

SECOND BAPTIST SCHOOL

EAGLE

2023 - 2024



**Second Baptist School**  
6410 Woodway Drive  
Houston, Texas 77057  
secondbaptistschool.org

Established in 1946, SBS provides a world-class education for the leaders of tomorrow. SBS is a learning community for over 1,000 students (PK-12) who enjoy a breadth of educational opportunities – from customized learning experiences to travel exposure to technological advancement. Nurtured by a Christ-centered community that edifies the soul and an academically rigorous environment that enriches the mind, SBS graduates are armed with the character, confidence and capability needed to succeed in the world they confront in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Our Mission**  
The mission of Second Baptist School is to equip students to think critically, live biblically and lead courageously to impact the world for Jesus Christ.

**Our Passion**  
Our passion is to bring every student into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ while equipping them to do with excellence that which God has called them to do.

**Core Values**  
Christ-Centered  
Pursuit of Excellence  
Caring Community

The *Eagle* is published by the Office of Communications and is mailed free of charge to students, parents, faculty, alumni and friends of Second Baptist School. For more information call (713) 365-2310 or visit our website at secondbaptistschool.org.

Disclaimer: Second Baptist School makes every effort to ensure that all names and listings are accurate and complete. If a name has been omitted, misspelled or listed incorrectly, please accept our sincerest apologies.



E A G L E

We invite you to add a personal touch to this year's *Eagle* magazine cover! Color the page using crayons, markers, or colored pencils. Once finished, text your SBS masterpiece to the SBS social media phone at (713) 817-0186. Scan the QR code for a printable download of our cover!

Don't forget to tag us @secondbaptistschool on Instagram. Let's showcase your creativity and the vibrant spirit of SBS!





**SBS A Year in Review** **5**  
2023-2024

**Interim Term** **36**

**Athletics Recap** **74**  
2023-2024

**Photo Essay** **84**  
by Avery Bodine '25,  
Communications Fellow



**SBS Wrapped** **86**  
2023-2024

**Parenting with Purpose** **88**

**Celebrating the Class of 2024** **95**

**Letter from a Senior** **100**  
by Ellie Veeningen '24,  
Head Prefect



**Senior Traditions /** **102**  
**By The Numbers**

**Senior Features** **106**

**Baby Steps to Big Dreams** **122**

**Class of 2024: College Plans** **124**

**Second Generation Families** **127**

**Alumni Notes** **128**

**Alumni Class of 2020** **142**

**20 Questions with SBS Coaches** **146**



# THIS IS OUR SBS

*second baptist school*  
2023-2024

# A YEAR IN REVIEW



# Our SBS

“From the moment I walked into [the lower school] as a five-year-old, a trust was established and built day by day. Second Baptist is where I discovered and grew my relationship with God. It is where I raised my flag for Christ and allowed Him to enter my heart. It is where I continue to grow my relationship with Christ.”

– HEAD FELLOW ANDREA COLCHADO ’25

On the first day of the 2023-2024 school year, Head Fellow Andrea Colchado ’25 and Head Prefect Ellie Veeningen ’24 shared their “why.” Andrea spoke about the personal reasons each individual has for joining the Second Baptist School family, all interwoven with God’s divine purpose. Ellie emphasized that SBS is a community first and a school second, addressing the entire student body, faculty, staff, and family members during Convocation.

The theme for the school year, “Our SBS,” was introduced, focusing on the collective responsibility to own the mission of Second Baptist School. This year’s verse, Philippians 2:2, was a call for the SBS community to think with one mind, live with one heart, and lead with one purpose as they strive to think critically, live biblically, and lead courageously for Jesus Christ.

The 2023-2024 year is filled with exciting developments, including the completion of a new children’s building, unprecedented levels of giving, and the introduction of the School of Business. The sense of community at SBS is evident as everyone came together, caring for, supporting, rejoicing with, and mourning with one another.

Joshua 1:9 provides encouragement: “Do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Ellie Veeningen concluded her Convocation speech with a powerful statement to embolden everyone for the school year ahead:

**“God is before you, and your SBS family is behind you.”**

# SENIOR RETREAT

As our seniors step closer to the precipice of graduation, their final year in upper school kicks off with Senior Retreat, an event orchestrated to usher them into the next phase of their lives with grace, love and purpose. This year’s retreat was not just an event; it was a testament to the spirit of Second Baptist School, a spirit that promises to shine brightly in each of our seniors wherever they may go.



# TOUCHDOWN TOGETHER

SBS welcomed new Head Football Coach Beck Brydon, who has a passion for cultivating a winning culture with parents off the field. Kicking off the year with the Our Good Men (Father-Son-Coach) Retreat and the Gridiron Moms Breakfast, Coach Brydon proved that “building a championship-level program takes all hands on deck.”



## SBS upperclassmen give new freshmen their top ten tips!

1. Stay organized! Try the Sticky Notes app on your computer.
2. Use your assignment center. Mark tasks as to-do, in progress, and then completed. Check for quizzes and tests and stay on top of your assignments.
3. Manage your time with outside activities; don't fall behind!
4. Do homework during Community Time.
5. Ask teachers questions. They want to help!
6. Go to social events! Football games, and art performances. Plug into our community.
7. Include everyone; be friendly always; but choose friends wisely.
8. Study and invest in your GPA from day one!
9. Get rest! Go to bed early and sleep as much as you can.
10. Have fun! Don't take yourself too seriously. Your decisions as a freshman do matter, but enjoying your time at SBS is also important.



Senior student leaders at the freshmen retreat



# ONE DAY

“One Day 2023 was indeed an incredible experience,” shared Dr. Davis. “Imagine the Worship Center filled with students with different perspectives and backgrounds, all coming together to hear the inspiring and challenging words of speaker Sam Kelly. Our hearts rejoice for the 22 students who walked forward during the One Day invitation, including 13 from The Woodlands Christian Academy. Ten of the 22 accepted Christ for the very first time.”

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**



## AN AWARD-WINNING EVENING OF MYSTERIES

Second Theatre Company presented An Evening of Mysteries, featuring Agatha Christie's *The Patient* and Edgar Allan Poe's *The Infamous Soothing System of Professor Maillard*. Audiences were captivated by this night of intrigue, working to solve the mysteries and discern between good and evil.

Our upper school honors theatre went on to make history on Thursday, November 9. Performing *The Infamous Soothing System of Professor Maillard*, the cast and crew won the TAPPS Division 1 District 4 State One Act Play Competition! Nic Schweers '26 and Gray Gilbert '25 were named All Star Cast and Emma Hodge won Honorable Mention All Star Cast. This is the first state championship in the Second Theatre Company's history.

"I am so proud of these students and their hard work, God-given talents and exceptional attention to detail!" shared Director of Arts Cindy Blades. "To God be the glory."



SECOND THEATRE COMPANY  
**1<sup>st</sup> STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

"Our cast became more like a family because of our trip to the state championship. I learned so much – not only about theatre but also about trusting and relying on those around you."

OLIVIA SHOEMAKER '25

"As stage manager for the show, I learned the importance of balancing my own high expectations of myself with what I was being called to do. When I felt anxiety heading into district and state, I had to take a step back to truly enjoy the experience. It was so much fun getting to travel with so many people who I adore and getting to meet many more while watching all the fun shows!"

GENEVA HUDSON '24

"It was such an honor to win state! Our cast and crew led courageously by interacting with the other schools at the competition, and we were able to shine our light for Christ by encouraging the other schools in their performances. We bonded so much as a group through this process, and it was really affirming to know that our hard work paid off."

CAROLINE LANE '24



# EXTREME EAGLE



Middle schoolers show off their spirit with this year’s Extreme Eagle. This spirited week and the Extreme Eagle pep rally not only recognizes fall sports but also fosters the camaraderie and overall school spirit Second Baptist School is known for. The crowning touch, our eighth grade football team followed this event with an exciting 27-8 win against Kinkaid that evening.



