

First connections

April 2011
Vol. 48 No. 4

A loving people of worship, community and service

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

Calendar Reminders

Monday, April 11

10:15am

Estes-Dozier Mission Group

Friday, April 15

10:00am

AARP Driver Safety Class

Saturday, April 16

5:00-9:00pm

Parent's Night Out

Sunday, April 17

6:30pm

Symphony of Keyboards

Saturday, April 23

10:00am

Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday, April 28

6:30pm

Angler's Camp Hope Dinner

7:00pm

Book Club—The Speed of Dark

Friday, April 29

9:00am

Seniors with Seniority: Blue Willow Inn

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,

Something is happening in this church. Something that can only be explained as coming from God. This year's giving is stronger than any time I can remember. A good number of people are steadily joining as members of the church. More people than ever are asking to be deeply involved. Sunday School classes are growing and discipleship groups, too. I've never seen such numbers as we have on Wednesday nights for supper and then for choirs, missions, children, youth, and adult Bible studies. Then add to all this the sweetest spirit we've ever experienced. And never has there been a greater eagerness to be involved in Christ's mission both here and in places across the world.

Do you know how good it feels for me to be able to say these things? I thank God for these realities. I thank God for each of you. I thank God for unprecedented opportunities, for changes of heart, for a great body of people who are willing to be the Body of Christ and who worship and learn and gather in gladness. I honestly think that all this is coming from your prayers, your sincere and united prayers, your expectations that God hears and God answers with the great blessing of inward changes of the heart and mind when we pray. I also wonder if sometimes there are attitudes, and even individual persons, who block God's Spirit; and things change when the blockages are gone. One thing I feel for sure: Prayer really does change people and prayer changes things. Something is happening in this church, and prayer is a definite factor.

We begin April with Communion in the morning services on the first Sunday. We end with Easter Sunday in worship at 7:00, 9:00 (and baptism), and 10:50.

Meanwhile our Wednesday Noon Lenten services continue. On Wednesday Evenings Kent Murphey and I continue our study of Great Texts Of the Bible and How The Bible Came To Us. And meanwhile, our prayers - all our prayers - continue, for one another, for our church, for God's Spirit to shape all that we hope to do and be. I love April. But I think I'm going to love this one more than any.

Your friend and pastor,
Bill Coates



GAINESVILLE-HALL COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR LITERACY PRESENTS
THE 20TH ANNUAL

Brain-Teasing, Crowd-Pleasing
Good Time Romp of a
Spelling Bee!

BRENAU UNIVERSITY'S PEARCE AUDITORIUM
TICKETS AND INFO: 770-531-4337

\$5 FOR ADULTS
\$2 FOR CHILDREN



**Come and cheer
on the FBC
team!!!**

**Bill Coates,
Sandra Edwards,
Don Landrum,
and Nell Whalen**

**April 26
7:00p.m.**

Discover God through caring...

Honduras Mission Trip

A group of ten will be going with Honduras Outreach International; they will provide construction, education, veterinarian and dentistry assistance. Pray for this group going with Honduras Outreach International. Call Kent Murphey for more information. (770) 534-7354.

Denia, Spain

July 18-22nd

A small group of high school seniors and college students return to Spain to assist Pastor Isabel Sanchez in her church in Almeria, Spain. We will provide VBS and other outreach there and also help CBF field personnel, the Whitneys in this area. Pray that they will have an impact on the lives of children and adults in this very secular country. Call Ruth Demby for more information (770) 534-7354.

Save The Dates:

Sunday May 15 at 5:00 p.m. Men's Fish Fry (benefits Spain Mission Trip)

Sunday June 5 6:30 pm. Bluegrass Concert on the lawn. This year proceeds from **Smoke House Barbecue Dinner** preceding the concert go to Spain mission trip.

Estes- Dozier Missions Group

Monday, April 11 10:15a.m. Parlor

Guest Speaker: Gainesville Action Ministries

Angler's Camp Hope Dinner

April 28 6:30p.m. Banquet Hall

Entertainment: LaFevre Quartet

Seek God through Study and fellowship...

Book Club

The Speed of Dark by Elizabeth Moon

Discussion led by Kent Murphey

Thursday, April 28 at 7:00pm

Banquet Hall Lobby



Young Men's Bible Study (20-30's)

Tuesdays at 7:15am in the Banquet Hall Lobby

If you are looking for a way to start your week with a focus on Christ and how Christ would have you live in the world, this study is for you.

Scripture is read and discussed and prayers are offered to encourage men as they seek to be Christ-centered husbands, fathers, friends and employees. Contact John McGarvey or Elizabeth Burnette for more information.

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

Parents' Night Out

Saturday April 16

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.

Check out our class schedule: www.fbcgainesville.org/familylifecenter

We offer aerobics, strength, yoga and senior exercise classes!

