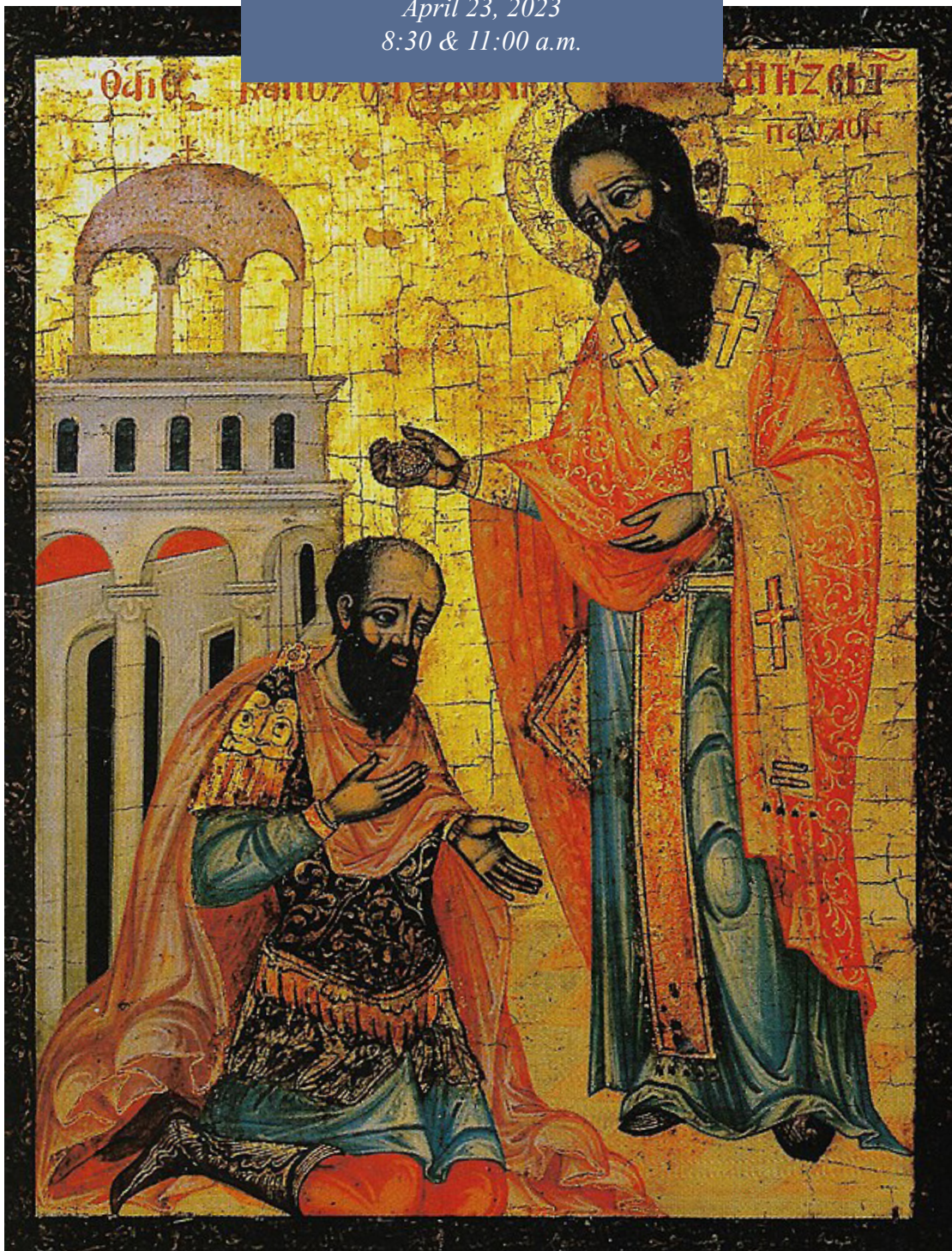




FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

*April 23, 2023*  
*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



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To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

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## WORDS OF PREPARATION

*“The very claim that there is something God wants me to do with my life...threatens many contemporary definitions of freedom. Surely, I can do whatever I want with my life, and the choice is mine. Much of the Christian tradition, however, has argued that that vision of life as a sea of infinite choices is more like slavery than freedom... The direction of my life can be shaped by the pervasive siren calls of consumer culture, or by my own quest for immediate satisfaction. Either way, the advent of next year’s fashion or the boredom I find in the pleasures of the moment leaves me hungry for something else, a cycle of hunger always unfilled.”*

—William C. Placher

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

*Pastorale*  
Herbert Sumsion

WELCOME

†INTROIT

*O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips*  
Richard Webster

O Lord, open thou our lips and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Stuart Gordon (8:30)  
Gage Arnold (11:00)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Oh sing to the Lord a new song;

**All: Sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

Pastor: Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

**All: Tell of his salvation from day to day.**

\*†OPENING HYMN 620

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*  
LAUDA ANIMA

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Mary Raymond (8:30)  
Tricia Carswell (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | 1 Peter 1:17–23 (page 1014)

