

First connections

March 2011
Vol. 48 No. 3

A loving people of worship, community and service

First Baptist Gainesville, 751 Green St., Gainesville, GA 30501

Calendar Reminders

Friday, March 4

6:00pm

More than a Movie: **Mulan**

Sunday, March 6

6:00-8:00pm

Youth Fellowship: **Monkey Joe's**

Wednesday, March 9

Ash Wednesday

Friday, March 11

4:00pm

Seniors with Seniority:

Church Basement Ladies

Friday-Saturday, March 11-12

7:00pm-7:00am

4th & 5th Grade Lock-in

Monday, March 14

10:15am

Estes Dozier Mission Group

Saturday, March 19

1:00-4:00pm

Youth Mission Project

5:00-9:00pm

Parent's Night Out

Sunday Mornings

Worship

8:30am Chapel

10:50am Sanctuary

Live Broadcast on WCON

99.3FM & online

www.fbcgainesville.org -

broadcasts begin at 11:00am

Sunday School

9:45am for ALL ages

Contact Us

Church Office 770-534-7354

Fax 770-532-8861

Family Life Center 770-535-0478

Prayer Call 770-333-7445

Weekday Preschool 770-535-2329

www.fbcgainesville.org

A Word from Our Pastor...

Dear Church,

Suffering is unavoidable. It is universal. Jesus wept.

We who always want to feel good and pursue happiness must remember that Good Friday comes before Easter. "Weeping endures for a night, but joy comes in the morning." Sometimes, though, it seems that the night of weeping is so long it will never end. Some in this church are going through the long night right now -- the darkness of family distress, financial hardship, personal loss, prolonged physical illness, or just plain loneliness. It's the human condition: disorder, inequity, life is unfair.

And so we observe Lent. (Notice that we "celebrate" Easter but we "observe" Lent.) The Lenten season is here to make us look at reality and see our condition that all is not well with us or with our world; and that, despite all our best efforts, we cannot make it right by ourselves. Lent reminds us that "the Lord is near unto them who are of a broken heart" though we may not feel this is true when our hearts are broken. We are in need of help, in need of change, in need of God. This is the message of Lent. If we try to skip over it or avoid it, then Easter loses its meaning and is robbed of its gladness. What's the point of being raised up if we try to deny that we are cast down? Lent, far from being a grim and morbid time, is a prelude to hope and wellness. This is why the Church has observed Lent for all these centuries and why we observe it, beginning this month of March. It starts with Ash Wednesday when we worship together in a special service at 6:00 PM in our sanctuary. It continues for forty days (not counting Sundays because each Sunday is a little Easter). It concludes in Holy Week when we have a service each day at noon, a special service of Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday evening, and a Good Friday service here in our sanctuary. And each Wednesday in Lent, we meet with our other Christian friends, Methodists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Catholics on Wednesdays for our noon services.

Meanwhile . . . the final touches are being applied to the new Music Hall which will house orchestra, handbells, and the music library. The new adult restrooms are almost complete. The new church library is being restocked and totally computerized so that librarian Faye McLeroy can again issue books to you. The Vietnamese congregation has opened up a new classroom, Pastor Joe Tu's office moves upstairs, while Preschool Director Lisa Johnson moves down the hall closer to the children's wing and preschool floor. We are a giant step closer to economizing our space and opening up new and needed space. All this thanks to your generosity in the Our Faith Our Future visionary campaign.

Finally, keep cooperating with God. That's what prayer is, and God blesses it -- and us.

Your friend and pastor,
Bill Coates

~ See the Lenten & Easter Schedule on page 3. ~



Discover God through caring...

Student Ministry Mission Project

Saturday, March 19th 1:00-4:00p.m.

The youth want to raise money to help with youth missions. Be a Site Sponsor!

For a donation a group of up to 5 youth will come to your house and do one of the following as an act of service for you:

1. Spring cleaning: clean out that garage or spare bedroom you've been putting off.
2. General cleaning: Have the youth do general basic cleaning throughout the main areas of your home: vacuuming, dusting, washing the dishes, etc.
3. Light Yard Work: Need something planted or some stuff moved?



