



# The BRIDGE

VOLUME L  
NUMBER 8

GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 2, 2008

The church staff gave me *The Amazing Spider-Man Jumbo Coloring and Activity Book* for my birthday this year. We had a lot of fun over the gift. But I have been amazed at how the feel and smell of this coloring book has taken me back to my childhood. I have had this desire to go to Target or Wal-Mart and buy a 64-pack of Crayola crayons, the kind with the sharpener in the back of the box.



I have not yet taken a moment to color or to finish a puzzle. Yet this book sits on my desk at home and when I pick it up I remember all those fun times of coloring as a child. Did you do what I used to do? I would outline the picture first and then color inside the lines. Or were you one of those kids that received great joy from coloring outside the lines? I used to love to color. For those of you who have seen my artwork, you know that drawing is not my gift. That may explain why coloring what someone else has drawn was such fun.

The smell and feel of this gift has had an association effect on me. I touch or sniff the book and my memory goes way back to days gone by. It has reminded me of how the memory can work. In this case, it is a positive association. But sometimes the memory association can be negative and painful. We can smell or touch or hear or see something and it can take us back to a place that is hurtful and full of heartache. That is when our memory association sometimes becomes a curse rather than a blessing.

Jesus must have known this plight of humanity's memory when he offered us the example that God heals and forgives in Jesus. It is not true that "time heals all wounds." If that were the case, then why do I see people who are mature in age yet immature in their forgiveness of sins long ago? Time is not the healer. It is God's grace that heals. Often it takes a period of time for healing to occur but only because God is doing many things for us as we heal. It is God who helps us forgive that which we could never believe possible to forgive. It is God who heals the memory to help our associations move from "life-sapping" to "life-giving."

May God touch our memories in ways that bring blessing. I am going to color something this week. And when I do, I will enjoy the memory. May it be so for all our memories.

With Love and Care,



*Holy Communion will be served during all worship services.*

## Worship Services



*"A Blind Man: From Dark to Light"*

John 9:1-41

8:30 a.m. & 10:55 a.m. Traditional Services in the Sanctuary

10:55 a.m. Contemporary Service in the Reception Hall

*Dr. Terry Walton and Rev. Wendy Cordova*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### ATTENDANCE 2/24/08

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary: 293  
10:55 a.m. Living Waters: 91  
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary: 639  
**Worship Totals: 1,023**  
Sunday School: 599

### FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are to the glory of God and in loving honor of **Nell Whelchel Wiegand**, given by Harriett & Julius Hulsey and family.

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Brinson Jordan Congdon** was born on February 20, 2008. His parents are Jon and Lesley Congdon. A rosebud will be placed on the altar in his honor this Sunday.

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

In order to protect the privacy of our members we will not print the information that is normally listed under this heading in the online version of *The Bridge*.

If you are a member of GFUMC and would like to have access to this information, please contact Jackie Powers in the Church Office at 770.536.2341.

### CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

...to the family and friends of **Alph "Buddy" Browne**.

...to the family and friends of **Art Schmehling**.



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. In order to secure your special date, please make your reservation as soon as possible. The cost of flowers is \$75. Thank you.

## NEW TUESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S STUDY

*Loving Well* by Beth Moore  
**Begins Tuesday, March 4**  
**10 a.m. in Room S-13/15**  
Facilitated by **Ginny Crumley**



This is a four-week study. Cost is \$10. Register online or by calling the Church Office at 770.536.2341.

## JOIN US DURING THE SEASON OF LENT



*This week at 12 noon*  
**Wednesday, March 5**  
**at St. Michael Catholic Church**  
*Dr. Terry Walton,*  
*Gainesville First United Methodist Church*

A light lunch will be served following each worship service for a suggested donation of \$3 per person. Loving childcare will be provided for children 5 years of age and younger. Each location features a guest preacher.

### Experience the True Miracle of Easter *Walk Through Holy Week*

**Wednesday, March 19**  
**6—7:30 p.m., begins in the Chapel**  
A multi-generational event featuring our children's choirs, Mary Magdalene, Jesus, and a special four-legged friend.



## GAINESVILLE ACTION MINISTRIES UPDATE

Thank you for the contribution of heaters. In 2007, GAM was able to provide not only heaters but coats, blankets, fans, Easter baskets, and school supplies to needy individuals. Additionally, GAM answered 1,926 calls for assistance, provided case management services to 372 individuals, and helped 252 families comprised of 447 individuals with direct financial assistance totaling more than \$38,000. In 2008, GAM has already handled 171 calls, provided case management services to 23 families and assisted 16 families comprised of 40 individuals with emergency assistance totaling more than \$5,500. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

*Sue Lane, Director, Gainesville Action Ministries*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS



### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME Sunday, March 9

Daylight Saving Time comes early this year! Set your clocks ahead one hour before you retire for the evening on Saturday.

## AT THE MAC



The 7th Annual MAC Madness basketball tournament begins its third week of hosting 58 youth teams. **Volunteers are still needed** for the last week of the tournament beginning Monday, March 3.

If you can take up tickets, work the concession stand, and/or work the score table please contact **Robert Sapp** at 770.536.2341 ext. 127.

