



From the Pastor

Richard Muhlberger, former vice-director of *Metropolitan Museum of Art* in New York selected 100 paintings that best represent the relationships between art, scripture, and Christianity.

Emil Nolde (1867-1956) spent most of his life in the wilderness of north Germany. Nolde, unlike popular avant-garde artists of his time, was determined to connect with common folk.

The Last Supper (above) was painted in 1909—and chosen by Muhlberger—as visual representation of Jesus' last supper with the disciples.

Read Nolde's painting from left to right—*what do you see?*

Muhlberger notices:

- The heads of Jesus and disciples are crowded together.
- Hands are intersected (Jesus' hands are drawn way beyond human proportion) in the middle—emphasizing bonds of fellowship.

- Jesus' face is *intense* and holds a cup of wine—Nolde has chosen the moment Jesus says:

Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's Kingdom.

(Matthew 26:27-29)

- The faces of disciples convey love, wonderment and acceptance.
- However, in the upper left hand corner— one head is turned away from Jesus—*Judas is preparing to leave the room.*

Brett Younger's insight into Judas is superb:

What does Jesus do with Judas his betrayer? "Grab him boys! Let's tie the traitor up and lock him in the basement!"

No.

Jesus continues the meal. Matthew does not say a word about Judas leaving the table. In Matthew's Gospel, as in Luke, Jesus includes Judas in the supper. Christ makes a place for betrayers: "You are my sisters and brothers. There will always be a place at my table for you."

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Nolde's interpretation of emotion, fellowship, and bad decisions are wrapped up into one image of reality.

It is a "messy portrait" of Jesus' final meal—mirroring complications, blessings, wonderment, and the *mess* of our stories.

As you continue to navigate Lent to Easter—remember you are welcomed at the table of grace—and Jesus calls you to fellowship—along with tax collectors and sinners.

And as one family of faith—Third will continue to travel with hands intersected together—sharing bonds of fellowship and love for one another.

Why?

None of us are able to arrive at this supper without the grace of God.

Grace and Peace,  
Tommy





# Family Ministries

Rev. Drew Phillips  
Minister to Families

Last week I was thinking how quickly January passed, now it's March. Time won't stop no matter how much I wish it to.

My encouragement for our families for the forty days (plus six Sundays) of Lent is to find time each day for prayer and reflection together and simplify with a practice.

## A Prayer

The Daily Examen is an ancient way to reflect on your day. To practice it, answer four questions. When practicing the Examen in a group, you can go through the questions one at a time, or you can have each person answer all four questions before moving on to the next question.

