

1879 "THE FORTY-FOURTH YEAR OF OUR SECOND CENTURY" 2023

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

3310 E. COMMERCE STREET, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78220

THE REV. DR. ROBERT L. JEMERSON, D. MIN., PASTOR

November 19, 2023

THE 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Enter to Worship

Depart to Serve

**Only one life
It'll soon be past**

**Only what's done
For Christ will last!**



"God make this house of worship we have raised to Thee wide enough to receive all who need human love, fellowship and the Father's care and narrow enough to shut out envy, pride and hate. Make its threshold smooth that it may be no stumbling block to childhood weakness or straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. God make this house of worship the gateway to Thy eternal Kingdom."

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

THE 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

The Preparation for Worship “O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works.” Psalm 105: 1-2

The Prelude “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” arr. Swann Mrs. LaFaye Duren, Organist

The Call To Worship and The Invocation Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson, Sr., Pastor

WORSHIP IN PRAISE

***The Opening Hymn of Praise** “We Gather Together”

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; He chastens and hastens His will to make known; the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning: the Lord was at our side- the glory be Thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant, and pray that Thou still our defender wilt be. Let Thy congregation escape tribulation; Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

***The Responsive Reading** Psalm 106: 1-8 Rev. Nicholas Williams

Minister: Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? who can shew forth all his praise? Blessed are they that keep judgment, and he that doeth righteousness at all times. Remember me, O LORD, with the favour that thou bearest unto thy people: O visit me with thy salvation;

People: That I may see the good of thy chosen, that I may rejoice in the gladness of thy nation, that I may glory with thine inheritance. We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly. Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked him at the sea, even at the Red sea. Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.

*** The Glory Patri** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the Beginning is now and ever shall be world with out end. Amen, Amen.

The Welcome Mrs. Larnette LeBlanc

WORSHIP IN MEDITATION

The Choral Readers: Psalm 136 Mrs. Delores Lewis, Director and Mrs. Rhonda Harrison, Sponsor

The Music of Meditation “Just Want to Praise You” and Morning Prayer Rev. Angela Jackson

WORSHIP IN GIVING

The Offertory Sentence and Prayer Rev. Cornell Evans **Jesus in Action Music Ministry** Tina Dickerson, Director

***THE DOXOLOGY** Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

WORSHIP IN PROCLAMATION

The Music of Preparation “At the Table” The Voices of Second Baptist Church

The Sermon “Reasons to Give Thanks” Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson, Sr., Pastor

The Text: “O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy; And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.” Psalm 107: 1-3

The Invitation to Discipleship “More Than Anything” The Voice of Second Baptist Church

***Please Stand**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU: Mrs. Shirleta Plummer sends: “To Pastor Jemerson and Church Family: On behalf of the Plummer family, I thank you for your generosity and kindness. The love, prayers and support from the members of Second Baptist Church made it possible for us to rise and begin the next phase of life’s journey without coach by our side. We love you and thank you for walking with us during this difficult time. Please keep us in prayer.”

SMPATHY TO: Mrs. Margaret Sprawling in the loss of her husband and our member **Mr. Claybon Sprawling.** The funeral service for Mr. Sprawling will be held Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 11:45 A.M in the Second Baptist Sanctuary.

Mrs. Andrea Sims in the loss of her mother and our member **Mrs. Toledo Clay.** The funeral service for Mrs. Clay will be held on the Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at 11:00 A.M. in the Second Baptist Sanctuary.

Mrs. Annie Spruell in the loss of her son and our member **Mr. Robert Spruell.** The funeral service for Mr. Spruell is pending.

Mr. Raymond and Mrs. Larnette LeBlanc in the loss of their loved one, Mr. LeBlanc’s brother, **Mr. Russell Young.** The funeral service for Mr. Young is pending.

