesville First United Methodist church has entered into a "Gateway Partnership" with WATS and is providing two \$1,200 per year scholarships to two seminary students. The phases of this partnership are expected to grow to include Phase 1 - Introduction-Starting initial correspondence and prayer support, Phase 2 - Physical Contacts- team of GFUMC to WATS to interact with the seminary students, and Phase 3-Mature Partnership- Establishing a "sister congregation" relationship.

*As we learn more about this partnership we will keep you posted. For more information visit [www.watsonline.org](http://www.watsonline.org).*

## HEALTH & WELLNESS MINISTRY

### HEARTSAVER CPR CLASS Saturday, February 9 9 a.m. - 12 noon in the Adult Lobby



The Health and Wellness Ministry is offering CPR Training. CPR is a life-saving course which is invaluable in case of an emergency in the home, workplace, or anywhere you go. Cost for the course is \$15 and includes materials. Register online at [www.gfumc.com](http://www.gfumc.com) or by calling **Beth Swenson** at 770.536.2341, ext. 139.

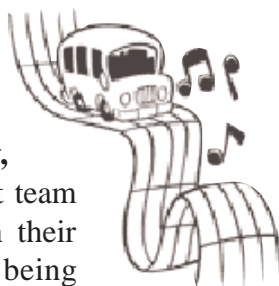
### HEART HEALTHY COOKING

Sunday, February 10  
5 - 7 p.m. in the Reception Hall  
Facilitated by Karen Rabb, RDLD

Have you resolved to eat a healthier diet this year? This cooking class will offer tasty treats, provide new recipes, and teach you how to convert your favorite recipes into heart-healthier versions. Cost is \$10. Register online at [www.gfumc.com](http://www.gfumc.com) or by calling **Beth Swenson** at 770.536.2341, ext. 139.

## MUSIC & MISSION 2008

This is the first official announcement of the Youth Choir's 2008 Music and Mission Tour set for **Monday, June 2 - Tuesday, June 11**. The choir and adult team will go south and west, with their ultimate destination being **Beaumont, Texas**.



The needs there are great. This part of the country was hit hard by Hurricane Rita in 2006, and is still in need of clean-up work. We anticipate working in a community center in this area.

Youth Choir members and others may sign up to go over the next two weeks. There is a limit of 40 plus adults.

You can help by keeping this project in your prayer life. If you can help with expenses, please mark checks "Music and Mission Tour." Also, save items to donate to a big rummage sale near the end of April. More details to come!

## Calendar

JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 3, 2008

### SUNDAY - January 27

8:30 Traditional Worship  
9:45 Library open til 11 a.m.  
9:45 Sunday School  
10:55 Kid's Church  
10:55 Living Waters Contemporary Worship  
10:55 Traditional Worship  
12:00 Youth return from Confirmation Retreat  
2:00 Girl Scout Troop #806  
4:00 Youth Choir  
4:30 Worship Committee Meeting  
5:00 Crown Financial Study  
5:00 Disciple I  
5:00 GriefShare  
5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship)  
6:00 *Transitions* Bible Study for Singles  
7:00 Church Council Meeting  
7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

### MONDAY - January 28

8:00 Teaching Parish  
9:00 Aerobics  
9:00 Methodist Men Cooking  
10:00 Active Older Adult Aerobics  
10:00 UMW Board Meeting  
12:00 Emmaus Reunion Group  
4:00 Bible Club & Tutoring  
5:30 Youth Basketball Practice (until 7:30)  
6:30 Disciple II  
7:00 Emmaus  
7:00 Men's Emmaus Reunion Group  
7:30 Adult Bells  
7:30 Adult Basketball

### TUESDAY - January 29

7:00 Men's Bible Study: Job  
8:30 Christ Centered Yoga  
9:00 Intercessory Prayer Group  
9:30 Believers Band Practice  
10:00 *Intimate Issues* Bible Study  
10:00 *Living A Purpose-Full Life* Bible Study  
10:00 *Stepping Up* Bible Study  
6:00 NHHS Italian Dinner Theatre  
6:00 Believers Band Practice  
7:00 Pack 16 Pack Meeting  
8:00 MLC Band Practice

