

BAKER & GLOVER CARNIVAL | CONFIRMATION | EASTER RECAP | PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION

ANCHOR

JUNE 2017
ISSUE 6

Celebrating God's work at and through the people
of Gainesville First United Methodist Church.





A:WORD:FROM

Rev. Kathy Lamon

I was raised in the church and as a little girl, I always felt close to God. My mom was a strong, but not vocal, Bible scholar. Through her influence and God's presence, I always had a desire to do more in the church, but my opportunities to serve were limited by my faith tradition (and my talent).

As a young adult, I was invited to attend the United Methodist Church, and it felt like home from the first visit. I found the freedom to ask questions, discuss topics and scripture, freedom to disagree and still remain in the community, and be in ministry with others in ways I had never experienced in my previous church. Through these caring relationships and Bible study, I began to hear God's call with a clarity I never had before. And with their affirmation, I found myself accepting God's call to ministry in the church. No one was more surprised than me as I discerned my call. And yet, from the moment I said, "Yes Lord" I have never felt more peace.

One of the things I have come to understand and appreciate in our faith tradition is that the United Methodist Church is about the work of the people, not the personality of the minister. Together we are the hands and feet of Christ, together we go forward, together we serve, together we love, and together we transform the world.

This appointment system has led me to move places and travel paths I never imagined. It has also blessed me to make more friends and memories than I ever dreamed possible. You are part of my life and together we are the church. As it states in the Commendation and Welcome in our service of baptism, I renew my pledge to each of you: "As members together let us renew our covenant to faithfully participate in the ministries of our churches by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ."

Thank you for being part of my call and part of my life.

With heartfelt thanks,

Rev. Kathy Lamon

Join us for a drop-in reception, 9:30-10:30am,
Sunday, June 4, in the Gathering Room in honor
of Rev. Kathy Lamon for her ministry, leadership,
and dedication over the past six years.
Kathy has been appointed to serve as the Senior Pastor
of Commerce First United Methodist Church.

Sermons in June

June 4

Lakeside & Classic Worship
Rev. Kathy Lamon

June 11

Lakeside & Classic Worship
Rev. Scott Hearn

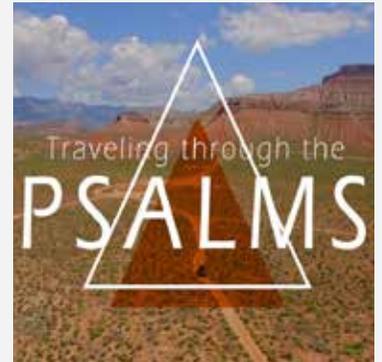
June 18

Lakeside & Classic Worship
Rev. Liz Millar

June 25

Lakeside & Classic Worship
Rev. Scott Hearn

June Sermon Series



June 4 - 25

Chapel@9:30 &
Modern Worship
Rev. Jamey Prickett



Sunday Services:

8:30am Lakeside Worship
9:30am Chapel@9:30
9:45am Sunday School
10:55am Classic Worship
10:55am Modern Worship

Wednesday Activities:

6:00pm All Areas

Learn about our services, ministries,
and events at gfumc.com.

Listen to our most recent sermons
at gfumc.com/sermons.



“
 My family and I love any chance we get to give back to the families of Baker & Glover community. They have become like an extended family to us. We have been given so much, and so we absolutely count it as a blessing to give all we can back in this way! - Meredith Pierce

”

Thank you to everyone who served at the 2017 Baker & Glover Carnival.



VBS & VBX week is June 5 - 9. As we reach out to the children of our community, we're asking you to pray that lives be forever changed because of this week!