The Earnest Workers Circle invites: Our members, their Family members and friends to join us as we present our "Holiday Grief" seminar. This seminar is by telephone and will be held Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 1:15pm. To participate, use the phone number, 844-855-4444, passcode 4509223#. The facilitator will be Mr. John Robles, a volunteer with Vitas Health Care. For more information, please contact the church at 210-227-2605.

WE ARE PRAYING FOR YOUR HEALING

Mrs. Robbie Alexander	Mr. Troy Anderson	Mrs. Roslyn Barksdale	Mrs. Jeanette Brown
Trustee Alfred Jack Carter, Jr.	Mrs. Doris Vicks	Mr. Orvis Clay	Mrs. Barbara Dawson
Mrs. Marvene Elliott	Mr. L. C. Farley	Mrs. Sarah Ford	Mrs. Vera Galloway
Mrs. Lillie Gamble	Mr. and Mrs. Terry Gaskin	Mrs. Linda Grant	Mrs. Blondell Galloway
Mrs. Laura Houston-Harris	Mrs. Lillian Hunter	Deacon Jay Johnson	Deacon Thomas Johnson
Mrs. Jacquelyn Jordan	Mrs. Margaret Kelley	Mrs. Betty Levy	Mrs. Mary Malveaux
Mr. Clarence Marshall	Mrs. Jennifer Martin	Mrs. Patricia Mitchell	Mrs. Lillian Moore
Mrs. Eleanor Owens	Mrs. Thelma Pete	Mrs. Mahalia Price	Mrs. Daisy Richardson
Trustee Henry Ross	Mrs. Tobortha Samples	Mrs. Wanda Smith	Mrs. Annie Spruell
Mr. Allee Wallace	Mrs. Alvis Whitlow	Mrs. Jeri White	Mr. Burnett Williams
Mrs. Liz Porter	Mrs. Ethel Young	Mrs. Anna Galimore	Mrs. Sandra Thomas Ojimadu
Mrs. Sylvia Gramby	Mrs. Gina Elliott	Deacon Archie Brown	Mrs. Alice Powell-Brown
Rev. Argra Thompson	Mrs. Sandra-Francis-Chinn	Mrs. Cynthia Vaughn	Mrs. Shirleta Plummer
Mrs. Sheralin Mitchell	Rev. Nicholas Williams	Mrs. Charita Jemerson	Mr. Clarence Bell and Family
Mr. Anthony and Mrs. Rose Cook	Mr. Henry and Mrs. Helen Embry	Mr. Charles and Mrs. Sandra Gunter	
Mr. Lincoln and Mrs. Nellie Hardaway	Mr. James and Mrs. Rhonda Harrison	Mr. E. B. and Mrs. Erma Jackson	
Rev. Lowell and Mrs. Mary Johnson	Mr. Robert and Mrs. Wilma Johnson	Dr. Willie J. and Mrs. Patsy Lett	
Mr. Raymond and Mrs. Larnett LeBlanc	Mr. James and Mrs. Charlotte Mulkey	Dr. Eula and Mr. George Pines	
Mr. Mark and Mrs. Nina Winters and sons Alex and Karter	Mr. Alexander Ambrozaitis and son Alexander Jr.		
Deacon Thomas and Mrs. Katyna Washington	Deacon Bruce and Mrs. Dot Scott	Mr. Ray and Mrs. Reba Grant	
Mr. Anthony and Mrs. Carla Smith	Trustee Will and Mrs. Gloria Wright	Deacon Stacey and Mrs. Martha Fairbanks	
Deacon Charlie and Mrs. Sandra Wesley	Mr. Rudolph and Mrs. Vivian Coleman	Mr. William Thompson	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MEMBERS CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

NOV 19 Ms. Nancy Willridge, Mrs. Toni Evans **NOV 20** Deacon Daniel Martin III **NOV 23** Mr. James T. Mulkey, Mr. Walter Bell, Mrs. Tracy Prewitt **NOV 25** Mrs. Nancy Harris

