

First connections

February 2012
Vol. 49 No. 2

A loving people of worship, community and service

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

Calendar Reminders

Sunday, February 5

8:30AM, 9:40AM, 10:50AM
Worship and Bible Study

12:00Noon Banquet Hall
First @ First Luncheon

6:00PM Nix Auditorium
Youth Super Bowl Party

Friday, February 10

10:00AM
Lunch Bunch: Unicoi Lodge

Sunday, February 12

5:30PM
Deacon's Meeting

Thursday, February 23

6:00PM
Book Club

Friday, February 24

5:30PM Banquet Hall
Day School Silent Auction

Saturday March 3

5:30PM Nix Auditorium
Young Adult Movie Night: Courageous
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,

If you ask me why I believe in prayer, I offer several reasons:

1. Jesus believed in it, practiced it, and encouraged it.
2. I have personally experienced its mystery and seen its tangible results.
3. It is necessary, sometimes even for those who may doubt it.
4. It is always pleasurable to talk to One whose love for us is demonstrated.
5. It is more an attitude than a practice, a very healthy attitude.

There are many more that others would give, but these are mine. I have prayed often alone, sometimes in public, and frequently with others. Recently our deacons began gathering with me on Sundays simply to pray intentionally for all of us gathering for worship. And they spend time in prayer for the church now in each deacons meeting. For years we have had Prayer Call staffed by volunteers who pray for anyone who calls in and requests intercessory prayer. Many of us spent the past year meeting frequently with a prayer partner, praying specifically for our church. Soon there will be a prayer rail around the altar table in the sanctuary, a place for private and public prayers to be spoken. One thing is for certain: Our prayers are making a great and noticeable difference in the life of this church.

Will you join with someone in prayer for us?

Will you pray regularly and intentionally?

Will you pray for our greatest need this year -- growing strong disciples among our young adults 18 - 35?

Will you pray for each worship gathering in advance?

Every single person in this church can do this. I believe many will. I hope you will.

Your friend and pastor,

Bill Coates



Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, February 22
6:00PM
Sanctuary

Discover God... Discipleship

Wednesday Nights at First Baptist



Dr. Kevin Leman

Value-Packed Parenting

Room 208 ~ 6:00PM
Bruce & Nancy Fields, Group Discussion Leaders
Series by Kevin Leman

Book Study: 7 by Jen Hatmaker

Wednesdays starting February 8
6:00PM Parlor

Led by Amy Lawson

7 is the true story of how Jen (along with her husband and her children to varying degrees) took seven months, identified seven areas of excess, and made seven simple choices to fight back against the modern-day diseases of greed, materialism, and overindulgence.

Bible Study 101 with Dr. Coates (for 20's and 30's)

Room 209A ~ 6:00PM

We know you know the Bible...some. We've also heard your request to know more. Lucky for you, Bill knows everything there is to know about the Bible. Ok, that's a lie, but he does know a lot and wants to help you learn more about it too. Meet with him on Wednesday nights and walk through the basics of the Bible.



Grief Support Group

Room 209 B ~ 6:00PM

Kurt Schuler: khschuler@bellsouth.net (facilitator)

Presented by our Stephen Ministry

When someone experiences a major loss, he or she begins a journey. It is impossible to refuse the journey but it can lead to very different destinations. Our grief support group will support you in a move toward wholeness.

Divorce Care Group

Sundays starting February 5 5:30-7:00PM

Presented by our Stephen Ministry

Find help, discover hope and experience healing through Divorce Care. For more information contact Janet Bass 770-532-0613 or divorcecare@fbcgainesville.org.

You don't want to miss this!!

Old Fashion Church Fellowship & Chili Cook-off

Sunday, March 18 Banquet Hall

6:00-7:30PM

Prizes given for "Best Beef Chili", "Best Chicken Chili", "Best Bean Chili", "Best Family Secret Recipe Chili" & "Where's The Fire Extinguisher? Chili".

If you can bring your own special concoction of chili, please contact C.J. Wehmiller by March 4.

Following the good eatin' and fun...

Entertainment by George Fields & Lynda Fields Houser

Brief devotion by Dr. Larry Fields

Nursery provided for children, birth-4.



