

# First connections

April 23-May 6, 2009

Vol. 46 No. 8

A loving people of worship, community and service

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

## Calendar Reminders

### Friday, April 24th

Student Ministry Lock-In, FLC  
8am Senior Adults, Callaway Gardens

### Sunday, April 26th

Special Guest Barbara Brown Taylor and  
Church wide luncheon  
4pm Young Musicians Dress Rehearsal

### Wednesday, April 29th

6:45pm Children's Spring Choir Concert

### Sunday, May 3rd

MOPS Sunday  
Communion Sunday  
6pm We Will Stand Choir Celebration

### Wednesday, May 6th

6pm Preschool Choir Concert, Chapel  
6pm Adults in Banquet Hall for Study

### Thursday, May 7th

7pm Women's Card Making Group

### Friday, May 8th

8am AARP Driving Class

## Sunday Mornings

### Worship

8:30am Chapel  
10:50am Sanctuary

Live Broadcast on WCON 99.3FM &  
online [www.fbcgainesville.org](http://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](http://www.fbcgainesville.org)

## A Word from Our Pastor...

Dear Church,

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and all they that dwell therein." So said the Psalmist, and so we believe and affirm. But are we taking care of the Lord's good earth? When you consider toxic waste and harmful elements in our dumping sites and our landfills, not to mention the 52 billion plastic water bottles which enter our landfills every year, the answer appears to be no. We as Christians have to take seriously the role God has given us as stewards of the earth. This is not only *our* home, but the earth is the *Lord's*.

I am tremendously excited that Barbara Brown Taylor will be with us this coming Sunday, April 26. It has taken years to get a clearing in her schedule so that she could be with us. She is unquestionably one of the greatest preachers in America. And she is one of my personal favorites to hear. We will have many guests this Sunday from other congregations in the region, so you may want to arrive a bit early. She'll be preaching for both services, and then we will have a church-wide luncheon in our Banquet Hall at which Taylor will dialogue with us about AN ALTAR IN THE WORLD: A GEOGRAPHY OF FAITH, her book just published in February. This will be an extraordinary Sunday.

Mother's Day is only two weeks away and we look forward to the presentation of all the babies born into our church family over the past year. If you have a new baby, please call Kristi at the church office and let her know that you and your child will be present.

The first Sunday in May we will receive communion, and by the end of the month we will have reached Pentecost, the church's birthday and the celebration of the Holy Spirit among us. God is ever active.

I'll see you this Sunday.

Your friend and pastor,

Bill Coates



### Wednesday, May 20, 2009

**Church-wide Town Hall Meeting in the Banquet Hall.  
Please be present for this very important meeting and see  
a video presentation of the new children/youth space.**

**Church Conference 5:45pm**

**Town Hall Meeting 6:00pm**

## Worship...

**Sunday, April 26th**  
8:30am & 10:50am Services

**Scripture:**

OT: Genesis 9:8-17  
NT: John 1:1-5

**Message:**

*The World God So Loves*  
Rev. Dr. Barbara Brown Taylor

**Music:**

*I've Got the Joy*  
Sonlight Ringers (10:50)  
Carmen Skaggs, Solo

*In Christ Alone*  
Epiphany

*At the Name of Jesus*  
Sanctuary Choir (10:50)  
Epiphany (8:30)

*Gabriel's Oboe*  
Mercer Crook, Oboe (8:30)

**Sunday, May 3rd**  
8:30 & 10:50am Services

**Scripture:**

OT: Psalm 23  
NT: John 10:11-18

**Message:**

*To Whom Do You Belong?*  
Rev. Elizabeth Burnette

**Music:**

*Written in Red*  
*Total Praise*  
Soloist: Linda Thompson  
Sanctuary Choir (10:50)  
Hope Choir (8:30)

Frances Brown, Solo

## Music Ministry

### Children's Choirs Spring Concert (Grades 1-5)

Wednesday, April 29th at 6:45pm in the Sanctuary

The Young Musicians (grades 4 and 5) will present

"Malice in the Palace" (the story of Queen Esther) in a very creative way.

DON'T MISS IT!!



### Preschool Choirs Spring Concert

Wednesday, May 6th at 6:00pm in the Chapel.

Reception will follow in the Chapel.



## Special Announcements...

### 2009 Stephen Ministry Class to be Commissioned

Our newest Stephen Ministers will be commissioned in the 10:50 worship service on Sunday, May 31. They are Stephanie Grant, Jan Hensley, John Hill, Mac & Lyn McCahan, Brooke Morters, Deloris Smith, Sharon Underwood, C.J. Wehmiller, and Linwood Zoller. The 50 hours of training they have received over the last few months will equip them to offer excellent one-on-one Christian care to persons in need.

