

New Outlook

April 2026

Second Baptist Church

Open and progressive since 1833



Easter Sunday



Instead of singing a Good Friday service this year, the choir has been putting their energy into the upcoming April 5 Easter morning service. All of the vocal music presented that day will come from the Easter portion of Handel's *Messiah*, which will neatly bookend the music from December's Songs and Sonnets service, when we presented choral excerpts from the Christmas portion of this famous masterwork.

For Easter morning, the choir is excitedly rehearsing "Behold the Lamb of God," "Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs," "Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates," and "Since By Man Came Death." These gorgeous selections will take us on a memorable musical journey through the Holy Week events. Then Rick Rardin will sing the soaring "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" as a solo. The service will conclude with the triumphant "Hallelujah Chorus," in which folks in the audience will be welcome to join the choir in singing this stirring finale. It will be a very special day of music. We invite you to come celebrate with us, and bring family and friends.

There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Marilyn Short

Time for the Easter egg hunt!

Right after the worship service, there will be an Easter egg hunt for the children. The youth will stuff and hide the Easter eggs. Bring your kids and grandchildren and enjoy the fun. Don't forget your camera!



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 Sanctuary Choir will rehearse on Thursday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 2, and resume their 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday schedule after that. They will rehearse on Sunday, April 5, from 9—10:15 and April 19 from 8:45—9:15 a.m. They will be off Sunday, April 12.

The Second Sunday Choir will rehearse right after church each Sunday, except April 12, when they will rehearse at 10:10 a.m. and then sing in worship.

Easter Sunday is Sunday, April 5. See p.1 for details.

Chair Yoga will be offered in Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, **April 7**. Bring a sack lunch if you'd like to stay and eat with others.

The Next Steps Group will meet Thursdays, **April 2, 16, and 30**, at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room.

Men's breakfast will be Saturday, **April 11**, at 8:00 a.m. Jay Jensen will speak on Alzheimer's Disease and dementia. Women are invited too. See p. 5 for details.

The Grief Group will meet after church in the Community Room on Sunday, **April 12**.

The Faith Support Group will meet via Zoom Monday, **April 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, **April 14**, at 1:00 p.m. to discuss *The Greatest Sentence Ever Written*, by Walter Isaacson. Mike Dixon will lead the discussion.

The **Treat Yourself Tuesday Group** will meet for lunch at 11:30 on Tuesday, **April 21**, at Cafe Provençal in Kirkwood. Please sign up at the Welcome Center in the narthex or let Linda Marks know you will be coming.

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

Antioch Baptist, Second Baptist, and Dayspring Baptist will worship together at Dayspring Baptist, 1001 Municipal Center Drive, Town and Country, on Sunday, **April 26**. Dayspring will provide lunch after the service. There will be no Sunday School or worship service at Second Baptist that day.

Game Day is Tuesday, **April 28**. Bring a sack lunch and join us at 11:00 in the Community Room for table games.



If you are graduating this spring or know someone from Second Baptist who is, please let Mary Shepardson know. Next month will be our graduation issue.

One more March event

Since March has 5 Tuesdays, the Treat Yourself Tuesday group will be going on an outing on March 31 to the St. Louis History Museum in Forest Park. They have 3 exhibits to see: Made in St. Louis, Yours Forever Forest Park, and Mill Creek: Black Metropolis. We will stay for lunch at Amighetti's on site.

Sign up at the Welcome Center or let Linda Marks know if you can come.



Second Baptist's former building in the news



Second Baptist's former church building is in the news again. It's a complicated story, with multiple companies involved. An architectural firm has filed a lawsuit against the Gospel Music Hall of Fame Inc., claiming that it failed to pay more than \$197,000 in project fees.

The plan was to turn the building into a museum and cultural attraction highlighting the impact of gospel music.

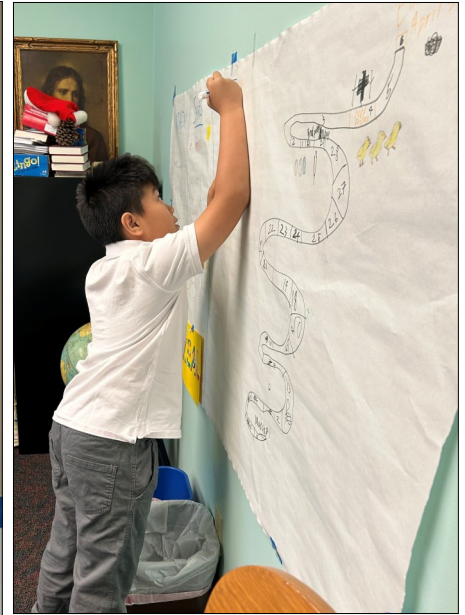
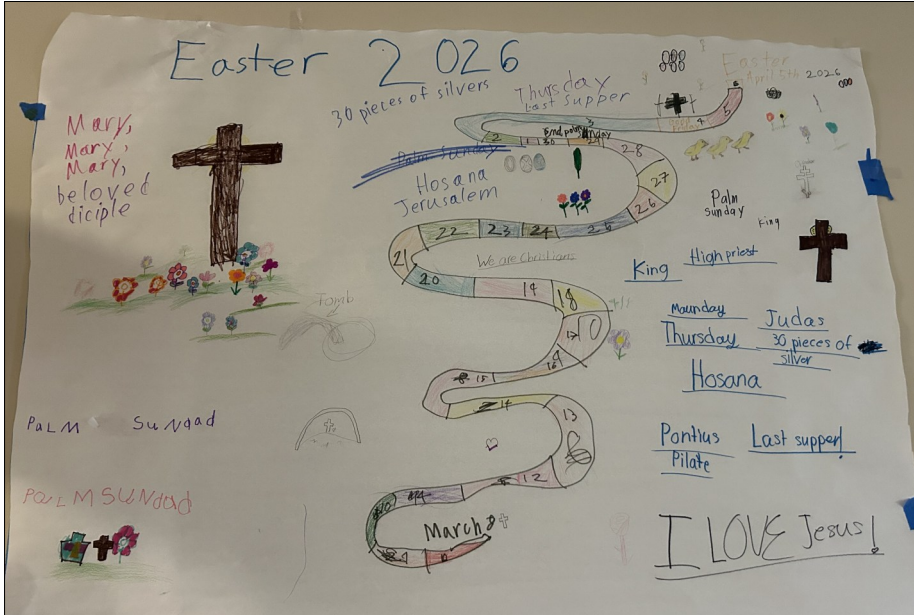
Second Baptist built this building and occupied it from 1908 to 1955. Larry Marks is the only current member of Second Baptist who attended the church at this location. The building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The full article can be found in the March 13 issue of the *St. Louis Business Journal*. If you'd like a copy, let Mary Shepardson know. Thanks to Judy Comfort for passing this on to us.



Second Baptist Church is looking for someone to fill the role of Office Manager. It is a 20 hour per week position. If you know of anyone who might be interested, have them contact Pastor Steve at stevemechem@gmail.com.

The Lenten Journey



The kids made a mural of the Lenten journey. You can see it up close in the hall outside their classroom.

Unity in the Community



Participants in the service at St. Mary's Hospital



The soloist at Church of the Living God



The St. Mary's Hospital chaplain spoke

Jay Jensen to speak on Alzheimer's at Men's Breakfast



This might be a good time to bring a friend to Second Baptist for the next Saturday Breakfast when Jay Jensen will be leading a discussion on Alzheimer's Disease and dementia. The date is April 11th; the time 8:00 a.m. Guests are free. The suggested donation for regulars is \$10.00. Women are welcome too.

Bring your stories, questions, and comments in abundance. The Sunday before the breakfast, an insert will appear in your bulletin so that you can indicate your interest. Let's make those chefs work!

Ron Barbre

On Saturday, April 25, Pat Justis will be participating in a rehab project for a home in Webster Groves. The project is an initial affordable housing effort of Churches Together for Social Justice, a group of churches primarily located in Webster Groves, which Second is associated with. It is hoped that this will be the beginning of an ongoing effort to see several such rehabs in the fall and spring of each year.



The rehab is being carried out under the guidance of Rebuilding Together St. Louis, an organization that has fostered the rehab of over 4,000 homes in the St. Louis area since 1993. The purpose of the organization is to provide home modifications and repairs for income qualified older adults, veterans, and people with disabilities.

If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact me.

Larry Marks, Community Missions Chair

April reflections

April 5	Beautiful Day	John 20:16-18
April 12	Breathe Me; Let Go; Move On Up Kara Windler preaching	John 20:19-31
April 19	Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?	1 Corinthians 13:13
Apr 26	Joint service at Dayspring	Delano Benson preaching

From our pastor. . .

Hey everybody,

In honor of Easter and the promise of new life, I share with you this poem by Mary Oliver.



Messenger

My work is loving the world.

Here the sunflowers, there the hummingbird—
equal seekers of sweetness.

Here the quickening yeast; there the blue plums.
Here the clam deep in the speckled sand.

Are my boots old? Is my coat torn?

Am I no longer young, and still half-perfect? Let me
keep my mind on what matters,
which is my work,

which is mostly standing still and learning to be
astonished.

The phoebe, the delphinium.

The sheep in the pasture, and the pasture.

Which is mostly rejoicing, since all the ingredients are here,

which is gratitude, to be given a mind and a heart
and these body-clothes,

a mouth with which to give shouts of joy
to the moth and the wren, to the sleepy dug-up clam,
telling them all, over and over, how it is
that we live forever.

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

Answer to quiz on p. 2: A

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: (314) 991-3424

E-mail: office@2ndbc.org

Website: www.2ndbc.org

Rev. Stephen Mechem, Pastor

stevemechem@gmail.com

Krista Collins, Moderator

Mary Shepardson. Newsletter editor