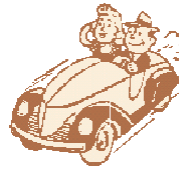


### BALLROOM DANCE

Come, learn the Waltz. Join instructor, **Jean Hawkins**, on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Youth Hall as she teaches you and your partner. Cost is \$30 per couple.

## OLDER ADULTS

**GADABOUTS**  
Wednesday,  
March 5  
11 a.m. in the  
Reception Hall



**Sheriff, Steve Cronic**, with the Hall County Sheriff's Department will be our guest speaker. Bring a friend and join us!

### GAITHER HOMECOMING TOUR 2008

Saturday, April 26  
6 p.m. at Gwinnett Center

The cost is \$50 per person (includes transportation). Register by calling or emailing, **Beth Swenson**.



### CARIBBEAN CRUISE December 6 -13

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

Contact **Jane Lower** at 770.535.8418 for more information.

## UMW CIRCLES



**First Monday Morning Circle**  
Monday, March 3  
10 a.m. in the Gathering Room

**Mission Action**  
Tuesday, March 4  
7 p.m. in the Gathering Room

## YOUNG ADULTS

### COLLEGE STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS



We have a group looking for you on Sunday mornings and for social outings. The **ICHTHYS** group is meeting on Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour (9:45 a.m.) in the Aerobics Room (S-142). Come and join them!

## STUDENT MINISTRY



If you're young at heart, or just like to be around young people, if you enjoy seeing the light go on over young peoples' head, or if you have a heart for Jesus and want to share that with students who are hungry to hear, let us know. We have a place for you. We need group leaders on Wednesday nights for our middle school groups. Contact **David Burchett** at 770.536.2341, ext. 115.

### GUYS' NIGHT OUT Friday, March 14

We'll be taking a guy's excursion to the Gwinnett Gladiators hockey game. Cost is \$20. Pick up your Registration Form in the Youth Hall. You must register by Monday, March 3.

### DON'T FORGET!

Deadlines are quickly approaching for the mission trip to Ringgold and GAP. These deadlines are final, and no late registrations will be taken. Thank you for your understanding.

## GREAT DAY OF SERVICE . . . PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE



Thanks to GDS Project Chairs **Leslie Fowler, Sally Darden, Jennifer Puryear, Donna Shaw, and Elizabeth Embry**. Our Great Day of Service offers a wide variety of project opportunities that encompass a broad range of interests and skills.

Projects at Camp Glisson, Pleasant Hill UMC, Gainesville Action Ministries, Baker Glover Mobile Home Park and others need volunteers with carpentry skills. Can you paint? GDS offers a number of painting projects including those at two United Methodist Churches: Candler UMC and Pleasant Hill UMC, the Senior Center, and My Sister's Place to name a few. Do you enjoy outdoor clean-up? We will be helping a number of individuals at their homes as well as at Elachee, Eagle Ranch, Wahoo Cemetery, and our own Lakeside area.

There are opportunities to host parties for older adults at three assisted living facilities and for children at Jones Elementary and Baker Glover Mobile Home Park. Volunteers are needed to deliver special Chick-Fil-A meals to Meals on Wheels clients and cookies to firemen and law enforcement personnel.

Those who prefer more sedentary projects can find opportunities in crocheting prayer shawls, sewing hospice gowns, or making tray favors for patients in the hospital. If your service needs to be from home, volunteers are needed to bake cookies before GDS and write letters to members of our partner churches in Serbia.

These are just a sampling of the many service opportunities available for our 2008 GDS. The entire listing can be found on the GDS website at [www.gfumc.com/gds](http://www.gfumc.com/gds) or on the Registration Form. **Remember, everyone is needed. Please register by Sunday, March 9.**

Note to those registering online: The Volunteer Registrar will acknowledge the receipt of your registration within 24-36 hours. If you do not get a response within that time period, please contact **Ed Rigel** by email at [gdstech@charter.net](mailto:gdstech@charter.net) or print the form and drop it into one of the registration boxes at the church.

*This is the last chance...*

### *Easter Lilies & Azaleas Order Form*



\_\_\_ \$14 potted azalea

\_\_\_ \$3 lilies to decorate Cross

*(Please print.)*

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

The deadline for orders is **Monday, March 3, 2008**. Payment **MUST** accompany the order. Please do not mail orders, instead bring to the Church Office or place in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Thank you.

*Do you lead or teach a  
Sunday school class?  
Thank you for  
helping us grow!*



You are invited to the **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** on **Sunday, March 9, 12:15 p.m.** in the GREAT Room.

Childcare and lunch provided by reservations for children infants to 10 years old. Children over 10 are invited to join us for lunch and will be counted as an adult. Speaker will be **Rev. Debby Fox**, Pastor of Christian Education.

