

# THE SPIRE

Volume 69 • No. 6 • March 25, 2022



## HONORING LINDA BEARD

Join us in worship on Sunday, April 3, as we honor Linda Beard for 40 years of service to First Baptist as our Financial Secretary. Linda has tirelessly served with distinction, honor and professionalism for four decades and will retire at the end of April. Be sure to take time this month to thank Linda for her exemplary work and service.



## FROM OUR INTERIM PASTOR

### COME TO HIM

During this Lenten season, we join with Christians around the world as we follow Jesus on His way to the cross. These days are meant to give us an opportunity to determine how closely we are following Him and to move closer to Him in faith and obedience.

God, in His holy word, often invites us to come to Him. He knows that we have a tendency to drift from Him, to wander in the land of our own desires.

Speaking through the prophet Isaiah, God says, "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters. Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live." (Isaiah 55:1,3)

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

God, through James says, "Come near to God and He will come near to you." (James 4:8)

Through these and many other verses in scripture, God is telling us that faith is a journey. Our relationship with God is never static, but dynamic, moving constantly between the shallow and the deep.

Where are you in your faith-journey? Are you drifting from Him or moving closer to Him? There is no limit to the depth of your relationship with God. The more you come to know Him, the more you will realize the depth of His love for you.

The reason that God so often says to you in His word, "Come", indicates how much He wants you to be in a deep relationship with Him. His heart yearns for you to know Him and love Him and live in Him.

So, respond to His invitation. Move toward the One who is already moving toward you.



## WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

### LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year has begun! Go to the website for more information about what a typical day entails. Contact Melissa Wood, Director, at 706.295.1150 or 706.346.6516 or mwood@fbcrome.org to set up a time to visit. Come join us for learning, worship and fun at our Weekday Preschool!

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### GREAT DATE NIGHT

Make sure the final Great Date Night is marked on your calendar for April 30. Childcare & dinner for kids provided upon registration.

### EASTER EGGSTRAVANGZA

Our Easter Eggstravaganza will be Wednesday April 13th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. during usual activity time. Drop-off & pick-up from rooms as usual.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School isn't as far away as you think! Make sure you have June 20th-23rd reserved for a tropical getaway to Adventure Island. Registration will be available soon.

## YOUTH NEWS

### SAVE THE DATE! GRADUATE RECOGNITION SERVICE SUNDAY, MAY 1ST

Graduate breakfast at 8:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Graduates honored in worship.

### SAVE THE DATE! PASSPORT YOUTH CAMP JUNE 26 - JULY 1 IN GREENSBORO, NC \$100 deposits to reserve spots are due now through May 1. \$425 per participant.



We will continue to accept offerings for Global Missions through the end of March. Our Goal: \$40,000 Given to Date: \$29,690.40

## EASTER FLOWERS

If you wish to donate flowers for Easter in honor of loved ones or as a memorial, please fill out the form below. Cost per plant is \$15.00. The deadline for placing your order is **Monday, April 11.**

Make check payable to the *FBC Flower Fund* and mail to First Baptist Church Attn: Karen Garrett, P.O. Box 1189, Rome, GA 30162 or drop off at the church office. Plants may be picked up after the Easter service on April 17. Thank you for your order!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### COME INSIDE! WELCOME BACK TO FIRST CHOICE ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

Make First Baptist your First Choice as you connect with others for fellowship and spiritual growth.

A full range of choices are available for all ages:

- 5:00-6:00 First Choice Buffet
  - Adults (and teenagers) \$7.00
  - Children (ages 3-12) \$4.00
  - Household Max \$22.00

5:45-6:30 Youth Connection

6:00-6:30 Prayer Time and Devotional

6:00-7:00 Children's Choirs\* and Kids J.A.M. (Missions)

6:30-7:00 Youth Fun and Games

6:45-8:00 Adult Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

7:00-8:30 Youth Small Groups

Note: Adult Small Groups also gather during these times

*\*Contact Kristen Pope, kpope@fbcrome.org for specifics for each age group and locations*

### GREAT DATE NIGHT—CONVERSATIONS TO ENRICH MARRIAGES

Couples will gather in the Youth Room for a brief conversation starter and then be dismissed for dates. Free childcare is being organized and offered for those who register in advance. Please contact Tamara Smathers for more information.

**DATES: MARCH 26 AND APRIL 30**

5:45 Gathering and Childcare Drop Off

6:00-6:30 Start the Conversation (Youth Room)

6:00-8:00 Couple Time

8:00 Childcare ends

Register For Childcare By Monday Prior To GDN

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Plants: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_



# MISSIONS

## BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY ROME



begins two Getting Ahead groups! These two groups started March 24th and will meet at First Baptist Church each Thursday night until September, and we need your support.

We need volunteers to:

1. Prepare or purchase meals and deliver them to the Community room on Thursdays at 6:00 pm.
2. Provide transportation to and from the meetings for a few Investigators (participants). Meetings begin at 6:00 pm and end around 8:00 pm.
3. Spend two hours (6-8 p.m.) at FBC with the Investigators' children while their parent attends their class.

Sign up through the link on the church website, [www.fbcrome.org](http://www.fbcrome.org). Those with questions are welcome to email Keith Phillips at [kcphillips59@gmail.com](mailto:kcphillips59@gmail.com) or call Karen Garrett at the church office. Thank you for the many ways you support our efforts to serve as the Hands of Christ in Rome and beyond.

