

New Outlook

**Early
October 2008
Web version**

Second Baptist Church
Open and Progressive since 1833



The Man with Twenty Hands

In the original musical “The Man with Twenty Hands”, it took two churches: First Baptist and Second Baptist; Stephen Jones, Director; Brad Short, Music Director; Marilyn Short and Johnny Balker, Accompanists; a cast of thirty-plus men, women, and children; and twenty oven mitts to tell the story of John Mason Peck, Missionary to the American West.

The premier performance played to a full house at Second Baptist on Sunday, September 21, as part of the 175th anniversary of the founding of Second. The second performance will be at First Baptist Church October 5, celebrating their 190th year!

The cast was evenly divided between the two churches for the 11 musical presentations and 17 scenes as interacting cast members revealed through surprising facts, humor, clever repartee, and just basic good writing, good reading, and good music the fascinating life of John Mason Peck (ably portrayed by Rick Rardin) as well as John Berry Meachum.

What was not written into the script or included in the lyrics was what happened on stage during the hours of practice and performance: There was an almost tangible sense of something happening -- something of real significance -- a connection like perhaps the joining of two electric wires resulting in unexpected light and warmth -- perhaps best expressed by the Pastor of First Baptist in his opening remarks: “If you could only stand here where I am and see what I see. . .”

This was more than a musical, much more than the sum of its parts: you could feel it, a beginning -- the beginning of something big. And important. Or better yet - the rekindling of the embers of a fire started nearly 200 years ago.

Judy Gurley

If you missed the first performance, you’ll want to see the second:

Sunday, October 5, 2:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church

3100 Bell at Cardinal Street (See p. 5 for directions)

Dinner at 1:15 and reception following the performance.

We are their guests.



Fall Worship Series

"GOD OF ALL THINGS NEW"

God introduces "new-ness" into our lives and world.

Stephen Jones preaching



Sunday, October 5: "A New Heaven and a New Earth" World Communion Sunday

God's introduction of newness includes the entire earth, transcending the personal or individual dimension. Today the earth stands in need of God's renewal.

Mission Group Covenant Sunday
World Mission Offering begins

Sunday, October 12: "Your Charism, Your Calling"

Text: Ephesians 4:1-16

We focus upon our individual ministries and how we are gifted and called by God for ministry whether in a career, as a volunteer, a neighbor or family member.

Individual Ministry Covenant Sunday

Adult Elective Class

"We Stand in the Circle of the Baptists of Burma" Concludes October 5

We will show a film by an underground Karen movie team showing the 50-year struggle of the Karen people for self-determination and the tragic oppression that has caused so many of the Karen people to flee Burma. Stephen Jones will conclude this four-Sunday series on October 5. Meets in Fellowship Hall

Beginning October 12: "Religion and Science"

A DVD and discussion series hosted by Dr. Francis S. Collins

At a time when influential voices are demanding that we either abandon the practice of religion or reject the findings of science, this course offers a positive alternative: a way to live in today's world as scientifically informed believers.

As Director of the Human Genome Project, Francis Collins, host of this series, joined President Bill Clinton in the White House Rose Garden a few years ago to announce that the mapping of the human genome was complete. Next month he will join other scientists at a meeting with the pope.

Presenters in this series include 17 leading theologians, philosophers, and scientists, including 2 Nobel laureates. Join us at 9:15 on Sunday mornings from October 12 through November 30. Discussions will be led by Mary Shepardson.

Other adult classes:

The Karen Bible Class, taught by Pastor Carey San in the Karen language, meets in the library.

The Bible Study Class, led by Bill Gurley is studying the gospel of Mark. Meets in the Community Room.

The Karen Young Adult Class is learning English through Bible study and faith exploration. Taught by Jan Jones and Jane Mahan in a classroom behind the chancel.

Grant's Farm Day

Saturday, October 11

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Join your friends from Second Baptist on Saturday, October 11, for a day at Grant's Farm. In addition to the usual attractions, it is "Living History Day."

This biannual event takes guests back in time, as the men, women, and children of the 8th Missouri Volunteer Infantry, U. S. Civil War Reenactors, set up camp in the meadow adjacent to Hardscrabble, the cabin that was hand built and lived in by Ulysses and Julia Grant. Grant's Cabin is open for inspection, including an interpreter from the U. S. Grant National Historic Site to answer questions.



Activities include military drills, rifle and cannon firing, cooking, games, dances, and skits. The focus is on portraying real people and the ways they lived in a critical period of our nation's history.

Admission is free, but parking costs \$10. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex if you plan to go and indicate if you'd like to carpool.

Youth To Attend Six Flags "Fright Nite"

All youth in 7th - 12th grades are invited to date and time: Saturday, October 11, from 1 with final details. Call Melanie Keeney for

We had 15 youth at our pizza and bowling sponsors of our youth group are Melanie and Stephen Jones.



"Fright Nite" at Six Flags. Tentative - 6 p.m. All youth will receive a letter more information.

party last Sunday! The adult Keeney, Audrey Munsch,



We are launching...

