

1st CONNECTIONS

WWW.FBCGAINESVILLE.ORG

Dear Church,

There are two questions we should be addressing as we begin this new year.

- What is our experience of God in this often chaotic experience of living? Can we praise God when we feel our prayers are empty and unanswered? What do we say to God about our enemies, our sorrows, our questions? So I want to begin the year with a series of sermons from the Psalms. This will take us through the month of January. We will look at how those who walked this way long before us expressed their gratitude and praise, and their doubts, anger, and frustrations, to God. January will be devoted to Psalms for All of Life.
- February's question will be Why Jesus Christ? I intend for it to be a month of evangelism with integrity based around what Jesus meant when he said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Because I can fully understand the pervasive "spiritual but not religious" mentality that has gripped our culture, I want to speak to it with sensitivity. Bad religion includes bad evangelism. I want us to be known as a church of good news, good evangelism, evangelism with integrity.

I will need more time for study and preparation. Raising funds for our excellent ministries is vital and time-consuming. I've spent too much time on that over the years, but this year it's up to you to give as responsible stewards of all that God has given you. It will be an interesting and possibly transformative year. And a good one!

Your friend and pastor,

Bill Coates

THE SUMMIT 2017

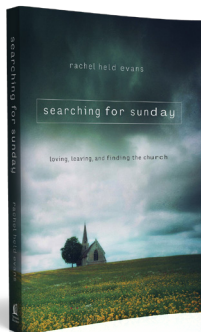
with Rachel Held Evans

JANUARY 20th-21st, 2017

Friday from 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Saturday 9:00am - 12:00pm

In the FBC Banquet Hall



The Women's Ministry invites you to attend our 6th Annual The Summit featuring Rachel Held Evans. Rachel is a New York Times best-selling author who will join us to discuss her latest book *Searching for Sunday*. She uses the seven sacraments to share insights and stories about baptism, communion, confirmation, confession, marriage, vocation, and death. Her humor and honesty draw you into a place of reflection and restoration as you consider how your own faith and doubt intersect with your religion. **Registration is open at fbcgainesville.org. The cost is \$25. Free childcare is provided.**

WORSHIP

WATCH LIVE: fbcgainesville.org LISTEN LIVE: 99.3FM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st

Second Sunday after Christmas
GRATEFUL ENTRY

Psalm 100

OFFERTORY PRAISE: *O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*
Alicia Donnell, Flute; Amy Hulsey, Piano

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION: *Jesus, At Your Holy Table*
Alicia Donnell and Gretchen Welch, Flutes

CHORAL WORSHIP: *In Remembrance of Me*
Sanctuary Choir

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8th

The Baptism of Our Lord | First Sunday after the Epiphany
THE GREAT ASSURANCE

Psalm 139

MUSIC MEDITATION: *Love Divine, All Love Excelling*
The Green Street String Quartet

OFFERTORY PRAISE: *Worthy of Worship*
Exaltation! Orchestra (10:50am)
Wanda Creel, Piano Solo (8:30am)

CHORAL WORSHIP: *I Am Not My Own*
Agape Choir (8:30am) Sanctuary Choir (10:50am)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15th

Second Sunday after the Epiphany
UNITY AND BLESSING

Psalm 133

MUSIC MEDITATION: *How We Love* Kim Abrams, Solo
OFFERTORY PRAISE: *The Gift of Love*

Della Ruth Johnson, Organ and Mark Green, Piano
CHORAL WORSHIP: *Rock if Ages*
Hope Choir (8:30am) Sanctuary Choir (10:50am)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd

Third Sunday after the Epiphany
MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION

Psalm 27

MUSIC MEDITATION: *I Quietly Turned to You*
Brooke Morters, Solo

OFFERTORY PRAISE: *His Highest Praise*
Exaltation! Brass (10:50am)

This Little Light of Mine
Piano Duet: Amy Hulsey and Mark Green (8:30am)

CHORAL WORSHIP: *I Am Redeemed*
Rejoice Choir (8:30am) Sanctuary Choir (10:50am)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
AT HOME WITH GOD

Psalm 109

MUSIC MEDITATION: Sandi Bass, Solo
OFFERTORY PRAISE: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
Exaltation! Orchestra (10:50am)

Walker Bailey, Piano Solo (8:30am)
CHORAL WORSHIP: *How Great Thou Art*
Agape Choir (8:30am) Sanctuary Choir (10:50am)

January

01-08 SUNDAY - SUNDAY

Family Promise Host Week

Please help us for the week as we host local families in our building! We need meals, evening and overnight hosts, and drivers! Contact: Kim Kerrick, klkerrick@gmail.com or 770-519-7433.