MEN AND WOMEN'S DAY ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

PARTNERS \$1000.00 PLUS

Mr. Charlie Wesley
Mrs. Ethel Young

COUPLES AND FAMILY GIFTS \$1000.00

Rev. Lowell and Mrs. Mary Johnson

BI-CENTURY \$300.00 PLUS

Ms. Yvonne Lewis

2024 Annual Budget Packets: All auxiliaries, ministries, and department heads, that utilize church funds must complete 2024 Annual Budget Request Forms. Organization officers are asked to pick up the packets from the church office beginning Monday, November 6, 2023, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Completed forms must be returned to the church office no later than December 18, 2023. This is a requirement in order for you to receive funds for the new year. You may contact Deacon Washington at (210) 316-5059 if you have any questions.

2024 Contribution Envelopes: The Finance Office is preparing for the mailing of your 2024 contribution envelopes. If you have changed your mailing address this year, please provide the finance office with that information to ensure that you receive your envelopes. You may contact the office at (210) 227-2605 for any of your concerns.

BLUE SANTA TOY DRIVE

I am asking for your assistance in helping to make this year's District 2 Toy Drive a success and putting Second Baptist Church in the forefront with the Blue Santa initiative. We are accepting unwrapped toys for ages newborn to thirteen, please place the toys in the boxes in the Narthex before December 6, 2023. If anyone is aware of a needy family, please contact Dr. Eva Mason by calling (210) 648-2289 to expedite an application.

MID WEEK CALL TO PRAYER WEDNESDAY 6:00 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.

DIAL IN: 844-855-4444 ACCESS CODE 4509223#

MID WEEK BIBLE STUDY ON LINE WEDNESDAY 6:30 P.M. www.secondbaptistsat.org

**SUNDAY BREAKFAST 9:00 A.M. - 9:35 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:40 A.M. - 10:40 A.M.
SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY CENTER**

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

In Recognition of Our Deceased Members

Pastor Robert L. Jemerson, Deacons, Trustees, Hospitality Committee and Members of Second Baptist Church, invite The family and friends of our deceased members to “A Service of Remembrance” **during the 11:00 A.M. Worship Service.** The following persons will be remembered who passed October 2023 to November 2023:

Mrs. Karen Dreher (11/03/2022)
Mr. Johnny Ray Pete (1/14/2023)
Mrs. Elverne Nalls (1/15/2023)
Mrs. Bernice Bailey (03/08/2023)
Mr. Nathaniel Bridges (04/07/2023)
Dr. Laura Noble Banks Reed (04/14/2023)
Mr. James Lee Ford (05/18/2023)
Mr. Willie C. Pope (05/19/2023)
Mrs. Joyce Nanton (07/02/2023)
Mr. Kevin Canada (07/07/2023)
Mrs. Maudie Muraida (07/15/2023)
Mrs. Vernice Seatrunk (07/21/2023)
Mr. Waco Porter Jr. (07/23/2023)
Mrs. Nellie M. Brewer (07/23/2023)
Trustee Jerry Roebuck (08/19/2023)
Mrs. Erma Wilson (08/23/2023)
Reverend Eunice I. Williams (10/23/2023)
Mr. Elwood “Coach” Plummer (10/24/2023)
Mrs. Toledo Clay (11/03/2023)
Mrs. Mattie Minor (11/05/2023)
Mr. Claybon Sprawling (11/07/2023)
Mr. Robert Spruell Jr. (11/13/2023)

“Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.” John 11: 23-27

SAVE THE DATE

TEDDY BEAR CHRISTMAS TREE

**Brighten a Child's Christmas by Donating a Teddy Bear
November 26, 2023 to December 17, 2023
Place your Teddy Bear under the Christmas Tree in the Narthex.**

