

prayers & reflections

WEDNESDAYS: MAY 6 - JUNE 10
NOON | FELLOWSHIP HALL

lunch is served at noon followed by a time of prayer and reflection

MAY 6 - DAVID BROOKS
MAY 13 - GWEN STEPHENS
MAY 20 - SUZANNE REECE
MAY 27 - MIRIAM PETERSON
JUNE 3 - KRISTEN MATHIS
JUNE 10 - JOHN BISHOP



FROM OUR PASTOR

Let's Get Started

Do you remember Jesus' Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25? Before leaving on a journey, a man entrusted his talents (a form of currency, not a skill or ability) to his servants. To one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one. The servants with five and two talents immediately invested those talents, but the servant with one talent hesitated. He buried his talent and sat on it. When the property owner returned, the one-talent servant was regarded as unfaithful.

I wonder what kept that servant from acting and doing something with that talent. I don't know for sure, but perhaps he was a procrastinator. He knew he needed to act, but he kept putting it off.

Chances are, you have your own struggles with procrastination, just like that servant and just like me. Right now, there is something that you need to do, but you are hesitating: a conversation you need to have, a project you need to start, a problem you need to address, a habit you need to change. To get these things done would help you and others so much. But you are procrastinating.

If you find yourself delaying and putting off what you need to do, I encourage you to pray about it. Ask God to help you face the challenges or fears that are holding you back. Then, take a simple step to begin. Just the act of getting underway can often be the greatest challenge. The ancient Roman poet, Horace, recognized this truth when he wrote, "The one who has begun has the work half done."

What do you need to do today? Whatever it is, take a small step, then another, and another. Ask God to help you. Get underway and take the pressure off yourself, trusting that you are halfway to being finished!

On your mark...get set...go!

Your pastor and friend,

David

FROM KEITH REAVES

A MESSAGE FROM KEITH REAVES

April 26 will forever be one of the most memorable days of my life. Here are a few reasons:

I - Incredible outpouring of love and support

M - Music from the choir, orchestra, guest soloists, Beverly Harris, Kim Tunnell and the congregation

M - Message from Joel Snider and the participation from so many other friends in worship. Having extended family from Arkansas here was so welcomed and appreciated. The work of David Brooks and the Celebration Team made the day special.

A - Attendance at worship (it felt like Easter and Christmas Eve combined!) made the singing from the largest choir in the room (you, the congregation!) even more meaningful and worshipful

N - Never-ending line at the reception and never-ending delicious food and hospitality with reflections and memories and kind words of support from the hundreds of you who took the time to come back in the afternoon

U - Ultimate. Special thanks to the Sanctuary Choir. The final pages of "The Awakening" left me with a musical and spiritual high I have rarely felt. I will not forget how special that moment was that we shared together.

E - Every handwritten note and card will be cherished over and over and over

L - Love Offering. Your generous gifts of money, time and a trip to the US Open in New York City in September were so surprising and appreciated.

Finally, let me assure you of my continued prayer for you, for the church, the Search Committee and the person God will lead to take over this role as our (and my) Minister of Worship/Music. I'll be back!

Keith

SUNDAY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, May 10, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William and Alice Davies and John and Etsie Johnson by the Davies family.

The flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday, May 10, are given to the glory of God and in honor of Barbara Crowe on the occasion of their wedding anniversary by Art Crowe.

The flowers in the Narthex for Sunday, May 17, 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 for Sunday, May 17, 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER OF THE GOSPELS

Let's spend some time this summer wading around in the Gospels. We'll read the Gospels together throughout June, July, and August. There will be reading plans, reflection experiences, and discussion opportunities. How might our lives be impacted if we spend these three months reading and exploring the teachings and truth of the Gospels? Author Annie F. Downs says, "You don't have to read the Gospels every day to be changed, but every day you read the Gospels will change you." Let's join together as a congregation and commit to reading the Gospels this summer. Stay tuned for a reading plan, as well as dates for discussion. Also, there will be options for listening to the Gospels daily if that's a better option for you.

WELCOME TO BILL AND LINDA ADCOCK

We are excited to welcome Bill Adcock, and his wife Linda to FBC Rome! Bill is joining our staff as the Interim Minister of Worship. He brings with him 45 years of experience in music ministry. Bill is a graduate of the University of Tennessee with a Bachelor of Science in Music Education and a Master of Science in Social Work. He also has a Masters in Church Music and Music Education



from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. In 2022, Bill and Linda moved to Powder Springs, Georgia from Louisville, Kentucky, to be closer to their children, Amanda and Jenny, and their families. Bill and Linda have three grandchildren, ages 14, 12, and 11.

Bill and his daughter, Jenny, are both licensed Clinical Social Workers and have a private behavioral health practice in Marietta.

Welcome, Bill and Linda, we are so excited to have you on board!

CHILDREN'S CORNER

PARENTAL LEAVE CONTACT

With Kristen Mathis on parental leave through May 25, please send any questions/concerns to Children's Committee Chair Amber West. Her number is 770-608-3176.

