

THE SPIRE

Volume 70 • No. 3 • February 10, 2023



ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22, 6:00 P.M.

THE SANCTUARY || NURSERY PROVIDED

This service marks the beginning of Lent. No other activities for children or youth are planned so that families may worship and start the Lenten journey together. Sanctuary Choir rehearsal will follow the service.



FROM OUR PASTOR

We all know that nobody is perfect. No one gets it right all the time—whatever “it” may be. But that does not stop our obsession with perfectionism. I’m not saying that perfectionism is a burden that all of us bear, but I’m guessing that there are quite a few of us who wrestle with it. We want things to be just right. We want to control the outcome. We want to know before we start something that the end result will be exactly how we envision it in our minds. But the end result of our perfectionism and our need for control is crippling. It leads to chronic procrastination because we know that nothing can go wrong if we don’t actually begin to do something. Or, when things do not go precisely as we had hoped, we beat ourselves up with self-condemnation.

This year, our guiding question as a congregation is, “Where is Jesus?” If perfectionism is your struggle, then the answer to this question is what Paul heard from Jesus: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Cor. 12:9). Jesus cannot

be present in our lives if our goal is perfection. After all, what need do we have for Jesus if we are always right, always strong, always perfect? We discover Jesus afresh and anew whenever we accept our weaknesses and rely upon the grace of God to guide us. Because God does not expect perfection. Instead, God desires our trust and our willingness to simply walk with him, no matter what.

So go ahead. Take a risk at not getting something right. If you fail, it won’t be the first time and you won’t be alone. God’s grace will be there to support you. And who knows how you might find Jesus in new and unexpected ways because you are choosing to rely not on your own abilities or strengths, but on his power that is made perfect in your weakness.

Grace and peace,

David



CHILDREN'S CORNER

SAFE (SEXUAL AWARENESS & FAMILY EMPOWERMENT) SEMINAR

This seminar is offered on Wednesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Builders Sunday School room. It is led in partnership between Kristen and LeAnn Gardner, a licensed clinical social worker and ordained minister. These workshops will help anyone who cares for children (parents, grandparents, caregivers, teachers, etc.) know how to teach children about safety as it regards to their peers and other adults in their life, as well as how to educate them about their bodies at every stage of development from a faith-based perspective.

SPAGHETTI DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Mark your calendars for Sunday March 26, 5 to 7 p.m.! We will host our annual Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction for the Children's Ministry in the Fellowship Hall, along with a talent show featuring ANYONE (child or adult) who has a talent they would like to share. If you have a service, experience, or gift that you could offer for the auction OR if you would like to participate in the talent show, please reach out to Kristen directly ASAP.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It's time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School! We will need all hands on deck to help us July 12-15 with our super-hero themed week of fun and fellowship. Contact Karen Foss or Kristen if you are interested in serving.



Retreat Fun!



STUDENT NEWS

BBQ THANK YOU!

Thank you for your generosity and outpouring of love and support in our BBQ Fundraiser this year! We sold well over 100 racks of ribs and around 80 Boston Butts! Your generosity and steady support to our student ministry serves as a catalyst for our students to grow in discipleship through various missions, retreats and activities. We look forward to another great BBQ Fundraiser next year!

STUDENTS SAVE THE DATES!

FEBRUARY 15 - Student Gathering - GAME NIGHT

FEBRUARY 26 - Student-led Taizé Service at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Be sure to check your email for your 2022 FBC Contribution Statement. If you have not received the statement via email, please notify Melinda in the church office.

PASTOR'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

The study of the Gospel of John continues on Wednesdays through February 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

CONGRATULATIONS to FBC Music Intern Kelley Ozier on being named First Chair/Principal euphonium for the National Intercollegiate Band. Kelley is a senior at Berry College.

TAIZÉ – A YOUTH-LED WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, February 26 at 5 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

This service on the first Sunday evening of Lent offers a rare opportunity to give us time and space to center on the Lord. Come as you are, call to God, — and listen.

MARY MCDONALD IN CONCERT AT FBC

Internationally acclaimed composer and musician Mary McDonald will be in concert with the Sanctuary Choir (with a special appearance by our Children's Choir) on Sunday, April 30 in the morning worship service and for a full concert that afternoon. Some of you will remember Mary's visit with us a few years ago and this event is not to be missed! Please put this on your calendars and invite your friends to be a part of this special day in the life of our church and the Music Ministry.

BEN SANKER'S LIFE VERSE:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge him, and he
will make straight your paths.”

Proverbs 3:5-6

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

MONDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Will resume on Monday, February 13.