# HOMECOMING



There's nothing like the school spirit of a Second Baptist School Homecoming. Alumni return for heartfelt reunions, all school divisions join in an epic pep rally and the community gathers for Friday night lights, taking on a small-town feel in one of the biggest cities in the country. Bolstered by the excitement, SBS crowned their Homecoming king and queen and secured a victory over Lutheran South in the evening football game.



## MENTAL STRENGTH IN ATHLETICS

Second Baptist Athletic Fellows Ella Allen '25 and Annie Rawn '24 brought in Coach Cassidy Linton, a mental sports performance coach, to address their fellow student athletes. Director of Athletics Mike Walker observed that this event brought about "great conversations about maximizing effort and limiting distractions for SBS athletes from a Christ-centered approach."



## DREAM BIG

Our first graders proudly took the stage for their highly anticipated first-grade program, "Dream Big: What I Want to Be When I Grow Up." Prepared for their future, costumed students proudly paraded through the Sanctuary, showing parents, grandparents and friends just what they want to be when they grow up.



## 2023 DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER DINNER

This year's SBS Distinguished Speaker Dinner was a record-breaking success, with nearly 1,300 guests in attendance and over \$864,000 raised to bless the school's faculty and staff this Christmas. The event featured distinguished speaker Tim Tebow, distinguished alumni parents Melissa and Greg Terrell, and distinguished alumna Caroline Cobb Smith '00. Marissa '95 and Will Womble, as well as Laura and Jonathan Bonck, proudly served as the event's co-chairs. Along with the underwriting committee members, these families played a vital role in making the evening such a tremendous success and a tribute to our wonderful SBS teachers.

# ALADDIN, JR.

Aladdin, Jr. took center stage as a magical theatrical experience for seventh and eighth grade students. Audiences were dazzled by the bustling Arabian kingdom, with glittering costumes and spectacular dance numbers. From the music to the acting, the students earned enthusiastic applause.



# WEST HOUSTON TEEN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Four of our upper school student leaders participated in State Congressman Mano Deayala’s West Houston Teen Leadership Summit. Lillian Baker ’25, Gianna Fasanella ’25, Dylan Jenkins ’25 and Ella Allen ’25 were nominated by faculty and selected based on their leadership and character. The all-day summit included panels on business, communication and media, government and politics, and community and leadership.



# LYRICS & LATTES

Kicking off December, our upper school arts students took over the Second Baptist Atrium with song and dance. Students performed festive songs solo or in groups, wowing onlookers. Visual art students created live art pieces during the show, enhancing the live entertainment.



# COMBINED CHRISTMAS CHAPEL UPPER AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Head Prefect Ellie Veeningen ’24 planned a special joint chapel service for middle and upper schoolers, celebrating the Christmas season with songs of worship and a reading from the Gospel of Luke.



# Festival of Christmas



Arts students from all divisions united in a symphony of talent at this year’s Festival of Christmas. Between beautiful renditions of Christmas classics such as the choirs’ “Carol of the Bells” and the band’s “Away in a Manger,” theatre students reenacted scenes from the very first Christmas night and the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Another fun aspect of this year’s show was the holiday sing-a-long, in which audiences participated in singing familiar carols. It was a Festival of Christmas to remember!



## LOWER SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CHAPEL

Kindergarten students, decked out in their Christmas finest, made a joyful noise in the Lower School Christmas Chapel. Their performance warmed the hearts of every audience member as they focused on the reason for the season: Jesus’ birth. Students begin memorizing Luke 2 in kindergarten and end their time in lower school able to recite the entire chapter by heart.



# WINTER ART SHOW

From watercolor dreams to 3D tape figure realities, the sixth floor library was transformed into a gallery of student artwork and expression. In a special exhibition, students shared the meaning behind their pieces, bringing creativity to life and adding dimension to the show.



# EAGLES EXCELLENCE

**CHAMPIONS OF THE  
HOUSTON PRIVATE  
SCHOOL CLASSIC**

Second Baptist School hosted its fourth annual Houston Private School Classic, a prestigious basketball tournament that brought together 12 varsity teams from across the region to showcase the exceptional talent and competitive spirit thriving within Houston’s private school sports community. Second Baptist School won the tournament, securing the platinum bracket for the first time in tournament history, defeating St. John’s School 67-61. Congratulations to Christian Haskett ’26 and Dyllan Thompson ’24, who were both named to the All-Tournament Team for Second Baptist.



This year's Flight Night was a fantastic celebration of the winter athletic season. The event featured basketball games against Frassati Catholic High School and began with a spirited whiteout-themed pep rally uniting students across all grades. The evening included captivating performances from middle school Spirit, JV/varsity cheer and the Golden Girls dance team. All our teams emerged victorious, resulting in a clean sweep for Second Baptist School and a night of joyous celebration.





# Four Pillars of Excellence

This year, **sixty-eight students were inducted into the Florence Weaver Chapter of the National Honor Society.** The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony highlights four pillars: scholarship, leadership, service and character. Four of our senior prefects shared the merits behind each of these pillars of excellence.



**SCHOLARSHIP**

**Academic Prefect Olivia Smith**

“As SBS scholars, you embrace the challenge of our school’s academics head-on while striving for well-roundedness and engagement in our school’s activities. You inspire other students to not be complacent with what they know but to strive along with you for deeper understanding. And, most importantly, you glorify God in your success in the classroom.”

**LEADERSHIP**

**Head Prefect Ellie Veeningen**

“As a member of the National Honor Society, you will earn your legacy: you will be followed by those who witness your service towards others. All members of this society possess the power of a team. A team of educated and motivated students who find purpose in serving not only our school but our community.”

**SERVICE**

**Service Prefect Charlie Shears**

“What a blessing it is that the foundations here at Second Baptist School are centered around servant-leadership. When Jesus talks about service, He is talking about something far greater than having a desire to help others. The cross shows us what Jesus means by service. Service means total obedience to the will of God and to the growth of His kingdom.”

**CHARACTER**

**Student Life Prefect Riley Tackett**

“A person of good character knows when to be a leader, how to serve, and how to work hard. These three other pillars—leadership, service, and scholarship—are all based on your character. As Christians, our character should mirror Christ.”



## 100 DAYS IN H BUILDING

The hundredth day of school in our SBS lower school is always a momentous occasion, celebrated by kindergarteners dressed as 100-year-olds, and, more subtly, by the many ways our youngest students have grown – inches gained, teeth lost, reading skills sharpened and friendships built.

This year is especially celebratory as we reflect on 100 days of school in H Building, the beautiful new space designed with lower school students and teachers in mind. On December 5, 2022, teachers walked the barren, unfinished halls of this building, physically writing prayers on the soon-to-be walls and floors, and today, we see how God is answering them as young students grow in knowledge and understanding, academically and spiritually.

Head of Lower School Rita Herring shared, “Even after the first 100 days, the joy and excitement of lower school being together in our new building has not diminished. I love seeing the halls and classrooms filled with students and teachers. After years of planning and anticipation, having a space designed for learning and accomplishing our mission is wonderful.”

“The first 100 days of teaching in the new building offered an unexpected surprise. I was prepared for the newness, the cleanliness and the joy of having a new classroom. What I experienced was the openness and abundance of light in the new building. The oversized windows throughout the building have offered opportunities to view the campus and the areas surrounding us. My students and I have watched the ever-changing weather patterns around us. We have seen storms develop and the sun break through the clouds. The openness that we experience in the new building reflects the vision of our school and the education of our future students.”

– Madeline Jobe, Bridge



# IN FOCUS – CELEBRATE THE GOSPEL

At this year’s In Focus event, middle school students were invited to accept Christ as their personal savior. Twenty-six students made the decision to either accept this call or to pursue initial baptism. What could be more worthy of celebration? The week closed with the entire middle school gathered in the Voss parking lot for a full-on extravaganza, complete with inflatable obstacle courses, music, ice cream, games and fellowship.



# ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS AT THE RODEO

Each year, our SBS art students from all division levels compete in the Houston Livestock & Rodeo Art Competition. Lower school art teacher Sarah Bramlett sums it up perfectly. “I couldn’t be more proud if I tried! These students worked so hard on their artwork, and it is no surprise how well they did in the competition. They are truly using the gifts God has given them.”