St. Louis Jazz and Blues Vespers

Our first Vespers is Sunday evening, October 19, at 6:00 p.m.

In the Sanctuary of the Beatitudes
Featuring jazz singer Mary Dyson and Friends.

"Mary Dyson is a presence on stage to be reckoned with. From the moment she takes the microphone she captivates her audience and holds them until the last note. Whether it's the saucy tilt of her signature fedora, the way she looks her audience in their eyes or the clear, sweet notes she sings..., she's hard to ignore once she's taken stage; dinner forks stop in midair, conversations cease in mid-sentence. Her renderings of the Great American Songbook make old melodies new again...and she doesn't stop there...her repertoire of jazz...and blues is impressive and completely entertaining." - Jay Brandt

Please take a poster and cards and help us spread the word about this great night of jazz at our church. Mary and her talented group of instrumentalists will launch our jazz and blues vespers in a wonderful way! The pianist will be Brock Walker, who played at Second Baptist with Kim Massie.



Looking Back

What a great day we had last Saturday reliving our church's story! Our bus took us downtown across from the courthouse, from which we could see several of the first sites of our church. We passed other sites on our way to the only one still standing, the magnificent building on Kingshighway and Washington, which is in the process of being converted to condominiums.

From there we went to the Baptist Lot at Bellefontaine Cemetery, where we saw the graves of John Mason Peck, John Berry Meachum and others who played a part in our church's history. Many thanks to Bill C. Winter for narrating the tour and giving us a sense of the people, places, and ideas that shaped our church. Thanks to Paula Rardin for arranging the tour.



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Church School 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Nursery provided.

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St. Louis, MO 63117
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E-mail: office@2ndbc.org
Website: www.2ndbc.org

Staff

Dr. Stephen Jones, Pastor
Kara Reagan, Pastoral Intern
Marilyn Short, Music Director
Brad Short, Choir Director
Nathan Winter, Sound Technician
Paula Rardin, Moderator
Dar Novak, Vice Moderator
Debbie Albu, Secretary, Layout
Mary Shepardson, *Outlook* Editor
Jim Shepardson, Photographer

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- Sun 8:45 a.m. Choir practice
- 9:15 a.m. Church school for all ages
- Sun 10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- Tue 6:30 p.m. Adult Children of Alcoholics in Community Room
- Wed 7:00 p.m. Choir practice

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

- Oct 5 "The Man with 20 Hands" performance, 2:30 p.m.,
First Baptist. 1:15 dinner
- Oct 7 American Baptist Women, 10 a.m.
- Oct 11 Grant's Farm Day, 10 a.m.— 2 p.m.
Youth Group Fright Night Six Flags 1—6 p.m.
- Oct 12 "Religion and Science" series begins, 9:15 a.m.
- Oct 13 Book Group, 2 p.m., Community Room
- Oct 13 Shalom Circle, 7 p.m., Community Room
- Oct 18 Men's Breakfast, Second Baptist, 7:30 a.m.
- Oct 19 Jazz and Blues Vespers, 6 p.m. with Mary Dyson and
Friends
- Oct 21 American Baptist Women, 10 a.m.
Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Shalom Circle, 7 p.m., Community Room
- Oct 27 Prostate Cancer Support Group, 7:00 p.m.

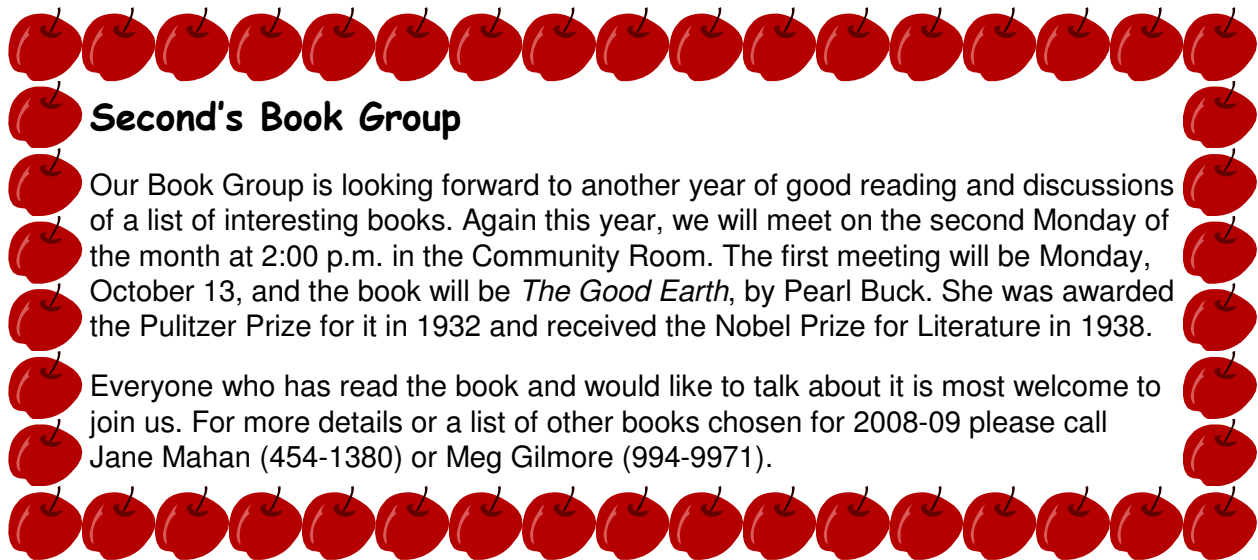


A ceremony commemorating the 17 daughter churches founded by Second Baptist. A rose to represent each church was inserted in the stone cross, which will be moved to the rose garden.

