



The BRIDGE

VOLUME LI
NUMBER 11

GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH 15, 2009



Dear Friends,

On a personal note, I just want to extend to you a heartfelt word of thanks! You have been graciously supportive and encouraging to me and to the many who have been working hard to add a second Living Waters Service to our Sunday Morning Worship schedule. I am grateful for the ways in which this community continues to grow and is seeking to invite God to use us to reach those in need. Thank you for who you are and for all that you are doing to share God's grace and love with Gainesville and the world.

We are now knee-deep into this season of the Christian calendar that we call Lent. I have come to love this season. It is a time in which we intentionally practice our faith and seek to learn more about Jesus, our Savior. I have grown to appreciate the work God does in my heart during this season of repentance and reflection. For me, a meaningful Lenten season equals a joyous Easter Morning!

From my own heart, I would like to share what I am focusing on during this season. In my life and in my faith walk. I am a "do-er." Remember the story of Mary and Martha? Jesus comes to visit them and Mary sits at his feet to listen to Jesus and Martha is busy "doing" all kinds of work to get everything ready for the guest of honor. I am Martha. This Lenten season, I hear God inviting me to sit at the feet of Jesus and to spend a bit of time just "being." Honestly, that is hard for me; I would rather be a "do-er." Yet, I hear God asking me to trust ... the "doing" will flow from the "being." If I focus on the "being," God will make sure the "doing" happens.

I invite you to join me at the feet of Jesus listening, being, and allowing Jesus' words and presence to transform us from the inside out.

Happy Lent!

Grace & Peace,

*At Living Waters, there are many signs of growth...
For the past two Sundays, we had a combined attendance of over 200!*

*We also celebrate many friendly, dedicated leaders:
a Host / Greeter Team of 21, a Visual Arts Team of 6 artists,
a Praise Team of 18 musicians, the Living Waters Prayer Team
of 7 prayers, and the Sound / PowerPoint Team of 2 helpers!
Thanks to everyone who is serving in these areas of ministry!*

Worship Services



Plantin'
Time

Sermon Series

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

"Sweatin' Time"

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

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

Dr. Terry Walton

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

Rev. Tom Jones

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

ATTENDANCE 3/8/2009

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary 283
9:30 a.m. Living Waters 94
10:55 a.m. Living Waters 117
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary 603
Worship Totals 1097
Sunday School 526

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are to the glory of God and in loving honor of **Wilson Young Wallace** and in memory of his maternal grandfather, **James Wilson Livingston**, given by Betty Livingston.

BAPTISMS

Mason Sarah McNally will be baptized this Sunday during the 8:30 a.m. Sanctuary worship service. Mason Sarah's parents are Mark and Raquel McNally.

Wilson Young Wallace will be baptized this Sunday during the 10:55 a.m. Sanctuary worship service. Wilson's parents are Leigh and Sam Wallace.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

...to **Jackie Forrester** on the death of her mother and **Amie Forrester's** grandmother.

...to **Jay Leslie** on the death of his brother in law.



GREAT DAY OF SERVICE HAS FINALLY ARRIVED

Attention All GDS Volunteers

Thanks for your willingness to serve on Saturday, March 21. If you have not heard from your project team leader with your assignment by Monday, March 16, please call the Church Office.

GREAT DAY OF SERVICE AGENDA

7:30 - 8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:15 - 8:45 a.m.	Worship
9:00 a.m.	Depart to Serve

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 their ice cream truck!*)



DONATION WISH LIST

Below is a list of items still needed for Great Day of Service Projects. Please place your donated items in the collection bins located throughout the church.

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 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 on **Friday, March 20**, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.



We also need volunteers to help package the cookies on Friday, March 20. If this sounds like something you would like to do, please call **Dana Wilson** at 770.287.9452 or email at drowewilson1306@charter.net.

EASTER AT GFUMC

*Worship One Hour
Serve One Hour*

We are seeking folks who would be willing to offer themselves in service for one hour on Easter morning. We need volunteers to help with greeting, hosting, food service, and much, much more!

If you are interested in being a part of the Hospitality Team for Easter morning please contact Pam Spivey in the Church Office with your name and the time you would like to serve.

HOLY THURSDAY SERVICE
Communion / Tenebrae Service
April 9 at 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary



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 **Sunday, March 29, 2009**. Payment **MUST** accompany the order. Please do not mail orders, but bring to the Church Office or place in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Thank you!

LENT



COMMUNITY LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

12 noon

Wednesdays during Lent & Good Friday

Wednesday, March 18 at First Baptist Church of Gainesville

Dr. David McDonald,
First Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, March 25 at Gainesville First UMC

Rev. Doug Dailey,
Grace Episcopal Church

Wednesday, April 1 at St. Michael Catholic Church

Rev. Calvin Haney, St. Paul United Methodist Church (Washington St.)

