

THE SPIRE

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CHRISTMAS CONCERT – DECEMBER 17

The Three Rivers Singers, Rome's community chorus led by FBC's Len Willingham and accompanied by FBC's Joan Hill will present a free concert with the Atlanta Festival Brass on Saturday December 17 at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

SILENT LORD'S SUPPER – DECEMBER 18

Communion will be served from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. with special instrumental music provided the entire hour. Please enter through the front doors of the sanctuary and come and go as you please. This is a perfect time to get away from the noise of the season.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

The service begins at 5 p.m. and includes the reading of the Christmas story, carols, special music and a meditation from David Brooks. The service will be live-streamed on the church YouTube Channel and broadcast on Comcast Channel 44.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP AT 11 A.M.



FROM OUR NEW MINISTER FOR STUDENTS & MISSIONS

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of our search committee, it is a joy to share with you our unanimous decision to call Nick Georgian as our full-time Minister for Students and Missions. After a complete and thorough interview process, we are convinced that God has led us to call Nick, and equally importantly, Nick has indicated that God is calling him to us. Thanks to all of you who shared your thoughts with us through the survey and verbally. This decision has been affirmed unanimously by our ministers and our deacons. Enjoy getting to know Nick and his family as he ministers among us. Many thanks go to our committee members which include Frank Clements, Jennie Cook, Marsha Colwell, Troy Fitzpatrick, Beth Hood, Brian Inman, Brian Richie, Jeremy Salter, and Leigh Weldon. They have been committed, diligent, efficient and prayerful throughout this process.

In the love of Christ,
Julie McCormick, Search Committee Chair

It has been one of my greatest joys serving as the Interim Minister of Students and Missions for the past 7 months at FBC Rome! I love what I am doing as I continue to build deep relationships with our students and create fruitful spaces for them to grow and learn in Jesus! I love engaging in the missions of the church and doing the Kingdom work of being the hands of Jesus in our community and in the world! I am humbled and grateful to be a part of what God is doing in the life and ministries of FBC Rome! Over the past few months, I have sensed God calling me to enter this role full-time - In a lot of ways, it feels that I am just getting started. As I reflect, it is evident to see God's goodness and fingerprints all over my time at FBC Rome and I am incredibly honored to serve as your full-time Minister of Students and Missions.

I went to Emory Candler School of Theology, where I graduated with my Masters of Divinity in May of 2018. Before entering into my last year of seminary, I received my first church appointment as the lead pastor at Rush Chapel United Methodist Church in the Shannon community. In this season, I discovered more deeply the goodness, faithfulness and sovereignty of God - how He has wired and fashioned me, the passions He breathed into my DNA for His kingdom purposes, and my love for Jesus' church and desire to connect others to the good news found in the person of Jesus Christ.

*Continued inside below
"Students & Missions"...*



CHILDREN'S CORNER

COOL YULE CHRISTMAS – DECEMBER 18

On December 18 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., kids will have their Cool Yule Christmas parties at church while adult Sunday School classes enjoy their own Christmas parties.

GETTING READY CLASS

We will have a baptism education class on Sunday, January 8, directly following worship from noon until 1:30 p.m. Pizza lunch will be served, so please let Kristen know if your child will attend.

SAFE SEMINAR

On January 20-21, we will host a parenting seminar led by LeAnn Gardner, a licensed clinical social worker and ordained minister. She will lead parents through several interactive workshops to help teach their kids about their bodies and keeping them safe. Registration is required and the cost will be \$25. Register at the link on our Facebook page or contact Kristen directly to sign up.

WINTER RETREAT

Final call for 3rd-6th grade winter retreat, there are a few spots left for our January 27-29 weekend camp. Reach out to Kristen for details if your child would like to join us!

STUDENT NEWS

STUDENT BBQ FUNDRAISER

Get ready for the best BBQ in Rome! Mark your calendars for the Student BBQ Fundraiser on February 11, 2023! The sale is Dec. 4 through Jan 29. Please scan the QR Code to reserve your BBQ! Pricing and details can be found on the sign up. Stocking stuffer gift certificates will be available in the church office throughout the Christmas season! Contact Nick Georgian for more information or if you have any questions.

SENIOR ADULT NEWS

CANADIAN MARITIMES IN 2023

The Senior Adult Ministry is hosting a trip to the Canadian Maritimes (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island) in July 2023. Please contact Keith Reaves for a brochure or for more information. A \$300 per person discount is offered if you register by January 9. Less than 10 spots remain!

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 Tuesday, December 20. 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 25. 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

IN MEMORY OF

NUMBER OF PLANTS

IN HONOR OF

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

For tax purposes, charitable contributions should be postmarked by December 31, 2022. For contributions you wish to make in person, the church office will be open until 4:30 on Friday, December 30, 2022.

