

# THE SPIRE

Volume 71 • No. 5 • March 9, 2024



OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS

BECAUSE PRESENCE MATTERS



**Equipping...**  
with Every  
**Good Thing**

OUR GOAL:  
**\$45,000**

GIVEN TO DATE:  
**\$9,376.47**

Through the Offering for Global Missions we provide funding that mobilizes field personnel to share the love and compassion of Jesus Christ in around 20 countries and regions around the world.

## Community Holy Week Services

**March 25-27**

**Services: 12-12:30**

**Lunch: 12:30-1 p.m.**

*Featuring pastors and musicians from across the community.*

*A light lunch will follow each service.*

Hosted by:

**Rome First United Methodist Church**

202 E. 3rd Ave., Rome

## FROM OUR PASTOR

How is your walk with Jesus these days? Is it an easy path for you, free from obstacles and distractions? Or is it a hard road, a challenge, an uphill climb? More than likely, your walk with Jesus is some of both: up *and* down, straight *and* winding, simple *and* challenging.

Here's a walking tip from Jesus: **lighten your load as you walk.** That is what we are called to do in Lent: to let go and give up some things in order to walk more faithfully with Jesus. After all, that is what Jesus told his disciples to do when he sent them out to heal, to bring hope, to share good news. He said, "Take nothing for the journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra tunic" (Luke 9:3). And then, he said, if you are not welcomed in a certain place, shake the dust off your feet and head on.

It's probably too great of a challenge to leave everything behind to

follow Jesus, but we can all let go of something. In her book, *Lent in Plain Sight*, Jill Duffield suggests that Lent can be a time to let go of emotions that weigh us down: "Guilt rarely moves us closer to the kingdom, neither does shame or vengeance or grudges. Maybe, just for a day, I could leave that bag of ill feelings toward someone at home and see what it is like to walk around the world without having to carry it, drag it, keep track of it."

How about you? What do you need to let go of today? What "dust" do you need to shake off? As you walk with Jesus, what will you do to lighten your load?

Walking with you,

*David*



## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for Vacation Bible School will open on Monday March 11. VBS this summer is June 24-27, 9-11:30 a.m. Please register early to help us plan, as Kristen will be on maternity leave for much of the time leading up to VBS!

### EASTER EGG HUNTS

Our kids Easter egg hunts will be Wednesday, March 20. We no longer stuff eggs with candy, but instead they hunt empty eggs and turn them in to get items at an "Easter store". We are asking for donations for our Easter store, which typically has anything from stuffed animals, candy, treats from the Dollar Tree or Five Below, etc. Donations can be dropped off in my office anytime.

## STUDENT NEWS

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

**SUNDAY, MARCH 10** - Small Groups/No Youth Choir

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13** - Student Gathering

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17** - Youth Choir and Small Groups

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20** - Student Gathering

**FRIDAY, MARCH 22-SATURDAY, MARCH 23** - Lock-in at FBC

### THE EDGE GATHERING FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14**

Financials with Janice Davis- FBC Rome, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**TUESDAY, MARCH 19**

Strengths with Tamara Smathers - FBC Rome, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**THURSDAY, APRIL 4**

Time Management with Berry/Winshape Student- FBC Rome, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

## HEALTH

### GROWING WHOLE, NOT OLD WORKSHOP

**SATURDAY APRIL 6TH FROM 8:30 AM TO 12:30 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

This workshop is sponsored by the Health Ministry Committee of FBC and will feature presentations by health professionals from many specialties. In addition, local health agencies will be present to showcase their products and services. Don't miss this humorous and informative program designed to address the special needs of senior adults including recommended screenings, vaccines, and tools to maximize healthy aging. The cost is \$20 per person which includes programming, lunch, workbook and community resources. Pre-Registration is open now through March 27. To register, please scan the QR Code.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Join us for this special service March 28 at 7 p.m. We will celebrate communion, hear the story of the last hours of Jesus and hear special music from the Sanctuary Choir. This is one of the most moving services of the year and helps prepare us for the joy of Easter.

### WALKING THE LABYRINTH

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, 6:15 P.M. ROOM 300**

Join us on Wednesday evenings as we dive deeper into the strengths of our children. Tamara Smathers, Stephanie Lewis, and Janie Hortman will meet with parents to share observations and develop what we learned at Family Strengths Camp. We will meet at 6:15 p.m. in room 300 in the Education Building, third floor.

## ADULT CHOICES

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SEMINARS

6:00-6:45 P.M.



### WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

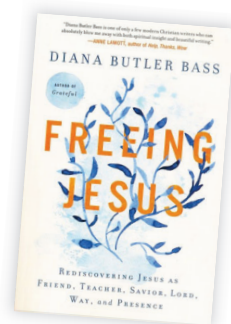
Led by our Pastor in the The Fellowship Hall

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.