## LOWER SCHOOL

- Ellen Hickman ’36 – Red Ribbon
- William Lotz ’36 – Red Ribbon
- Lucy Hall ’34 – Turquoise Ribbon, *Finalist*
- Colt Talbert ’34 – Red Ribbon
- Thomas Bramlett ’33 – Red Ribbon
- Landon Manners ’33 – Red Ribbon
- Joshua McCarley ’33 – Turquoise Ribbon, *Finalist*
- Ethan Farias ’32 – Blue Ribbon
- Ellie Fassanella ’32 – White Ribbon
- Leah Sanders ’32 – White Ribbon



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Kennerly Correll ’31 – Turquoise Ribbon - *Finalist*
- Hannah Rushing ’31 – Blue Ribbon
- Sawyer George ’30 – Blue Ribbon
- Kendal Lippy ’30 – Blue Ribbon
- Sophie Yue ’30 – Blue Ribbon
- Jordan Rhames ’29 – Red Ribbon
- Amanda Woody ’29 – Blue Ribbon
- Lucy Brown ’28 – Gold Medal
- Charisma Chambers ’28 – White Ribbon



## UPPER SCHOOL

- Liston Johnson ’27 – White Ribbon
- Brody LeBlanc ’27 – White Ribbon
- Bellamy Stalley ’27 – Red Ribbon
- Ella Peterson ’27 – Blue Ribbon
- Alyssa Yueling Zhang ’27 – Turquoise Ribbon, *Finalist*
- Charis Chambers ’26 – Blue Ribbon



# MARCHING THROUGH HISTORY WITH THE PARADE OF PRESIDENTS

Taking on the personas of our nation’s esteemed presidents and first ladies, second graders took their roles seriously in this year’s Parade of Presidents. From their authentic costumes to practiced accents, the audience enjoyed a trip through time, starting with President George Washington and ending with our current president and first lady, Joe and Jill Biden. The second grade team worked hard on the program this year, and the results were both impressive and endearing.



# GOD BLESS TEXAS



Howdy partner! Second Baptist School PK4 and Bridge students took us “Deep in the Heart of Texas” in their Hoedown program. Dressed in their finest cowboy and cowgirl attire, these young students proudly galloped into the gym in front of an enthusiastic audience of parents, grandparents and friends. These students have been practicing their parts for weeks, rehearsing songs, memorizing Bible verses and learning to square dance. It was a proud moment when the students recited John 3:16 with enthusiasm. From the songs to the square dancing, Hoedown reflected not only an appreciation for Texas culture but also a love of Jesus.



# UNDER THE SEA



## STC Presents *The Little Mermaid*

Joy. The word “joy” was most often used to describe Disney’s *The Little Mermaid* experience, from the first rehearsal to the final performance. There was joy evident in the audience’s reaction to the show, joy in the lobby after each performance and joy in the Lord demonstrated by the cast and crew as they used their talents to glorify Him.

“At each rehearsal, the cast and crew prayed for the Lord to be glorified and for the audiences to see something different about our students, which is the glory and joy of the Lord,” said Director of Arts and Upper School Musical Director Cindy Blades.

In a show like Disney’s *The Little Mermaid*, a wide net was cast, bringing in the entire SBS community. Already appealing to lower school students, Second Theatre Company went a step further, casting two lower school boys to play Flounder. Briggs ’33 and Kyle ’34 had the unique opportunity to train, rehearse and perform alongside seasoned upperclassmen theatre students.

Music Director Claire Westmoreland said, “Briggs’ and Kyle’s enthusiasm added so much to this cast. They both fit right in.” She continued, “Something I love about Second Baptist School is how our upper school students interact with and mentor our younger students. It makes this place truly special.”

“The theatre family is a tight-knit community of parent volunteers, students and teachers,” Mrs. Blades expressed. “We also interact with professionals from the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and the staff of each theatre where we perform, are all impressed with the SBS community.”

Second Theatre Company, thank you for bringing Second Baptist School together “under the sea.”





# INTERIM TERM



The goal of Interim Term at Second Baptist School is to provide students in grades nine through twelve with creative experiences that advance our academic and co-curricular programming. These experiences also foster meaningful relationships between students and faculty while providing opportunities for students to discover new passions, interests and skills through two weeks of elective courses that include on-campus classes, service initiatives, professional internships and domestic and international travel that enrich each upper school student's academic experience at SBS.

## Houston Day Trips

INTERIM TERM



# Texas College Tours

## INTERIM TERM

This year’s Texas College Tour provided students with firsthand experiences at Texas universities: the University of Houston, TCU, Baylor, Texas A&M, the University of Texas and SMU, offering insights into campus life and meetings with admissions representatives.

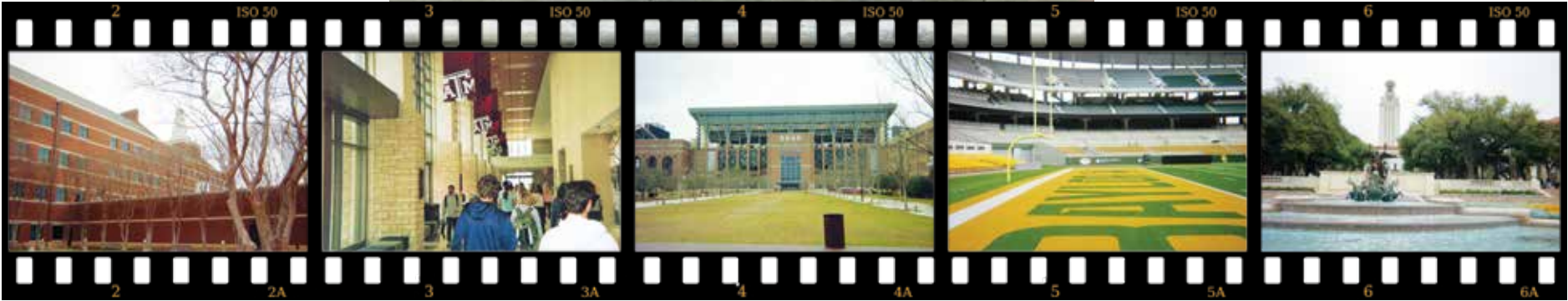
“The tour is a vital part of helping students take steps toward discovering what God has called them to do when they graduate from SBS,” said Director of College Guidance Amy St.Denis. “This year, we had lots of fun along the way. We attended a college basketball game, played Top Golf, and toured the George W. Bush Presidential Center in addition to our campus visits.”



# On Campus

## INTERIM TERM

From powerlifting to Mah Jongg, American Sign Language to personal finance, there was something for everyone with this year’s on-campus Interim Term courses. Trish Brydon and Dottie Geiger, two upper school teachers, created the “Life of the Party” Interim Term class with the goal of giving students a solid foundational understanding and appreciation for hosting a traditional dinner party. Mrs. Brydon explained, “We introduced games and the fundamentals of being a good guest and a gracious host.” Students learned etiquette skills, hospitality musts and how to throw a great party.



# Internships

## INTERIM TERM

Internships are another way students experience Interim Term, going out into the community and engaging in new things. In this year's diverse range of opportunities, SBS students spent time analyzing hedge fund spreadsheets, attending court depositions, birthing baby horses, reporting on sports statistics and much more.

Associate Director of College Guidance Donna Sims said, "The beauty of this program is that it enables students to explore their interests in specific vocations within a mission-aligned program designed to help our students understand that they are called to extend the tent pegs of God's Kingdom through His purpose for their lives."



# Houston Service Projects

## INTERIM TERM

"I was so excited to serve, especially in our Houston community," shared junior Lillian Baker. "The highlight of my week was serving with Brookwood and spending time with the sweet ladies at the Tradition Retirement Community. These experiences opened my eyes to more opportunities to serve locally."



# Italy Choir Trip

## INTERIM TERM

During Interim Term, 48 choir students in tenth through eleventh grade and seven chaperones toured Italy, visiting Venice, Ferrara, Pisa, Florence and Rome. Students sang in some of the most beautiful churches in Italy: San Moise Church in Venice, Chiesa di Santa Felicita in Florence, Sant’agnese In Agone in Rome, and St. Peter’s Basilica for Mass. What a memorable experience!

