



# The BRIDGE

VOLUME LI  
NUMBER 6

GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 8, 2009

During these past 5 years as your pastor, I have often heard conversation about Gainesville First United Methodist Church and “Hispanic Ministry.” Usually the conversation would lead to the question, “Couldn’t we at GFUMC be doing more in Hispanic Ministry?” Well, I have good news. Our Outreach Committee has done significant research in this area and has made a recommendation at our January Church Council meeting that we build upon a ministry already in place. It was warmly and enthusiastically received by the Church Council.



For three years, several people of GFUMC have been involved in a ministry with children and their families at the Baker & Glover neighborhood. It is a very large mobile home community made up of a largely Hispanic population. After our first Great Day of Service three years ago, Debbie Morris, Director of Children’s Ministry, continued to be involved with the children of Baker & Glover. That year volunteers took Vacation Bible School to the children of Baker & Glover and our outreach in the name of Christ and His church began to blossom.

Presently, every Monday, we bus Baker & Glover children to our facility for fun, refreshment, a time of devotion, and tutoring. Every Tuesday, a group of adult volunteers visit Baker & Glover neighborhood for relationship building and “Bible Club.” Many thanks go to Meredith Pierce for her leadership and passion toward this ministry and also to a whole host of volunteers who have caught this vision for Hispanic children and their families.

Through our research we have discovered that at the very core of ministry with people is relationship. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Outreach Committee and the Church Council that we accelerate our relationship building with the families of Baker & Glover neighborhood. None of us know where God may take us in this journey. Will it lead to us helping a Hispanic Congregation worship someday? Will it lead to other unknown avenues of helping our Latino brothers and sisters grow in their faith and in their living? Will it lead to the need for GFUMC to include a Hispanic pastor on staff? No one knows. But the church leadership is faithfully committed to being open to God's call to all of our neighbors.

If you would like to volunteer your time for this ministry, please contact **Meredith Pierce** at teachpierce@bellsouth.net, **Abb Hayes** at ash@homlaw.com, or **Tom Jones** at tjones@gfumc.com. You will be blessed as you offer yourself for God's precious people.

With Love and Care,

## Worship Services

“Don’t You Know?”

Isaiah 40:21-31

What Does “Spiritual Journey”  
Look Like? Sermon Series

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

Traditional Services

*Dr. Terry Walton*

*Loving and Serving God as  
We Love and Serve All People*

“Three Levels of Compassion”

Mark 1:29-39

10:55 a.m. Living Waters  
Praise & Worship Service

*Dr. Steve Winter*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### ATTENDANCE 2/01/2009

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary . . . . . 465  
10:55 a.m. Living Waters . . . . . 158  
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary . . . . . 581  
**Worship Totals . . . . . 1,204**  
Sunday School . . . . . 526

### FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are to the glory of God and in honor of **Toby Bowdich** on her 75th birthday, given by her children, grandchildren, and great-granddaughter.

## LOVING AND SERVING GOD AS WE LOVE AND SERVE ALL PEOPLE



**A COLD HOUSE IS MADE WARM.  
PLAYGROUNDS ARE BUILT.  
CLOTHES ARE MENDED.  
SHOES ARE GIVEN.  
ROOMS ARE TRANSFORMED.  
COOKIES ARE DELIVERED.  
FLOWERS ARE PLANTED.**

**SPIRITS ARE LIFTED. LIVES ARE TOUCHED.  
PEOPLE ARE CHANGED!**

On **Saturday, March 21, 2009**, we take the mission of Christ beyond the walls of our church and serve where we are called.

### 2009 PRAYER VIGIL

February 13 - 14

6 a.m. - 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary



You are invited to a special time of prayer in our church sanctuary beginning on Friday, February 13, at 6 a.m. and continuing until 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 14. The prayer ministry team has created and prepared several prayer stations throughout the sanctuary that will guide you in prayer focusing on those in need, the ministries of our church, and on your own needs. All are invited to come and pray anytime; there is no need to sign up, just come. If you have any questions, please contact **Rev. Wendy Cordova** at the Church Office.



### LISTEN ONLINE!

Didn't get to hear the message on Sunday morning? Or, would you like to listen to the message again?

GFUMC is now uploading the sermons preached in the Sanctuary to our website for your listening pleasure. Go to [www.gfumc.com](http://www.gfumc.com),

and click on the link from our homepage. You can also click on **Resources**, then **Links and Resources** to find the sermons online as they are archived.

Thanks to **Ed Rigel** for all of his help with this new ministry.



### CAREER CONNECTION INITIATIVE

Mondays, beginning February 9

8 - 9:30 a.m., Adult Lobby

1st Topic: Frugal Finance

GFUMC is offering meaningful assistance to people whose jobs have been negatively impacted by the economic downturn. This new ministry will aim to provide not only nurture, support, and networking but also focused job search training.

