



## LOOKING AHEAD TO LENT



The season of Lent starts early this year—February 14. So, it's not too soon to be thinking about how you plan to walk with Jesus more closely as a Lenten discipline. We will begin Lent a little differently this year:

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper - February 13

- 5:00 – 6:30 pm; 5:00 pm - buffet opens; 5:45 pm - festivities begin
- In the fellowship hall
- Mardi Gras themed

### Interactive Ash Wednesday Service – February 14

- Come at any time between Noon and 5:00 p.m.
- Several stations in the sanctuary will prepare you for Lent and introduce you to our Lenten worship series, “*Wandering Heart*.”
- New labyrinth to walk in our activity center.



## FROM OUR PASTOR

Easter comes early this year—Sunday, March 31. And that means the season of Lent starts earlier than usual. In fact, Lent is right here upon us, with Ash Wednesday falling on Valentine's Day, February 14. That's an odd combination, don't you think? Ash Wednesday calls for restraint and repentance, while Valentine's Day calls for lavish expressions of love and affection. But maybe there's something these two days have in common: a call to love more deeply, whether that is love for God, love for our neighbor, or a healthier love of ourselves. This unique confluence of days can also be a deep reminder of God's love for us through Jesus.

As we begin Lent, let's back it up a day this year and begin on *Shrove Tuesday*, February 13, with supper in our Fellowship Hall, from 5:00-6:30 pm. After supper, we'll enjoy some fun activities, learn about the meaning of Shrove Tuesday, and finish with King Cake for dessert.

Then, on Ash Wednesday, come to the sanctuary anytime between 12:00 noon and 6:00 pm for a self-guided interactive experience of various “stations” to begin your Lenten journey to the cross. Our new prayer labyrinth will also be set up in the gym so that you can walk, pray, meditate, and draw closer to Jesus.

As we walk with Jesus in Lent this year, our theme will be **Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter**. Each week, we will consider a significant moment in Peter's journey—from becoming a disciple to meeting the risen Jesus. Along the way, we're likely to see both our flawed and our faithful selves in Peter. And as we learn about faith through Peter, we will draw closer to Jesus who calls us to follow him.

Walking with you,

*David*

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### LENT KITS AVAILABLE NOW

Lent begins February 14 with Ash Wednesday, and Lent kits will be available for families starting Sunday February 11. They will also be available at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on February 13.

### INTERACTIVE ASH WEDNESDAY STATIONS

There will be no Wednesday night dinner or activities on Wednesday, February 14. Instead, bring your kids to experience our interactive Ash Wednesday stations that will be set up in the sanctuary and gym from 12-6 pm.

### PASSPORT KIDS CAMP

If your child is registered to come to Passport Kids camp with us this summer, a non-refundable deposit of \$200 is due by the end of February. If your child is not registered but would like a spot, let Kristen know ASAP as camp is filling up. Dates are July 14-17.

## STUDENT NEWS

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25** - Small Groups TOGETHER | LakePoint Station, \$20

### BBQ FUNDRAISER THANK YOU!

The Student Ministry Annual BBQ Fundraiser was a success! We sold 180 ribs and 110 Boston butts. Your ongoing support to our student ministry provides a way for our students to grow in their relationship with Jesus, experiencing global and local mission opportunities, retreats, and other discipleship-based events and activities throughout the year. Thank you for supporting our students!

## STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

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

- **MELINDA DUKE**, PASTOR'S ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – 11 years on February 22

## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

### WOC BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the WoC book club is February 19 at 1 p.m. in the Dining Room. The group will be studying *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Anyone is welcome to join.

## EXTENDED FAMILY

Betty is one of our beloved Extended Family members. She has been a member of First Baptist Church for almost 64 years, having joined on September 11, 1960. Betty is a retired science teacher and lives at Brookdale. She watches our broadcast every Sunday, and is an active participant of the Bible Study class at Brookdale.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN FESTIVAL THANK YOU

Many thanks to everyone who had a part in planning or participating in the hymn festival February 4. It was a wonderful afternoon of worship with our fellow CBF churches in Rome.



### PRAYING WITH JESUS

For centuries Christians have walked the printed or paved circular paths called labyrinths. This ancient tradition allows us to calm and center ourselves. As we walk, we release into God's hands, and then receive God's gifts in prayer. Many labyrinths are outdoors. FBC Rome has a new labyrinth painted on canvas--a version of the Chartres Cathedral labyrinth. It will be in the gym Wednesdays and Thursdays after 2:00, Fridays and Sundays when the church is open. Prayer guides will be available. Please wear clean socks or shoe covers (both will be provided).

### STRENGTHS-BASED PARENTING

**WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 21-MARCH 20, 6 PM**

Every parent is uniquely gifted and so are their children! Join with other parents as dive a little deeper into recognizing and understanding what our children (and teens) are naturally good at and where they thrive. These conversations will follow up on Family Strengths Camp guided by Tamara Smathers, Stephanie Lewis, and Janie Hortman.

## ADULT CHOICES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SEMINARS

**FEBRUARY 21 – MARCH 27 FROM 6:00-6:45 P.M.**



### WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Led by our Pastor in the The Fellowship Hall

In keeping with our desire to walk more closely with Jesus this year, let's take some time on Wednesday nights during Lent to consider different ways that we experience Jesus. Based on the book, *Freeing Jesus*, by Diana Butler Bass, we will seek to rediscover Jesus in some fresh ways.

