



The BRIDGE

VOLUME L
NUMBER 15

GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

APRIL 13, 2008

It is disappointing to me that the debate of "Global Warming" has become so political. It is sad to see that many things are dismissed without further due diligence when one discovers "which side" originated a particular 'point of view'. For example, there are many who simply dismiss 'Global Warming' because Al Gore has rallied the cause. The attitude of some people regarding important issues of our time is "if he/she is for it then I am against it" without giving considerable thought to the substance of their point of view.



Regardless of what you or I believe in regards to "Global Warming," I think we can all agree that our earth needs our care and consideration. This planet is a gift from God as our place of living and existing. As is the case with any gift, it behooves us to care for and consider its needs. To not do this is to live with a sense of arrogance and entitlement that reeks of blind self-centeredness.

Sharon and I recently were informed by our son and his wife that we are going to be grandparents! Needless to say, we are very excited. It has caused us to journey in our conversation and thinking to places where we have never been before. One of those places is that we want to make sure that our grandchildren have a healthy and vibrant earth on which to live and enjoy life. We want them to be able to breathe clean air and to enjoy clean water. We want them to see the beauty of this earth in which God has so wondrously blessed us. We want to do our part to make sure God's earth remains healthy for them.

This Sunday and Monday, Gainesville First United Methodist Church will participate in a community emphasis called "**Stewardship and Sustainability: A Challenge for Faith & Science.**" I encourage you to participate. This Sunday evening, **April 13 at 7 p.m.**, we will host a very special interfaith worship service in the Sanctuary. Come help us host this very important emphasis of our time. On Monday, April 14 at 7 p.m., there will be a public forum at First Presbyterian Church.

I'm going to be a granddad. Wow! Am I not the youngest looking granddad that you have ever known? What a thrill to be a grandparent. And yet, what a responsibility! I hope to see you Sunday.

With Love and Care,

P. S. For more information on celebrating Earth Day 2008 see the insert.

Worship Services

"A Whole Lot of Living"

John 10:1-10
8:30 a.m. & 10:55 a.m.
Traditional Services
Dr. Terry Walton

Lakeside Worship Services
Begin Sunday, May 4
8:30 a.m.

"Truth Will Set You Free"

Promises to Live By Sermon Series
John 8:31-358
10:55 a.m. Contemporary Service
Rev. Wendy Cordova

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

ATTENDANCE 4/6/2008

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary	282
10:55 a.m. Living Waters	76
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary	331
Worship Totals	689
Sunday School	396

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

...to **Diana Browne** on the death of her father.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Barbara Mizarz** for completing Stephen Ministry leadership this winter.

Barbara is a mother of three children, a lawyer, and a member of the GFUMC Chancel Choir.

IMPORTANT DATES!

Senior Graduation Recognition & Lakeside Services begin

Sunday, May 4

Confirmation Recognition & Mother's Day

Sunday, May 11

Giving Sunday

Sunday, May 18



Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

Come and see what God can do when we take a risk in faith to act radically, extravagantly, intentionally, and passionately. Join the pastors for Combined Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m. in the Chapel as they rotate facilitating a study on the book that is creating all the "buzz" around church.

April 13: Radical Hospitality, Dr. Terry Walton

April 20: Extravagant Generosity, Dr. Steve Winter

April 27: Intentional Faith Development, Rev. Debby Fox

May 4: Risk-taking Mission and Service, Rev. Tom Jones

May 11: Passionate Worship, Rev. Wendy Cordova

Hosted by the **Lost and Found Sunday School Class**. Everyone, whether you are part of a Sunday School class or not, is invited to come and see.

Just Desserts!

Don't forget to save room for dessert! Join us for a menu of different "desserts" on the remaining Wednesday evenings:



Wednesday, April 16

6 p.m. in the Gathering Room

"Learning Together: Small Group Learning Communities"

Facilitated by Rev. Debby Fox

Wednesday, April 23 at 6 p.m.

"Giving Together: A Lesson in Stewardship"

Facilitated by Ferrell Singleton

Wednesday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m. *"Bells, Pipes, & Voices"*

Presented by the Handbell Choir, Chancel Choir, & Keith Jefcoat



New! Women's Bible Study

God at Your Wits' End

by Marilyn Meberg

Tuesdays, April 16 - May 27

Facilitated by Ginny Crumley. Cost is \$15.

The good news about being at our wits'-end is that God meets us there. In *God at Your Wits' End*, Marilyn Meberg helps us cut through the mental clutter and confusion that lead to faulty thinking and shaky faith. She tenderly acknowledges our trials by revealing her own wits'-end experiences; then she points the way to rescue and respite by sharing the scriptural truths of God's enduring love and sovereign power. Register online at www.gfumc.com/women or call Nancy Mote in the Church Office at 770.536.2341, ext. 126 to sign up

A NEW SONG



CLEAN OUT THE ATTIC!

