## The Flizabethan

Do not call to mind the FORMER THINGS, or ponder things of the past.

BEHOLD,
I WILL DO
Something new

ISAIAH 43:18-19

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All announcements for Sunday's bulletin should be sent to the office by 9:00am on Thursday of each week.

Monthly calendar & birthdays will be available in the box near the hospital board.

The next deadline to submit articles for the February issue:

#### January 15

Please contact Angel if you have any questions. angel@elizabethchurch.org

#### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00am-5:00pm Friday 9:00am-4:00pm

> Administrative Staff is working remotely Thursday-Friday during normal business hours.

> > 704-482-6339

If you would prefer to receive the Elizabethan electronically, please contact the office.

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### PASTOR'S POST

#### "Behold, I will do a new thing..."

Isaiah 43:19

As we begin 2021, it is important to turn our attention to God's Word and consider what is happening in the world around us. Thus, we will come to the Table of Our Lord for the first Sunday of the year and celebrate communion and focus us on what is most important, namely, our commitment to Jesus Christ. January 3 will also start a series that will bring us to the week prior to Lent. The series will 1) probe the Scriptures considering the "Great Reset Initiative" of the World Economic Forum; 2) consider when it is right to disobey human authorities and when it is right to fight manifestations of evil; and 3) lead us to seek God for a Great Spiritual Reset in the Church. Below are the sermon outlines for this series. Read through the Scriptures for each week and pray for the themes of the sermons in order to come to worship prepared to 'fight the good fight."



#### January 3 - Epiphany / Communion Sunday

Sermon Title: "Who Will You Obey?"

Theme: Visitation of the Magi / obedience to

God or human authority

Text: Matthew 2:1-16

#### January 10 -

Sermon Title: "Great Reset or Epic Fail"

Theme: God's sovereignty over the affairs of

humanity

Scripture: Genesis 11:1-9 (tower of Babel)

#### January 17 -

Sermon Title: "Following the Spirit is Following

the Science"

Theme: God is the creator and sustainer of our

lives

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 3:2-6

#### January 24 -

Sermon Title: "Is It Right to Disobey?" Theme: Standing for what is right

Scripture: Joel 3:9-10

#### January 31 -

Sermon Title: "The Intersection of Violence &

Virtue"

Theme: Exploring when it is right to fight

Scripture: Revelation 19:11-21 (The Rider on the

White Horse)

#### February 7 -

Sermon Title: "A Great Spiritual Reset"

Theme: Considering what God is doing with His

people the Church

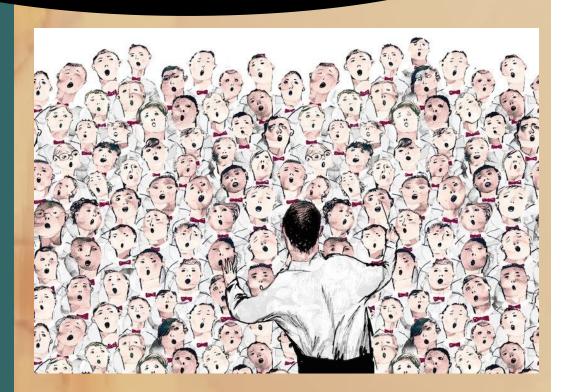
Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-24 (God doing a "new

thing")



#### **EBC Sanctuary Choir**

## Sing to the Lord a new song!



2020 has been a strange year ...

How about making 2021 some different and special in your walk with the Lord by giving of yourself through music.

#### PLEASE ...

Come and join the growing family of SPECIAL PEOPLE who just simply love to worship HIM in song!

Speak with Tim soon for more details!

- Rehearsal—Wednesday nights 7:30-8:00.
- · We START on time and we END on time!
- · We WORSHIP with joy and fun.
- We WORK hard for musical excellence.
- We strive to keep everyone as SAFE as possible.





Long ago William Shakespeare's heroine Juliet stood on her balcony and asked, "Oh, Romeo, Romeo, wherefore are thou, Romeo?" Shakespeare probably was not thinking of Shelby, North Carolina, when

a group of men decided to gather each Friday morning for coffee. And these men are not thinking of Juliet but of coffee.



