



The BRIDGE

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GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 9, 2008

“Daylight Saving Time” is an interesting phrase. It implies that we can save “daylight.” Now I know what is meant by this phrase (I think!). It means that we want to have more time in the evening to be outdoors. But what if you are a morning person? It is now darker and longer in the morning (it seems). I am aware that this is supposed to help us conserve energy. I am all for that. But this tinkering with the clock seems a bit unnatural to me.



My wife, Sharon, loves Daylight Saving Time. She doesn't like it getting dark so early in the evening. I understand, but the farmers of over a century ago may have had the best rhythm. They rose with the sun, did a full day's work, then retired for a night's rest shortly after sunset. There wasn't too much problem with lack of rest.

Do we actually believe that we can “save daylight?” The sunrise was beautiful this morning. I would have loved to have “saved” it. But it is only “saved” in the recesses of my memory. I think sometimes we try to control things that are not ours to control. We try to manipulate things that ultimately don't help us at all. As a matter of fact, if we are successful, it does us harm. I just don't know about this Daylight Saving Time thing. Is it the best for us?

The reality is that we have daylight every day. Depending on the time of year and our location on the earth, we may have more or less daylight. But every day, we have daylight. The key for me is “*Am I a good steward of the daylight given me?*” Sometimes I am and sometimes I am not. Regardless of what the clock says, I am accountable for my use of the days given me by God. So I am going to “Spring Forward” my clock this Saturday night before I go to bed. In order to be in rhythm with the rest of the world, I will participate in Daylight Saving Time. I will come to church next Sunday a little tired, because I will feel like I have lost an hour of sleep. And I will survive another Daylight Saving Time.

Ultimately though, I realize that I can't save daylight or time. Therefore, I had better “Carpe Diem” (Seize the day). That will bring the joy in living regardless of how we tinker with the clock.

With Love and Care,

Worship Services

Mission Possible:
Changing People's Lives

“Lazarus: From Death to Life”

John 11:1-45

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 3/2/2008

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary 375
 10:55 a.m. Living Waters 123
 10:55 a.m. Sanctuary 584
Worship Totals 1,082
 Sunday School 655
 Community Lenten Service . . . 202

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Chapel are to the glory of God and in celebration of the wedding of **Jason Hester and Brandi Hollis**.

The flowers in the Narthex are to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Joyce Jackson Rabb** and in honor of **Jackson Dean Bookout**. Given by the Rabb and Bookout families.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are to the glory of God and in loving memory of our son, **Stephen**, given by his family, Guy and Alice Jordan, & Kit and Brad Stockton.

BAPTISM

Jackson Dean Bookout will be baptized during the 10:55 a.m. Sanctuary service. His parents are J. D. and Kellye Bookout.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- ...to the family and friends of **Virginia Feise**.
- ...to the family and friends of **Claribel Jones**.
- ...to the family and friends of **Lee Spencer**.

JOIN US DURING THE SEASON OF LENT



This week at 12 noon
Wednesday, March 12
 at **First Presbyterian Church**
Dr. Jim Bocian,
St. Paul UMC (Washington Street)

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.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT GFUMC



Join us for lunch in the GREAT Room following the service.

Monday, March 17
12 Noon in the Chapel
 Rev. Wendy Cordova

Tuesday, March 18
12 Noon in the Chapel
 Rev. Tom Jones

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.



Holy Thursday, March 20
7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

A dramatic monologue from Matthew, a disciple of Jesus, entitled "From Greed to Generosity." Holy Communion will be served.

Good Friday, March 21
12 Noon in the Sanctuary
Dr. Bruce Morgan. Ret. Pastor and member of First Baptist Church will deliver the message. Please join us for lunch in the GREAT Room following the service.



The schedule for Easter Sunday can be found on the back page.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

HOMELESS OFFERING

Thank you for your generous donations totaling \$3,221 to the Housing & Homeless Council on Sunday, February 24.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

This 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



Whewwwww! The 7th Annual MAC Madness Basketball Tournament ends on Monday, March 10, after **66 games**. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the tournament a success!!!

