



Third Base

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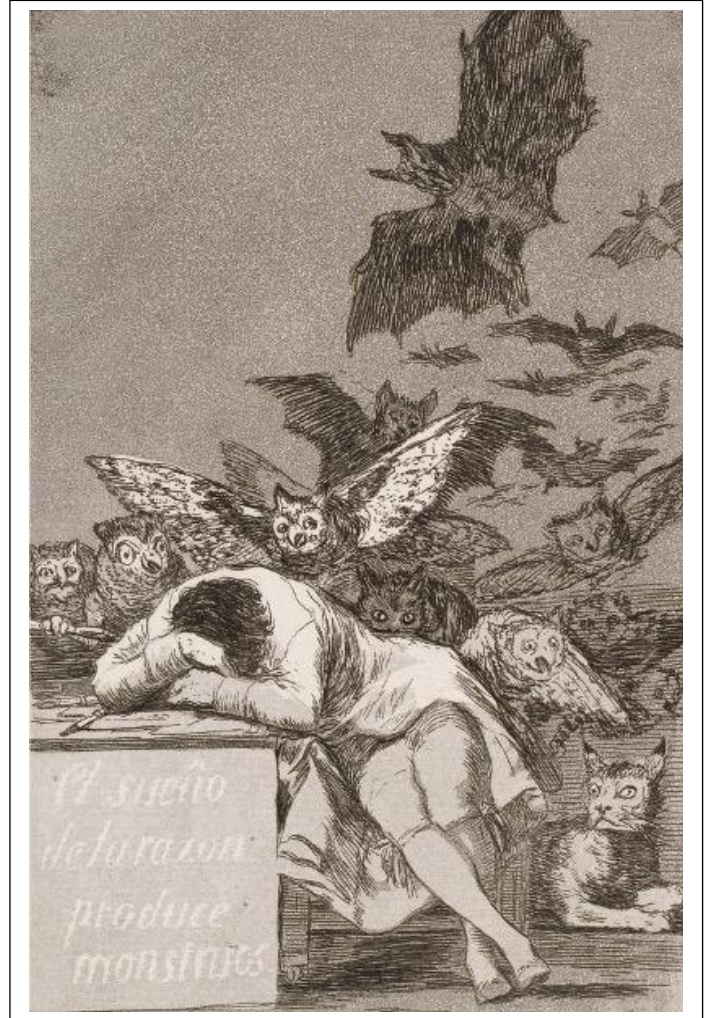
From the Pastor

Francisco de Goya was a court painter to the Spanish King at the turn of the 19th century.

In 1799 he created a series of prints called, *Los Caprichos* (The Caprices)—visual teachings against ignorance and spiritual sickness.

The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters (image at right) shows a sleeping artist at a drawing table. An owl (far left) holds a brush symbolizing the source of inspiration, accompanied by creatures of the night; a wild cat, threatening owls, and bats - representing evil visions invading the mind during sleep - descend on the artist. The artist senses terrible events are imminent. “*The sleep of reason produces monsters*” is the Latin inscription on the front side of the artists’ desk.

The comedian/political pundit Bill Maher has commented on the alarming rise of depression in America— “lighten up, do you really have it that bad...Amazon delivers anything to your front door, thin crust pizza is cheap and you have free access to porn on your phone.” The satirist uses humor and hyperbole to poke fun at culture.



But my mind went from Maher’s comments to edema—referred to in *The Gospel According to Luke* as dropsy, a swelling of soft tissues in your body caused by excess water. A side effect is constant thirst; therefore, sufferers drink in excess, leading to continued swelling and sickness.

America is sick with dropsy—consuming products to *quench an insatiable thirst*, which will not satisfy and results in your own undoing.

The Bible says, “Come, let us *reason together*” and wrestles with life’s fundamental questions.

The follower of Jesus Christ never cowers to wisdom, logic or reason and sits comfortably around a table of intellectuals, artists, and politicians.