Community Lenten Worship and Lunches

Wednesday, February 29	12:00noon	First United Methodist Church
Wednesday, March 7	12:00noon	First Baptist Church
Wednesday, March 14	12:00noon	First Presbyterian Church
Wednesday, March 21	12:00noon	Grace Episcopal Church
Wednesday, March 28	12:00noon	St. Michael's Catholic Church
Wednesday, April 4	12:00noon	St. Paul United Methodist Church
Good Friday, April 6	12:00noon	First United Methodist Church

Young Men's (20-30's)

Bible Study

Tuesdays 7:15AM

FLC game room

Contact John McGarvey for more information.



Men's Morning

Bible Study

Mondays 7:30-8:30AM

Banquet Hall Lobby

Between the Gates by Charles Poole

James: Mercy Triumphs

Women's Study

Beth Moore's most recent study

Led by Chris Cosper and Karen Craft

Sundays at 5pm in the

Parlor Beginning

February 19

James, Jesus' own

brother, started out as a

skeptic. See how one

glimpse of the resurrected

Savior turned an

unbeliever into a disciple.



Book Club...

"Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy"

By Eric Metazas

February 23 6:00PM

Discussion led by Hammond Law

Participants purchase their own book.

Young Adult Event!

Movie Night

Saturday, March 3

Nix Auditorium

5:30-8:30PM

Come watch "Courageous".

Childcare for children 1 year old and under will be in the nursery and will cost \$10/child. Childcare for children 2 and older will be in the Family Life Center and will be \$15 for the first child and \$10 for each additional child. Food will be provided for the children.

We will provide pizza for the adults at \$5/person.



Special Appreciation...

...I was in prison and you came to visit me. Matthew 25:36

Thank you, FBC Members!

Over 200 inmates housed at the Hall County Correctional Institution were blessed by the Christmas worship service and delicious food provided by many of our church members this past December. The inmates are not forced to attend but more of them do and they really enjoy the sandwiches and treats provided. This ministry started in the mid-80's and has continued to be a Christmas tradition for many of our church members. A very special thanks to all who provided sandwiches (especially the children who participated), to those of you who have contributed to the Ministry of Caring this year, and especially to the church members who participated at the prison: Clint Anderson, Ken & Mary Beth Kirkpatrick, Doug & Lynne Hanson, Alan & Cheryl McElveen, Jeff & Amy Lawson, Carrie Lawson, Barbara Lawson, John D. Harper, Davis Couch, Mike & Jackie Maudlin, Malissa Hill, Pat Kennedy, Coy Skaggs, Laurie Spiess, & Ruth Demby. Appreciation should also go to Chris Burns, Brooke Morters, and Bruce Fields who led us in worship. If you have never experienced the joy of visiting inmates during the Christmas season, plan to go with us as we continue this tradition of service in Christ's name... Saturday, December 22.

Thank you First Baptist Church!

To all of our many members involved in the Angel Tree/Food Box ministry this past December, thank you! Without the many hours of volunteer time provided by some caring people and the generosity of our church family through our Sunday School classes, this meaningful ministry could not be accomplished. On the weekend before Christmas, 53 needy families were encouraged with food and over 300 Angel Tree presents were given to 99 happy children.

Appreciation goes to the following FBC members who provided their time and spiritual gifts to make the Angel Tree/Food Box Ministry a success: Nancy Page, Chairperson; Mary Smith & Rennie Stephens, Gift Coordinators; Katlyn Ashe, Janet Bass, Tim Corbin, Judy DeLong, Ron Ferguson, Kaleo Class, Jack Langford, David Lancaster (and the LCT ushers), David & Diane Owen, George Pace, Bob Page, Don & Darlene Strayhorn, Sharon Underwood, C.J. Wehmiller, & Bruce Fields. Also, we wish to thank our local businesses for providing additional food: Mark Wright & Fieldale Farms, Ben Lancaster & Crystal Farms, The Chattahoochee Baptist Association, J&J Foods and the Anglers' Sunday School Class.

