



# The BRIDGE

VOLUME LI  
NUMBER 9

GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 8, 2009



In my study at our home, I have several things sitting around that are “memory launchers” for me. I’m certain that you have such things in your home as well. For example, I have a drum that I bought while on a mission trip in Honduras. It is made of mahogany wood and every time I glance in its direction, I remember that trip and the team with which I served. I have a coconut that I brought back from the Bahamas. I know I’m not supposed to sneak such things back into the country, but it is a perfect coconut, and it reminds me of our first cruise as a family while our kids were in high school. I have a boomerang from Australia. A friend of mind brought it to me, and when I look at the boomerang I think of Zip and our friendship.

I have a Glenn Hubbard autographed baseball bat. It launches my memory back to the days when Glenn played second base for the Atlanta Braves. I have World Series tickets of World Series games gone by. I have my dad’s catcher’s mask, mitt, and infielder’s glove. I have several autographed baseballs: Mickey Mantle’s ball is my favorite. Each ball has a unique story with a special memory attached. I have my G. I. Joe from my childhood. Wow, what memories are attached to that guy! I have seats that came out of the old Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium. I went to the very first Braves game ever played in Atlanta. The thousands of memories with family and friends at Braves games are too numerous to mention. My study is cluttered with wonderful “memory launchers” and I love being in that place.

Lent is a season of “memory launching.” It is a strange sort of season. We remember our sins, but we are told to remember them no more. We remember our human condition, and yet we are told to repent and move toward a God-like life. It is a season to think upon the suffering of Christ on our behalf but to be prepared to celebrate His resurrection. I suppose Lent is a time to make sure we are remembering the right stuff in the right way. Ultimately God desires to launch our memories into an understanding of just how much the cross and the empty tomb prove God’s love for us. You and I are loved with an indescribable love. That’s a memory worth launching.

With Love and Care,

*Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 8.  
Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour  
before you go to sleep on Saturday night!*



## Worship Services



**Plantin’  
Time**

Sermon Series

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

“Feedin’ Time”

Psalm 84

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

Dr. Steve Winter

9:30 a.m. & 10:55 a.m. Living Waters

Rev. Wendy Cordova

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### ATTENDANCE 3/1/2009

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary . . . . .	251
9:30 a.m. Living Waters . . . . .	78
10:55 a.m. Living Waters . . . . .	178
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary . . . . .	424
<b>Worship Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>931</b>
Sunday School . . . . .	548
Ash Wednesday (Noon) . . . . .	76
Ash Wednesday (6:30) . . . . .	372

## FLOWERS

This Sunday, March 8, the flowers in the Narthex are to the glory of our loving Father and in loving memory of our son, **Stephen Jordan**, given by his family.

On Sunday, March 1, the flowers in the Narthex were to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Evan King**, given by David, Stacy, Lawson, and Sydney King.

On Sunday, March 1, the flowers in the Sanctuary were to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Mindy Huey**, given by her family.

## CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

...to family and friends of **Laura Chovan**.

...to **Nikki Law** on the death of her grandmother.

...to family and friends of **Susan Law**.

## HOMELESS OFFERING

Thank you for your generosity to the Homeless Offering collected on February 15. Donations totaled **\$3,686**.

## 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 at 770.536.2341.



# GREAT DAY OF SERVICE

## DONATION WISH LIST

The items below are needed to complete some of our Great Day of Service projects both locally and around the world. Your support of GDS through the donation of items is greatly appreciated. Look for collection bins located throughout the church. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the Church Office. Be sure to note "Great Day of Service Projects" in the memo section of your check. If you wish for your monetary donation to be used toward a specific project, please note that as well.

### Clothing Items:

(for children through mid-teens)  
 "Croc"-type shoes  
 Tennis shoes  
 Underwear for girls and boys

### Health Items:

Adhesive plastic-strip bandages  
 Adult toothbrushes  
 Bar soap  
 Deodorant  
 Fingernail clippers  
 Large combs  
 Nail files

### Home Items:

Hand towels (not kitchen towels)  
 Twin sheets  
 Washcloths

### School Supplies:

2 1/2" erasers  
 24-count boxes of crayons  
 30 cm rulers  
 Blunt scissors  
 Children's books  
 Hand-held pencil sharpeners  
 Loose-leaf ruled notebook paper  
 Unsharpened pencils with erasers  
 Writing tablets

## COOKIE BAKERS NEEDED

Would you like to help put a smile on a child's face, show kindness to the elderly, and express gratitude to firemen and police officers who protect us all? If you would, bake a batch of your favorite cookies and bring them to the church **Friday, March 20**, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.