REGISTER TODAY FOR VBS

It's time to register for VBS! **This year, the registration link not only allows you to register your child, but as a volunteer as well!** Please scan the QR code to register or find the link in your e-Spire or on the website.



STUDENT NEWS

MISSION IMMERSION TRIP TO IMMOKALEE, FLA.

Begin praying now for those planning to travel to Immokalee June 1-6 for a hands-on missions experience. Pray for safety and for all those involved. Pray also for the mission and ministry of Cultivate Abundance led by our CBF Global Mission Personnel, Rick and Ellen Burnette. Cultivate Abundance is working daily to address the food insecurity of Immokalee's farm workers. Their work is year-round as they grow, collect, and share nutritious food and seek to provide for the individuals and families they serve. Finally, pray for the hearts and minds of each person to be open to experience not only the work and mission of Cultivate Abundance, but to be open to the work and movement of God in their lives.

MISSIONS

JOIN THE RUBLE-WHITWORTH MISSION GROUP

The Ruble-Whitworth Missions Group will host Cason and Ross White serving through Youth With A Mission organization in Tajikistan, by Zoom connection on Monday, May 11, at 11:30 a.m. in the Dining Room of the church. You are invited to attend. For Zoom connection, contact Merrill Davies or Jan Hardeman.

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY NEEDS YOUR HELP

Bridges will host a success coach information session in preparation to provide coaches for the graduates of the current Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World program. Graduation for this cohort will be May 14 and we try to get all the coaches to attend. After the graduation ceremony is complete we introduce each coach to the graduate they have been assigned to. The information session is scheduled for Saturday, May 9, from 10 - 11 a.m. in the FBC dining room. Please contact Keith Phillips with any questions or interest.

MAY MISSION PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

Throughout the month of May, we will be highlighting the work and ministry of the William S. Davies Homeless Shelters. The men's shelter houses up to 16 men at a time, and the women's shelter houses up to 8 single women or 4 women with children. The Davies Shelter has a new director, Matt Stacy, who recently joined the shelters as the Executive Director in February of this year. The Davies Shelters seek to provide restoration and hope through the experience of shared community. Pray for Matt as he leads and for all those who are currently living in one of the Davies shelters.

Volunteer Opportunity!

We need new and additional volunteers to help in the Church Office. Call 706.291.6850 to sign up.

May 9 - May 22

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, May 9

Bridges Out of Poverty Information 10:00 am
Session for Success Coaching, D.R.

Sunday, May 10

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)

Monday, May 11

Weekday Preschool End of Year Parties
Women's Bible Study, D.R. 10:00 am
Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group, D.R. 11:30 am
Finance Committee, Conf. Rm. 12:00 pm
Deacons' Supper & Meeting, F.H. 5:30 pm

Tuesday, May 12

Weekday Preschool Graduation, Sanctuary 12:00 pm

Wednesday, May 13

Weekday Preschool End of Year Parties
Prayers & Reflections, F.H. 12:00 pm

Thursday, May 14

Bridges Out of Poverty Graduation
Weekday Preschool Last Day

Sunday, May 17

Adult Faith Formation Committee, Conf. Rm. 8:30 am
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)

Dinner with Friends Celebration Dinner, F.H. 5:00 pm

Monday, May 18

Women's Bible Study, D.R. 10:00 am
Missions Committee, Conf. Rm. 12:00 pm
Personnel Committee, D.R. 12:00 pm
Women of the Church Book Group, 1:00 pm
Comm. Rm.

Wednesday, May 20

Prayers & Reflections, F.H. 12:00 pm

THIS WEEK: MAY 10

SUNDAY WORSHIP

MOTHER'S DAY

SERMON: "Family Net-working"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 4:18-22

ANTHEM: The Majesty and Glory

PRAYERS & REFLECTIONS

MAY 13 at Noon | Fellowship Hall

BLT Club Sandwiches, Pickle, Potato Chips,
Potato Salad, Brownies

FRIDAY/SATURDAY MINISTER ON CALL (MAY 8 - 9):
Gwen Stephens 706.509.2003

NEXT WEEK: MAY 17

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERMON: "Thanks and Yes"

PREACHER: Rev. David Brooks

SCRIPTURE: ECCLESIASTES 3:1-14A

ANTHEM: Great is Thy Faithfulness

PRAYERS & REFLECTIONS

May 20 at Noon Fellowship Hall

Quiche Lorraine, Fresh Fruit Salad, Spinach
Salad, Blueberry Muffins, Keylime Pie

FRIDAY/SATURDAY MINISTER ON CALL (MAY 15 - 16):
David Brooks 706.509.2003

THE SPIRE

SUNDAY SERVICES

BROADCAST ON
COMCAST CHANNEL 44 AND
VIA WWW.FBCROME.ORG

EXTENDED FAMILY

Hildred Thompson is a cherished Extended Family member, who joined FBC Rome almost 40 years ago. This summer, Hildred will celebrate her 100th birthday. She is a wonderful woman of faith with a sharp wit and humor that is unmatched.



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

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