

THE SPIRE

Volume 66 • No. 24 • November 22, 2019



FROM OUR PASTOR

What are the things you are most grateful for? If you asked a room full of 1000 people that same question and you asked them to give as many answers as they could, I would be willing to bet that within that group of people there would be some connection between what everyone answers and at least one other answer of at least one other person. In fact, I am sure there would be much more overlap than that.

The reality is that we have much in common to be thankful for. At times, some of us might change the order of what it is that we are more thankful for, but there is much commonality between all of us when we gather around the table to give thanks. I was reminded last week that hospitality is the art of creating a space where strangers lose their strangeness and gifts are exchanged, and that is often what happens when we embrace gratitude. Being thankful for who we are and for what we have and for who is in our lives and for the life we have in God opens our hearts to be able to share ourselves and our resources and our gifts and our energy with each other. In fact, when we practice gratitude, we find it much easier to practice generosity.

What are the things you are most grateful for that you experience in the lives of others? Now consider how others might answer in ways that reflect the generosity that you have shared with them. I hope you will spend some time during this Thanksgiving season offering tangible words and expressions of gratitude to those who mean so much to you. May those expressions of love prepare us both to give generously and receive gratefully.

With deep gratitude to you,

Thanksgiving Dinner and Worship Service

NOVEMBER 24

DINNER: 5:00 P.M.

SERVICE: 6:15 P.M.

*No reservations needed.
Meal provided by FBC Deacons.*

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

WILD WEST DAY

Our cowboys and cowgirls kicked up their boots for a rip-roarin' good time at our Wild West Day! We played with ducks, chickens, rabbits, pigs, goats and sheep at the petting zoo. Panning for gold, calf roping, needle in the haystack & saddle toss made us all feel like real cowpokes! Would your child love special days like this? Contact us for more information at 706.295.1150 or mwood@fbcrome.org. Registration for 2020-21 will begin in February, so plan now to schedule a visit in January.



CHILDREN'S CORNER

PROJECT ADVENT

If you were unable to attend our Project Advent gathering, make sure to pick up an advent calendar at the preschool welcome desk so that your family can prepare for Christmas with this wonderful resource that the whole church will be doing!

COOL YULE

Register for Cool Yule through the links provided on the church website, the church Facebook page, or in your recent holiday newsletter email. Cool Yule will be December 7th from 10AM-3PM for children birth-6th grade. Cost is \$10 per child with a \$20 family maximum. Invite your friends, too!

JOYFUL NOISE ALERT

The Treblemaker's (3-5 year olds) and Ms. Kay's choir (K-1st grade) will perform on December 11th during our final Wednesday evening before the Christmas holidays. Mr. Keith's choir will sing during Christmas at First Baptist on December 8th.

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH WINTER SUMMIT

JANUARY 17 - 19, 2020

FBC HUNTSVILLE, AL

\$125 per student

Register - <https://forms.gle/Ujr6J2pZQ3gAUov19>

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 16. Complete the form 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 Sunday morning service on December 29. 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

IN MEMORY OF

NUMBER OF PLANTS

IN HONOR OF

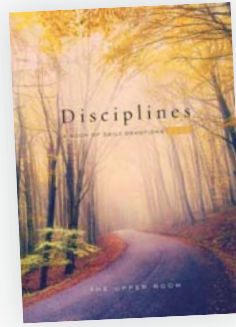
ANNOUNCEMENTS

GALLERY CHRISTMAS EXHIBIT

Would you be willing to share your Christmas artwork? Artists of all ages are invited to bring framed (or items prepared to hang), to the Gallery, on or before November 26th. For more information, please contact Tamara Smathers.

THANKSGIVING DINNER AND SERVICE

Join us on November 24 at 5:00 p.m. for a Thanksgiving dinner provided by the deacons (no reservations required) with a Thanksgiving service to follow at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Special music will be provided by our younger children's choirs.



UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES

The 2020 edition of the Upper Room *Disciplines* devotional guide have arrived and will be available to pick up during December. Setting aside time each day to read Scripture and to pray is an act of discipleship. These guides are a wonderful tool for establishing that practice and are made available through the Adult Faith Development ministry.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

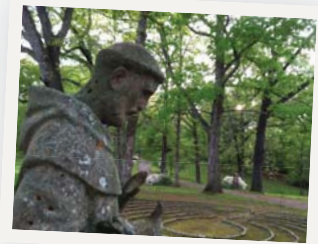
WOMEN'S EPIPHANY RETREAT 2020

JANUARY 3-5

The third annual Women's Epiphany Retreat will be held again this year in Cullman, Alabama at the Benedictine Retreat Center. Join us for an opportunity to pull away after the busy holidays to rest and recognize the presence of Christ in your life.

The retreat will offer a beautiful blend of quiet time, Bible study, joy-filled worship and energizing yoga sessions with Gayle Monk.