Once again it is time to gather up those items that are cluttering the corners of your attic, garage, and/or closets. Bag 'em up, box 'em up, or just drag them to the church for the Youth Choir's Rummage Sale, set for **Saturday, April 26**.

We would love to have glassware, tools, toys, furniture, books, bikes, sports stuff, old but working appliances, clothes of all types, and any other items that you wish to donate.

Bring items to **Room N-110**. The sale will benefit future Youth Choir Mission trips and other activities. Thanks for your generous support!

PRAYER PAGERS



Let these people know that you are thinking of them.

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

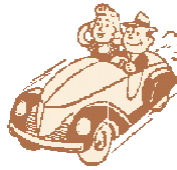
Tonya Gore
Angela Burrell's niece
770.201.0867

Faye Shadburn
770.201.0429

Katie Tulin
1.800.225.3412

OLDER ADULTS

GADABOUTS
Wednesday,
April 16
11 a.m. in the
Reception Hall



John Girardeau, Superior Court Judge, will speak on Elder Law.

UMW CIRCLES



SPIRITUAL GROWTH
Monday, April 14
10 a.m. at the home of
Myra Harris

SIGN UP NOW!!!



GAITHER HOMECOMING
Saturday, April 26
The Arena at Gwinnett Center
Cost is \$50 per person.
Call **Beth Swenson** for tickets
at 770.536.2341, ext. 139.

AT THE "MAC"

FITNESS ROOM

Have you tried our Fitness Room at the "MAC?" We've just added a new treadmill. Hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

BALLROOM DANCE

Thursdays nights
7 - 8 p.m. in the Youth Hall
Join us for the "Shag" in May!

NEW TO GFUMC?



GET CONNECTED!

Sundays, April 20 & 27
9:45 a.m. in Room S-02

This introductory class is offered to visitors and new members who want to learn a little more about our church and United Methodism. Join us to learn more about the church, and 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 to the community and ministries here at GFUMC.

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

SINGLES (40+)



THIRD SUNDAY LUNCHEON

Sunday, April 20
12:30 p.m. at Sydney's Buffet

The Beacon will meet at Sydney's Buffet for their monthly luncheon. Sydney's is located in the Big Lots' shopping center on Jesse Jewell Parkway. The Beacon will have a designated table, so ask at the front!

Check Out the GFUMC Library Cart!!!



The GFUMC Library Cart will be in the Gathering Room on Sunday mornings during the month of April with an assortment of books, DVDs, magazines, and more from our library. The hours the Library Cart will be available are 9:30-9:50 a.m. and 10:30-10:50 a.m. This is just a small portion of the Library's collection. Come and browse during the week or on Sunday morning. Library hours are: **Sunday 9:45 - 11 a.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Wednesday 5 - 7 p.m.**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL EXPLOSION!

Monday, June 16 - Friday, June 20, 2008

You've got the **POWER!** and we need you for high voltage teaching and fun as our love of Jesus bubbles over to our kids! Adults and youth volunteers are needed. Sign up in the Gathering Room on Sunday mornings.



WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT TO SAVE A LIFE?

Saturday, April 26

at Gainesville First United Methodist Church



Cost is \$58. For more information on this program, visit the website www.heartscreensforteens.com.

RELAY FOR LIFE 2008

7 p.m. Friday, May 30 - 7 a.m. Saturday, May 31

GFUMC will have a team in this year's Relay for Life. The theme this year is **Team Up for a Cure**. If you want to be on the team, please contact Lori Floyd at 770.536.2341, ext. 144 or lfloyd@gfumc.com. If you're not on the team that walks at the event, there will be other opportunities for you to help us raise money...make donations... and...purchase luminaries in honor or in memory of loved ones who have faced cancer. Watch future issues of *The Bridge* for more information.



FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP

1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month
Next meeting: Thursday, April 17
2 - 3:15 p.m. in Room S-12

Fibromyalgia, also called fibrositis, is a chronic, widespread pain in muscles and soft tissues surrounding the joints throughout the body, accompanied by fatigue.

Do you suffer from Fibromyalgia? A Fibromyalgia Support Group will meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month at GFUMC. For more information, contact **Cathy Squires** at 678.464.2090 or **Anna Barnett** at 770.531.0861.



BASIC FIRST AID Saturday, April 19 9 a.m. - 12 noon in the Adult Lobby

Participants will learn to recognize the signs and symptoms of injuries and sudden illness, as well as how to deal with emergencies like bleeding, shock, burns, sprains, allergic reactions, and seizures. Properly applied first aid can save lives and possibly mean the difference between temporary or lifelong disability. Register by calling the Church Office at 770.536.2341. The cost is \$15.

FAMILY SUPPER

Wednesday, April 16

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

**BBQ Chicken Breast, Baked Beans,
French Fries, Rolls, Salad Bar,
Mixed Fresh Fruit Bowl, Cottage
Cheese, Coleslaw, Potato Salad,
and Assorted Desserts.**

No separate Kid's Meal.

