

Encountering God at the

# CROSSROADS

of community and mission.

Volume 32 Issue 2

February 2021

## SECOND WELCOMES DIANNE YOUNG ON FEBRUARY 7

Since 2007, Baptist Women in Ministry has invited Baptist churches to participate in the Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching by having a woman preach during the month of February. On Sunday, February 7, we welcome Rev. Dianne Young, pastor of The Healing Center Full Gospel Baptist Church, to our virtual pulpit.



Rev. Young is no stranger to our congregation as our two churches continue to build, strengthen, and grow in our relationships across lines of diversity. She is a gifted preacher with a powerful message to share as we worship together that day.

We look forward to living up to one of our congregational core values that honors God's call to ALL people. Make plans to take part in our online worship on the first Sunday of the month as we welcome Rev. Young back to Second!

## ASH WEDNESDAY DRIVE-IN WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



The 40-day season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. This year, we are offering different ways to mark the beginning of these sacred days.

That day, from noon until 1:00, anyone who wishes to come for a drive through time of blessing and to receive ashes is welcome to do so. We request that you remain in your vehicle, wear your mask, and one of our ministers will come to make the sign of the cross on your forehead or hand and offer a word of blessing. Our ministers will be in

masks and will sanitize their hands between each of these brief interactions.

At 5:30 that evening, we will have a drive-in worship service similar to what we used on Christmas Eve. This allows us to hear music, share scripture and prayer, as well as a short sermon while also staying safe in the comfort of our own vehicles. Then, at 6:00, we will have a drive through time of blessing like what we are offering in the noon hour.

Along with these opportunities to come to the church on Ash Wednesday, we will also have an online service that will be sent via email that afternoon.

Watch for more details about that day's worship offerings but make plans to take part in whatever ways you are able as we begin this sacred season together!

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# from the pastor

## SERMON TOPICS

### February 14: Transfiguration

Title: Get Lost!

Text: Mark 9:2-9

OT Lesson: Psalm 50:1-6

### February 17: Ash

Wednesday

Title: Sorrow and Love and

Ashes

Text: Psalm 51:1-17

NT Lesson: 2 Corinthians

5:20b-6:10

### February 21: The First Sunday in Lent / Lord's Supper

Title: You...I'm Talking to You!

Text: Mark 1:9-15

### February 28: The Second Sunday in Lent

Title: The Hinge at the Center of Mark

Text: Mark 8:31-38

OT Lesson: Psalm 22:23-31

## AN INVITATION TO MINISTRY INVESTMENT

In a mid-January sermon, I extended an invitation to our congregation that I hope many of us will prayerfully consider accepting. I asked us to imagine ways we might make investments in the healing, redemptive work that our ministry partners are doing in our community and beyond. During a time that has been marked by so much division and despair, each of us can make gifts that make a difference.

The invitation is simple. Since so many of us have a tendency to rely heavily on the connectivity we have available by way of our televisions and our other forms of technology, total up the amount of money we spend per month for our cable subscriptions, our internet service, and our cell phone bills. Consider matching the amount of money we pay per month for just one of those services – or maybe all three combined – and invest the same number of dollars in ministry partners who are working to help answer the prayer Jesus himself taught us to pray: that it will be “on earth as it is in heaven.”

At Second, we invest in partnerships with a variety of different faith-based organizations in our community. We have longstanding partnerships in the Heights community, with MIFA, and a host of others.

Likewise, we have regional, state, and national ministry partners with whom we work that are doing extraordinary work through such ministries as Together for Hope Arkansas and the Volunteer State Mission Offering.

Globally, we share alongside our partners in the South Africa Ministry Network and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship with its Offering for Global Missions and the McCall Racial Justice Initiative.

Opportunities abound for us. If you want additional information about any of these ministry partners to consider supporting – or to talk about other ideas you may have – please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our other ministers for suggestions. Financial support alone is certainly not everything, but it can be a step toward deeper engagement in ministries that make a difference!

Grace and peace,

Stephen.

## MIDWEEK PRAYER GATHERINGS AND FOCUS FOR LENT

Through the season of Lent that begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17, join with others from our Second family each Wednesday at noon. These gatherings happen via Zoom and, during the 40-day journey to Easter, we are focusing on the theme, *A Story to Tell*, reading stories from the Gospel of Mark that follow Jesus on his journey from his baptism to the cross.

