

1st CONNECTIONS

WWW.FBCGAINESVILLE.ORG

Dear Church,

The New Testament urges us, “Do everything you can to live in peace with everyone.” This doesn’t mean peace at any price; there are ideas and practices totally unacceptable to the values Christ taught us. I could never, for example, accept Sharia law, the judicial system promoted by Jihadic Islamists. That system’s treatment of women and of anyone outside their religious beliefs is in direct conflict with the way of Christ. When Paul wrote the Galatian church, he was not at all at peace with the legalistic teachings they were embracing and their ousting of the grace which is at the heart of the Christ life. He denounced it in the strongest possible language (Gal. 1:7-9).

Our nation is once again being tested today with many divisive issues. We are politically divided over visions of our future, how to deal with huge gaps in income, problems in our dysfunctional immigration system, race relations now exploding in protests across the country, and who should have guns and what kind; and the list goes on.

I believe the role of the church of Jesus Christ is to promote peace in all of this. Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers,” “Peace I give unto you.” Inflammatory language, social media rants, insults, demeaning and defamatory comments fall way below the standards given us by Jesus – and they do not make for peace. James says, “and the tongue is a fire...that defiles the whole body and sets on fire the whole course of life, and it is set on fire of hell.”

Watch your tongue, Christian! Do – and say – the things that make for peace. After all, you belong to Christ, don’t you?

Your friend and pastor,

Bill Coates

FBC’s Performing Arts Academy to Add the Lanier Young Singers this Fall



Our successful after-school *Performing Arts Academy* of musical instruction will grow this year with the addition of the *Lanier Young Singers*, a chorus for singers in grades 6-12. The treble voice (unchanged voice) ensemble is open to male and female students and will be directed by John Wright. A Hall County native, John is a graduate of Chestatee High School and Piedmont College. As choral director for the 2200-student Creekland Middle School in Gwinnett County, he leads more than 450 students every week in choirs which all received Superior ratings in GMEA performance evaluations this past spring. They

also received Gold Standard ratings at the Southern Star Music Festival. John’s students are enthusiastic in their praise for his energy and musical direction, and his programs have met with success that is requiring additional faculty.

The Lanier Young Singers will offer area young people an excellent opportunity to grow in their enjoyment of singing with others who share their love of choral music. It is open to all students, public school, private school, and homeschooled. The chorus will sing a wide variety of music styles, including sacred, secular, folk, and global. They will meet on Mondays from 5:15pm to 6:30 pm in the Rehearsal Room at First Baptist. No audition is required, but registration prior to the first rehearsal on September 12th is strongly encouraged. Additional information and registration is available at www.fbcgpaa.org.

The Lanier Young Singers will be accompanied and assisted by Michael Henry, recently retired Director of Music from First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville. Contact: 770-530-9248

WORSHIP

WATCH LIVE: fbcgainesville.org LISTEN LIVE: 99.3FM

Sunday, August 7th

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
Promotion Sunday/Blessing of the Students
Faith As Waiting

OT: Genesis 15:1-6 NT: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

MUSIC MEDITATION: *Recollection of Joy*

Carlee Cosper and Patton Gilbert, Duet

OFFERTORY: *The Offering*

Jacob Dewitt, Marimba Solo

CHORAL WORSHIP: *To Love Our God*

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

Sunday, August 14th

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
By Faith & Perseverance

OT: Isaiah 5:1-7

NT: Luke 12:49-56, Hebrews 11:29-12:2

MUSIC MEDITATION: Tyler Hooper, Solo

OFFERTORY: Francis Angalla, Vocal/Guitar Solo

CHORAL WORSHIP: *Thou, O Lord*

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

Sunday, August 21st

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Ordination of New Deacons and Melba Miller
Surrounded by Focused

OT: Jeremiah 1:4-10 NT: Hebrews 12:18-29

OFFETORY PRAISE: Grant Boone, Solo

CHORAL WORSHIP: *I’m Amazed*

with Tim Corbin, Soloist

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

Sunday, August 28th

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Praising God & Living It Out

OT: Psalm 8:1, 10-16

NT: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-17

MUSIC MEDITATION: *If We’re Honest*

Brooke Burt, Solo

OFFERTORY PRAISE: Curtis Malcom, Violin Solo

CHORAL WORSHIP: *All of These*

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

AUGUST

thursday, august 4th

FLC: QUILTS FOR KIDS WORKSHOP

10:00am-2:00pm at the Family Life Center. Bring your machine or cutting materials and your lunch and join us for cutting, sewing and fellowship! Please contact Betty Wright at northeastgaq4k@gmail.com for more information. No Cost.

sunday, august 7th

PROMOTION SUNDAY

All children and students will promote to their new Sunday School class!