They are part of ROMEO: Retired Old Men Eating Out! Started by Jerry McPherson, aka, The President, this is a time of fellowship and enjoying each

other's company. The group ate first at Ken and Mary's Restaurant, then moved to Shelby Café, occupying the longest table in each place. The wait staff almost knew each man by name.





Each one ordered his own meal. Some stopped by for a biscuit, some a full breakfast, and some just a cup of coffee. Some (future retirees) were on their way to work. The numbers ranged from eight to 14 each Friday.

When covid-19 hit in March and restaurants were closed, these men were not to be outdone. They

gathered under the trees on the church grounds at 8:00, each bringing his own breakfast. Jerry Gardner brought a Keurig coffeemaker and set it up on the tailgate of his truck for those who wanted a second cup. Numbers still remained 10 or more. Rain and chilly weather forced the men inside so they now meet in the Hearthside, placing tables at angles for social distancing.

Discussions are varied and plentiful: family . . . gardening . . . sports . . . politics . . . hunting . . . fishing . . . health and doctor appointments . . . prayer concerns . . . church events. You name it, and the ROMEO group discusses it.

Besides all the many topics, the men enjoy hearing Jerry's Stories (McPherson). But the men all say it depends on who is there as to what stories are the best!

All men are welcome! Come when you can, or come every Friday. 8:00am. Bring your own breakfast; coffee provided.

#### **ROMEO: Retired Old Men Eating Out**

"Hello, this is a message for Senior Adults of Elizabeth Baptist Church..." Seniors are now hearing this message and know it as the new One Call Now, a subscription service for event management.

With COVID-19 impacting church services and fewer times for receiving information, seniors were often searching for ways to stay in touch on sicknesses, deaths, church events, and later possibly weather alerts. This was brought to the attention of the Senior Council that explored all options of getting information out. Pastor Jim Brackett had worked with One Call in another church and recommended exploring this service. All senior members have been entered into the database and will receive a call when there is an official update. The Caller ID will have the church telephone number 704-482-6339 so members will recognize it as an approved caller. If you have not received any calls and would like to receive these message updates, contact Angel in the church office.

When church members know of sickness, health news or event update, they need to contact a member of the Senior Council or Rev Brackett. All One Calls will be authorized by the church staff and will give information known at the time.



Senior Minister: Jim Brackett
Council Members:

Jerry Gardner Eddie Greene Charlie Keller LJ Smith Ann Williams Joyce Gardner
Pat Greene
Louise Keller
Dianne Thackerson





## Why We Chose "The Gospel Project for Kids" for Our EBC Preschool & Children Ministry

**What is The Gospel Project for Kids?** The curriculum Children's Ministry has chosen for our Preschool/Children.

Gospel Centered: The Gospel Project for Kids helps the children and leaders identify Jesus' role throughout the narrative of Scripture. This chronological, Christ centered, three-year study immerses our toddlers through our 6th graders in the gospel. The gospel is presented through every story and a call to mission from Genesis to Revelation. Our children are able to see how the Bible fits together to tell one big story: God's plan to rescue and redeem sinners through faith in Jesus Christ.

**Kid Friendly:** From the beginning of large group time to the activities and crafts for small group time, each Sunday is exciting for the children. The Bible stories are presented in such a way that shows that the Bible is real and fascinating.

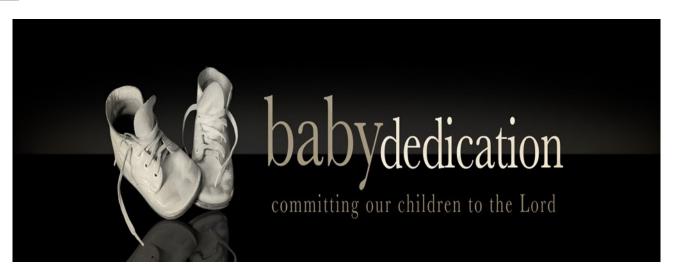
**Encourages Retention:** The resources from The Gospel Project for Kids connects the lesson of the day to the previous weeks. Review questions and connections are made throughout the lessons. The curriculum shows the children how the Bible works together in one big story, and that it is not made up of individual stories.