New Year's Day
Breakfast &

Bible Trivia

HOSTED BY JOHN HEAD

January 1	FELLOWSHIP HALL
9:45 to 10:40 a.m.	Gather your Bible Study Class and show off your Bible knowledge!

PRIZES AWAIT OUR WINNERS!

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

WOMEN'S EPIPHANY RETREAT

One of our favorite traditions will resume this year, as women of all ages will gather for a retreat January 6-8.

The sisters of Sacred Heart Monastery in Cullman, Alabama will welcome us into their home and retreat center.

We will pray, laugh, stretch, and enjoy the peaceful grounds of the monastery. Please reserve your space by contacting Kris Wilder, kwilder@fbcrome.org. Watch for more details.

Cost including all meals: Private room, \$215; Shared room, \$175



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

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

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH FAMILY



PLEASE WELCOME:
Ben Mathis

STUDENTS & MISSIONS (continued)

...continued from the front cover

I am passionate about building up other believers in their faith and cultivating their God-given gifts for the Kingdom. I get excited about serving, loving, teaching, guiding, building up, and walking alongside others to help them to be the best version of who God designed them to be. I am fueled by learning and studying the Scriptures and passionate about teaching and proclaiming the Gospel message to as many people and in as many places I can. With over 10 years of ministry experience - leading, preaching, mentoring, and shepherding people - coupled with my passion for discipleship and connecting all people to Jesus, I could not be more excited for our future together as we continue seeking Jesus' heart and being his hands in Rome and ultimately the world.

FAMILY

I met my wife Aubrey, a Rome native, through a mutual friend almost four years ago. Our first time meeting each other was at a Mellow Mushroom trivia night on a cold night in December - I'm one of those that "just knew" pretty quickly. We dated for 7 months and "tied the knot" in September of 2019. God is growing not only us in our marriage, but also in our family. In December of 2020, we welcomed our beautiful baby girl, Halle Elizabeth, and just in August of this year, we welcomed our son, Emory Nicholas. Parenthood continues to keep us humble and on our knees praying as we realize that we are desperate for God's grace and wisdom in every step of the journey! We are grateful for the gift to be parents and to have the opportunity to raise our children in Christ! Aubrey loves Jesus and works tirelessly to love and serve college students through the WinShape College Program at Berry College. As God called us together, it has been incredible to see how He faithfully continues to weave together two hearts that are both passionate about sharing the gospel, seeing lives change because of the good news of Jesus Christ, and loving and serving others as a life calling. We believe that the best is yet to come and be done in the name of Jesus Christ!

Nick Georgian



December 17 - December 30

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, December 17

Minister on Call

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

Sunday, December 18

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	
Silent Lord's Supper	5:00 pm
Cool Yule	6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 21 through Tuesday, January 3

Weekday Preschool Christmas Break

Friday, December 23

Church Office Closed for Christmas

Saturday, December 24

Minister on Call	David Brooks 252.916.7174
Christmas Eve Service	5:00 pm
Worship also available on FBC Website / YouTube Channel and broadcast on Comcast Channel 44	

Sunday, December 25

Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11:00 am
Worship also available on FBC Website / YouTube Channel	

Monday, December 26

Church Office Closed for Christmas

Tuesday, December 27

Student Skiing Trip in West Virginia

Wednesday, December 28

FBC Serves Community Kitchen

THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 18

SUNDAY WORSHIP

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (LOVE)

ADVENT THEME: *Walking in the Light*

SERMON: "Be Present"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: *Matthew 1:18-25*

ANTHEM: *Love Can...arr. Jay Rouse*

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Lee Ann Head*

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

<https://fbcrome.com/orders-of-worship/>

NO FAMILY NIGHT EVENTS UNTIL JANUARY

MINISTER ON CALL:

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

THE SPIRE



SUNDAY SERVICES

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

Advent wreath making

EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS

Many thanks to the deacons who have been taking Communion to the Extended Family members who are not able to attend church. In addition to each of the assisted living centers, deacons have been taking the Lord's Supper to homebound members. Frank and Alice Clements and Bruce Jones recently had Communion with Edith Gray, seen here in this picture.



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

NEXT WEEK: DECEMBER 25

SUNDAY WORSHIP

NO MORNING BIBLE STUDY

ADVENT THEME: *Walking in the Light*

SERMON: "The Most Important Word"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: *John 1:1-14*

ANTHEM: *Go Tell It On the Mountain...*

arr. Benjamin Harlan

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Diane Lumpkin*

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

<https://fbcrome.com/orders-of-worship/>

NO FAMILY NIGHT EVENTS UNTIL JANUARY

MINISTER ON CALL:

David Brooks 252.916.7174

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