Community Food Pantry Lenten Food Drive 2011

The Community Food Pantry is in need of the following supplies:

Bar Soap
Canned fruit / juice
Canned meat / fish
Canned soup
Canned Vegetables
Dry cereal
Grits
Instant Potatoes

Jelly
Macaroni & Cheese
Pasta
Peanut Butter
Powdered milk
Rice
Spaghetti sauce
Toilet paper



Please place items in the collection bins at the entrances of the church.

Seniors with Seniority...

Trip To The Blue Willow Inn

Friday, April 29

Depart at 9 a.m.

Return by 3 p.m.

\$20 (meal included)

Lunch at The Chophouse in Hiawassee....

And Tour of Rhododendron Gardens

Friday, May 27

Depart at 9:00 a.m.

Return by 4:00 p.m.

\$5 plus meal



Let the Little Ones Come Unto Me...



VBS!! AFRICAN SAFARI ADVENTURE

Join the Jambo! Get your gear and get your Safari On! Be a part of this year's VBS team! If you are crafty, a snack chef, a games guru, love all kinds of animals or are passionate about prayer WE NEED YOU! Contact Kellie Denton at

kellie.denton1@gmail.com and Get ready to dance the "Pata Pata"! VBS June 6th - 10th. We are collecting paper towel and toilet rolls and Medium coffee cans with plastic lids, also roasted nut cans with plastic lids

April 20th: No Choir or Missions due to Holy Week

PassPort Kids! Summer Camp

Parent meeting: May 4th 6:00pm Great Room

Location: Macon, Georgia

Dates: June 28th-July 1st

Cost: \$265 / child (having completed 3rd-5th grade)

Includes: transportation, meals, accommodations, t-shirt and all activities

To register: Turn in form and \$65 deposit by Wednesday, March 31st. A second payment of \$100 is due on Wednesday, May 4th and balance due by June 1st. All checks should be made payable to First Baptist. Your child is not registered until their form and deposit have been turned in.

Hey Students, don't miss out....

Student Ministry

High School Mission Trip: New Orleans

April 2-7th.

Keep our youth in your prayers as they travel and serve in New Orleans over spring break!

April 6th: No Youth Group - Spring Break

April 20th: No Youth Group - Holy Week

Friday, April 29th Youth Lock-IN

8pm-8am Cost: \$25

Passport Camp

June 12-17 \$300/student

Sign ups are going on now!!! Join us for a week of fellowship, worship and missions. This is one of the best weeks of the year! SPACE IS LIMITED!!!!

Disciple Now 2011!! Who Ya Gonna Call?



Bible Study

Worship



Mission Projects

ATTENTION GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & PARENTS!!!

We will honor you on Sunday, May 15, 2011 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

Special Announcements...

Community Lenten Services

Date	Location	Time	Speaker
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 24	Chapel	7:00	Sunrise Service
	Banquet Hall	8:00	Breakfast
	Sanctuary	9:00	Baptism
	Sanctuary	10:50	Great Easter Celebration

Flowers on the Easter Cross

The cross symbolizes the beginning of Easter. Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection from the grave are foundations for our faith and salvation. Our Sunday School wants to emphasize the cross and its meaning on Easter Sunday, April 24. We are asking every member, especially children, to bring a flower or a bouquet of flowers to decorate a cross which will be placed on the front lawn of the church. The fresh cut flowers will be attached to the cross and will remind us again that Christ lives. We encourage you to participate in this symbol of Christ's resurrection as we worship Him on Easter Sunday.

Easter Egg Hunt!!

Please donate individually wrapped candy. We will fill over 8000 eggs for the hunts!

**Saturday, April 23
10:00am-1:00pm
Front Lawn**

Egg hunt & Games!

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

**10:30am birth - 3year old hunt
10:45am 4 - 6 year old hunt
11:00am 7 year old & up hunt
(through 5th grade)**



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

New Restrooms Now Available

Thanks to an anonymous donor, brand new restroom facilities have been completed. They are currently located in the front of the children's wing. To access them from the sanctuary vestibule, turn right and walk through the colonnade. Restrooms will be on your left as you enter the children's wing foyer.



To Our Church Family,

The Weekday Preschool Silent Auction, our big fundraiser for the year, was a huge success. Our auction would not have been as successful without the support of our church members. Thank you for your wonderful donations and your attendance that evening. Special thanks to Marie and Deke Richards, Kristi and Mark Wright, Trevor Hooper, Linda Carter, Michelle Carter, Louise Vandiver, Marie Allen, and Johnny Johnson for their help before and during the auction.

On behalf of the entire preschool and our preschool staff, I thank you for your generosity. We look forward to seeing you at our tenth annual Silent Auction next year.

With sincere gratitude,
Lisa Johnson
Weekday Preschool Director

Among our members...