This would be a great gift for a friend or a relative who cannot do these things themselves or cannot find the time. Help our youth raise money and serve others at the same time!

For more information or to sign up as a site sponsor, please contact: Philly Ard 770-535-0478.

MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

There is a volunteer need that fits your gifts in this diverse community and world. If you are interested in going just a little bit beyond your comfort zone or if you are interested in going a good bit beyond your comfort zone, call Ruth Demby to learn of the many, many opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ here. From administrative assistance to evangelism or construction, there is a place for you.

The four women who recently returned from Uganda had a tremendous experience, sharing Christ's love in word and service and in receiving Christ's love through the lovely people. They were able to provide many more opportunities for impoverished women to have business opportunities through funding for goats, vegetable stands, and other small business endeavors. Melly Williams, Vanessa Schaeffer, Lynne Hanson, and Ruth Demby thank you for your prayers and monetary gifts for this mission trip with AMG.



A Ugandan mother will be able to feed and clothe her family with proceeds from the two goats who were born moments before we arrived at her home.

Honduras Mission Trip

Mission trips that are currently forming include a trip with Honduras Outreach International to Honduras from July 30 to August 6 this summer. Our own Fred Ingles has been going to Honduras for years, using his skills as a vet to train Hondurans to better care for their livestock. Kent Murphey will return to Honduras to lead this trip that will include a dental, construction, VBS, and perhaps a medical component. This trip is open to all skill levels! Please call Ruth Demby (770) 534-7354 for further details or to learn more about finding a place in missions.

Estes- Dozier Missions Group

Habitat for Humanity Study Monday, March 14

Allen Jernigan will be speaking Monday, March 14 on local Habitat work at 10:15 a.m. in the FBC parlor.

Seniors with Seniority...

Travel Club

Spring Trip to Vidalia/Savannah

Saturday-Monday, April 9-11

Cost \$150 per person (Double)

\$210 (Single)

Please note.....(MEALS NOT INCLUDED)

Deposit of \$75 must be paid by Sunday, March 20 Total payment by April 3

Make checks payable to FBC

Memo Savannah

"Church Basement Ladies"

Friday, March 11

Cost: \$30

Depart: 4:00pm

A Play at The Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts.



Chatuge Spiritual Enrichment Retreat

Lake Chatuge Lodge Hiawassee

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

March 16, 17, 18

Retreat Pastor: Dr. Larry Fields (Study of Galatians)

Three days/Two Nights lodging 2

Breakfasts/2 Dinners included

\$180 (Two in a Room)

\$200 (Single)

Balance Deadline: March 13

Contact Bruce Fields or C.J.

Wehmiller for more information

(Retreat Reservation Forms can be

found in your Sunday School

classroom....Pick one up this

Sunday!)

Let the Little Ones Come Unto Me...

4th and 5th Grade Lock-In



March 11th & 12th at the
Family Life Center
7:00 pm- 7:00 am
Cost of Lock-In is \$8.00. Please
bring a 2-liter of soda & snack to
share. Pizza will be provided.

This is a special preteen event! Get ready to
get your "game on" have fun and dive
deeper into God's Word! Make sure to bring
a Friend! Reserve your spot by e-mailing
kellie.denton1@gmail.com

More than a Movie!

Friday, March 4

6:00p.m.

Youth Auditorium

Here is your box office ticket to fun Bible
learning with your child on the big screen!

These are family favorite films where we will explore
and debrief Bible truths. Each evening features a
"themed" movie event where we will

have intermissions packed with fun and games and snacks! Make
this a family event and bring a friend!



First Baptist Weekday Preschool Registration for the 2011/2012 School Year

Registration for the 2011/2012 school year is currently underway. We have preschool classes for children ages 1 (by
Sept. 1, 2011) through Pre-K. We offer 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. classes, as well as 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. classes.

Our commitment remains to provide the best possible preschool experience for children within a Christian
environment. Registration forms and fee schedules are available in the Welcome Center.