Stephen Ministers offer long term, consistent care to persons who have experienced various kinds of crises, such as loss of loved ones, divorce, loss of job, illness, feelings of spiritual isolation, relocation or other life transitions where the supportive ministry of a committed Christian is needed.

Presently, we have 25 active Stephen Ministers. Of those twenty-five, eighteen have care receivers. This coming September, we will begin the process of forming a new class that will begin training in January.

For more information about our Stephen Ministry, please call Bruce Fields at 770-534-7354

### Church Decorations



First Baptist is in need of new decorations. We have well used many of the same decorations for 18 years and while some need repair, most need to be replaced.

Please help us keep our campus beautiful by making a specific donation to First Baptist for the decorating fund.

Thank you for your help!

### Sanctuary Choir's Spring Concert

"We Will Stand"  
Sunday, May 3 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary.

Reception to follow in the Banquet Hall.

The Sanctuary Choir will be presenting timeless songs of faith and inspiration from their new CD. "We Will Stand" CD's are now available for \$15 in Cathy McKinney's office. CDs will also be available at the reception.



# Community...

## Children's Ministry

### VBS

June 1-5  
Vacation Bible  
School is just  
around the corner!

This year we're  
going camping!  
Have you  
registered your child or yourself?  
You can find forms in the  
Welcome Center or online at  
[www.fbcgainesville.org](http://www.fbcgainesville.org) under the  
children's page upcoming events.  
Be sure to watch soon for supplies  
we need. If you have anything  
camping related, would you be  
willing to let us borrow it for the  
week? Contact Carrie for more  
information!



### Son Town Supplies Needed

If you have any of the following  
supplies that you would be willing  
to donate to the Children's Minis-  
try for Sunday School, would you  
please bring them to Carrie?

- Coffee Cans
- Old Wooden Picture Frames  
(Small to Medium Sized)
- Blender

## Adults with Seniority

### Lunch Bunch Trips

**Friday, April 24**  
Callaway Gardens  
Lunch at Callaway and tour of  
Butterfly Center  
Depart @ 8am  
Return @ 7pm  
\$25/person  
(includes lunch)

**Friday, May 15**  
Appalachian Grill  
Cartersville, GA  
Tour of the Tellus Science/  
Mineral Museum.  
Depart @ 8:30am  
Return @ 6pm  
\$15 plus lunch  
Call Judy to sign up



### Sunday Nights with Andy Griffith

Sundays, 5:30-6:20pm  
Banquet Hall  
For everyone!



### The Pew Bears Are Coming!

Sunday, July 12

## Grief Support Group

Melly Williams & Anne Holladay,  
Facilitators  
(Another avenue of caring by the  
Stephen Ministry)  
Wednesdays, 6-7pm  
April 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27  
Winsome Classroom Room 115  
Contact Bruce Fields for more info.  
[brucefields@fbcgainesville.org](mailto:brucefields@fbcgainesville.org)



When someone experiences major  
loss, he or she begins a journey. It  
is impossible to refuse the journey  
but it can lead to very different  
destinations. Like any crisis, grief  
can be a journey toward greater  
wholeness or greater brokenness.

Our grief support group will be a  
time of sharing and discussion in a  
move toward wholeness. We look  
forward to this time with you!

### ATTENTION GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & PARENTS!!!

We will honor you on Sunday, May 17, 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 Liz Coates Isandoro or Chris Burns **by April 26th**. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to have a Senior Recognition table: \_\_\_\_\_

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

# Missions ...

## Turning Point Ministries

So many in our congregation and in our community have lost jobs recently. Others depending on retirement income that has dramatically lost value are struggling to make ends meet. These types of challenges can be seen as disasters or as turning points.

Often it is the presence of other caring Christians that can make the difference in our experience and perspective. A group of members in our church are developing **Turning Point Ministries** to create just this type of short term support. This is a ministry designed to address the spiritual, emotional, financial, and job search skills needed to navigate through these challenges.

We have joined a group of churches who are members of **Crossroads Career Network**. Anyone who is looking for a job can go onto their website, [www. Crossroadscareer.org](http://www.Crossroadscareer.org). You will find a strategy for finding a job as well as access to an internet job search engine. To access all aspects of the website, you will need to call the church and to get a job explorer's membership code.

Church members who are experienced in financial counseling, mortgage lending, bankruptcy issues, interview and other job search skills, are available to help you in this process. They can also help those who are struggling to make ends meet due to lower investment income Please call the church office and ask Angie Cole to have a Turning Point Volunteer contact you. You do not need to face these challenges alone. Dr. Andrea Cook is available for short-term counseling also. Let the church provide support as you face this turning point in your life. This is what the body of Christ is all about. Somewhere down the road you can help someone else who is in a similar situation.

Please call Angie Cole or Rev. Ruth Demby if you have further questions. (770) 534-7354.