Support CBF's  
Ukraine Relief Fund

[www.cbf.net/ukraine](http://www.cbf.net/ukraine)

First Baptist Church of Rome will offer all members a way to support the Ukraine Relief Fund through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

GIVE BY:

Mailing a check to FBC Rome and marking it Ukraine relief.

OR

Visit [fbcrome.org/give](http://fbcrome.org/give) and mark your gift as disaster relief.

# SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, March 27, are given to the glory of God and in honor of Ressa Frazzano on the occasion of her birthday by John and Diane Wilson.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, March 27, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of James Henry Williams and Nell Gilreath Williams on the occasion of their birthdays by their daughter, Kay Williams New and Family.

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, April 3, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ken Hill by Joan Hill and Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, April 3, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Adrian Bowers by Gene Bowers.

# GIVING TO GOD

Fiscal Year-to-Date:

Ministry Support Needed	\$1,053,537.37
Support Received	\$989,139.24

Ukraine Relief	\$4,200.00
----------------	------------

March 26 - April 8

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## Saturday, March 26

Minister on Call	Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074
Great Date Night: Reserved Childcare, Drop-off	5:45 pm
Conversation/Date Time	6:00-8:00 pm

## Sunday, March 27 (Fourth Sunday in Lent)

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

## Monday, March 28

<b>FBC Serves Community Kitchen</b>	8:30 am
Women's Bible Study, DR	10:00 am
First Baptist Ringers, Choir Room	5:15 pm

## Tuesday, March 29

<b>FBC Serves Community Kitchen</b>	8:30 am
Pastor Search Committee Mtg., Room 302	5:30 pm

## Wednesday, March 30

<b>FBC Serves Community Kitchen</b>	8:30 am
First Choice Meal, FH	5:00-6:00 pm
Churns Bible Study, Rm. 302	5:30 pm
Youth Connection, YR	5:45-6:30 pm
Prayer Time & Devotion, FH	6:00 pm
Children's Choirs and Kids J.A.M.	6:00-7:00 pm
Youth Fun & Games	6:30-7:00 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	6:45 pm
Youth Small Groups, YR	7:00-8:30 pm

## Thursday, March 31

<b>FBC Serves Community Kitchen</b>	8:30 am
Bridges Out of Poverty Classes, Comm. Rm. & DR	6:00 pm

## Friday, April 1

<b>FBC Serves Community Kitchen</b>	8:30 am
-------------------------------------	---------

## Saturday, April 2

Minister on Call	Keith Reaves 706.292.9620
------------------	---------------------------

## Sunday, April 3 (Fifth Sunday in Lent)

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	

## Monday, April 4

Women's Bible Study, DR	10:00 am
Women of the Church Book Group, DR	1:00 pm
First Baptist Ringers, Choir Room	5:15 pm

## Tuesday, April 5

Pastor Search Committee Mtg., Rm. 302	5:30 pm
---------------------------------------	---------

## Wednesday, April 6

First Choice Meal, FH	5:00-6:00 pm
Churns Bible Study, Rm. 302	5:30-6:30 pm
Youth Connection, YR	5:45-6:30 pm
Prayer Time & Devotion, FH	6:00 pm
Children's Choirs and Kids J.A.M.	6:00-7:00 pm
Youth Fun & Games	6:30-7:00 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	6:45 pm
Youth Small Groups, YR	7:00-8:30 pm

## Thursday, April 7

Bridges Out of Poverty Classes, Comm. Rm. & DR	6:00 pm
--	---------

## Friday, April 8

Finance Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm.	11:00 am
-----------------------------------	----------



## THIS WEEK: MARCH 27

SUNDAY WORSHIP  
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SERMON: "Reconciled Relationships"

PREACHER: Dr. Ron Murray

SCRIPTURE: Luke 15:1-3; 11-32

ANTHEM: "I Thought By Now"...Heather Sorenson

SPECIAL MUSIC: Children's Choir

Samantha Lester, violin

Tara Suswal, cello

Daniel Lynch, solo

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

FIRST CHOICE MENU

MARCH 30

Country Fried Steak

**Children's Menu**

Chicken Fingers

MINISTER ON CALL:

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

# THE SPIRE

SUNDAY SERVICES

BROADCAST LIVE ON  
COMCAST CHANNEL 44 AND  
VIA [WWW.FBCROME.ORG](http://WWW.FBCROME.ORG)

SPECIAL SERVICES:

*Maundy Thursday Service*

APRIL 14 AT 7:00 P.M.

Featuring special music by the Sanctuary Choir, Communion and Tenebrae

*Celebrate the Resurrection*

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17

8:30-9:45 p.m. Breakfast and Flowering of the Cross  
with Family Photos

9:45 a.m. Bible Study for all ages

11:00 a.m. Worship

How wonderful that we will return to our Easter morning traditions beginning with a big church-wide breakfast before Bible Study, flowering the cross and family photographs in the Courtyard, and a service of worship celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and singing of the Hallelujah Chorus! Please make your plans and invite others to join you.

## NEXT WEEK: APRIL 3

SUNDAY WORSHIP  
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SERMON: "A Gallery of Mirrors"

PREACHER: Dr. Ron Murray

SCRIPTURE: Luke 12:1-8

ANTHEM: How Shall I Sing to God?  
...arr. Lloyd Larson

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

FIRST CHOICE MENU

APRIL 6

"Soup & Stew"

MINISTER ON CALL:

Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

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

