

Volume 67 · No. 5 · February 28, 2020



FROM OUR PASTOR

As much as I love the preparation of the Advent Season for the coming of the Christ child, if I'm honest I know I probably need the preparation of the Lenten Season for Easter even more. All of us do. Going back to the days of the early church, the season of Lent was a time of preparation for new baptismal candidates who would be baptized during the early hours of Easter morning. If we think about the language and symbolism that we use when we baptize new Christians, this season of Lenten preparation should be understood in connection with us experiencing new life in Christ.

Sometimes, what Lent can become for us is a willful exercise in self-denial that we control for ourselves. We might remove something from our diet or we practice turning off our screens or we decide to not get that piece of dessert that we love so much. Those and other things can be good in and of themselves for our health or our connection with others around us, but if

we never frame those things in terms of the new life that God desires for us to have in Christ, we will miss out on the deep gifts of this season.

So maybe this Lent we need to ask ourselves what new thing God is trying to grow in our life. Is it deeper patience or more compassion for the people in our life? Is it a generosity of our time or resources or talents that could be shared in more impactful ways? Is it a willingness to risk our love with others or to offer more of who we are to more of what God is wanting to do in this world? What new life is God wanting to bring into your life and into our life together and will you embrace this opportunity to learn and to grow and become a better disciple? Let's answer that question together with our lives this Lent.

With expectant hope,





WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL



WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL: 2020-2021

It's time for Weekday Preschool Registration! We are excited to announce that we have added an Infant Class (6mos-11mos) on Monday/Wednesday for **next** year (2020-2021)! We would love to have your child join us at FBWP! Registration is now open to the community. Want to schedule a visit? Contact Melissa Wood at mwood@fbcrome.org or 706.295.1150 for more information.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

LENTEN CALENDAR

Lent began with Ash Wednesday on February 26th. Be sure to swing by the preschool welcome desk to choose from a variety of ageappropriate devotionals and calendars for your family this Lenten season.

TALENT SHOW & SILENT AUCTION

Tickets for our 3rd Annual Silent Auction, Talent Show, Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser go on sale Sunday March 1st! Tickets are \$10 each with a family max of \$30. Sign-up sheets for the talent show & for auction items will be available at the preschool desk beginning March 1st. The event itself is on March 22nd from 5:00-7:00 PM and it is SO important that you be present for this special event of fellowship, shared talent & raising money for our kiddos.

If you have relationships with businesses in town, a special service that you could offer, a vacation home or game tickets you would be willing to share, or something else that you would be willing to give to our auction, please contact Kristen at kpope@fbcrome.org or 502-693-5644.

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Mark your calendars on Wednesday April 8th from 6:00-7:00 PM for our Easter Eggstravaganza. You don't want to miss it!

YOUTH NEWS

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES PRAYER EXPERIENCE!

The youth participated in a Spiritual Disciplines Prayer experience on Feb 20th in preparation for Lent beginning on February 27th...this photo and the upper right of the cover are from that event!



MARCH MISSION MADNESS MARCH 20 - 22 IN CARROLLTON, GA

\$100 per participant – Sign up NOW!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

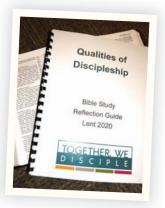
TOGETHER, WE D | S C | P L E

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES

During the six weeks of Lent we hope you will join in a very focused effort to delve deeply into the meaning of discipleship.

The Together We Disciple team produced a Bible Study series,

"Qualities of Discipleship" that Adults



will use for Sunday morning Bible Study. The weekly scripture readings offer a perfect way for us to incorporate a daily practice of reading the Bible and discovering its application of each of our lives. Copies can be found in your Bible Study classrooms, and also in the church office. Children and youth teachers will also focus their attention during Lent on Discipleship. As a church family, this unified effort is sure to enrich our Lenten journey as a congregation.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY TEACHERS PREPARATION

WEDNESDAYS, 5:15 P.M.

FEBRUARY 26-APRIL 1

Teachers of Adults will gather on Wednesday evenings in the Dining Room to collaborate in planning the following Sunday's lesson.

Bring your dinner into the Dining Room as we gather to review the lesson and consider presentation options.

TOGETHER, WE W O R S H I P

TOGETHER, WE WORSHIP UPDATE

One of the recommendations for Together, We Worship was to provide weekly worship previews to help church members be more prepared as they enter the worship service. The worship preview will be on our church website on the same page as the order of worship, or you can ask to be put on a weekly mailing list to receive it. The preview will include information about the service, a link to the scripture and something to ponder before you come to worship. It will be available by Thursday each week. If you are interested in being on this list please contact Keith Reaves at kreaves@fbcrome.org.

ORGAN RENOVATION UPDATE

We continue to explore the possibility of having exposed pipes in the Sanctuary. We are waiting on a graphic artist to complete his work on what the installation will look like after the renovation. The main objective is that the installation be aesthetically pleasing and will add to the beauty of our sanctuary and the worship experience.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH FAMILY



PLEASE WELCOME Ginna and Harry Wise

MISSIONS MINISTRY

TOGETHER, WE S E R V E "THANK YOU" to all who participated in the March 1 lunch & learn.

Anyone who was unable to attend may reach out to John Uldrick, Kate Barron or Bob Hortman to find out how you can plug into local relational ministries!

PERU MISSION ENGAGEMENT OCT. 9-18 | \$1,600 TOTAL TRIP COST

If you are interested in participating in the Fall Peru trip, please reach out to John or Lori Barfield for more information. Looking for medical, dental, construction, and childcare help.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

Flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, March 1, are given to the glory of God and provided through the Jo Huffman Flower Fund.

Flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, March 1, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Don Clements by the Clements Family.

Flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, March 8, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Hazel Hay Dowd, Willard C. Hay and Edward and Doris Dellinger Dowd by Lucy Hay Vick and Dub and Lyn Hay.

Flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, March 8, are given to the glory of God and provided through the Jo Huffman Flower Fund.

GIVING TO GOD

Year-to-Date: Ministry Support Needed Support Received	\$818,864.19 \$774,367.12
CBF Global Missions Meals & More, World Vision	\$23,547.42
and CBF World Hunger Relief	\$1,151.00
2019-2020 Total Budget Commitments to Date	\$1,188,449.48

Seeking His heart | Being His hands

Saturday, February 29	
Minister on Call	Matt DuVall 706.254.1323
Sunday, March 1 (First Sunday	in Lent)
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 14	10) 9:00 am
Bible Study (all ages)	9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11.00 am

Youth Small Groups, Host Homes

Monday, March 2	
Centering Prayer, Prayer Rm.	9:30 am
Women's Bible Study, Dining Rm.	10:00 am
First Baptist Ringers, Choir Suite	5:15 pm
Women's Small Group, Comm. Rm.	5:30 pm

Together, We Serve Opportunities Lunch & Forum 12:00 pm

5:00-7:00 pm

5:00 pm

9:00 am

Tuesday, March 3 Men's Bible Study, DR 12:00 pm

Wednesday, March 4
First Choice Dinner, FH

Bible Study Teachers Prep, DR 5:15 pm Choir Ladies Small Group, Rm. 305 5:45 pm Youth Hangout, YR 5:45 pm Children's Choirs 5:45 pm 5:45 pm Young Women's Bible Group, Rm. 300 Prayer Time, FH 6:00 pm Youth - Wednesday's Connection, YR 6:15 pm Children on Mission 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm. 6:45 pm

Thursday, March 5
Bridges Out of Poverty "Getting Ahead" Class,

Comm. Rm. 6:00 pm

Friday, March 6

March 13

-ebruary 29

MARK YOUR CALENDA

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

Saturday, March 7

Minister on Call Tamara Tillman Smathers 706.266.7141 Prayer Group, Prayer Rm. 11:00 am

Sunday, March 8 (Second Sunday in Lent) Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)

Bible Study (all ages)

Worship - Comcast Channel 44

Youth Small Groups, Host Homes
Deacons' Meeting:
Executive Mtg., Conf. Rm
Dinner, FH

9:45 am
11:00 am
5:00-7:00 pm
5:00-7:00 pm

Dinner, FH
Small Groups, DR
General Mtg., DR
7:00 pm

Monday, March 9

Centering Prayer, Prayer Rm. 9:30 am
Women's Bible Study, DR 10:00 am
Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group Mtg., Comm. Rm.11:00 am
First Baptist Ringers, Choir Rm. 5:15 pm
Women's Small Group, Comm. Rm. 5:30 pm

Tuesday, March 10

Men's Bible Study, DR 12:00 pm

Wednesday, March 11

Senior Adult Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm. 3:00-4:00 pm First Choice Dinner, FH 5:00 pm Bible Study Teachers Prep, DR 5:15 pm Choir Ladies Small Group, Rm. 305 5:45 pm Youth Hangout, YR 5:45 pm Children's Choirs 5:45 pm Young Women's Bible Group, Rm. 300 5:45 pm Prayer Time, FH 6:00 pm Youth - Wednesday's Connection, YR 6:15 pm Adult Choice Seminar, DR 6:20 pm Children on Mission 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm. 6:45 pm

Thursday, March 12

Bridges Out of Poverty "Getting Ahead" Class, FH 5:00 pm

THIS WEEK: MARCH 1

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

SERMON: "Meeting Jesus in the Wilderness"

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall SCRIPTURE: Matthew 4:1-11

ANTHEM: O Love...arr. Elaine Hagenberg

SPECIAL MUSIC: Children's Choir Tara Suswal, cello

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Miriam & Carroll Peterson

1'S & 2'S: Pam & Mike Finnegan 3'S & 4'S: Nancy & Robert Hortman

FIRST CHOICE MENU
MARCH 4
Fried Chicken
CHILDREN'S OPTION

Hot Dogs with Potato Chips

MINISTER ON CALL: Matt DuVall 706.254.1323

NEXT WEEK: MARCH 8

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

SERMON: "Meeting Jesus in the Dark"

PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall SCRIPTURE: John 3:1-17

ANTHEM: Arise My Soul, Arise...arr. Dan Forrest

SPECIAL MUSIC: Samantha Lester, violin

TLC VOLUNTEERS

BED BABIES: Janie Smith and Martha Cates

1'S & 2'S: Heather & David Hoyt 3'S & 4'S: Amy & Ryan Cox

FIRST CHOICE MENU

MARCH II
Soups and Stews
CHILDREN'S OPTION

Grilled Cheese with Tomato Soup

MINISTER ON CALL: John Uldrick 706.766.0430



SUNDAY SERVICES

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

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

FEBRUARY 26-APRIL 1

Adult Bible Study Teachers Prep

MARCH 1

Missions Opportunities Lunch & Forum Children's Ministry-Silent Auction/Talent Show

MARCH 20-MARCH 22

Youth March Mission Madness

JUNE 21-27

Youth International Mission Trip to Eleuthera, Bahamas

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

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