Sympathy & Celebration

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

Jessica Foy in the death of her husband:
Robert Foy

Doug Bowers in the death of his father:
Wilder Bowers

Julie Aaron in the death of her mother:
Margaret McNeal

Susan Alberson in the death of her brother:
Albert Everett

Peggy Benz in the death of her daughter:
Becky Benz

Adrienne Baker in the death of her grandmother:
Hazel Gantt

Ina Mae Pearce in the death of her son:
Daniel C. Cobb

Wes Bishop in the death of his father, Jimmy & Lucy Bagwell in the death of their son-in-law:
Benny Bishop

Julie Weaver in the death of her brother:
Johnnie Hughes

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

Graham Burl Hulsey
Great Grandmother: Mary Louise Hulsey
Grandparents: John & Cinda Hulsey
Parents: Jonathan & Viva Hulsey

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your visits, your cards, prayers and many expressions of love in the death of our father & father-in-law, James Wilder Bowers. We love you and appreciate your kind expressions of sympathy.

~ Doug & Cathy Bowers

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the calls, cards, and prayers during my surgery and recovery time. My family and I appreciate all of them.

~ Jack Stephens

Symphony of Keyboards

April 17th at 6:30 PM in Sanctuary
featuring 19 pianists on 2 grand pianos playing celebrative music
Tickets are available on Sunday mornings in the Education Foyer;

from Sonlight choir members; or in the music office.

Cost is \$10 per adult or \$5 per student (18 and under).

Proceeds will benefit Sonlight Choir Tour to Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Ice Cream Social will follow on the front lawn!



Older Children's Choirs Spring Program

Wednesday, May 4th at 6:45 PM Sanctuary

Music Makers I and II will sing several songs.

Young Musicians will present "Once Upon a Parable."

Come and be inspired as our children lead us in musical worship.

Younger Children's Choirs Spring Program

Wednesday, May 11 at 6:00 PM FBC Chapel

A reception will follow in the Parlor.

All parents, grandparents and friends are invited to attend.

Worship with us...

April 3

OT: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

NT: Ephesians 5:8-14

Sermon:

What God Sees in You

Dr. Bill Coates

Music Meditation: *I Gaze upon the Wondrous Cross*

Brooke Morters, Solo

Offertory: Mercer Crook, Oboe

Choral Anthem: *Once Upon a Tree*

Rejoice Choir (8:30)

Sanctuary Choir (10:50)

April 10

OT: Ezekiel 37:1-14

NT: John 11:1-45

Sermon: When Does Eternal Life Begin?

Dr. Bill Coates

Call to Worship: *Praise His Holy Name*

Sonlight High School Vocal Ensemble

(8:30 & 10:50)

Music Meditation: *Softly and Tenderly*

Mark Green, Solo & Sanctuary Ringers

Offertory: "Go Down, Moses"

Sanctuary Ringers

Choral Anthem: *A-MEN*

Agape Choir (8:30)

Sanctuary Choir (10:50)

April 17

OT: Isaiah 50:4-9a

NT: Matthew 21:1-11, 27:11-54

Sermon: The Donkey & The Horse

Dr. Bill Coates

Children's Processional with Palm

Branches (10:50)

Duet: *The Holy City*

Bill Coates and Mark Green

Offertory: Mark Green & Tami Harris,

Piano Duo

Choral Anthem: *Hosanna in the Streets*

Hope Choir (8:30)

Sanctuary Choir (10:50)

Easter Sunday, April 24

OT: Jeremiah 31:1-6

NT: Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon: Rearranging Our Expectations

Dr. Bill Coates

7:00 AM

Arise, My Love Gary Lacey, Solo

9:00 and 10:50 AM

Choral Anthems:

We Welcome Glad Easter

Christ Is Risen

Hallelujah Chorus

Sanctuary Choir & Exaltation! Orchestra

Music Meditation: *When the Trumpet*

Sounds

Sonlight Middle and High School Choirs

Offertory: *Resurrection Trilogy*

Exaltation! Orchestra

FBC Lord's Day Report

February, 2011 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$49,423.08
 Weekly Budget Received..... \$44,323.34
 Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$444,807.64
 Year-to-date Budget Received \$434,516.31
Deficit: -\$10,291.33

March 6, 2011 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$49,423.08
 Weekly Budget Received..... \$60,572.70
 Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$494,230.72
 Year-to-date Budget Received \$495,089.01
Overage: -\$858.29

March 13, 2011 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$49,423.08
 Weekly Budget Received \$43,585.80
 Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$543,653.80
 Year-to-date Budget Received \$538,674.28
Deficit: -\$4,979.52

March 20, 2011 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$49,423.08
 Weekly Budget Received \$31,290.88
 Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$593,076.88
 Year-to-date Budget Received \$569,964.81
Deficit: -\$23,112.07

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

Rev. 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
elizabethctts@yahoo.com

Elsie Miscalco - 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