CONFIRMATION 2017



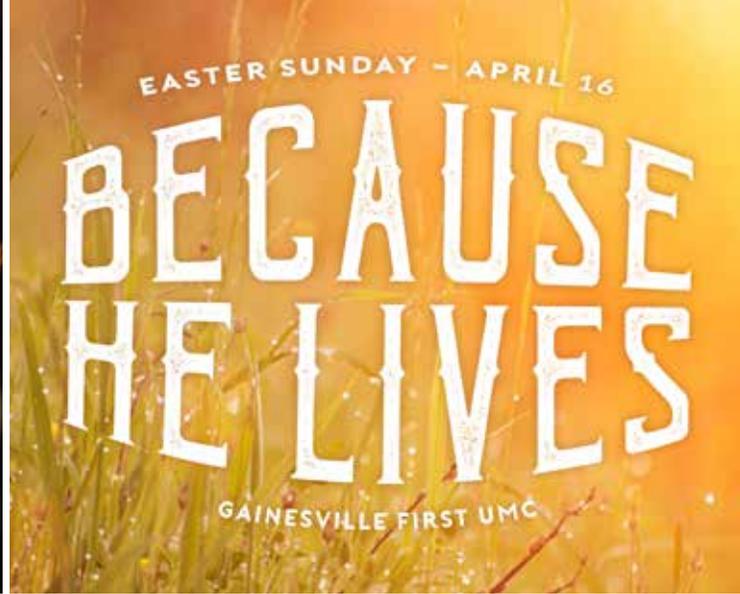
This past February, 13 students embarked on the next step in their faith journey. During their Confirmation classes, they learned what it means to live out their faith and about the commitment they were making to Christ and the Church. They attended Camp Glisson and a retreat held at GFUMC. Each student was involved in a small group and served in their community as service projects. On Sunday, April 30 in 10:55am Modern Worship, we gathered around the Confirmands and welcomed them into the church family. Please continue to pray for each of the students as they deepen their walk with Christ!

Families, join us Thursday, June 29, at the Tiger Drive-In in Tiger, Georgia for the Gainesville First UMC Family Movie Night!

**Games and dinner at the grill at 7pm.
Our movie starts at 8pm.**

Cost is \$5 for kids (4 -11yrs) and \$10 for students and adults (12yrs & up).





"We have attended Easter Sunrise Service at GFUMC for 33 years without a miss. We started as newlyweds and continued through the raising of five children, bringing babies, teenagers and adult children with us. This has become our Easter tradition, to start the day in the quiet darkness outside by the lake and then culminate our joy with the triumphant music and pageantry of the traditional service in the sanctuary. Thank you to all the clergy, staff and lay people who make Easter at GFUMC such a welcoming and inspirational day." - Bucky & Lee Highsmith

"This Easter Sunday could be summed up in two words 'absolutely magnificent.' My wife, Jean and I attended Classic Worship, and we were greatly blessed by both the beautiful music, especially the organ pieces by Keith Jefcoat, and the best sermon I've ever heard by Rev. Scott Hearn. We were so impressed by every element of worship, and we are praying that the day triggers others and visitors to attend more regularly and find a home at Gainesville First UMC." - Jay Leslie



DID YOU KNOW?

At Gainesville First, we've created a very personal and thoughtful follow up strategy for first time and first time in a long time guests. Guests are given a nice church branded coffee mug with a bag full of delicious handmade pretzels.

After their first visit, they receive a letter from Pastor Scott, and an email from Pastor Jamey, inviting them to come back again for worship soon, and to feel free to contact them with any questions they have about any of our ministries or events at Gainesville First. They also receive a follow up phone call from one of our lay people inviting them back.

From there, each time guests return to worship with us, they receive invitations to try out a small group, and information about our Connecting Point Lunch events and church membership.

BAPTISM CELEBRATION



Madelyn

**"I'm ready for Jesus to lead my heart."
Anna Vlassis**

**"I want God to guide me through life."
Avery Vlassis**

Thank you Kathy Lamon

Kathy will be missed. She is leaving a congregation she has beautifully served since June 2011. Her influence has guided our Outreach, Stephen Ministry, Care Ministry, and Benevolence Committee. She is leaving us in a much better situation to serve our members and the community than when she came.

