



FROM OUR INTERIM PASTOR

THE WAITING SEASON

Advent is a very special season in the Christian calendar, and in the life of the church. The dates of the Advent season for this year are November 28-December 24.

The word, “Advent”, is based on the Latin word, “Adventus”, which means coming or arrival. During Advent, we wait for the celebration of the coming of Christ as a baby, and we wait for His second coming as the Risen, Reigning, and Returning Lord. So, Advent is often called, “The waiting season”.

How will you use this year’s “waiting season”? Will your waiting be passive and purposeless, or will it be active and intentional?

Most of us do not like to wait. We easily become impatient. And yet, waiting is a regular part of our daily experience as we wait for slow traffic to clear, for the drive-through lane to move forward, for our name to be called at the doctor’s office, for Amazon to deliver our package, or for our budding flower to bloom.

We need to make peace with waiting during Advent so that we can learn powerful spiritual truth within it. As you wait for Christ to come to you, explore ways that you can move closer to Him.

I encourage you to do an internet word search about biblical references to “waiting”. You will discover relevant truth and powerful inspiration to use your waiting as a spiritual growth discipline.

For example, Psalm 27:14 tells us, “Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.” Isaiah 40:31 says, “Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength.” And, in Acts 1:4, Jesus says, “Wait for the gift my Father has promised.”

May God reveal Himself to you in wonderful ways during your “waiting season”.

Grace and Peace,

ADVENT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 5:

- 9:20 a.m. – Christmas Fellowship
- 9:45 a.m. – The Angel Appeared (Frank Murphy, Artist)
- 10:45 a.m. – Christmas at First Baptist Concert / Worship

DECEMBER 12:

- 3:00 p.m. – Children’s Ministry Cool Yule

December 15:

- Last Day to turn in Hands of Christ Christmas Gifts

DECEMBER 18:

- 12:00 p.m. – Youth Progressive Christmas Lunch

DECEMBER 19:

- 5:00 p.m. – Silent Lord’s Supper

DECEMBER 24:

- 5:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service

DECEMBER 24-27:

- Church Office Closed

More Details Inside

CHILDREN'S CORNER

FAMILY ADVENT DEVOTIONALS are available at the pre-school welcome desk.

COOL YULE: FAMILY EDITION! We will have a family-style Cool Yule event on Sunday, December 12th from 3-5PM. Each family will need at least 1 adult to attend with their kids, which can be a parent, grandparent, etc. You will not want to miss this, it will be a fun new ADVENTure! Have you ever BUILT your very own edible nativity?

KIDS NIGHT IN: While parents have a night out at their Sunday School Christmas parties on December 19th from 5-7:30PM, kids will have their own Christmas party at church with Ms. Kristen.

YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH PROGRESSIVE CHRISTMAS LUNCH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, NOON – 3:00 P.M.

Meet at FBC to load the Rome Trolley. We'll enjoy good food, fellowship and fun. Bring a wrapped \$10 gift. Bring a men's or women's new sweatsuit or package of underwear.

WINTER YOUTH SUMMIT

JANUARY 14-16, 2022

Huntsville, AL

\$125 Per Participant

\$50 Deposit Due December 1

MARCH MISSION MADNESS

MARCH 18-20, 2022

Atlanta, GA

\$100 Per Participant

\$50 Deposit Due February 1

JANICE DAVIS' LIFE VERSE

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

To him belongs eternal praise."

Psalm 111:10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT WORSHIP SERIES: ANGELS AMONG US

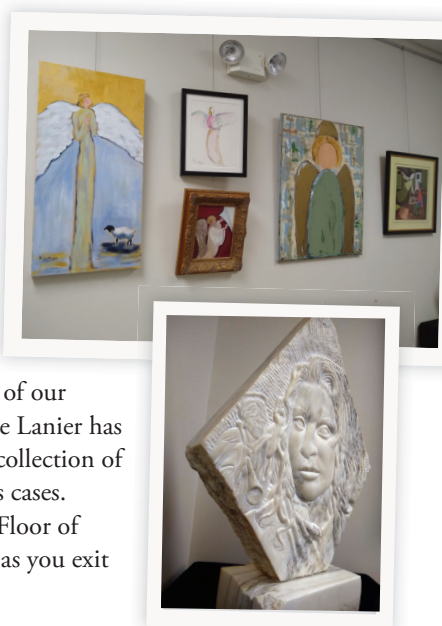
The angels that appear in the story of Jesus' birth would have been very comfortable in our world of tweets and hashtags. Their messages were often short and to the point — their favorite line being "Do not be afraid." As we look at the stories of these winged messengers to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds and their reactions to them, we will contemplate what messages we can offer that will counteract a culture of fear and bring more hope, more peace, more joy, and more love to the world.



"ANGELS AMONG US" ART GALLERY EXHIBIT

The First Baptist Church Gallery has installed an art exhibit to enhance our Advent worship theme. Pieces on display include needlework, marble sculptures, watercolor, oil paintings, as well as vintage window displays from Rome's Ransom Florist.

Take time to appreciate the artwork shared by many of our members. In addition, Elaine Lanier has invited us to appreciate her collection of angels, which are in the glass cases. The Gallery is on the Third Floor of the Education Building just as you exit the elevator.



SILENT LORD'S SUPPER

This tradition resumes this year on December 19. Communion will be served continuously from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please enter through the front doors of the sanctuary and come and go as you please.