**Technology:** The Bible stories are available to watch through videos or told by the teacher using storytelling creative tips. Each story is presented with excellence and creativity. Also, the entire curriculum is available to download.

**Teaches the Teachers:** Each Sunday the lessons teach our teachers something new or brings back to life a new Biblical truth. Our Sunday School teachers give up being in an adult Sunday School class so being able to learn alongside the children is such a wonderful side effect of teaching The Gospel Project for Kids.









Mark 10:16 says that parents brought their children to Jesus to be blessed by Him, laying His hands on the child and offering a spoken word of blessings. Even long before this, there is a history of godly parents presenting their children to God, asking for His blessing. Likewise, parents today present their children to God in the presence of His people to ask for God's blessings. They are committing themselves in partnership with the church and to love and nurture their children in a Christian home. Are you ready to make this commitment?

#### **Baby Dedication/Brunch**

Sunday February 21, 2021

10:30 Brunch in the Hearthside Dining Room

11:00 Worship Service

Please contact Crystal or Lori by January 10, 2021, if you would like for your family to participate in this special service.



## FORT CASWELL

As most of you are aware, last year's summer camps at Caswell were cancelled. By God's grace, we were able to go on to camp and do

our own programming and worship. We are very fortunate to have had an amazing group of students with both the talent and the spiritual maturity to pull this off. We are hoping for a return to normal by next summer, and Caswell is hoping for the same. To that end, we have been able to secure reservations for the week of June 28-July 3, 2021 as our Summer Youth Week. We are very fortunate to get selected because hundreds of churches applied this year since most did not get to attend at all last summer. We also have some more good news! Because we had a surplus left over in our Caswell account from last year, we are able to offer the camp for \$100 less this year. Instead of \$370.00, we are going to be able to go this year for \$270.00 per student. Our initial deposit to Caswell is due on February 1, so we need to begin collecting payments immediately. Parents may pay all at once or in installments. The first payment (deposit) of \$50 will be due on or before **January 15.** Future installments of \$55.00 each will be due on February 15, March 15, April 15, and May 15. We will be collecting deposits through the church office and at the Student Center Reception Desk beginning Sunday, December 6. Payments may also be made online. Some families are not yet attending church in person, but I would like to include them in the events for next summer, working under the assumption that we will be back to some degree of normal by then. Please contact David if you would like to be added to any of the trip rosters. Both Caswell and Wilmington sign-up sheets will be posted in the next week or so. I will also post a sheet for Alaska for those who want to be added but were not on the original list from last year.

Another casualty of COVID last summer was the mission trip to Alaska. We have been in contact with the missionary in Alaska, and current plans are to proceed with the trip this summer in the hopes that we will be able to travel freely again by then. We have already tentatively reserved our airline tickets, and the dates for



this trip are **July 18-24**. If you had planned to go last summer and were registered, you are still on the list unless you requested a refund that included your deposit. As long as your deposit is remaining in your account, you may just pick up where you left off last year. We will resume payments for this trip in January 2021. I can take additional people next summer, so if you are interested in going and did not sign up, you may place your name on the list with a \$50.00 deposit. Simply pay through the office (if before January 1), and after that, we will be taking online payments\* and payments through the Student Center Reception Desk on Sunday mornings. Total cost (after fund raising) will hopefully be \$750.00.





Come join us each Sunday morning for worship! RIZEN plays for both services in the Christian Life Center, and it is broadcast on Instagram Live. Come celebrate with us! Soon after Christmas, you will get to see and hear their first professionally recorded project, a song and music video, as they prepare to launch a social media ministry to teenagers and young adults all across the United States and beyond.



### January 2021

February 16	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner (tentative)
February 17	Ash Wednesday Service
February 26-28	Winter Retreat (tentative)
March 13	Friends and Family Night fundraiser
	(tentativemay move to later in spring)
April 16-18	Invasion Weekend
April 25	Ignite Spring Dinner Theater
May 15	Gospel Music Day/Fish Fry fundraiser
May 28	Last Day of School for Students
June 28-July 3	Caswell Week 4 (Jay Strotherspeaker)
July 18-24	Alaska Mission Trip (no alternate date)
July 29-August 8	Wilmington Mission Trip (week of July 31-August 7)



Thank you so much for your support of our Christmas Craft Fair and BBQ fund raisers. Our opportunities for fund raising are very limited right now, so every little bit helps. Hopefully, we will be freed up to continue with some of our other events by mid to late spring.