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



## WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

### WOC BOOK CLUB

The Women of the Church Book Group meets Monday, March 18, at 1 p.m. in the Dining Room. They will meet for lunch at Bella Roma at 11:30 a.m. The book for this month is "The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell" by Robert Dugoni.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ROME

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

# WELCOME TO THE CHURCH FAMILY



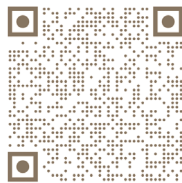
PLEASE WELCOME:  
Andrew and Ivy Kate  
Marchman

Also, please welcome new member June Barron!

## MISSIONS

### BRIDGES- GETTING AHEAD PROGRAM

As we continue with our 6th Getting Ahead Program, we are still in need of volunteers to provide meals and childcare every Thursday evening through the end of April. We invite you to consider how God might be calling you to be a part of impacting lives through the mission and ministry of Bridges. Thank you for your support and generosity towards the mission and ministry of Bridges. To learn more or if you would like to volunteer, please scan the QR Code or contact Keith Phillips or Alice Clements.



### BRIDGES RELAUNCH THANK YOU!

Thank you for attending the Bridges Out of Poverty event this past weekend. I hope that the information presented provided valuable insight into the challenge that poverty presents in our community.

In the coming weeks we will communicate further information about how you can engage to help with developing and implementing solutions to reduce poverty in Rome and Floyd County. In the interim, please feel free to contact Keith Phillips or Nick Georgian if you have any questions or suggestions.



### SPRING FORWARD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 9.

## SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, March 10, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory and happy heavenly birthday to William Thompson, husband, father and granddaddy by Nancy Thompson, Margaret and Jason Marion, Blythe and Archer.

The flowers in the Narthex and Sanctuary for March 17, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Adrena Delauder Losh by Chelsea, Bobby and Tripp Losh-Jones.

seeking His heart | Being His hands

March 9 - March 22

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Saturday, March 9

Minister on Call Tamara Smathers 706.266.7141  
Labyrinth in Gym

### Sunday, March 10

Labyrinth in Gym  
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, March 11

Women's Bible Study Group, D.R. 10:00 am  
Finance Committee, Conf. Rm. 12:00 pm  
Stephen Ministry, Conf. Rm. 1:30 pm  
First Baptist Ringers, Choir Suite 5:00 pm  
Deacons' Meeting, F.H. 5:30 pm

### Wednesday, March 13

Labyrinth in Gym  
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, March 14

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

### Friday, March 15

Labyrinth in Gym

### Saturday, March 16

Minister on Call Nick Georgian 706.766.0032  
Labyrinth in Gym

### Sunday, March 17

Labyrinth in Gym  
Adult Faith Formation, Conf. Rm. 8:30 am  
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, March 18

Women's Bible Study, D.R. 10:00 am  
Women of the Church Book Group, D.R. 1:00 pm  
Stephen Ministry, Conf. Rm. 1:00 pm  
First Baptist Ringers, Choir Suite 5:15 pm

### Wednesday, March 20

Labyrinth in Gym  
Properties Committee, Conf. Rm. 12:00 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, March 21

Labyrinth in Gym  
Weekday Preschool Out  
Bridges Out of Poverty, F.H. and Comm. Rm. 6:00 pm.

### Friday, March 22

Labyrinth in Gym

## THIS WEEK: MARCH 10

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT:

WANDERING HEART

SERMON: "Wandering Heart: Make Up Your Mind"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 16:21-23

ANTHEM: Beneath the Cross of Jesus...

arr. Albert Travis

SPECIAL MUSIC: Nancy Ratcliffe, solo

Tara Suswal, cello

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

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

### FAMILY NIGHT MENU

#### MARCH 13

Spinach Salad with Bacon, Chopped Eggs, Red Onion; Soups and Stews: Tortellini Minestrone, Seafood Gumbo, Brunswick Stew; Cornbread; Chocolate Chip Cookies

#### CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Grilled Cheese with Tomato Soup, Fresh Fruit, Chocolate Chip Cookies

MINISTER ON CALL:

Tamara Smathers 706.266.7141

## NEXT WEEK: MARCH 17

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT:

WANDERING HEART

SERMON: "Wandering Heart: Teach Me"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 18:15-22

ANTHEM: And Can It Be...arr. Dan Forrest

SPECIAL MUSIC: First Baptist Ringers

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:

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

### FAMILY NIGHT MENU

#### MARCH 20

Spinach Salad with Craisins, Walnuts, Apples and Blue Cheese; Chicken Monterey with Canadian Bacon, Sauce Mornay; Roasted Red Potatoes; Medley of Squashes; Mixed Berry Cobbler

#### CHILDREN'S OPTION:

Chicken Fingers, Pasta Salad,

Mixed Berry Cobbler

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

**GENE BOWERS**, one of our out-of-town Extended Family members, joined First Baptist with his wife, Adrian, on December 1, 1985. Gene lives at Magnolia Estates in Watkinsville, Georgia. Gene has served as a deacon, as a member of the Homebound Committee (now called the Extended Family Ministry Team), and was a member of the Dean's List Bible Study class. Gene continues to enjoy reading FBC Bible Study curricula, and watches our service via the internet each week. Gene continues to speak with fondness of his time in Rome and as an active member of FBC.



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