Brooke Sems ’25 said, “Singing in St. Peter’s Basilica for Monday Mass was an experience I will never forget. When I walked into the church, it made me realize this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”





# Costa Rica Trip

## INTERIM TERM

The trip to Costa Rica gave students the opportunity to explore a new culture and a unique physical environment. Clayton Hedges '26 said, "I found Costa Rica's landscape fascinating because you can explore a rainforest on a mountain, then drive for a few hours to stunning beaches." He added, "My favorite day of the trip was when we painted a school and visited with the local kids. Since the students only spoke Spanish, we communicated with them by putting together phrases we remembered from Spanish class. We bonded with the kids by discussing cars, music and sports. I created memories with my classmates I'll never forget."

Sophomore Sarah Cela described her experience. "In Costa Rica, we went ziplining, hiked down a mountain and into a river, had a ministry day, and went on a catamaran! I loved the ministry day because we painted a school and did Vacation Bible School activities with the students. The highlight of the trip for me was taking the catamaran to the beach and spending time with my friends."



# Guatemala Mission Trip

INTERIM TERM

The mission trip to Guatemala was eye-opening and heart-opening for both the students and chaperones who attended. Through building houses for families in need, students gained new perspectives and expressed their faith.

Chaperone and Director of Student Impact Beck Brydon shared, “I loved watching our students work together to learn how to use power tools to build a small frame home. Students also interacted with the families for whom the homes were being built, walking away from the experience with grateful hearts.”

Junior Andrea Colchado reflected on her experience. “From working on the construction sites to playfully running around with the children living at our guest house, our group of high schoolers and local missionaries prioritized a common pursuit: demonstrating the love of Christ. As a Spanish speaker, I had the opportunity to translate Christ’s love not only through action but also through words. From this trip, I learned that often we ask God for certainty when we should practice fidelity by trusting His plan.”



# Munich & Vienna

## INTERIM TERM

Students stepped back into world history as they toured Munich and Vienna, visiting sites such as the Dachau Concentration Camp and the Imperial Palaces.

Elliott Preston '24 reflected on her experience, saying it was a trip she'll never forget.

“We toured the Dachau concentration camp, where it seemed time had stood still since the World War II era. In addition to the more somber locations we toured, my favorite location was the Vienna Zoo on the grounds of the Schönbrunn Palace. Our group learned so much on this trip and heard many meaningful stories that brought our history classes to life.”



## MONUMENTAL MEMORIES IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Why should a Christian care about our nation's history? A middle school history teacher posed this question to her students as they began to interact with the history of the United States on a personal level, preparing for their trip to Washington, D.C.

Traveling hundreds of miles cross country to Washington, D.C., students were transported from the classroom to the real world. Eighth grader Reese Wanner shared what it was like, saying, "It was very impactful for me to see what we studied in person. What was first just a place on an itinerary became real."

"The Washington, D.C. trip was very impactful for me," said Reese, "and I hope it continues to be for the classes of the future."





# ECLIPSED EXPECTATIONS

Second Baptist School’s embrace of the Great American Eclipse on April 8, 2024, showed how science and faith can go hand in hand, teaching important lessons about the world around us.

Mrs. Ana Konuma, middle school science teacher, sought to instill a profound awe of God’s handiwork, nurturing a greater appreciation for both science and faith in their hearts and minds. She connected her fifth graders with Mr. Anthony Yanez from KPRC, giving students the opportunity to participate in giving a weather forecast on live television. Fifth grade students Maddie Gardner, Mackenzie Dunn and Hogan Hermes stood confidently in front of their peers and the camera crew, sharing the forecast for the day.

Opening up this unique opportunity to the entire school, all students, faculty and staff gathered outside on an otherwise ordinary Monday afternoon to observe this extraordinary event.

The entire school community admired not only the scientific phenomena occurring before their eyes but also at the spiritual truths embedded within, appreciating God’s meticulous design and care for His creation.



# SPRING SWING 2024

This year’s Spring Swing was a lively celebration of sports and community, highlighting the excitement of the athletes and the supportive relationships between students and faculty. Beginning with the all-school pep rally and ending with the baseball and softball games, the community gathered for springtime festivities and fun. Varsity softball honored faculty members who have impacted their athletic journey; baseball players connected with lower schoolers, opening up mentorship and reinforcing the whole-school community at SBS.





## EAGLEFEST: THE BEST DAY OF THE YEAR!

EagleFest 2024 was an unforgettable celebration of community spirit, a labor of love and fierce fun. The event brought together faculty, staff, students, parents and friends under the banners of camaraderie and competition and was accentuated by picture-perfect weather. EagleFest will undoubtedly be remembered for its unity, fun and vibrant school spirit, reinforcing the strong sense of community found at #OurSBS.

# 2024



## JESUS FREAK 2024: GOSPEL SHOES AND GROOVY MOVES

Putting a new twist on old classics, fourth grade students shared the gospel and what it means to be a Christian through their Jesus Freak performance. From the catchy tunes to the dynamic dance moves, the message was clear: a life with Jesus is one filled with joy, purpose, and love.



## SPARKLING SHOWCASE: GOLDEN GIRLS SPRING SHOW 2023-2024

The 2023-2024 Golden Girls not only left their mark through their achievements but also exemplified unwavering dedication to their team. Their annual Golden Girls Spring Show highlighted not only the creative talents of the Golden Girls themselves, but many others deserving spotlight and recognition. It was a show to be remembered, complete with award-winning performances from the Golden Girls dance team, an outstanding cheerleading routine, talented musical soloists, and the laughter-inducing Golden Guys.

# CELEBRATING ARTISTRY: SPRING ART SHOW

This year’s Spring Art Show brought the school community together and recognized our students’ creativity and accomplishments in the visual arts. This gloriously colorful event showcased pieces from kindergarten to twelfth grade, highlighting not only our students’ artistic abilities but also their God-given talents to reflect beauty and truth.



# INSIDE AP ENGLISH: CLASS OF 2025 TED TALKS

BY LILLIAN BAKER '25

Every year during the fourth quarter, each junior taking Mrs. Shannon Brooks’ AP English Language and Composition class must give a “TED Talk,” or an engaging presentation, on the topic of his or her choosing. This multi-step project requires juniors to take deep dives into their subjects, write detailed essays and memorize speeches, incorporating images, statistics, and peer engagement. Due to the high anticipation surrounding these presentations, students and faculty alike gather to listen and learn.

This year, students’ presentations spanned various topics, such as the controversy around electric cars, the benefits of Korean skincare, and government corruption. “I talked about the ethics of social media and new marketing tactics within the internet,” said junior Taylor Stensgaard. Her TED Talk was especially notable because she chose to present first. “Standing up there was very nerve-racking, but once I started talking, it became easier to rely on what I had already practiced.” The long hours of preparation paid off – Stensgaard’s TED Talk was a success.

TED Talks gave the junior class a unique opportunity to discover what they are passionate about and educate others around them. The annual tradition, anticipated by both students and faculty, encourages and challenges students on many different levels, and the class of 2025 exceeded all expectations.

# FINDING NEMO, KIDS

Just keep swimming... into the spotlight! Fifth and sixth grade students got their first taste of theatre through their musical performance of *Finding Nemo, Kids*. Their show brought the ocean to life and left the audience in waves of applause!



## SHANNON AND GEOFF BROOKS Named Most Memorable Teachers by Baylor School of Education

Many say teaching is one of the highest callings. For SBS teachers and spouses Shannon and Geoff Brooks, teaching is more than a calling; it's an honor. And appropriately so, given that Baylor University recently recognized them as this year's Most Memorable Teachers.

Second Baptist School graduate and future teacher from the Baylor School of Education Class of 2024, Moriah Feng '20, nominated Geoff and Shannon to receive this meaningful award. After she submitted her nomination essay, a committee reviewed it, and the Brookses were chosen together.

