#SPIRE

Volume 68 · No. 2 · January 15, 2021



Please give as generously as you can to this year's Offering for Global Missions.

Your gift will share the Good News and offer lasting hope and loving hospitality to refugees and other vulnerable communities.

of your gift will directly support CBF field personnel & their missions work around the world.





Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Hebrews 13:2

FROM OUR PASTOR

One of the things I have lamented publicly in the recent years of my ministry is the sense I have that we are not very good at having difficult conversations about hard topics. That may be a statement toward us as individual people, but it is also a statement about us as a collective people. We enjoy surrounding ourselves with people who think just like us or who see the world just as we do, which means that we might be able to create a world where we would not ever come into conflict with people who think differently than us. Some of us may enjoy living in that world.

I don't. As hard as it sometimes might be for me personally, I actually want to live in a world where I encounter the other. I want to be around people who think differently than me or who believe differently than me. I want to be around people who listen to different music or who have different priorities or who have a

different perspective than I do. I find that when I surround myself with others who are not like me, it pushes me to sharpen my perspective and understanding and to explore with greater depth and clarity why I believe like I believe.

This spring, I want to create a space on Wednesday night where we intentionally find some grey area between the black and white where we might explore different perspectives and thoughts about tough topics. The book we will be using as a jumping off point is *Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White* by Adam Hamilton. You can purchase it on Amazon or at most Christian booksellers. I hope you will join me in opening ourselves to what God might teach us as we listen to some different voices.

Grace and peace,





WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

JANUARY OPENINGS AVAILABLE

Ready to send your child to preschool in January? Email mwood@fbcrome.org or call 706.295.1150 to ask about the policies and procedures we have in place to keep your child & family healthy. Even if you're not ready this year, we'll be registering for the 2021-2022 school



year in February, so watch for that. We're having a great year at First Baptist Weekday Preschool and would love for your child to join us!

CHILDREN'S CORNER

WORSHIP CARE HELP NEEDED

Please sign up using the link on Facebook or through the Remind app to help with Infant & Toddler Worship Care on Sundays. Even just one Sunday is a huge help!

SIGN UP FOR WORSHIP WITH YOUR FAMILY

Be sure to sign up for worship with your family each week if you're able. Children's worship is being offered for children ages K-4th grade.

SPRING CALENDAR OF EVENTS TO COME

Look out for the Spring Calendar of events! If you are not yet signed up for the Remind app, please email Kristen at kpope@fbcrome.org so we can add you. This is our most effective mode of communication for the most up-to-date info.

KEITH REAVES' LIFE VERSE:

"The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation."

Psalm 118:14

YOUTH NEWS

2021 YOUTH BBQ SALE

Due to COVID precautions, GMC Value Mart will prepare and smoke our BBQ this year. They have prepared all of our meat in the past, and this year they will also smoke it. All orders must be picked up on Friday, February 5th, between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. from the GMC store located in Coosa at 3402 Alabama Highway.

\$35 - 1 smoked butt

\$20 - 1 smoked rack of ribs

Tickets may be purchased **online only** at www.fbcrome.org. If you need assistance placing your order, please call the church office or reach out to a member of the FBC youth group.!

WEDNESDAY'S CONNECTION

Make plans to gather in-person again starting Wednesday, February 3rd from 6:00 - 7:15 pm. We'll kick off the semester with a fun night and then begin digging into scripture! Join us!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2021 Offering Envelopes are available for pick up in the Sanctuary Narthex, Office Lobby, and the Community Room Lobby or can be mailed upon request.



FIRST CHOICE CURBSIDE DINNER PICKUP TIMES ARE BETWEEN 4:45-5:45 P.M.

We may not be able to gather together around tables for fellowship, however, we ARE able to gather around the same meal and then join together for prayer time over Zoom.

Here's how: make a reservation, come to the Community Room parking lot at your designated pick up time, pay either by check, cash or card. Your meal will be handed to you through a window or placed in the backseat of your car. Each bagged dinner is packaged with two adult servings of an entrée, side dish, salad, and dessert. The cost for each bag is \$12.

Please verify any changes to your standing reservation, or make weekly reservations (cut-off Tuesday at noon) by contacting Debbye Akins at dakins@fbcrome.org, or by calling the church office. Menus are posted on the church website for each week.

"Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White" Wednesdays, Led by Matt DuVall

A book published 13 years ago offers important lessons for us today. Rev. Adam Hamilton writes, "Everyone agrees that America is polarized, with ever-hardening positions held by people less and less willing to listen to one another. No one agrees on what to do about it. One solution that hasn't yet been tried is for thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us." Hamilton rejects the easy assumptions and sloppy analysis of black and white thinking, seeking instead the truth that resides on all sides of the issues, and offering a faithful and compassionate way forward. Books are available through your favorite book seller.

"Setting Goals for Your Personal Discipleship" Wednesdays, January 20 and 27, Led by Tamara Smathers

We often find ourselves this time of year setting goals for ourselves. These may be related to our personal wellness or our vocation. What consideration might we give to making goals for our growth as a follower of Jesus?