MISSIONS

HANDS OF CHRIST SERVE DAY is set for Saturday, April 22.
Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

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:
Rasheed-Shemar White

SENIOR ADULT NEWS

MARDI GRAS LUNCHEON

The next Senior Adult Luncheon is February 16 at noon and will have a Mardi Gras theme. Ruth Reynolds will be making homemade gumbo and muffulettas and we will have king cake and more fun. Cost is \$10 per person. Sign up with Karen in the office by Monday, February 13.

MUSIC MINISTRY

CHOIRS RESUME REHEARSALS All of our ensembles are back! Come join us!

SANCTUARY CHOIR: Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS: Wednesdays at 5:45 p.m.

YOUTH CHOIR: Sundays at Noon.

FIRST BAPTIST RINGERS: Mondays at 5:15 p.m.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, February 12, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ted A. Owens by Joanne Owens and Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, February 12, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Josephine and Hubert Lowe by Dick and Pat Lowe Johnston.

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, February 19, are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Diane Lumpkin on the occasion of her birthday by her family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, February 19, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Nell Ansley Briley on the occasion of her birthday by Dean and Ansley Saville and family.

seeking His heart | Being His hands

February 11 – February 24

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, February 11

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|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Minister on Call | Kristen Mathis 502.693.5644 |
| Youth BBQ Meat Pick Up | 3:00 pm |

Sunday, February 12

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| Finance Committee, Conf. Rm. | 8:30 am |
| 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 Choir, Fellowship Hall | 12:00 pm |

Monday, February 13

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| Women's Bible Study, D.R. | 10 am |
| First Baptist Ringers | 5:00 pm |
| Deacon's Meeting, F.H. | 5:30 pm |

Tuesday, February 14

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| Churns Bible Study, Dining Rm. | 6:00 pm |
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Wednesday, February 15

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| Family Night Dinner | 5:00 pm |
| Children's Choirs | 5:45 pm |
| Student Room Opens | 5:45 pm |
| Prayer and Bible Study, F.H. | 6:00 pm |
| Student Life/Game Night | 6:00 pm |
| SAFE Seminar, Builders Rm. | 6:00 pm |
| Kids J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) | 6:30 pm |
| Student Discipleship, Student Rm. | 6:30 pm |
| Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite | 6:45 pm |

Thursday, February 16

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| Senior Adult Mardi Gras Luncheon | 12:00 pm |
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Saturday, February 18

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| Minister on Call | Tamara Smathers 706.266.7141 |
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Sunday, February 19

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|---|----------|
| Adult Faith Formations Committee, Conf. Rm. | 8:30 am |
| 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 Choir, Choir Suite | 12:00 pm |

Monday, February 20

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| Women's Bible Study, Dining Rm. | 10:00 am |
| Women of the Church Book Group, Dining Rm. | 1:00 pm |
| First Baptist Ringers | 5:15 pm |

Wednesday, February 22

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| Family Night Dinner | 5:00 pm |
| Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary | 6:00 pm |
| Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite | 7:00 pm |

THIS WEEK: FEBRUARY 12

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: *In All Things...Prayer*

PREACHER: *Rev. David Brooks*

SCRIPTURE: *Luke 11:1-13*

ANTHEM: *You Do Not Walk Alone...*
arr. *Elaine Hagenburg*

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Emma Allen*

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

FAMILY NIGHT MENU

FEBRUARY 15

Caesar Salad

Pasta Salad

Three Bean Salad

Assorted Homemade Pizzas:

Chicago Style, Barbecue, Greek

Spumoni Ice Cream

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Cheese Pizza

Spumoni Ice Cream

MINISTER ON CALL:

Kristen Mathis 502.693.5644

NEXT WEEK: FEBRUARY 19

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: *"Listen to Him"*

PREACHER: *Rev. Tamara Smathers*

SCRIPTURE: *Matthew 17:1-9*

ANTHEM: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee...*
arr. *Jeff Wachter*

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

FAMILY NIGHT MENU

FEBRUARY 22

Mixed Green Salad

Meatloaf

Mashed Potatoes

Mixed Vegetables

Key Lime Pie

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Hamburgers, Tater Tots, Fruit Cocktail,

Key Lime Pie

MINISTER ON CALL:

Tamara Smathers 706.266.7141

THE SPIRE

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

DIANE ARMSTRONG, WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL 22 YEARS ON JANUARY 22.

We celebrate with Diane and give thanks for all that she does in service to God and our congregation.

MELINDA DUKE, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO PASTOR 10 YEARS ON FEBRUARY 22.

We celebrate with Melinda and give thanks for all that she does in service to God and our congregation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

FEBRUARY 22

Ash Wednesday Service

MARCH 26

Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction

FEBRUARY 26

Student-led Taizé Service

JULY 12-15

Vacation Bible School

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

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