



SPECIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 13-2024

A SPECIAL PROCLAMATION AWARDED BY SOUTH BEND COMMON COUNCIL THIRD DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE SHARON MCBRIDE

Whereas, Second Baptist Church has faithfully served as a beacon of hope, faith, and community in South Bend, Indiana, for over 70 years, providing spiritual guidance and support to countless individuals; and

Whereas, the church was organized on August 15, 1952, in a garage building owned by Mr. and Mrs. Grady Walker at 24956 Fillmore Road. The church began with 13 members, two deacons, and one trustee. Mrs. Walker gave the church its name; and

Whereas, Rev. K. A. Bird was called in June 1960 and served until July 1962. Following Rev. Bird, Rev. J. C. Watson was called and served from August 1962 to July 1964, followed by Rev. C. H. Smith, who served from August 1964 to April 1966; and

Whereas, Rev. Samuel Chase Jr. was called on June 5, 1966, under whose leadership the church grew spiritually and financially. On October 7, 1973, the church moved to its current location at 24828 Fillmore Road. On July 31, 1983, a dedication ceremony was held for a new addition and renovation, which included a baptistery, office space, enlarged basement, and choir room. Rev. Chase retired on October 19, 2003; and

Whereas, on April 25, 2004, Pastor Andre Wells Sr. was called to serve. Under Pastor Wells' leadership, the church has burned its mortgage, modernized its technology, replaced the roof, expanded its membership, and continues its community outreach. Pastor Wells has fostered an enduring commitment to spreading the Gospel, fostering fellowship, and cultivating a deep sense of purpose and love among the congregation; and

Whereas, Second Baptist Church has stood as a pillar of strength, growing from humble beginnings to become a thriving organization that offers worship, education, outreach programs, and community services, transforming lives in the process; and

Whereas, through the dedication of its pastors, leaders, and congregation, Second Baptist Church has played a vital role in addressing spiritual and social needs, providing aid to the underserved, and uplifting the community during times of challenge; and

Whereas, the church continues to honor its mission of faith and service, inspiring future generations to uphold its legacy of devotion, compassion, and stewardship;

Now, Therefore, be it publicly and proudly Proclaimed as follows:

that we extend our heartfelt gratitude and commendation to Pastor Andre Wells Sr. for his commitment, sacrifice, and dedication to our community. "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). We thank Second Baptist Church for its unwavering commitment to serving others and wish them continued success in the years to come.



*Proclaimed this 6th Day of December 2024 in the City of South Bend, County
of St. Joseph, in the State of Indiana.*

Sharon L. McBride

Sharon McBride, Council President & 3rd District Council Member
South Bend Common Council