Shannon and Geoff attended the award banquet as the guests of honor. When it came time to present the awards, Moriah read her nomination essay, including poignant affirmation about the influence of these two dear teachers.

"Mr. and Mrs. Brooks come to mind when I consider memorable teachers. Both left

a life-shaping mark on my life and guided my career trajectory," shared Moriah. "Mr. Brooks pushed me to try things I didn't think I was good at and encouraged me to pursue a career in teaching." She explained how Mr. Brooks helped her discover her own love for teaching and how he "made his classroom a safe space where learning was hard but also emotions were protected." Moreover, she said, "He modeled what it looked like to love students well and how to teach with passion, the same love and passion I hope to pass down to my students."

Moriah went on to describe Shannon Brooks, her eleventh grade English teacher at SBS, as having had an equally profound impact. "She pushed me beyond what I believed I was capable of and encouraged me along the way. She taught me to shoot higher, aim further, and put forth the effort needed to succeed in my goals." Moriah also described Mrs. Brooks' passion for advocating for her students

and teaching them to be the change they want to see in the world.

"Mrs. Brooks was not only my teacher role model; she modeled qualities of the woman I wanted to be when I grew up."

Moriah concluded her tribute: "Mr. and Mrs. Brooks showed me what it looks like to model Christ's love as a teacher and many innumerable qualities that I will carry with me in life and into my classroom. Nothing would make me prouder to know I made them proud, to show them the impact they had on my life, to express how their love, passion and encouragement formed me into who I am today."

*Moriah Feng '20 graduated from Baylor University in May and will begin teaching seventh and eighth grade math in Waco at Robinson Junior High in the fall of 2024.*

# FOUR DECADES OF DEDICATION

Congratulations to Bible teacher Jeannene Simonton, who retires after forty years of service at Second Baptist School. It is rare to see someone commit to one place and one mission for 40 years, but Jeannene Simonton is an exception. Her unwavering commitment to Christian education and instilling the Word of God in the hearts of young people is worthy of recognition. Leaving behind a legacy of love for scripture, Jeannene Simonton will retire from teaching this academic year. We are grateful for her impact at Second Baptist School.





# SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION: OPPORTUNITIES AND POSSIBILITIES

The first School of Distinction at Second Baptist School opened in the fall of 2023, with over 65 students in our upper school enrolling in the new School of Business classes. Through the schools of distinction, students are exposed to future career interests in the context of a biblical worldview.

The Schools of Distinction will continue to grow and expand in the coming years, providing increasingly robust opportunities for our students. The School of Sciences will open fall of 2024, with professor and physician Dr. Robert Wegner, M.D.,

serving as an educational consultant.

Additionally, Dr. Jill Foote of Rice University will join the SBS faculty full-time as dean of the Schools of Distinction in the fall of 2024. She will continue to teach in the business school while also enhancing future schools and developing an internship program aimed at “promoting deeper engagement of SBS alumni and families as we fulfill our mission of developing students who think critically, live biblically, and lead courageously.”

# YOUNG READERS SOAR TO NEW HEIGHTS AS MILLIONAIRES

Each year, the Millionaire Readers Contest serves as a shining example of Second Baptist School, celebrating not only our pursuit of excellence but also fostering a caring community that values every student’s unique talents. This year, three second grade students, six third grade students and 22 fourth grade students reached millionaire status, cumulatively reading 98,646,702 words this school year!

Among these exceptional students is Tess ’32, this year’s Top Reader, who not only met but far surpassed expectations. Tess read an extraordinary 9,910,123 words, breaking her previous Accelerated Reader (AR) record of 9,708,648 words and setting a new standard of excellence.





# SOUNDS OF SPRINGTIME



This year’s spring choral and instrumental concerts showcased the incredible talents of our arts students with iconic pieces and standout solos, reflecting the dedication and talent that define the Second Baptist School Arts Department.

The spring instrumental music concert featured iconic American classics such as “Linus and Lucy” by the sixth grade band and “Smoke on the Water” by the seventh through twelfth grade bands. As tunes rang through the trumpets and trombones and percussionists held the beat, the audience found themselves toe-tapping and clapping along! Our upper

school feature displayed the incredible talent of sophomore Ethan Chan, who stole the show with his performances of three classics by Johann Sebastian Bach. The talent of each developing musician wowed the entire audience.

This year, the Second Baptist School choirs delivered a spectacular performance, revitalizing pieces that have become beloved staples of our annual spring concert. The choir’s fresh and unique blend of voices captivated an audience that included both first-time listeners and long-time attendees, making the evening a memorable experience for all.



## CLASS OF 2028: ROOTED IN FAITH 8TH GRADE PROMOTION

The Second Baptist School community gathered recently to honor the promotion of the Class of 2028, marking a significant milestone in the lives of the eighth grade students. The event, filled with heartfelt speeches, prayers, and awards, was a testament to the students' hard work and the support of their families and teachers.

Second Baptist School alumna Whitney Thode '19 delivered an inspiring charge to the students, encouraging them to pursue wisdom and stay true to their faith as they transition into upper school.

A highlight of the ceremony was when Derek Hickie, eighth grade bible teacher, introduced the devotional readings, where several students shared their reflections on faith and personal growth:

Maya Schmidt spoke about the importance of being rooted in Christ, drawing a parallel between the roots of a mighty oak tree and the strength derived from a deep relationship with Jesus.

Elijah Parrish shared a personal story about the need for supportive relationships, likening it to the stability required when climbing down from a roof, and emphasized the biblical call to bear one another's burdens.

Georgia Northrup reflected on overcoming difficult times with the assurance of God's unending love, reminding her peers that nothing can separate them from God's love.

Noah Franshaw highlighted that Jesus knows all of us inside and out, encouraging students to trust in Jesus, who empathizes with their struggles.

Leah Garner urged her classmates to prioritize their relationship with God over the busyness of life, emphasizing that God deserves more than just excuses.

As the ceremony concluded, awards were presented, and the proud eighth graders received their certificates of promotion. The Texas Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented the 2024 DAR Youth Citizenship Award to Bailey Ultis. The Karen Jensen Scholar Award was presented to two students, Leah Garner and Elijah Parrish.

Congratulations, Class of 2028!



***Make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. – Philippians 2:2***

## SECOND BAPTIST SCHOOL CELEBRATES STATE CHAMPIONSHIP DOUBLES VICTORY

Second Baptist School is thrilled to celebrate a major triumph in tennis as Elliott Preston '24 and Nate King '25 secured the state championship in mixed doubles (the first in school history). This victory highlights their exceptional skill, perseverance, and teamwork—qualities that are a true reflection of our school's core values.