For more information, please call Lisa Johnson at 770-535-2329.

Hey Students, don't miss out...

Student Ministry

DNOW 2011: Who You Gonna Call?

March 18-20

Cost: \$70

When you are in distress, who you gonna call? The
Ghostbusters?! No, Jesus!! Join us for DNOW 2011 as
we explore hard times in life and how to call upon the
name of the Lord for help. Feel the courage to ask the
hard questions and see what God answers, discover
scriptures where hard things happened but God was
there, and of course build better relationships with your
friends and with God through Mission, Community, and
Fellowship.

This will be a weekend you will not want to miss!

High School Spring Break Mission Trip

High School students are going to New Orleans from
April 2-7. The cost of the trip is \$150. There will be a
meeting for parents and students on March 2nd at
7:30pm in the youth auditorium. Sign-ups are taking
place now.

BIG WED WORSHIP: Mar 2nd

The youth will all meet together for a big worship service
together on Mar 2nd in the youth auditorium from 6:30-
7:30pm. Bring a friend and come worship with us!

Youth Fellowship

Sunday, March 6 6:00-8:00pm

\$10.00 Supper Provided

Destination: Monkey Joe's

The Edge: Seniors

March 28th, 7: 30pm at Chris' house.

ATTENTION GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & PARENTS!!!

We will honor you on Sunday, May 15, 2009 in the 10:50 worship service preceded by a brunch that morning at 9:30 in the
Banquet Hall lobby. **(Meet in the Sanctuary at 10:20am for rehearsal and group pictures.)** Please wear graduation attire
on this Sunday. Pews will be reserved for family members. **WE DON'T WANT TO MISS ANYONE**, so please complete this
form! Along with the form, enclose a senior picture, a baby picture, and several candid shots for a slide show. Turn packet
in to Chris Burns **by April 25th**. If you have any question, call our Student Ministry Office at 678-677-8056.

Full Name:(First, Middle, Last, Nickname) _____

Address: _____

Parents' Names: _____

Graduating From: _____ Future Plans: _____

Honors & Awards: _____

How many family members will attend Sunday Brunch (including graduating senior)? _____

Would you like to decorate a memory table for your senior? Yes No

Faith through Fitness...

Please call 770-535-0478 to sign up for these programs. Visit www.fbcgainesville.org/familylifecenter for more info and a schedule of group exercise classes. Contact Liz Isandoro with questions at elizabethcts@yahoo.com

10K Trotters Training Program

8 weeks: March 14-May 7 ****NEW DATES**

Cost: \$65/FLC members, \$85/non-FLC members

Childcare provided during training. Start running now to prepare for this program! Initial runs are 2.5 miles. We'll take you from 5K to 10K in just 8 weeks! We have a "Downtown Trotters 5K/10K Race" scheduled for May 7. Register online at active.com or drop by the FLC register. *Runner's Fit* is officiating race services!!

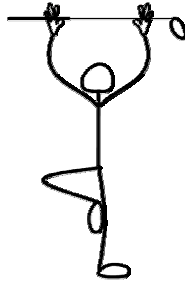
The 10K Trotters Schedule will be:

Mondays (PM): Strength & Stretch

Tuesdays (PM): Run

Thursdays (PM): Run & Strength

Saturdays (AM): Long Run



Golfer's Yoga Workshop

6 weeks: March 3-April 7

Thursdays at 9am

Cost \$60

Our yoga instructors have prepared a special workshop designed to help improve your golf game. Men should not be shy. Several golfers from our regular schedule have found their game improved since beginning yoga.

Parents' Night Out

Saturday March 19

5:00-9:00pm

For Children ages 2 and older

Cost: \$15/first child, \$10/sibling

We provide dinner, drinks and plenty of fun for kids while parent's get a night out!

Adult Volleyball

Mondays 6-8pm

Free, no registration required

Childcare provided

40+ Basketball

Thursdays 5-7pm

Downtown Trotters 5K & 10K

Saturday, May 7, 2011

5K starts at 8am, 10K starts at 9am

Join us for a beautiful run of the downtown Gainesville area!