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 13. 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 26. 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

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



MUSIC MINISTRY

CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST CONCERT

"Christmas at First Baptist," a concert featuring the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra, with special appearances by the Youth Choir and Children's Choirs is Sunday, December 5 at 10:45 a.m. If you cannot make it in person, the concert will be livestreamed on Comcast Channel 44 and through our website and our YouTube Channel.

CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST ALBUM

Our "Christmas at First Baptist" recording from a few years ago is still available two ways. You may purchase a CD in the church office for \$10 or you may download the recordings on Amazon. (Just search for Christmas at First Baptist.) The album has more than a dozen Christmas carols by the Sanctuary Choir, special music by Joan Hill, Beverly Harris, Frank Murphy and Keith Reaves and closes with "Immanuel" featuring the Sanctuary Choir, Youth Choir and Children's Choir.

MISSIONS

HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS

Thank you so much for the family submissions we received. We are excited about the ways in which we will continue to partner with you to support families from our community at Christmas and throughout the coming year. You have the opportunity to sign up to provide gifts for those individuals who have been identified. A link is available to you via email, on our website, and also the church's Facebook page. Gifts will be due to the church office no later than Wednesday, December 15. If you have any questions, please contact Kate Barron, Jennifer Uldrick, Amy Cox, or John Uldrick.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

WOMEN'S EPIPHANY RETREAT

JANUARY 7 & 8 IN ROME

"CREATING HOLY SPACE"

Open yourself to receive God's gift of rest, relaxation and restoration.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, December 5, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Libby by Richard York. The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, December 12, are given to the glory of God and in honor of Kay Bratton on the occasion of our wedding anniversary by Randy Bratton.

GIVING TO GOD

Fiscal Year-to-Date:

Ministry Support Needed	\$276,993.00
Support Received	\$196,922.99

World Vision, Meals & More and CBF World Hunger Relief	\$450.00
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2021-2022 Total Budget Commitments to Date \$1,179,662.48

December 4 - December 17

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, December 4

Minister on Call Tamara Tillman Smathers 706.266.7141

Sunday, December 5

(Second Sunday in Advent - Peace)

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am
Special Christmas Fellowship and 9:20-10:20 am
presentation by Fank Murphy, FH
Christmas at First Baptist Concert, Sanctuary 10:45 am
Comcast Channel 44 and FBC Website / YouTube Channel

Monday, December 6

Women's Bible Study, DR 10:00 am
First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal, Choir Suite 5:15 pm

Tuesday, December 7

Men's Small Group, Comm. Rm. 10:00 am
Pastor Search Committee Meeting, Rm. 302 5:30 pm

Wednesday, December 8

(Final Wednesday Evening Activities)

First Choice Curbside Meals (Reservations Only) 4:45-5:45 pm
Prayer Meeting/Adult Seminar (Zoom) 6:00 pm
Youth Hang Out/Wednesday's Connection 6:00 pm
FBC Kids Connect (Choirs/Bible Study) 6:00 pm

Friday, December 10

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

Saturday, December 11

Minister on Call Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

Sunday, December 12

(Third Sunday in Advent - Joy)

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am
Bible Study (all ages) 9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 am
Worship also available on FBC Website / YouTube Channel
Cool Yule (Children's Ministry) 3:00-5:00 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 6:45 pm

Monday, December 13

Final Women's Bible Study, Lanier Home 10:00 am
Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group Mtg., Zoom 11:30 am
First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal, Choir Suite 5:15 pm

Tuesday, December 14

Men's Small Group, Comm. Rm. 10:00 am
Pastor Search Committee Mtg., Rm. 302 5:30 pm

Wednesday, December 15

Silent Lord's Supper, Sanctuary 5:00-6:00 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 6:45 pm
Last day to turn in Hands of Christ Christmas Gifts

seeking His heart | Being His hands

THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 5

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT: PEACE
SUNDAY WORSHIP

"Christmas at First Baptist"

**10:45 a.m. Music from the Sanctuary Choir,
Orchestra and the Youth and
Children's Choirs**

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

FINAL FIRST CHOICE CURBSIDE MEALS
(RESERVATIONS BY NOON ON TUESDAY)

DECEMBER 8

Mixed Green Salad
Beef Bourguignon
Whipped Potatoes
Medley of Vegetables
French Silk Pie

MINISTER ON CALL:

Tamara Tillman Smathers 706.266.7141

NEXT WEEK: DECEMBER 12

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT: JOY
SUNDAY WORSHIP

WORSHIP SERIES: **Angels Among Us**

SERMON TITLE: "Do Not Be Afraid"

PREACHER: Dr. Ron Murray

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-25

ANTHEM: Ding Dong Merrily on High...
arr. Larry Shackley

SPECIAL MUSIC: Daniel Fincher

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

MINISTER ON CALL:

Keath Reaves 706.292.9620

THE SPIRE

THE ANGEL APPEARED
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5,
9:20-10:20 A.M.

The earlier-than-usual schedule for worship on December 5th presents some challenges for Bible Study classes. Tamara will offer a unique opportunity for those who are able to join together in the Fellowship Hall.

Artist Frank Murphy is known for his unique technique of painting negative space, which reveals the a clear image within the final minutes of painting.

9:20-9:45 Refreshments and fellowship

9:45-10:20 Frank's presentation

10:45 Christmas at First Baptist
in the Sanctuary



SUNDAY SERVICES

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

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

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