The Ministry of Caring Committee

Alan McElveen, John Harper, Emma Morgan & Jack Wehmiller

Faith through Fitness... Family Life Center

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

Tai Chi Class

5 weeks of Wednesdays:

February 22-March 21

1:00-2:00PM

Cost: \$50

Please call to register by February 18.

Qigong Workshop

6 weeks: March 5-April 9

Mondays 6:00-7:00PM

Cost: \$60

Led by Tamara Clark

Please call to register by March 2.

This is a wonderful no-impact Asian Art form that has wonderful health benefits.

Mom's Morning Out

Every Tuesday & Thursday Morning from 9am-1pm

For children 18 months to 4 years

Please call to register your child

Cost: \$10/first child, \$6/sibling

Parent's Night Out

Saturday, February 11

5:00-9:00PM

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

Mom and Dad get a Saturday night out while the kids come for fun at the FLC!

For children 2 and older

Must register by calling the FLC

We provide dinner, drinks, and plenty of fun!

Yoga Meets Dance

Tuesdays at 6:00PM

Led by Joanne Hamilton & Vicki Sims

Cost: Free to FLC members, guests pay

\$7 to drop in (all fees collected are

donated to local charitable organizations)

This is a creative, fun workout that combines two beautiful arts. Anyone of any level can enjoy this class!

It is Well With My Soul

Religion and the Liberal Arts

Conference fee of \$150 includes:

➤ Friday, February 24

Keynote speech & banquet and concert at The Classic Center

➤ Saturday, February 25

Morning & afternoon sessions and two meals at Piedmont College Campus

Featured Speakers and Guests:

Keynote Speaker Barbara Brown Taylor

Keynote Speaker Gary Gunderson

Musician Christopher Grundy

Register online at <http://www.piedmont.edu/pc/index.php/faith-health-home>

40+ Basketball

Thursdays from 5:00-7:00PM

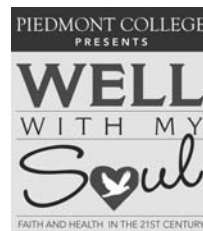
Adult Volleyball

Mondays

6:00-8:00PM

Free to play. All levels welcome.

Childcare available.



Let the Little Ones Come Unto Me... Children's Ministry

March Mission Family Event a "Chain Reaction"

Build a Bike March 24th
Dinner, Trivia, Games & Service Project
Banquet Hall
3:00-6:00PM
\$10/family



Aquarium Adventure Day Trip

This will be a great trip on Monday, February 20th.

Kindergarten - 2nd grades

Cost \$25.00

Kindergarten through 2nd grade will take a field trip to the Georgia Aquarium where we will experience Deepo's Undersea 3D Wonder show and the Dolphin Tales theater spectacular show. Children will discover how animals meet their basic needs, including how and what they eat and how they thrive in their habitat. Cost will include tickets to the aquarium, Deepos 3D show, Dolphin show, transportation, lunch and snack.



Hey Students, don't miss out!

Super Bowl Party

Sunday, February 5
Nix Auditorium
6:00PM—Halftime
Cost: 2 liter drink & snack food



Serve others by giving to the Day School...

Day School Silent Auction & BBQ Dinner

Friday, February 24

5:30 - 7:30PM

Banquet Hall

BBQ Plate \$10 Child Hotdog Plate \$2

Plans for our Annual Day School Silent Auction and BBQ are underway. Our church family has been an integral part of the success of the auction. In the past we have had great items donated by many of you. We are currently accepting donations. If you would like to contribute to the auction, please call Lisa Johnson at 770-535-2329. If you would like to buy a BBQ plate ticket see Lisa Johnson.



Adults with Seniority...

Lunch Bunch

Friday, February 10

Lunch at Unicoi Lodge
Tour of Folk Pottery Museum in Sautee
Depart: 10:00AM
Return: 3:00PM
\$5 plus meal

Friday, February 24

Lunch at "The Attic" in Clarksville
Stopover at Jaemor Farms on the way home!
Depart: 10:00AM
Return: 2:30PM
\$5 plus meal

**Contact C.J. to reserve your place on the bus!

Chatuge Retreat

Monday—Wednesday, March 19-21

Led by Bruce's siblings: Larry, George & Lynda
Excellent Bible study, music, entertainment and fun!
Registration begins Sunday, February 5



Among Our Members

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

Pat Grant in the death of her mother:
Myra Lee Scarborough

Chris Burns in the death of his uncle:
Bobby Holland

Carlos Lopez in the death of his wife,
Carlos Lopez Jr. in the death of his
mother:
Sarah Lopez

Family & friends of Partick Kelley

Family & friends of Woody Stewart

Sharon Todd in the death of her
stepfather:

William Paul Bennett

Patti Chambers in the death of her
brother:
Ed Jenkins

Hammond Law in the death of his
father:

George Law, Jr.