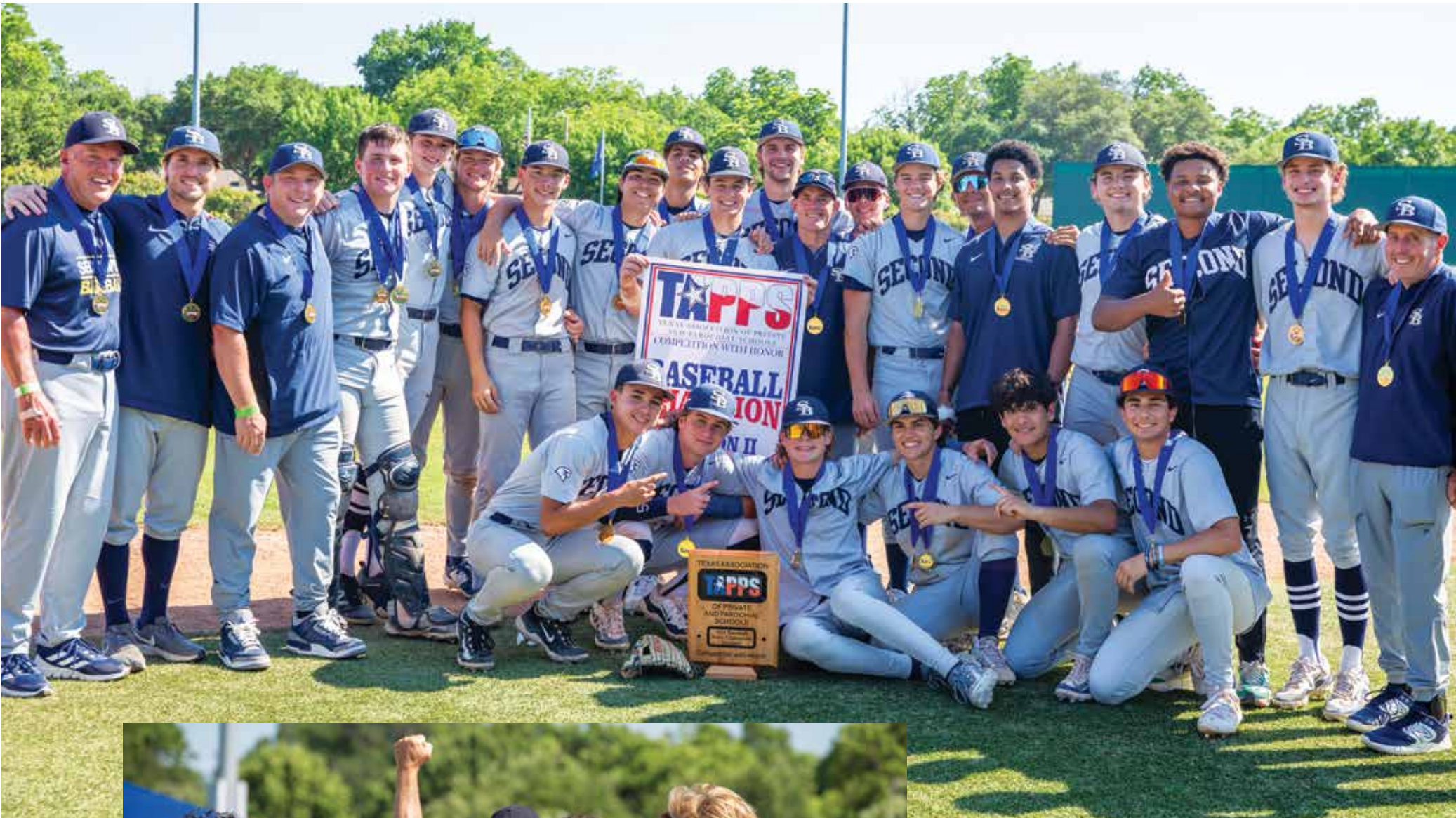
Elliott and Nate, the top singles players from our Varsity tennis team, were paired to compete in the mixed doubles category at the TAPPS 4A-5A-6A state tournament. Despite limited preparation time for the tournament, their outstanding communication laid the groundwork for their success. Nate points out, "Our seamless communication allowed us to sync perfectly and adapt our strategies effectively, even with little prep time."

Their journey to the championship was filled with obstacles. In the semi-finals, they faced tough opponents. "That match pushed us to our limits. Finding and exploiting their weaknesses was crucial," Nate recalls. Elliott reminisces on the tournament and says "throughout the tournament, Nate and I figured out how to play our game instead of the opponents. This allowed us to stay in control of our match and I believe our fast paced yet patient playing style helped us to win."

A standout memory was the celebration after their victory, marked by a unique water shower, courtesy of their teammate, Brandon Sek '25. This moment encapsulated the supportive environment provided by their coaches and peers. Both Coach Kroll and Assistant Coach Alonzo played essential roles in their success, offering strategic guidance and boosting team morale.

Elliott and Nate's success demonstrates the importance of collaboration, strategic thinking and resilience. This championship is more than a trophy—it symbolizes the spirit of Second Baptist School, where every challenge is an opportunity and every victory is a shared achievement. Congratulations again to our state champions, who have exemplified what it means to think critically, live biblically and lead courageously.





# SECOND BAPTIST SCHOOL VARSITY BASEBALL: 7X STATE CHAMPIONS

In an awe-inspiring display of courage, faith and teamwork, the Second Baptist School varsity baseball team triumphed as state champions, overcoming odds that seemed insurmountable at the outset of their season. Labeled as underdogs and finishing fourth in their league, the Eagles’ path to victory was nothing short of miraculous, punctuated by a deep-rooted belief in their abilities and the guiding hand of God.

### Coach Noble’s Perspective

Coach Rayner Noble, reflecting on the season, shared, “This was a unique accomplishment. We barely made the playoffs, and next thing we know, we are state champions. What a season! To God be the glory!” His words not only reflect a humble acknowledgment of their unexpected success but also highlight the profound faith that defines the team’s ethos.

### Critical Contributions from Young Players

The championship game was a testament to the maturity and skill of the team’s younger members. Thomas Womble ’26, was called upon to close the game during the tense final inning. Despite the pressure, Thomas focused on delivering precise pitches, relying on his sinker as his curveball faltered. His ability to adapt under pressure was critical in securing the championship. Coach Jeff Schroeder and fellow teammate Wes Baker provided essential encouragement, boosting his confidence at this crucial moment.

Ethan Eschweiler ’26 opened the game as the team’s starting pitcher. Prepared by a night of restful sleep and strategic mental preparation by Coach Schroeder, Ethan effectively managed the initial

innings, setting a strong defensive foundation for the game. His prayers for calmness and peace between innings underscored the spiritual resilience central to the team’s identity.

Wes Baker, who played multiple roles including catcher and third baseman, epitomized the team’s fighting spirit. Before the playoffs, Coach Noble reminded the team of their underdog status and the importance of playing with tenacity and faith. Wes’s momentous 450-foot home run in the championship game was a highlight, marking a turning point that rallied his teammates and underscored the Eagles’ determination.

### Senior Leadership and Legacy

The team’s seniors, including Ben Kalife and Turner Murdock, provided essential leadership. Ben focused on keeping morale high and ensuring that every player was ready to contribute, emphasizing the importance of unity and perseverance. Turner encapsulated the season with one word: “GRIT.” He commended the underclassmen for stepping up, highlighting the blend of youth and experience as a key to their success.

### A Season to Remember

The 2023-2024 Second Baptist School varsity baseball team has not only won a state championship but also created a legacy of faith, perseverance and teamwork. Their journey from playoff qualifiers to state champions serves as a profound testament to the power of belief and the strength of a united team under God’s guidance.

Celebrating their victory, they give all glory to God, recognizing that their faith and hard work led them to this remarkable achievement.



# 2023-2024 MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS

We are thrilled to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our middle school athletes at Second Baptist School. As Middle School Athletic Director Jeff Schroeder remarked, this year has been special with our students competing exceptionally well across all

sports, thanks to quality coaches and developmental programs. With **6 undefeated teams** and **4 HJPC Championships**, these accomplishments highlight the incredible talent and dedication of our students and the bright future of MS Athletics at SBS.