This ministry is available to anyone in our church family or for others with whom congregation members are aware. If you are interested in attending, please feel free to join us each Monday morning. Come dressed as if you are going to work.

The first meeting will deal with how to survive financially while you are looking for a new job, hence **Frugal Finance**. The first meeting will also feature coupon sharing, possible job leads or sources, and connections for additional job or training information.

For more information, or if you would like to volunteer to assist in this ministry, contact **Anne Dittman** at 770.531.1633 or [annedittman@aol.com](mailto:annedittman@aol.com), **Carl Liggett** at [cliggett1@aol.com](mailto:cliggett1@aol.com), or **Debby Fox** at [dfox@gfumc.com](mailto:dfox@gfumc.com).

## OLDER ADULTS

### GADABOUTS

Wednesday,  
February 11, 2009

11 a.m. in the  
Reception Hall



**Pam Ware** and the GHS choral students will perform. Lunch will be served at 11 a.m. and performance will follow.



### GFUMC TRAVELERS September 21 - 27

Join us for a 7-day trip to Branson, Missouri. We will see many great shows, take a fabulous dinner cruise on the "Branson Belle" showboat, and stop on the way home in St. Louis where we'll go up the majestic Gateway Arch. Deluxe roundtrip motorcoach transportation will be provided. The cost is \$895 per person and a deposit of \$100 per person is due by March 15. Please contact **Jane Lower** at 770.535.8418 for additional information and to reserve your place.

## RECREATION



### 8TH ANNUAL MAC MADNESS February 23 - March 14

Volunteers are needed for tickets, concessions, score tables, books, and announcing. Sign-up sheets will be in the Gathering Room for the next few Sundays or contact **Vicki Bailey** at 770.536.2341 or [vbaily@gfumc.com](mailto:vbaily@gfumc.com) for more information.

## STUDENT MINISTRY

### UPCOMING EVENT REGISTRATION...

There's still time to sign up for the **Spring Break Mission Trips** for both middle school and high school. But hurry up because time is running out. Middle school will be traveling to Brunswick, Georgia, and the high school will be heading to New Orleans, Louisiana. Forms are inside and outside of the Youth Hall and in the Church Office.



Registration will open for **GAP** and **BigStuf** on **Sunday, February 8**. Forms will be available in the Youth Hall and the Church Office. GAP is a local mission project here in Hall County on June 10-14 and June 24-28. BigStuf is our summer camp in Panama City Beach, Florida which is scheduled July 10-14. Both of these trip are open to students in grades 6-12.

Don't forget! It's time to register for summer camp at Camp Glisson. You can register online at [www.campglisson.org](http://www.campglisson.org) or contact **David Burchett** if you have any questions. In addition, **Jody Cooley** is our church liaison with Camp Glisson, and he would be more than happy to answer any questions.



*A friend loves*  
AT ALL TIMES.  
PROVERBS 17:17. NRSV

### HEARTSAVER CPR CLASS

Saturday, February 7  
9 a.m. - 12 noon in the Adult Lobby



CPR is a life-saving course in case of an emergency in the home, workplace, or anywhere you go. Cost for the course is \$20 and includes materials. Registration is required. Call the Church Office at 770.536.2341. For more information, contact **Lori Floyd**, Parish Nurse.

## PRAYER PAGER MINISTRY

*Let these people know that you are thinking of and praying for them.*

*Pray! Dial the phone number for the person you prayed for. (You will hear 3 beeps.) Dial 111# & hang up.*

**Frank Barnhill**  
770.201.0319

**Diana Cindea**  
a friend of  
Lora Cooley  
770.201.0121

**Faye Shadburn**  
770.201.0429

**Gail Church**  
a friend of  
Lisa Bisson  
770.201.1041

**Margot Mickle**  
770.201.0320

**Katie Tulin**  
1.800.225.3412



Prayer Pagers are available for you or a friend to use. If you would like to receive a Prayer Pager, please contact **Rev. Wendy Cordova** at 770.536.2341.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

February 11, 2009

5 - 6:15 p.m. in the GREAT Room

Meatloaf, Whipped Potatoes, Green Beans, Biscuits, Carrot & Raisin Salad, Salad Bar, Ambrosia Salad, and Brownies.  
*Kid's Meal: Hot Dogs and Chips*



Make your supper reservation while browsing online at [www.gfumc.com/family\\_supper](http://www.gfumc.com/family_supper). Don't have access to the internet? Don't worry! Call **Mildred Smith** at 770.536.2341, ext. 143, by Monday at 12 noon to make your reservation.



