

THE SPIRE

Volume 66 • No. 1 • January 4, 2018

FIRST CHOICE RESUMES

Wednesday, January 9th

FIRST CHOICE DINNER
5:00-5:50 P.M.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC AND MISSIONS

YOUTH GATHERING

PRAYER TIME FOLLOWED BY
CHURCH CONFERENCE

SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL



FROM OUR PASTOR

Whenever I am down at the farm in Cordele, I am reminded of what real darkness looks like. When there is no moon, you can't see your hand in front of your face. Back in Rome, I can walk the dogs during the night without a flashlight due to all the streetlights and ambient light from the houses and roads, but at the farm, you need some illumination.

The season that follows Christmas is Epiphany. The word epiphany comes from a middle English word that means *reveal*. It is a season where we reflect on how Christ was revealed to the magi as they followed the star. This will also be a season of revealing the work of our Discovery Team. For the next 6 weeks we will reveal the dreams and plans that our Discovery Team has put together after much prayerful listening. We are calling the plan *Together, We* because it is only together that we can accomplish these things. The *Together, We* vision will be printed and distributed church wide, and we will be talking about it on Wednesday nights and it will be the focus of our worship experiences each Sunday. We hope that you will be a part of these conversations. On Sunday, March 3, after we have had ample time to discuss and understand *Together, We*, we will commit together to follow the plan.

Between now and then, I hope you will join me in praying for God to reveal to you where you are gifted and called to be a part of *Together, We*. This is an exciting time to be a part of the church, and we have so many opportunities to be the hands of Christ with each other. Let's pursue those together!

With anticipation,

CHILDREN'S CORNER

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are in need of some kindergarten-1st grade Sunday School teachers for the New Year! This could be on a permanent basis or a rotation of 1-2 times/month. Please email Kristen at kpope@fbcrome.org if you are willing to serve in this way.

TEACHER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

We will have a Teacher Appreciation Breakfast on January 13th at 9:00 a.m. in the Dining Room, and we would like 4th-6th graders to serve teachers at this event. Look out for emails & social media posts about all the ways you can get involved in this thank-you to our teachers.

5TH & 6TH GRADE RETREAT

February 1st-2nd will be our 5th & 6th grade retreat! Cost is \$50 and will cover food, lodging & a fun outing. Email Kristen at kpope@fbcrome.org to reserve your spot!

YOUTH NEWS

MMM SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 15-17, 2019

March Mission Madness
John's Creek Baptist Church
\$100 per person

PASSPORT YOUTH CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN!

Greensboro College - Passport Choices
June 30 - July 5, 2019 - \$399/person
Registration Open NOW!
<https://fbcrome-ythpassport-19.eventbrite.com>

MISSIONS MINISTRY

MISSION PARTNERSHIP WITH REFUGE & HOPE, KAMPALA UGANDA

FBC Rome has supported Jade & Shelah 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.

SENIOR ADULT EVENTS

GO WEST INFO MEETING IS JANUARY 23!

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. You can pick up an information packet and sign up now or you can wait until our information meeting with the Collette representative, provided there is space left! (More than half of the spaces for the trip have already been reserved.) The meeting is January 23 at 3:30 p.m. in the Dining Room. Contact Keith Reaves with questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH CALENDAR ON WEBSITE

You can now see an up-to-the-minute church calendar on the church website. No more waiting for the paper calendar to appear each month! Simply go to the website (www.fbcrome.org) and click on calendar to check upcoming events at the church.

WHOSE LAND IS IT ANYWAY?

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

12:00 P.M. IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL (WITH LUNCH)

Dr. Maxwell Miller, retired professor of Old Testament at Emory University, author, and archeologist, spends nearly half of his time in the Middle East leading study groups.

On Sunday, January 27th, he will help to answer a question often asked here when talking about Israel and Palestine, "Whose land is it anyway?"

Dr. Miller will, and archeologist, spends near the line of the land, those who have occupied it through the centuries.

This seminar will be of great help to those who are traveling to the Holy Land later this year, but also to anyone who wants to better understand the historical and political significance of the land we refer to as the Holy Land. Feel free to invite friends.

Please call the office to make lunch reservations.

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. Only a few tickets remain. We will have a chance to visit with Jamie following the performance. Call the church office to register.

"CONVERSATIONS FOR EVERY COUPLE" MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND—HOLD THE DATE!

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 1ST AND SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 2

Hold the date for this "in house" enrichment event for couples.

David and Jane Hull will be our guest presenters. David and Jane are both pastors, parents and grandparents. They get a kick out of talking with couples preparing for marriage, and enjoying conversations with those who have been married for years. We will begin with dinner in the Fellowship Hall. Want a weekend "away"? Make a reservation at a downtown hotel, and arrange for overnight childcare.

Childcare will be available at the church during the Friday evening and Saturday morning sessions.