04 WEDNESDAY

Wednesday Night Activities Resume!

05 THURSDAY

Quilts for Kids Monthly Workshop

10:00am-2:00pm at the Family Life Center (no cost) Bring your machine or cutting materials and your lunch and join us for cutting, sewing and fellowship! Contact Betty Wright at northeastga4k@gmail.com for information.

FLC: Body Stewards Kick-Off

6:00pm at the Family Life Center. Runs for 6 weeks, Jan 5th - Feb 16th, Mon/Tues/Thurs at 6:00pm. This program will equip you with everything you need to succeed in becoming healthy in mind, body, and spirit. \$75/FLC Members, \$95/Non FLC Members. Register at fbcgainesville.org.

08 SUNDAY

1st @ 1st Luncheon

After 10:50am Worship in the Banquet Hall. All are welcome!

09 MONDAY

Estes-Dozier Missions Meeting

10:15am in the Parlor.

12 THURSDAY

Ageless Grace: Timeless Fitness for Mind + Body

6 Weeks: January 12th-February 16th. Thursdays at 5:00pm. FREE for Silver Sneakers Members + Only \$5/Class for Non-Silver Sneakers Members. This seated exercise class focuses on safe and effective movements that help with joint mobility, brain coordination, bone density, balance, fall prevention and is great for senior adults. Walkers and wheelchairs welcome! No RSVP necessary.

13-16 FRIDAY-MONDAY

Students: Faith in 3D

Pray for our students as they explore common faith with students from different Christian backgrounds through worship, education, and community building at Disney World!

14 SATURDAY

Contra Dance

Lessons at 7:30pm and dance from 8:00pm-11:00pm. Visit www.atgaga.com or contact fbc.fbc.gainesville@gmail.com for information.

20-21 FRIDAY-SATURDAY

Women: THE SUMMIT

With Rachel Held Evans

Friday from 6:30pm - 8:30pm and Saturday from 9:00am - 12:00pm in the Banquet Hall. Rachel Held Evans is a New York Times best-selling author whose books include Faith Unraveled (2010), Searching for Sunday (2015), and more. Register at fbcgainesville.org. \$25. Free childcare. Elizabeth Burnette: ebburnette@gmail.com

27 FRIDAY

Adults with Seniority: Lunch Bunch

NEW MEMBERS

Lewis and June Smith



John and Lisa Geyer



Maricarter and Addison Alred



Ken, Andi, and Kenzi Harmon

Sympathy

Family and Friends in the death of **Janice Carr**

Sandra McFarland in the death of her mother **Jackie Hutchison**

Grace Autry in the death of her sister-in-law **Doris Cronic**

SAVE THE DATE: February

04-11 Nicaragua Mission Trip

11 Youth: Saturday Serve: Food Bank

19 Youth: Sundown

24 Adults with Seniority: Lunch Bunch

26 Youth Sunday

Dealing with Dementia Seminar

ADULT STUDIES WEDNESDAY NIGHTS Winter/Spring 2017

JANUARY

4th-25th (4 Weeks)

The Book of Psalms 6:00pm Parlor
Co-led by Kent Murphey & Will Dyer

Early Christianity: The Experience of the Divine

6:00pm in Seekers 241
DVD study by Luke Timothy Johnson
Facilitated by Mark Todd

ChapelTime 6:00pm in the Banquet Hall
For Senior Adults with
Bruce Fields & Della Ruth Johnson

GriefShare 6:00pm in Room 205

FEBRUARY

1st-22nd (4 weeks)

How to Read the Bible 6:00pm in the Parlor.
Co-led by Bill Coates & Rachel Freeny

Early Christianity: The Experience of the Divine

6:00pm in Seekers 241
DVD study by Luke Timothy Johnson
Facilitated by Mark Todd

Women's Ministry Book Club 6:00pm in Joy 231
A study of Searching for Sunday by Rachel Held Evans

ChapelTime 6:00pm in the Banquet Hall
For Senior Adults with Bruce Fields & Della Ruth Johnson

GriefShare 6:00pm in Room 205

MARCH

8th-29th (4 Weeks)

Creativity & Spirituality 6:00pm in the Parlor
Led by Rachel Freeny

Early Christianity: The Experience of the Divine

6:00pm in Seekers 241
DVD study by Luke Timothy Johnson
Facilitated by Mark Todd

Women's Ministry Book Club 6:00pm in Joy 231
A study of Searching for Sunday by Rachel Held Evans

Chapel Time 6:00pm in the Chapel
With Bruce Fields & Della Ruth Johnson

GriefShare 6:00pm in Room 205