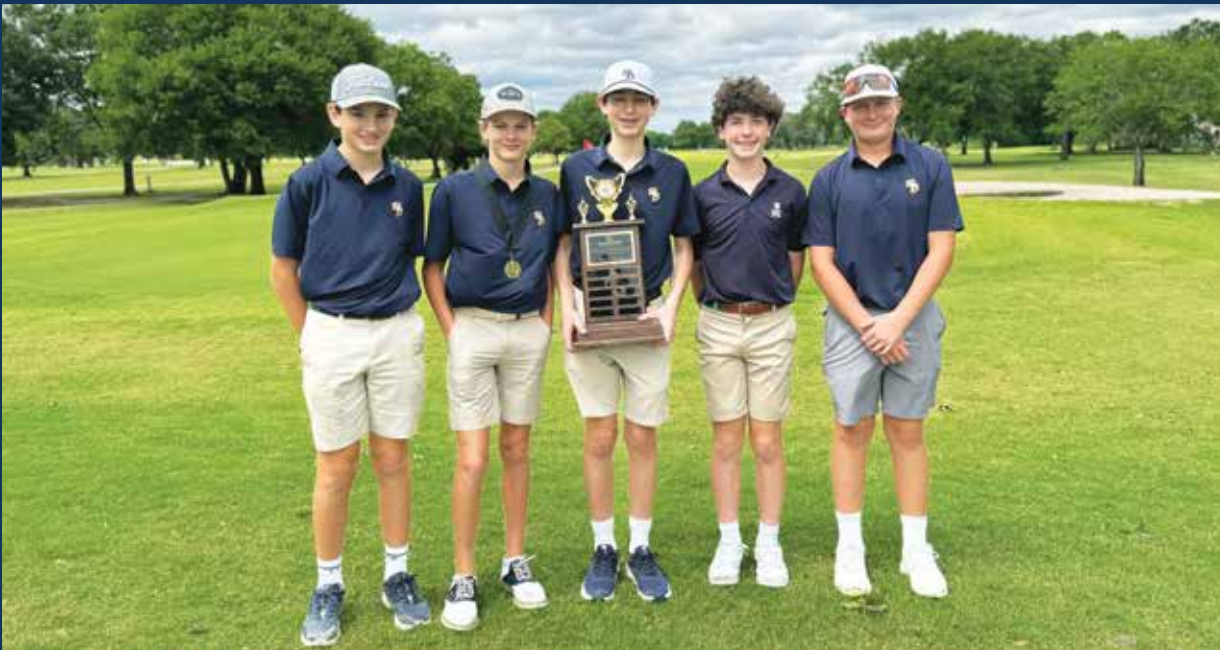
8TH GRADE FOOTBALL – HJPC CHAMPIONS



8TH GRADE GIRLS TRACK – 1ST PLACE TEAM FINISH



8TH GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL – HJPC CHAMPIONS



BOYS GOLF – HJPC CHAMPIONS

# 2023-2024 ATHLETICS RECAP – FALL

## FOOTBALL

**Season Record**  
8 wins, 5 losses

**District Record**  
5 wins, 0 losses

**Awards/Honors**  
District Champions  
State Semi-Finals

## ALL-DISTRICT

### First Team

Max Bagwell '25 – Defense  
Kelvin Baptiste '26 – Defense  
Bryce Butler '25 – Defense  
JD Crisp '24 – Offense  
Langston Davis '26 – Offense  
Cash Harris '25 – Defense  
Sam Johnson '24 – Punter  
RJ Lee '25 – Offense  
Jackson Powers '24 – Offense  
& Defense

Charlie Shears '24 – Defense  
Chase Tepper '24 – Offense  
Canon Toon '26 – Offense

### Second Team

JD Crisp '24 – Defense  
Sam Johnson '24 – Kicker  
Enoc Lemus '26 – Defense  
Lucas Mensing '25 – Offense  
Adam Vessel '26 – Offense  
& Defense  
TJ Walker '25 – Offense

### Honorable Mention

Ethan Dishman '25 – Defense  
Gray Gilbert '25 – Defense  
Dylan Jenkins '25 – Defense  
Connor Kelley '24 – Offense  
Gavin Lewis '25 – Defense  
Hudson McCulley '25 – Offense  
Garrison Smith '24 – Defense  
Hudson Toon '24 – Offense

## Superlatives

JD Crisp '24 – Co-District MVP  
JD Crisp '24 – District  
Offensive Player of the Year  
Max Bagwell '25 – District  
Co-Newcomer of the Year  
Charlie Shears '24 – District  
Defensive Player of the Year  
Adam Vessel '26 – District  
Underclassman of the Year

## ALL-STATE

### First Team

JD Crisp '24 – Offense  
Bryce Butler '25 – Defense  
Jackson Powers '24 – Defense  
Charlie Shears '24 – Defense  
Chase Tepper '24 – Offense

### Second Team

Kelvin Baptiste '26 – Defense  
Langston Davis '26 – Offense  
Sam Johnson '24 – Punter

## Honorable Mention

Max Bagwell '25 – Defense  
Cash Harris '25 – Defense  
RJ Lee '25 – Offense

## Academic All-State

Sam Johnson '24  
Lucas Mensing '25  
Charlie Shears '24  
Chase Tepper '24  
TJ Walker '25

## Houston Touchdown Club

Charlie Shears '24 – Lineman  
of the Year

## Texas Built Ford Tough Player of the Week

Max Bagwell '25

## VOLLEYBALL

**Season Record**  
21 wins, 13 losses

**District Record**  
9 wins, 6 losses

## ALL-DISTRICT

### First Team

Madi Hobbs '25  
Morgan Warren '24

### Second Team

Riley Tackett '24

## Honorable Mention

Avery Bodine '25  
Lily Miller '25

## ALL-STATE

### Second Team

Madi Hobbs '25

## CROSS COUNTRY

**DISTRICT / ALL-DISTRICT**  
Sara Griffin '26 – 8th

Head Coach Megan Eichler shared, "As we embark on this inaugural season with our cross country team, I'm truly inspired by the boundless energy and eagerness of our young athletes. Each race reveals their remarkable enthusiasm, and I feel incredibly blessed to witness how the Lord utilizes distance running to nurture virtue in these remarkable individuals."

## CHEER

### NCA Summer Camp Awards

Overall Technical  
Excellence Award  
Pin it Forward Award:  
Ashley Abimni '24, Gianna Fasanella '25, Sofia Jenkins '27, Micah Nini '27  
NCA Spirit Stick

### All-Americans

Gianna Fasanella '25  
Izzy Millard '25

Quin Harder '26  
Mia Murray '27

"The NCA training was great for the team," shared Head Coach Andrea Spence. "We learned so much and developed a confidence that shows in our performances. I'm incredibly proud of each girl for her dedication and hard work. I am certain they are all excited to continue inspiring our school community with their enthusiasm and talent."

## GOLDEN GIRLS

### TAPPS Dance Championship

Superior Rating –  
3rd Place, Division II

### First Team

Caroline Lane '24  
Olivia Shoemaker '25

### Second Team

Taylor Stensgaard '25

## Honorable Mention

Geneva Hudson '24

## Kick Company

Caroline Lane '24

## Leap Company

Taylor Stensgaard '25

## Academic All-State

Caroline Lane '24  
Olivia Shoemaker '25  
Taylor Stensgaard '24

## Crowd Pleasers Awards

1st Runner-Up Classic Small  
High School  
Best in Class – Lyrical, Jazz  
and Pom  
Platinum or High Platinum  
Routines  
Highest GPA in contest



# 2023-2024 ATHLETICS RECAP – WINTER

## MEN’S BASKETBALL

Season Record  
28 wins, 8 losses

District Record  
13 wins, 1 loss

Awards/Honors  
Co-District Champs /  
Final Four

ALL-DISTRICT  
Dyllan Thompson ’24 –  
District MVP

First Team  
Dyllan Thompson ’24  
Michael Olaly ’24  
Christian Haskett ’26

Second Team  
Reese Alston ’27  
Alec Scarborough ’24

ALL-STATE  
First Team  
Dyllan Thompson ’24  
Michael Olaly ’24

Academic All-State  
Michael Olaly ’24  
Alec Scarborough ’24

## WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Season Record  
28 wins, 8 losses

District Record  
12 wins, 0 losses

Awards/Honors  
TAPPS 5A State Runner-up  
District Champions

ALL-DISTRICT  
First Team  
Olivia Sauvageau ’24  
Grace Wehring ’26  
Ricley Tackett ’24  
Emma Wehring ’24  
Jazlynn Williams ’24

Second Team  
Eloise Tackett ’27  
Holly Horton ’24  
Olivia Smith ’24

Honorable Mention  
Katherine Ashworth ’24  
Casey Krueger ’27

ALL-STATE  
First Team  
Olivia Sauvageau ’24  
Grace Wehring ’26

Second Team  
Jazlynn Williams ’24

MEN’S SOCCER  
Season Record  
12 wins, 10 losses

District Record  
9 wins, 5 losses

Awards/Honors  
4th in District /  
Area Playoffs

ALL-DISTRICT  
First Team  
Nathan Blair ’26

Sam Konuma ’24  
John Platis ’24

Second Team  
Isaac Konuma ’24  
Eli Adams ’25

Honorable Mention  
Louis Massuttier ’26

Academic All-State  
Eli Adams ’25  
Isaac Konuma ’24  
Sam Konuma ’24  
John Platis ’24