Contact Annabeth Barnes in the church office at [abarnes@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:abarnes@2ndmemphis.org) for Zoom login information.



## A NOTE ABOUT MARTHA STEARNS MARSHALL

In February of each year, our congregation participates in the Martha Stearns Marshall Month of Preaching sponsored by Baptist Women in Ministry.

This emphasis in Baptist life is named for Martha Stearns Marshall, an eighteenth-century Separate Baptist preacher. Her husband, Daniel, converted during the First Great Awakening, and the couple then spent eighteen months living among a tribe of Mohawk Indians, hoping to win them to Christianity.

The Marshalls were baptized and attended the "Regular" Baptist church, and Daniel was licensed to preach. Both Marshalls often prayed and preached during worship services, and Martha's zeal apparently equaled that of her husband. Her behavior in worship scandalized the Virginia "Regular" Baptists, who opposed women speaking in public.

But among Martha's family and friends, her behavior was a perfectly acceptable way for her to exercise her spiritual gifts.

Having moved to North Carolina, in 1755 she founded a Baptist church at Sandy Creek, and within seventeen years, the church grew from 16 to 606 members.

The church sent out 125 preachers and established 42 other Separate Baptist churches and missions. These Separate Baptists differed from the "Regular" Baptists in many ways, but perhaps the most notable difference was that the Separate Baptists allowed women to have a more prominent role in worship and in church leadership.



## FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION: GROWING YOUNG TENNESSEE CBF VIRTUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

You are invited to take part in a special gathering of Cooperative Baptists across Tennessee during the weekend of April 16-17. This is happening completely online and allows people to take part in important conversations about helping churches consider ways that we can effectively grow young.

Registration for these important discussions is available here: <http://tncbf.org/cbf-general-assembly>. Watch for more details about some of the questions to be addressed and ways you can be involved in this opportunity to learn and grow.

## CHURCH OPERATIONS AND WORSHIP UPDATE

In accordance with the latest directive from the Shelby County Health Department, our day-to-day church operations continue on a modified schedule. Each day, Monday thru Thursday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., we have limited personnel onsite while other staff members work remotely. The CFLC is open Monday thru Friday during the same hours with only the track and fitness room available. All of our church staff are available via phone or email should you need to be in contact with any of them. In accordance with the health department directive, we will keep this schedule at least through February 26.

Regarding worship, our deacon leadership and ministry staff, in consultation with our medical advisers, have determined that we will not gather for in-person sanctuary worship services on Sundays at least until after Easter.

Any updates to our operations and worship plans will be communicated via email, the church website, Center Your Week, and Friday Update messages.

# gathered to worship

## STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

Take a peek at our generosity and ministry costs through January 21, 2021:

Year-to-Date Receipts	\$62,113
Year-to-Date Expenses	<u>\$55,598</u>
Net	\$ 6,515

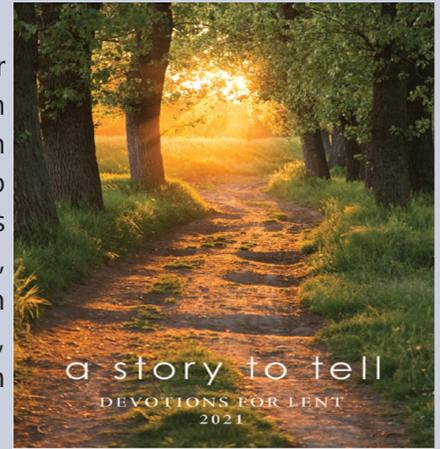
Remember that when it comes to giving, we have several options for sharing gifts with our church:

- Cash and Checks
- Text-to-Give: 901.401.9621
- Online at [2ndmemphis.org](http://2ndmemphis.org)
- Click "Giving" and follow the prompts
- Stock and Mutual Fund Transfers

To learn more about any of these, please contact our Financial Administrator, Patti Calvert, at [pcalvert@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:pcalvert@2ndmemphis.org).

## LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

Starting Monday, February 1, beautiful, full-color devotionals with 46 entries that highlight readings from the Gospel of Mark that show Jesus' journey from baptism to the cross will be available for those who would like to incorporate it into their Lenten journey. Each reading is accompanied by a photo, a quote to ponder, a reflection, and a prayer. Stop by the church office or contact the church office to have a devotional mailed to you. If supplies last, devotionals will also be available for pick up at the Ash Wednesday service.



## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FOR LENT

Lent is the period of the liturgical calendar leading up to Easter. It's a time to focus on God and prepare to remember and celebrate Jesus dying on the cross and rising from the grave to save each of us. Lent begins on Wednesday, February 17 and ends on Saturday, April 3. To help our children and families learn about Lent and the story of Jesus during this time, our Children's Sunday School Teachers will be delivering activities for our children to do at home. We are hoping these activities will help our families grow spiritually. Information about Lent activities home deliveries will be sent by email, so stay tuned!

Many people decide to "give up" things for Lent to help them remember that Jesus gave his life for us, but you can also "take on" doing good things, just like Jesus did.

## IN GRATITUDE AND HOPE

Our congregation has good news to celebrate in the early days of 2021 because of the generous faithfulness demonstrated in the latter days of the unforgettable year that was 2020! In spite of the economic hardships that so many have been facing through the course of the pandemic, our Second family gave remarkably generous financial gifts that saw our tithes and offerings exceed 2019 collections by more than \$20,000. Thank you to each person who has given! Thank you for every gift because every gift matters!

When we gathered for our first congregational meeting of the year, our 2020 year-end report was presented. In case you missed it, we completed the year with a significant surplus of funds because of the faithful generosity of our people, the unique benefits of the federal Paycheck Protection Program, and the careful stewardship of our church's financial leadership. We are in a financially strong position at the outset of this year because of the gifts that propel us in our mission together!

## CELEBRATING BARBARA FOPPIANO

Congratulations to Barbara Foppiano for completing 30 years as an infant teacher in our Parents' Day Out ministry. Barbara came to Second Baptist PDO on February 1, 1991. She loves working with the older infants and has been in that age group since she arrived. Barbara also works in our after-care class and has been a constant teacher in that room since the after-care class was started many years ago.

Barbara has a plan for what she wants her infant class students to accomplish while they are with her. She believes her job as a teacher is to not only love them and meet their physical needs but also help them learn how to become independent and develop good social skills. I often hear her say, "Remember we must be kind to our friends and share our toys." If you look through the window of her classroom door you might see Mrs. Barbara on the floor. She loves



getting on the floor to play with the children and you can often hear her teaching them a preschool song or showing them the motions to a song.

Students in both the infant room and the older ones who come to the after-care class love Mrs. Barbara. I am often asked by parents who are bringing their second or third child to our program if that child can be in Mrs. Barbara's classroom.

Barbara grew up in Matthews, Missouri and moved to the Memphis area after high school to find work. It was here in Memphis that she met her husband Louis Foppiano. Barbara and Louis have two daughters and now have five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Barbara's favorite scripture is Psalm 46:1 which says, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Barbara is an active member at Bellevue Baptist where she has served for 35 years in their church nursery on Sundays.



## PDO OPEN ENROLLMENT

PDO will begin taking applications beginning February 9 for our summer and fall sessions! Come and join in the fun! Our PDO classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays and serve children ages 5 months to 5 years. We follow a theme-based curriculum that is tailored to our ministry. A variety of enrichment activities and specialty classes are provided on age-appropriate levels. Classes in Kindermusik and Bible are offered weekly. Please share with families you

may know in our community! You can complete enrollment information online or pick up a packet at church. Please contact Gwen Jenkins, PDO Director, at [pdo@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:pdo@2ndmemphis.org) with any questions.

Scattered to serve

gathered to worship

# FAMILY ministry



## CROSSROADS

**Submissions:** Material for inclusion in the monthly *CrossRoads* publication must be submitted by the 15th day of the month.

**Digital Option:** To receive an electronic version only, please contact Annabeth Barnes at [abarnes@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:abarnes@2ndmemphis.org).

**Next publication date:**

March 1, 2021

**Center Your Week:** Those signed up to receive our communications via email will also receive our midweek update *Center Your Week*.

