Pastor’s Article: My Back Pages

The following new members have been written into the story of Third. Welcome to our beloved community!

Michelle and Steve Campbell

Zach Rogers

Monica O’Dell

Jim and Jerri Robbins

Linda and Ken Rogers

Michelle Harris

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TENDER MERCIES

The pastor’s article usually begins with a glimpse at the calendar—what do I need to promote?

However, sitting in a quiet Subway on a cool Monday morning— I’m not in a program promotion kind of mood. I was up until around midnight last night and watched Carlos Correa drop a ball in the right field bleachers and beat the Yankees in Game 2.

Carson arrived home after working several hours at Cunetto’s—I first saw this child when he was 5 years old—visiting his mom in Lake Tahoe, California. I knew he loved comics. I arrived with gift (bribe) of a Batman mask and comic books. Sunday night—was another reminder my boy is now a young man.

Colton is the entertainment cruise director of many children on our block—the house echoed with familiar sounds—doors opening and closing, laughter, guitars and continual reminders of “when to come home” and “where are you going?”

Sunday afternoon I enjoyed Caren’s chili. She really is quite remarkable—juggling all of our little homestead—on the Hill in Saint Louis.

I texted with my brother complaining about aforementioned game until the ending—when all is right with the world.

I returned a few emails and planned a bit for next week.

I reflected a bit on journeying a little over 4 years as Pastor of Third. What a privilege I’ve been given to stand behind Third’s pulpit each Sunday. And even better—the diverse quality of people I interact with each week.

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Friends, we all have our anxieties and challenges. And I plan to wade into these challenges in a few hours.

I want to encourage you—press pause on your day. Right now as you’re reading this article.

What happened to you yesterday? What is happening to you today?

I suspect, even among the worst of days, you can discover glimpses of God’s tender mercies.

And may our recollections fuel our faith and increase our joy.

Thank you for being the beautiful people you are.

Grace and Peace,
Tommy
Wednesday Night Discipleship for Adults

Walking the Bible: A Journey by Land through the Five Books of Moses

Bruce Feiler will guide our discussion. The author set out on a 10,000 mile journey retracing Moses through the desert. His story is a brilliant combination of archaeology and spiritual exploration.

We will also tie in truths discovered from previous series on Archaeology and the Bible.

Dinner at 5:00 PM
We begin our discussion at 6:00 PM
Johnson Hall

Parents and Grandparents as Spiritual Guides
Led by Rev. Maria Stinnett
Wednesday, October 30
6:00 PM

We will explore how parents, grandparents and other caring adults serve as spiritual guides for the children and youth entrusted to their care and how the church can provide support.
November Sermon Series

*The Elevation of the Cross* is a triptych (a painting with 2 outer wings and a central panel) painted by Peter Paul Reubens. The altarpiece will guide our worship—each panel representing a different, yet unifying story of grace.

November 10 - The grief of the onlookers (left panel)
November 17 - Preparing the two thieves for crucifixion (right panel)
November 24 - The elevation of the cross (central panel)

Concert

Our own Adam Kosberg (trombone), Brent Johnson (organ) and Brook Bisaillon (piano) will present a concert in the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 24, at 3:00 PM. Please support our musicians by joining them for this performance of solos and duets from the classical repertoire. Afterward the 1 hour concert, you are invited to stay for refreshments to meet & greet the musicians. There is no charge for this concert.
Missionaries Supported by Third

Third Baptist Church has a long history of supporting missions and missionaries.

Each year, through our unified budget, we provide support to eight missionaries. Three of these missionaries serve through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Four of these missionaries serve through International Ministries of American Baptist Churches, USA. One is an independent missionary. Please be in prayer for the missionaries supported by our church.

You can find more information on these missionaries on the church’s website: third-baptist.org/missionaries-supported-by-tbc/.

Missionaries serving through American Baptist Churches USA

- Dan and Sarah Chetti, Lebanon
- Kihomi Ngwemi and Nzunga Mabudiga, Haiti
- Kathy and Tim Rice, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Kit Ripley, Thailand

Missionaries serving through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

- Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen, Romany people in Europe
- Paula Settle, Kentucky
- Mira and Sasha Zivanov, Saint Louis

Independent Missionaries

- Lillian Solt, Costa Rica

Operation Christmas Child

Filled shoeboxes should be returned to the church by Sunday, November 17.