In considering humanity’s natural state of sin, conflict, and Machiavellian manipulations—it is *reasonable* and *wise* to believe we are sinners in need of salvation. And the Word Became Flesh in the person of Jesus Christ and died for our sins—what is your response?

The Apostle Paul was an intellectual—and his response to criticism of ignorance was “I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation for *everyone* who believes.”

C.S. Lewis said:

God is no fonder of intellectual slackers than of any other slackers. If you are thinking of becoming a Christian, I warn you: you are embarking on something which is going to take the whole of you, brains and all...you will find intelligence sharpened...

And as you slumber and receive visitation from bats, cats (note to cat lovers, it’s just a metaphor), and menacing owls, do not lose heart. It is wise, reasonable, and logical to conclude that:

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, the whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

And we stand on solid intellectual and rational ground when proclaiming this Easter Sunday:

HE IS RISEN.

Grace and Peace,
Tommy

Welcome New Members!



John & Emma
Graham



Vanessa
Gibson &
Grand-
daughter,
Serenity



Sharon Ardani
(left)
&
Deena Borelli
(right)

Family Ministries

Drew Phillips, Minister to Families

Families,

Save the date: Wednesday, June 12th

Cardinals game at 6:30 p.m.

Let Drew know if you'd like a free ticket!



Thinking about summer camp?
Youth and parents of youth,
sign up for camp now:

<https://www.lsbconline.com/registration.html>

- Junior High: heading into 6th to completed 8th grade: **July 7-13**
- Senior High: heading into 9th to completed 12th grade: **July 14-20**

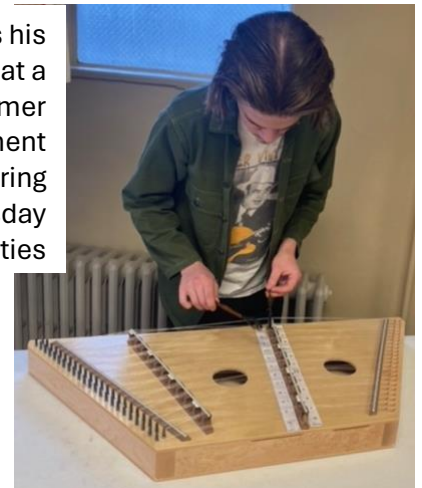
Saturday, April 20th

Youth will head to the City Museum
after assisting with Food Pantry
(pantry volunteers arrive at 8 A.M.)

Contact Drew with interest in attending,
or if you have questions.



Colton tries his
hand at a
dulcimer
instrument
during
Wednesday
night festivities



Newly welcomed member, Emma Graham, discusses her work as a hospital chaplain in Illinois, on a recent Wednesday evening.



In recent years, TBC has reserved a block of tickets for members to attend a single performance of Take Two performance, offered at a discounted price.

Now you can choose which show you want to attend by visiting their site - or QR code! Just plug in one of the promo codes at right to get your discounted tickets.



www.taketwoproductions.org

take two productions
PRESENTS

SEASON 21



April 19-27



July 19-27



Sept 27- Oct 5

TBC MEMBER EXCLUSIVE

To purchase your tickets,
visit the Take Two website for the following offers

<p>SEASON TICKETS</p>  <p>USE PROMO CODE "TBCSEASON" For \$25 off</p>	<p>INDIVIDUAL TICKETS</p>  <p>USE PROMO CODE "TBTICKET" For \$10 off</p>
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Missions Focus: April 2024

Dr. Tim and Kathy Rice



Dr. Tim and Kathy Rice are from St. Louis where Tim served on the staff of St. Louis University Hospital and was an Associate Professor on the faculty of the School of Medicine. While both Tim and Kathy have always felt drawn to mission work, it was later in life when God opened the doors to Vanga Evangelical Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where Tim works with training doctors and hospital administrators and Kathy directs the nursing program.



Their work includes training the next generation of Congolese nurses, doctors, and health administrators in a Christ-centered, whole-person manner. Their resources are limited, so an important part of the learning experience is understanding how to make the most of those resources.