## TOILET BOWL 2021

Calling all players and fans for our annual youth Toilet Bowl. The pandemic will force a redesign of this year's Toilet Bowl but the fun and EXCITEMENT will be the same. Invite friends! Come out to play! Come out to watch from safe distances! Come out to **BE TOGETHER** in a fun but safe way. For safety, masks will be provided for all youth and we ask fans to bring their own masks. Youth are asked to arrive at 3:00 p.m. Kickoff is at 3:30 p.m.

## PASSPORT CAMPS

We are making plans to once again be able to take youth to Passport Camp this summer. Kids camp dates are July 16-20 and will be hosted at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, Georgia. Youth camp dates are July 18-25 and will be hosted at [Furman University](http://www.furman.edu) in Greenville, South Carolina. Total cost for camp is \$350 with the first \$50 refundable deposit due Friday, February 12. A second \$50 deposit is due Sunday, March 21 and the final \$250 payment is due on or before Sunday, April 25.

After March 21, all payments are non-refundable unless the church decides we cannot attend or Passport is unable to host in-person camps.

We are also looking for chaperones who want to commit a week of their time and discover the fun of Passport camp and the joy of supporting our youth. Contact [Daniel](#) or [Tanya](#) with questions or if you are interested in chaperoning.

## SPRING SOCCER

Second Baptist Recreation Ministry is partnering with Play Where You Stay, a local non-profit that provides a barrier-free soccer developmental program for kids in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade. Play Where You Stay connects soccer coaches and equipment with children and open space, helping give all children access to the world's most popular game. Coaches represent the world-wide sport of soccer but are in Memphis teaching, going to school, or working. Practices will be available Monday thru Thursday from 4:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration begins February 1 with practices beginning March 1. Recommended costs are \$10/week for as much coaching and as many days as you want. However, no one is turned away who can't pay. To find out more about Play Where You Stay or to register, visit [www.playwhereyoustay.org](http://www.playwhereyoustay.org). You can also contact Recreation Director, Marcus Patterson, at [mpatterson@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:mpatterson@2ndmemphis.org).

## UPDATE FROM THEMBALETHU

Themba lethu Care Organization is a primary ministry partner of the South Africa Ministry Network. Betsy Meyer, their "chief story teller," recently shared this update:



"In the midst of all that is going on in the world, I want to thank you for bringing hope and kindness to the people of Amangwe Tribal Area. With your generosity, Themba lethu is in a better financial position [and] we look forward to:

- Equipping more parents/ guardians of HIV positive children in their journey with the virus.
- Providing holistic palliative care to more patients with life-limiting conditions, and coming alongside HIV positive patients to support their adherence to medicines.
- Empowering South African youth to make healthy decisions to prevent HIV and teen pregnancy.
- Supporting those made most vulnerable by the coronavirus.

## FEEDING THE HOMELESS

The opportunity to serve the homeless by making sack lunches or preparing hot meals continues and there is always room for more people to be involved. Food is dropped off at Second Baptist each Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. and then delivered to Constance Abbey downtown. Contact Daniel Johnson at [djohnson@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:djohnson@2ndmemphis.org) with any questions or sign up via links in *Center Your Week*.



Dear Friends, I want to thank you for all the food you gave me for Christmas. You were good at choosing the items that I use. You were so kind to do this for me. Thanks to your church for this good deed. May God bless each of you.—Virginia Lewis



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### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

#### February 7

Youth Toilet Bowl  
3:00 p.m. Arrive  
3:30 p.m. Kickoff

#### February 9

PDO Open Enrollment begins

#### February 17

12:00 p.m. Ash  
Wednesday Drive-  
Through Blessing  
5:30 p.m. Ash  
Wednesday Service  
6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday  
Drive-Through Blessing

### SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

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#### STAFF

**Dr. Stephen Cook**  
Senior Pastor

**Mr. Larry Denman**  
Associate Minister:  
Music and Worship

**Rev. Daniel Johnson**  
Associate Minister:  
Congregational  
Formation and Missions

**Mrs. Tanya Mabry**  
Interim Children's  
Ministry Coordinator

### CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Phone: 901-682-3308 mpatterson@2ndmemphis.org

CFLC hours are subject to change,  
please check our website, [www.2ndmemphis.org](http://www.2ndmemphis.org), for updates.