Christmas Baskets 2019

Applications for Christmas Baskets will be taken during Food Pantry on November 16. Food will be distributed by appointment only on Saturday, December 21.
You may recall my mentioning Godly Play from last month as a curriculum we are using with children on Wednesday nights and in children’s church. We are now listed as a member congregation with the Godly Play foundation which allows us to have training, resources, and advertisements on their website. We are the only church from Missouri and the Metro-St. Louis area to be listed. This is a unique and experiential way our children are learning the scriptures. We’re pairing as best we can with the Sunday sermons so that the conversation can continue beyond the walls of the church with one another.

We have begun having Children’s Church (during worship after the offertory prayer—we exit to the Children’s area) every Sunday but the first of the month. Children will be invited to help lead in worship on first Sundays.

In addition we will begin calling Children’s Church, “Godly Play” so, don’t be confused when you hear the term.

Our youth are looking forward to an open gym and gaming day October 26 from 1:00 PM-7:00 PM. There will be food, games, and quality time with the youth, perhaps even the chance to attempt to beat the new minister in ping-pong.

If you’d like to chaperone please contact Drew at dphillips@third-baptist.org or 618-334-9011.
I’m enjoying time with our youth and children; God has blessed us.

I am also extremely grateful for our many volunteers who teach, lead, fill-in and let our students know how loved and valued they are.

With a thankful heart that God has trusted us to love and serve the young, seasoned, and everyone in between!

Drew

Youth Progressive Dinner
Saturday, November 16
4:00 PM—10:00 PM
**November Events**

1. Friday Pipes
2. Regular Sunday Schedule, Church Council
3. WMS Meeting, Staff Meeting
4. Third Readers, Regular Wednesday Schedule
5. Friday Pipes
6. Regular Sunday Schedule
7. WMS Meeting, Staff Meeting
8. Third Readers, Regular Wednesday Schedule
9. Food Pantry, Youth Progressive Dinner
10. Regular Sunday Schedule, Business Meeting
11. Staff Meeting
12. Third Readers, Regular Wednesday Schedule
13. Regular Sunday Schedule, Trombone and Keyboard Concert
14. WMS Meeting, Staff Meeting
15. Thanksgiving, Church Offices Closed
16. Church Offices Closed

**Sunday Schedule**

- 9:30 AM  Doughnut & Coffee Fellowship
- 9:45 AM  Sunday School
- 11:00 AM  Worship, Sanctuary
- Noon  Fellowship, Pillsbury Threshold

**Wednesday Schedule**

- 3:30 PM  Third Readers
- 5:00 PM  Fellowship Dinner
- 6:00 PM  Adult Bible Study, Children’s Activities, Youth Activities
- 7:00 PM  Choir Rehearsal

**November Birthdays**

- 3  Timothy Miller
- 6  Clayton Smithers
- 10  J. B. Richman, Alerta Thurman
- 15  Monica McDaniel—Collins
- 16  Isaiah Collins, Greg Martin
- 17  Christine McCarthy
- 18  Nancy King
- 20  Mary Anderson
- 22  Gene Stewart, Maria Stinnett
- 23  Carla Jackson
- 27  Al Hedrick
- 28  Johanna Caraway, Debbie Scheid

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29. Church Offices Closed
Staff

Dr. Tommy Simons
PASTOR

Rev. Maria Stinnett
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR MISSIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Edem Dzunu
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Drew Phillips
MINISTER TO FAMILIES

Dr. Philip Barnes
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Ella Banks
RECEPTIONIST/OFFICE ASSISTANT

Byron Greer
BUILDING SUPERVISOR

Timothy Harrison
CUSTODIAN

Karen Stewart & Linda Freiburghaus
CHURCH HISTORIANS

Brent Johnson
ORGANIST

Tom Kurtz
BUSINESS MANAGER

Lansin Lim Kimler
PIANIST

Christine McCarthy
FINANCE

Raymond Murphy
CUSTODIAN

Sally Stevenson
PARISH NURSE