

New Outlook

Mid March
2011

Second Baptist Church
Open and Progressive since 1833



Dr. Thomas E. Clifton's first Sunday as Second Baptist's Minister in Residence was March 6, Communion Sunday.

Flunking Retirement

Ministers sometimes flunk retirement. I have talked to some who confess that such is the case in their lives. I never thought I would be one of them. Retirement sounded like such a good thing. How could anyone ever fail to relish doing what you wanted every day of the week? I figured that I would play enough golf to make up for all those times my bags stayed in the garage because there was just one more hospital call to make before day's end. And then there were the books unread, just waiting for me to enjoy with a mug of coffee on the cold days. Yes indeed, retirement was the best thing I could imagine.

I'm sure that the day will come when I will read more, sit more and just rest more. But that day is not now for me. So here I am, back in Saint Louis where I was born and in Crystal City where I grew up. I still need a congregation to love. And I still find preparing and preaching sermons tremendously fulfilling. And I hope that I have learned a few things from my earlier mistakes in ministry that will allow me to lead a congregation in transition toward a new and renewed future.

Thanks for your gracious welcome. If I recall correctly from the training I took for this specialized ministry, the first task is to "join the system." So in the first few weeks I will attempt simply to get to know you, spend time with you, and catch the spirit of the congregation at its best. In time other tasks will come into play, but right now it's time to get to know one another—and I am enjoying that very much.

Every good blessing for this Lenten Season of spiritual renewal!
Tom Clifton, Minister in Residence

Tom Clifton and Kara Reagan Attend Retreat on Ministry to Burmese

The American Baptist Churches—USA, the denomination of which Second Baptist is a part, has invited pastors whose churches have a ministry to Burmese refugees to attend a retreat this week in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, from March 16 – 18. Lodging and meals are provided by a “Together in Ministry” grant. Tom Clifton and Kara Reagan will both be attending this event.

Dr. Joseph Kutter, Executive Director of the Ministers' Council of American Baptist Churches, will lead the retreat, and Dr. Ron Carlson of ABCUSA's National Ministries will speak on missional church models. Carlson most recently held the position of associate professor of evangelism and church growth at Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, where Tom Clifton was president. The Missional Church Institute he established there has assisted many churches in moving from maintenance or declining conditions into strong ministry engagement.

The goal of the retreat is to bring pastors from across the country who are involved in this unique ministry to share experiences and be of support to one another. At the retreat there will be colleagues who have been involved in this kind of ministry for nearly a decade and others who are just starting.

Tom and Kara are looking forward to this opportunity to meet with others and reflect on how we can best serve our Karen members and friends.



Upcoming
Sermons

During the Sundays of Lent, Dr. Clifton will preach a series of sermons on the psalms of lament.

Sunday Evening Series in May

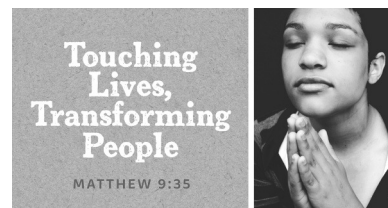
On the four Sundays in May, Tom Clifton and Brooke Justis will lead an evening series, "Living in the Power of the Resurrection." This series will replace the Lenten series that was announced in the last newsletter.

Reaching Our Pastors

If you need to reach one of our pastors after hours, here is their contact information:

Tom Clifton
816-820-0338
tomclifton@yahoo.com

Kara Reagan
719-930-6563
kara@2ndbc.org



We are collecting the America for Christ offering during the month of March. If you would like your offering to aid the Japanese people, please note that on your envelope.

Brats, Games, and an Auction



Mark your calendar for a great evening on Friday, April 16, beginning at 5:30, with brats prepared by Tim Keeney. The word from one who should know (Melanie) is that he makes great brats, so you won't want to miss out. After everybody's full, we'll play games, and a silent auction will go on throughout the evening. If you can donate craft items you've made, an original painting, a dinner, tickets to an event, or anything else you think

people might be interested in buying (it doesn't have to be new), please leave it in Kara's office at church.

The cost for the evening is \$12 per person, with a maximum of \$25 per family.

Childcare will be provided. The youth are putting on this event as a fundraiser for

their trip this summer to Green Lake, the American Baptist Conference Grounds. Nineteen youth plan to go. If anyone has information on chartering a bus, please contact Kara Reagan or Melanie Keeney.



