

## 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

First Baptist Church  
100 East Fourth Avenue  
Rome, Georgia



### FROM OUR PASTOR

Our family journeyed to South Georgia for a Thanksgiving visit with the DuValls. As we drove down through the back roads to get to the place where I grew up, we passed some familiar markers along the way. Some of those markers are specific places and some are landmarks and some are just the changing contents of the fields along the roads. It's always like that when we travel to a familiar place—there are signs along the way that affirm the direction we are heading.

Advent is like that. The season of Advent contains the signposts that help us to know that we are going in the right direction, and there will be familiar markers on the way for all of us. We will hear about the hope, peace, joy, and love that comes to us during this season. If you participated in the intergenerational advent gathering a few weeks ago, you put together an advent booklet that is filled with conversations and moments to mark this journey. There will be music—Christmas at First Baptist and our children singing on Wednesday night along with carols on the radio and in the air. There will be opportunities for service and for sharing what we have with those who are in our community and are in need. We will light candles and we will read the story and most importantly we will pay attention.

Advent is an invitation to a journey whose culmination is the welcoming of the Christ Child into this world. What do you need to do to prepare for this journey along the way? What do you need to embrace or let go of in order to be ready to receive this gift of love incarnate? Come and join us as we look for the signposts of Advent in the days ahead.

With hopeful anticipation,

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

**PROJECT ADVENT:** If you were unable to attend our Project Advent gathering, make sure to still 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!

**JOYFUL NOISE ALERT:** The Treblemaker's (3-5 year olds) & 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 8<sup>th</sup>.

## YOUTH NEWS

**YOUTH WINTER SUMMIT JANUARY 17 - 19, 2020**  
FBC HUNTSVILLE, AL | \$125 PER STUDENT

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



## MUSIC MINISTRY

### YOUNGER CHOIRS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our two younger children's choirs will present their Christmas musical on Wednesday, December 11, at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

## 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

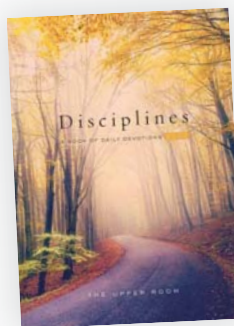
NUMBER OF PLANTS

IN MEMORY OF

IN HONOR OF

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES

The 2020 editions of the Upper Room *Disciplines* Devotional guide have arrived and are 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 RETREAT

JANUARY 3-5, 2020

#### A NEW WORD FOR A NEW YEAR

After the holidays, we need a break. The Epiphany retreat offers women of all ages that opportunity to refocus and listen for God's voice of direction.

For the third year, we have been welcomed to the Benedictine Retreat Center in Cullman, Alabama. This lovely space provides a perfect balance of fresh air, quiet walks, and comfortable areas for forming new friendships.

The schedule includes Bible study, yoga sessions led by Gayle Monk, opportunities for creative artwork, chant morning and evening prayers with the sisters, naps, and walks.

Rev. Carol Younger will be leading our large group sessions. Carol is the mother of two grown sons, a writer, and editor of *Reflections Daily Devotional Guide*. She and her husband moved from Atlanta to Brooklyn, New York, where he is a pastor. All of our rooms have private baths. You can request a private room (\$205) or a shared room (\$179). All meals and transportation are included.

Please register ASAP by contacting Tamara Smathers or Debbye Akins in the church office.





## WELCOME TO THE CHURCH FAMILY



PLEASE WELCOME:  
Robert & Genise Sturdivant  
(also pictured Anna Jane  
& Katie)

## MISSIONS MINISTRY

**HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS** | FELLOWSHIP HALL  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 8:30-10:00 A.M.,

Volunteers are needed – Please contact John to help.

All gifts should be wrapped and returned no later than December 8.

## 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 Keane 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 Sanctuary for Sunday, December 15, are given to the glory of God and in honor of Kay Bratton on the occasion of our 35th Wedding Anniversary by Randy Bratton.

## GIVING TO GOD

Year-to-Date:

Ministry Support Needed	\$357,355.20
Support Received	\$297,742.36

Thanksgiving Service Offering for Benevolence	\$2,477.00
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World Vision, Meals & More and CBF World Hunger Relief	\$1,040.00
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2019-2020 Total Budget Commitments to Date	\$1,115,469.48
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**IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE:** To insure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2019 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. Year-end contributions must be received in the church office by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 31 or postmarked by December 31. For contributions made with a bank credit card by December 31, 2019, you can claim the deduction for the tax year 2019 even though the credit card bill is paid in the next year. Contributions made with a retail store credit card are only tax deductible for the year you actually pay the credit card bill.