Sue Baxter in the death of her
husband:

Time Baxter

The Family and friends of:
Feliciano Mendez

Marge Miller in the death of her sister:
Mary Baker

Betty Carter in the death of her sister:
Lendy Watkins

Broughton Cochran in the death of his
mother and Christina White in the
death of her grandmother:
Mary Lee Cochran

Dear Church;
Thank you to everyone for all the cards,
calls, flowers, and especially the
prayers and visits during my recent
illness. They meant so very much to
me.
Bob Page

Growth through Worship....

Violin Lessons

Are you interested in having your child take violin lessons? As an adult, have you always wanted to learn to play? We are beginning a program where private lessons and group lessons will be offered. In addition, we will be making arrangements to fit your child (or an adult) for that first violin and offer a program to rent or purchase a violin at a reasonable price. This will be offered for students age 5 through adults (*it's never too late to learn to play!*). Call Steve Coldiron at [678-677-8062](tel:678-677-8062) for more information.

Discovering God through Missions

Estes-Dozier Missions Meeting

February 13 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. in the parlor

Rick Ludwig has just returned from Cambodia where he worked with a 15 member team to start a program of building over 1600 new homes and rehabilitating existing homes. He will share with us the lives and needs of these people.

Honduras Mission 2012 Signup Begins!

This year our adult mission journey to Tegucigalpa, Honduras is planned for Saturday thru Sunday, July 14-22. If you feel that God may be calling you to serve the rural people of Honduras in Christ's Name, please contact Kent Murphey at the church office for more information. Our team will join with those from St. Paul United Methodist again this year, and will begin work in a new village, doing light construction, children's Bible school and agricultural missions. The impression you make for Jesus will go a long way to opening hearts to God's love!

Village of Eden

Uganda Mission Trip Meeting February 23, 7:00 PM

Join us for an informational meeting regarding our trip with Brenda Kowalske to the Village of Eden Orphanage and school in Uganda. The trip is scheduled for June 25 -July 5. We will meet at Clint Anderson's home to learn more about this incredible opportunity to serve children and widows. Please call Clint Anderson (770) 337-3038 or Rev. Ruth Demby (770) 534-7354 for more information.

Missions Giving

We are an increasingly diverse congregation of believers but we have a common calling to share the love of God expressed in Jesus Christ. Here are a few of the ways that God worked in and through our congregation during the Advent season:

During our Advent Conspiracy focus we gave:

\$26,000 for our Global Mission Offering
\$13,192 for the Village of Eden School in Uganda.
7,554.00 for Good News Health Clinics
44,491.00 for Ministry of Caring providing assistance for local individuals & families.

\$340,000 is the total we gave for mission causes in 2011. Thank you to all who gave and served in these and other ways during Advent. There are so many ways to be involved in missions throughout the year. **Find your place** in the midst of God's mission. That is how we become fully alive as a church and as members of the body of Christ. Upcoming opportunities include:

Community Food Pantry- serving on a team that bags and gives out food to those referred by churches. Our next turn for volunteers is the week of February 21-March 2. Call Judy Barrett (770) 536-3328 to volunteer for 3 hour shifts.

Promising Futures after School Program- provide craft instruction for school age children or tutoring in math or language arts Tuesday afternoons from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. (tutoring from 5:00 - 6:00).

Good News Clinics- Clerical and other volunteers are needed in the clinic and pharmacy

Family Promise of Hall County - a community response for Homeless Children and their families. Our church will host a unique fundraiser, "Car City", on Friday Night, April 27. Save the date!

