

## *A conversation with Alex Hailey, 1965*

In January 1965, Alex Hailey interviewed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., shortly after accepting Nobel Peace prize.

Hailey:

*There are several stories dealing with your non-violent campaign to combat segregation. Your followers are called rabble-rousers and outside agitators. Do you feel you've earned these labels?*

King responds:

When the early Christians, spread Jesus' doctrine of love, the resident power structure accused them of being "disturbers of the peace" and "outside agitators."

But the small Christian community, ***banded together***, and continued to ***teach*** and ***exemplify love***, convinced that they were a "colony of heaven," on this earth who were missioned not to obey man, but God.

Third's 172nd anniversary is celebrated Sunday, February 12—following Morning Worship—you're invited to gather in Johnson Hall and enjoy exceptional pizzeria lunch by the Campbell's and enjoy music by *The Family Sowell*.

You stand on the shoulders of previous generations—continuing to ensure relational and spiritual health—traveling through year 172 of Third’s story.

Dr. King’s response guides you in a directionally accurate manner—three descriptions of Jesus followers—**banded together, teaching, and exemplifying love.**

~

**Banded together** is forming a group in order to do or achieve something. Third’s first band of brothers and sisters in Christ met in an upper room on Market Street—near the Enterprise Center.

And to enhance your spiritual formation and our community with Gospel—all are called to be disciples—**Teach.**

I encourage you to take advantage of various on-ramps, Adult Bible Study on Sundays and Discipleship on Wednesdays (you can review various opportunities in this month’s issue). A community’s spiritual health is dependent on the education of its people concerning biblical literacy, ethics, history (knowing who we are and where we are from) - and spiritual application.

And all we do is undergirded by **Exemplifying Love.**

First generation Christians brought community transformation through love—not the sword (a lesson soon forgotten). Third continues to embrace diversity while gathering around the Table of Grace—reserving an open seat for *all* seeking faith and connection.

The final words of Dr. King’s sermon on Agape Love echo the dysfunction of our *present culture*, and also a word of hope and encouragement to Jesus’ followers:

*And we ask Thee, O God, **in these days of emotional tension**, when the problems of the world are gigantic in extent and chaotic in detail, to be with us in our going out and our coming in, in our rising up and in our lying down, in our moments of joy and in our moments of sorrow, until the day when there shall be no sunset and no dawning...*

Third will continue engagement with our culture—*engulfed with emotional tension*—with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Dear ones, let us band together, disciple one another, and walk in love.

Grace and Peace,  
Tommy



*Third welcomes Mike and Vera Ramsay to our beloved community.*



# Family Ministries

Rev. Drew Phillips  
Minister to Families

Happy 172<sup>nd</sup> birthday Third Baptist. It is a rare thing for a church to live this long of a life.

Join us in Sunday School and worship on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, and for a pizza fellowship and concert to follow!

This February we'll be celebrating, in Sunday School and youth on Wednesday nights, some voices of Black history who have shaped the faith. Youth are invited to dinner on Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. (please make reservation by noon Wednesday, email [dphillips@third-baptist.org](mailto:dphillips@third-baptist.org)) and youth group to follow at 5:45-6:45 p.m., in person and Zoom.

All are invited to the Ash Wednesday service February 22, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, as we begin Lent.

In Sunday School and Wednesday nights through lent, we'll be listening to the many voices of people Jesus has called to follow him.

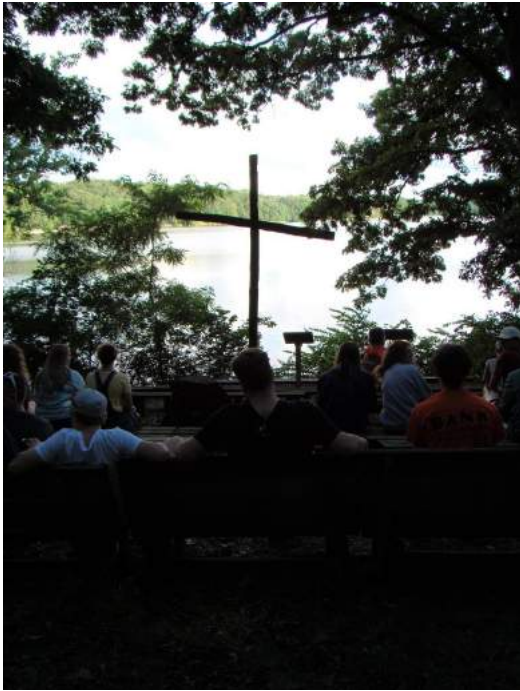


(Icons by Kelly Latimore)

**Camp dates:**  
Lake  
Springfield  
Baptist Camp  
Chatham, IL

Junior High  
Camp:  
July 9-15





Senior High Camp:  
July 16-22

Welcome back college students this semester!  
Thank you for the many ways you enhance  
our worship and service with your presence.



