



**Sunday, December 7**

**4:30 p.m. in the  
Sanctuary**

*featuring:*

**Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra**

**First Baptist Ringers**

**Children's Choir**  
(grades 2-5)

**Youth Choir**  
(grades 6-12)

*Nursery care is provided for children  
aged 4 and under*

## FROM OUR PASTOR

### Beyond Giving Thanks

Thanksgiving is upon us. Next Thursday, most of us will gather around tables to give thanks and to eat until we are stuffed. But this year, Thanksgiving has arrived with an elevated awareness of the real struggles that some of our fellow citizens are facing as they do their best to put food on the table. We are all aware of the effects that inflation and the recent government shutdown have had on food supplies, SNAP benefits for those who need them, and other living expenses. Neighbors and families are facing real hardship this Thanksgiving — some of them within our own congregation.

So, what do we do? The example of Jesus is always there for us. In John 6:11, we see Jesus giving thanks over a few loaves of bread and some sardines before the famous miracle happened. He recognized the source of the food and gave thanks to his Father. But coupled with his expression of gratitude was an act of generosity. His gratitude wasn't

passive; it was active. After giving thanks, he shared what he had, and abundance flowed.

This is the kind of gratitude we are called to — one that moves beyond words. The gratitude that Jesus modeled for us is lived out when we reach out to those in need, offering our time, our resources, our prayers. It's volunteering at the food pantry, serving at the Community Kitchen, checking in on a neighbor, donating to the Davies Shelter and other mission partners, or simply listening with compassion. It is walking with someone who is afraid, excluded, lonely, or worried.

This Thanksgiving, let us give thanks not only in our hearts, but with our hands and with our generosity. Let our gratitude become the grace of God in action, blessing others as we ourselves have been blessed.

Grateful for you,

*David*

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR CHRISTMAS PARTIES!

Kids Cool Yule (birth-4th grade) is on Saturday, December 6, from 9 a.m. - noon at the church.

Collide Christmas party (5th-7th grade) at Kristen Mathis' house Saturday, December 13, 5 - 7 p.m.

### INTERESTED IN BAPTISM?

The next baptism date in worship is Sunday, December 28! If your child has been talking about making a profession of faith, please reach out to Kristen Mathis to set up a time to talk.

## STUDENT NEWS

### THANKSGIVING SERVE DAY – NOVEMBER 24

The youth will volunteer at Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries on Monday, November 24, from 10:00 a.m. until noon. We will go to lunch after and be back to the church by 1:30 p.m. If you are planning to go to serve and/or to lunch, please let April Lucas know ASAP.



## STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

- **GREG PAULSON, CHEF** – 16 years on December 2

We celebrate with Greg and give thanks for all he does in service to God and our congregation.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THANKSGIVING OFFERING BENEFITS NWGA HUNGER MINISTRIES

This year, the Thanksgiving offering taken during our Thanksgiving service (6:15 p.m. on November 23) will benefit the Northwest Georgia Hunger Ministries. Our Missions Committee has committed to matching that donation up to \$2,500. We continue to be overwhelmed by the generosity of FBC Rome!

### WELCOMING ADVENT CELEBRATION

Join us during the Sunday School hour (9:45 a.m.) on November 30 for an Advent Celebration in the Fellowship Hall. Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, coffee, and orange juice will be provided. This family friendly event will include making Advent wreaths. All nursery, children, youth, and adult Sunday School classes will join! Gwen Stephens will teach in the Chapel for those who would prefer a traditional Sunday School lesson.

### SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Our Christmas luncheon is Thursday, December 4, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a delicious meal and entertainment by David Milford (brother of Beverly Harris) and Jimmy Gentry. Cost is \$10. Please make reservations in the church office no later than Monday, December 1.

### THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

December 21 is the longest night of the year. This special service at 5 p.m. will be a part of our annual time to observe communion just before Christmas. The service is offered especially for those hurting during the holidays and for those who care about the pain others are experiencing. It is a service that we believe everyone can find comforting and encouraging. Please note that the service starts at 5 p.m. and will include communion; it will not be a come-and-go event for communion only as we have done in past years.

### CELEBRATING MELINDA DUKE

Melinda Duke is retiring at the end of this year. We will celebrate her 12+ years of service to FBC on Wednesday, December 10, in the Fellowship Hall after Family Night Supper. There will be a basket to collect your cards and well wishes!

### DINNER WITH FRIENDS – COMING SOON!

Save the Date for our Dinner with Friends kickoff on January 25. Details will be released soon regarding signup deadlines for our next Dinner with Friends program.

### JOIN THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Interested in knitting? Have you always wanted to learn? No matter your skill level, you are welcome to join the prayer shawl ministry! The next meeting will be from 1 to 3 p.m. on December 2, at Sandra Gibson-Hester's home.



# WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

## DECORATE CHRISTMAS COOKIES WITH US!

On Wednesday, December 17, women of the church will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a fun night of Christmas cookie decorating from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$25/person. The deadline to register is December 8. Light refreshments will be provided.