#### Have you made your New Year's resolutions?

As we begin 2021, what are your plans? Have you made New Year goals for 2021? Do these goals include getting on an exercise plan? Do you plan to lose weight, run a marathon, climb a mountain, visit a foreign country, join a book-a-month club, get a new job, eat healthier, improve a relationship,

manage your stress or start a savings account? These are all worthy goals to accomplish. Do any of your goals include growing in your relationship with God?

Think about setting a goal to grow in your walk with Christ. Commit to read a Bible passage each day. Learn to open your heart and mind to listening to the Holy Spirit as He teaches and guides you in the truth of His word. Making a commitment to grow in Christ is the beginning to growing as a disciple of Jesus. Below are a few ideas to help you in 2021.

- 1. Commit to a Bible study group in 2021. Make it a priority in your schedule.
- 2. Spend time worshipping God with others. (Don't be a lone wolf and expect to grow.)
- 3. Commit to reading Bible passages and sharing what you have learned with a friend.
- 4. Set aside time each day to pray for God to direct your life.
- 5. Find time to reach out to someone in need. Befriend them and begin to share Christ with them.
- 6. Memorize scripture.
- 7. Find a way to serve in the church. (refer to pg. 13)
- 8. Don't give up if you fail on your goal. God hasn't given up on you!

One last thing, if you haven't attended a LifeGroup this year, below are the groups, times and location.

<u>Group</u>	Day	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
Single (22-30) Professionals	Thursday	6:30pm	Tim & Beth Beam's Home
Rogers (coed mid 50's) Nanney (coed mid 60's) Gardner (coed 60's-70's)	Sunday Sunday Sunday	8:30am 8:30am 8:30am	Room 210 Room 208 Room 214
Cook (coed 20's-30's) Dyer(coed 40's-50's) Larson(coed late 40's) Standish (coed early 50's) Lamphier (coed mid 50's) Smith/Floyd (coed 60's)	Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday	9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am	Room 200 Room 206 Room 120 Room 209 Room 202 Room 204
McCornick (coed 50's-60's) Madden/Keller (coed 60's +) Floyd (ladies 70's +) Smith (men 70's +) Isaacs/Reed/Summers (coed 70's +)	Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday Sunday	11:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Room 120 Room 101 Room 116 Room 102 Eddie Clay Room 102

#### **Library Hours:**

Sunday 9:00 am—9:25 am, 10:30 am—10:45 am, 5:00 pm—5:50 pm Tuesday 1:00 pm—2:30 pm

Recca Bingham



### **EBC Prayer Warriors Corner**

## There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.

PROVERBS 23:18

Prayer for the New Year:

Lord Jesus,

We know that

Hope overcomes

Hope heals

Hope restores

Hope inspires

Hope conquers

Hope frees

Hope is your gift to the world.

Thank you for your abundance of love toward us in this New Year. Amen

If you would like to become a part of the Prayer Ministry, please contact Matt & Renee Brinton rbrinton@carolina.rr.com

### Build a Birdhouse



What: Build a Birdhouse for our EBC Senior Adults

Who: 1st-6th Graders

When: Pick up your supplies on Sunday, January 24, 2021 (9:30 am) or Wednesday, January 27, 2021 (2:00pm-3:00pm)

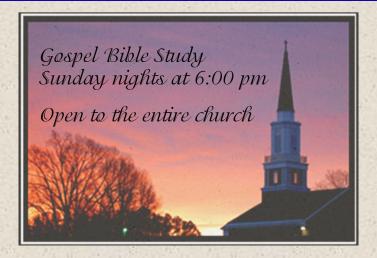
Where: Sunday: Large Group Room

Wednesday: CLC Drive thru

All supplies needed will be included with your birdhouse at pick-up time.