We also need volunteers to help package the cookies on Friday. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please call **Dana Wilson** at 770.287.9452 or email at drowewilson1306@charter.net.



## JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION SUNDAE

Top off your Great Day of Service with an Ice Cream Sundae & Sprinkles **Saturday afternoon, March 21 1 to 5 p.m. in the GREAT Room** (*The Mayfield Dairy is bringing its ice cream truck!*)

## OLDER ADULTS

### GADABOUTS

**Wednesday, March 11**  
11 a.m. Reception Hall



Lew Ayers will help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

### GFUMC TRAVELERS

Join us for a day trip to Macon to see the **Cherry Blossom Festival** on Thursday, March 26. Cost: \$25, and includes lunch and tour.

The **Jersey Boys** are coming to the Fox Theatre. We have tickets for Sunday, May 31. Cost is \$57 and a waiting list has been started.

Call **Pam Spivey** if you are interested in either of these trips!

## PRAYER PAGERS



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

Pray!  
Dial the pager number for the person you prayed for.  
You will hear 3 beeps.  
Dial 111# and then hang up.

**Mike Adcock**  
770.201.0319

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

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

**Margot Mickle**  
770.201.0320

**Wendy Pittman**  
770.201.0626

**Faye Shadburn**  
770.201.0429

**Derick Sykes**  
a friend of Angela Burrell  
1.800.227.9646

**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.

# LENT



## COMMUNITY LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

12 noon

Wednesdays during Lent & Good Friday

A light lunch will be served following each worship service for a suggested donation of \$3 per person. Loving childcare will be provided for infants through children 5 years of age. Each service will feature a guest preacher as listed below.

**Wednesday, March 11 at  
First Presbyterian Church**  
Rev. Thad Rudd,  
St. Michael Catholic Church

**Wednesday, April 1 at St. Michael  
Catholic Church**  
Rev. Calvin Haney, St. Paul United  
Methodist Church (Washington St.)

**Wednesday, March 18 at First  
Baptist Church of Gainesville**  
Dr. David McDonald,  
First Presbyterian Church

**Wednesday, April 8 at St. Paul  
Methodist Church (Washington St.)**  
Dr. Bill Coates, First Baptist Church

**Wednesday, March 25 at  
Gainesville First UMC**  
Rev. Doug Dailey,  
Grace Episcopal Church

**Good Friday, April 10 at First  
Baptist Church of Gainesville**  
Dr. Terry Walton, Gainesville First  
United Methodist Church

## PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 5

A dramatic monologue of "Judas Iscariot"  
by Dr. Terry Walton at all worship services.



Join us for midday worship services in the Chapel at 12 noon during Holy Week. Lunch will be served in the Reception Hall following the services.

**Monday, April 6**  
Dr. Steve Winter

**Tuesday, April 7**  
Rev. Tom Jones

*ENR @ [E] [N] [R]*

6:30 a.m. Sunrise  
Rev. Debby Fox  
*Please join us for  
a light breakfast  
afterward.*

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,  
& 10:55 a.m.  
Sanctuary  
Dr. Terry Walton

9:30 a.m. &  
10:55 a.m.  
Living Waters  
Rev. Wendy Cordova



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

March 11, 2009

5 - 6:15 p.m., GREAT Room

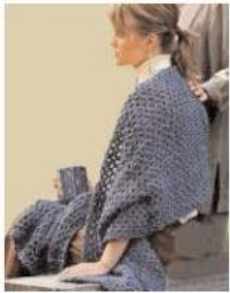
Spaghetti with Marinara Sauce, Garlic Buttered Toast, Antipasta Salad Bar, Chicken Salad, Fresh Fruit Bowl, and Pineapple Upside Down Cake.