Update from the Pastoral Search Committee

Thanks to everyone who filled out a survey and/or participated in a focus group to pass on your thoughts to the Search Committee about where we are now, where we are called to be, and what we need in a permanent pastor. We will have two more focus groups this week, one on Wednesday evening and another on Thursday evening, both at 7:00 in the Community Room. If you have been unable to attend a focus group and would like a chance to share your thoughts, please contact Mary Shepardson or Randy Sumner.

After the meetings this week, we'll organize all the information we've gathered and give you a report on the results. We are working on the profile of our church, including what we have learned from you about the kind of pastor we are looking for. When we send the profile to the denomination, they will match our needs with the people they know are looking for a pastorate and will begin sending us names and resumés to consider. We expect this process to take some months.

The survey we passed out had 15 characteristics of a pastor, and you were asked to rank them in order. Here are the top ten:

1. Preaching/Communication
2. Pastoral Care
3. Church Growth/Evangelism
4. Interpreting the faith
5. Nurturing fellowship
6. Spiritual life development
7. Worship preparation/leading
8. Organizational planning/development
9. Program development
10. Leadership development



Our 3rd Season!

3rd Sunday of each month

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Free and open to the public

March 20, 2011

Funky Butt Blues Band

Formed in 2008 by six musicians with a New Orleans brass band tradition, they take New Orleans brass tunes and give them a funky flavor.



Church Work Day
Saturday,
April 2
9 a.m. - Noon

Worship in Karen

All Karen are invited to a worship service in the Karen language in Fellowship Hall this Sunday during the regular worship service time.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sun	8:45 a.m.	Adult choir rehearsal in Sanctuary
	9:15 a.m.	Classes for children, youth and adult
	10:30 a.m.	Worship in the Sanctuary
	11:30 a.m.	Coffee Fellowship
Tue	1st and 3rd	American Baptist Women's Ministries, 10 a.m.
Tue	6:30 p.m.	Adult Children of Alcoholics in Community Rm
Thurs	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Mar 19	7:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, Delmar Baptist
Mar 19	1 - 4 p.m.	Choir rehearsal for <i>Messe solennelle, op. 12</i>
Mar 20	11:45 a.m.	Search Committee Meeting
Mar 20	6:30 p.m.	Jazz Vespers
Mar 21	6:30 p.m.	Council meeting
Mar 26	1 - 4 p.m.	Choir rehearsal for <i>Messe solennelle, op. 12</i>
Mar 28	6:30 p.m.	Koinonia at Meg Gilmore's
Mar 28	7:00 p.m.	Prostate Cancer Support Group, Comm Rm
April 1	TBA	Youth event
April 2	9 a.m. - 12	Work Day
April 2	1 - 4 p.m.	Choir rehearsal for <i>Messe solennelle, op. 12</i>

Randy Sumner Elected to Pastoral Relations Committee

Randy Sumner was elected to join Fran Adams, Chair, and Bill Gurley on the Pastoral Relations Committee. He is finishing out Karen Fields' term, which will conclude in June 2012. The PRC acts as a liaison between the pastor and the congregation. Randy is also co-chair of the Pastoral Search Committee.

The *New Outlook* is published the second and fourth weeks of the month. Please send articles and photos to mary@shepardson.us by Sunday, March 27, for the next issue.

Second Baptist Church of Greater St. Louis

An American Baptist Church

9030 Clayton Road at McKnight Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63117-1094

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Church School 9:15 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

A nursery is provided.

Telephone & Fax (314) 991-3424

E-mail: office@2ndbc.org

Website: www.2ndbc.org

Dr. Thomas E. Clifton,

Minister in Residence

Kara Reagan, Associate Pastor

Rick Hoyt, Moderator

Good Friday Service Friday, April 22nd, 8:00 p.m.

with a performance of César Franck's *Messe solennelle*, op. 12

César Franck (1822-1890) is primarily remembered today as a composer of instrumental music. However, the vast majority of his choral music and sacred music have fallen inexplicably into oblivion. Franck worked as choirmaster and organist throughout his life, and it was while he was at Sainte-Clotilde in Paris that he wrote his *Messe solennelle*, op. 12 in 1860.

We are once again inviting members of the Eliot Chapel Choir to join the Second Baptist Church Choir, along with soloists and friends, to present our Good Friday Service.

Here is the rehearsal schedule for those singers who might like to join us:

Saturday, March 19th, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. / choir and soloists

Saturday, March 26th, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. / choir and soloists

Saturday, April 2nd, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. / choir and soloists

Saturday, April 9th, SKIP - NO REHEARSAL

Saturday, April 16th, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. / choir and soloists with instruments

Friday, April 22, 6:30 p.m. call time / everyone - service begins at 8 p.m.



Choir Schedule

—Brad Short