Mission Project for our Children





## SUNDAY NIGHT GOSPEL BIBLE STUDY JANUARY 2021 TEMPORARILY POSTPONED STUDY GUIDE

#### January 3 - God Must Be First

Exodus 20:1-7; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Mark 12:29-31

#### January 10 - God Leads His Children

Numbers 10:33; Psalm 23; Proverbs 3:1-6; Isaiah 30:21; John 10:1-4

#### January 17 - CHARTING THE COURSE

Psalm 8:1-9; Jeremiah 8:5-7; Acts 20:24; Ephesians 2:2; 2 Timothy 4:7

#### January 24 - WHERE MAN'S HAND STOPS...

Isaiah 40:28-31; Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalm 90:1-4, 12, 16; Isaiah 57:15; Jeremiah 10:10; Micah 5:2; 1 Timothy 1:7; Hebrews 9:14

#### January 31 - THE WATCHMEN

Isaiah 62:6; Psalm 127:1; 1 Peter 5:8-11; Hebrews 13:7; Jeremiah 26:2; [Acts 5:13-14; Ezekiel 3:16-21, 33:1-11; Isaiah 52:7-12





Bowen Drum Joined on March 1, 2020







Bryan & Dana Lovelace Joined on September 6, 2020



Jeff & Bryte Scism Joined on October 25, 2020



Tim & Kristie Smith Joined on October 25, 2020



Stuart & Dorothy Sloan Joined on October 25, 2020



Tommy Parsley Joined on November 1, 2020

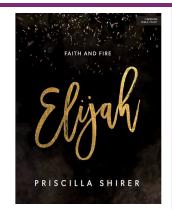


# Soud Sisters EBC Women's Ministry

#### Women's Ministry

Need to shed those "winter blahs"?

Join us for Priscilla Shirer's new Bible study *Elijah*. In this study, you will journey through the life and times of the prophet Elijah to discover how the fire on Mount Carmel was forged in the valley of famine. And how the emboldened, fiery faith you desire is being fashioned by God in your life right now.



This 7-week study begins **January 24, 2021, @ 6:00 PM**, in the Hearthside Dining Room.

**Cost?** \$15.00

To sign-up you can contact Jill (704-466-8585) or Micha'l (704-309-0062) by call or text, or on the Soul Sisters' Facebook page.



**Soul Sisters Road Trip:** Soul Sisters are heading out to the **Women of Joy Conference** in Myrtle Beach April 30 - May 2! Featured speakers and musicians will be Mandisa, Lisa Harper, Liz Curtis Higgs, Karen Kingsbury, comedian Mark Lowery, worship leader Charles Billingsley, and concert by Tauren Wells. More information regarding cost and registration will be available in January. This will be a worshipful

weekend, with breaks for eating, shopping, and fellowship! You don't want to miss it!



Matrix wrapped and delivered Christmas gifts, a Bible, stocking stuffers, and a box of food to two families just a few days before Christmas. Thank you, EBC, for helping purchase gifts for what was a total of 7 children. The families each have a student at North Shelby School and the needs were identified by their social worker. Matrix is thankful for the opportunity to hand deliver the wrapped items and to have partnered with the congregation in sharing the love, joy, and hope of Christmas!





Voting Results for Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020

#### **2021 Ministry Action Plan**

The Budget & Finance Committee recommends approving the 2021 MAP as proposed at the church conference on November 22, 2020.

The total MAP is \$1,493,106.99 (not including restricted missions) with a need for weekly tithes and offerings equaling \$28,713.60

<u>160</u> For <u>1</u> Against



Chrismon Workshop Saturday, January 23

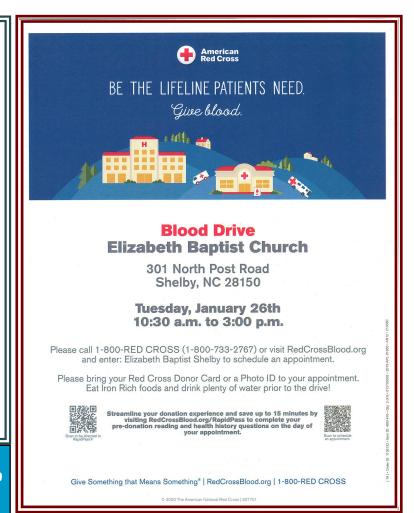
9 am – Noon

The Hearthside

Nativity Egg

Cost is \$15.00

Sign up on bulletin board across from Prayer Room.