<sup>17</sup> And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, <sup>18</sup> knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. <sup>20</sup> He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you <sup>21</sup> who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

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<sup>22</sup> Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, <sup>23</sup> since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. Sandra Randleman (8:30)

Dr. John Musgrave (11:00)

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all people: we acknowledge and confess our many sins, which we have committed, by thought, word and deed, against your divine majesty. We do earnestly repent and are sincerely sorry for our misdoings. Have mercy upon us; have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. Forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

*Glory Be to the Father*

GLORIA 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 without end. Amen, amen.**

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad  
and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.*

## ‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

### PRESENTATION OF CHILD

(8:30) Katharine and Andrew Bair are presenting their children, Violet Elizabeth Bair and Nixon David Bair, for baptism. Ellie Billington, Assisting Elder

(11:00) Bridget and Fritz Haimberger are presenting their daughter, Alexandra Caroline Haimberger, for baptism. Becky Campbell, Assisting Elder



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## BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### THE BAPTISM

*‡During the 8:30 and 11:00 services, PreK and Kindergarten  
children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.*

## HYMN OF PREPARATION

*Speak, O Lord*  
Getty | Townend

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to receive the food of your holy word.  
Take your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in your likeness,  
that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all your purposes, for your glory.**

**Teach us Lord full obedience, holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes in the radiance of your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail; let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

## SCRIPTURE READING | Acts 22:1–22 (page 931)

<sup>1</sup> “Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you.” <sup>2</sup> And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said: <sup>3</sup> “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. <sup>4</sup> I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, <sup>5</sup> as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished. <sup>6</sup> “As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. <sup>7</sup> And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ <sup>8</sup> And I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.’ <sup>9</sup> Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. <sup>10</sup> And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.’ <sup>11</sup> And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus. <sup>12</sup> “And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, <sup>13</sup> came to me, and standing by me said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight.’ And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. <sup>14</sup> And he said, ‘The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; <sup>15</sup> for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. <sup>16</sup> And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.’ <sup>17</sup> “When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance <sup>18</sup> and saw him saying to me, ‘Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.’ <sup>19</sup> And I said, ‘Lord, they themselves know that in one synagogue after another I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. <sup>20</sup> And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being shed, I myself was standing by and approving and watching over the garments of those who killed him.’ <sup>21</sup> And he said to me, ‘Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’” <sup>22</sup> Up to this word they listened to him. Then they raised their voices and said, “Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live.”

**Pastor:** The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

**Take Courage**

Dr. Ryan Moore

*"And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name."*  
—Acts 22:16

OFFERTORY

*O How Amiable*  
Ralph Vaughan Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings: thou Lord of Hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be always praising thee. The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handy work. O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

*As you reflect on the Lord's goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, or donating online at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org).*

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO THIRD GRADERS

Mallory Hammond (11:00)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN 223

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
HAMBURG

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*May the Mind of Christ, My Savior*  
ST. LEONARDS

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, live in me from day to day, by his love and pow'r controlling all I do and say. May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour, so that all may see I triumph only thro' his pow'r. May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything, that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing. May his beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win; and may they forget the channel, seeing only him.

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Fanfare*  
William Mathias

\* Those who are able, please stand.  
† Latecomers may be seated.

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## PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*  
Stuart Gordon, DMin – *Senior Associate Pastor for Christian Formation & Witness*  
John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*  
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*  
Gage Arnold – *Director of Youth Programming*

Mallory Hammond – *Director of Ministry with Children & Their Families*  
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*  
Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*  
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Allison Brooke Telfer and Guy Ray Braswell.

Wreaths on the sanctuary doors are in celebration of the baptism of Nixon David and Violet Elizabeth Bair, and in memory of their grandfather, Michael Nixon Davies.

## MUSIC NOTES

*Pastorale from A Book of Simple Organ Voluntaries* by Herbert Sumsion, © 1949 Oxford Publishing, All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

*O How Amiable* © 1940, Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

*Fanfare from Ceremonial Music for Organ* by William Mathias © 1997 Oxford University Press, All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895.

*Speak O Lord* © 2005 Thankyou Music For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1121456.

## COVER IMAGE

Baptism of Paul the Apostle,  *Icônes arabes : art chrétien du Levant, France.*

## SUPPORTING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

You can make a gift or fulfill a pledge payment by placing your gift in the offering plate, texting “GIVE” to 707-475-3005, donating online at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org), or scan the QR code.



## WELCOME

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

### Hearing Assistance App Directions

Join WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Network Name: FPC Guest; Password: GreenRock-81. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select “First Pres Sanctuary.” Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

**Join us downstairs** in Courtenay Hall between services for coffee and doughnuts.

To **livestream** worship and special events or view past services, visit [youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville](https://youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville).

**Children of all ages** are invited to worship alongside their families and worship activity bags are provided at each entrance to the Sanctuary. **Young Children & Worship** meets in Grundy Hall in the Children’s Ministry Wing for ages 4–6. Parents pick up at the door of Grundy Hall. After 8:30 a.m. worship, children can stay for the Education Hour. **Nursery care** for children ages 0–3 is available from 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Check-in and pickup for nursery care are both located at the nursery entrance near Courtenay Lounge. The **Mother and Infant Quiet Room** is located in the Nursery Wing.

