

Encountering God at the

CROSSROADS

of community and mission.

Volume 34 Issue 11

November 2023

Second Baptist PUMPKIN PATCH

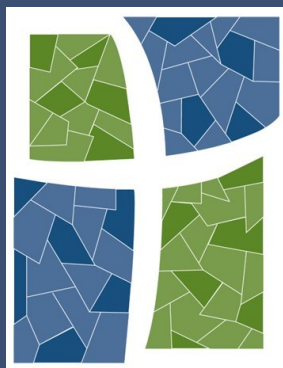


20 Years

Pumpkin Patch Appreciation Luncheon

Sunday, November 5 at 11:45 a.m.

This year, EVERYONE is invited our Volunteer Appreciation Lunch because we have so much to celebrate. Not only will we thank ALL the incredible volunteers that made this year's pumpkin patch possible, but we will also commemorate the 20th year of the Second Baptist Pumpkin Patch. It was 2004 when youth leaders from Second Baptist Church first opened and offered a pumpkin patch to the community. Since that time, the patch has seen thousands of volunteer hours, thousands of guests, thousands of dollars raised, and tons and tons of pumpkins. As a part of this year's lunch, we'll share pictures, stories, and memories from the patch over the years. We've also invited some special guests to join us. Lunch will take place in the patch beginning at 11:30 a.m. and don't forget your lawn chair. You can reserve a spot by signing up online or contacting the church office. Come help us celebrate all God has done in the pumpkin patch and through our amazing volunteers through the years. P.S. Don't forget to WEAR YOUR PUMPKIN PATCH SHIRT!



4680 Walnut Grove Road
Memphis, TN 38117
www.2ndmemphis.org

WALKER BURROUGHS



November 12 | 3:30 p.m.

Second Baptist Church
4680 Walnut Grove Road
Memphis, TN 38117

FREE ADMISSION | OUTDOOR CONCERT
FAMILY FRIENDLY | BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS

Concert on the Lawn

Invite your friends and join us on Sunday, November 12

Walker Burroughs is best known for his achievement as a top 8 finalist on American Idol. Originally from Birmingham, AL he is a graduate of Belmont University with a degree in voice and an emphasis in songwriting. Walker's music blends interesting melodies and chords with lyrics that reflect on the joy and the pain of connecting with ourselves, others and the world around us.

from the pastor

PREACHING & WORSHIP THEMES

November 5: All Saints Sunday

Title: Open to the Wounds of the World

Text: Matthew 5:1-12

OT Lesson: Psalm 73:25-28

November 12: Children's Sunday

Title: Filled, Led, Guided, and Governed

Text: Galatians 5:22-26

OT Lesson: Psalm 16

November 19:

Daniel Johnson preaching

November 26: Christ the King Sunday

Title: A Word Jesus Won't Say

Text: Matthew 25:31-46

OT Lesson: Psalm 95:1-7a

Shared Gifts, Shared Ministries, Shared Gratitude

Every autumn our church undertakes important practices that are vital to our life together every day, week, and season of the year. This is the time for talking about the financial resources we require for the mission and ministry initiatives we pursue and the day-to-day operations of our church's space and property.

When we ask you to plan your giving and to generously share in the larger work of the church, we do this at a time that also coincides with the season of thanksgiving. The money we share through our offerings to Second are, at their core, opportunities to demonstrate our gratitude. Sure, there are more than a few reasons to give, but ultimately, being generous is a way for you and me to show God that we are grateful.

As my family and I are taking steps to give more than our pledge of financial support for Second in 2023, we also plan to increase our gifts to the church in 2024. We do that because – thankfully – we are fortunate to be able to do so.

I know not everyone is in the same situation. However, I hope that all of us will remember whatever gifts we share are shared for ministry. Every dollar counts. Every offering we make is a chance for us to express our gratitude to God for the extraordinarily good gift that we've been given to be part of this remarkable, resilient community of faith that we call our Second family.

Personally, I am as grateful as ever for the privilege you give me to serve as your pastor. This month marks 13 years of us sharing life together. I am forever thankful for the continuing call we get to share as we gather to worship and scatter to serve!

Grace and peace,
Stephen

All Saints Sunday is November 5

The first Sunday in November each year is designated as All Saints Sunday. This is a time Christians remember and give thanks for our predecessors in faith. When our congregation gathers for worship that morning, we will read the names and honor the memories of those from our Second family who have died since last November and who, collectively, represent more than 300 years of membership in our church. We have invited the family members of all those who have passed away to join us that day as we celebrate these saints who now rest eternally with God.



New Deacons Elected

Please express your appreciation to the following six church members who have agreed to serve as deacon ministers with three-year terms beginning in January. These were elected by the church in our October congregational meeting: Tim Bearden, Matthew Breazeale, Bart Harris, Theresa Jennings, Sandra Livesay, and Ginny Ramey.