Their Mission: "We exist to follow the Great Commission in serving the poor together with our Congolese colleagues through providing healthcare, training leaders, effectively managing limited resources, and building partnerships."

Vanga Hospital is a leading institution dedicated to healing the bodies, minds, and souls in the region. Donations to this mission have enabled 2 building projects. Work is underway to build a new Intensive Care Unit (ICU) as well as a new resident housing unit.



These images show the progress of the ICU.



Not only is the building progressing, but God has provided another missionary couple, Matthew and Mary Hollands, for a year to assist. Matthew supervises construction, while Mary provides training for nurses for new skills needed for ICU care.

Ways we can help:

- Stay connected with the work of the missionaries we support here at Third.
- Follow the Rices on Facebook: Congo Health Connection
- Visit their website and see a Virtual Visit:
<https://www.congohealthconnection.org/>
- Receive their Newsletter (see news at right)
<https://www.congohealthconnection.org/newsletter-sign-up/>
- Consider a mission trip to work with nurses, surgeons, administrators, or on maintenance projects
- Your prayers and gifts to missions

A recent newsletter tells the harrowing story of a man who was involved in a very serious motorcycle accident. The hospital where he was taken pronounced him dead, but while waiting for the keys for the morgue, the nurse noticed he was moving his hands and head. After being reassessed in their emergency room, he was flown to Vanga, where he could be treated and is recovering.

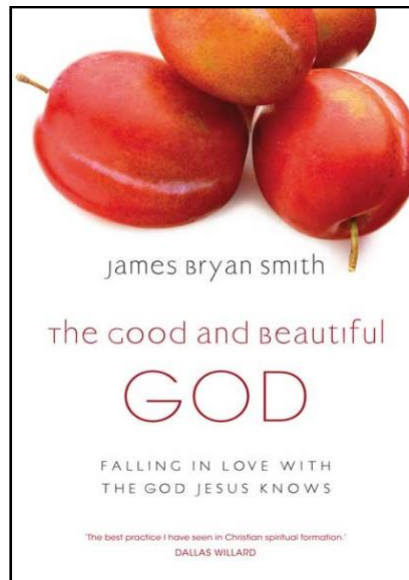
Adult Discipleship

Each Wednesday in April:

The Good and Beautiful God
James Bryan Smith

5:15 p.m. Dinner
5:45 p.m. Discipleship

Email tsimons@third-baptist.org for
dinner reservations



Thank you to Syd Bailey
[her picture is labeled *Broken Beauty*]
and Avery Brooks
[picture of the angel on the tomb]
for contributing these photos as part of a collection
hanging in the Pillsbury Threshold during the
Lenten season this Spring.



Thanks also to and Kaelyn and Clayton
Smithers who created original pieces to help
guide us through Lent.



Easter Events Sunday, March 31st

9:45 a.m. ~ Breakfast

(in lieu of regularly scheduled coffee and
donuts) - all are welcome! (No Sunday
School hour)

Easter egg
hunt
for kids
after
breakfast!



11 a.m. ~ Easter worship service



Carol Fleming Pillsbury

Memorial Ladies' Tea

April 6th

11:00 a.m.

*Contact Connie Vohsen or
purchase after worship*

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to...

02 🎁 Sharonda Stith

03 🎁 Sue Haverman

& Alexis Fay

& Caren Wright-Simons

04 🎁 Jaden Jacobs

07 🎁 Sylvia Barnes

17 🎁 Brandon Brooks

& David Jolly

20 🎁 Colton Simons

22 🎁 Ella Banks

30 🎁 Dona Turpin

& Mbebo Governor



Third Baptist Church

620 North Grand Blvd

St. Louis, MO 63103

Office: 314-533-7340

Third-baptist.org

We'd love to connect with you!



third-baptist.org/guest

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

Brent Johnson
ORGANIST

Lansin Lim Kimler
PIANIST

Sally Stevenson
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Tom Kurtz
BUSINESS MANAGER

Christine McCarthy
FINANCE

Robert Hubbard
FACILITIES MANAGER

Timothy Harrison
CUSTODIAN