## INTERESTED IN GETTING MORE CONNECTED?

If you are new to our community, we would love to get to know you and welcome you personally into the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a guest or a longtime member, fill out the Connect Card to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the offering plate so we can follow up!

*Stay informed about news and upcoming events by reading FPC’s weekly Parish News email.  
To subscribe, email [communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org).*

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

**Officer Nominations for Class of 2026**—The Officer Nominating Committee seeks recommendations for members to serve as elders and deacons at FPC. Please prayerfully consider submitting a recommendation for this important and vital service for your church. To submit a recommendation, please complete an Officer Nomination Form found in the literature areas or online.

**Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering | May 9 | 6:00 p.m. Hininger Home**—The Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering is a time for fellowship and reflection on the past year. Join us at the home of Carrie Hininger as we enjoy dinner together, thank our outgoing leadership, welcome our new leaders and incoming moderator, and name the recipient of the PW Lifetime Achievement Award. Register in-person or online by May 5. In-person reservations will be accepted today and April 30 in Courtenay Hall.

## RECREATION MINISTRY

**Volunteer | Welcome Visitors as a Soccer Saint**—Would you help us greet players, coaches and the community by volunteering as a Soccer Saint on Saturday mornings during soccer season? It's a great way to serve God's people and spread joy. Contact Erika Shapiro ([eshapiro@fpcnashville.org](mailto:eshapiro@fpcnashville.org)).

## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

**VBS 2023 | July 25–27 | Evenings FPC Campus**—Vacation Bible School is back and the entire church family is invited! Volunteers of all ages and life stages can support VBS. To volunteer or become a VBS prayer partner, contact Mallory Hammond ([mhammond@fpcnashville.org](mailto:mhammond@fpcnashville.org)). We look forward to sharing more about this exciting event!

### LOOKING AHEAD

April 30 | Youth Sunday

May 7 | 5:30 p.m. | Worship on the Porch led by the 2023 Confirmation Class

May 18 | 12:00 p.m. | Ascension Day Worship Service

May 18 | 1:00 p.m. | First Friends Luncheon

May 21 | Confirmation Sunday

May 28 | 9:30 a.m. | Kirkin' Festival



**APRIL 26 | 6:00 p.m.**  
**Enrichment Center**

### ***Join Us for a Conversation with Andy Crouch***

You're invited to hear Andy Crouch speak on creating meaningful connections in a way that engages our full humanity. He is the partner for theology and culture at Praxis and is the author of five books. His writing explores faith, culture, and the image of God in technology, power, leadership, and the arts. His most recent release is *The Life We're Looking For: Reclaiming Relationship in a Technological World*.

PASTORAL STAFF &  
MINISTRY LEADERS



**Dr. Ryan Moore**  
*Pastor & Head of Staff*



**Dr. Stuart Gordon**  
*Senior Associate Pastor for  
Christian Formation & Witness*



**Dr. John Musgrave**  
*Parish Associate*



**Dr. Sandra Randleman**  
*Associate Pastor for  
Congregational Care &  
Missions*



**Dr. Raphael Bundage**  
*Director of Music*



**Frank Coyle**  
*Church Executive*



**Gage Arnold**  
*Director of Youth  
Programming*



**Mallory Hammond**  
*Director of Ministry with  
Children & Their Families*



**Dr. Bill Mott**  
*Director of Resource  
Development*



**Erika Shapiro**  
*Director of Recreation and  
Church Fellowship*

CONTACT US FOR  
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT

Stewardship & Endowment

*Dr. Bill Mott at [wmott@fpcnashville.org](mailto:wmott@fpcnashville.org)*

Children & Families

*Mallory Hammond at  
[mhammond@fpcnashville.org](mailto:mhammond@fpcnashville.org)*

Youth Ministry

*Gage Arnold at [garnold@fpcnashville.org](mailto:garnold@fpcnashville.org)*

Congregational Care

*Rev. Sandra Randleman at  
[srandleman@fpcnashville.org](mailto:srandleman@fpcnashville.org)*

Missions

*Annette Crout at [missions@fpcnashville.org](mailto:missions@fpcnashville.org)*

Presbyterian Women

*Kristy Hall at [preswomen@fpcnashville.org](mailto:preswomen@fpcnashville.org)*

Music & Children's Choir

*Daphne Garey at [dgarey@fpcnashville.org](mailto:dgarey@fpcnashville.org)*

Recreation & Congregational Life

*Erika Shapiro at [eshapiro@fpcnashville.org](mailto:eshapiro@fpcnashville.org)*



TALK TO A PASTOR

*Call 615-383-1815*

The pastoral staff is here for you. Contact us if you would appreciate a pastoral visit/call, have pastoral care needs, would like to be on a prayer list, or if you are in the hospital. Prayer requests can be confidential and limited to the pastors.



STAY CONNECTED

*News, events, and church information  
is sent weekly through the Parish News  
email. To subscribe, email  
[communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org)*