*seeking His* heart | *Being His* hands

## December 7 - December 20 MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Saturday, December 7

Minister on Call	Kristen Pope 502.693.5644
Cool Yule	9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Prayer Group, Prayer Rm.	11:00 am

### Sunday, December 8 (Second Sunday in Advent - Peace)

Missions Committee Mtg., DR	8:30 am
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am
Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	9:30 am
Bible Study (all ages)	9:45 am
Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra Rehearse, Sanctuary	10:00 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11:00 am
Christmas at First Baptist Concert, Sanctuary	4:00 pm

### Monday, December 9

Centering Prayer, Prayer Rm.	9:30 am
Women's Bible Study/Ruble-Whitworth	
Missions Group, DR	10:00 am
Together, We Disciple Team Mtg., Conf. Rm.	5:15 pm
Women's Small Group, Comm. Rm.	5:30 pm
Student Ministry Christmas Dinner (Off-Site)	6:30-8:30 pm

### Tuesday, December 10

Men's Bible Study, DR	12:00 pm
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### Wednesday, December 11 (Final Family Night)

Hands of Christ Christmas Committee Mtg., Parlor	5:00 pm
Final First Choice Dinner, FH	5:00 pm
Woman's Small Group, 3rd Flr. Education Bldg.	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
Children's Christmas Musical	6:15 pm

### Thursday, December 12

Bridges Out of Poverty "Getting Ahead" Class, Comm. Rm.	6:00 pm
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### Friday, December 13

Senior Adult Luncheon, FH	12:00 pm
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### Saturday, December 14

Minister on Call	Keith Reaves 706.292.9620
Hands of Christ Christmas, FH	8:30-10:00 am

### Sunday, December 15 (Third Sunday in Advent - Joy)

Adult Faith Development Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm.	8:30 am
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am
Baby's First Christmas, DR	9:15 am
Bible Study (all ages)	9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11:00 am
Bible Study Christmas Party Childcare	6:00-8:00 pm

### Monday, December 16

Centering Prayer, Prayer Rm.	9:30 am
Women's Bible Study, DR	10:00 am
Women of the Church Book Group, Conf. Rm.	1:00 pm
Women's Small Group, Comm. Rm.	5:30 pm
The Edge (HS Seniors)	7:30 pm

### Tuesday, December 17

Men's Bible Study, DR	12:00 pm
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### Wednesday, December 18

College Ministry Christmas Dinner	5:45-8:30 pm
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### Thursday, December 19

Bridges Out of Poverty "Getting Ahead" Class, Comm. Rm.	6:00 pm
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## THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 8

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT - PEACE

SERMON: "Bear Good Fruit"

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 3:1-12

ANTHEM: Peace Came to Earth...arr. K. Lee Scott  
Gloria in Excelsis...Dan Forrest

SPECIAL MUSIC: Youth Choir, First Baptist Ringers,  
Orchestra

DONATION TO COVER THE EXPENSES FOR THE FIRST  
BAPTIST ORCHESTRA IN THE MORNING SERVICE WAS  
GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN MEMORY OF  
CORNELIA MILFORD BY HER CHILDREN.

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Janie Smith and Merrill & Bill Davies

1's & 2's: Pam & Mike Finnegan

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

CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST  
AT 4:00 P.M.

FINAL FIRST CHOICE MENU

DECEMBER 11

Baked Ham with Pineapple

CHILDREN'S OPTION

Baked Ham with Pineapple

MINISTER ON CALL:

Kristen Pope 502.693.5644

## NEXT WEEK: DECEMBER 15

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT - JOY

SERMON: "The Promise Come True"

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 11:2-11

ANTHEM: God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen...arr.  
Molly Ijames

SPECIAL MUSIC: First Baptist Ringers

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Alice Clements and Robin Phillips

1's & 2's: Ann & Jordan Knight

3's & 4's: Elaine Lanier and Hannah Freeman

MINISTER ON CALL:

Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

# THE SPIRE

## BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY

Seeking help for Bridges Out of Poverty's FIRST Getting Ahead Classes.  
17 weeks of class begin Thursday, December 5th! 12 investigators from Living  
Proof Recovery, Ruth & Naomi House, and the Davies Shelter participating.

Sign up to help at - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4dadad2da6fa7-getting>

**Transportation Help** - We need people willing to give rides to participants in the  
program to and from the weekly meetings at FBC Rome.

**Food Help** - We need one or two people willing to purchase/prepare a meal for 15  
people and deliver it to the group meeting at FBC Rome's Community  
Room each week. How can you help?

**Childcare Help** - We need two to four people willing to provide childcare for  
children of investigators during the group meeting at FBC Rome's  
Community Room each week. How can you help?

Please visit us for more information:  
[www.fbcrome.org](http://www.fbcrome.org)

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