**Coming soon:**  
**Third Baptist**  
**Church Youth Council!**  
Youth will plan events,  
brainstorm ideas, and  
help lead us in worship,  
play, and prayer!

Interested in serving?  
Join us in Sunday School  
at 10:00 a.m.,  
February 12th.





# FOOD PANTRY

## EVERY THIRD SATURDAY!

**2023 Dates**

- Jan 21
- Feb 18
- Mar 18
- Apr 15
- May 20
- June 17
- July 15
- Aug 19
- Sept 16
- Oct 21
- Nov 18
- Dec 16\*

\*advance registration required

**JOIN US!**

**FOOD DISTRIBUTION BEGINS AT 9:00AM.**

**REGISTRATION ENDS AT 10:30AM ON**

**THE DAY OF THE FOOD PANTRY.**

620 N Grand Blvd

St. Louis, MO 63103

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Items available for selection based  
on your household!

Non-perishable food, toiletries,  
cleaning supplies, etc.

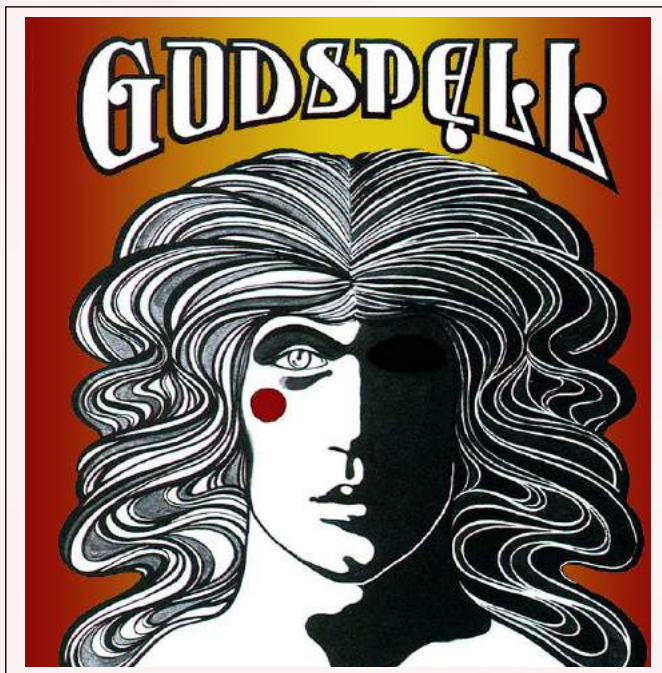
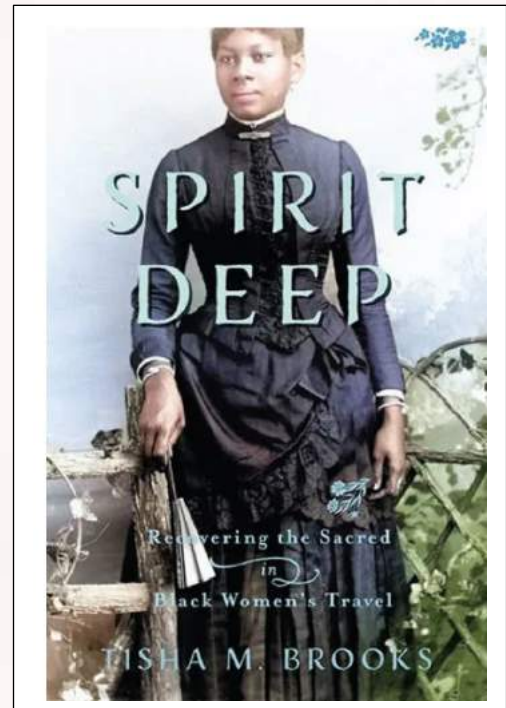
Individuals 60 Years & Older

State operated program:  
Individuals that meet the age  
and income criteria may  
qualify for supplemental food  
items.

for more information visit the link [THIRD-BAPTIST.ORG/FOOD-PANTRY/](https://third-baptist.org/food-pantry/)

## Congratulations to Dr. Tisha M. Brooks

*Spirit Deep: Recovering the Sacred in Black Women's Travels* is scheduled for publication in late March 2023!



