



# The BRIDGE

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GAINESVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JUNE 21, 2009



## *You May Already Be A Winner!*

The folks at American Family Publishers apparently do not exclude anyone from its list of possible winners. One February, a sweepstakes notice arrived at the Bushnell Assembly of God church outside of Tampa, Florida. The letter announced that "God, of Bushnell, Florida" was a finalist for the 11 million dollar first prize!

The advertisement began, "God, we've been searching for you." Then the letter stated that if God were to win, "What an incredible fortune there would be for you, God! Could you imagine the looks you'd get from your neighbors? But don't just sit there, God."

Amidst all of the humor, the opening statement struck me: "God, we've been searching for you." I am convinced that The American Family Publishers could end its search at Gainesville First United Methodist Church. The Lord is at work in our congregation. Exciting new stirrings of the Holy Spirit are obvious in the ministry and vision of the church. We have the extraordinary privilege of serving as God's people in this time and this place.

We also recognize that our church walls are too small to ever fully house the Almighty. The Lord is also at work in the world beyond the scope of our chairs and pews. Where his children hurt and struggle, the Lord is there, too. God invites us to join him where the world's needs intersect our abilities.

We are already winners! God is with us as we gather to worship and scatter to serve. What an incredible fortune...what a wondrous prize. But don't just sit there...God sure isn't!

I'll look for you Sunday at the winners' place.

Blessings,

Dr. Steve Winter  
Executive Pastor

*P.S. You are invited to love and serve God as you love and serve people through ministry at GFUMC. See the Bridge insert for information on opportunities in which we are currently seeking people to participate.*

## *Worship Services*

*"It's A Love Without End, Amen"*

Luke 15:11-32

8:30 a.m. Lakeside &

10:55 a.m. Sanctuary

Dr. Steve Winter

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

WHAT'S IN A NAME SERMON SERIES

*"God: Potter"*

Isaiah 64:8

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

Rev. Wendy Cordova

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### ATTENDANCE 6/14/2009

8:30 a.m. Lakeside . . . . .	410
9:30 a.m. Living Waters . . . . .	76
10:55 a.m. Living Waters . . . . .	135
10:55 a.m. Sanctuary . . . . .	407
<b>Worship Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>1,028</b>
Sunday School . . . . .	292

### CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

...to **Mitch Clarke** on  
the death of his father.

### CHURCH PLATES

The UMW is selling beautiful gold-rimmed porcelain plates with an etching of the church. They will be located at the MAC entrance on Sunday mornings during the month of June. Cost is \$30.



### DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

Wednesday, July 1

*Snow Dogs*

Dinner 5 - 6:15 p.m.

Showtime 6:30 p.m.

Hamburgers and hot dogs are on the menu for the evening. Children may wear their pajamas and bring pillows and blankets to enjoy the movie comfortably on the floor. This action-packed comedy is fun for the whole family. Rated PG.

## HOPE FOR AFRICA CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Tuesday, June 30

6 p.m. in the Reception Hall



This children's choir travels to us from Humble Place United Methodist Church in Mukono, Uganda. They sang at Annual Conference in Athens

and will be singing in churches throughout our districts. Their purpose is to glorify God through music and to raise money for their mission efforts in Uganda. A love offering will be collected for this ministry. For more information visit <http://hopeforafricachildrenschoir.org>.

If you would like to help provide, cook, or serve dinner to the children's choir, please contact **Margaret Hopkins** at 678.513.1183.



## WELCOME TO GFUMC

On Sunday, June 14, we celebrated Membership Sunday. We want to welcome our new members who chose to make Gainesville First United Methodist their church home. New members can join any Sunday throughout the year. If you have been

visiting and wish to join, please do not hesitate to contact one of our pastors either on Sunday morning or by calling the Church Office at 770.536.2341.

If you are still unsure about church membership, you are invited to attend our next **Welcome & Connect Class**. This four-week class introduces you to GFUMC, its history, beliefs, and ministries, and will be offered beginning **Sunday, August 9**, at 9:45 a.m. in the GREAT Room.