Benefits the FLC, childcare provided

Please reserve this date on your calendar and register on Active.com

Runner's Fit officiating race services.

Volunteers needed. Please contact Liz.



Qigong Workshop

6 weeks: March 22-April 26

Cost: \$60

Please call the FLC to register by March 20

Led by Tamara Clarke

Special Note...

AARP Driver Safety Class

First Baptist Church

Friday, April 15, 2011

Room 241 (Seekers SS Classroom)

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Our own Pat Perry will conduct another class for our church members and guests! The course is for anyone and could possibly help decrease the cost for auto insurance. The cost is \$14 and can be paid at the beginning of the class and each participant should bring a sack lunch. Please call or email C.J. Wehmiller at the church office to reserve your space in the class! 770-534-7354



Make sure you turn your clocks forward on Sunday, March 13th!

Easter Egg Hunt!!

Please donate individually wrapped candy! We will fill over 8,000 eggs!

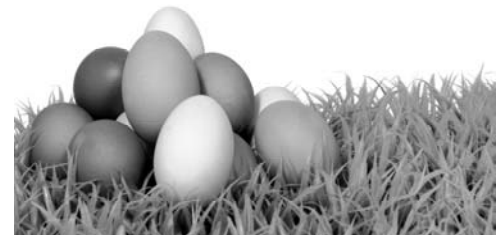
Saturday, April 23

10:00am

Front Lawn

Egg hunt & Games!

Bring a picnic lunch for your family to share and enjoy a wonderful day!



Among our members...

Sympathy & Celebration

The First Baptist Church family would like to express its deepest sympathy to the following:

Louise Vandiver in the death of her grandson:
Zach Hayes

John Mark Carpenter in the death of his sister:
Evelyn Collins

Hugh McKinney in the death of his aunt:
Marian Whitehurst

Julie Aaron in the death of her mother:
Margaret McNeil

Susan Alberson in the death of her brother:
Albert Everett

The First Baptist Church family would like to celebrate the arrival of:

Annalise Williams
Parents: Jeff & Leslie Williams
Big Sister: Claralane Williams

Jacob Ethan Owens
Parents: Chad & Paige Owens
Big Brother: Landon Owens
Big Sister: Jacqueline Owens

Worship with us...

March 6

OT: Exodus 24:12-18

NT: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Sermon:

Caught Up in Mystery

Dr. Bill Coates

Anthem: "I Bowed On My Knees and Cried Holy"

Paul Nelson, Soloist

8:30 Hope Choir

10:50 Sanctuary Choir

Special Music: Linda Thompson

March 13

OT: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

NT: Romans 5:12-19

Sermon: *Did God Really Say That?*

Dr. Bill Coates

Anthem: "Jesus Paid It All"

8:30 Rejoice Choir

10:50 Sanctuary Choir

Special Music: "The Final Word"

Jerry Johnson, Soloist

March 20

OT: Genesis 17:1-7

NT: John 3:1-17

Sermon:

Dr. Larry Fields

Anthem: "The Power of the Cross"

8:30 Agape Choir

10:50 Sanctuary Choir

Disciple Now Weekend

March 27

OT: Exodus 17:1-7

NT: John 4:5-42

Sermon: *Worship in Spirit and Truth*

Dr. Bill Coates

Anthem: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

8:30 Hope Choir

10:50 Sanctuary Choir

Special Music by Daniel Wilson &

Brittany Wilson

Community Lenten Services

Date	Location	Time	Speaker
Wednesday, March 16	First Presbyterian	12:00	Doug Dailey
Wednesday, March 23	St. Paul United Methodist	12:00	Wendy Cordova
Wednesday, March 30	First Baptist	12:00	Calvin Haney
Wednesday, April 6	St. Michaels Catholic	12:00	Jap Keith
Wednesday, April 13	First United Methodist	12:00	Jaimie Barrona
Wednesday, April 20	Grace Episcopal	12:00	Bill Coates

(All noon services will be followed by lunch at 12:30.)

