

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

DR. CHARLES E. POOLE

We welcome Dr. Chuck Poole to First Baptist Church today. Chuck has been with us this weekend for our churchwide retreat. He has guided us in thinking about “The Difference Jesus Makes” in our hearts and lives. Chuck is a retired pastor having served churches in Georgia; North Carolina; Washington, DC; and Mississippi for 45 years. Chuck has authored nine books, countless articles, a gospel song, and the lyrics to three hymns. He currently serves on the staff of Together for Hope where he continues his efforts toward justice, inclusion, compassion, and service. Chuck and his wife, Marcia, currently reside in Birmingham, Alabama. They are the proud parents of two adult children and grandparents of ten cherished grandchildren.

YOUTH ULTIMATE BOWLING & LASER TAG | SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Come hang, bowl and team up in laser tag! We will gather at 10:30 a.m. in the church parking lot before heading to Woodstock by 11:00 a.m. Sign up with John Bishop. Cost is \$35 per person.

DEACON ORDINATION | 11:00 A.M. | NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

SENIOR ADULT TRIP TO FORT PAYNE | THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Our Senior Adult ministry is headed to Alabama! Please join us for a day trip to remember! The cost is \$25. We will depart the church at 10:00 a.m. with a visit to the Rim of the Little River Canyon. From there we head to lunch at The Rooted Table in Fort Payne. Before returning home, we will visit the Alabama Fan Club and Museum. Register by calling the church office.

CHILDREN’S PUMPKIN PATCH ADVENTURE | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Join us at Lazy Creek Farms at 10:00 a.m. for tons of fall fun! Children and their parents will be able to run, play, snack and fellowship to celebrate the cool temps and pumpkin season. Mark your calendars now!

CHURCH FALL PICNIC | MORRISON CAMPGROUND | SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 13

- 9:45 a.m. Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m. Youth Choir - Choir Suite
- 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Live (SNL) - John & Caroline Bishop’s Home

Monday, September 14

- 10:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Study - Dining Room
- 11:30 a.m. Ruble-Whitworth Mission Group - Dining Room
- 12:00 p.m. Governance Review Task Force - Conference Room
- 5:15 p.m. Minister of Worship Search Committee - Conference Room

Tuesday, September 15

- 4:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training - Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty Task Force Meeting - Conference Room

Wednesday, September 16

- 5:00 p.m. Family Night Dinner Served - Fellowship Hall
- 5:45 p.m. Children’s Activities - Children’s Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study: “Practicing the Way” - Fellowship Hall
- Youth Activities - Youth Room
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Choir Suite

Thursday, September 17

- 4:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting - Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty Class - Community Room & Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 18

- 3:30 p.m. Children’s Ministry Depart for CBF Children’s Retreat - Eatonton, GA

Saturday, September 19

- 10:30 a.m. Youth Bowling and Laser Tag - Stars & Strikes, Woodstock, GA

The flowers in the Narthex are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. Myrette Bennett Hough by Tom and Charlesean Bennett.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William L. Morris on the occasion of their wedding anniversary and in loving memory of their granddaughter Elizabeth Morris by Betty Zane Morris.

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.

Name(s)

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:

Prayer Concerns:



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
ROME, GEORGIA

100 East Fourth Avenue
www.fbcrome.org
September 13, 2026



A Service of Worship

September 13, 2026 11:00 a.m.

As a courtesy to others, please silence all devices.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR	
ORGAN PRELUDE	“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”...Wihla Hutson
CALL TO WORSHIP	Sanctuary Choir
	“How Great Thou Art”...arr. Dan Forrest
WELCOME TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION	Suzanne Reece
HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 2	ITALIAN HYMN
	“Come, Thou Almighty King”

CALL TO CONFESSION	Kristen Mathis
God of grace, we confess that we often guard our comfort and turn away from our neighbors. Because Jesus shows us radical love, he changes how we treat others and frees us from fear. Lord, in your mercy,	
Hear our prayer.	
We confess that we chase status and measure our worth by our own achievements. Because Jesus anchors our worth as beloved children, he gives us a new identity and quiet confidence. Lord, in your mercy,	
Hear our prayer.	

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION AND PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS	
This is the good news: Because Jesus lived, died, and rose again, our past does not define us. Through Jesus Christ, we are entirely forgiven and made new.	
Thanks be to God. Amen.	

READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE	Romans 14:1-12
Nina Lovel, Life Deacon, reader	
¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.	

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

¹¹For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” ¹²So then, each one of us will be held accountable.
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 704)	MEINEKE
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.	
HYMN OF GOD’S SOVEREIGNTY NO. 17	TERRA PATRIS
“This is My Father’s World”	
<i>(Children ages four through fourth grade are invited to leave for Children’s Worship.)</i>	

MORNING PRAYER (with the Lord’s Prayer)	John Bishop
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.	

MESSAGE IN MUSIC	Sanctuary Choir
“Nearer My God to Thee”...arr. Dan Forrest, Cellist, Tara Suswal	

SERMON	Dr. Charles E. Poole
“Concerning Our Life Together”	

HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 488	BEACH SPRING
“Come, All Christians, Be Committed”	
<i>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.</i>	

PRAYER OF STEWARDSHIP	Bill Adcock
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OFFERTORY SOLO	Harry Wise, accompanied by Beverly Harris
“His Eye is on the Sparrow”	

Meditation Text:	
"It is in the church that our lives are formed for God. It is in the church that hard hearts are slowly softened for God and eventually opened to others. In the church our sins are declared forgiven. In the church we are compelled to care and sent to serve. In the church we get to sit in the same room every week with people who make us want to be better than we know how to be all by ourselves."	
— from Charles E. Poole, <i>A Church for Rachel</i>	

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH	David Brooks
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CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE TO VOTE ON 2026-2027 BUDGET

AFFIRMATION OF PUBLIC DECISIONS

PASTORAL BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN NO. 349	TO GOD BE THE GLORY
“To God Be The Glory”	
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear His voice.	
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice.	
O, come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory	
Great things He hath done.	

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ORGAN POSTLUDE	“Pisgah” ...Dale Wood
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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP
Children 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 will be scheduled. Members of other Baptist congregations may transfer their membership. 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
Automated external defibrillators are in the stairwell leading to the choir loft on the organ side, across from the drink machine entering the Fellowship Hall, and on the third floor hall near the restrooms in the Education Building. Safe zones for severe weather are in preschool hallways for children and the Fellowship Hall for others.

STEWARDSHIP
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.



Rev. David Brooks	Pastor
Rev. Suzanne Reece	Minister of Discipleship & Missions
Rev. Kristen Mathis	Minister to Children & Young Families
Rev. John Bishop	Minister to Students & Young Adults
Rev. Gwen Stephens	Minister to Extended Family
Rev. Bill Adcock	Interim Minister of Worship & Music
Kim Tunnell	Music Associate & Organist
Beverly Harris	Pianist