Cost includes all meals, lodging, and transportation: \$205 (Private room with private bath); \$179 (Shared room with Private bath) A \$25 deposit will hold your space. Contact Tamara Smathers for more details.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

100 East 4th Avenue Rome, GA 30161 706.291.6850 www.fbcrome.org

21ST ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST CONCERT

Sunday, December 8

4:00 p.m.

featuring

The Sanctuary Choir
and Orchestra

with the Youth and Children's Choirs
and First Baptist Ringers

SENIOR ADULTS

SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Join us on Friday, December 13, at noon for a time of delicious food and warm fellowship at the annual Christmas lunch. Come a little early for some hot homemade apple cider! A wonderful catered meal prepared by Ellen Keene and Barbara Triplitt will be followed by a Christmas program in which everyone will have a part. Cost is only \$10 per person. Guests are welcomed. Please make reservations by December 9.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, November 24, 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 24, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John and Eula Kirkland and David Kirkland by John and Mary Kirkland.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, December 1, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Libby and our 33 years of marriage by Richard York.

GIVING TO GOD

Year-to-Date:

Ministry Support Needed \$254,099.28
Support Received \$217,351.02

2019-2020 Total Budget Commitments to Date \$768,069.48

seeking His heart | Being His hands

November 23 - December 6

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, November 23

Minister on Call Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

Sunday, November 24

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am
Hands of Christ Christmas Committee, DR 9:15 am
Bible Study (all ages) 9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 am
Thanksgiving Dinner, FH 5:00 pm
Thanksgiving Service, Sanctuary 6:15 pm

Monday, November 25

Flower Committee Workday 9:00 am

Tuesday, November 26

FBC Serves Community Kitchen 8:00 am
Flower Committee Workday 9:00 am
FBC Serves Meals & More, FUMC 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Wednesday, November 27

FBC Serves Community Kitchen 8:00 am
Church Office Closes at 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 28 (Thanksgiving Day)

FBC Serves Community Kitchen 8:00 am
Church Office Closed

Friday, November 29

FBC Serves Community Kitchen 8:00 am
Church Office Closed

Saturday, November 30

Minister on Call John Uldrick 706.766.0430

Sunday, December 1 (First Sunday in Advent - Hope)

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am
Youth Choir, Choir Rm. 9:00 am
Bible Study (all ages) 9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 am
Personnel Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm. 12:00 pm
Together, We Connect Mtg., DR 12:00 pm
Youth Small Group, YR 5:00-7:00 pm

Monday, December 2

First Baptist Ringers, Choir Rm. 5:15 pm
Women's Small Group, Comm. Rm. 5:30 pm

Tuesday, December 3

Men's Bible Study, DR 12:00 pm

Wednesday, December 4

First Choice Dinner, FH 5:00 pm
Children, Youth Choir & FBC Ringers
(Rehearse w/Orchestra), Sanctuary 5:30 pm
Women's Small Group, 3rd Flr. Education Bldg. 5:45 pm
Youth Hangout, YR 5:45 pm
Younger Children's Choirs 5:45 pm
Young Women's Bible Group, Rm. 300 5:45 pm
Prayer Time, FH 6:00 pm
Sanctuary Choir (Dress Rehearsal w/Orchestra),
Sanctuary 6:00 pm
Youth - Wednesday's Connection, YR 6:15 pm
Children on Mission 6:30 pm

THIS WEEK: NOVEMBER 24

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: "God in Our Midst"

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 46

ANTHEM: O Kindly Maker of the Land
...arr. Keith Reaves

SPECIAL MUSIC: Frances Fields

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Sharon Baker and Martha Cates

1'S & 2'S: Leigh & Ryan Weldon

3'S & 4'S: Nancy & Robert Hortman

ALL CHURCH THANKSGIVING DINNER

AT 5:00 P.M., FH/DR

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT 6:15 P.M.,

SANCTUARY

**NO OTHER EVENING ACTIVITIES ON
NOVEMBER 24**

**NO FAMILY NIGHT ACTIVITIES ON
NOVEMBER 27**

MINISTER ON CALL:

Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

THE SPIRE

MISSIONS MINISTRY

HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

Volunteers are needed. Please
contact John to help. Names will
be available Sunday, November
24th. All gifts should be wrapped
and returned by December 8th.



SUNDAY SERVICES

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

Youth Christmas Party

Friday, December 20th

6 - 9 pm



**Dinner @ Fuddruckers
& Axe Throwing**

**\$30 + Gift for the Shelter/
Ruth & Naomi House (set of ear buds)**

NEXT WEEK: DECEMBER 1

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT - HOPE

SERMON: "People Get Ready"

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 24:36-44

ANTHEM: English Advent Carol
...arr. Patrick Liebergen
Kay Bratton, clarinet

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Miriam & Carroll Peterson

1'S & 2'S: Heather & David Hoyt

3'S & 4'S: Genna & Jonathan Harris

FIRST CHOICE MENU

DECEMBER 4

Roast Pork Loin

CHILDREN'S OPTION

Hamburgers with French Fries

MINISTER ON CALL:

John Uldrick 706.766.0430

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

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