UMW CIRCLES



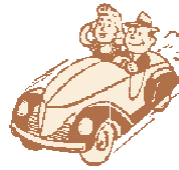
SPIRITUAL GROWTH CIRCLE
Monday, March 10
10 a.m. at the home of **Charline and Susan Shanks**.

OLDER ADULTS

GADABOUTS

Wednesday,
March 12

11 a.m. in the
Reception Hall



Jan Gardner will be our special guest. 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 and includes transportation. Contact **Beth Swenson** at 770.536.2341, ext. 139 to sign up!

CALLAWAY GARDENS

Monday, May 12

\$35/person

Includes a buffet lunch, tour, and transportation from Gainesville First UMC. Contact **Beth Swenson** at 770.536.2341, ext. 139 to sign up!

EASTER VISITS



We request your participation in the **Easter Special Visitation**

of our homebound and nursing home members.

The visitation will be on **Palm Sunday, March 16**. Please come to the Gathering Room, choose a family to visit (cards provide address and phone numbers), pick up the gift, and some time during this week, visit the family or individual you chose.

Your visit will make Easter even more special for our loved ones.

WELCOME TO GFUMC



GET CONNECTED!

A three week introduction to the church, offered to visitors and new members who want to learn a little more about our church and United Methodism. Join us for one or all sessions not only to learn more about the church, but to meet others like yourself who may be new to our congregation! Our hope is that this will also help you to find ways you can "connect" and "plug in" to the community and the ministries here at GFUMC. This class is offered at 9:45 a.m., during the Sunday School hour.

Sunday, April 13

Church Tour & Meet and Greet

Sunday, April 20

Who are we? What do we believe?

Sunday, April 27

What does it "mean" to be a church member?

For more information or if you have questions, please contact **Rev. Wendy Cordova** by phone at 770.536.2341, ext. 135 or by email at wcordova@gfumc.com.

GREAT DAY OF SERVICE . . . TWENTY DAYS AND COUNTING . . .

Do you feel the excitement when you enter our church? The posters, collection bins, folks in the Gathering Room to answer questions - the key topic seems to be our second Great Day of Service scheduled for March 29, 2008.



Our Cotton Patch Dinner/Theater fundraiser set the tone by providing a fun and entertaining evening and raised more than \$14,000. These dollars will assist in the funding of projects allowing us to benefit others with our time and resources. Thanks Suzanne Phillips, Susan Bracewell, Dana Gay and their committees for a terrific job!

Your response to date has been most reassuring, but please know there are still tasks to be completed. Remember, if you are not available on Saturday, March 29, just check the service opportunities on the bright green brochure. There are tasks to be done in advance as well as projects to be completed on the actual day.

Great Day of Service gives us the opportunity to bless others, and in turn to be blessed ourselves. If you have not signed up, we urge you to get busy to assure your blessing. There are only 20 remaining days!

NEW TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES

How to Raise Kids Who Stand Out from the Crowd *Effective Parenting in a Defective World*

by Chip Ingram

Begins Tuesday, March 11, 10 a.m. in Room S-01



A parent's greatest desire is to raise a child who can face anything with wisdom and confidence. But in a world of over-extended schedules, amoral messages, and incessant peer-pressure, how can you raise a confident child that follows God's will, not the world's? Chip Ingram's practical tips for modeling right living, building strong bonds, and disciplining effectively will help parents bringing up Christ-centered kids who feel secure and significant no matter what comes their way. This 9-week study is facilitated by **Kara Scroggs**. The cost is \$11.

Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Study *The Gospel of Matthew*

Begins Tuesday, March 18, 7 - 8 a.m. in the Reception Hall



The Gospel of Matthew is placed first in the New Testament, not because it was written first, but because of the importance given to this Gospel in the life of the church. Most people, if they are fortunate, know at least one person they can count on for moral consistency and integrity. They turn to this person in times of trouble and questioning. Throughout the centuries Matthew's Gospel has been such a stable friend to the church. This 10-week study is facilitated by **Dr. Terry Walton**. There is no cost to attend. The Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study is ongoing. New members are welcome to join at any time!

Register online at www.gfumc.com or by calling the Church Office at 770.536.2341.



Attention Youth Guys!!!
Guy's Night Out - Hockey Game
Friday, March 14
Cost is \$20. Sign up on/before March 9.