## Honduras Mission Trip: July 18-26, 2009

Dr. Fred Ingle, a veterinarian from our church, has been going to Honduras to work with Honduras Outreach International Missionaries (HOI) for ten years. This is a strategic mission that works with some of the poorest people in the world to bring them churches, job skills, health care, schools, and sanitation facilities. They bring the message of the gospel as they work alongside the rural Hondurans. They also provide Vacation Bible School for the children of the villages.

This year St. Paul United Methodist is taking a group of ten and they have invited our church to send some folks as well. Dr. Ingle will be on the trip and there is room for about eight others. According to him and others who have been, they get much more out of the trip than what they give and most go back year after year. The people of Honduras are very friendly, appreciative, and responsive to the gospel. The HOI website, [www.hoi.org](http://www.hoi.org), will give you a picture of the beauty of the country and the people.

The trip is from July 18-26. Please call Rev. Ruth Demby within the next week if you are interested in going. 770-534-7354

## Family Life Center

### Summer Camps 2009



#### Basketball Camp

#### **Boys camp: June 8-11**

9am-12pm: completed grades 1-3  
2pm-5pm: completed grades 4-6  
Cost: \$75/child

#### **Girls Camp: June 15-18**

9am-12pm: completed grades 1-3  
2pm-5pm: completed grades 4-6  
Cost: \$75/child

#### Junior Racquetball Camp

#### **Boys Camp: July 6-11**

9am-12pm: completed grades 2-5  
Cost: \$60/child  
Registration: May 10-July 2

#### **Girls Camp: July 13-18**

9am-12pm: completed grades 2-5  
Cost: \$60/child  
Registration: May 10-July 2



#### KidZone Camp

#### **Camp I: July 6-10**

2-3 year olds, 9am-12pm  
Cost: \$60/child

#### **Camp II: July 13-17**

4-6 year olds, 9am-12pm  
Cost: \$60/child  
Crafts, games, and lots of fun!!

## Estes Dozier Mission Group

Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>  
10:15 a.m. in the Church Parlor  
Guest Speaker:  
Christy Craddock

Christy is CBF field personnel serving in Miami with the "Touch Miami with Love" Ministry. Don't miss hearing Christy. Everyone is invited!



## Memorials and Honorariums ...

### Third Century

In honor of our 60th Wedding Anniversary by:  
Bernard & Mary Rose Lowry

In honor of all our Holy Week Pastors & Musicians by:  
Bob & Nancy Page

In honor of Zoraya Valdez and Terizean Dye Clyde by:  
Bob & Nancy Page

### Ministry of Caring

In memory of Margaret Kesler by:  
Linda, Larry, and LeAnn Gilleland  
Randy & Ann Luther

In memory of Susan Law by:  
Wayne & Susan Jessup

### Music Ministry

In honor of Jan Thompson Smith by:  
Sheryl Woodliff Creek

### Global Missions

In honor of Rev. John Mark & Betty Carpenter by:  
Rhuel & Dorothy Patterson

### Budget

In appreciation of Bill & Claire Coates and staff by:  
Charles & Carol Craft

In memory of Monroe Priest, Amy Moore Talley, and Bill Harris and in honor of Mark Green & Choir on a beautiful CD by:  
Mickey & Kat Long

### Piano Fund

In honor of Tami Harris and all the concert pianists by:  
Bob & Nancy Page

In memory of Frank J. Pirkle by:  
The Elizabeth Pirkle Family: Beth & Perry; Jane & Dennis; Lori, Mike, Knox, & Tatum

In memory of Frank Michael Cronic by:  
Asa & Grace Autry

The Kindred Spirits Sunday School Class has donated two books to the FBC library. **WHAT SOUTHERN WOMEN KNOW ABOUT FAITH**, by Ronda Rich, in memory of Mrs. Caroline Turner, mother of Lynn Johnson, and **THE RED LETTERS**, edited by Timothy J. Beals, in memory of Mr. Wayne W. Hill, father of Lonnie Hill.



*Flowers*  
Given Out of Love

The flowers in the Sanctuary and Chapel for Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, are given in loving honor of Clovie Lawson and in loving memory of L.D. Lawson on the occasion of their 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary (April 29), by their daughter and family, Debbie, Vince, Taylor & Travis Davis.

## Among Our Members

Dear Church,

For your love and support during our recent loss of Monroe we are forever grateful. We want you to know that not one of your kindnesses toward us has gone unnoticed.

The Priest family offers our sincerest thanks for your being there for us.

In Christ,  
Jean Priest

Congratulations to Shane and Ashley Welborn on the birth of their baby boy, Nolan Sims Welborn. Nolan was born on April 6, 2009 and weighed 7lbs 9oz and was 21 inches long. He is the grandson of Larry & Teresa Davies.