February 21	Jesus as Friend: John 15:12-17
February 28	Jesus as Teacher: John 13:13
March 6	Jesus as Savior: Luke 2:10-11
March 13	Jesus as Lord: Luke 6:46-47
March 20	Jesus as the Way: John 14:6
March 27	Jesus as Presence: Matthew 28:20

### TAI CHI CLASS

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME AND NORTHWEST GEORGIA**

**AAA PRESENT:** Tai Chi Class

**TIME:** Thursday 10 - 11 a.m.

**WHEN:** Began January 18, continues for 8 weeks

**WHERE:** Community Room at FBC Rome

**COST:** FREE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

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





## WELCOME TO THE CHURCH FAMILY



### PLEASE WELCOME:

Maclayne Heller and  
Will Kenworthy

## MISSIONS

### BRIDGES RELAUNCH

On Saturday, February 24th we will relaunch the Bridges Out of Poverty Community Initiative located in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. The Bridges Community Initiative is focused on bringing all community sectors together to make a positive impact on poverty in our community. You will have the opportunity to learn more about the Bridges mission and hear from Treasure McKenzie, Executive Director of Bridges in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and also from a few graduates of the program. Please mark your calendars and make plans to join us for this event. If you have questions or would like to know how you can be involved, contact Nick Georgian or Keith Phillips.

### MISSION OPPORTUNITY TO IMMOKALEE, FL

Work with CBF field personnel, Rick & Ellen Burnette, in Immokalee, FL, March 5 - 9. The Burnettes founded Cultivate Abundance in 2017, which addresses food insecurity and other challenges in migrant farm worker communities of Southwest Florida and beyond. Mission work includes completing a project at a local church that will benefit the area when aid workers are needed in natural disasters. We also will participate in several activities at Cultivate Abundance including a food share with Immokalee neighbors. This opportunity is open to any church member. It is not too late to sign up if you are interested. If you have any questions, contact Julie McCormick or Nick Georgian. To learn more about Cultivate Abundance please visit: <https://www.cultivateabundance.org/>

## SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, February 11, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. James Wilbur Keene on the occasion of their wedding anniversary by Buddy and Ellen Keene.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, February 11, are given to the glory of God and in honor of First Baptist Church ministers and staff by Earl and Mary Rolan.

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, February 18, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ted A. Owens by Joanne Owens and family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, February 18, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Josephine and Hubert Lowe by Dick and Pat Lowe Johnston.

*seeking His* heart | *Being His* hands

February 10 - February 23

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Saturday, February 10

Minister on Call

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

### Sunday, February 11

Extended Family Ministry Team, Conf. Rm.	8:30 am
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am
Bible Study	9:45 am
Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary	9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 44	11:00 am
Worship also available on FBC Website / YouTube Channel	

### Monday, February 12

Women's Bible Study Group, D.R.	10:00 am
Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group, D.R.	11:30 am
Finance Committee Meeting, Conf. Rm.	12:00 pm
First Baptist Ringers, Choir Suite	5:00 pm
Deacons' Supper & Meeting, F.H.	5:30 pm

### Tuesday, February 13

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	5:00 pm
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### Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary	Noon - 6:00 pm
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### Wednesday, February 14 - Sunday, February 18

Labyrinth Walk, Gym

### Thursday, February 15

Tai Chi, Comm. Rm.	10:00 am
Bridges Out of Poverty, F.H. and Comm. Rm.	6:00 pm

### Saturday, February 17

Minister on Call	Nick Georgian 706.766.0032
Kristen and Ben's Baby Shower, F.H.	2:00 pm

### Sunday, February 18

First Sunday of Lent	
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	

### Monday, February 19

Weekday Preschool Winter Break Day	
Women's Bible Study, D.R.	10:00 am
Women of the Church Book Group, D.R.	1:00 pm
First Baptist Ringers, Choir Suite	5:15 pm

### Wednesday, February 21 - Sunday, February 25

Labyrinth Walk, Gym

### Wednesday, February 21

Foundation Board Meeting	3:30 pm
Family Night Dinner Served, F.H.	5:00 pm
Children's Choirs	5:45 pm
Prayer Time and Bible Study, F.H.	6:00 pm
Children's and Collide Missions	6:30 pm
Sanctuary Choir, Choir Suite	6:45 pm
Student Discipleship, Prayer and Hangout, Student. Rm.	7:00 pm

### Thursday, February 22

Tai Chi, Comm. Rm.	10:00 am
Bridges Out of Poverty, F.H. and Comm. Rm.	6:00 pm

## THIS WEEK: FEBRUARY 11

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

SERMON: "Walking with Jesus: Standing in Awe"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Mark 9:2-9

ANTHEM: Holy Is He...arr. David Clydesdale

SPECIAL MUSIC: Youth Choir

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

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

### SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER FEBRUARY 13

Spinach Salad with Mandarin Oranges, Craisins,

Walnuts and a Citrus Vinaigrette

Chicken & Andouille Jambalaya

Chicken and Mushroom Crepes in a Creamy

Mornay Sauce

White Rice

Traditional King Cake

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Pancakes

MINISTER ON CALL:

Gwen Stephens 706.766.5074

## NEXT WEEK: FEBRUARY 18

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT: WANDERING HEART

SERMON: "Wandering Heart: Jesus Sought Me"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Luke 5:1-11, Psalm 25:1-10

ANTHEM: Feed Me, Lord...arr. Patrick Liebergen

SPECIAL MUSIC: First Baptist Ringers

Stefanie Cash, flute

THE ORDINANCE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

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

### FAMILY NIGHT MENU

#### FEBRUARY 21

Mixed Green Salad, Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes,

Mixed Vegetables, Key Lime Pie

CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Hamburgers with Tater Tots, Fruit Cocktail,

Key Lime Pie

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)



Come join us in celebrating Kristen and Ben Mathis in celebration of their sweet son Benji! We are so excited to have the opportunity to show the Mathis family how much we love them and how excited we are for baby boy Benji to arrive! Please RSVP here (or scan the QR code): <https://forms.gle/kJhpuafZcNot4dJm9>



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

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