

# THE SPIRE

Volume 70 • No. 26 • December 29, 2023



Happy New Year!

FROM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH!

## FAITH TALKS



### “DISCOVERING OUR OVERLAPPING HISTORY”

WITH GUEST SPEAKERS: STACIE MARSHALL,  
MELVIN AND BETTY MOSLEY

SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31

REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP 9:30-9:45  
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

PROGRAM BEGINS 9:45 A.M.

*“Our collective prayer is that we  
might hold our history with both truth  
and love in hopes for healing.”*

HESTER’S HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Several years ago, the Adult Faith Formations Committee began offering a program called, “FaithTalks” with the tagline, Faith inForming Life. These talks, initially patterned after TEDtalks and held each 5th Sunday during Bible Study, invite individuals to tell their life’s story and how their faith informs the way they live and the witness they offer in the world.

Please join us on Sunday, December 31, for a very special Faith-Talks, as we welcome Stacie Marshall, Melvin and Betty Mosley, as well as members of the New Harmony Baptist Church congregation.

Their story has become a focus of a new documentary film, *Her Name Was Hester*. The film details Stacie’s recent inheritance of her family’s farm in Chattooga County, Georgia and uncovering family records that included an enslaved wet nurse named Hester. Almost 150 years after her passing, descendants of Hester lived as neighbors and friends. They prayed, worshipped, and shared meals together not knowing of their shared history. One of our own FBC Rome members, Virginia Bolton, discovered a beautiful overlapping history.

## WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

### PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025

Registration for 2024-2025 will begin on January 23 for those currently enrolled. For all others, registration will begin on February 6. Our Weekday Preschool is for children 15 months of age by September 1, 2024, through Pre K 4/5 years old. For more information contact us at [mwood@fbcrome.org](mailto:mwood@fbcrome.org) or 706.295.1150. Check us out at [fbcrome.org](http://fbcrome.org) under Weekday Preschool. We would love to have your child join us!



## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### JANUARY 10: WEDNESDAY NIGHT KIDS' ACTIVITIES RESUME!

#### FAMILY STRENGTHS CAMP

Mark your calendars for the Family Strengths Camp on February 10! In this interactive workshop, you'll learn there is no universal best way to parent. What works is releasing the need to do parenting "right" in favor of loving and leading in ways that are natural to us.

## STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

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

- **DIANE ARMSTRONG**, WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL – 23 years on January 22

## SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, December 31, are given to the glory of God and in honor of Beverly Harris on the occasion of their 49th wedding anniversary by Bob Harris.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, January 7 are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Willie and Mary Sue Barron by the Family.

## SENIOR ADULT NEWS

### SPOTLIGHT ON TUSCANY TOUR INFO MEETING

An informational meeting about a Senior Adult trip to Tuscany is planned for Wednesday, January 17 at 3 p.m. in the Dining Room. The trip will take place in late October/early November. Watch for more information, including a detailed itinerary and how to register in the next few weeks. Contact Keith Reaves for more information.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES



The 2024 Disciplines have arrived and are available. This daily devotional book is an excellent tool for those wishing to begin or deepen a devotional practice. Each day includes a Scripture to read, a short meditation, and prayer.

Copies may be picked up on the welcome desk near the elevator and in the church office.

### HEALTH GROWING OLD: OR GROWING WHOLE, A NEW LOOK AT AGING

Our health committee will be hosting a health workshop, Growing Old: or Growing Whole: A New Look At Aging, on Saturday, January 20, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Local health vendors will be on site so you can explore and learn, along with presentations taught by a few members of the health committee who are experts in the fields of health and overall well-being. You don't want to miss it! There will be pre-registration required, so be on the lookout for the registration sign up and further details coming soon. If you have any questions, contact Sharon Baker or Nick Georgian.

### FAMILY STRENGTHS CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FEATURING MAIKA LEIBBRANDT AN EVENT YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS! FEBRUARY 9-10, 2024

In this interactive workshop, you'll learn there is no universal best way to parent. What works instead, is releasing the need to do parenting "right" in favor of loving and leading in ways that are natural to us.

Maika Leibbrandt will be joined by Jerlene Mosley, who are both long-time educators and specialists in Strengths-Based Parenting. Together they will provide sessions for parents, teenagers, and children.

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 5:30 P.M.-8:30 P.M. JUST FOR TEENAGERS

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 9:00 A.M.-2:30 P.M. INCLUDING LUNCH.

Registration is required by February 1.

Family Strengths Camp is provided by the Gary and Hannah Tillman Fund of the FBC Foundation.



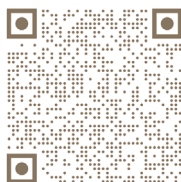
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

100 East 4th Avenue Rome, GA 30161 706.291.6850 [www.fbcrome.com](http://www.fbcrome.com)

# MISSIONS

## BRIDGES

As we continue with our 6th Getting Ahead Program, we need volunteers to provide childcare, meals and transportation every Thursday evening through the end of April. Thank you for your support and generosity towards the mission and ministry of Bridges. To learn more or if you would like to volunteer, scan the QR Code or contact Keith Phillips or Alice Clements.