## VALENTINE'S DANCE

Tuesday, February 10

Doors open at 6 p.m.  
Dance begins at 7 p.m.  
in the GREAT Room

You are invited to bring your own dinner and eat with friends before the dancing begins. Seating for dinner is open with unreserved tables of eight. Parties of less than eight may make themselves at home as they choose. Soft drinks will be provided. Admission is FREE!

The dance will conclude by 9 p.m. The dress is casual. The Believers Band's Sentimental Journey Jazz and Swing Band will play for your dancing and listening enjoyment. We will feature the music of the Big Band era along with some country songs, rock 'n' roll, and torch songs sung by Kari Martin, our vocalist.

Come enjoy a relaxing time with our church family and have fun with the Sentimental Journey Jazz and Swing Band.

## PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

### ENROLL NOW!

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



Families of students currently enrolled:	Feb. 9 - 13
GFUMC Church members:	Feb. 17 - 20
Open Registration (Public):	Feb. 23 - 26

There is a \$70 non-refundable registration fee for all applicants, along with a full month's tuition fee for all Pre-K students (non-refundable).



## WELCOME & CONNECT CLASS

Begins Sunday, February 15  
9:45 a.m. in the GREAT Room

A special introductory four-week class offered specifically for our newer members and visitors.

The class is offered on Sunday mornings in the GREAT Room from 9:45-10:40 a.m. beginning on February 15th. The class is led by our pastors and our first session on February 15, will feature our Senior Pastor, Dr. Terry Walton, on the Dreams and Visions for Gainesville First United Methodist Church.

For more information, please contact **Rev. Wendy Cordova** at 770.536.2341 or [wcordova@gfumc.com](mailto:wcordova@gfumc.com)



## Living Waters Praise & Worship

Two worship experiences  
Beginning Sunday, March 1

9:30 a.m. & 10:55 a.m.  
Reception Hall

Do you have a question about the new worship service? Please contact **Rev. Wendy Cordova** at 770.536.2341 or [wcordova@gfumc.com](mailto:wcordova@gfumc.com).

Will the music and sermon be the same at both 9:30 and 10:55 a.m.?

Yes! We have two talented worship music teams that will alternate each Sunday, providing us with meaningful, spirit-filled worship.

The preacher each Sunday will preach both services and our senior pastor, Dr. Terry Walton, will have the opportunity to participate on a more regular basis at the 9:30 a.m. service.

## A NEW SONG

Come, let us sing for joy  
to the Lord...let us extol Him  
with music and song.  
*Psalm 95:1 - 2*



Thank you so much to the Festival Choir for singing in worship this past Sunday. A special thanks to Ava Voss for providing the beautiful violin accompaniment. Directors **Shirlice Irick**, **Kacey Cochran**, and **Aurena DeFoor** do a wonderful job leading the children in rehearsals and in worship. A big thank you goes out to them as well!

This Sunday, the first and second grade choir, the Carol Choir, will sing at 10:55 a.m. They will share a beautiful anthem about God's faithfulness to everyone, especially children. I am sure that *God is Always There* and the voices of children will bless you and bring you into His presence. Thank you to all the children's choir directors and volunteers for providing leadership to our young singers. See you in church!

*Michelle Alexander, Music Ministry Assistant*



## MUSICIANS NEEDED!

Have you been practicing your craft and God is leading you to share it? Living Waters might be a place where you can "plug in."

Needed: Bass Guitar, Drummer, Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, and Male Vocalists.

Contact **Michelle Alexander** at 770.536.2341, ext. 151, or [malexander@gfumc.com](mailto:malexander@gfumc.com) for additional information.



## RELAY FOR LIFE MEETING

**Wednesday, February 18**  
**4:30 p.m. in Room S-12**

Anyone interested in participating on this year's team is invited to attend. Contact **Lori Floyd** at 770.536.2341 for more information

# Calendar

## FEBRUARY 8 - 15, 2009

### SUNDAY - February 8

- 8:30 Traditional Worship
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:00 Organ Familiarization Session
- 10:55 J.A.M. - Jesus and Me (Children's Church)
- 10:55 Living Waters Praise & Worship
- 10:55 Traditional Worship
- 2:00 Girl Scout Troop #806 Meeting
- 4:00 Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 7 Pillars of Health
- 5:00 Christian Believer
- 5:00 Disciple I
- 5:00 Disciple II
- 5:00 GriefShare
- 5:00 Invitation to Genesis
- 5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship, grades 6-12)
- 5:00 Live B.I.G.
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

### MONDAY - February 9

*Preschool Registration begins for currently enrolled students*

- 8:00 Career Connection Initiative
- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 9:00 Library open (til 4 p.m.)
- 9:00 Methodist Men Cooking
- 10:00 AOA Aerobics
- 2:00 Memorial Committee Meeting
- 4:00 Urban Ministry Tutoring
- 5:30 Basketball Practice (til 7:30 p.m.)
- 6:00 Troop 16 Scout Meeting
- 6:30 Prayer Ministry Team Meeting
- 7:30 Adult Basketball