*Kid's Meal: Cheese Pizza*



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.

## PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY



The purpose of the Prayer Quilt Ministry is to bring restoration by extending Christ's care to people who are experiencing life-threatening, life-altering events. The person receives not just a quilt, but a symbol

of faith in God, and in the power to comfort, strengthen, and heal. Silent prayers are said as each knot is tied.

Anyone can be a member of the Quilt Ministry - you don't even need to know how to sew, much less to quilt. There are jobs for anyone who feels called to help. We need people to cut fabric, iron, piece fabric, etc. We meet the second and fourth Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. in room S-02. For additional information, contact **Lori Floyd**, Parish Nurse.

## CHILD & BABYSITTING SAFETY CLASS

Saturday, March 14, 2009  
9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



This class is designed to provide information and skill training for youth, ages 11-15. Learn how to take care of a parents' most prized possession: their child! Find out what every parent wants in a responsible babysitter. Participants receive ASHI Certification card. Pre-registration is required and payment of the \$10 fee will be taken at the door. Registration deadline is Thursday, March 12th. To register, please call **Pam Spivey** at 770.536.2341 ext. 139 or email her at [pspivey@gfumc.com](mailto:pspivey@gfumc.com). More information can be found online at [www.gfumc.com/health\\_wellness](http://www.gfumc.com/health_wellness).



## CELEBRATION OF SCOUTING MINISTRIES

Sunday, March 8

This Sunday we will celebrate scouting ministries during all worship services.



## STUDENT MINISTRY

### SUMMER TRIPS

Registration forms are now out for **Gainesville Aid Project**, a local service opportunity here in Hall County in June, and BigStuf, our summer camp in Panama City Beach, Florida. You can pick up these forms in the Youth Hall, at the info center outside the Youth Hall, and in the Church Office. Space is limited for both of these events, so sign up early.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

I don't do this very often, but I'd like to take a minute and recognize one of our students for an outstanding achievement. **Claire Kannapell**, a senior at Gainesville High School, was recognized as the top Star Student in all of the Gainesville City school district. Congratulations, Claire, and it couldn't happen to a more deserving young lady.

## A NEW SONG - YOUTH NEWS

The Youth Choir recently joined with the First Presbyterian Youth Choir to sing for the Jimmy Cutrell Benefit Concert. The music they sang included *Gloria* from a Haydn mass, and the gospel song, *He Never Failed*



*Me Yet*. Both pieces were chosen by Jimmy to be a part of the upcoming Music and Mission Tour set for May 29 - June 4.

Our choir will travel with the First Presbyterian choir to Florida singing in churches, retirement centers, and other venues. Watch for ways that you can support this mission effort. One way will be the Parking Lot Sale in early May. More information will be published about this soon.

The Youth Choir and Youth Bells will sing and ring in both the Sanctuary worship services next week.

## WELCOME & CONNECT CLASS

Sunday mornings at  
9:45 a.m. in the GREAT Room



The fourth session on Sunday, March 8, will help you to more fully understand what it means to be a member of this particular congregation. You may come to one or all of the sessions. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact **Rev. Wendy Cordova** at 770.536.2341 or [wcordova@gfumc.com](mailto:wcordova@gfumc.com).



*Living Waters*  
*Praise & Worship*

Two worship experiences

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

Do you have experience or want to learn and help with the audio/visual aspects of the Living Waters worship services? We are looking for several people to help with both services! Contact **Rev. Wendy Cordova** at 770.536.2341 or [wcordova@gfumc.com](mailto:wcordova@gfumc.com).

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

JOIN OUR  
SPECIAL NEEDS  
MINISTRY TEAM



We are looking for people who: love and accept children just as they are, are motivated, excited, and enthusiastic about being with and learning from these special children, desire one-on-one relationships with children who allow us to be part of their faith journeys, display high energy, creativity, and patience, and who believe special needs children can love God and serve their world, long to share God's own heart and learn how to bring hope and healing to families who feel "left out" at church.

We'll provide the training you need to be effective and comfortable in this ministry. **YOU** provide the love! Call **Debbie Morris** at 770.536.2341.