**ADVENT DEVOTION SERVICE AND LUNCH
NOVEMBER 30, DECEMBER 7, 14, AND 21, 2023
11:30 A.M.**

**144TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE AND LUNCHEON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023 11:00 A.M.
SPEAKER: THE REV. DR. THEOPHILUS O. BERRY, PASTOR
GREATER TRUE LIGHT MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, HOUSTON, TEXAS
THE LUNCHEON WILL BE IN THE
SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY CENTER**

**SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS BALL
WEAR YOUR TUXEDOS AND GOWNS
OR SUNDAY BEST
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023
FEATURING THE
DINING - 6:00 P.M.
CONCERT - 6:45 P.M.
DANCING - 7:50 P.M. - 9:50 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH SANCTUARY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023
6:30 P.M.
ALL ARE INVITED**

ADVENT

A TIME OF ANTICIPATION

Advent, a period of four weeks before the Nativity, is observed in the Western Churches as a Season of Solemnity of Emotion and action, and a Great Time of Anticipation!

It became a general observance in the sixth century. Its four Sundays were believed to have been introduced into the calendar by Gregory the Great, and on these grounds, the Gospel readings were chosen for the four Sundays preceding the Birth of our Savior.



Traditionally, the candles represent
The number of weeks before the
Christmas celebration. They represent
FAITH, FREEDOM, JUSTICE, MERCY. The
Large Candle or “CHRIST CANDLE” reminds
us that Christ is the “LIVING LIGHT OF THE WORLD.”

THE MEANING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light . . .” (Isaiah 9:2).

Light is the most powerful symbol of the Advent season. For the four weeks before Christmas, the People of God wait in prayerful hope for the dawning of the Messiah, the Perfect Light to burn away the darkness of sin and alienation.

The first reference to Christmas as we know it is found in a Christian calendar of the fourth century. The feast of Jesus’ birth was celebrated by the early Christians of Rome on December 25, to coincide with the pagan feast of *Sol Invictus* “The Birthday of the Unconquered Sun.” It is believed that Pope Julius I adopted this pagan feast of the *Sun* to celebrate the birth of the *Son* of God.

The lights of Christmas trees and decorations should remind us that Christ is God’s light to the world, shattering the darkness of mistrust and misunderstanding.

In the midst of the shopping, decorating, cooking, writing Christmas cards, and other activities of the holiday season, the custom of the *Advent wreath* is an excellent way for families and communities to keep the real meaning of Christmas in perspective.

The *four candles* of the Advent wreath represent the four weeks of Advent and the thousands of years that the People of God awaited the promised Messiah. The candles are *purple* in color, a reminder of the spirit of penance and prayer that marks the Advent season (one of the candles may be rose for the Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally known as “Gaudete Sunday” from the opening words of that Sunday’s liturgy: “Rejoice in the Lord always!”). Each week one candle is lit until all four are aglow on the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

The *round* wreath itself symbolizes the eternity of God and the Father’s presence throughout human history. *Evergreen* branches are often used in decorating the wreath, reminders of the eternal life of God in Christ.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ROBERT L. JEMERSON, D. MIN., PASTOR

RESIDENCE: 11402 FOREST SQUARE 78233 Cell Phone: (210) 847-1449

Office Phone: (210) 227-2605 Fax: (210) 227-7419

Email address: baptistoffice@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.secondbaptistsat.org

ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR: Rev. Keith Jackson

CHURCH SECRETARY:

FINANCE SECRETARIES: Mrs. Carolyn Shakir and Mrs. Nancy Willridge

OFFICERS

BOARD OF DEACONS

Deacon Alley Jackson, Chairperson

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TREASURER

Deacon Richmond Smith

Deacon James Brown, Assistant Treasurer

FINANCE CHAIRPERSON

Deacon Charles Thurston

BUDGET DIRECTOR

Deacon Thomas Washington

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Bridget Lewis-McKinney, Superintendent