Stewardship Enabled

As November arrives, so do the sights and sounds of the approaching holidays.

Advertisers are already alerting us to sales and spending opportunities that bring (empty) promises to "make the season bright."



In the life of our church, we don't have slick, multimedia campaigns that can compete with major corporations. What we do have, though, are opportunities to give and share that enable our congregation to live out its ministry priorities: to TELL the story of God's love for the world, to extend HOSPITALITY to all people, to engage in INTERGENERATIONAL mission and ministry locally and globally, and to take part in SPIRITUAL formation that shapes us to be more like Christ. THIS is who we are and what we are about at Second Baptist Church.

Our gifts, shared together, enable us to keep and carry out these commitments. As we move through November, listen for the stories you will hear and the opportunities you will have to take part in something bigger than any one of us alone. These are the gifts that make the season bright, because these gifts enable us to bear witness to the One who is "the light of the world" (John 8:12).

Giving Thanks

As Christians, thankfulness should be our way of life; our first thought rather than an afterthought. I'm very grateful for my family, my church and work families, and



everything God has provided for me. My husband and I give back to God through our church as tithes and offerings are a way of expressing our thankfulness to Him.

We all have so much to offer our Lord: our time, talents, and treasures. As we approach year-end, the church is in a deficit of spending over receipts. This is not unusual, but now is the time to turn that around and have giving exceed spending.

In the coming days, you'll receive a letter along with your giving record to Second through October 31, 2023. I ask that you and your family look at your gifts and see if there's a way to catch up if you're behind, or possibly even increase what you are giving to God through Second Baptist. Every gift matters!

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus". 1 Thessalonians 5:18

- Patti Calvert

Children's Sunday

During worship on November 12, the children of 2BC will lead in all aspects of worship. They are all excited to share songs and Bible verses they have been learning through the fall. We hope you will join us to support these children, offer words of encouragement and affirmation, and see how even the youngest can share God's word with each of us.



scattered to serve



Update
Contact Info



If any of your contact information has changed, please email updates to info@2ndmemphis.org.

gathered to worship

STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

Take a peek at our generosity and ministry costs
Year-to-Date through 10/20/2023

Receipts	\$ 755,443
Expenses	812,409
Net	(\$ 56,966)*

*Figures do not include Pumpkin Patch proceeds.

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.



Second Sunday Lunch

Join us on Sunday, November 12 for our monthly Second Sunday lunch! The church will be providing the main entrée for lunch, and we are asking each family to bring an item based upon their last name. There is no charge for lunch, but please sign up at www.2ndmemphis.org/second-Sunday

- A-H a side dish to share
- I-L a salad to share
- M-Z a dessert to share



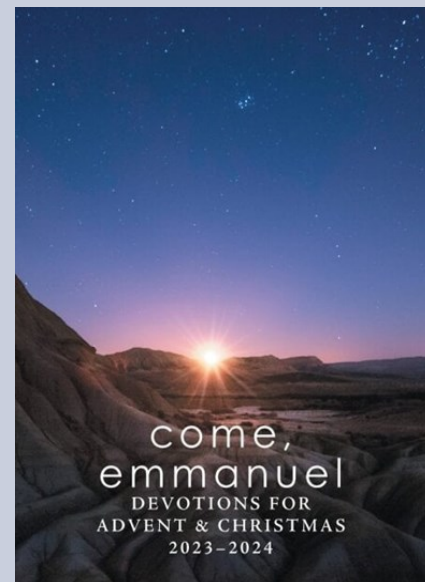
Advent Devotionals Available

The season of Advent begins on December 3. We have free devotional guides available for everyone in the Second family to pick-up beginning Sunday, November 19.

In *Come, Emmanuel*, we have the opportunity to join Christians from around the world in the Advent tradition of reflecting on brief prayers known as the "O Antiphons." Christians have used the "O Antiphons" since the eighth century. Their name comes from the way each prayer begins: "O Wisdom," "O Lord," and so on.

Originally, the "O Antiphons" were sung during evening prayer, especially in the last seven days of Advent. Around the twelfth century, the "O Antiphons" became the basis for the familiar Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

The devotions begin the first Sunday of Advent and go through the celebration of Epiphany on January 6. Please take one book per household and enjoy the rich traditions, reflections, and insights afforded for this sacred season of the year!



Daylight Saving Time Reminder

Please remember to set your clocks *back* one hour before going to bed on Saturday, November 4. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep as Daylight Saving Time ends that evening and then come refreshed and ready for Sunday school, worship, and our pumpkin patch volunteer appreciation lunch!



Christmas Baskets

Saturday, December 16

Coordinated by our Deacon Benevolence team, Second Baptist provides Christmas baskets full of food and grace to families in need, and there are several ways you can help.