Congratulations to Doug and Kelly Adams on the birth of their baby girl, Maggie Dean Adams who was born on April 7, 2009. She weighed 6lbs 8oz and was 19.5 inches long. She is the granddaughter of Ron and April Cosgrove.

Congratulations to Aaron & Rebecca Ann Goebel on the birth of their baby girl, Isabelle Ann Rebecca Goebel. She was born on April 13, 2009, weighed 7lbs., 3oz., and was 20.75 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Billy & Becky Hollingsworth.

Congratulations to Preston & Brooke Burt on the birth of their baby girl, Audrey Anne Burt. Audrey Anne was born on April 18, 2009, weighed 8lbs, 6oz., and was 21 inches long.



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

Dot Maynard in the death of her sister, Winnie Clark.  
Eunice McDonald in the death of her father, Richard Neal.

Walter, Angie, John Carter & Luke Cooper in the death of Walter's mother, Essaletta Cooper.

Congratulations  
on Your  
New Baby!



## FBC Lord's Day Report

### April 5, 2009

#### Offering

Weekly Budget Required.....	\$49,423.08
Weekly Budget Received.....	\$61,880.94
Year-to-date Budget Required .....	\$691,923.12
Year-to-date Budget Received.....	\$750,373.69
Ministry of Caring.....	\$1,055.00
CBF Global Missions.....	\$856.00
Annie Armstrong.....	\$165.00
Vietnamese Offering.....	\$841.00
Hispanic Offering.....	\$274.35
Third Century.....	\$5,083.50
Other Designated.....	\$2,554.50
<b>TOTAL WEEKLY GIFTS.....</b>	<b>\$72,710.29</b>

### April 12, 2009

#### Offering

Weekly Budget Required.....	\$49,423.08
Weekly Budget Received.....	\$63,348.26
Year-to-date Budget Required.....	\$741,346.20
Year-to-date Budget Received.....	\$813,721.93
Ministry of Caring.....	\$1,093.00
CBF Global Missions.....	\$1,303.50
Annie Armstrong.....	\$175.00
Vietnamese Offering.....	\$1,183.00
Third Century.....	\$9,181.00
Other Designated.....	\$1,434.00
<b>TOTAL WEEKLY GIFTS.....</b>	<b>\$77,713.76</b>

Our Easter Mission Offering Total was \$14,778. We met our goal of \$12,000 and then some. We are very grateful to everyone that helped us surpass our goal!

### April 19, 2009

#### Offering

Weekly Budget Required.....	\$49,423.08
Weekly Budget Received.....	\$32,192.07
Year-to-date Budget Required .....	\$790,769.28
Year-to-date Budget Received.....	\$845,914.02
Ministry of Caring.....	\$630.00
CBF Global Missions.....	\$468.22
Annie Armstrong.....	\$10.00
Vietnamese Offering.....	\$912.00
Hispanic Offering.....	\$20.00
Third Century.....	\$1,555.00
Other Designated.....	\$464.00
<b>TOTAL WEEKLY GIFTS.....</b>	<b>\$36,251.29</b>

## 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  
markgreen@fbcgainesville.org

### Rev. Carrie Veal

Associate Pastor: Children  
theologygirl1@yahoo.com

### Rev. Jenny Burns

Associate Pastor: Discipleship  
jennyburns1@gmail.com

### Rev. Ruth Demby

Associate Pastor: Missions & Family  
Ministries  
ruthdemby@fbcgainesville.org

### Rev. Chris Burns

Associate Pastor: Students  
chrisburns@fbcgainesville.org

### Steve Coldiron

Associate Minister of Music  
stevecoldiron@fbcgainesville.org

### Rev. Elizabeth Burnette

Pastoral Resident/Minister of Outreach  
ebburnette@gmail.com

### Lisa Johnson

Director of Weekday Preschool  
lisajohnson@fbcgainesville.org

### Kristine Davis-Wright

Assistant to the Pastor  
kristwright@mindspring.com

### Bethany Fansler

Financial Secretary  
bethfansler@fbcgainesville.org

### Angie Cole

Administrative Secretary / Receptionist  
angiecole@fbcgainesville.org

### Judy Furlow

Ministry of Caring / Pastoral Care Secretary  
judyfurlow@fbcgainesville.org

### Cathy McKinney

Administrative Secretary / Music  
cathymckinney@fbcgainesville.org

### Dr. Andrea Cook

Pastoral Counselor  
andreacook80@yahoo.com

### Elizabeth Coates Isandoro

FLC Manager / Student Secretary  
elizabethcts@yahoo.com

### Philly Ard

Associate Minister to Students  
philadelphia.ard@gmail.com

### Elsie Maniscalco

Nursery Coordinator

### Polly Hood

Church Hostess

### Bo Rodgers

Director of Maintenance

### Della Ruth Johnson - Organist

### Amy Hulsey - Pianist

### Rachel Phillips - Sound

### Rev. Alexi Barrera

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