The Bridge Ministry- take part in evangelism and ministry to homeless in Gainesville each Sunday afternoon.

Summer Mission trips now forming for Uganda: June 25-July 5, Lebanon: July 9-17, and Honduras: July 14-22,.

Please call Ruth Demby to see how your gifts and interests fit opportunities for serving. (770) 534-7354.

Worship Scripture and Music

February 5

OT: Isaiah 40:21-31

NT: Mark 1:21-28

Sermon:

The Way the World is Supposed to Be
Dr. Bill Coates

Choral Anthem:

I Am

Sanctuary Choir; Kim Abrams, Soloist
Rejoice Choir (8:30)

Music Meditation:

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Sonlight MS & HS Choirs

Offertory:

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Exaltation! Orchestra (10:50)

Duet: Della Ruth & Amy (8:30)

February 12

OT: Psalm 30

NT: 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

Sermon: Not Running Aimlessly

Dr. Bill Coates

Choral Anthem:

I'm Telling the World About His Love

Sanctuary Choir

Agape Choir (8:30)

Offertory: *The Gift of Love*

Duet: Della Ruth & Mark Green

February 19

OT: 2 Kings 2:1-12

NT: Mark 9:2-9

Sermon:

Between the Mountain and the Cross

Dr. Bill Coates

Choral Anthem:

Trust in the Lord

Sanctuary Choir

Hope Choir (8:30)

Music Meditation: *Mercy Leads Us Home*

Kim Abrams, Linda Thompson, Nancy Weeks, Ginger Bennett

Offertory: *When We All Get to Heaven*

Sanctuary Ringers (10:50)

February 26

OT: Genesis 9:8-17

NT: Mark 1:9-15, 1 Peter 3:18-22

Sermon: He Was With the Wild Beasts

Dr. Bill Coates

Choral Anthem:

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Sanctuary Choir

Rejoice Choir (8:30)

Music Meditation:

Young Americans

Offertory:

Madge Harper, Piano (8:30)

Hymn of Promise

Sonlight HS Ringers (10:50)



FBC Lord's Day Report

January 1, 2012 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$51,622.31
Weekly Budget Received..... \$41,061.50
Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$51,622.31
Year-to-date Budget Received \$41,051.50
Deficit:\$10,570.81

January 8, 2012 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$51,622.31
Weekly Budget Received..... \$44,324.40
Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$103,244.62
Year-to-date Budget Received \$85,385.90
Deficit:\$17,858.72

January 15, 2012 Offering

Weekly Budget Required \$51,622.31
Weekly Budget Received..... \$38,400.59
Year-to-date Budget Required..... \$154,866.93
Year-to-date Budget Received \$123,786.49
Deficit:\$31,080.44

First Baptist Church Staff Directory

Dr. William (Bill) Coates, Jr.
Pastor

billcoates@mindspring.com

Dr. Kent Murphey

Associate Pastor: Administration

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Rev. Bruce Fields

Associate Pastor: Pastoral Care / Sr. Adults

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Rev. Mark Green

Associate Pastor: Music

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Rev. Jenny Burns

Associate Pastor:
Communications & Special Ministries

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Rev. Chris Burns

Associate Pastor: Students

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Rev. Ruth Demby

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Rev. Kellie Denton

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Rev. Elizabeth Burnette

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Lisa Johnson

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C.J. Wehmiller

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Cathy McKinney

Administrative Secretary / Music

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Dr. Andrea Cook

Pastoral Counselor

andreacook80@yahoo.com

Elizabeth Coates Isandoro

FLC Manager / Student Secretary

elizabethcts@yahoo.com

Elsie Miscalco - Nursery Coordinator

Polly Hand - Church Hostess

Bo Rodgers - Director of Maintenance

Della Ruth Johnson - Organist

Amy Hulsey - Pianist

Meredith Kurtzahn - Director of Sound

Dr. Roberto Gama & Carlos Lopez

Co-Pastors: Hispanic Ministry

Vietnamese Baptist Ministry Gainesville, GA

Rev. Joe Phuoc Tu

Pastor: Vietnamese Mission

joetu@fbcgainesville.org

Yen O. Bui

Assistant to Vietnamese Pastor