

We are honored you have chosen to join us in worship. There is a time in our service when we will welcome guests; we will not, however, ask you to stand, raise your hand or do anything that makes you feel awkward. We would like to know you were here, however. Please fill out the information request below and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or minister. We promise to use it only to contact you about our church.

This is my (our)...

- First visit to First Baptist Church
- Second (+) visit

Name _____

Spouse's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

Marital Status

- Married
- Single
- Widow(er)

Telephone _____

Children at Home (Name/Age/Grade)

- I am new to Rome.
- I am interested in knowing more about First Baptist Church.
- I would like to talk with a minister.
- I would like to know how to become a Christian.
- I am interested in becoming a member of First Baptist Church.
- I am a guest of:

Sunday, August 21

- 8:30 a.m. Adult Faith Formation Committee - Conference Room
- 9:00 a.m. Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)
- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, August 23

- FBC Serves Community Kitchen
- 5:00 p.m. Welcome Home Café (Family Night Dinner)
- 6:00 p.m. Family Night Festivities - Fellowship Hall
- 6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

Thursday, August 25

- FBC Serves Community Kitchen
- 6:00 p.m. Getting Ahead Class - Community Room

Friday, August 26

- FBC Serves Community Kitchen

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jim and Susan Bradshaw by the Salter Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of Jana Weidemann on the occasion of our wedding anniversary by Bill Weidemann.

WELCOME DAVID & LAURIE BROOKS

David's first day in the office is Monday! He will be preaching next Sunday.

WELCOME HOME CAFÉ - FAMILY NIGHTS RESUME

Join us in the Fellowship at **5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 24** at the "Welcome Home Café!" This special night for all ages will be a time for us to welcome the Brooks family with food, fun and games. Regular Wednesday activities for children and youth resume August 31.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENT

Saturday, August 27 at 11 a.m. the church will host a women's ministry event with Karen Stubbs, author and founder of the "Birds on a Wire" and podcast "Wire Talk." Tickets are \$10. Register at the link on the church website homepage or call the office.

DROP IN - BRIDAL SHOWER HONORING KRISTEN POPE

Please drop in for a bridal shower, hosted by the Children's Committee, honoring Kristen Pope, Sunday, August 28 from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m. at 8 River Pine Drive. Kindly RSVP to Catherine Jackson at 706.859.2261 or email Mcfarar@gmail.com. Kristen is registered at theknot.com/makingheramathis.

GETTING AHEAD OPPORTUNITIES: COACHING AND SERVING

As a Life Coach you will partner with a "Getting Ahead" graduate as they continue to build their future life story. Life Coaches support the graduate as they navigate daily life and create personal plans for building resources. A Life Coach orientation will be scheduled for late August. If you are interested in this service opportunity, please contact Nick Georgian.

"Getting Ahead" classes are at FBC on **Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** If you can help with food, child care or transportation contact Keith Phillips, Nick Georgian, or Karen Garret or click on the QR code.



WORSHIP CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please call Kristen Pope or use the sign-up on the church Facebook page to volunteer for a few Sundays of worship care this fall. As a reminder, worship care is a very important ministry and gift to our young families, who can know that their little one is safe and loved.



We welcome **Rev. Rickey Letson** as our guest preacher today. Rickey is the Congregational Stewardship Officer for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. In the role, Rickey encourages partner churches in their generosity toward CBF. The other major element of his work is supporting congregations in terms of their own financial health and stewardship development. Prior to CBF, Rickey served churches for 25 years. His last role was as Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church, Laurens, South Carolina. Rickey is a graduate of Samford University and the Duke Divinity School. He and his family live in Madison, Alabama.



First Baptist Church

Rome, Georgia

August 21, 2022

11:00 a.m.

To help maintain a spirit of worship, please silence phones.

We welcome a larger congregation through Comcast Channel 44 and through the livestream over the church website and YouTube.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude Joan Hill
“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” . . . Johann Pachelbel

Welcome to Worship Nick Georgian

*Hymn of Praise No. 349 TO GOD BE THE GLORY
“To God Be the Glory”

A Time of Directed Prayer using Hymn 478
“God Is Calling Through the Whisper”

Stanza One
Ask God to forgive you for sins and shortcomings from the past week. Know and be assured of your forgiveness.

Stanza Two
Listen quietly as God reminds you of ways to be useful to God and places to go outside the walls of the church.

Stanza Three
We respond to God’s Word.

*Reading of Holy Scripture Acts 13:1-3
(The scripture may be found on page 1091 in the Bibles in the pew racks.)
Kristen Pope, reader
Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

*Gloria Patri (Hymn 704)
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen, amen.

Hymn of Testimony No. 427 MESSAGE
“We’ve A Story to Tell”
(Children ages four through third grade may depart for Children’s Worship.)

Morning Prayer *(with the Lord’s Prayer)* Tamara Tillman Smathers
Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Musical Offering. Sanctuary Choir
“Let Us Be Your Light” . . . Joseph Martin
Let us be your light, a beacon of your mercy, candles burning bright, God’s glory to reveal.
Let us be your light, a lamp that brings new sight and seeks to do God’s will.
As Christ was lifted high to raise our eyes to heaven, let us pierce the darkness. Let us be your light upon a hill.
Reach and take the torch that God has passed us.
Let us shine the everlasting light.
Come embrace the challenge now before us.
Let us shine the glorious light of Christ.
Let us be your light, blazing with your Spirit, breaking through the night, our mission to fulfill.
For Christ has called His church to shine upon the nations.
Fill us with your glory; Savior, we have heard your call.
Now we dedicate our all. Let us be your light upon the hill.

Sermon. Rickey Letson
“Open Hands, Open Hearts for A New Season

*Hymn of Response No. 249 AZMON
“The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound”

*Prayer of Stewardship. Gwen Stephens

Offertory. Joan Hill
“Now We Join in Celebration” arr. David Cherwien

Meditation Text:
First of all, we are to be with him. It is folly to be apostolic, to go out to help others, if we have not first connected with the Lord and become one with him. Conversely, the more we are with him, the more we are one with his life and mission—which is precisely to be sent out by the Father into this world for the salvation of all.
— Basil Pennington in *Seeking His Mind*

The Work of the Church. Keith A. Reaves

*Pastoral Blessing and Passing of the Peace

Commissioning Hymn No. 514. HOLY MANNA
“Christians, Let Us Go and Serve Him”

Postlude Joan Hill
“Allegro Giocoso” *from Water Music* George Frederick Handel

Children’s Worship
Children ages four through sixth grade are invited to Children’s Worship on the second floor. The children return to the sanctuary following worship.

Joining First Baptist
We receive new members in several ways. Those who have never publicly acknowledged Christ as Lord join by public profession of faith. Baptism is scheduled for a later date. Members of other Baptist congregations may transfer their membership to our congregation. We handle the details of contacting your current church. Members of other Christian faith traditions are invited to join by “statement of faith.” Because other traditions vary in belief and practice, those joining by statement of faith are invited to speak with a minister before joining.

Safety
Safe zones for severe weather are in preschool hallways for children and the Fellowship Hall for the congregation. If there is a need to evacuate the building, parents should pick up children at the bus parking lot on the far side of First Presbyterian Church.

- Keith A. Reaves
Senior Associate/Minister of Worship
- Tamara Tillman Smathers
Minister of Education/Administration
- Kristen Pope
Minister of Faith Development
- Gwen Stephens
Minister to Extended Family
- Nick Georgian
Interim Minister to Students and Missions
- Joan Hill, *Organist*
- Betty Holland, *Supply Pianist*