Shalom Circle

Monday, October 13

Join us in the Community Room at the church on the second and fourth Monday evenings of each month at 7:00 p.m. Shalom Circle is open to anyone on a drop-in basis. It offers an intimate setting to explore individual concerns and celebrations, to receive communion, to participate in healing prayers, and to explore individual callings. Participants agree to keep everything shared confidential. Prayer and rituals of meditation are included.



Second's Book Group

Our Book Group is looking forward to another year of good reading and discussions of a list of interesting books. Again this year, we will meet on the second Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room. The first meeting will be Monday, October 13, and the book will be *The Good Earth*, by Pearl Buck. She was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for it in 1932 and received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1938.

Everyone who has read the book and would like to talk about it is most welcome to join us. For more details or a list of other books chosen for 2008-09 please call Jane Mahan (454-1380) or Meg Gilmore (994-9971).

Next meeting of the Church Council:
Tuesday, October 21, 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room.



Directions to First Baptist Church: From Second Baptist, go east on Highway 40 to the Grand Avenue exit. At the top of the ramp, turn right and go north on Grand. Drive past Third Baptist and Powell Hall and turn right on Delmar. Drive 5 blocks and turn left on Cardinal. It's one block to Bell Street, and the church is the large stone structure on your left. There's plenty of easy street parking. Enter the front door of the church.



Reminder to the cast of "The Man with 20 Hands": We will have a rehearsal on Saturday, October 4, at 9:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church to re-block our staging for their space.

From the Pastor

Covenanting for Ministry

On the next two Sundays, we will have opportunity to commit ourselves to outreach ministry. This is an exciting time because of the expansive way our church is engaging in ministry “beyond our four walls.” Let me tell you about these Sundays.



On Sunday, October 5, in the worship service, we will commit ourselves to **Second Baptist Church’s Mission Outreach Groups**. A sheet will be on a table in front where people can sign their names to make a new commitment, or to renew an on-going commitment, to one of our mission outreach groups. We do this as an act of worship because we never want to divorce prayer and outreach. Making a commitment to one of our mission/outreach groups will be an act of prayer in Sunday’s service. This time of covenanting will be to promise before God that we will let our light shine before others.

The mission outreach groups of Second Baptist Church are:

- **St. Louis Jazz and Blues Vespers** ... This group is launching the vespers on the 3rd Sunday evening of each month and they host the vespers. Not many meetings, but hands-on work.
- **Burma Refugee Team** ... This group of volunteers is active supporting our many active Karen participants with help in language, furnishings, transportation, banking, food stamps, everything necessary to live well in St. Louis.
- **American Baptist Women** ... This group meets twice a month on Tuesday mornings and sponsors many hands-on projects to help others in need.
- **John Mason Peck Walk in the Woods** ... This group is studying the possibility of creating a permanent outdoor display of Peck’s life on our church grounds.
- **Second Baptist Peacemakers** ... This group is related to the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America and advocates for peace and justice around the world.
- **First Baptist Partners** ... Would anyone be interested in forming a new group to explore a deeper partnership with First Baptist Church of St. Louis?
- **Habitat for Humanity Partners** ... Would anyone be interested in working as regular volunteers with St. Louis Habitat for Humanity rebuilding homes?
- **Hospitality Team**...Coordinates our inviting and welcoming new persons to SBC.
- **Prostate Cancer Support Group** ...Able hosted by Bill Gurley, a monthly gathering in our facility.
- **Churches Supporting Churches in New Orleans**...Would anyone be interested in a work/mission trip to assist an African American church in the damaged 9th Ward of New Orleans? We might take a mission trip next spring.

On Sunday, October 12, we will enter into a **Covenant for Individual Ministries** at the conclusion of the worship service. Individuals will be invited to come forward and ask for a Prayer of Empowerment and Blessing over their individual ministry. An individual ministry is any kind of compassionate ministry to which you feel called. It could be as a parent, a friend, a neighbor. It could be in your career or vocation. It could be your hobby or avocation. It could be as a volunteer, any place, any capacity. We will celebrate that all Christians are called to ministry. And we are called to support and pray for one another in our individual ministry. We will engage in a laying on of hands for those who come forward.

I am truly looking forward to sharing these two Sundays with you!
– Stephen Jones