#SPIRE

Volume 61 · No. 6 · March 21, 2014





communitykitchen

Volunteers needed for Community Kitchen

FBC serves the Community Kitchen one week each month. FBC's week begins on the fourth Monday of each month. March 24- 28th is our week and we are searching for a 'new' list of volunteers. Can you help? Contact John in the office if you have questions or email Karen to sign up to help! We need volunteers so that we can continue to support this vital ministry well. Will you join us?

FROM OUR PASTOR

Recently I was engaged in a conversation with a group of pastors about holiday weekends. How many would you estimate occur in the course of a year? One pastor had counted traditional holidays, plus the weekends on the front and back ends of fall breaks, spring breaks, and every other kind of break scheduled into a school year. With multiple school systems in his area, he counted twenty-two holiday weekends a year. I have not counted the number for Rome and Floyd County, but I guess that twenty-two is a good starting point. I know that almost every weekend in March is associated with the spring break of at least one school system. In our mobile society, the number of holiday weekends is a large factor in who is present on Sunday morning. Add to those weekends the number of weekends taken up by traveling sports teams, season tickets for football teams, and other conflicts, and the base number of Sundays when a family might be present is greatly reduced.

So, you may ask, am I suggesting that no one travel, participate in sports, or go to football games? Of course not. But I would encourage you to consider these trends in the life of the church:

- It is harder to recruit leaders of any kind because everyone wants to be free to travel. Few people want to be tied down, even to an important commitment.
- The number of Sundays on which to worship and to train our children in matters of faith may be far fewer that we thought.

• Offerings tend to be very uneven, increasing and decreasing with attendance. Support of missions and ministry is much more even and consistent.

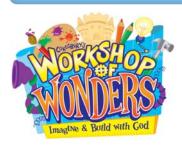
Perhaps it would be a good week to thank the leaders of your own Bible Study for their presence and commitment. Their regular preparation is a gift to the class you are involved in. The same would be doubly true if you have children in the home. Their teachers are vitally important. Consider more closely decisions about church participation on the Sundays available to you. How many hours in a year are your children exposed to faith instruction? Is it enough to instill the faith in them you hope they will have? How are you intentionally compensating at home for the decrease in their participation?

These are important questions, that have nothing to do with attendance numbers. They do speak to appreciation for those committed to the tasks of leading us and the children in this congregation. They also speak to how we maintain the strength of our faith when we are separated from regular participation in worship and Bible Study. I would be interested to hear your perceptions on other ways these trends have an impact on your lives personally.





CHILDREN'S CORNER



"WORKSHOP OF WONDERS -VBS 2014!"

JUNE 9-13 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Mark your calendars now and plan to participate! (Online registration begins April 1)

TLC TRAINING*

SUNDAY, MARCH 23 AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE DINING ROOM

Training for ALL volunteers who serve with our preschoolers during Sunday morning 11:00 Worship. (Childcare provided - no reservation needed.)

*Training is Important— we need to share the same information about the nurture and safety or our preschoolers!

WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

Would you like to learn more about our Weekday Preschool program? Do you know someone who could benefit from a top notch early learning experience? Please come and visit on Monday, March 24, from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Drop in to see the Tumblebus, our classrooms, and staff in action and see why the Weekday Preschool has been around for over 45 years! Please email mwood@fbcrome.org or call 706-295-1150 with questions. We look forward to seeing you on March 24!

YOUTH NEWS

SUNDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

March 30th from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP MEETING

Sunday, April 27th - Noon

Lunch gathering for those attending the DR Mission Trip. Jack Wehmiller joins us to discuss many more of the details of our trip. Remember to continue to acquire Passports and shots recommended for the trip!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY WEEK EVENTS:

April 13: Palm Sunday

April 14-16: Community Holy Week Services

at First United Methodist (daily at noon)

April 17: Maundy Thursday Service; Communion and Special Music

by the Sanctuary Choir

New Member Luncheon Invitations have been mailed out:

Welcome to First Baptist Church!

