

New Outlook

October
2025

Second Baptist Church

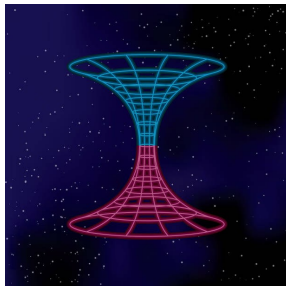
Open and progressive since 1833



Pet Blessing. We love on our furry (or reptilian) companions and celebrate the incredible St. Francis as we gather together for our annual pet blessing on Saturday, October 4 at 1:00. We will meet in the yard by the upper parking lot. Bring your pup, your kitty, your bunny, your lizard for a super short service and a time of blessing.

Steve

Stretch your mind!



Come to Men's Breakfast on Saturday, October 11, at 8:00 a.m. to have a great breakfast and a mind-stretching experience. Jeff Hoyt is going to speak on the topic: "Time: A scientific perspective." Learn about how special relativity relates to time.

It's called Men's Breakfast because the men do the cooking, but women are invited too. The cost is \$10.



We will be passing out candy and engaging with people in our community on Sunday evening, October 26, from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

We need cars that will be arranged in the upper parking lot from whose trunks candy will be dispensed, and we need candy, candy, candy. A collection box will be stationed in the Narthex.

This event has become a church tradition and it is so much fun!!!!!! Plan to participate.

Steve

Worship service Sundays at 10:30 a.m. In person or live on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/155120191289/live/> or later at 2ndbc.org/services.



A service in the Karen language is held in Fellowship Hall after the Sunday worship service.

The Next Steps Group will meet Thursdays, **October 2, 16, and 30** in the Community Room at 6:00 p.m.

Pet Blessing will be held in the upper parking lot on Saturday, October 4, at 1:00 p.m.

The Grief Group will meet after church **October 5 and 19**.

Chair yoga meets at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, **October 7** in Fellowship Hall. Bring a lunch if you'd like to stay and eat with others.

Men's breakfast will resume on Saturday, **October 11**, at 8:00 in Fellowship Hall. Jeff Hoyt will speak. See p. 1 for details. Women are invited too!

The Faith Support Group will meet via Zoom Monday, **October 13**, at 6:00 p.m. The link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81521781156>. Passcode: faith.

The Book Group will meet in the Community Room Tuesday, **October 14**, at 1:00 p.m. to discuss *Vinegar Girl*, by Anne Tyler. Led by Cindy Collins.

Church council meets Monday, **October 20**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

The **deadline** for contributions to the November issue of the *New Outlook* is Monday, **October 20**.

The **Treat Yourself Tuesday** group will go out to eat on **October 21**. Check the bulletin for when and where.

Trunk or Treat will be Sunday, **October 26**, from 4:00—6:00 in the upper parking lot.

Game Day Tuesday, **October 28**, at 11:00 in the Community Room. Bring a sack lunch.

Looking ahead to November

On November 2 Second Baptist, Antioch Baptist, and Dayspring Baptist will have a joint worship service at Antioch Baptist. Steve Mechem will give the message.

Daylight savings ends November 2.

Hanging of the Green during the Sunday School hour on November 30.

And one more September event:

The Treat Yourself Tuesday group is having lunch at Joey B's restaurant, 14445 Manchester Road, in Manchester, on Tuesday, September 30. Meet there at 11:30 p.m. Let Pastor Steve know if you plan to attend.



Mirian, Carey, and friends singing Fanny Crosby's "Blessed Assurance" in worship on August 31.



The Second Baptist Kids sang "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart" on September 21.



On September 9 former interim pastor Mike Dixon (black shirt, far end) led a discussion of *Somehow*, by Anne Lamott. Mike's wife Sandy is between Gloria Barbre and Mike.

Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.