Wednesday, April 8 at St. Paul Methodist Church (Washington St.)

Dr. Bill Coates, First Baptist Church

Good Friday

April 10 at First Baptist Church of Gainesville

Dr. Terry Walton, Gainesville First United Methodist Church

A light lunch will be served following each worship service. Loving childcare will be provided for infants through children 5 years of age.

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

Easter Sunday, April 12

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 18, 2009

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

Broccoli Cheddar Soup, Hot Ham and Cheese Subs, Garden Salad with all the trimmings / Shrimp Tortellini Salad,

Fruit, Cottage Cheese and Assorted Fresh Baked Cookies

Kids Meal: Ham & Cheese Sandwich / Chips



Make your supper reservation while browsing online at 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.

A NEW SONG - YOUTH NEWS

"He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God." Psalm 40:3

Last Sunday, we were blessed with the sound of 3, 4, and 5 year old voices. A special thanks goes out to the directors of the Cherub and Celebration Choirs for their year of service to our youngest singers. **Haley Wilson, Miriam Welling, Lesley Congdon, Julie Payne and Elizabeth Coleman** have been very dedicated and faithful leaders this choir year.

All of the children's choirs will present a program of praise entitled "Tell Me the Story of Jesus," on Wednesday, April 1, at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary, following dinner. Come hear the story of our Lord's life, death, and resurrection told again through the reading of scripture and the voices of children.

A New Song,
Michelle Alexander
Music Ministry Assistant



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

Pray!
Dial the pager number of the person for whom you have prayed. 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

PRAYER PAGERS

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.

STUDENT MINISTRY

www.gfumcyouth.com

Be sure to check out our new Student Ministry website. You can go to the church's website and click on the student ministry tab from the Ministry pull down menu, from which you will automatically be taken to our site, or you can go to **www.gfumcyouth.com**. We hope you enjoy it and will let us know what you would like to see there.

Don't forget to sign up for our summer events: GAP and BigStuf. Forms are in the Youth Hall, in the information center outside the Youth Hall, in the Church Office, and now on the website.

OLDER ADULTS

GADABOUTS

Wednesday, March 18

11 a.m. Reception Hall

Rev. Debby Fox will help us focus on the season of Lent.



GFUMC TRAVELERS

Still time to sign up to see the **Cherry Blossom Festival** on Thursday, March 26. Cost: \$25, and includes lunch and tour. Contact Pam Spivey in the Church Office if interested.

Join us for a 7-day trip to **Branson, Missouri** beginning September 21. Cost \$895. A deposit of \$100 will guarantee your reservation.

Call **Jane Lower** at 770.535.8418 if you are interested in this trip!

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.



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.



MONDAY, MARCH 16 -MOCK INTERVIEWS
Want to improve your interviewing skills? Individual mock interviews will be conducted on Monday, March 16, from 8-9:30 a.m. in the Adult Lobby.

For more information, please contact **Anne Dittman** at 770-531-1633.

Calendar

MARCH 15 - 22, 2009

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
- 6:00 Executive Committee
- 6:30 Youth Choir Parents' Meeting
- 7:00 Church Council
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

MONDAY - March 16

- 8:00 Career Connection Initiative
- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 10:00 AOA Aerobics
- 10:00 Joy Circle, UMW
- 11:45 Emmaus Reunion Group
- 4:00 Urban Ministry Tutoring
- 5:30 MAC Madness
- 6:00 Troop 16 Scout Meeting
- 6:30 Congregational Care Council
- 7:30 Men's Basketball

TUESDAY - March 17

- 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
- 6:00 Believers Band Practice

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 18

- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 11:00 Gadabouts
- 12:00 Community Lenten Service at First Baptist 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 19

- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 8:30 Christ Centered Yoga
- 9:30 Christian Believer (Off-site at LVE)
- 9:30 Disciple III
- 6:00 Fibromyalgia Support Group
- 7:00 Ballroom Dance

FRIDAY - March 20

- 8:00 Fitness Club
- 9:00 Aerobics
- 10:00 AOA Aerobics
- 10:00 Lenten study for women (Off-site at LVE)

SATURDAY - March 21



- 7:30 - 8:00 GDS Breakfast
- 8:15 GDS Worship
- 9:00 Depart to Serve
- 1:00 - 5:00 Celebration Sundaes

SUNDAY - March 22

- 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
- 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)



Prayer Focus:
Great Day of
Service

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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Church Office Phone: 770.536.2341 • Fax: 770.534.7914

Website: www.gfumc.com • Preschool Phone: 770.534.0409

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 to 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**
770.536.2341 or
wcordova@gfumc.com.

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 WGGa.

LISTEN ONLINE!

Sermons are now available at
www.gfumc.com/resources.



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