1st @ 1st LUNCHEON

After 10:50am Worship in the Banquet Hall. Enjoy this monthly churchwide luncheon!

monday, august 8th

PIYO WORKSHOP

Mondays and Thursdays at 6pm. PiYo is a fun, challenging class fusing Pilates and Yoga. You will burn calories, tone muscles, work on balance and get a great stretch! Please contact Ashley at flc.fbc.gainesville@gmail.com or 770.535.0478 with questions.

sunday, august 14th

DEACONS MEETING 6:00pm in the Kindred Spirits Room.

wednesday, august 17th

FALL KICK OFF PALOOZA

5:00pm on the front lawn. Join us for food trucks, the family water olympics, and to register for children's choir and missions!

STUDENTS: WEDNESDAY NIGHT KICK OFF

5:15pm in the Youth Area.

thursday, august 18th

FLC: LAST DAY OF FLC FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE

From May until today, Sunday School classes have collected money to donate to the FLC to help support the FLC's annual 5K + 1 Mile race! Contact: Gin at flc.fbc.gainesville@gmail.com or 770.535.0478

friday, august 19th

ADULTS W/ SENIORITY: LUNCH BUNCH

We will depart at 9:00am for the Blue Willow at Social Circle.

sunday, august 21st

STUDENTS AND SONLIGHT CHOIR: ROUND-UP, GAMES, AND BBQ

5:00pm-7:00pm in the Banquet Hall. It's time for the youth and parents to gather together for a reunion evening of fun! Join us as we start the school year off with games and new friends. We will share our exciting plans for this coming year for youth and Sonlight Choir, as well as take care of paperwork and volunteers sign-ups. God is doing some amazing things through the lives of our youth! Don't miss it! Please RSVP at www.fbcgainesville.org under ministries/students.

SANCTUARY CHOIR BEGINS

6:45pm in the Sanctuary Choir Loft. We will conclude with a watermelon social.

sunday, august 21st and 28th

CHILDREN: FAITH INQUIRERS/NEW CHRISTIAN CLASS

9:45am in the Children's Great Room 205. Register with Kara by August 17th!

august 21st

REFUGEE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

12:30pm-2:30pm at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Those wishing to help with our refugee ministry should attend this training. Contact: Rachel Freeny at rfreeny13@gmail.com.

august 21st

WOMEN: AN AFTERNOON AT THE FARM

4:00pm-6:00pm at Whispering Angels Youth Ranch - 4549 Clarksbridge Road, Gainesville, GA 30506. Come learn about this year's Emporium beneficiary and other Women's Ministry events! This will be a relaxed time of food, drinks, and fellowship for women of all ages at First Baptist.

SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER

01 Quilt for Kids Monthly Workshop at FLC
05 Church Office and FLC Closed
10 FLC: Contra Dance
11 1st @ 1st Luncheon
9-11 Students: Leadership Retreat
11, 18, 25, 10.2 Children: Bible Skills Class
11 Deacons Meeting
17 FLC: Dash through the Decades 5K Race
23-24 EMPORIUM
30 Adults with Seniority: Lunch Bunch

FBC would like to express our deepest sympathy to the following:

Family and Friends in the death of
George Pace

Max Stone, son of Joy Banks, in the death of his father
Christopher Stone

Abit and Kayanne Massey in the death of their friend
Ben Mundy

Peggy Huston and Rhonda Thompson in the death of their brother/uncle
Harry Huff

Joy Green in the death of her brother
James Michael Kight

Peggy Burson in the death of her son
Darrell Walker

Patricia Wynne in the death of her aunt
Margie Brown

Cheryl Early in the death of her mother
Mary Lou Oliver

SUNDAY GIFTS

June 19th, 2016

Wkly Req: \$58,869.00
Wkly Rec: \$95,557.82
Yr Req: \$1,471,725.00
Yr Rec: \$1,390,043.32
Deficit: \$81,681.68

June 26th, 2016

Wkly Req: \$58,869.00
Wkly Rec: \$35,401.00
Yr Req: \$1,530,594.00
Yr Rec: \$1,425,444.32
Deficit: \$105,149.68

July 3rd, 2016

Wkly Req: \$58,869.00
Wkly Rec: \$71,990.57
Yr Req: \$1,589,463.00
Yr Rec: \$1,497,434.89
Deficit \$92,028.11

July 10th, 2016

Wkly Req: \$58,869.00
Wkly Rec: \$53,007.69
Yr Req: \$1,648,332.00
Yr Rec: \$1,550,442.58
Deficit \$97,889.42

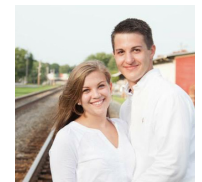
Welcome NEW MEMBERS!



Noah Deal



Kathy Huggins
Manzel



Dylan and Amy
Friend

PROMISING FUTURES AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

for children whose parents don't speak English starts back on September 6th. We meet on Tuesday afternoons from 3:45pm-6:00pm. We need bus drivers and volunteers for recreation and crafts as well as tutoring. No formal teaching experience is needed. Orientation for volunteers new and returning will be Tuesday, August 30th at 4:00pm in the Arts and Crafts room in the FLC. Contact Janice Hale (770) 842-9604 or Ruth Demby (770) 534-7354 for more information.