Please join us for a New Member Luncheon Sunday, April 13th 12:00 p.m. (immediately following Worship) FBC Dining Room

Learn more about FBC, our ministries, and ways to be involved Includes a "Behind the Scenes" tour!

Please confirm by contacting Debbye Akins at dakins@fbcrome.org

or by calling the church office at 706.291.6850

RSVP by Wednesday, April 9th

MISSIONS NEWS

SAVE THE DATE! HANDS OF CHRIST DAY - APRIL 12TH

Breakfast in Fellowship Hall at 8:00 a.m. Work projects will start after 8:30 a.m. Sign up for a work project through your Bible Study class. Members may also call the church office to sign up.

\$5 CHALLENGE FOR MISSIONS

During the month of March, we have challenged each church member to be the Hands of Christ and expand Christ's love. The challenge will be to take the seed money you've received and creatively decide how you might be the hands of Christ by serving your neighbor nearby or faraway. Maybe you'll pool it together with others and purchase something that will feed a village. Maybe you'll purchase umbrellas to hand out to folks you run across in a rainstorm. Maybe you'll invest it in the life of a student who ends up being called into Ministry as a Missionary! Dream big and then share those stories with us from now thru Hands of Christ weekend, April 12 & 13th!

EASTER FLOWERS

If you wish to donate flowers for Easter in honor of loved ones or as a memorial please fill out the form below. Cost per plant is \$10.50.

Make check payable to the *FBC Flower Fund* and mail to First Baptist Church Attn: Karen Garrett, P.O. Box 1189, Rome, GA 30162 or drop off at the church office. The deadline for placing your order is Friday, April 11. Thank you for your order.

NAME			
ADDRESS			
PHONE		NUMBER OF PLANTS	
IN MEMORY OF	IN HONOR OF	IN HONOR OF	





MARCH 22 - APRIL

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT AT 6:20 P.M.

- God's Last Words And Ours In the remaining weeks of Lent, we will explore the "seven last words" of Christ from his cross. A 15 minute meditation will explore each phrase, followed by a 15 minute exercise inviting each of us to consider the meaning of that "word" for our living (and dying) well. Dr. Doug Dickens will lead these sessions in the Chapel.
- How the Reformation Re-shaped France Those who love history, and those who will soon travel to France, will find this to be helpful in their preparation. Brian Inman will be teaching each week in the Dining Room

SUNDAY FLOWERS

Flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, March 23, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the birthday of James Henry Williams on March 27 and in honor of the birthday of Nell Gilreath Williams on March 28 by their daughters Pam Williams Leonard and Kay Williams New.

Flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, March 23, are given to the glory of God and in honor of Wydelle Clark on the occasion of her birthday by Kathy and Larry Osborn and Family.

Flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, March 30, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harry Ruland by Millie Ruland, Hal and Debbie Ruland, Dan and Judy Roebuck.

Year-to-Date:	
Ministry Support Needed	\$826,171.31
Support Received	\$825,648.07
CBF Global Missions	\$28,554.50
World Vision, Meals & More	
and CBF World Hunger Relief	\$1,763.00
"We're Here for Good" Contributions	\$425,316.38
2013–2014 Total Budget Commitments to Date	\$1,279,744.00
"We're Here for Good" Pledges to Date	\$692,246.00

Seeking His heart | Being His hands

Saturday, March 22 Minister on Call Joe	l Snider 706.235.7099
Sunday, March 23 (3rd Sunday in L	ent)
Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am
Bible Study (all ages)	9:45 am
Worship - Comcast Channel 62	11:00 am
Parent/Baby Dedication	
Food on the Fourth, DR	12:00 pm
Youth Return from March Mission Mac	
Bible Skills, Drills & Thrills	5:00 pm
TLC Training, DR	5:00 pm
No Youth Evening Activities	
Monday, March 24	
Rejuvenate, DR	8:30 pm
Women's Bible Study, DR	10:00 am
No First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal	
Tuesday, March 25	
FBC Serves Community Kitchen	
Chick-Fil-A Devotions (Youth & Child	
Younger Women's Bible Study, Conf.Rr	
Meals & More, First Christian Church	3:00 pm
Committee on Committees, Comm.Rn	n. 5:30 pm
Wednesday, March 26	
FBC Serves Community Kitchen	
Lavender Mtn. Quilting Guild, Comm	
First Choice Dinner, FH	5:00 pm
Rejuvenate Too, 3rd Flr. Education	5:00 pm
Youth Gathering, YR	5:45 pm
Children's Choirs	5:45 pm
Prayer Time, FH	6:00 pm
Youth Worship, YR Adult Choices	6:15 pm 6:20 pm
fbc.com & Mission Friends	6:30 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite	
Thursday, March 27	F
FBC Serves Community Kitchen	
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Friday, March 28 FBC Serves Community Kitchen	
Saturday, March 29	