## NEW MEMBER

Laura Downs  
joined October 10  
by  
Transfer of Letter.



### MYLEE ANN HANCOCK'S LIFE VERSE:

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Jeremiah 29:11

## SUNDAY FLOWERS

Flowers in the Narthex and Sanctuary for November 23, are given to the glory of God through the Jo Huffman Flower Fund.

Flowers in the Narthex for November 30, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John Byron Reeves by the Reeves family.

Flowers in the Sanctuary for November 30, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ralph Keith on the occasion of his birthday by Chris and Jennie Cook.

November 22 - December 5

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Sunday, November 23

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ AM 1410)      | 9:00 am  |
| Bible Study                              | 9:45 am  |
| Worship                                  | 11:00 am |
| Available on: FBC Website                |          |
| YouTube Channel                          |          |
| Comcast Channel 44 (delayed by one week) |          |
| Youth Choir Rehearsal, Choir Suite       | 12:00 pm |
| Thanksgiving Dinner, F.H.                | 5:00 pm  |
| Thanksgiving Service, Sanctuary          | 6:15 pm  |

### Monday, November 24 - Thursday, November 27

Weekday Preschool Thanksgiving Break

### Monday, November 24

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Women's Bible Study, D.R.                    | 10:00 am |
| Youth serves NWGA Hunger Ministries          | 10:00 am |
| First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal, Choir Suite | 5:15 pm  |

### Tuesday, November 25

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Stephen Ministry Training, Conf. Rm. | 3:00 pm |
|--------------------------------------|---------|

### Wednesday, November 26

FBC Serves Community Kitchen  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON  
FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

### Thursday, November 27 - Friday, November 28

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR  
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

### Sunday, November 30

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Scrap Iron Broadcast (WLAQ AM 1410)      | 9:00 am  |
| Bible Study in Chapel                    | 9:45 am  |
| Welcoming Advent Celebratio, F.H.        | 9:45 am  |
| Worship                                  | 11:00 am |
| Available on: FBC Website                |          |
| YouTube Channel                          |          |
| Comcast Channel 44 (delayed by one week) |          |

### Monday, December 1

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Women's Bible Study, D.R.                    | 10:00 am |
| First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal, Choir Suite | 5:15 pm  |

### Tuesday, December 2

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Stephen Ministry Training, Conf. Rm. | 3:00 pm |
|--------------------------------------|---------|

### Wednesday, December 3

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Weekday Preschool Chapel, Sanctuary         | 9:50 am |
| Family Night Dinner, F.H.                   | 5:00 pm |
| Extended Family Ministry, Conf. Rm.         | 5:30 pm |
| Older Children's Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary | 5:45 pm |
| First Baptist Ringers Rehearsal, Sanctuary  | 5:45 pm |
| Student Discipleship, Student Rm.           | 5:45 pm |
| Adult Bible Study, F.H. & Comm. Rm.         | 6:00 pm |
| Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary        | 6:00 pm |
| Youth Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary            | 6:00 pm |
| Orchestra Rehearsal, Sanctuary              | 6:00 pm |
| Children's and Collide Missions             | 6:30 pm |

## THIS WEEK: NOVEMBER 23

SUNDAY WORSHIP  
PLEDGE SUNDAY  
WORSHIP SERIES: *In God We Trust*  
SERMON: "Trust God with Every Day"  
PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks  
SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 6:25-33  
ANTHEM: *Seek First the Kingdom*  
...arr. Mary McDonald  
SPECIAL MUSIC: *First Baptist Ringers*

EVENING SERVICE AT 6:15 P.M.  
SPECIAL MUSIC: *Mary Donahue*

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:  
<https://fbcrome.com/orders-of-worship/>

FAMILY NIGHT MENU  
**NOVEMBER 26**  
**NO DINNER/THANKSGIVING WEEK**

WEEKEND MINISTER ON CALL (NOVEMBER 21 - 22):  
**Keith Reaves 706.506.9948**

## NEXT WEEK: NOVEMBER 30

SUNDAY WORSHIP  
FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
WORSHIP SERIES: *Symbols of the Savior*  
SERMON: "Hope that Holds"  
PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks  
SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 6:13-20  
ANTHEM: *Climb to the Top of the*  
*Highest Mountai...Carolyn Jennings*

ACCESS THE ORDER OF WORSHIP EACH WEEK AT:  
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FAMILY NIGHT MENU  
**DECEMBER 3**  
Caesar Salad, Spaghetti with Marinara Sauce and Meatballs, Garlic Bread, Tiramisu  
Children's Option: Spaghetti with Marinara Sauce and Meatballs, Chocolate Pudding

WEEKEND MINISTER ON CALL (NOVEMBER 28 - 29):  
**David Brooks 252.916.7174**

# THE SPIRE

## SUNDAY SERVICES

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

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who donated board books during our October drive. Together, we collected more than 150 books for the Family Resource Center!



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

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