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.



Pictured above: Group photo of the Spring Break Mission Team traveling to Jamaica.

You are invited to the Youth Hall on **Sunday, April 20** from **6 - 7 p.m.** for a celebration of the two Spring Break mission trips (Ringgold, Georgia & Jamaica). There will be pictures and videos of the trips and testimonies from the students who participated!

2008 MISSION PROJECT

This year the UMW will focus on "Clean Water" as our mission project. The UMCOR Advance #525000, Clean Water and Sanitation, Nicaragua. UMCOR is working with El Porvenir using simple technology and basic materials for community construction of hand-dug wells. Over half of the people living in Nicaragua's rural communities do not have access to clean drinking water or sanitary facilities. Water and hygiene-related illnesses are largely responsible for the high death rates among children.

Join with us to help our neighbors in Nicaragua have access to clean drinking water through the El Porvenir project, which has already built over 600 projects. Checks should be made payable to the UMW.



Calendar

APRIL 13 - 20, 2008

SUNDAY - April 13

- 8:30 Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 9:45 Combined Sunday School:
Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations
- 9:45 CONNECT Class
- 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
- 2:00 Girl Scout Troop #806
- 4:00 GriefShare Support Group
- 4:00 Youth Choir
- 5:00 Disciple I
- 5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship)
- 6:00 *Forty-Sixty* Bible Study (Singles 40+)
- 7:00 Earth Day 2008 Interfaith Worship Service (Reception to follow)
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

MONDAY - April 14

- 9:00 Aerobics
- 9:00 Methodist Men Cooking
- 10:00 Active Older Adult Aerobics
- 10:00 Spiritual Growth Circle (at the home of Myra Harris)
- 12:00 Emmaus Reunion Group
- 6:30 Prayer Ministry Team Meeting
- 6:30 Disciple II
- 7:00 Adult Basketball
- 7:00 Men's Emmaus Reunion Group
- 7:30 Adult Bells

TUESDAY - April 15

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 9:00 Intercessory Prayer Group
- 9:30 Believers Band Practice
- 10:00 *Effective Parenting* Women's Study
- 10:00 *God at Your Wits' End* Women's Study
- 10:00 *Living a Purpose-Full Life* Women's Study
- 6:00 Believers Band Practice
- 8:00 MLC Band Practice

WEDNESDAY - April 16

- 9:00 Aerobics
- 11:00 Gadabouts
- 3:00 Bridge
- 5:00 Family Supper
- 6:00 Children's Bible Studies
- 6:00 Disciple IV
- 6:00 Just Desserts: *Learning Together: Small Group Learning Communities*
- 6:00 Refresh/Recharge
- 6:00 Youth Bells
- 6:15 Youth Bible Studies
- 6:30 Living Waters Worship Team
- 7:00 Chancel Choir
- 7:00 Beacon Planning Meeting (Singles 40+)

THURSDAY - April 17

- 9:00 Disciple IV (at Lanier Village Estates)
- 10:00 Prayer Quilts
- 2:00 Fibromyalgia Support Group
- 7:00 Ballroom Dance

FRIDAY - April 18

- 9:00 Aerobics
- 10:00 Active Older Adult Aerobics

SATURDAY - April 19

- 9:00 Basic First Aid

SUNDAY - April 20

- 8:30 Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 9:45 Combined Sunday School: *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*
- 9:45 Get Connected! Class
- 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 Disciple I
- 5:00 The Harbor (Youth Fellowship)
- 6:00 *Forty-Sixty* Bible Study (Singles 40+)
- 7:00 MSL: Methodist Sports League (Youth)

MOTHER'S DAY CORSAGES

The UMW will be making and selling corsages and boutonnieres for Mother's Day again this year!



Orders will be accepted through **Sunday, May 4**. You may place your order on Sunday in the Gathering Room. For your

convenience, order forms are also available in the Sunday Bulletin or in the Church Office.

All proceeds will go to missions. Every donation is appreciated. Please make checks payable to **Gainesville First United Methodist Women**.

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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 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 WGGA.



Library Hours

Sunday 9:45 - 11 a.m.
Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wednesday 5 - 7 p.m.

SCHOLASTIC

PRESCHOOL BOOK FAIR

Monday, April 21 - Friday, April 25
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in Room N-120

This is a **BOGO (Buy One, Get One Free)** Book Sale! Don't miss this great opportunity to purchase hardback books and to stock up your gift shelves! Get your kids hooked on reading!

On **Wednesday, April 23**, the Book Sale will also be open in the evening, **5:30 - 7 p.m.** for church members who would like to shop.

Proceeds go to increasing our Preschool Library collection.



2780 Thompson Bridge Rd.
 Gainesville, GA 30506

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED