

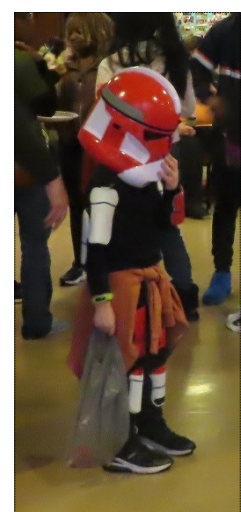
New Outlook

November
2023

Second Baptist Church
Open and progressive since 1833



Trunk-or-Treat



See next page for details!

Afterglow

Steve Mechem sent this email out the morning after Trunk-or-Treat.

Yesterday evening was Trunk-or-Treat. We never know how many people will come to this annual event. We have had as few as a couple dozen and as many as 150.

It was raining last night, so we moved Trunk or Treat inside. Judi set up games in the hallway, Joy and Allen had a spread of snacks in the narthex, Cindy cooked hot dogs, people who had volunteered their cars sat in chairs or stood with bowls of candy in the narthex, foyer, and down the hallway. Folks decorated with decorations they usually use to decorate their trunks. Spooky music (and weirdly, an occasional Christmas song) was in the air.



To be honest, we did not expect many folks to show up. We assumed we would have a little Halloween party amongst the few of us assembled there.

But. . .

They started coming before 4:00 - butterflies, video game characters, dragons, princesses, Pokémons, witches, super heroes, Sesame Street friends, horror movie villains, zombies, ghosts, grim reapers, and people in spooky masks poured in.

Nobody counted, but most were guessing that well over 200 people showed up for Trunk-or-Treat on a cold and rainy night. It was beautiful chaos. We ran low on candy, low on prizes for the games, and we wiped out Joy's goodies. Spirits were high, there was a ton of laughter, and the joy in the building was palpable, as all of us found refuge from the rain and cold and shared together in a truly remarkable community event.

Thanks to everybody for all your help. I love happy surprises.

November reflections

November 5	The One Luke 17:11-19
November 12	Huh? Okay. John 18:38-40
November 19	Jerry Keeney preaching
November 26	Hoping there is enough Matthew 14:18-21



In November, we are promoting the World Mission Offering, which generates financial support for our missionaries and ministers around the world. The WMO will focus on three major areas: abolishing global slavery, health and wellness, and economic and community development. The global servants (missionaries) working in these areas need our support to make progress.

Please give to the World Mission Offering.

Thanks, Rick Rardin, World Missions Chair

Beginning **November 2**, choir rehearsals will start at **6:30 p.m.** and last until 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays. **Note: This is a time change.** The choir will also rehearse at 8:45 on Sunday mornings. **Another change:** The November 23 rehearsal will be moved to November 21 because of Thanksgiving.

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

Second Sunday Choir practices right after church on Sundays. This group will sing in worship on Sunday, November 12. That morning they will rehearse at 10:10 a.m.

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/sermons.

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

The Book Group will meet in the Community Room on Tuesday, **November 14**, at 1:00 p.m. to discuss *Cultish*, by Amanda Montell. Kara Windler will lead the discussion.

The Faith Support Group will meet via Zoom Monday, **November 13**, at 6:00 p.m. The link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81521781156>. Passcode: faith. This group meets via Zoom to support each other and discuss spiritual readings supplied by members of the group. All are welcome. For more information, contact Brooke Justis.

The Men's Breakfast Group will meet Saturday, **November 18** at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

From Larry Marks: Since there is very limited legislative activity occurring until next year, the **Social Justice Group** will take a break from meetings until Tuesday, January 9, 2024.

Looking ahead to December:



Christmas caroling on Saturday, **December 2**! All those interested will meet at the church at 2:00 to organize car pools. We will travel around that afternoon to sing at the homes of folks who aren't able to come to church easily anymore. Addresses and lyric sheets will be provided, and all are welcome.

Advent begins Sunday, December 3.

The Annual Christmas Luncheon and Talent Show will be Sunday, **December 10**.



We are partnering with Antioch Baptist Church again and have a goal of providing Thanksgiving baskets for 300 families. If you'd like to help, you can make your check out to Second Baptist Church and write "Thanksgiving" on the memo line.

Please make your donation by Sunday, November 12.



Daylight savings time ends Sunday, **November 5**. Be sure to set your clocks back an hour.

Two new members!



Alara with her family: Joseph, Lauren, Deanna, Richard, Ayla, and Alara Heller

Alara Heller was baptized on October 15 by her father, Richard Heller, our church moderator. Pastor Steve officiated.

Alara is in the 7th grade at Fulton Junior High School in O'Fallon, Illinois. Her favorite subjects are language and science. She likes to play volleyball and to sing pop songs.

Her mother described Alara as "smart, sweet, and caring." She was recently inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.

Last summer Alara went to Quest with our youth group for the first time. She especially enjoyed the team games.

We welcome Alara to membership in Second Baptist Church!



We welcome Krista Collins to membership in Second Baptist Church! Krista first came to the church to hear her daughter Sarah sing in the Southern Illinois University's Women's Choral. She took some information from the Welcome Center and decided to visit. She says, "I never thought I would find a church again. I knew the first time I came that I belonged here."

Krista has been active here since the day she arrived: singing with the Second Sunday Choir, singing a solo in the worship service, serving Communion, reading the Scripture in the service, contributing insightful comments in the Bible class, and volunteering at Second Baptist's booth at the Tower Grove Pride for the whole weekend.

Krista moved from Mobile, Alabama, to the St. Louis area 10 years ago. She is an engineer at Olin Corporation, currently working in IT. She has two daughters, Emily, 23, and Sarah, 21.

We are so glad to have you as a member of our church, Krista!

Men's breakfast October 21, 2023



On Saturday, October 21, the Men's Breakfast Group convened to share a delicious breakfast prepared in our kitchen by a team of irreverent chefs under Mike Apple's close supervision. There had been a prolonged hiatus in our gatherings because of the Covid pandemic, but there was a sense of warmth and comradery that filled the room. Much had happened in the interim in each of our lives, with a lot of "catching up" to be done.

We had 15 men from Second and 2 from Dayspring. We adjourned by 9:00 to start on Pat Justis' beautification of the church grounds project. Such a great experience! All of it!

We're looking forward to our next get-together on November 18. More information will be shared on that gathering in the next few weeks.

Jay Jensen

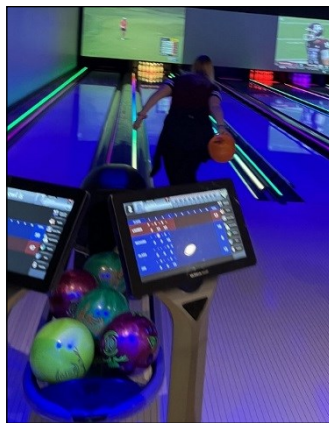
The Primary Class



Youth bake sale



Bowling and playing laser tag



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.

Telephone & fax (314) 991-3424

E-mail: office@2ndbc.org

Website: www.2ndbc.org

Rev. Stephen Mechem, Pastor

stevemechem@gmail.com

Richard Heller, Moderator

On October 15, The Community Gospel Choir of St. Louis put on a concert to thank Second Baptist for allowing them to use our space for weekly practice. It was wonderful! See last month's issue or go to <https://communitygospelchoir.org/> for more information about this group.



Photos by Judy Comfort