

THE SPIRE

Volume 70 • No. 19 • September 22, 2023



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY OCTOBER 1



**"HOW VERY GOOD AND PLEASANT
IT IS WHEN KINDRED LIVE TOGETHER IN UNITY!"
-PSALM 133:1**

Churchwide Picnic & Fall Festival

Sunday, October 15
Morrison Campground
(More information inside)



FROM OUR PASTOR



Do you know the story behind these famous hands? They are the "Praying Hands" of the 16th Century German artist, Albrecht Dürer. But these are not just any hands. They are the hands of a dear friend of Dürer—his roommate while Dürer was in art school. Both men were budding artists, but they could not afford to both be in art school at the same time. So, Dürer's roommate graciously agreed to take a job to pay the bills while Dürer attended school. The favor would then be reciprocated.

After graduation, it was several years before Dürer was in a position to do for his friend what his friend had done for him. By then, however, art school was out of the question for his friend because his friend's hands were so gnarled by hard labor that he could no longer hold a paintbrush. Dürer was heartbroken for his dear friend, even as Dürer's

friend assured him that there were no hard feelings. One day, Dürer came home to find his friend in prayer and he started to sketch these now well-known hands, the hands that made it possible for him to pursue his career.

Whose hands have made it possible for you to be who you are today? Have you thanked them lately? If not, take some time to express your love and gratitude for them this week. Then, consider ways in which you can "pay it forward." Use your own hands, your own resources, and your own prayers to meet someone's need, to lift someone up, to show your love and care. And as you do, know that your hands are the hands of Christ.

Your pastor and friend,

David



CHILDREN'S CORNER

PLANNING AHEAD

Be sure to mark your calendars for our church-wide picnic and fall festival on October 15. Pumpkin painting, cookie decorating, and more!

STUDENT NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24– Choir Practice & Small Groups

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 – FBC Student Gathering |
Frank Murphy at FBC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1– Choir practice & Small Groups

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4 – Fields of Faith at Barron Stadium
6:30 p.m.

STUDENT SMALL GROUP SUPPER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

As our small groups resume, we need volunteers to provide a meal for our students and group leaders on Sunday evenings. If you are unable to prepare a meal, you can still help by making a financial contribution. If you have questions, contact Nick Georgian or Karen Garrett in the church office. To sign up and learn more details, click on the QR Code.



WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Monday morning Women's Bible study has resumed. Join us at 10 a.m. in the Dining Room as we gather around tables and discover God's living word. This group is open to any woman. It's a lively group that aims to take the Bible seriously, while cutting ourselves a bit of slack. Tamara Smathers leads this group.

FELLOWSHIP WALK

This walk is for women of all ages on the Mount Berry Trail. We will meet at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 1, at the start of the trailhead located in the parking lot right behind the U.S. Post Office on Coligni Way. Light snacks will be provided and bringing your own water bottle is suggested.



WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

The group meets on the third Monday of each month at 1 p.m. in the Dining Room. Those who want more time to chat meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. at a local restaurant. The chosen book for October 16 is "The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post" by Allison Pataki. The discussion will be led by Jackie Scott. Lunch will be at Chicken Salad Chick.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLEGE MINISTRY

Are you a college student looking for community to grow in your faith and find support and encouragement? If so, you are invited to our College Ministry Kick-off Luncheon on Sunday, October 1, immediately following the worship service. We are saving a seat just for you so please join us and invite a friend! Lunch will be provided by the College Ministry. For more information, please contact Nick Georgian.

CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual Church Picnic returns to Morrison Campground on Sunday, October 15. Come anytime after 3 p.m. "Georgia Grass," the oldest bluegrass band in Georgia, will begin playing at 4 p.m.; covered dish supper served at 5 p.m. and a vespers service will end our time together. Lots of fun for all ages is planned. Put in on your calendar and plan to bring friends! Plan B for the picnic if it rains is to have it at the church with the band playing at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary, with the meal at 5 p.m., and vespers service after the meal. We hope for great weather, though so this won't be necessary.

ADULT CHOICES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SEMINARS

NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 11



"THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE..." JESUS' PARABLES IN MATTHEW 13

Led by David Brooks in the Dining Room

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Sept 27 | The Parable of the Yeast | Matt 13:33 |
| Oct 4 | The Parables of the Treasure & Pearl | Matt 13:44-46 |
| Oct 11 | The Parable of the Net | Matt 13:47-50 |



LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS IN DISCIPLESHIP

Led by Tamara Smathers in the Community Room

Using the CliftonStrengths assessment, we will discover our God-given talents, and work to discern how to combine our talents, knowledge, and experience into joy-filled service.

Registration is required ahead of time. Please contact Tamara Smathers with any questions or to sign up.

This course (or a previous workshops) is a prerequisite for the Strengths-based parenting course to be offered in the spring.

MEET SHELBYNEXT!

The ShelbyNext Membership app is a safe and simple tool that allows you to connect with the FBC Rome family using your smartphone or computer. It includes a directory of church members and an up-to-date calendar, as well as options for making electronic contributions. Contact Melinda Duke in the church office at mduke@fbcrome.org and request access to ShelbyNext Membership.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

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

All of our groups are in full swing. If you are interested in becoming a part of any group (there is one for all ages and abilities!) contact Keith Reaves.

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Regular rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m.

ALL CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Regular rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 5:45 p.m.

YOUTH CHOIR

Regular rehearsals are on Sundays at 12:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST RINGERS

Regular rehearsals are Mondays at 5:15 p.m.

MISSIONS

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY GETTING AHEAD GRADUATION

We are excited to announce that the cohort that has been meeting and working hard every Thursday since April 13 will graduate on September 28! The graduation is in the FBC Dining Room at 6 pm. We invite all our Bridges Life Coaches and everyone who has made this possible through your support to join us as we celebrate. This is a huge step in building their future story. Please RSVP to bridgesoutofpovertyrome@gmail.com, Marty Willingham or Keith Phillips no later than September 25.

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are still in need of 2 female Life Coaches to match up with our upcoming Getting Ahead graduates. Also, we are expanding our Bridges Committee to support our Getting Ahead programs and the relaunch of the Bridges Community initiative. If you are interested in serving or would like to learn more please contact Nick Georgian or Keith Phillips.



SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, September 24, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harold Storey on what would have been his 101st birthday by Rena Storey and family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, September 24, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Quinette Harbin by Buford Harbin and family.

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, October 1, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Milton Tippin, Jr., Jennette Todd Tippin and Todd Tippin by Jenny and Joe Walter.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, October 1, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ernest, Doris and John Rudert by the Edward Rudert and the Bob Rudert families.

Saturday, September 23

Minister on Call Kristen Mathis 502.693.5644

Sunday, September 24

Baptism Sunday
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am
Adult Bible Study 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
Student Small Groups Gather, F.H. 5:45 pm
Student Dinner, F.H. 6:00 pm

Monday, September 25

Weekday Preschool Pictures 9:00 am
Women's Bible Study Group, Dining Rm. 10:00 am
Davies Shelter Board Meeting, Comm. Rm. 5:00 pm
First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal, Choir Suite 5:15 pm

Wednesday, September 27 - Friday, September 29

FBC Serves Community Kitchen

Wednesday, September 27

Family Night Dinner Served 5:00 pm
Children's Choirs 5:45 pm
Prayer Time 6:00 pm
Jesus' Parables in Matthew 13, Dining Rm. 6:15 pm
Living Your Strengths Seminar, Comm. Rm. 6:15 pm
Children's and Collide Missions 6:30 pm
Student Room Opens 6:30 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm. 6:45 pm
Student Discipleship 7:00 pm
Student Prayer & Hang Out, Student Rm. 7:45 pm

Thursday, September 28

Bridges Out of Poverty Class Graduation, Dining Rm. 6:00 pm

Saturday, September 30

Minister on Call Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

Sunday, October 1

World Communion Sunday
Adult Faith Formation, 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
Women of the Church Fellowship Walk,
Mount Berry Trail 2:00 pm
Student Small Groups Gather, F.H. 5:45 pm
Student Dinner & Student Small Groups, F.H. 6:00 pm

Monday, October 2

Women's Bible Study Group, Dining Rm. 10:00 am

Wednesday, October 4

Family Night Dinner Served 5:00 pm
Children's Choirs 5:45 pm
Prayer Time 6:00 pm
Jesus' Parables in Matthew 13, Dining Rm. 6:15 pm
Living Your Strengths Seminar, Comm. Rm. 6:15 pm
Children's and Collide Missions 6:30 pm
Fields of Faith, Barron Stadium 6:30 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm. 6:45 pm

THIS WEEK: SEPTEMBER 24

SUNDAY WORSHIP

WORSHIP SERIES: *Isn't That in the Bible?*

SERMON: "God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle?"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 46; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

ANTHEM: *God Is Our Refuge...* Allen Pote

SPECIAL MUSIC: Emma Sprayberry

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

FAMILY NIGHT MENU

SEPTEMBER 27

Ambrosia Salad

Quiche Lorraine

Blueberry Muffin

Hash Brown Patty

Banana Pie

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Scrambled Eggs & Bacon

MINISTER ON CALL:

Kristen Mathis 502.693.5644

NEXT WEEK: OCTOBER 1

SUNDAY WORSHIP

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

SERMON: "Mine! It's All Mine!"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 24

ANTHEM: *Nothing But the Blood...*
arr. Craig Courtney

SPECIAL MUSIC: Samantha Lester, violin

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

FAMILY NIGHT MENU

OCTOBER 4

Coleslaw

Fried Catfish with Hushpuppies

Rice Pilaf

Buttered Lima Beans

Mixed Berry Cobbler

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Cheese Pizza

MINISTER ON CALL:

Keith Reaves 706.292.9620

THE SPIRE

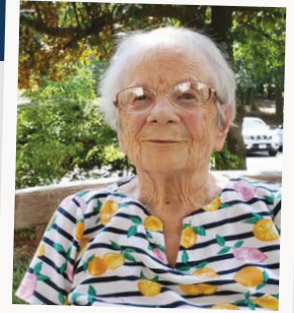
SUNDAY SERVICES

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

EXTENDED FAMILIES

Happy Birthday
TO OUR OLDEST MEMBER!

VIRGINIA COOLEY is 102! This picture was taken on her birthday, September 1. Virginia lives in assisted living in Dalton. She has been a member of First Baptist since March 21, 1954. Happy Birthday Virginia!



STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

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

- **KRISTEN MATHIS** – MINISTER OF FAITH DEVELOPMENT, 6 Years on October 11
- **RACHEL VICK** – WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL, 1 year on October 11
- **SUSAN FINCHER** – WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL, 7 years on October 22

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

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