## BRIDGES RELAUNCH

On February 24 we will relaunch the Bridges Out of Poverty Community Initiative. The Bridges Steering Committee and Task Force are busy planning the details of this event. The Bridges Community Initiative is focused on bringing all community sectors together to make a positive impact on poverty in our community. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, February 24, 2024. If you have questions or would like to know how you can be involved, contact Nick Georgian or Keith Phillips.



## MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY TO IMMOKALEE, FL

This missions committee is offering a chance to work with CBF field personnel, Rick & Ellen Burnette, in Immokalee, FL, March 5-9, 2024. The Burnettes founded Cultivate Abundance in 2017 which is a growing faith-based organization addressing food insecurity and other livelihood challenges in low-income, migrant farmworker communities of Southwest Florida and beyond. We will be joining in their efforts and we hope you will consider being a part of it! Mission work will include helping to complete a project at a local church that will benefit the area when aid workers are needed in natural disasters; helping with the weekly distribution of food to migrant workers; and brain-storming with Rick and Ellen about ways FBC Rome can partner with Cultivate Abundance in the future. This opportunity is open to any church member and construction skills are not required to be helpful.

There will be an information meeting on Sunday, January 7, immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who might be interested in going. Then two weeks following, on January 21, there will be a mission planning meeting.

Please mark these dates on your calendar and prayerfully consider how God might be calling you to be a part of impacting lives through Cultivate Abundance. If you have any questions or would like to learn more information, you can contact Julie McCormick or Nick Georgian. To learn more about Cultivate Abundance please visit: <https://www.cultivateabundance.org/>

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR December 30 - January 12

#### Saturday, December 30

Minister on Call Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

#### Sunday, December 31

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am  
Faith Talks (All Adults and Youth Bible Study), F.H. 9:30 am  
Worship - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 am  
Worship also available on FBC Website / YouTube Channel

#### Monday, January 1

**Church Office Closed – New Year's Day**

#### Wednesday, January 3

Properties Committee, Conf. Rm. 12:00 pm

#### Thursday, January 4

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

#### Saturday, January 6

Minister on Call Nick Georgian 706.766.0032

#### Sunday, January 7

Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410) 9:00 am  
Bible Study 9:45 am  
Worship - Comcast Channel 44 11:00 am  
Worship also available on FBC Website / YouTube Channel  
Children's Committee Meeting, Conf. Rm. 4:00 pm

#### Monday, January 8

Women's Bible Study, D.R. 10:00 am  
Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group, D.R. 11:30 am  
Finance Committee, Conf. Rm. 12:00 pm  
Deacons' Meeting, F.H. (no dinner) 6:00 pm

#### Tuesday, January 9

Bridges Steering Committee, Conf. Rm. 5:30 pm

#### Wednesday, January 10

Family Night Dinner Served, F.H. 5:00 pm  
Children's Choirs 5:45 pm  
Prayer Time & Church Conference, F.H. 6:00 pm  
Children's and Collide Missions 6:30 pm  
Adult Sanctuary Choir, Choir Suite 6:45 pm

#### Thursday, January 11

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



## THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 31

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: "A To-Do List"

PREACHER: Kristen Mathis

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 5:16-20

ANTHEM: In This Very Room...arr. Ron Harris

SPECIAL MUSIC: Ashley Garner

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

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



MINISTER ON CALL:

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

## NEXT WEEK: JANUARY 7

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

BAPTISM OF BEN AND KENDALL BREWER

SERMON: "Starting Well"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:4-11

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

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

### FAMILY NIGHT MENU

JANUARY 10

Mixed green salad/three dressings

Homemade Chili Con Carne Condiment Bar  
Cornbread

Baked Potatoes

Lemon Sorbet

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Chili, Fruit Cocktail, Lemon Sorbet

MINISTER ON CALL:

Nick Georgian 706.766.0032

# THE SPIRE

## SUNDAY SERVICES

BROADCAST LIVE ON  
COMCAST CHANNEL 44 AND  
VIA [WWW.FBCROME.COM](http://WWW.FBCROME.COM)

## EXTENDED FAMILY

DR. FLOYD ROEBUCK,

Pastor Emeritus, during a recent  
Extended Family visit.



Thank you!

### HANDS OF CHRIST- CHRISTMAS EMPHASIS

Thank you for supporting the mission of our Hands of Christ Christmas this year. Once again, we are blown away at the generosity and love of this community of faith! Whether you purchased a gift or made a monetary donation, your generosity matters and makes this mission possible. Because of your faithfulness, 41 families will now experience hope and joy this Christmas season and beyond. After all the gifts have been wrapped, delivered and received, we will share specific ways your generous contributions are making a real difference in the lives of others. Thank you for giving generously and for being the Hands of Christ in our community!

Please visit us for more information:  
[www.fbcrome.com](http://www.fbcrome.com)

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