

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Children ages four through fourth grade are invited to Children's Worship on the second floor of the Education Building. 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 others. If there is a need to evacuate, parents should pick up children at the bus parking lot on the far side of First Presbyterian Church.

STEWARDSHIP

There are several ways to financially support the ministries of First Baptist Church. You may place your offering in the offering plates during worship, mail in your contribution or give online through the church website or by using this QR code.



David Brooks *Pastor*

Keith A. Reaves *Senior Associate/Minister of Worship*

Tamara Smathers *Minister of Education/Administration*

Kristen Mathis *Minister of Faith Development*

Gwen Stephens *Minister to Extended Family*

Nick Georgian *Minister to Students and Missions*

Joan Hill, *Organist* Beverly Harris, *Pianist*

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

GUEST PREACHER TODAY

Dr. Paul Baxley has served as Executive Director of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship since 2019. A native of Winston-Salem, N.C., he has also held pastorates and ministry positions in Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia. Paul is a graduate of Wake Forest University, Duke Divinity School, and Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. Paul and his wife, Jennifer, a licensed physical therapist, have four children.

CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, October 15 at 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Morrison Campground

Come anytime after 3:00 p.m. "Georgia Grass," the oldest bluegrass band in Georgia will begin playing at 4:00 p.m.; potluck supper served at 5:15 p.m. and a bluegrass vespers service will end our time together. Lots of fun for all ages is planned. Bring friends!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY | THE JOURNEY: WALKING THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM

October 18 through November 16 at 6:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Led by our pastor, this opportunity to prepare your heart, soul, and mind for Christmas is based on Adam Hamilton's book, *The Journey*. Reading the book is not required for participation, but if you would like a copy of the book, they are available for \$13 in the church office.

SR. ADULT FALL FOLIAGE

Thursday, November 2, Departing at 10:15 a.m.

We will have lunch at the Pink Pig in Cherry Log and do some apple shopping at Panorama Orchards in Ellijay and enjoy some fall foliage, as well! Cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch and transportation. Your payment is your reservation and is due by Monday, October 30. Contact Keith Reaves with questions.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:30 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting - Conference Room
9:45 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship
No Youth Choir or Evening Activities

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Dining Room
11:30 a.m. Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group - Dining Room
4:45 p.m. First Baptist Ringers - Choir Suite
5:30 p.m. Deacons' Meeting - Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

5:00 p.m. Family Night Dinner Served - Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Prayer Time - Fellowship Hall
6:15 p.m. Adult Seminars
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

For information on these and other activities see www.fbcrome.org or The Spire.

The flowers in the Narthex today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Garland Dickey and Dr. Ouida Dickey by their daughters, Angela Dickey and Jennifer Dickey.

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jo and William Huffman by their Family.

First Baptist Church, 100 East Fourth Avenue, Rome, GA 30161
Phone: 706.291.6850 Website: www.fbcrome.org



OCTOBER 8, 2023

11:00 A.M.

We welcome a larger congregation through Comcast Channel 44, and YouTube.
As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sanctuary Choir
"From All that Dwells Below the Skies"...arr. Gordon Young
(The text to this anthem may be found in Hymn 330.)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP (No. 470 "God's Revelation")

David Brooks

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 295

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

A COVENANT OF DEDICATION FOR EMORY NICHOLAS GEORGIAN AND HIS PARENTS, NICK AND AUBREY GEORGIAN

EMORY'S LIFE VERSE:

"For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs." —Zephaniah 3:17

LITANY OF DEDICATION

Minister: The Lord has blessed Nick and Aubrey with the gift of a son. We welcome Emory in the same spirit that God welcomes us, God's children. We give thanks for all of our children and the joy they bring to our families. Nick and Aubrey, do you present Emory for dedication, and in doing so declare your intent to raise him in an environment of Christian faith and love?

Parents: We do.

Minister: To Emory's family gathered with us, will you freely give of yourselves to Emory, nurturing him and walking alongside Nick and Aubrey as they seek to teach him to walk in the way of Jesus?

Family: We will.

Minister: Will this congregation recognize Emory as a gift from God? Will you pray for him as he grows in his journey as a follower of Christ? Will you pray for his parents, extended family and this church family as we all continue to surround Emory with the same love and grace that surrounds him today?

People: We will.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

STORIES OF GOD'S CALL

HYMN 478 (STANZA ONE)

"God Is Calling Through the Whisper"

SAMUEL ■ 1 Samuel 3:1-20

Kristen Mathis, reader

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴ Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶ The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸ The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰ Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." ¹¹ Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹² On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³ For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴ Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever." ¹⁵ Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶ But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." ¹⁷ Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹ As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

HYMN 478 (STANZA TWO) "God Is Calling Through the Whisper"

ANANIAS AND SAUL/PAUL ■ Acts 9:10-19

Tamara Tillman Smathers, reader

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go,

for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

HYMN 478 (STANZA THREE) "God Is Calling Through the Whisper"

MORNING PRAYER (with the Lord's Prayer) Rev. Brooks
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.

HYMN OF CALLING NO. 486 "Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult"
(Children ages four through fourth grade may depart for Children's Worship)

MUSICAL OFFERING Mary Donahue
"Go Light Your World"...Chris Rice

SERMON Dr. Paul Baxley, Executive Director, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
"A Community Where God's Call Is Heard"

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 477 "We Are Called to Be God's People"

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP Nick Georgian

ORGAN OFFERTORY "Nearer, Still Nearer"...arr. Jason D. Payne
Meditation Text:
A job is a vocation only if someone else calls you to do it for them rather than for yourself. And so our work can be a calling only if it is reimagined as a mission of service to something beyond merely our own interests. Thinking of work mainly as a means of self-fulfillment and self-realization slowly crushes a person. — Timothy Keller, Every Good Endeavor: Connecting Your Work to God's Plan for the World



THE WORK OF THE CHURCH Nick Georgian

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

HYMN OF COMMISSIONING NO. 435 (Refrain)
Share His love by telling what the Lord has done for you.
Share His love by sharing of your faith.
and show the world that Jesus Christ is real to you
every moment, every day.

ORGAN POSTLUDE "Now Praise the Lord's Soul"...Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME!

We are honored you are with us today! Please fill out this form if you are a guest or in need of prayer support and place it in the offering plate or hand it to a minister. We promise to use it only to contact you about our church.

First visit to First Baptist Church
 Returning guest

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.
 Please have a minister contact me.
 I am interested in becoming a member of First Baptist Church.
 Add me to the newsletter email list.
 I am a guest of:

Please pray for:

