#### FROM THE PASTOR

I hope and pray that you have had a great week. As you may have heard, the motion from Sunday passed with 85% majority. We are thankful for the numerous conversations we have had both in support and in opposition. This was a complex decision, but we are thankful for the spirit of Christian unity that has guided the process. The good news is that we now have a plan to help move us forward in the near future. While we all want things to go back to the way they were, this thinking is unrealistic. Covid is here and its effects will be long lasting. Whether that is six months or six years, we will be challenged in how we do things, every step of the way. We are excited for worship on Sunday and the opportunity to begin meeting in Life Groups again. Please note that our start times are 8:30 AM (Worship), 9:45 AM (Life Groups), 10:45 AM (Worship). The choir will be singing in the 10:45 AM service for the month of October and the 8:30 AM service during the month of November. Barry has shared with me that it will just take time to grasp how many people will participate in choir and how best to utilize in each service. Also, take time to look over the provided schedule in this week's newsletter to see when other ministries plan to begin.

While we are regathering, there will still be numerous safeguards in place in light of Covid. We will continue spacing in the sanctuary according to service time. The offering boxes will continue to be the means for giving in person and we ask that you continue to respect the space of those around you. At this time, we plan to continue making the newsletter available on a weekly basis. However, at some point in the near future, a half sheet handout will be available on Sunday. It will highlight important upcoming events as well as provide sermon section for notes. This handout is important for visitors to have information on what is happening in the life of our church.

Finally, don't forget about our celebration this Sunday afternoon. I want to invite you at 3:00 PM to our prayer and rededication time in the newly renovated fellowship hall. After that we want to invite you to visit around to various ministry tables to learn how you can get involved in the life of our church. It will be a great time of celebration and fellowship as we thank God for His blessings, while turning our attention to the future work He has called us too.

For His alory, Justin Hiens

#### EDUCATION

I am very excited about the future of Second Baptist Church! While we have offered two options for Sunday morning worship, we have seen a large number of visitors. Every Sunday I meet new families that have heard good things about Second Baptist and are coming to see what the Lord is doing here. I recognize that having two services and an influx of visitors presents a very real issue: How do you get to know new people but attend different services? The answer: Life Groups! While we may be going to worship at different times, there's only one time for Life Groups. So 8:30 AM worshipers can meet 10:45 AM worshipers at 9:45 AM in Life Groups! Now, more than ever, it is vital for you to be a part of a Life Group. If you are unsure of which group to attend, reach out to me and I would love the opportunity to share all of the available groups! See you in Life Groups!

Firmly in His Hands, Bro. Sam

#### **OPEN HOUSE & ROUND UP**

We invite you to join us from 3:00-5:00 PM (Come and Go), this coming Sunday, October 4, in our newly renovated fellowship hall/gymnasium. We will begin at 3:00 PM with a simple celebration and time of prayer rededicating the facility to the Lord. Also during this time, there will be a Ministry Round Up event in the gym as we celebrate getting back in the saddle of church again. Multiple ministries will be present sharing and providing information on how you can get involved. A drawing for an Apple iWatch will be given to those who



complete a Round up card by visiting 5 ministry tables during the afternoon. Light refreshments and drinks will be served. Below is a **TENTATIVE** schedule of activities:

Handbells	Wednesday, October 14 6:00 PM Handbell Room		Handbell Room	
Children's Choir Little Hands of God	Sunday, October 11	4:30 PM	Children's Wing	
Preschool Choir	Sunday, October 11	5:00 PM	Children's Wing	
Worship Choir	Wednesdays	7:10-8:00 PM	Choir Room	
Signs of Wonder	Sunday, October 11	4:00 PM	Sanctuary	
RAs/GAs/Mission Friends Wednesdays		6:00 PM	Children's Wing	
Children's Church	Sunday, October 4	During 8:30 & 1	0:45 AM service	
Youth	Sundays	5:00 PM	Upper Room	
Men's Prayer Group	Thursday, October 22	6:30 AM	Fellowship Hall	
WInGS	Sunday, October 18	5:00 PM	F-102	
Women on Mission	Monday, October 19	10:00 AM	Fellowship Hall	
Young at Heart	Tuesday, October 13	10:30 AM	Old Country Store, Jackson	
Wednesday Meals	Wednesday, October 21	5:00-5:45 PM	Fellowship Hall	
Bag Ladies	TBD			

## FROM THE COUNSELOR'S DESK

"Can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the Lord." Although this question was asked by the Lord to Jeremiah as God was bringing judgment upon the nation of Israel for their idolatry in forsaking the Lord, it is a reminder of God's sovereignty over our own lives. Just like the potter determines what to do with the clay, so God sovereignly determines the direction, plan, and will for our very lives as well even if it is not what we would like, plan, or choose. When you become a follower of Jesus, you surrendered completely to Him; your desires, plans, money, relationships, everything to Him. There is an old hymn written after this verse in Jeremiah 18 entitled, Have Thine Own Way, which illustrates for us the type of surrender God desires. Let me ask you, are you willing to allow God to have His way in your life? Have you completely surrendered to Him or is there an area in your life you are still trying to control? Jesus' model of surrendering to God even though it meant death is an example we should emulate. God desires us to live with open hands and a blank check on our lives. After you read this article this week, let me encourage you to pray this prayer...... "God I am surrendered to you today. Mold me, prune me, and use me for your kingdom and for your glory." Then watch God work! Because of Him. Bro. Russell

# YOUTH

We had a great turn out this week for our Back 2 School event at the pavilion with around 90 students in attendance. As always, Jalen and the worship leaders did an amazing job. Maybe meeting outside at the pavilion is something we can do more of in the future. I think everyone enjoyed their time outside. Congratulations to all those who won door prizes.

Blessings, Bro, Brad

Life Groups will begin meeting again this week at 9:45 AM for all of our students. I hope to see everyone this week as we begin the new Sunday schedule. Also, we will continue to have our main youth services on Sundays at 5:00 PM in the Upper Room. This week we will begin a 4 week series in the book of James.

Over the next few Wednesday nights at 6:00 PM, I am going to be leading a discipleship class in the Upper Room titled, "Unlocking the Scriptures", that will focus on how to read, study and understand God's word better. This will be a very informal time together as we learn how to study the Bible. I would like to encourage some of our students to look at serving opportunities as they come available on Wednesday nights. There will be plenty of places to serve in the coming weeks.

On October 28 we will be having a big scavenger hunt at the fairground instead of our annual Pumpkin Chase. We will be partnering with First Baptist Youth for this event. We will need volunteers so be on the lookout for those announcements. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

#### DECISIONS



Marcos & Janice Del Valle Sarah & Lindsey Marcos, Janice & Sarah: By Letter Lindsey: Baptism

#### **DISCOVER SECOND**

We will be having a DISCOVER SECOND class on Sunday, October 25 at 9:45 AM in the upstairs room in the Fellowship Hall. Visiting, recently joined or considering joining Second Baptist? This is an excellent opportunity to see who we are, what we believe, and what we are aiming to achieve. Class led by Bro. Sam Coleman. Call the church office 885-5223 to sign up.

Henry & Robin Brainard

By Letter

#### LADIES

I am so excited about our Women's Retreat this year! The dates are Friday, November 13 and Saturday, November 14. Jennifer Hand will be returning to lead us as we study how God can turn our graves into gardens. We will be staying at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park and the cost is \$100. A sign-up sheet will be at the Information Center and a \$25 deposit is due by October 18. I cannot wait to see what God has in store for us.

Cherry Hiens

#### THANK YOU

Thank you for your monetary gifts to the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home, Journey, Meals Seasoned with Love, Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Golden State Offering and the church budget in memory of Richard. He would have been so humbled as each of these organizations were very special to him. Our family is so thankful for your thoughtfulness.

Patty Arnold and family

## <u>SYMPATHY</u>

Russell Barker and his family on the death of his father, Clifford Barker. Karen Carr and her family on the death of her mother, Mildred Cole. Joan Emrich and her family on the death of her husband, Bill Emrich.

#### BIBLE READING PLAN

Mon.	September 28	E
Tues.	September 29	E
Wed.	September 30	E
Thurs.	October 1	E
Fri.	October 2	E
Sat.	October 3	E
Sun.	October 4	E

Ezekiel 31 & Psalm 79 Ezekiel 32 & Psalm 80 Ezekiel 33 & Psalm 81-82 Ezekiel 34 & Psalm 83-84 Ezekiel 35 & Psalm 85 Ezekiel 36 & Psalm 86-87 Ezekiel 37 & Psalm 88

## FINANCIALS

Week of September 2	0, 202	0	Year-To-Date	
Budget Actual	\$	25,737.50	Budget Actual	\$ 91,518.11
Budget Goal	\$	33,934.05	Budget Goal	\$ 101,802.15
Journey of Faith	\$	1,035.00	Journey of Faith	\$ 2,745.00
Children's Home	\$	100.00	Children's Home	\$ 720.00
Golden State	\$	200.00	Golden State	\$ 1,730.00
Designated Offering	\$	880.06		

Please note: When making your contributions online, please choose the option to use your routing number and account number, instead of using your debit card. The fees for debit card use are on the rise and we want to use as much of your contribution as possible for the Kingdom.

#### WATCH THE SERVICES

Stay connected by viewing our Sunday morning and evening services through these avenues:

Television: Sundays • 8:00 PM on CH 8 or 26

Radio: Sundays • 10:15 AM on FM 104.9 Facebook: Second Baptist Church-Union City Official

YouTube: Search Second Baptist Church Onion City Omician YouTube: Search Second Baptist UC (live Sunday AM)



# GATHER · GROW · GO · GIVE

831 Everett Boulevard Union City, TN 38261

Return Services Requested

Non-Profit Organ. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 21 Union City, TN