

1st CONNECTIONS

visit www.fbcgainesville.org for more information!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9th

Mardi Gras Pancake Supper

5:30pm-7:30pm. Grace Episcopal invites your family to come and enjoy pancakes, bacon or sausage, eggs, and grits in our parish hall on Shrove Tuesday. Come help us clean out the pantry as we feast before the fast of Lent begins. Cost is \$10/adults, \$5/youth (6-12 grade), free/children (5th grade and younger). Please RSVP by Sunday, February 7th. Just call 770-536-0126 or visit www.gracechurchgainesville.org and click "Pancake Supper."

February 10th: Ash Wednesday

6:00pm in the Sanctuary

February 17th: Lenten Service

Noon at First Baptist Sermon: Stuart Higginbotham
Music: St. Michael's & First United Methodist

February 24th: Lenten Service

Noon at First United Methodist Sermon: Stephen Samuel
Music: Brooke Morters & Grace Episcopal Choir

Dear Church,

It's often said that all politics is local. Well, church is local, too. We can't know the more than 2.3 billion followers of Christ in the world, but we can know and love each other in a congregation like ours. And it takes each of us in this local church to keep up the service and ministries we are called by God to do.

This month I want to offer a heart full of gratitude to the hosts of people who:

- Visit with those in prison, as at HCCI each Christmas and as in our vibrant Kairos work at Lee Arrendale State Prison.
- Work with the Hall County Community Food Pantry and the Georgia Mountain Food Bank and the food boxes given with Angel Tree gifts each year.
- Beautify the church with flowers each week, special decorations and Chrismos every December.
- Volunteer with the FLC, with children in the nursery, with transporting people on our buses.
- Participate in missions, whether here locally or some distant place in the world.
- Construct and then de-construct the LCT – an enormous task every Christmas season for the past 15 years.
- Count the offering every Monday morning.
- Stir our hearts in worship with voices or instruments in giving praise to God.
- Help our children and youth leaders by teaching, counseling and encouraging.
- Work with that most difficult task – the sound system.
- Give their time building homes for Habitat for Humanity.

I add a special thank you to people like Mac McCahan who make the live streaming of our worship service possible every week and who not only record many types of services, but also spend many hours labeling and reproducing them. And I have to mention our maintenance personnel who work diligently every week, but go above and beyond the call of duty for various seasons and purposes.

There are many others, such as ushers and greeters and teachers and committee members who also deserve our deepest gratitude and heartfelt encouragement.

So, I begin the year by saying to all of these on behalf of all of us: We thank God for you and we are a far better church because of you.

A final word about this month of February. Lent and Easter come early this year beginning with Ash Wednesday February 10. May this be our best season ever.

Your friend and pastor,

Bill Coates

Worship WATCH LIVE: fbcgainesville.org
LISTEN LIVE: 99.3FM

Sunday, February 7th

Transfiguration Sunday

The Day After the Radiance

OT: Exodus 34:29-35 NT: Luke 9:28-36

MUSIC MEDITATION: Amy Hulsey, Solo (8:30am)

O Be Joyful to God, Sonlight Choir (10:50am)

OFFERTORY PRAISE: *The Swan*

Jamie Mancuso, Cello, Amy Hulsey, Piano

CHORAL WORSHIP: *Upon a Holy Mount*

Hope Choir (8:30am) Sanctuary Choir (10:50am)

Sunday, February 14th

First Sunday In Lent

Caught In the Middle

OT: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 NT: Luke 4:1-13

MUSIC MEDITATION: *First*, Maddie LeBlanc, Solo

OFFERTORY PRAISE: *This is My Father's World*

Exaltation! Orchestra (10:50am)

Alicia Donnell, Flute Solo (8:30am)

CHORAL WORSHIP: *Pathway of Hope*

Rejoice Choir (8:30am) Sant. Choir & Orchestra (10:50am)

Sunday, February 21st

Second Sunday In Lent

The Uneasy, Uneven Journey

OT: Genesis 15:1-2, 17-18 NT: Luke 13:31-35

MUSIC MEDITATION: Sandra Byrd, Solo (8:30am)

Defender of My Heart & Fly Away Medley

Sonlight High School Vocal Ensemble (10:50am)

OFFERTORY PRAISE: Mark Green, Piano Solo (8:30am)

I'll Fly Away Sanctuary Ringers (10:50am)

CHORAL WORSHIP: *Be Thou My Vision*

Agape Choir (8:30am) Sanctuary Choir (10:50am)

Sunday, February 28th

Third Sunday In Lent

In Good Times & Bad

OT: Isaiah 55:1-9 NT: Luke 13:1-9

MUSIC MEDITATION: *He Knows My Name*

Petina Cheek, Solo

OFFERTORY PRAISE:

Della Ruth Johnson, Organ Solo (8:30am)

A Mighty Fortress Exaltation! Orchestra (10:50am)