**FAMILY SUPPER**  
**Wednesday, March 5**  
 5 - 6:30 p.m.  
 in the GREAT Room



**Vegetable Beef Soup with Corn Muffins,  
 Carrot & Raisin Salad, Garden Green Salad  
 Bar, Assorted Sandwiches, Deviled Eggs,  
 Fresh Whole Fruit Bowl, and Apple Pie**

**Kid's Meal: PB&J Sandwiches with Chips**

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.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS MINISTRY

**CHILD & BABYSITTING  
 SAFETY CLASS**  
**Saturday, March 15**  
**9 a.m. - 12 noon**



This class is designed to provide information and skill training for youth ages 11-15. Learn how to take care of a parent's most prized possession: their child!

Find out what every parent wants in a responsible babysitter. Registration is required. Payment of the **\$10 fee** will be taken at the door. Registration deadline is Thursday, March 13. To register, please call **Beth Swenson** at 770.536.2341, ext. 139, or email her at [bswenson@gfumc.com](mailto:bswenson@gfumc.com). Additional information can be found online at [www.gfumc.com/health\\_wellness](http://www.gfumc.com/health_wellness).



**BLOOD DRIVE**  
**Wednesday, March 19**  
**2:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

A pint of blood can help save 3 - 4 lives. Anyone who is 17 years or older and weighs at least 110 pounds can donate if there are no medical or travel restrictions. Look for the LifeSouth Bloodmobile! Sign up by calling the Church Office.

## HOPE FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN

**First Baptist Church of Roswell** is offering a support group for children and for those who are a part of their lives. Orientation is **Sunday, March 2**, with group meetings beginning March 9 for six weeks. For more information, please contact **Dr. Doyle Hamilton**, pastoral counselor at 770.915.2537.

# Calendar

## MARCH 2 - 9, 2008



### SUNDAY - March 2

- 8:30 Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 9:45 Library open til 11 a.m.
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:55 Kid's Church
- 10:55 Living Waters Contemporary Worship in the Reception Hall
- 10:55 Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:30 Healing Ministries Lunch
- 4:00 GriefShare Support Group
- 4:00 Youth Choir
- 5:00 Crown Financial Study
- 5:00 Disciple I
- 5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship)
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

### MONDAY - March 3

- 8:00 Teaching Parish
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 9:00 Methodist Men Cooking
- 10:00 Active Older Adult Aerobics
- 10:00 First Monday Circle
- 12:00 Emmaus Reunion Group
- 4:00 Bible Club & Tutoring
- 5:30 MAC Madness Basketball Tournament
- 6:30 Disciple II
- 6:30 Evangelism Committee Meeting
- 6:30 Great Day of Service Team Leader Mtg.
- 7:00 Highlands Church Bible Study
- 7:30 Adult Bells

### TUESDAY - March 4

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 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 *Loving Well* Bible Study
- 5:30 MAC Madness Basketball Tournament
- 6:00 Believers Band Practice
- 7:00 Mission Action Meeting
- 8:00 MLC Band Practice

### WEDNESDAY - March 5

- 9:00 Aerobics
- 11:00 Gadabouts
- 3:00 Bridge
- 5:00 Family Supper
- 6:00 A Lenten Experience: The Road to Jerusalem
- 6:00 Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 Children's Council & Friends
- 6:00 Disciple IV
- 6:00 Refresh/Recharge
- 6:00 Youth Bells
- 6:15 Youth Bible Studies
- 6:30 Living Waters Praise Team
- 6:30 Men's Bible Study
- 6:45 Children's Bible Studies
- 7:00 Chancel Choir

### THURSDAY - March 6

- 9:30 Disciple IV (at Lanier Village Estates)
- 10:00 Prayer Quilts
- 2:00 Fibromyalgia Support Group
- 5:30 MAC Madness Basketball Tournament
- 7:00 Ballroom Dance

### FRIDAY - March 7

- 9:00 Aerobics
- 10:00 Active Older Adult Aerobics
- 5:30 MAC Madness Basketball Tournament
- 6:00 The Beacon Movie Night
- 7:00 Hollis/Hester Wedding Rehearsal

### SATURDAY - March 8

- 9:00 MAC Madness Basketball Tournament
- 4:00 Hollis/Hester Wedding

### SUNDAY - March 9 Scouting Ministries Sunday

- 8:30 Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 9:45 Library open til 11 a.m.
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:55 Kid's Church
- 10:55 Living Waters Contemporary Worship in the Reception Hall
- 10:55 Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:15 Teacher Appreciation Lunch
- 2:00 Girl Scout Troop #806
- 4:00 GriefShare Support Group
- 4:00 Youth Choir
- 5:00 Crown Financial Study
- 5:00 Disciple I
- 5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship)
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

*Did you know we have over 100 physicans who call GFUMC their church home? This Sunday we honor their service to our congregation and community...*



*Celebration of  
 Healing Ministries Lunch*  
**Sunday, March 2, 2008**  
**12:30 p.m. in the GREAT Room**

# 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



*Let these people  
know you are  
thinking of them.  
It's easy!*

**Cameron Bowden**  
770.201.0263

**Faye Shadburn**  
770.201.0429

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

**Katie Tulin**  
1.800.225.3412

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

## WESLEYAN CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE

The official news source for  
Georgia United Methodists

**Only \$25**

*(\$23, if you're over age 65)*

**Stay informed! Fill out the  
tear off in the Sunday bulletin!**



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