# Calendar

MARCH 8 - 15, 2009

### SUNDAY - March 8

#### Scouting Ministries Sunday

- 8:30 Sanctuary Worship
- 9:30 Living Waters Praise & Worship
- 9:45 Welcome & Connect Class
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:55 J.A.M. - Jesus and Me (Children's Church)
- 10:55 Living Waters Praise & Worship
- 10:55 Sanctuary Worship
- 4:00 Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 7 Pillars of Health
- 5:00 Christian Believer
- 5:00 Congregational Lenten Studies
- 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)

### MONDAY - March 9

- 8:00 Career Connection Initiative
- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 10:00 AOA Aerobics
- 11:45 Emmaus Reunion Group
- 4:00 Urban Ministry Tutoring
- 5:30 MAC Madness
- 6:00 Troop 16 Scout Meeting
- 7:00 Boy Scout Training Sessions

### TUESDAY - March 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
- 9:30 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 The Love Dare
- 12:00 Fellowship Luncheon
- 5:30 MAC Madness
- 6:00 Believers Band Practice
- 6:00 Trustees Meeting
- 6:30 GDS Committee Meeting
- 7:00 Stephen Ministry
- 7:00 Troop 16 Committee Meeting



**Prayer Focus:**

9:30 a.m.

Living Waters

NETWORKING - SUPPORT - TRAINING



Monday mornings

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

Providing assistance for those people whose jobs have been negatively impacted by the economic downturn. This ministry is available to anyone in our church family or for others with whom congregation members are aware. Come dressed as if you are going to work.

### WEDNESDAY - March 11

- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 11:00 Gadabouts
- 12:00 Community Lenten Service at First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville
- 3:00 Bridge
- 5:00 Wednesday Night Supper
- 6:00 Congregational Lenten Studies
- 6:00 Conversational Spanish I and II
- 6:00 The Jesus Challenge
- 6:00 Lighthouse
- 6:00 Living Beyond Yourself Women's Group
- 6:00 Wild at Heart Men's Group
- 6:00 Youth Bell Choir
- 6:15 PHASES Accountability Groups
- 7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 Living Waters Praise Band Rehearsal

### THURSDAY - March 12

- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 8:30 Christ Centered Yoga
- 9:00 MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers
- 9:30 Christian Believer (Off-site at LVE)
- 9:30 Disciple III
- 10:00 Prayer Quilts
- 11:30 Woman of Distinction Banquet
- 5:30 Finance Meeting
- 5:30 MAC Madness
- 7:00 Ballroom Dance

### FRIDAY - March 13

- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 10:00 AOA Aerobics
- 10:00 Lenten study for women (LVE)
- 1:00 Prayer Shawls
- 5:30 MAC Madness
- 5:30 Pinewood Derby Weigh-In

### SATURDAY - March 14

- 7:30 Service Saturday (Youth)
- 8:30 Beacon Trip
- 9:00 Child & Babysitting Safety Class
- 1:30 Organ Familiarization Sessions
- 4:00 Pinewood Derby

### SUNDAY - March 15

#### Membership Sunday

- 8:30 Sanctuary Worship
- 9:30 Living Waters Praise & Worship
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:55 J.A.M. - Jesus and Me (Children's Church)
- 10:55 Living Waters Praise & Worship
- 10:55 Sanctuary Worship
- 4:00 Youth Choir Rehearsal
- 4:30 Worship Committee Meeting
- 5:00 7 Pillars of Health
- 5:00 Christian Believer
- 5:00 Congregational Lenten Studies
- 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
- 5:45 Executive Committee
- 6:30 Youth Choir Parents' Meeting
- 7:00 Church Council
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

# 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

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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 WGG.A.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

If God has gifted you with a love for children and a commercial driver's license, **Debbie Morris** would **LOVE** to talk to **YOU** at 770-536-2341.

Debbie has a hugely rewarding ministry opportunity for you!!!

Plus, it only takes two hours of your time weekly during the school year, unless you fall in love with the precious children and want to spend time playing, praying, and teaching them...Though the bus ride alone is quite an adventure.

## LISTEN ONLINE!

Sermons are now available at [www.gfumc.com/resources](http://www.gfumc.com/resources).



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