

# Encountering God at the **CROSSROADS** of community and mission.

Volume 34 Issue 5

May 2023

## Pop Up Shop

The first Saturday in May, Second Baptist and Sweet LaLa's Bakery are partnering with a variety of local social enterprises to offer our first Front Porch Pop-Up Shop. Different non-profits will come share their products with any who wish to come and shop with a purpose. This is just in time for Mother's Day the following the weekend!

We need volunteers from Second to assist with setting up and taking down, as well as greeting guests. Shifts are available from 10:00-12:30 and 12:30-3:00. Volunteers will help greet guests, share information about Second, and assist our vendors. This is a chance to help spread the spirit of our fall pumpkin patch in the spring.

To volunteer some of your time on Saturday, May 6, click [here](#) or call or email the church office at 682.3395 or [info@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:info@2ndmemphis.org).

## Front Porch Pop Up

Saturday, May 6 11am - 2pm  
Shop for purpose featuring products from:

Sweet LaLa's Bakery	Shepherd's Haven
A Way Out Ministries	Thistle and Bee
Bluff City Toffee	Dabney Nursery
Kaye's Pints and Scoops	Re+New+All Candles
My Cup of Tea	Naan Bread
Project Kind	and more!

**Pentecost on the Porch**  
Sunday, May 28

## Pentecost on the Porch

Fifty days after the celebration of Easter, the Church comes to the day of Pentecost. We remember that God sends the Spirit that blows in and gets the first followers of Jesus out into the world.

In our church, the day of Pentecost in 2023 promises to be even more special than usual. On the last Sunday in May, we will not gather in the sanctuary to worship, but rather on the front lawn at the front porch. What better day to bear witness to the truth that the Church has left the building than for our church to actually leave the building?!

Dress comfortably and casually that morning. Bring a lawn chair and some breakfast or brunch food to share prior to worship. We will not meet in our Sunday school classes that day but will instead share fellowship together beginning at 10:00 with worship starting at 10:30.

For those who worship online, at 8:30 that morning we will share via email a service recorded from the sanctuary.

Join us as we celebrate the promise that Easter may be the foundation stone of our faith, but Pentecost is where it comes to life and continues to live in the world beyond our walls!



4680 Walnut Grove Road  
Memphis, TN 38117  
[www.2ndmemphis.org](http://www.2ndmemphis.org)

# from the pastor

## MAY PREACHING & WORSHIP THEMES

May 7:  
Youth Sunday – Daniel  
Johnson preaching

May 14:  
Title: Let Me Ask  
Text: John 14:15-21  
OT Lesson: Psalm 66:8-20

May 21:  
Title: Now, Lord?  
Text: Acts 1:1-11  
OT Lesson: Psalm 93

May 28: Pentecost / Lord's  
Supper  
Title: Not Even Easter  
Text: Acts 2:1-21

### Bringing Where We Have Been

The late poet William Stafford penned a magnificent poem late in the last century called "The Gift." The final stanza begins with these lines:

*It's a balance, the taking and passing along,  
the composting of where you've been and how people  
and weather treated you. It's a country where  
you already are, bringing where you have been.*

The balance of "taking and passing along" is much on my mind these days. As our congregation moves deeper into conversations about how we connect with our community, imagining and reimagining what it means to **be** the Church and **do** the work of the Church in our world now, this idea of "taking and passing along" as Stafford names it, certainly comes to mind.

For more than 60 years we have been gathering to worship and scattering to serve as Second Baptist Church. The ways we express the love of God and bear the presence of Christ have not remained fixed in place for these last decades. Things – and people – change.

At the same time, the words of Saint Paul come to mind when he writes a letter to the Corinthians: "now faith, hope, and love abide, these three, and the greatest of these is love."

Any of us who have taken hold of faith, hope, and love that has been poured into us share a calling to pass those gifts along to others still. The mediums might be different, but the core of our life together finds expression in the sustaining gifts of the Spirit God sends and that still stirs in us.

Grace and peace,  
Stephen

### Youth Sunday

Sunday, May 7

Youth Sunday is a day to empower, encourage, and be led by our youth. We offer youth the chance to lead by teaching adult Sunday school classes and using their gifts to lead worship. In Psalm 144, the psalmist prays, "May our sons in their youth be like plants full grown, our daughters like corner pillars, cut for the building of a palace." We share this same hope and prayer for our youth and Youth Sunday is an opportunity for our youth to grow in stature and wisdom. That spiritual growth also happens when caring adults take time to personally encourage our youth. We invite anyone to give the youth a SHOUT OUT and share how much you appreciate what they offered.



## BHUA Marks Another Milestone

In 2017, the Brinkley Heights Urban Academy (BHUA) celebrated its first graduating class of high school seniors. Since its inception and continuing now, members of Second Baptist Church have been deeply invested in this private Christian school for at-risk inner-city children.

On Friday, May 12 our church is privileged to play host again to the commencement exercises for BHUA as another class graduates. The celebration begins at 6:00 p.m. in our sanctuary, followed by a reception afterwards. This is a wonderful night to share encouragement and support to the students, teachers, and administrators of one of our long-time ministry partners making a deep impact in our community.



## GIVE 5 for Brinkley Heights Graduates

On Friday, May 12 Brinkley Heights Urban Academy will honor graduates from the Class of 2023 in the sanctuary at Second Baptist and there are a couple of ways you can make this day even more special for those graduates. First, Second Baptist members are invited to the graduation ceremony which begins at 6:00 p.m.

Second, you can "take five" minutes to write an encouragement card or donate funds to purchase gift cards for the graduates. Here's how:

1. Take 5 minutes and write a note to the grads. Be sure to include words of encouragement, a Bible verse, or wisdom for their next chapter of life. Mail or drop the cards by the church. Address cards to Brinkley Graduation c/o Second Baptist Church.
2. Donate \$5 (or more) and we will purchase gift cards for the grads. You can mail a check or donate [online](#). Please put "GRADUATION" in the memo section.

Please send notes or make donations by Thursday, May 4.



## Fruit Forest

In worship recently, we shared the dream Sidney Johnson, one of our longtime ministry friends, has for an unused piece of land in the Mitchell Heights



neighborhood. He dreams of a Fruit Forest, an oasis in the neighborhood that can be a food source, a gathering place, an area of beauty amidst blight, and a symbol of hope and strength. A source and representation of God's presence and love for the people in the neighborhood. As partners with a commitment to listen and serve this

neighborhood, we have the opportunity to help this dream become a reality. However, as you can imagine, this dream will take planning and resources. Last fall our youth set aside \$10,000 in pumpkin patch funds to support this dream, but we need adult volunteers willing to help develop and lead the planning. If you are interested in serving or learning more, contact Daniel.

# scattered to serve



Update  
Contact Info



If any of your contact information has changed, please email updates to [info@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:info@2ndmemphis.org).



# gathered to worship

## STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

Take a peek at our generosity and ministry costs  
Year-to-Date through 4/21/2023

Receipts	\$ 320,815
Expenses	294,259
Net	\$ 26,556

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

- Cash and Checks
- Text-to-Give: 888.704.0507
- Online at 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).

## The Great Commission

In Matthew 28:19 Jesus tells his disciples "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." That's what our Second family is all about. We reach out to those inside our walls and outside to the world beyond our walls in Memphis and far beyond! Our mission is to share Jesus' mission with everyone.



We're always looking for new ways to offset expenses, so one way is by renting our facilities to those in the community. As they come through our doors, we have great opportunities to share what has been called "hospitality evangelism." This supplements your gifts as we work together to reach others with the Gospel. We are so grateful to all of you who give your tithes, offerings, and time to keep Second Baptist moving forward in our Great Commission. Thank you!

**VBS: June 19-22: from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity!**

Daniel was torn from his home and forced into the king's service. Imagine the pressure of learning a new language and culture...and the shock of discovering your best friends have been tossed into a fiery furnace. Kids and

adults will find that they're not much different from Daniel and his friends, who kept their faith in a faithless culture. We are looking for fabulous volunteers to help with Bible stories, missions, preparing a real live marketplace, crafts and more! Childcare for those under 3 will be available. Reserve your spot by clicking the link in the Center Your Week email. Contact Abbi Carlson [abbicarlson7@gmail.com](mailto:abbicarlson7@gmail.com). or Tanya at [tmabry@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:tmabry@2ndmemphis.org) with any questions or to volunteer!



## Holiday Closing Reminder



Please note that the church office and Christian Family Life Center will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. In the event of an urgent pastoral care need during that time, please contact the minister on call at 901.604.6686.



## *A Note of thanks...*

Lent, Holy Week and Easter were full of rich and engaging worship services. Thank you to everyone who raised their voices in speech and song, to the instrumentalists, the prayers, and all who contributed and participated in these services. Each element brought something new to worship, and our church is better for what each one of your brings.

*Next up: Pentecost on the Porch on May 28! Help us spread the word!*

## South Africa Collections

Not everyone has the time or ability to go and serve IN South Africa. However, everyone can take the opportunity to be IN-VOLVED with ministries and our ministry partners in South Africa. One way to get involved is by helping supply partners with items to support their ministries. We are currently gathering requests for needed items and will begin collecting donations soon. Donations can be dropped off in the church foyer and we will set up an Amazon wish list.