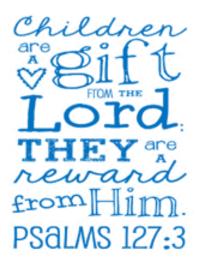
"We want to thank the Watchmen, under the leadership of Hardin Whitaker, for the window shelves that the Christmas banners are attached to. They did a fantastic job in creating them and they will last for many years. Also, we want to thank Ronnie Whetstine for building the Nativity stable that truly adds a blessing to our church. Finally, a huge thank you to the Decorating Committee for their hard work and dedication to this huge endeavor."

Norma Wright and Pam Greene Co-chairs of the Decorating Committee



### Congratulations!!







#### **Special Thank Yous**



Adam & Sian Saunders: "Dear Church Family at Elizabeth, Adam & I want to thank you so very much for the incredibly warm welcome with which we were received on Sunday, November 8, 2020. It is always wonderful to worship with you, but this year... in the midst of all the lockdowns, it was especially sweet to see your faces!

We are truly humbled and always encouraged by your commitment to love on all of us as we seek to honor the Lord in serving Him at BC4. The children are well cared for in large part because of your faithful partnership.

We love you dearly and pray God's richest blessings over you... pressed down and over flowing."
In His Love,

Adam & Sian Saunders







## Friday, January 1—Office Closed New Year's Day

Sunday, January 3

11:00 am Livestream Worship (only)

Monday, January 4

6:00 pm CTO Family Night

7:00 pm MATRIX LifeGroup Meeting

Tuesday, January 5

6:00 pm Youth 180 Bible Study

Wednesday, January 6

6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal 7:30 pm Properties Committee

7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 7

6:30 pm Young Professionals LifeGroup Meeting

Friday, January 8

8:00 am ROMEO Coffee Gathering

Sunday, January 10

11:00 am Livestream Worship (only)

Monday, January 11

1:30 pm Afternoon Mission Group5:30 pm Sara Snell Bible Group

7:00 pm MATRIX LifeGroup Meeting

7:00 pm Elizabethan Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, January 12

6:00 pm Youth 180 Bible Study

Wednesday, January 13

6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal

7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 14

6:30 pm Young Professionals LifeGroup Meeting

Friday, January 15

8:00 am ROMEO Coffee Gathering

Sunday, January 17

11:00 am Livestream Worship (only)

4:00 pm Deacons' Meeting

Monday, January 18

7:00 pm MATRIX LifeGroup Meeting

7:00 pm Elizabethan Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, January 19

6:00 pm Youth 180 Bible Study

Wednesday, January 20

6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 21

6:30 pm Young Professionals LifeGroup Meeting

Friday, January 22

8:00 am ROMEO Coffee Gathering

Saturday, January 23

9:00 am Chrismon Workshop (Hearthside)

Sunday, January 24

9:30 am Worship Service

11:00 am Worship Service & Livestream Worship

4:00 pm RIZEN Rehearsal

4:45 pm Men's Bible Study (Revelation) 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Elijah)

6:00 pm Gospel Bible Study

6:30 pm Warriors & Watchmen Meetings

Monday, January 25

7:00 pm MATRIX LifeGroup Meeting

7:00 pm Elizabethan Bell Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, January 26

10:30 am Red Cross Blood Drive (CLC)

6:30 pm Youth 180 Bible Study

Wednesday, January 27

6:30 pm CHURCH CONFERENCE

6:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal

7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, January 28** 

6:30 pm Young Professionals LifeGroup Meeting

Friday, January 29

8:00 am ROMEO Coffee Gathering

Sunday, January 31

9:30 am Worship Service

11:00 am Worship Service & Livestream Worship

4:00 pm RIZEN Rehearsal

4:45 pm Men's Bible Study (Revelation) 6:00 pm Women's Bible Study (Elijah)

6:00 pm Gospel Bible Study

6:30 pm Warriors & Watchmen Meetings



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