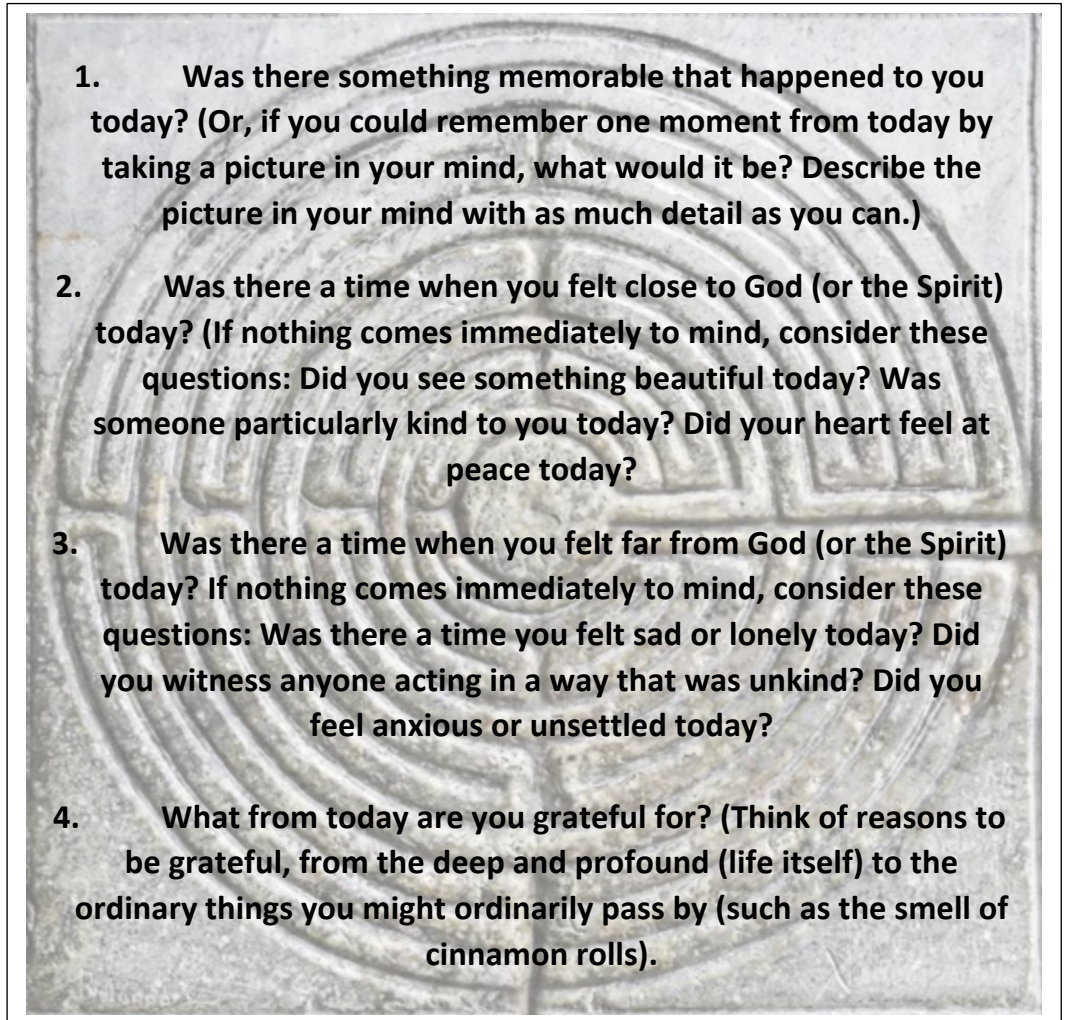
## A Practice

You've probably heard of people giving up things for Lent. Sometimes it's treated as a New Year's Resolution do-over. The goal of simplifying isn't so much a 'giving up' as it is *replacing*.

This Lent, instead of: giving up negative talk. Try: focusing on complimenting others.

Have you ever noticed how nice it feels when someone says something nice about you? What a lovely and wonderful way to help someone feel special. It takes very little time to compliment someone else, and it gets easier with practice. Sometimes it's easy for us to compliment someone's looks or what they're wearing. Try to compliment the deeper attributes about them, too, such as their creativity when they've made something, or the thoughtfulness of their ideas, or the way they make you feel comfortable when you're around them.

Lenten challenge for focusing on complimenting others; Can you compliment three people per day during Lent?\*



\* Traci Smith: Faithful Families: For Lent, Easter, & Resurrection, Chalice Press, 2021. Pp. 32 and 40.



**Youth Group Wednesdays  
6:00 p.m. at Third  
and on Zoom**

**Chat with Drew for Zoom  
details!**

## Missions Moment

Look for this box outside the sanctuary - beginning in March we'll be collecting body wash and shampoo. Each month we'll promote and collect a new item.

Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup> after worship we'll pack boxes to be sent to Corbin, KY, where CBF Field Personnel, Scarlett Jasper, serves one of the most economically challenged areas in the US. In addition, this region had a once-in-a-generation flood last year.



**Scarlette Jasper**

OLIVE BRANCH MINISTRIES, MCCREARY COUNTY, KENTUCKY





TAKE TWO PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

# GODSPELL

Conceived and Originally Directed by  
John-Michael Tebelak

Music and New Lyrics by  
Stephen Schwartz

Originally Produced on  
the New York Stage by  
Edgar Lansbury / Stuart Duncan  
Joseph Beruh