COMMITTEES

CHARITY

Deacon James Hudson, Chairperson

Mrs. Gladys Dixon, Co-Chairperson

GOODWILL

Chairperson

HISTORICAL

Mrs. Daisy Richardson, Chairperson

Mrs. Thomasine Johnson, Co-Chairperson

PERSONNEL

Deacon Bruce Scott, Chairperson

TRANSPORTATION

Deacon Daniel Martin, III, Chairperson

SENIOR MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

YOUTH AWARDS

Mrs. Simone Isom, Chairperson

AUXILIARIES

BROTHERHOOD COUNCIL

Rev. Lowell Johnson, Chairperson

EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE

Dr. George Hilliard, Coordinator

Dr. Shirley Davis, Assistant Coordinator

Dr. Sarah Williams, Assistant Coordinator

GIRL SCOUTS

Mrs. Bridget Lewis-McKinney, Coordinator

HOSPITALITY

Mrs. Dorothy Haley, President

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SERVICE GUILD

Mr. Henry Embry, President

MATRONS' GUILD

Mrs. Erma "Candi" Davis, President

MINISTERS, DEACONS & TRUSTEES'

AUXILIARY

Mrs. Tracy Shelton, President

MISSION GUILD

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mrs. Tobortha Samples, Chairperson

RADIANCE NEWSLETTER

Trustee Louis Levy, Chairperson

Mrs. Tobortha Samples, Chief Editor

SINGLES PARTICIPATING IN CHRISTIAN

ENDEAVORS

Dr. Argra Nell Thompson, President

LEGAL MINISTRY

Attorney Johnny Thomas, Chairperson

SPEECH ARTS GUILD (Choric Reading)

Mrs. Delores Doyle-Lewis, Director

Mrs. Rhonda Harrison, Sponsor

Nalaniya Wilson, President

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION

Dr. Sarah Williams, President

YOUTH IN ACTION FOR CHRIST (Y.A.C.)

Mrs. Sandra Thomas-Ojimadu, Chairperson

Deacon Patrick Lewis, Co-Chairperson

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

ORGANIST

Mrs. LaFaye Duren

BASS GUITAR

Mr. James Pickens

CLARINET

Mrs. Elaine Curry

VOICES OF SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

Mr. Alexander Ambrozaitis, Director/Musician

DRUMMER

Deacon Patrick Lewis

JUNIOR CHURCH MUSICIAN

CHANCEL CHOIR

Mr. Lloyd Bagwell, President

CHIMES CHOIR

Mrs. Alice Powell-Brown, Director

COMFORTERS CHOIR

Mrs. Marian Olison, President

CONTEMPORARIES CHOIR

Mrs. Ernestine "Tina" Dickerson, President

GOSPEL PEARLS CHORALE

Mrs. Ethel Young, Co-Chairperson

HAND BELL CHOIR

Mrs. Alice Powell-Brown, Director

JESUS ACTION MUSIC MINISTRY

Mrs. Ernestine "Tina" Dickerson, Director

JUNIOR CHOIR

Mrs. Diana Pope, Sponsor

MENS' CHORUS

Mrs. La Faye Duren, Director

Deacon Archie Brown, President

PRAISE DANCE AND MIME MINISTRY

Mrs. Nancy Willridge, Sponsor

INSTRUMENTS OF PRAISE

Mrs. Elaine Curry, Director

James Pickens, Jr., Drum Major

YOUTH CHORUS

Mrs. Tenesia Gaston-Ennis, Sponsor

USHERS

CONSOLOR USHER BOARD

Mrs. Shirleta Plummer, President

FIDELIA USHER BOARD

Mrs. Ellon Colbert Williams, President

MEN'S USHER BOARD

Mr. Dewayne Jennings, President

SENIOR USHER BOARD

Deacon Richmond Smith, President

Mrs. Bettye Lamkin, Vice President

YOUTH USHER BOARD

Deacon James Brown, Sponsor

Mr. Clement Bruce, Sponsor

Wheatley Olison, President