## 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.

## 1ST PLACE CLASSIFIED ADS

List items for sale,  
items you need,  
and/or upcoming  
garage or yard  
sales!



GFUMC's 1st Place Classified Ad listing is intended to help our congregation and visitors to our website, buy and/or sell items. Submit your items for sale online, or use the paper form available on the community bulletin board in the hallway across from the Library. Look for the blue ribbon on the GFUMC website! Make [www.gfumc.com](http://www.gfumc.com) your **first place** for classified advertising!

## Prayer Focus:

Families



Happy  
Father's  
Day!



## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

In honor of all GFUMC men, a generous donation will be made to **Aldersgate Homes, Inc.**, which seeks to make a positive difference in the lives of persons with developmental disabilities through education, advocacy, and providing residential alternatives in an affordable, safe, and comfortable environment as they become community participants.

## OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

### GADABOUTS

Wednesday, June 24

Join the fun and fellowship with a friendly game of Bingo!



### LOW COUNTRY BOIL & CRYSTAL RIVER BLUEGRASS GOSPEL BAND

Monday, June 22, 2009

6 - 7:30 p.m., Reception Hall

Tickets for the meal are sold out, however, additional seating will be provided for those only enjoying the program. A love offering will be collected for the band. Sponsored by Fifty Plus.

### GFUMC TRAVELERS

*The Biltmore at Christmas*

November 18 - 19, 2009



Join us for a two-day, one-night trip to Asheville, North Carolina, to tour the Biltmore House for the candlelight tour of Christmas lights. Spend the night at the Grove Park Inn and see the national competition of gingerbread houses. Cost is \$339 per person which includes travel by deluxe motor coach, all meals, lodging, and tours. Contact **Jane Lower** at 770.535.8418 for additional information and to reserve your place. A deposit of \$100 is due by August 15. Balance due by October 1.

Dear GFUMC Church family,

These past two years have truly been a blessing from God. Thank you for your friendship, prayers, and support. Beginning June 28, 2009, we will serve Burns Memorial United Methodist Church in Augusta, Georgia. We are very excited about the opportunity to serve with a church that is active in missions, evangelism, and outreach. Also, God has already orchestrated opportunities to minister with the deaf community in Augusta. We will continue to use our website to keep our family and friends updated. Our web address will remain as [www.hearinghearts.com](http://www.hearinghearts.com). May God richly bless you and your family. A poster showing our gratitude is on display on the outreach board.



Sincerely,  
Keith, April, Meagan, and Jordan Cox



## RELAY FOR LIFE 2009 TEAM UPDATE

GFUMC's Relay For Life team was one of 125 teams that gathered at Road Atlanta to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The event is an opportunity to celebrate the lives of anyone who has battled cancer or is continuing to fight that battle. It is also a time to honor cancer survivors and caregivers. This year's 24-member team raised over \$2,700 for the ACS. The money raised saves lives by funding cutting-edge cancer research, early detection and prevention education, advocacy efforts, and life-affirming patient services. Contributions to Relay For Life can still be made through the American Cancer Society. For more information, contact **Lori Floyd**, Parish Nurse.

## PRAYER PAGER MINISTRY



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

Instructions for Prayer Pagers:  
Pray! Dial the pager number of the  
person for whom you have prayed.  
You will hear 3 beeps.  
Dial 111# and then hang up.

### **Diana Cindea**

Lora Cooley's friend  
770.201.0121

### **Margot Mickle**

770.201.0320

### **Brad Morris**

Lee Highsmith's friend  
770.201.0626

### **Faye Shadburn**

770.201.0429

### **Katie Tulin**

1.800.225.3412

We have received additional prayer pagers.  
If you, or someone you know would benefit from  
this wonderful prayer ministry please contact  
**Rev. Wendy Cordova** at 770.536.2341.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### **WILDERNESS DAY CAMP**

**July 20 - 24, 2009**

**8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**



A camp for rising first through sixth grades designed to help children foster Christian friendships, grow spiritually as a witness for Christ in our world, and teach them responsibility for God's earth – a gift He entrusted to our care. Registrations are now being accepted!