ADULT CHOICES SEMINARS BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

“The Children of Abraham: A Study of Three Monotheistic Religions”
Led by Brian Inman, this seminar will look at the three Abrahamic Religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

January/February Pastor’s Study Emphasis

Join us as we focus on some of the details of our “Together, We Vision”

Jan. 16 - Together, We *Overview* Feb. 20 - Together, We *Serve*

Jan. 23 - Together, We *Share* Feb. 27 - Together, We *Disciple*

Jan. 30 - Together, We *Worship*

Feb. 6 - Together, We *Connect*

Feb. 13 - *Mission Emphasis*

MUSIC MINISTRY

CHOIRS RESUME REHEARSALS

Sanctuary Choir Resumes January 9 at 6:45 p.m.

Children’s Choir Resumes January 9 at 5:45 p.m.

Youth Choir Resumes January 27 at 9 a.m.

First Baptist Ringers Resumes January 28 at 5:15 p.m.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, January 6, are given to the glory of God and in honor of Karen Foss on the occasion of her birthday by Harry Foss.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, January 6, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Willie and Mary Sue Barron by their 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 \$563,922.96

Support Received \$524,126.95

World Vision, Meals & More
and CBF World Hunger Relief \$693.88

2018-2019 Total Budget Commitments to Date \$1,212,954.00

IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE:

To insure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2018 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax deductible if you file before receiving a written acknowledgement.

seeking His heart | Being His hands

January 5 - January 18

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, January 5

Minister on Call Keith Reaves 706.292.9620
Prayer Group, Prayer Rm. 11:00 am

Sunday, January 6 (Epiphany Sunday)

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am
Bible Study (all ages) 9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 am
Women’s Epiphany Retreat Returns 4:00 pm

Monday, January 7

Women’s Small Group Resumes, Comm. Rm. 5:30-7:30 pm

Tuesday, January 8

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

Wednesday, January 9 (Family Night Resumes)

First Choice Dinner, FH 5:00 pm
Youth Gathering, YR 5:45 pm
Children’s Choirs 5:45 pm
Prayer Time and Church Conference, FH 6:00 pm
Youth Bible Study, YR 6:15 pm
Children on Mission 6:30 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite 6:45 pm

Friday, January 11

Finance Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm. 12:00 pm

Saturday, January 12

Minister on Call Matt DuVall 706.254.1323

Sunday, January 13

Extended Family Committee Mtg., Comm. Rm. 8:30 am
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am
Bible Study (all ages) 9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 am
Youth Small Groups Resume, YR 5:00-7:00 pm

Monday, January 14

Centering Prayer, Prayer Rm. 9:30 am
Women’s Bible Study Resumes, DR 10:00 am
Ruble-Whitworth Missions Group, Comm. Rm. 11:00 am
Deacons’ Meeting:
Executive Mtg., Conf. Rm. 5:30 pm
Dinner, DR 6:00 pm
General Mtg., DR 6:30 pm

Tuesday, January 15

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

Wednesday, January 16

Properties Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm. 12:00 pm
First Choice Dinner, FH 5:00 pm
Youth Gathering, YR 5:45 pm
Children’s Choirs 5:45 pm
Prayer Time, FH 6:00 pm
Youth Bible Study, YR 6:15 pm
Adult Choice Seminars, DR/Comm. Rm. 6:20 pm
Children on Mission 6:30 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite 6:45 pm

THIS WEEK: JANUARY 6

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

SERMON: "The Light Has Come"

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 60:1-6

ANTHEMS: Beautiful Star of Bethlehem...
arr. Keith Christopher

SPECIAL MUSIC: Mary Donahue

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Matt & Betsy Pinson

1'S & 2'S: Beth Smith

3'S & 4'S: Trip & Ali Booker

FIRST CHOICE MENU

JANUARY 9

Homemade Chili Con Carne

CHILDREN'S OPTION

Homemade Chili Con Carne

CHURCH CONFERENCE

MINISTER ON CALL:

Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

THE SPIRE

SUNDAY SERVICES

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



Dinner with Friends groups are forming for the spring. These short-term dinner groups are a wonderful opportunity to connect with others with whom you may not often cross paths.

Groups are formed so that newcomers, longer-timers, younger and older families mix. Once groups are organized, they usually choose to meet once a month for 4 months.

Meals are shared in homes, restaurants, or even by reserving the Dining Room at FBC.

The kickoff for Dinner with Friends is Sunday, February 3, after the morning worship service. Please call the church office today to sign up to participate. For more information contact Tamara Smathers.

NEXT WEEK: JANUARY 13

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: "Together...We" (Overview)

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:43-46

ANTHEMS: Let Us Be Your Light...
arr. Joseph Martin

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Lori and Olivia Barfield

1'S & 2'S: Susan Fitzpatrick and Laurie Douglas

3'S & 4'S: Lynn Babineaux and Shani Sumner

FIRST CHOICE MENU

JANUARY 16

Breakfast Casserole

CHILDREN'S OPTION

Breakfast Casserole

MINISTER ON CALL:

Matt DuVall 706.254.1323

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

The Spire (U.S.P.S. 613-160) is published bi-weekly.
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100 East 4th Ave., Rome, GA 30161-3120
Postmaster: Send address changes to The Spire
P.O. Box 1189, Rome, GA 30162