## Prayers for South Africa Mission Experience

In two months, 14 Second Baptist volunteers will join 68 volunteers from six other churches to serve in South Africa. From the time Barnabas and Paul were set apart for a special missionary task, the church has laid hands, prayed for, and encouraged those sent away from the comfort of home in the name of Christ. As our team prepares for their special task, we ask that you encourage and pray for our team: Anne Bryan, Chris Bryan, Kirsten Bryan, Spencer Bryan, Benjamin Cook, Stephen Cook, Audrey Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Alice Moffatt, Amy Moffatt, Catherine Piche, Jason Piche, JoJo Piche, Lyra Piche.

**PRAY:** Safe and uninterrupted travel for all.

**PRAY:** For a sense of purpose and calling for all who are serving.

**PRAY:** That God would deepen and shape the faith of all participants.

**PRAY:** That our ministry partners would be encouraged, affirmed, and comforted by our presence.

**PRAY:** That the work we do and the resources we bring enhance the ongoing ministries of our ministry partners as they offer the love of Christ to their communities.

**PRAY:** That all we do and say would represent Christ and glorify God.

**PRAY:** That all participants would trust God as they prepare, serve, and return.



## Passport Youth Camp June 9-15, 2023

McMurry University – Abilene, TX

Completed 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades

At Passport our youth spend a week with daily Bible study, worship, and mission projects along with evening fellowships like the annual Passport dance and variety show. Youth also have the chance to create memories and deepen relationships with our Second Baptist youth group and other youth from around the country. The cost of camp is \$450 and includes a before camp adventure. Contact Daniel with questions, to sign up, or if you would like to chaperone.

## Passport Kids Camp July 15-19 · Eatonton, Georgia

If you have a friend who would love to join us at PassportKids camp—now is the time to sign up! All students who have completed grades 3-5 can attend and enjoy Bible studies, mission education, recreation, and worship at Camp hosted again at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, Georgia. Just ask anyone who went last year, and they will be able to share their fun times with outdoor games, a huge slide at the pool and meeting other campers and Passport counselors! The cost of camp is \$400 and includes a before camp adventure. Contact Tanya with questions, to sign up, or if you are interested in chaperoning.

scattered to serve

**DO YOU KNOW ANYONE LOOKING FOR A  
TEACHING POSITION?**

*Second Baptist Church*  
**IS HIRING**  
*Preschool Teachers*

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- \***LOVE FOR CHILDREN**
- \***AVAILABILITY TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS 9AM-2:45PM**
- \***TEAM PLAYER**

**CONTACT: PDO@2NDMEMPHIS.ORG**



# gathered to worship



**PASSPORT**  
Empowering Students • Embracing the World • Extending Grace

**PASSPORT YOUTH CAMP**  
June 9-15, 2023  
McMurry University  
Abilene, TX  
Completed 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades

**PASSPORT KIDS**  
July 15-19, 2023 Cost \$400  
Rock Eagle 4H Center  
Eatonton, GA  
Completed 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades  
Before Camp Adventure  
included





# Class of 2023



**Edward George**

Gateway Christian School  
Planning to work before enrolling in college



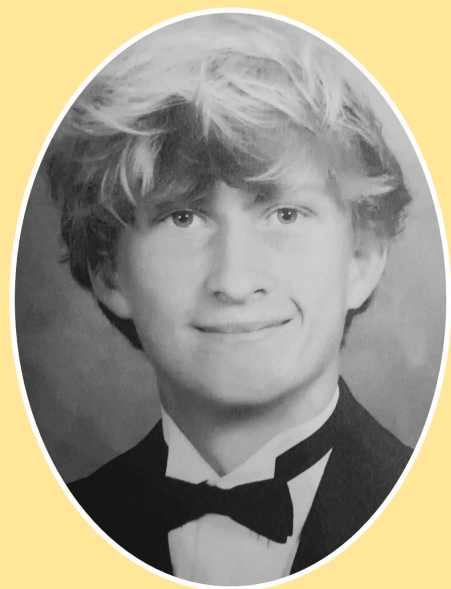
**Annie Gowen**

St. Mary's Episcopal School  
Planning to attend The University of Tennessee  
at Knoxville  
Majoring in Kinesiology



**Luke Mallory**

White Station High School  
Planning to attend Vanderbilt University  
Double majoring in Political Science & Philosophy



**Matthew McDonnell**

White Station High School  
Planning to attend University of Memphis  
Majoring in Finance



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## SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

4680 Walnut Grove Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38117  
Office: 901.682.3395

### STAFF

**Dr. Stephen Cook**  
Senior Pastor

**Mr. Larry Denman**  
Minister of  
Music & Worship

**Rev. Daniel Johnson**  
Associate Pastor

**Mrs. Tanya Mabry**  
Minister of  
Children & Families

## CHRISTIAN FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Phone: 901-682-3308 [recreation@2ndmemphis.org](mailto:recreation@2ndmemphis.org)

Monday—Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CLOSED SUNDAY