**Chiggers**—For rising first and second grades. Activities include a mission day and trips to American Adventures, Cagle Dairy, Frances Meadows Aquatics Center, and tubing. Cost: \$109.

**Crickets**—For rising third and fourth grades. Activities include a mission day, an overnight at the Atlanta Zoo, tubing on the river and fun at Frances Meadows Aquatics Center. Cost: \$119.

**Beetles**—For rising fifth and sixth grades. Activities include a mission day, "Sleeping with the Sharks" at Ripley's Aquarium in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and trips to Frances Meadows Aquatics Center and tubing. Cost: \$119.

*Space is limited! Be sure to register early!*

## GFUMC WILL HONOR VETERANS



### **PATRIOTIC DAY**

**Sunday, June 28**

**4 - 7 p.m.**

Come enjoy the flotilla, balloon run on the lake, kids' activities, recognition of veterans, and much more! Food will be provided by **The Varsity** for a cost of \$5 per person. Snacks like cotton candy, snow cones, and watermelon will be free!

As part of Patriotic Day, we would like to honor all our veterans. Please call the Church Office or send an email to [vbailey@gfumc.com](mailto:vbailey@gfumc.com) to give us the name, rank, branch of service, and years of service (ex. 1994-present) of veterans who are affiliated with GFUMC. You do not have to be present to be recognized.

Bring cupcakes decorated with red, white, or blue icing to honor veterans who are homebound or in assisted living facilities. Please use blue icing to designate that the whole cupcake is sugar-free. Bring all cupcakes to the GFUMC Kitchen on the morning of Patriotic Day.



If you would like to volunteer to deliver cupcakes to veterans, please contact **Michele Bellue** or **Vicki Bailey** at 770.536.2341 or [vbailey@gfumc.com](mailto:vbailey@gfumc.com). Vicki would like volunteers to have all cupcakes delivered on Monday, June 29.

There will be flotilla and balloon run sign-up sheets in the Gathering Room on Sunday. Make sure you sign up for the fun!!! Additional information available online at [www.gfumc.com](http://www.gfumc.com) or in the Church Office.



**GDS 2010  
FUNraiser  
Save the Date!  
Monday,  
October 5, 2009**

## A NEW SONG

*"Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks." John 4:23*

What an honor to be the kind of worshiper that the Father seeks! This fall, children can learn what that truly means through music. Children preschool age (3 years old as of August 1) through fifth grade can participate in our Children's Choir program that meets on Wednesday nights at 6 p.m.

Skilled and loving directors lead the children in acts of worship, anthems, creative movement, hymns, praise music, and even instruments. They learn to connect to God, grow in their relationship with God through music, and then to serve God and others by bringing their musical offering to worship.

Sign up online at [www.gfumc.com/music](http://www.gfumc.com/music) or come by the Church Office and see Lynda Petty to register. Fall programming starts with a kick-off gathering in the GREAT Room on Wednesday, August 12. Children's Choir rehearsals begin August 19 at 6 p.m.

Come join a team of true worshipers!

*Michelle Alexander*  
Music Ministry Assistant  
770.536.2341, ext.151  
[malexander@gfumc.com](mailto:malexander@gfumc.com)

## COMBINED ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



**AT THE MASTER'S FEET:  
THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS**  
**Sundays in June and July**  
**10 a.m. in the Adult Lobby**  
Come early for fellowship,  
coffee, and donuts at 9:45 a.m.

