



Into the World

Gainesville First United Methodist Church
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Outreach Newsletter
Volume 2, Issue 2
Summer 2009

*"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can,
at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as you can." John Wesley*



Since its founding in 1976 by Millard and Linda Fuller, Habitat for Humanity International has built and rehabilitated more than 300,000 houses with partner families, helping house more than 1.5 million people and becoming a true world leader in addressing the issues of poverty housing.

Through the work of Habitat, thousands of low-income families have found new hope in the form of affordable housing. Churches, community groups, and others have joined together to successfully tackle a significant social problem – decent housing for all.

This summer, GFUMC is teaming up with Habitat for Humanity of Hall County to build another Habitat house. Volunteers will complete jobs such as framing, siding, painting, and landscaping! No experience required as HFH provides on-the-job training. This is a great project for individuals as well as small groups! For volunteer opportunities, contact Holly Owens at greenstcir915@hotmail.com.

The Mission of GFUMC Outreach Ministry

The mission of the Outreach Ministry of Gainesville First UMC is to demonstrate Christian love through actions and activities that relieve suffering and improve the quality of life. We believe that members of our congregation grow in faith through service and that the lives of those served may be transformed with hope. As such, GFUMC embraces mission opportunities both locally and globally.

Outreach Committee

Abb Hayes, Chair
John Bisson
Elaine Burnette
Sally Darden
Lynn Dickey
Rob Fowler
Mike Maloney
Eddie Martin, Jr.
Wayne Mulkey
Ed Nance
Robb Owens
Marcia Price
Wes Turner

Clergy liaison: Tom Jones
Staff liaison: Pam Spivey

Outreach Collections

June 7—14
Shoe Collection
(see more details
on back)

July 12—19
School Supplies
Collection

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

Urban Ministry Update

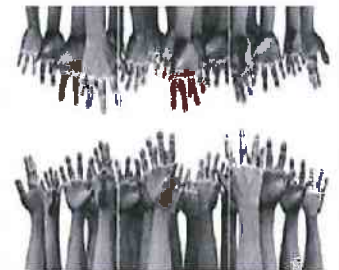


I don't even know what to say besides, "What a year!" We kicked things off at the beginning of the school year with a Back to School party at the Laurel Park Sprayground and it has been a blur of activities through May.

Every Monday throughout the year, GFUMC hosts an After School Program (A.S.P.) for 20-30 first through fifth graders from Baker & Glover neighborhood. This is a time of recreation, chapel, and school work. We ended A.S.P. for the year at the beginning of May with a skate party followed the next day with a limo ride for the six children with top performance for the year.

Each Tuesday, some members from GFUMC, along with people from other community churches and The Torch, come together for "Bible Club" which is a time of play and devotion at the chapel in the kids' neighborhood. This wraps up with the summer break.

I think that you could ask any of the many awesome men and women who volunteer their lives to these children and each of them would probably tell you that they have been profoundly impacted by serving Christ in this way. If you would have asked me two years ago if I thought I'd be serving Christ in this way, I would have told you, "You're crazy!" But now I'm the crazy one—crazy in love with Christ and with these kids. Each and every one of them is like my own and I certainly want my own to know Christ. This is why I am there week after week available for Christ to make Himself known to these precious children.



At the end of the summer and the beginning of the next school year, GFUMC will kick off our third year of involvement with the kids of Baker & Glover. We would LOVE to have you join us on this adventure! Feel free to call or email me to talk further about it. Your only regret will be that you didn't get involved sooner!

Meredith Pierce

770.532.8479; teachpierce@bellsouth.net

Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers are needed at the Community Food Pantry. Current opportunities include:

- 1) occasional truck drivers for pick-up and deliveries,
- 2) administrative and office volunteers,
- 3) Delivery Day Assistant - helps coordinate orders to agencies on Food Delivery Day from Atlanta once a month.

If you are interested in volunteering, please call Kay Blackstock at 770.967.0075.



Shoe Collection

Shoe Collection For Kids in Honduras

June 7 - 14, 2009

Orphanage Emmanuel Children are in need of shoes for ages 2 to 16. They need new or gently used shoes that are sturdy like tennis, running, or other hard-soled shoe.

Please place them in the collection bins which can be found in the Gathering Room or outside the MAC.

Contact Lynn Dickey at 770.983.0695 if you have any questions.