John Uldrick 706.766.0430 Minister on Call

Sunday, March 30	(4th Sunday in	Lent / World Hunger
Scrap Iron Broadcast	(WLAQ 1410)	9:00 am

Bible Study (all ages) 9:45 am Family Worship - Comcast Channel 62 11:00 am Bible Skills, Drills & Thrills 5:00 pm Youth Social, Offsite 5:00 pm

Monday, March 31

Rejuvenate, DR 8:30 pm Women's Bible Study, DR 10:00 am 5:15 pm First Baptist Ringers

Tuesday, April 1

Chick-Fil-A Devotions (Youth & Children) 7:00 am Roundtable Book Group, DR 10:30 am Younger Women's Bible Study, Conf.Rm. 11:30 am

5:00 pm
5:00 pm
5:45 pm
5:45 pm
6:00 pm
6:15 pm
6:15 pm
6:20 pm
6:30 pm

6:30 pm

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite

THIS WEEK: MARCH 23

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERMON: The Call of Abraham PREACHER: Dr. Joel Snider SCRIPTURE: Genesis 12:1-4

ANTHEM: Lest I Forget Thy Love...

arr. Craig Courtney

DEDICATION OF ADDIE KATE COX

TLC VOLUNTEERS:

BED BABIES: Bridget & Jarrett Gray1'S: Daphne & Brandon Johnson and Ashley & Jack Smith2'S & 3'S: Kelly & Jason Sanker

4'S: Doug Dickens

Beef & Macaroni

FIRST CHOICE MENU
MARCH 26
Chicken Monterey
CHILDREN'S OPTION

MINISTER ON CALL: Joel Snider 706.235.7099

ESPIRE

PARENT-BABY DEDICATION FOR CALLIE GRACE TERRY

Pictured with Joel are parents, Christian & Kate Terry



PLANNING AHEAD FOR EASTER

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

As you make your family Easter plans, please include a few First Baptist Church traditions:

- Church wide breakfast, prepared by Chef Greg, beginning at 8:30 a.m.
- Flowering of the Cross in the Courtyard
- Family Photos in the Courtyard
- Bible Study, followed by an uplifting celebration through worship

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

MARCH 21-22
March Mission Madness

APRIL 12-13
Hands of Christ Weekend

APRIL 13
Palm Sunday

APRIL 15
Lion King at the Fox

APRIL 17
Maundy Thursday Service

APRIL 20 Easter Sunday

NEXT WEEK: MARCH 30

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: Water from the Rock PREACHER: Dr. Joel Snider SCRIPTURE: Exodus 17:1-7

ANTHEM: There is a Fountain...arr. Howard Helvey

SOLO: Susan Bradshaw TLC VOLUNTEERS:

BED BABIES: Jimmye Grimes and Merrill Davies 1'S: Ann Bradfield and Mary & Lee Donahue 2'S & 3'S: Ann Paige Wilson, Gracen Wilson and

Terri Howell

4'S: Jessica & Brooke Brinson

FIRST CHOICE MENU APRIL 2 "ITALIAN"

Bow Tie Pasta with Shrimp & Pesto

CHILDREN'S OPTION

Spaghetti & Meatballs

MINISTER ON CALL: John Uldrick 706.766.0430

Please visit us for more information: www.fbcrome.org

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