**June 21**

*Doubting Thomases*  
John 20:24-31  
Nancy Perkins

**June 28**

*The Trouble with Forgiveness*  
John 8:1-11, John 5:1-15  
David Lee

## Calendar

**JUNE 21 - 28, 2009**

### SUNDAY - June 21

#### Father's Day

8:30 Lakeside Worship  
9:30 Living Waters Praise & Worship  
9:45 At the Master's Feet Combined Class  
9:45 Sunday School  
10:55 Living Waters Praise & Worship  
10:55 Sanctuary Worship

### MONDAY - June 22

8:00 Fitness Club  
9:00 Emmaus Prayer Group  
9:00 Methodist Men Cooking  
9:15 Aerobics  
10:15 AOA Aerobics  
11:45 Emmaus Reunion Group  
6:00 50+ Low Country Boil & Bluegrass Band  
7:00 Emmaus  
7:00 Troop 16 Scout Meeting  
7:30 Men's Basketball

### TUESDAY - June 23

7:00 Men's Bible Study  
8:00 Fitness Club  
8:30 Intercessory Prayer Group  
9:00 Christ Centered Yoga  
9:15 Aerobics  
9:30 Believers Band Practice  
11:00 Transforming Discipleship Bible Study  
6:00 Believers Band Practice  
6:30 Transforming Discipleship Bible Study  
7:00 Compel - College Age Worship

### WEDNESDAY - June 24

#### Youth leave for GAP

#### Gainesville Aid Project

8:00 Fitness Club  
8:00 Urban Ministry Zoo Trip  
9:15 Aerobics  
11:00 Gadabouts  
12:00 Support & Healing Planning Meeting  
3:00 Bridge  
6:00 Emmaus Prayer Group  
6:00 Living Waters Bible Study  
6:00 Refresh/Recharge  
6:15 Accountability Group  
6:15 PHASES Accountability Groups  
7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 Living Waters Rehearsal

### THURSDAY - June 25

8:00 Fitness Club  
9:00 Christ Centered Yoga  
10:00 Prayer Quilts  
5:30 Finance Meeting

### FRIDAY - June 26

8:00 Fitness Club  
9:15 Aerobics  
10:15 AOA Aerobics

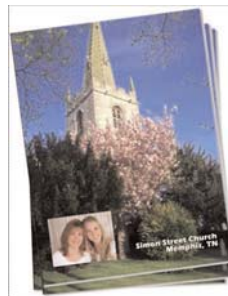
### SUNDAY - June 28

#### Patriotic Day

#### Sign-ups begin for Photo Directory

8:30 Lakeside Worship  
9:30 Living Waters Praise & Worship  
9:45 At the Master's Feet Combined Class  
9:45 Sunday School  
10:55 Living Waters Praise & Worship  
10:55 Sanctuary Worship  
4:00 Patriotic Day begins  
4:30 Worship Committee Meeting  
7:00 Called Charge Conference

## CHURCH DIRECTORY



Now that we are on our way to knowing one another's names by using name tags, we want to put faces with those names! Help us to have a complete church directory by signing up to have your picture made. Sign-ups will begin on Sunday, June 28 in the Gathering Room.

We are also looking for people to help with publicity, contacting our families, portrait appointment sign-ups, greeting our families during photography, and creative new design ideas.

If you are interested or want to learn more about any of these opportunities, please contact **Laura Haynes**, Communications Manager, at 770.536.2341, ext. 137, or [lhaynes@gfumc.com](mailto:lhaynes@gfumc.com).

# 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

## 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.

## LISTEN ONLINE!

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



## LUNCHEON FOR SINGLES 40+

Sunday, June 21

12:30 - 2 p.m. at Ruby Tuesday

Are you single? Are you more than 40 years young? Join us for lunch at Ruby Tuesday at the Dawsonville Outlets. The phone number is 706.216.2333 should you need to call for directions or questions about the menu. Singles meet every third Sunday of the month for lunch at a local restaurant. Contact the Church Office for a current copy of *The Guiding Light* newsletter for more information on our singles ministry or contact **Miriam Welling** at 770.535.9128.



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