1. You can submit names to the church office (info@2ndmemphis.org) by December 6 of anyone who could benefit from receiving a basket or scan the QR code to submit their information.
2. You can collect and donate banana boxes used to carry the food we share.
3. You can make a financial donation to support this ministry. Whether you donate online or by mail, please designate the donation "Christmas Basket Ministry."
4. You can share the joy and generosity of Christ to a family by delivering baskets on Saturday, December 16. Watch for upcoming Second Baptist communications to sign up to deliver.



Second Family Christmas Tree

The first Sunday of December is the first Sunday of Advent. This is when we decorate our Second Family Christmas Tree and share in the hanging of the green. *If you would like to contribute an ornament to include on the tree, please bring that to the church by Sunday, November 26.* Your ornament might represent something about your family (hobbies, interests, etc.) or simply express your joy during the season.

Poinsettias for Advent and Christmas

This year during the Advent and Christmas seasons, the children of 2BC are selling poinsettias to help raise funds that will help others during the holidays. If you would like to

donate a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone, please complete the form and submit your secure online payment below. Each poinsettia costs \$15, with \$5 going towards the children's ministry project. Please place your orders by December 1.



Banana Boxes Needed

Each December, we collect and use hundreds of banana boxes for our Christmas Basket ministry. We often collect more than we need which gives us a supply to help us get started the next year. However, during October, we had to use all our leftover banana boxes to fulfill an order of 4,000 pumpkins. So, we need your help to make sure we have enough banana boxes for this year's Christmas Basket delivery. As you do your grocery shopping, please talk to your local grocery stores and ask for empty banana boxes. Whether you collect one box or a whole trunk full, they all help. Boxes can be dropped off at the church.

scattered to serve

gathered to worship



Hanging of the Green Rehearsal and Preparation

Sunday, November 19

For decades, the youth of Second Baptist have played a pivotal role in Hanging of the Green. Though the service has now expanded to involve all ages, the youth still lead the way in decorating and setting a festive but intentional tone for the service. To ensure our youth are prepared for their responsibilities, we will have a Hanging of the Green rehearsal after church on Sunday, November 19. Followed by a quick lunch, youth will gather in the sanctuary to be assigned and practice their roles in decorating the sanctuary. We NEED ALL YOUTH to attend this rehearsal so we can help lead the rest of the church on the first Sunday of Advent.



One of the greatest things about Second Baptist is there are opportunities for everyone to be involved. Young or old, newest member or founding member (or not yet a member!), there is a place for you to be engaged and contribute to the ministries of this church family. Throughout the month of November, we will hear music from our children, a ladies' trio, solos, violin and piano students, and even a surprise guest director!

And, if you have thought about joining the choir, it is not too late to join us on Wednesday evenings as we continue our preparations for Advent and Christmas.

As we enter into this month in which thankfulness is on our minds, there is a lot to be thankful for in the life and ministries of Second Baptist Church!

Share The Front Porch Survey

During the Pumpkin Patch, we've received more than 60 responses to our Front Porch survey but we'd love to have even more. Please share the QR code or weblink with friends, neighbors, or others who could give us helpful feedback.



Second Baptist
**PUMPKIN
& PATCH**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



We want feedback from our
- neighbors and community -
as we faithfully consider developing our
front porch
into a space where every person
can experience
kindness & hospitality
all year long.

THE
**FRONT
PORCH**



Second Baptist Church Pumpkin Patch

FAMILY ministry

Thank You to Our Pumpkin Festival Volunteers!

Our Pumpkin Festival was once again a HUGE success because of each of YOU and your willingness to volunteer! Over 550 families and friends visited the festival along with 60 community high school students and over 85 Second Baptist family of all ages volunteering! What a wonderful day to share the love of Jesus with others! So many of you volunteered to participate, donate candy and pray for good weather! It was all appreciated!

A special "thank you" to the Pumpkin Captains who led these groups: Parking: John Moore and Aaron Parker; Volunteer Check in: Pam Harris; Registration: Bonnie Smith; Monster Mash: Julia Pilgrim; Trunk or Treat Cars: Catherine Denman and Whitney Hochstein; Hot Dog Prep: Betty Sexton; Games: Daniel Johnson; Lunches for Volunteers: Stephen Cook; Hayride: Tommy Sexton; Photos in the Patch: Steve Waring and Lindsey Moore; Iceman: Daniel Hochstein.

There are so many others who brought tents, coolers, candy and smiles! You are all appreciated. Thank YOU so much!

scattered to serve





CROSS ROADS (USPS 0005-206) is published monthly by Second Baptist Church, 4680 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, TN 38117-2599. Periodical Postage Paid at Memphis, TN.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CROSS ROADS, 4680 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, TN 38117.



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

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