

WELCOME!

We are honored you have joined us in worship. Please fill out the information request below and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or minister. We promise to use it only to contact you about our church.

This is my (our)...
 ___ First visit to First Baptist Church
 ___ Second (+) visit

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.
 ___ I would like to talk with a minister.
 ___ I would like to know how to become a Christian.
 ___ I am interested in becoming a member of First Baptist Church.
 ___ I am a guest of:

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

IT IS TIME TO NOMINATE DEACONS

Now is the time for everyone to nominate up to 14 individuals to be elected as new deacons. Please use the nomination forms that can be found at all sanctuary entrances. Forms can be submitted through the offering plate or via email to mduke@fbcrome.org. Election of deacons will take place on Sunday, August 4.

FELLOWSHIP HALL RENOVATIONS

We are making progress! The project comes with some temporary inconveniences, so please be patient. The Fellowship Hall is currently inaccessible. Our expected date of completion is May 31.

PRAYERS & REFLECTIONS - WALKING WITH JESUS

Wednesdays, May 15 - June 12 | Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Join us this Wednesday in the Chapel for a time of prayers and reflections led by Tamara Smathers. A light lunch will follow in the Dining Room. Guests are welcomed.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 24 - 27 | 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Use the church website to register your child early to help us prepare for this special time of learning for our children and their friends and neighbors.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 19
 8:30 a.m. Extended Family Ministry Team - Conference Room
 9:45 a.m. Bible Study
 11:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 20
 10:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Study Garden Party - Courtyard
 1:00 p.m. Women of the Church Book Group - Dining Room
 5:45 p.m. Committee on Committees - Conference Room

Wednesday, May 22
 12:00 p.m. Prayers & Reflections - Chapel
 5:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Hazel Hay Dowd, Doris Dellinger Dowd and Edward Dowd by their children.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Stevens, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Stevens, Jr. by the Charles Stevens family and the Jon Albrecht family.

WHAT DOES GOD ASK OF US?

MICAH 6:8

DO
justice

LOVE
kindness

WALK
humbly
WITH YOUR
GOD

PENTECOST SUNDAY
 THE ORDINATION OF GWEN STEPHENS
 TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

MAY 19, 2024 11:00 A.M.

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ORGAN CALL TO WORSHIP “Lord Jesus Christ with Us Abide”... J. S. Bach

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE (based on Romans 8:26-37) David Brooks
 Gracious God, pour your Spirit into our hearts, that we would worship today with all our hearts, that our lives would be transformed by your power, and that we would carry your joy from this place into all the world.

To you we give our honor and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen!

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 1 “Holy, Holy, Holy”

A CALL TO CONFESSION “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”...arr. Eric Thiman
 Keith Reaves, soloist

A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS NO. 60 (Stanza 3) “Like a River Glorious”

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE Micah 6:6-8 and Philippians 3:12-14
Heather Shores, Ordination Council, reader

6“With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
7Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of
oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of
my soul?”8He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of
you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

12Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press
on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13Beloved, I do not
consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies
behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14I press on towards the goal for the
prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 704)
(Children ages through fourth grade may depart for Children’s Worship.)
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER (with the Lord’s Prayer) Tamara Tillman Smathers
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.

SPECIAL MUSIC Sanctuary Choir
“To Love Our God”....arr. Mark Hayes
(The text to this anthem is adapted from Ecclesiastes 1 and 12.)
Where does the wind come from? Where does it go?
Blowing north then south, how does it know?
The rain flows gently to the sea, yet the sea is never full.
How can these things be? How can they be?
Humanity works hard to make a name, Toiling in the sun, yet nothing gained.
We all return to dust from whence we came.
All is empty, all is vain.
To love our God, the reason we live; To love our God, the highest call.
Nothing satisfies our soul, gives life meaning, makes us whole,
For this purpose we were made: To love our God.

SERMON David Brooks
“To Walk Humbly with God”

DECLARATIONS OF THE CANDIDATE AND CONGREGATION
Pastor: Who is your Lord?
Candidate: Jesus Christ.
Pastor: Are you persuaded that God has called you to be an ordained minister of the
church, and do you pledge to love the church and serve faithfully in it?
Candidate: I will, with God’s help.

Pastor: Do you embrace the Baptist distinctives of soul competency, local church
autonomy, religious freedom, and the Bible as our trusted and authoritative guide in
matters of faith and practice?
Candidate: I do.
Pastor: Will you seek the heart of Christ through diligence in your private prayers
and in reading the Scriptures? Will you also demonstrate that heart in the public
responsibilities of your ministry?

Candidate: I will, with God’s help.
Pastor: Will you be the hands of Christ by regarding all people with equal love and
concern and undertake to minister impartially to the needs of all?
Candidate: I will, with God’s help.
Pastor: Will you seek to serve with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Candidate: I will, with God’s help.
Pastor: (to congregation) Hearing these promises, will you affirm and accept Gwen as an
ordained minister of the Gospel?
People: We will, with God’s help. We also pledge our love and offer our
prayers that together we may glorify God and make Christ known in the
world.

Pastor: Recognizing that we are one body in Christ and having promised our mutual
encouragement before a holy God, let us daily seek God’s guidance as we do the work
to which we all have been called.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

ORDINATION PRAYER Dr. Joel Snider, Pastor Emeritus

HYMN OF CELEBRATION (see insert) “Fully Gifted, Fully Chosen”
This hymn was commissioned in honor of Gwen Stephens, by the ministers of First Baptist Church..

RESPONSE OF THE CANDIDATE

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 482 “Here I Am, Lord”
(Those desiring to join the church, to make a public profession of faith, or to share other decisions
may come forward during the singing of this hymn.)

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP Rev. John Uldrick, Ordination Council

PIANO OFFERTORY “I Surrender All” (in the setting of Beethoven’s “Pathetique”)....arr. Cindy Berry

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS/PRESENTATIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING

HYMN OF COMMISSIONING NO. 68 “He Leadeth Me”
He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate’er I do, where’er I be, still ‘tis God’s hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, He leadeth me, By His own hand He leadeth me:
His faithful follower I would be, for by His hand He leadeth me.

ORGAN POSTLUDE “How Firm a Foundation”....arr. Jason Payne

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
(currently on family leave)

Gwen Stephens Minister to Extended Family

Nick Georgian Minister to Students and Missions
(currently on family leave)

Joan Hill, Organist Beverly Harris, Pianist