Join Tamara Smathers on Wednesday evenings at 6:20 to develop a plan, or add to a plan that you have already begun. Please register in advance with Tamara to receive a Zoom link.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

ANNOUNCEMENTS



OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS

FBC Rome is committed to sharing the Gospel as instructed by Jesus. We have a rich history of participating in missions in our community as well as in global mission involvement. We enable those who are equipped with the local languages and culture to serve on our behalf while we support them financially and undergird them with prayer. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is our primary partner in Global Missions as it carries out the Great Commission through our support.

Please support the Offering for Global Missions as we seek to reach a goal of \$35,000.

CHURNS NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS

On January 20, the Wednesday night Women's Bible study group (called the CHURNS) will be starting a new study, "Truthfilled" by Ruth Chou Simons. We invite you to join us in this study of Colossians. Our ZOOM meetings are at 6:00-7:00 pm. If you are interested, please contact Heather Shores or Gwen Stephens.

GLENDA CARROLL'S LIFE VERSE:

"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer."

Psalm 19:14

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 17, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jerry Vick by Janice Vick and Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 24, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of J.L. and Doris Todd on the occasion of Doris' birthday by Randy, Amy and Lori Land and their loving grandsons.

GIVING TO GOD

Year-to-Date:

Ministry Support Needed \$576,386.00 Support Received \$656,803.39

2020-2021 Total Budget Commitments to Date \$1,129,590.48

Seeking His heart | Being His hands

Saturday, January 16

Minister on Call John Uldrick 706.766.0430

Sunday, January 17

January 16 - January <u>2</u>9

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MARK YOUR CALENDA

Adult Faith Development Committee Mtg., Zoom	8:30 am
Missions Committee Mtg., Zoom	8:30 am
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am
Bible Study (Adults), Zoom	9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11:00 am
Worship also available on FBC Website / Facebook	Live

Monday, January 18 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)

Church Office Closed WOC Book Group, Zoom 1:00 pm

Wednesday, January 20

First Choice Curbside Meals (Reservation Only)	4:45-5:45 pm
Prayer Time, Zoom	6:00 pm
Churns Bible Study, Zoom	6:00 pm
Adult Seminars, Zoom	6:20 pm
"Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White,"	Matt DuVall
"Setting Goals for Personal Discipleship." Tam	ara Smathers

Thursday, January 21

Women's Small Group, Zoom 5:45 pm

Saturday, January 23

Minister on Call Kristen Pope 502.693.5644

Sunday, January 24

Covid Task Force Team Mtg., Zoom	8:00 am
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am
Bible Study (Adults), Zoom	9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11:00 am
Worship also available on FBC Website /	Facebook Live

Monday, January 25

FBC Serves Community Kitchen 8:00 am

Wednesday, January 27

FBC Serves Community Kitchen	8:00 am
First Choice Curbside Meals (Reservation Only) 4:4	5-5:45 pm
Prayer Time, Zoom	6:00 pm
Churns Bible Study, Zoom	6:00 pm
Adult Seminars, Zoom	6:20 pm
"Socing Cray in a World of Block and White" Me	ott DuVall

"Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White," Matt DuVall "Setting Goals for Personal Discipleship," Tamara Smathers

Thursday, January 28

Women's Small Group, Zoom 5:45 pm

Friday, January 29

FBC Serves Community Kitchen 8:00 am

THIS WEEK: JANUARY 17

SUNDAY WORSHIP EPIPHANY SUNDAY

SERMON: "Beloved: Believe" PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall SCRIPTURE: John 1:43-51

ANTHEM: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus...

arr. John Carter

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT: https://fbcrome.com/orders-of-worship/

FIRST CHOICE CURBSIDE MEALS (RESERVATIONS BY NOON ON TUESDAY)

January 20

Caesar Salad Chicken Parmesan

Penne Pasta

Fried Zucchini

Tiramisu

MINISTER ON CALL: John Uldrick 706.766.0430

NEXT WEEK: JANUARY 24

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: "Beloved: Follow" PREACHER: Rev. Matt DuVall SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:14-20

ANTHEM: Footsteps of Jesus...arr. John Carter

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT: https://fbcrome.com/orders-of-worship/

FIRST CHOICE CURBSIDE MEALS (RESERVATIONS BY NOON ON TUESDAY)

JANUARY 27

Mixed Green Salad

Roast Pork Loin with Mushroom Gravy

Escalloped Potatoes Acorn Squash Roasted Apple Cobbler

> MINISTER ON CALL: Kristen Pope 502.693.5644

ESPIRE

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

JANUARY 20

Churns New Bible Study begins at 6:00 p.m.

JANUARY 24

Covid Task Force Team Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

FEBRUARY 1

Women's Bible Study resumes at 10:00 a.m.

FEBRUARY 3

Youth: Wednesday's Connection starts again FBC Kids Connect starts again

FEBRUARY 5

Youth BBQ Sale Pick up from 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. at the GMC store

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

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