**Sunday, March 19th**  
**2 p.m.**

**Third Baptist Church**  
**Johnson Hall**

Presented by Take Two  
Productions

You may purchase  
discounted tickets for \$10  
beginning Sun, February 4<sup>th</sup>  
in Pillsbury Threshold.

## Missions Moment

Prayer Requests from Keith and Mary Holmes, Missionaries, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Dear friends,

We spoke with Petru & Olesea Ciochina, our partners in Moldova. Petru requested prayer for renewed ideas for himself and for their work:

1. Sustainable ways to heat the houses and build the church. During the winter months, very few people stay in the small village of Vulcanesti. It is too hard to keep their houses warm.
2. Ideas to work with the youth. About ten young people (ages 14-17 and above) have started to come to a weekly Bible study which Petru leads. Even though Romanian is their second language, they seem to be understanding the lessons well. Petru is praying for ways to get them to discuss and participate more freely.
3. Pray for those from the church who are working in other countries, to be strong in their faith.
4. Find a church where they can come regularly. Very important to be supervised by church.
5. Petru to have more vision, more ideas on how to improve the work in the church.

## Musical Notes



Third is honored to host *The Saint Louis Chamber Chorus* on Sunday, February 19, under direction of our own Dr. Philip Barnes.

The concert is at 3 p.m., followed by fellowship in Johnson Hall.

Beginning with the first Sunday in February, discounted tickets of \$20 for Adults and \$10 for Students will be available outside the church office.

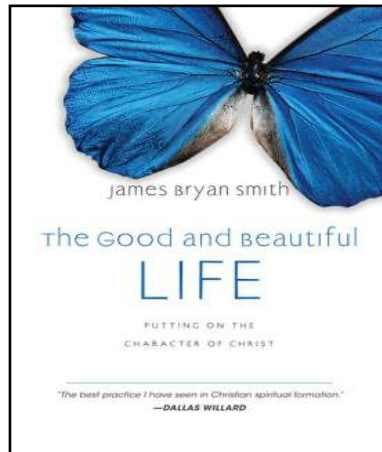
# Adult Discipleship

February 1, 8, 15:

5:15 p.m. Dinner

5:45 p.m. Reflection

Discussion of  
James Bryan  
Smith's  
*The Good and  
Beautiful Life*



Ash Wednesday Service  
February 22nd  
6 p.m.  
Sanctuary

**THIRD BAPTIST**  
**172ND ANNIVERSARY**

12 | February 2023  
Noon, after worship  
Join us for:

Entertainment by The Family Sowell  
Pizza Luncheon prepared and served by Campbell family

**Band Detail:** <https://www.thefamilysowell.com/>  
Faith-based, all-sibling band from Knoxville, Tennessee

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to...

- 04 🎁 Michelle Campbell
- 06 🎁 Delilah Canning & Maria Gray
- 09 🎁 Melinda Jackson
- 10 🎁 LaVerne Graham
- 11 🎁 Beverly Odell
- 12 🎁 Kaelyn Smithers
- 13 🎁 Linda Ramey
- 16 🎁 Carl Moritz
- 17 🎁 Donna McDill
- 19 🎁 Alex Brooks
- 20 🎁 Gene Dobbs Bradford
- 21 🎁 Rick Lay & Mike Niederer
- 22 🎁 Ed Sharpe

**The Family Sowell** is a faith-based, all-sibling band from Knoxville, Tennessee, featuring driving instrumentation, tight family harmony, and original songs written straight from the heart. Their music melds passion and love together with a good dose of laughter, creating an authentic performance that inspires audiences everywhere. The band consists of six siblings, ages 24-16, with Joshua on guitar, Naomi on bass, Abigail on mandolin, John-Mark on fiddle, and Justus on dobro — Abigail, Joshua, and John-Mark bring the vocal harmonies to complete the ensemble.



**In the city for good!**

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third-baptist.org

## Third Baptist Church Staff

**Dr. Tommy Simons**  
PASTOR

**Rev. Drew Phillips**  
MINISTER TO FAMILIES

**Dr. Philip Barnes**  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

**Ella Banks**  
RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE  
ASSISTANT

**Robert Hubbard**  
FACILITIES MANAGER

**Timothy Harrison**  
CUSTODIAN

**Brent Johnson**  
ORGANIST

**Tom Kurtz**  
BUSINESS MANAGER

**Dr. Garik Pederson**  
PIANIST

**Christine McCarthy**  
FINANCE

**Sally Stevenson**  
PARISH NURSE