### TUESDAY - February 10

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 8:30 Christ Centered Yoga
- 8:30 Intercessory Prayer Group
- 9:00 Cardio Pump Aerobics
- 9:00 Library open (til 4 p.m.)
- 9:30 Believers Band Practice
- 10:00 Mom's Fitness Club
- 10:00 The Amazing Collection
- 10:00 Better Than My Dreams
- 10:00 Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman
- 10:00 Garden Club of Georgia
- 10:00 The Love Dare
- 10:00 One on One Discipleship
- 6:00 Believers Band Practice
- 6:00 Valentine's Dance - "Bring your own Dinner"
- 7:00 Stephen Ministry
- 7:00 Troop 16 Committee Meeting
- 7:00 Valentine's Dance - Dance begins

### WEDNESDAY - February 11

- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 9:00 Library open
- 11:00 Gadabouts
- 3:00 Bridge
- 5:00 Wednesday Night Supper
- 6:00 3D Plan
- 6:00 Conversational Spanish I and II
- 6:00 The Jesus Challenge
- 6:00 Lighthouse (Youth grades 6-8)
- 6:00 Parenting in the Age of "Whatever!"
- 6:00 Parents Round Table
- 6:00 Refresh/Recharge: *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*
- 6:00 *Talking in the Dark*
- 6:00 Wednesday Night Women: *Living Beyond Yourself*
- 6:00 *Wild at Heart* Men's Group
- 6:00 Youth Bell Choir
- 6:15 PHASES Accountability Groups
- 6:30 Adult Ministry Team Meeting
- 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:15 Living Waters Praise Band Rehearsal

### THURSDAY - February 12

- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 8:30 Christ Centered Yoga
- 9:00 Library open
- 9:00 Mom's Fitness Club
- 9:00 MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers
- 9:30 Christian Believer (Off-site at LVE)
- 9:30 Disciple III
- 4:00 Urban Ministry
- 5:30 Finance Committee Meeting
- 6:00 Recreation Committee Meeting
- 6:30 GDS Team Leader Meeting
- 7:00 Ballroom Dance

### FRIDAY - February 13

- 6:00 Prayer Vigil begins
- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 10:00 AOA Aerobics
- 10:30 Older Adult Trip to the Smith House
- 1:00 Prayer Shawls
- 5:00 Faithprints 4th & 5th Grade Retreat
- 5:30 Duty to God Banquet
- 7:15 Emmaus

### SATURDAY - February 14

*Valentine's Day*  
6:00 Prayer Vigil ends

### SUNDAY - February 15

- 8:30 Traditional Worship
- 9:45 Welcome & Connect Class
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:00 Organ Familiarization Session
- 10:55 J.A.M. - Jesus and Me (Children's Church)
- 10:55 Living Waters Praise & Worship
- 10:55 Traditional Worship
- 4:00 Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 7 Pillars of Health
- 5:00 Christian Believer
- 5:00 Disciple I
- 5:00 Disciple II
- 5:00 GriefShare
- 5:00 The Harbor (Youth grades 6-12)
- 5:00 Invitation to Genesis
- 5:00 Live B.I.G.
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

### INCLEMENT WEATHER

For information on the latest GFUMC closings in the event of inclement weather you may:

**Call** the church answering machine at 770.536.2341 to listen to the voice mail;

**Tune in** to WDUN 550 AM; and/or

**Visit** these websites:

[www.gfumc.com](http://www.gfumc.com)  
[www.gainesvilletimes.com](http://www.gainesvilletimes.com)  
[www.accessnorthga.com](http://www.accessnorthga.com).

Thank you.

# 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 & Lay Ministry	135	wcordova@gfumc.com
Rev. Debby Fox	Pastor of Christian Education & Discipleship	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.



## UNABLE TO ATTEND WORSHIP SERVICES?

Listen to the radio broadcast of the 10:55 a.m. Traditional Worship Service on AM 1240 WGGC.

## MISSION ACTION BAKE SALE

**Sunday, February 8**  
**Gathering Room**



Profits will be used to fund our mission projects. If you are able to contribute baked goods to assist Mission Action, a United Methodist Women's circle, with this project, sign-up sheets are available in Sunday School classes and in the Church Office. Bring your baked goods to the Gathering Room that morning. Cookbooks will also be for sale. Thank you for your support!



**VACATION  
BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**Save the Date!!!**  
**June 15 - 19, 2009**



2780 Thompson Bridge Road  
 Gainesville, Georgia 30506

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED