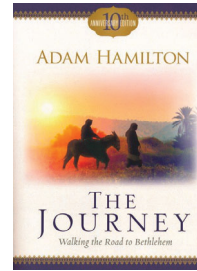




FROM OUR PASTOR



Are you ready for Christmas? Of course not! Christmas is still three months away. But believe it or not, now is a good time to prepare your heart, soul, and mind for Christmas. And to help you do so, I invite you to participate in a wonderful study based on Adam Hamilton's book, *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem*. Following the

footsteps of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and others, we will learn fascinating details about the Christmas story that will help you to worship the newborn king more fully this year when Christmas arrives.

The five-week study will take place every Wednesday evening in our fellowship hall, from 6:15 – 7:10 pm, beginning October 18 and concluding on November 15. Each week, we will focus on one chapter of *The Journey* and the stories from the Gospels that correspond with each chapter. As part of the study, we will also enjoy short video segments each week—hosted by Adam Hamilton—to introduce us to the people and places that are included in the Christmas story. Reading *The Journey* is not a requirement for the study, but if you would like your own copy for the study, copies of the book are available in the church office for \$13. You can also purchase a copy online.

It may seem premature to turn our attention in October to Mary, Joseph, Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus. But look at it this way: the Christmas rush has not hit yet. You don't have to do any shopping or baking or decorating. Taking time to get your heart, mind, and soul ready for Christmas now can be an early Christmas gift that God is giving to you. I hope you will receive it gladly and join me on Wednesday nights for *The Journey*.

Your pastor and friend,

David



Churchwide Picnic & Fall Festival

Sunday, October 15
Morrison Campground

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.

In case of rain, this event will be at the church, with the band playing at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary, the meal at 5 p.m., and vespers service after the meal.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

PLANNING AHEAD:

CHURCH-WIDE PICNIC & FALL FESTIVAL

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

ESP DINNER

We will provide & serve the monthly dinner for ESP (Extra Special People) on Monday, December 4 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. After serving, we will get to enjoy sitting with the families to enjoy a meal ourselves. Mark this date on the calendar for your family to participate.

CAMP SIGN-UPS

Emails have gone out about the CBFGA Children's Retreat in January as well as Passport Kids Camp over the summer. If you did not receive the email, please let me know and I will get info to you ASAP. Hard to believe, but deadlines are already approaching!

STUDENT NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15- FBC Fall Picnic - NO Choir or Small Groups

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18- FBC Student Gathering

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22- Choir practice @ 12 | Small Groups CHOSEN

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25- FBC Student Gathering

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29- Choir Practice @ 12 | Small Groups TOGETHER- Halloween Party

2023 FBC STUDENT FALL RETREAT: TRANSFORMED

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:2 (NIV)

Join us November 3 - 4 for our Fall Retreat, Transformed, and learn how to let go of the patterns of this world and embrace the plan and promises of God. Not only will that change your life, but it will impact the lives of those around you. The cost is \$75 per student, with a \$20 deposit upon RSVP. Please click on the QR Code to sign up. The last day to sign up is Friday, October 27! If you have any questions or would like to learn more information, please contact Nick Georgian.



WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

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

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.

ENSEMBLES IN WORSHIP Please note following dates that our music ensembles will help lead in worship:

OCTOBER 29: Children's Choir, Youth Choir, First Baptist Ringers

NOVEMBER 5: First Baptist Ringers

NOVEMBER 13: Youth Choir

25TH ANNUAL "CHRISTMAS AT FIRST BAPTIST"

CONCERT You will want to be present for this annual event! This year's concert is Sunday, December 3 at 4 p.m. As always the Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra will be featured with special appearances by the First Baptist Ringers, Children's Choir and Youth Choir. Mark your calendars and bring a friend!

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

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.

SENIOR ADULT NEWS

SENIOR ADULT APPLE TRIP 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! We depart at 10:15 a.m. on Thursday, November 2. Cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch and transportation. Your payment is your reservation and is due by October 30. Contact Keith Reaves with questions.



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:
John & Ginger Ingram



Miriam Miller



Roy & Barbie
Willingham



Carol Inman

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, October 8, 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 for Sunday, October 8, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jo and William Huffman by their Family.

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, October 15, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Doris Higgins on the occasion of her birthday by Marty & Len Willingham, Chad and Hanna Willingham, Johanna Willingham and Tripp, Jennifer, Will and Chandler Bagby.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday October 15, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Grace Kelly and Margaret Flowers by Lynn and Vicki Whatley.

October 7 - October 20

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, October 7

Minister on Call

Nick Georgian 706.766.0032

Sunday, October 8

No Youth Choir or Small Groups today

Finance Committee, Conf. Rm. 8:30 am

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am

Adult Bible Study 9:45 am

Worship - Guest: Paul Baxley - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 am

Worship also available on FBC Website / YouTube Channel

Monday, October 9

Weekday Preschool Fall Break

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

Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group, Dining Rm. 11:30 a.m

First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal, Choir Suite 4:45 p.m

Deacons' Meeting, F.H. 5:30 p.m

Wednesday, October 11

Family Night Dinner Served 5:00 p.m

Prayer Time 6:00 p.m

Jesus' Parables in Matthew 13, Dining Rm. 6:15 p.m

Living Your Strengths Seminar, Comm. Rm. 6:15 p.m

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm. 6:45 p.m

Saturday, October 14

Minister on Call

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

Sunday, October 15

No Youth Choir or Small Groups

Adult Faith Formation, Conf. Rm. 8:30 a.m

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 a.m

Bible Study (all ages) 9:45 a.m

Worship - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 a.m

Worship also available on FBC Website / YouTube Channel

Stewardship Emphasis, More Than Enough 11:30 a.m

Church Picnic, Morrison Campground 3:00 p.m

Monday, October 16

Weekday Preschool Fall Break

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

Women of the Church Book Group, Dining Rm. 1:00 p.m

First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal, Choir Suite 5:15 p.m

Wednesday, October 18

Family Night Dinner Served 5:00 p.m

Children's Choirs 5:45 p.m

Prayer Time 6:00 p.m

Children's and Collide Missions 6:30 p.m

Student Room Opens 6:30 p.m

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Rm. 6:45 p.m

Student Discipleship 7:00 p.m

Student Prayer & Hang Out, Student Rm. 7:45 p.m

MISSIONS

HANDS OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS

Hands of Christ Christmas is around the corner! Do you have a relationship with a family in need? Our goal and purpose is to learn about those families and their needs and then combine our resources to support them at Christmas and throughout the coming year. If you have any questions, contact Kate Barron or Amy Cox.

seeking His heart | Being His hands

THIS WEEK: OCTOBER 8

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: "A Community Where God's Call is Heard"

GUEST PREACHER: Dr. Paul Baxley, Executive Director,
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Acts 9:10-19

ANTHEM: From All that Dwell Below the Skies...
arr. Gordon Young

SPECIAL MUSIC: Mary Donahue

PARENT CHILD DEDICATION FOR GEORGIAN FAMILY

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

FAMILY NIGHT MENU

OCTOBER 11

Caesar Salad

Baked Lasagna with Meat Sauce

Fried Zucchini

Tiramisu

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Spaghetti

MINISTER ON CALL:

Nick Georgian 706.766.0032

NEXT WEEK: OCTOBER 15

SUNDAY WORSHIP

WORSHIP SERIES: *More than Enough*

SERMON: "The Generosity of God"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:26-31; James 1:17-18

ANTHEM: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty...
arr. Robert Sterling

PARENT CHILD DEDICATION FOR WALTERS FAMILY

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

FAMILY NIGHT MENU

OCTOBER 18

Mexican Salad

Taco Bar

Refried Beans

Spanish Rice

Crème Caramel

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Tacos

MINISTER ON CALL:

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

THE SPIRE

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

EXTENDED FAMILIES

RENA STOREY has been a member of First Baptist since December 27, 1959. She has served in many areas of the church and is one of our Life Deacons. Rena is an amazing artist and enjoys time with her children and grandchildren. She watches our services each week and is thankful for our broadcast which allows her to worship with us every Sunday.



MISSIONS

BRIDGES

On behalf of the Bridges Out of Poverty team, we want to express our appreciation for your prayers and support over the past 5 months of our Getting Ahead Program. Because of your generosity and willingness to serve in this ministry, we have been able to invest in the lives of 7 individuals whose lives are changed in a positive way. Be on the lookout for the next cohort and ways you can be a part of impacting lives through the mission and ministry of Bridges.

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

