

THE SPIRE

Volume 70 • No. 13 • June 30, 2023

REMINDER: Summer FUN Coming Up!

FBC KIDS SUMMER SUNNIES

- JULY 6 – Froggy's at 2 p.m.
- JULY 9 – Treats at the Splash Pad at 3 p.m.
- JULY 16-19 – Passport Kids Camp
- JULY 26 – Popsicle Pals at ESP Day

COLLIDE MIDDLEBROS SUMMER

- JULY 6 – Mystery Lunch, Meet at Church at 11:30 a.m.
- JULY 12 – Pool Party at the Cox home
- JULY 14 – Atlanta Braves Game
- JULY 16-19 – Passport Kids Camp
- JULY 24 – Six Flags Trip
- JULY 26 – Popsicle Pals at ESP Day Camp at 2 p.m.

STUDENTS' CANVAS & CLAY

- JULY 6 – Mystery Lunch at 11:30 a.m.
- JULY 12 – Diving into the Word at the Sumner home from 6 to 8 p.m.
- JULY 14 – Atlanta Braves Game
- JULY 20-21 – Water Rafting Adventure
- JULY 26 – From a Sculptor's Perspective with Frank Murphy

2 WAYS TO PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

1. Please be in prayer for the 40 participants in the Senior Adult trip to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick July 9-19. More activities will be announced soon from our Senior Adult Committee!
2. Please pray for the 25 kids and 5 chaperones who will head to Passport Kids Camp at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton from July 16 – 19 for a week of fun, fellowship and growing in our faith!



FROM OUR PASTOR

When I get in a car, I would rather drive than ride. I am not the most patient driver, to be sure, but a long trip seems to go by more quickly when I am in control of the gas pedal and the steering wheel. But even if I am driving instead of riding, there are some circumstances that are beyond my control. I cannot control the number of cars on the highway, the condition of the road, the weather, the driving habits of other people, or the inevitable accident that brings traffic to a halt.

In the daily living of our lives, as in driving a car, there are so many circumstances that we cannot control. Try as we might, we cannot control what other people say or do. We cannot control whether the rain will fall, or the sun will shine. We cannot control the economy. We cannot always control the behavior of our children, the decisions they make, nor the pressures they face. Ultimately, we cannot control the effects of aging, disease, and disaster. And sometimes, as we succumb to temptation, we realize that we lose control of ourselves. As Paul said so truthfully, "I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate" (Romans 7:15).

I am convinced that most of our frustrations in life come from our attempts to control circumstances that are beyond our control. Would you agree? See for yourself the next time you are frustrated. Stop in that moment and ask yourself, "Can I control this situation?" If you can, then grab hold of the wheel and take action. Make a change. Be responsible. But if the circumstance is beyond your control, let that moment be a time to pray to God. It doesn't have to be a formal prayer. You don't have to close your eyes, fold your hands, and get

Continued on the inside

CHILDREN'S CORNER

SUMMER CALENDARS

Summer calendars have been released for both Children's Ministry (birth-4th grade) and the new Collide Ministry (5th-7th grade) that Kristen & Nick are leading together. These schedules can be found on our social media or picked up on the preschool hall at the front desk. Grab one & stick it on your fridge at home!

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT TWO SUMMER SUNNIES EVENTS:

JULY 6 at 2 p.m., Froggy's

JULY 9 at 3 p.m., Treats at the Splash Pad!

JULY 16-19, Passport Kids Camp



COLLIDE MIDLERS (5TH-7TH GRADE)

JULY 6 at 11:30 a.m., Mystery Lunch, \$15 for lunch

JULY 12 Pool Party at Cox home

JULY 14 Atlanta Braves Game, 7:20 p.m. game time, \$25 per person

STUDENT NEWS

CANVAS & CLAY SUMMER CALENDARS NOW AVAILABLE!

Extra calendars are available in the Student Room and in Nick Georgian's office. Please make plans to participate and get involved as often as you can this summer!

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 6 – Mystery Lunch, 11:30 a.m., \$15 for lunch

JULY 12 – from 6 to 8 p.m., Diving into the Word at the Sumners'

JULY 14 – Atlanta Braves Game, 7:20 p.m. game time, \$25 per person

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW GALLERY EXHIBIT

Lynn Denson's exhibit "Paintings and Porcelain" will be featured in the gallery on the third floor through August. Denson's art represents her attempts to interpret God's creation. *"He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart..."*
— Ecclesiastes 3:11



HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

A few spaces remain for the Holy Land Pilgrimage set for April 25-May 10, 2024. Join our pastor David Brooks and Tamara Smathers on this pilgrimage. The experience of walking where much of the Old Testament and Gospel stories are set transforms the way we read and understand scripture. Please contact Tamara Smathers for more information.