**March 17th-25th**  
Doors open at 7  
Show starts 7:30 PM

**THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
620 North Grand Blvd.  
Saint Louis, MO 63103



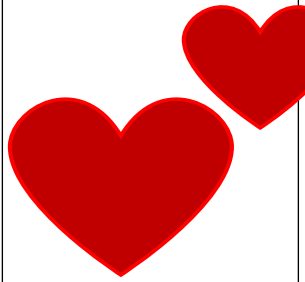
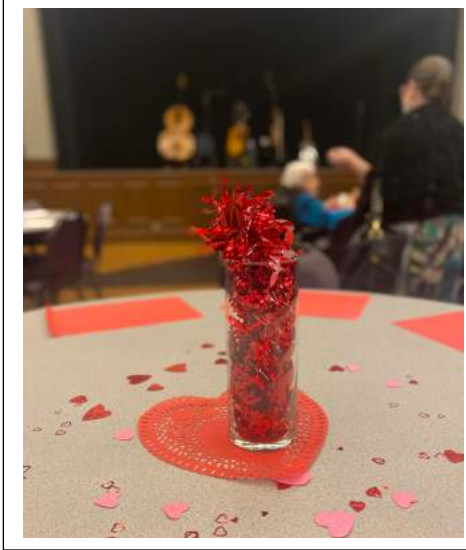
For tickets: see Drew after Sunday morning services  
in the Pillsbury Threshold

## Third Celebrates 172 Years!

*...with handmade, delicious pizza thanks to the Campbell Family,  
entertainment courtesy of The Family Sowell, and thoughtful décor care of  
Connie Vohsen and team.*

*Not to mention.... VERY happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday wishes to  
Delilah Canning and Donna McDill!*





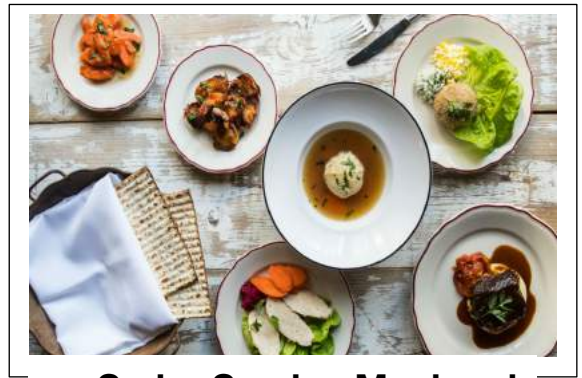
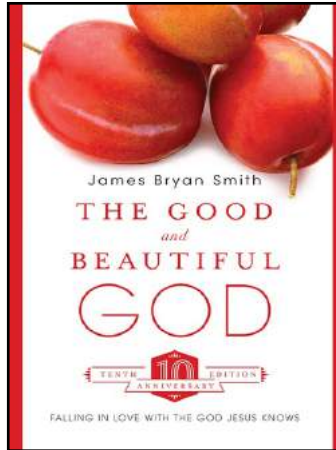


# Adult Discipleship

Adult Dinner and  
Discipleship  
Each Wednesday  
in March

**5:15 p.m.**  
Dinner by Arris Harris

**5:45 p.m.**  
Discipleship study and  
discussion of James  
Bryan Smith's *The Good and Beautiful God*



**Seder Service Meal and  
Remembrance for all ages**

Wednesday, April 5th  
5:30 p.m. in Johnson Hall



**CARDINALS VS BLUE JAYS!  
SUNDAY APRIL 2, 1:15 P.M.  
\$10.00**

**THIRD HAS A BLOCK OF SEATS --  
SEE DREW FOR TICKETS AFTER SUNDAY  
WORSHIP**

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

*Happy Birthday to...*

- 01 🎁 Michelle Robinson
- 02 🎁 Kaionta Dabney
- 03 🎁 Juanita Wallis
- 04 🎁 Maria Bradford;  
Dennis Reinard
- 05 🎁 Grace Moore
- 08 🎁 Virgil Dickinson
- 09 🎁 Nancy Furgerson
- 10 🎁 Brent Johnson
- 11 🎁 Tom Kurtz;  
Steven Spencer
- 16 🎁 Marquis Johnson
- 17 🎁 Naomi Thiems
- 20 🎁 Lynn Spencer
- 22 🎁 Richard Stevenson
- 23 🎁 Patricia Whitt
- 25 🎁 Tena Thompson
- 29 🎁 Don Wainwright



**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**  
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**Christine McCarthy**  
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**Sally Stevenson**  
PARISH NURSE