Frederick Buechner (1926 - 2022)



October reflections

October 5	The Climb	Psalm 121
October 12	Where the Streets Have No Name	John 4:21-24
October 19	We Are One	Galatians 3:8-9
October 26	Fast Car	Philippians 3:12-14

Launch Sunday 2025

It started with breakfast. . .



After breakfast we had a brief introduction to the Sunday School classes.



Children ages 5—10 are learning about the miracles and parables of Jesus.



The Living Faith Class is studying the book *The Bible with and without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently*, by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler.



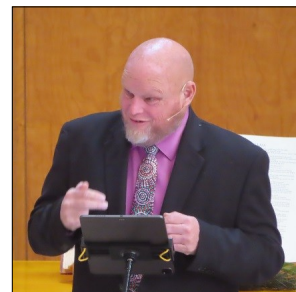
The Bible Class is reflecting on how to become a Beatitude collective, learning to work together to bless others.

From our pastor. . .

Hey Everybody,

I am a fan of the WNBA (the Women's National Basketball Association). The team I follow most closely is the Indiana Fever.

As the season that has just ended was beginning, the Indiana Fever looked like they were a team that would be battling for the championship. They had three All-Stars, including the woman that many believe is the future of the WNBA. During the off-season, they picked up several players with playoff experience and who were just outstanding leaders on the teams from which they came. They looked loaded and ready to compete.



But before the season even started, their very best player got hurt and only played in about a quarter of the games in the season, and another important player got injured as the season began and was out of action for several games. Then a player that they had hoped would bring veteran stability to the team left the team. And then more and more players were injured. It felt like an avalanche of injuries. And so, by the final game of the season, on the Fever bench sat six players in street clothes because they couldn't play.

With a constant rotation of new players because of injuries and the need to completely change the offensive and defensive strategies of the team because of lost players, one might suppose that the team might just give up because it was just so daunting.

But they didn't. As new players came and they embraced their roles, the team learned to play with the motto "Next woman up."

Another motto developed near the end of the season. It became the team's mantra: "We all we got, we all we need." In the midst of adversity, they learned to rely on each other and found strength and hope in each other. (The Indiana Fever made the playoffs, which is extraordinary, in light of the way the season played out. As of this writing, they are still in the playoffs, encouraging each other—"We all we got, we all we need.")

When I think about Second Baptist Church, who we've been and who we are and who we might become, I think that the motto "We all we got, we all we need" suits us.

Of course we love to have new people with new ideas and new energy, but who we have at this moment in time is who we have, and who we have in this moment of time is all we need.

I am so thankful to be a part of the incredible community of faith that is Second Baptist Church.

Let's take care of each other, 🤞
Steve (he, him, his)

Second Baptist Church of Greater St. Louis

An American Baptist Church
9030 Clayton Road at McKnight
St. Louis, Missouri 63117-1094

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School for all ages at 9:15 a.m.

Worship service 10:30 a.m.

Worship in the Karen language 11:30 a.m.

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Website: www.2ndbc.org

Rev. Stephen Mechem, Pastor

stevemechem@gmail.com

Mary Winter, Moderator

Mary Shepardson, Newsletter editor

Reporting Live from PRIDE:

Tower Grove Park. Section **Purple**, Site 45. Saint Stanilaus Catholic Church to the left of us. Archway Defenders is to the right of us.

It is a gorgeous day. Friends hanging out together. So much color. A constant and steady flow of foot traffic. Awesome people watching. Lots of love notes and cookies shared. We will run out of cookies before the day is done. Lots of dogs. Dogs petted. Dogs treated. Dogs provided with water.



So many conversations, most lighthearted, a few downright real. One man said after reading a love note that he was going to have the words of the love note tattooed on his body. I think he was joking.

Folks surprised that our church would be here. Folks appreciating our presence at Pride. Folks in our little community enjoying the bigger community. The feeling of love and grace is in the air.

Best day ever. Can't wait till tomorrow.

Steve Mechem, Jr. Reporter