To view all of the details visit:

<https://aitsatl.com/login.php>

Enter Group name: FirstBaptistRome2024; Password: pilgrimage

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties.

Our ministers are interested in developing a Stephen Ministry. If you have already been trained as a Stephen Minister or Stephen Ministry Leader at another church, OR if you would like more information about this ministry opportunity, contact Gwen Stephens.



Church offices will be closed on Monday, July 3, and Tuesday, July 4, for Independence Day.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

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

FROM OUR PASTOR

Continued from cover

on your knees—unless that helps you to connect with God. You simply need to be reminded that God is present to you in that frustrating moment. And God understands. God is listening to you as you pray, “Lord Jesus, have mercy upon me” (Mark 10:48), or “Lord, I cast all my anxiety on you because I know that you care for me” (1 Peter 5:7), or “Peace, be still” (Mark 4:39), or “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:13).

We cannot control everything that happens to us, but we can trust in God. We can repeat a simple prayer that keeps us in touch with God. We can face whatever happens in life, knowing that when we are weak, God is strong, God is there to help, and God will guide us.

Your pastor and friend,

David

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

We celebrate with these members of our staff and give thanks for all they do in service to God and our congregation:

- **KRIS WILDER**, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – 1 year on July 11
- **MIKE HOLLOWAY**, MAINTENANCE – 15 years on July 21

SUNDAY FLOWERS

FLOWER OPENINGS

The following date is open for providing flowers in the Narthex. Please contact Karen Garrett in the church office at kgarrett@fbcrome.org if you would like to fill this date.

JULY 16 - Narthex

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, July 2, are given to the glory of God, provided by the Jo Huffman Flower Fund.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, July 2, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David Bosworth, Reagan Coker and John Ransom.

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, July 9, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of James Langley by Jimmie Langley and Family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, July 9, are given to the glory of God, provided by the Jo Huffman Flower Fund.

July 1 – July 14

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, July 1

Minister on Call

Kristen Mathis 502.693.5644

Sunday, July 2

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

Senior Adult Canada Trip Meeting, Choir Suite 12:15 pm

Monday, July 3

Church Office Closed for Independence Day

Tuesday, July 4

Church Office Closed for Independence Day

Thursday, July 6

Mystery Lunch for Students and Collide Middlers 11:30 am

Bridges Out of Poverty Class, F.H. & Comm. Rm. 6:00 pm

Saturday, July 8

Minister on Call

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

Sunday, July 9

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

Treats at the Splash Pad – FBC Kids 3:00 pm

Sunday, July 9 – Wednesday, July 19

Senior Adult Canadian Maritimes Trip

Monday, July 10

Budget Preparation Committee, Conf. Rm. 5:30 pm

Wednesday, July 12

Diving into the Word, Sumner home 6:00 pm

Thursday, July 13

Bridges Out of Poverty, F.H. & Comm. Rm. 6:00 pm

Friday, July 14

Atlanta Braves Game, Collide Middlers & Students

THIS WEEK: JULY 2

SUNDAY WORSHIP

WORSHIP SERIES: Baptist Freedoms

SERMON: "Religious Freedom"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 22:15-22

ANTHEM: America, the Beautiful...

arr. Benjamin Harlan

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

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

MINISTER ON CALL:

Kristen Mathis 502.693.5644

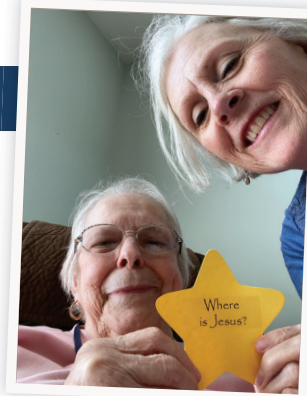
THE SPIRE

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

"WHERE IS JESUS?"

Patsy Willerson and Gwen Stephens pose with the "Where is Jesus?" star during an Extended Families visit.



Community
Kitchen

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

NEXT WEEK: JULY 9

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: "Spiderman, Wonder Woman, & Jesus"

PREACHER: Kristen Mathis

SCRIPTURE: Luke 5:17-39

ANTHEM: 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus...

arr. Benjamin Harlan

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

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

MINISTER ON CALL:

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

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