Are you in college? Are you college-age?
Check out ICHTHYS Sunday
School class on Sunday mornings
at 9:45 a.m. in Room S-142.



FAMILY SUPPER

Wednesday, March 12

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

**Baked Lasagna, Garlic Bread,
Antipasto Salad, Salad Bar,
Asparagus Salad, Waldorf 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.

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. 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. Additional information can be found online at 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.

MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY

March 16, 2008



If you have been visiting Gainesville First and would like to make this your church home on the next Membership Sunday, please contact **Rev. Wendy Cordova** at 770.536.2341, ext. 135. See page 3 for information on our Get Connected! Class and find out how you can get involved at GFUMC!

Calendar

MARCH 9 - 16, 2008



SUNDAY - March 9

Daylight Saving Time begins
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 Luncheon
- 2:00 Girl Scout Troop #806
- 4:00 GriefShare Support Group
- 4:00 Youth Choir
- 5:00 Crown Financial Study
- 5:00 Dinner for the Schmebling Family
- 5:00 Disciple I
- 5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship)
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

MONDAY - March 10

- 9:00 Aerobics
- 9:00 Methodist Men Cooking
- 10:00 Active Older Adult Aerobics
- 10:00 Spiritual Growth Circle (at home of Charline & Susan Shanks)
- 12:00 Emmaus Reunion Group
- 4:00 Bible Club & Tutoring
- 5:30 MAC Madness Basketball Tournament
- 6:30 Disciple II
- 6:30 Great Day of Service Steering Committee Meeting
- 6:30 Prayer Ministry Team Meeting
- 7:00 Highlands Church Bible Study
- 7:00 Men's Emmaus Reunion Group
- 7:30 Adult Bells

TUESDAY - March 11

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 8:30 Christ Centered Yoga
- 9:00 Intercessory Prayer Group
- 9:30 Believers Band Practice
- 10:00 *Effective Parenting* Bible Study
- 10:00 *Intimate Issues* Bible Study
- 10:00 *Living A Purpose-Full Life* Bible Study
- 10:00 *Loving Well* Bible Study
- 6:00 Believers Band Practice
- 6:00 Great Day of Service Committee Meeting
- 6:00 Trustees Meeting
- 7:00 Stephen Ministry
- 8:00 MLC Band Practice

WEDNESDAY - March 12

- 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 13

- 9:30 Disciple IV (at Lanier Village Estates)
- 10:00 MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers
- 10:00 Prayer Quilts
- 5:30 Finance Meeting
- 6:30 Congregational Care Committee Mtg.
- 6:30 SPR Meeting
- 7:00 Ballroom Dance

FRIDAY - March 14

- 9:00 Aerobics
- 10:00 Active Older Adult Aerobics
- 1:00 Prayer Shawls
- 5:00 Guy's Night Out to Gwinnett Gladiators Game
- 5:45 Gaine/Frees Wedding Rehearsal
- 7:30 Emmaus

SATURDAY - March 15

- 9:00 Child & Babysitting Safety Class
- 12:00 Beacon Trip to Atlanta Passion Play
- 1:00 Gaine/Frees Wedding

SUNDAY - March 16

- 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
- 3:15 Cub Scout Meeting
- 4:00 GriefShare Support Group
- 4:00 Youth Choir
- 5:00 Crown Financial Study
- 5:00 Disciple I
- 5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship)
- 6:00 Children's Council Meeting
- 7:00 Church Council Meeting
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)



Come and check out what is new in the Library.

Tuesdays with Morrie

Spiritual Lives of the Great Composers

Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths
and many more!

New Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Wednesday 5 - 7 p.m., Sunday 9:45 - 11 a.m.

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

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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



Cameron Bowden
770.201.0263

Tonya Gore
Angela Burrell's niece
770.201.0867

Faye Shadburn
770.201.0429

Katie Tulin
1.800.225.3412

Easter Sunday, March 23

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service in the Reception Hall

Please join us for light breakfast of biscuits, coffee, and juice in the GREAT Room immediately following the Sunrise service.

8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 10:55 a.m. Sanctuary Services

No Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

10:55 a.m. Living Waters Worship Service



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