



FROM OUR PASTOR

The Advent Season is a time of expectation and preparation. Much like Joseph and Mary must have been preparing for their son Jesus' birth, we are also preparing for what God is birthing anew in our own lives and in our life together. Each year, we participate in those same rituals of lighting candles and waiting for the coming of the Christ-child, and every year we discover something new that God wants to do in us and through us.

This year, I am excited about our Advent theme of "Calm and Bright". This is the 200th anniversary of one of the most beloved Christmas hymns of all time—"Silent Night, Holy Night". If I am honest, the most emotional I get every year is when the candles are all lit and our voices sing that hymn together at the end of the service. It touches me every time and probably for the same reason that it touches you. We need to be reminded that God's presence in our lives through the Christ child brings peace and light into this world. At a time in our lives where we are hustling and bustling to cover all those details, singing this hymn reminds us that we don't have to have everything in hand and perfectly held together because God's presence in this world is what holds us all together.

As we reflect on the coming of Jesus to this world and the ways that this wondrous gift of God has forever changed our lives, we will also begin to anticipate what God is desiring to do in and through the life of our church as the final report of the Discovery Team comes to the church. I am praying that God will use these ideas and dreams to bring about more of God's Kingdom through our life together at FBC Rome. I hope you will join me in praying for that as well.

With hopeful expectation,

20th Annual
Christmas
at First Baptist
Concert

Sunday, December 2
4:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church
100 East Fourth Avenue
Rome, Georgia

Featuring
**The Sanctuary Choir
and Orchestra**
with the Youth and Children's Choirs
and First Baptist Ringers

Nursery provided

CHILDREN'S CORNER

COOL YULE Please register ASAP for Cool Yule if you have not already! It is Saturday, December 1, from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 per child with a \$20 family max. Registration can be found on the church website.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR (2nd-6th grade) will sing in the Christmas at First Baptist Concert on December 2nd at 4:00 p.m.

YOUNGER CHOIRS PROGRAM Our 3 & 4 years old and K-1st grade choirs will sing in our Christmas Program on December 5th at 6:00 p.m.

FAMILY ADVENT NIGHT Our final Wednesday evening will be December 12th, and we will have a special Family Advent Night in the gym from 5:45-6:45 p.m., full of Christmas treats and activities for the whole family to enjoy together. Make plans to be there!

CHILDCARE FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES Adult Sunday School Christmas Parties will be December 16th and childcare will be provided from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Register through the link on the Children's Ministry Facebook page or through the link provided in the holiday newsletter email. If you did not receive the holiday newsletter, please send your email address to kpope@fbcrome.org.

YOUTH NEWS

CHRISTMAS CARD POST OFFICE

Youth Ministry will deliver YOUR Family Christmas Cards to other FBC Church members this season! Drop boxes are available throughout the building. How do you participate?

1. Drop your finished cards in a drop box with a donation for our delivery services
2. Watch for an email that your cards were delivered!
3. Emails will be sent to all FBC members who have received mail... and those cards will be available for pick up outside the sanctuary and near the elevator.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9TH FROM 4:00 - 7:30 PM

\$20 per person

Ice skating at The Forum & dinner to follow. Make plans to attend!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

20TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST CONCERT

The concert will be Sunday, December 2 at 4 p.m. It features the First Baptist Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra with music from the First Baptist Ringers, Youth Choir and Children's Choir. Make sure to be here and invite a friend to one of the favorite events in our church's year.

DISCIPLINES DEVOTIONAL GUIDES AVAILABLE

Each year the church provides a devotional book that can be used throughout the year. This is an investment in personal faith development that we feel is important. A daily practice of Bible reading and prayer is one that nurtures the soul and also allows us to hear God's voice anew each day. Copies of the Upper Room Disciplines will be available throughout December, either in the Church office or at the Welcome Desk near the elevator. Please contact Tamara Smathers if you need more information.

"SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT" EXHIBIT OPENS

This wonderful exhibit of woodwork by Bob Harris will open on Sunday December 2 and run through the Christmas season. Bob is known for his collection of nativity scenes, which he has been creating for many years. The blend of woods and shapes makes each figure unique. The cases containing Bob's woodwork, will be joined by other artists' depictions of the nativity of Jesus.

JAMIE BARTON COMES HOME

See FBC's own Jamie Barton in a starring role in "Dead Man Walking" with the Atlanta Opera on Tuesday, February 5. This is a true story based on the book and Academy Award-winning movie. It is the most performed new American opera of the 21st Century. Tickets are limited and are \$75, which includes the ticket and transportation. We will have a chance to visit with Jamie following the performance. Call the church office to register.

"CONVERSATIONS FOR EVERY COUPLE"

MARCH 1-2, 2019

We are excited to announce a Marriage Enrichment weekend, with David and Jane Hull as our presenters. The cost will be minimal, as the sessions will be held at FBC, with childcare provided. Put this on your calendars, and watch for more details.

POINSETTIA HONORARIUM & MEMORIAL

Please help the Flower Committee beautify the sanctuary during Advent by purchasing a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one through Monday, December 10. Complete the form below and return it with your payment of \$10.00 per plant. Make check payable to the FBC Flower Fund. Plants may be picked up after the service on December 24. You may drop off your check or mail it to:
First Baptist Church Flower Fund, P. O. Box 1189, Rome, GA 30162-1189

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ NUMBER OF PLANTS _____

IN MEMORY OF _____ IN HONOR OF _____

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME



WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

EPIPHANY RETREAT — JANUARY 4-6

Join us for the Second Annual Women's Epiphany Retreat, held at the Benedictine Retreat Center in Cullman, Alabama. This is a great opportunity for women of all ages to rest and worship with friends after the holidays. Gayle Monk will lead yoga sessions (no experience required); we will gather with the sisters twice each day to sing the Psalms, together we will seek to the Light of Jesus. A \$25 deposit holds your space. Total Cost: between \$165-\$210 (based on room). Rooms are quickly filling up. Please contact Tamara with any questions.

SENIOR ADULT EVENTS

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon is Thursday, December 13 at noon. Come prepared for great food, festive music and lots of laughs and Christmas cheer. (Be sure to wear some gloves or a scarf as a prop for part of the program!) Cost is \$10. Please make reservations with Karen in the church office by Monday, December 10.

GO WEST!

The senior adults will be traveling west next fall! Our trip to Yellowstone, Jackson Hole and more will be beautiful and memorable. Dates are September 17-24, 2019. More information and opportunities to register for the trip will be available **after** the first of the year.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, November 25, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ralph Keith by Chris and Jennie Cook.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, November 25, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Eula and John Kirkland and David Kirkland by Mary and John Kirkland.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, December 2, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mark and Frances Johnson by Marsha Welch and Family.

The Sanctuary and Narthex flower calendar has several openings in the months of January and July. If you are interested in placing flowers in the church on a Sunday to honor or memorialize someone special, please contact Karen Garrett in the church office.

GIVING TO GOD

Year-to-Date:

Ministry Support Needed	\$270,860.53
Support Received	\$179,694.06
Thanksgiving Offering	
Hands of Christ Meals	\$1,227.50
Hurricane Disaster Relief	\$8,460.00
2018-2019 Total Budget Commitments to Date	\$876,012.00

seeking His heart | Being His hands

MARK YOUR CALENDAR November 24 - December 7

Saturday, November 24

Minister on Call

John Uldrick 706.766.0430

Sunday, November 25 (World Hunger Sunday)

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am
Bible Study (all ages)	9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11:00 am

Monday, November 26

Centering Prayer, Prayer Rm.	9:30 am
Women's Bible Study, DR	10:00 am
First Baptist Ringers	5:15 pm
Women's Small Group, Comm. Rm.	5:30-7:30 pm