### WEDNESDAY - January 30

9:00 Aerobics  
11:00 Gadabouts  
11:30 Preschool Administrative Board Meeting  
3:00 Bridge  
4:00 Mime Practice  
5:00 Family Supper  
6:00 Children's Choirs  
6:00 Children's Council & Friends  
6:00 Disciple IV  
6:00 Islam, Christianity, & Judaism  
6:00 Pastor's Bible Study: *Job*  
6:00 Refresh/Recharge: *James*  
6:00 Youth Bells  
6:15 Youth Bible Studies  
6:30 Living Waters Praise Team  
6:30 Men's Bible Study: *John*  
6:45 Children's Bible Studies  
7:00 Chancel Choir

### THURSDAY - January 31

9:30 Disciple IV (at Lanier Village Estates)  
10:00 Prayer Quilts  
6:00 Endowment Trust Committee Meeting  
6:00 Outreach Ministry Team Meeting  
6:30 Hall County Firefighter Reception  
7:00 Ballroom Dance

### FRIDAY - February 1

9:00 Aerobics  
9:15 Preschool PTA  
10:00 Active Older Adult Aerobics  
3:30 Progressive Arts Club  
5:30 Scouts Duty to God Banquet

### SATURDAY - February 2

9:00 Believers Band Practice

### SUNDAY - February 3

8:30 Traditional Worship  
9:45 Library open til 11 a.m.  
9:45 Sunday School  
10:55 Kid's Church  
10:55 Traditional Worship  
4:00 Youth Choir  
5:00 Crown Financial Study  
5:00 Disciple I  
5:00 GriefShare  
5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship)  
6:00 *Transitions* Bible Study for Singles  
7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)



## GriefShare

Begins this **Sunday, January 27**  
**5 p.m. in Room S-22**

You do not have to go through the grieving process alone. **GriefShare**, a friendly caring group of people, will walk alongside of you through one of life's most difficult experiences. To register, contact **Beth Swenson** at 770.536.2341, ext. 139 or email Beth at [bswenson@gfumc.com](mailto:bswenson@gfumc.com).

# Contact Us

If you have an emergency after office hours, on the weekend, or over a holiday, and need to speak with a pastor, please call the Church Office at 770.536.2341. The voice mail recording gives you the option to select an emergency contact. Press "5" and follow the instructions. Thank you.

## Pastoral Staff at Gainesville First United Methodist Church:

Name	Title	Ext.	Email
Rev. David Burchett	Director of Student Ministry	115	dburchett@gfumc.com
Rev. Wendy Cordova	Pastor of Evangelism & Discipleship	135	wcordova@gfumc.com
Rev. Debby Fox	Pastor of Christian Education	149	dfox@gfumc.com
Rev. Tom Jones	Pastor of Congregational Care & Older Adults	119	tjones@gfumc.com
Dr. Terry Walton	Senior Pastor	109	twalton@gfumc.com
Dr. Steve Winter	Executive Pastor	141	swinter@gfumc.com

2780 Thompson Bridge Road, NE • Gainesville, Georgia 30506  
**Church Office Phone: 770.536.2341 • Fax: 770.534.7914**  
 Website: www.gfumc.com • Preschool Phone: 770.534.0409

## CARE AND COUNSELING CENTER of Gainesville



You are not alone. Counseling can help and heal. Call **770.533.5702** for an appointment or for more information.

## DEVOTION & PRAYER LINE

Call **678-343-2733** to hear a brief devotional and prayer from one of the pastors of GFUMC. Prayer requests are forwarded to the pastoral staff.



## PRAYER PAGER MINISTRY

**Tonya Gore**  
 Angela Burrell's niece  
 770.201.0867

**Don Little**  
 770.390.4021

**Katie Tulin**  
 1.800.200.6848

**Sherry Weeks**  
 770.390.4105

**Let them know you are thinking of them. It's easy!**  
 Pray! Dial the phone number for the person you prayed for. (You will hear 3 beeps.) Dial 111# & hang up.



**UMW BOARD MEETING**  
**Monday, January 28**  
**10 a.m. in Room S-06**

## BALLROOM DANCE

Come, learn the **East Coast Swing** in February! Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the Youth Hall.



2780 Thompson Bridge Rd.  
 Gainesville, GA 30506

First United Methodist Church  
 Published Weekly  
 Publication No. 934980  
 Periodical Postage paid at  
 Gainesville, Georgia

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