Holy Week Services

Monday, April 18	First Baptist Chapel	12:00	
Tuesday, April 19	First Baptist Chapel	12:00	
Wednesday, April 20	Grace Episcopal	12:00	Bill Coates
	(No Supper or Service.)		
Thursday, April 21	First Baptist Chapel	12:00	
Maundy Thursday	First Baptist Sanctuary	6:30	Bill Coates
	(Supper at 5:30 PM on Thursday)		
Good Friday, April 22	First Baptist Sanctuary	12:00	Terry Walton

(All noon services will be followed by lunch at 12:30.)

Easter Morning

Sunday, April 4	Chapel	7:00	Sunrise Service
	Banquet Hall	8:00	Breakfast
	Sanctuary	9:00	Baptism
	Sanctuary	10:50	Great Easter Celebration



FBC Lord's Day Report

January 30, 2011 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$49,423.08
Weekly Budget Received..... \$41,863.90
Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$247,115.40
Year-to-date Budget Received \$239,422.47

February 6, 2011 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$49,423.08
Weekly Budget Received..... \$68,513.00
Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$296,538.40
Year-to-date Budget Received \$307,935.47

February 13, 2011 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$49,423.08
Weekly Budget Received \$49,159.25
Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$345,961.48
Year-to-date Budget Received \$357,094.72

February 20, 2011 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$49,423.08
Weekly Budget Received \$33,098.25
Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$395,384.56
Year-to-date Budget Received \$390,192.97
Deficit: \$5,191.59

First Baptist Church Staff Directory

Dr. William (Bill) Coates, Jr.
Pastor

billcoates@mindspring.com

Dr. Kent Murphey

Associate Pastor: Administration
kentmurphey@gmail.com

Rev. Bruce Fields

Associate Pastor: Pastoral Care / Sr. Adults
brucefields@fbcgainesville.org

Rev. Mark Green

Associate Pastor: Music
revmarkgreen@gmail.com

Rev. Jenny Burns

Associate Pastor:
Communications & Special Ministries
jennyburns1@gmail.com

Rev. Chris Burns

Associate Pastor: Students
chrisburns@fbcgainesville.org

Rev. Ruth Demby

Associate Pastor: Missions & Outreach
ruthdemby@fbcgainesville.org

Kellie Denton

Associate Pastor: Children & Families
kelliedenton@fbcgainesville.org

Steve Coldiron

Associate Minister of Music
stevcoldiron@fbcgainesville.org

Rev. Elizabeth Burnette

Associate Pastor: Discipleship
ebbunette@gmail.com

Lisa Johnson

Weekday Preschool Director
lisajohnson@fbcgainesville.org

Rev. Philly Ard

Associate Minister to Students
philadelphia.ard@gmail.com

Kristine Davis-Wright

Assistant to the Pastor
kristinwright@mindspring.com

Bethany Fansler

Financial Secretary
bethfansler@fbcgainesville.org

Angie Cole

Administrative Secretary / Receptionist
angcole@gmail.com

C.J. Wehmiller

Ministry of Caring / Pastoral Care Secretary
cjwehmiller@gmail.com

Cathy McKinney

Administrative Secretary / Music
mckinney.cathy@gmail.com

Dr. Andrea Cook

Pastoral Counselor
andreacook80@yahoo.com

Elizabeth Coates Isandoro

FLC Manager / Student Secretary
elizabethcts@yahoo.com

Elsie Maniscalco - Nursery Coordinator

Polly Hood - Church Hostess

Bo Rodgers - Director of Maintenance

Della Ruth Johnson - Organist

Amy Hulsey - Pianist

Rachel Phillips - Sound

Dr. Roberto Gama

Pastor: Hispanic Ministry

Vietnamese Baptist Ministry Gainesville, GA

Rev. Joe Phuoc Tu

Pastor: Vietnamese Mission
joetu@fbcgainesville.org

Yen O. Bui

Assistant to Vietnamese Pastor