Tuesday, November 27

FBC Serves Community Kitchen

Men's Bible Study, MSP Law Office 6:45 am

Wednesday, November 28

FBC Serves Community Kitchen

Flower Committee Workday	9:00 am
First Choice Dinner, FH	5:00 pm
Foundation Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm.	12:00 pm
Youth Gathering, YR	5:45 pm
Children's Choirs	5:45 pm
Prayer Time, FH	6:00 pm
Christmas at First Baptist Rehearsal, Sanctuary	6:00 pm
Youth Bible Study, YR	6:15 pm
Adult Choice Seminar, DR	6:20 pm
Children on Mission	6:30 pm

Thursday, November 29

FBC Serves Community Kitchen

Flower Committee Workday 9:00 am

Friday, November 30

FBC Serves Community Kitchen

Saturday, December 1

Minister on Call

Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

Cool Yule

10:00 am-3:00 pm

Prayer Group, Prayer Rm.

11:00 am

Sunday, December 2 (First Sunday in Advent-Hope)

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am
Youth Choir, Choir Suite	9:00 am
Youth Parent Panel Mtg., YR	9:00 am
Bible Study (all ages)	9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11:00 am
Christmas at First Baptist Concert, Sanctuary	4:00 pm

Monday, December 3

Centering Prayer, Prayer Rm.	9:30 am
Women's Bible Study, DR	10:00 am
First Baptist Ringers	5:15 pm
Women's Small Group, Comm. Rm.	5:30-7:30 pm

Tuesday, December 4

Men's Bible Study, MSP Law Office

6:45 am

Wednesday, December 5

First Choice Dinner, FH	5:00 pm
Youth Gathering, YR	5:45 pm
Prayer Time, FH	6:00 pm
Younger Children's Choirs	6:00 pm
Christmas Musical, Sanctuary	
Youth Bible Study, YR	6:15 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite	6:45 pm

Friday, December 7

Finance Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm.

12:00 pm

THIS WEEK: NOVEMBER 25

SUNDAY WORSHIP

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall

SCRIPTURE: John 18:33-37

ANTHEM: Alleluia, Sing Praise!...
Johann Sebastian Bach

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Dana Hester, Joan Goss, Sharon Baker

1's & 2's: Ty & Mary Ethridge

3's & 4's: Jarrett & Bridget Gray

FIRST CHOICE MENU

NOVEMBER 28

Spinach Salad

CHILDREN'S OPTION

Hamburgers with French Fries

MINISTER ON CALL:

John Uldrick 706.766.0430

NEXT WEEK: DECEMBER 2

SUNDAY WORSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT - HOPE

SERMON: "Hope Draws Near"

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall

SCRIPTURE: Luke 21:25-36

ANTHEM: Advent Processional...Daniel Greig
In the Bleak Midwinter...arr. Mary Hayes

SPECIAL MUSIC: First Baptist Ringers

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Lori Barfield and Robin Phillips

1's & 2's: Ryan & Amy Cox

3's & 4's: Scarlet Roberts

FIRST CHOICE MENU

DECEMBER 5

Baked Ham with Pineapple

CHILDREN'S OPTION

Baked Ham with Pineapple

MINISTER ON CALL:

Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

THE SPIRE

SUNDAY SERVICES

BROADCAST LIVE ON
COMCAST CHANNEL 44 AND
VIA WWW.FBCROME.ORG

MISSIONS MINISTRY

2019 PERU MISSION TEAM DATES

Make plans to join us as we serve in Colliquè, Peru in 2019!

April 5-14, 2019 | October 4-13, 2019

MISSION PARTNERSHIP WITH REFUGE & HOPE, KAMPALA UGANDA

FBC Rome has supported Jade & Shela Acker's work in Uganda for years. We are proud to announce we will take a small group of educators, business entrepreneurs and medical professionals with us to Uganda, June 15-28, 2019. Those wanting more information about the service opportunity, please call the office or email John.

MUSIC MINISTRY

CHRISTMAS CDS

A limited number of the "Christmas at First Baptist" CDs that were produced last year are still available for \$10. Contact Keith Reaves or Karen Garrett to purchase.

Please visit us for more information:
www.fbcrome.org

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