CHORAL WORSHIP: *Calvary Is the Sea*

Hope Choir (8:30am) Sanctuary Choir (10:50am)

february

- 06 English as a Second Language Teacher's Workshop**
9:00am-4:00pm in the Parlor. This comprehensive workshop is a chance to get hands on training in teaching English as a Second Language. Call, text, or email Evelyn Perry at 770-530-7598 or frperry@charter.net for details. Get more information at literacymissions.org. Let's make a difference! **Also on February 13th.**
- 07 Sports Team Day for FBC Kids**
Children are encouraged to wear their favorite sports team apparel as we kick off our Souper Bowl of Caring Canned Food Drive for the Community Food Pantry with a special Sunday School game day.
- 1st @ 1st Luncheon**
Noon in the Banquet Hall. Everyone is welcome to this churchwide monthly luncheon!
- 08 Estes-Dozier Missions Meeting**
10:15pm in the Parlor. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Andrea Cook, FBC Pastoral Counselor. She will share about her family's trip to Spain.
- 10 Ash Wednesday**
5:00pm dinner in the Banquet Hall. 6:00pm service in the Sanctuary.
- Young Adults: Theology on Tap**
7:15pm at Monkey Barrel on the Gainesville Square. Join our young adults for a time of fellowship and theological discussion!
- 14 Student Ministry: Parent Breakfast**
9:45am-10:45am in the Youth Room. Youth parents are invited to have breakfast and connect, relax, and get to know one another.
- 17 A Life Centered in God's Loving Presence: Contemplative Practices for Spiritual Formation**
February 17th-March 16th. 6:10pm in the Family Life Center Yoga Room (downstairs). How can we slow down and be more intentional about living a life centered in God's loving presence? Join Ruth Demby, Associate Pastor for Missions, and Lynn Kearns, certified yoga instructor for a six week introduction to contemplative practices for mind, body, and soul.
- 19 Adults with Seniority: Lunch Bunch**
Depart at 9:00am for the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville.
- 19-20 Religion for the 21st Century with Peter Rollins**
Brenau Center, 301 Main Street, SW. The speaker is world-renowned Irish author, philosopher, and theologian Peter Rollins. Sessions are Friday at 7:00pm and Saturday at 10:00am and 1:00pm. Learn more at www.fbcgainesville.org.
- 19-21 Students: Disciple Now Weekend**
"Building Community" All students grades 6-12 are welcome to join for a weekend as we explore our calling to be a part of community. Check out the student ministry page at www.fbcgainesville.org.
- 21 Children's Bible Skills Class**
Noon-2:00pm in the Children's Great Room. 2nd-5th graders are invited to gain skills through fun and games in a special series on **February 21, 28, and March 6, and 13**. Cost is \$10/child and includes lunch each week. Please register with Kara by February 10th.
- 23 Young Adults House Group**
6:30pm at 3549 Edgewood Circle (30506). This small group of young adults meets weekly to grow in community and faith. Contact Liz Coates at liz.coates.isandoro@gmail.com to learn more.
- 27 Northwinds Symphonic Band Concert**
7:30pm in the Sanctuary. The Northwinds Symphonic Band is directed by Mercer Crook. This concert will feature Mark Green, Piano, performing Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" and Linda Williams, Violin, playing music from Schindler's List. Don't miss this outstanding evening of music. Tickets can be purchased through the Arts Council.
- 28 Stephen Ministry Luncheon**
Noon in the Banquet Hall. For all Stephen Ministers!

Get Tickets Now! An Encore Evening with John McDermott

Sunday, March 12th, 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. Due to an overwhelmingly positive response to last year's John McDermott concert, we have invited him back to Gainesville for an encore performance! John, accompanied by very talented musicians will perform selections from his best-selling recordings. Listen to his music at www.fbcgainesville.org and purchase tickets at www.fbcgainesville.tix.com/

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH

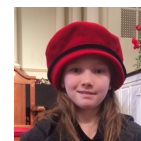
- 02 Noon Lenten Service @ Grace Episcopal
06 Youth Talent Show & Fundraiser at 1st@1st Luncheon
09 Noon Lenten Service at St. Michael's
12 Students: Saturday Serve
An Encore Evening with John McDermott
13 Daylight Saving Time: Spring Forward
Coffee Talk for Guests and New Members
16 Noon Lenten Service @ First Presbyterian
18 Adults with Seniority: Lunch Bunch
19 Children: Easter Egg Hunt
20 Palm Sunday
21 Holy Week Noon Service @ FBC
22 Holy Week Noon Service @ FBC
23 Holy Week Noon Service @ St. Paul
24 Holy Week Noon Service @ FBC
Maundy Thursday Service, 6:00pm @ FBC
25 Good Friday Stations of the Cross
Noon at Grace Episcopal
27 Easter Sunday (7:00am, 9:00am, 10:50am)

FBC would like to express our deepest sympathy to the following:
Meredith Kurtzahn death of her uncle **James White**
Sue Ward death of her son **Grady "Bubba" Ward**
Kim Kerrick in the death of her sister-in-law **Amy Conner Hill**
Ken Davis in the death of his brother **Mike Davis**
Robert Cole in the death of his brother **James D. (Don) Cole**
Matt White in the death of his grandmother **Myrtle White**

SUNDAY GIFTS

Dec 27th, 2015 Wkly Req: \$57,465.00 Wkly Rec: \$121,303.18 Yr Req: \$2,988,180.00 Yr Rec: \$2,902,336.37 Deficit: \$-85,843.63	Jan 3rd, 2016 Wkly Req. \$58,869.00 Wkly Rec: \$46,050.60 Yr Req: \$58,869.00 Yr Rec: \$46,050.60 Deficit \$-12,818.40
Dec 31st, 2015 Wkly Req: \$57,465.00 Wkly Rec: \$133,105.74 Yr Req: \$2,988,180.00 Yr Rec: \$3,035,442.11 Overage: \$47,262.11	Jan 10th, 2016 Wkly Req. \$58,869.00 Wkly Rec: \$44,541.00 Yr Req: \$117,738.00 Yr Rec: \$90,591.60 Deficit \$-27,146.40

NEW MEMBERS



Aria Pedry



Barry & Jameson Murray



Lillie Mallis



Claralane Williams



Rachel Freeny