Her lessons and sermons have touched our souls. Hundreds of older adults have enjoyed her visits in hospitals, assisted living, and nursing facilities. Her smile, sense of humor, intelligence, leadership, knowledge of the Bible, friendship and prayers have been treasured more than she will ever know!

Kathy has a servant's heart and serves God 24 hours each day. We will pray for her as she moves into her new place of service at Commerce First United Methodist Church. They have no idea what a blessing is coming their way! God's speed, Kathy!

- Nancy Perkins, SPR committee



Thanks Kathy

First, I want to congratulate Kathy on her move as the Senior Pastor of Commerce First United Methodist Church. Their gain will certainly be our loss.

Kathy's ministry and leadership have been an inspiration to the Congregational Care Committee, Gadabouts, 50+, and all the many other hats she has worn. It is difficult to name all the blessings she has given to our members with her loving care and devotion to the shut-ins, hospital patients and anyone who needed a "hug." She was the first person to the Emergency Room with our family and was there through ICU and on to recovery. These blessings are never forgotten.

I can't express enough thanks to Kathy for all she has given to our church and to me personally. May she be blessed with a wonderful future. My love and best wishes,

- Jacque Clements

**the AUTOMATE
IMPORTANT**

Would you be willing to set up an online giving profile at gfumc.com/give and automate the important? Not only will you not have to bring a checkbook to church, you'll help us maintain ministries for your family during all seasons of the year. Jump in. Automate what's important. - Rev. Scott Hearn



Adult Combined Summer Group

Summertime beckons us to the lake or to the beach. We go for relaxation, to play and enjoy the company of our friends and family. Jesus also spent a lot of time around the water. We have much to discover from His teachings and His actions. Please join us in the Reception Hall July 9-30 at 9:45am as we bring all of our Adult Sunday Morning Bible Studies together to discover Jesus' Summertime FACTs:

- He walked on the water: **FAITH**
- He hosted a picnic: **ABUNDANCE**
- He went to the beach: **COMPASSION**
- He led a guided fishing expedition: **TRUST**

★ ★ 5TH ANNUAL PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION ★ ★

★ ★ ★ ★ AT GAINESVILLE FIRST UMC ★ ★ ★ ★

Sunday, June 25 / 4pm
Sanctuary / Free Event
Childcare provided

presented by



Welcome GFUMC's new Associate Pastor, Carolyn Clifton

"My husband, Brad, and I are both Atlanta natives. I grew up in Sandy Springs and was a member of Peachtree Road UMC. Brad grew up in Buckhead as a member of Northside UMC. Our daughter Grace, is a rising 9th grader and our son, Thomas, is a rising 5th grader.

I graduated from Duke University with a degree in History and earned my M.Div. at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University. Through the years I have served in children and student ministries, Christian formation, and missions but have focused most recently on pastoral care and active adult ministries.

My family and I are excited about moving to Gainesville. We are thrilled to be closer to the mountains and eager to learn what living at the lake is all about. But most importantly, we are honored to have the privilege to serve in ministry with the people of Gainesville First and look forward to getting to know you all." - Rev. Carolyn Clifton

**Drop by the Gathering Room, Sunday, June 25, from 9:30-10:30am, for Carolyn's Welcome Reception.*



GIVING UPDATE

APRIL 2017

GOAL \$226,452

ACTUAL \$266,958

YEARTO DATE

GOAL \$1,021,308

ACTUAL \$1,209,015

Your gifts share the message of Christ by supporting local and global ministries. Find more information on giving at gfumc.com/give.



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JUNE 2017 FEATURE EVENTS CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2	3	4 Sunday Services Pentecost Sunday
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5-9 VBS & VBX Week
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	7-11 GAP - Session 1
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	11 Sunday Services
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	13-15 North Georgia Annual Conference
							18 Sunday Services Father's Day
							21-25 GAP - Session 2
							25 Sunday Services Sounds of Faith Patriotic Celebration
							28 The Gathering: Student Night of Worship at Lakeside
							29 Family Movie Night at Tiger Drive-In

For more info on all events, visit gfumc.com/calendar.