WOMEN’S SOCCER  
Season Record  
10 wins, 11 losses

District Record  
4 wins, 10 losses

ALL-DISTRICT  
First Team  
Peyton Walsh ’26  
Syriah DeBakey ’26

Second Team  
Amy Menendez ’25  
Carson Patterson ’27  
Lauren Wagner ’26

Honorable Mention  
Willa Levine ’27  
Madison Kalife ’26

Academic All-State  
Amy Menendez ’25

SWIM  
2024 TAPPS EASTERN  
REGIONALS

Awards/Honors  
Men’s 400 Free Relay –  
1st place  
Men’s 200 Free Relay –  
3rd place

Individual Awards  
First Place  
Men’s 100 Free –  
Aidan Burke ’24  
Men’s 500 Free –  
Sam Milinski ’25

Second Place  
Men’s 200 IM –  
Sam Milinski ’25

Men’s 50 Free –  
Aidan Burke ’24

2024 TAPPS  
STATE MEET  
Awards/Honors  
Men’s 400 Free Relay –  
3rd place

ALL-STATE  
Honorable Mention  
Aidan Burke ’24  
Cash Franz ’27  
Sam Milinski ’25  
Michael Pratt ’25

Academic All-State  
Aidan Burke ’24  
Sam Milinski ’25  
Michael Pratt ’25



# 2023-2024 ATHLETICS RECAP – SPRING

## BASEBALL

**Season Record**  
19 wins, 13 losses

**District Record**  
9 wins, 5 losses

**Awards/Honors**  
State Champions

**ALL-DISTRICT  
First Team**  
Wes Baker '25

**Second Team**  
Carson Bratcher '25  
Ben Kalife '24  
Christian McCleary '26  
Jace Trozzo '25

**Honorable Mention**  
Sam Arrendell '27

Jackson Clark '26  
Sam Garcia '25

**ALL-STATE  
Second Team**  
Wes Baker '25

**Academic All-State**  
Carson Bratcher '25  
Ben Kalife '24  
Jace Trozzo '25

## SOFTBALL

**Season Record**  
8 wins, 12 losses

**District Record**  
4 wins, 6 losses

**Awards/Honors**  
Bi-District Champions

**VYPE Pre-season  
Player of the Year**  
Mackenzie Schmidt '24

**ALL-DISTRICT  
First Team**  
Peyton Walsh '26  
Mackenzie Schmidt '24

**Second Team**  
Catherine Clark '24  
Sophie Navarrete '26  
Annie Rawn '24  
Samantha Wagner '26

**Honorable Mention**  
Emma Cornelius '26  
Vivian Darnall '24

**ALL-STATE  
Academic All-State**  
Annie Rawn '24  
Mackenzie Schmidt '24

## TENNIS

**State Champions  
Mixed Doubles**  
Elliott Preston '24 &  
Nate King '25

**Men's Doubles  
3rd place**  
Brandon Sek '25 &  
Marcos West '26

**Academic All-State**  
Brandon Sek '25

Coach Lisa Kroll: "This year our team was strong. We relied on several talented core players to bring home a win each match, while cheering on a new group of freshman players. What I love most is that each team

member found a victory at some point in the season, whether it be forcing another game and not giving up or bringing home the win after a tough tie break!"

## TRACK TEAM DISTRICT AWARDS

**Men's 4x100 –  
3rd place**  
Wade Kurtz '25  
Jayden Lundy '24  
Hudson McCulley '25  
Mark McNeil '24

**Men's 4x400 –  
3rd place**  
Terrance Baylor '25  
Cash Harris '25  
Jayden Lundy '24  
Christopher Thomas '27

## INDIVIDUAL DISTRICT AWARDS

**Shot Put – 9th place**  
**Discus – 10th place**  
Kelvin Baptiste '26

**Women's 800 Meters –  
4th place**  
Syriah DeBakey '26

**100 Meters – 10th place**  
Ethan Dishman

**Women's 1600 Meters –  
4th place**  
**3200 Meters – 7th place**  
Sara Griffin '26

**Shot Put – 8th place**  
RJ Lee '25

**100 Meters – 5th place**  
Mark McNeil '24

**Women's Pole Vault –  
4th place**  
**Women's High Jump –  
4th place**  
Bridget Roth '25

**GOLF  
ALL-DISTRICT  
Boy's Team**  
Dierk Beddingfield '25  
Carson Elder '25  
Matthew Elder '25  
Christopher Torn '26

**Girl's Team**  
Morgan Madison '25  
Anastasia Rowlen '25

**STATE  
Men's Team – 3rd place**  
Anastasia Rowlen '25  
– 10th place

Coach Jenny Murdock: "This year's golf season was very exciting for our SBS golf teams. The boys' team transformed from a young team into one that other schools talk about, culminating in a tie for 2nd place in the TAPPS State tournament. The boys displayed consistent play and strong leadership, making it enjoyable to watch them improve and compete. The girls' team fielded a group for District and Regionals for the first time in years, with 10 players officially in the high school girls' program. Overall, it was a memorable season filled with impressive performances and significant progress for both teams."



# NEXT LEVEL ATHLETES

10 MEMBERS  
OF THE  
CLASS OF 2024  
MADE  
COLLEGE  
COMMITMENTS

DYLLAN THOMPSON  
GEORGIA TECH UNIVERSITY



BASKETBALL

OLIVIA SAUVAGEAU  
TRINITY UNIVERSITY



BASKETBALL

CONNOR KELLEY  
RHODES COLLEGE



FOOTBALL

MARY CLAIRE TORN  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



SOCCER

SAM JOHNSON  
UNIVERSITY OF MARY  
HARDIN BAYLOR



FOOTBALL

IVAN RAMOS  
FRIENDS UNIVERSITY



BASKETBALL

JD CRISP  
XAVIER UNIVERSITY



BASEBALL

CHARLIE SHEARS  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



FOOTBALL

LAUREN WOOD  
SOUTHWEST BAPTIST  
UNIVERSITY



VOLLEYBALL

CHASE TEPPER  
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO



FOOTBALL



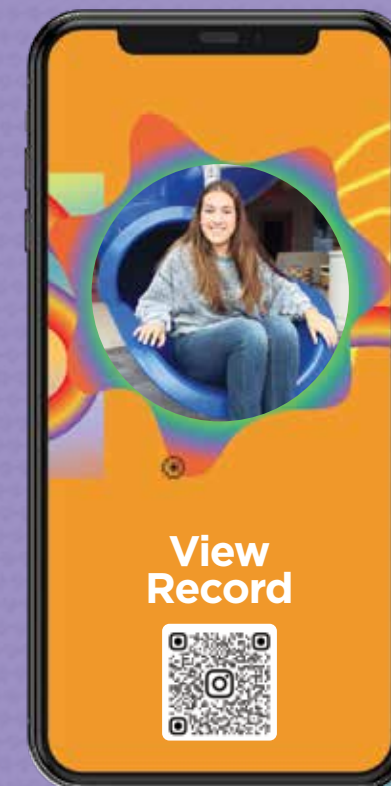
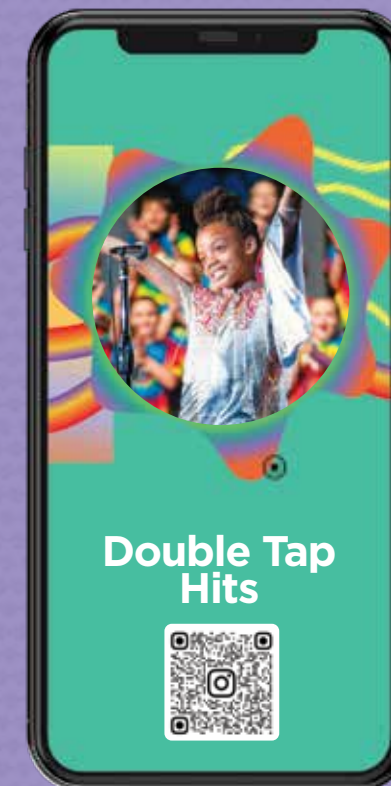
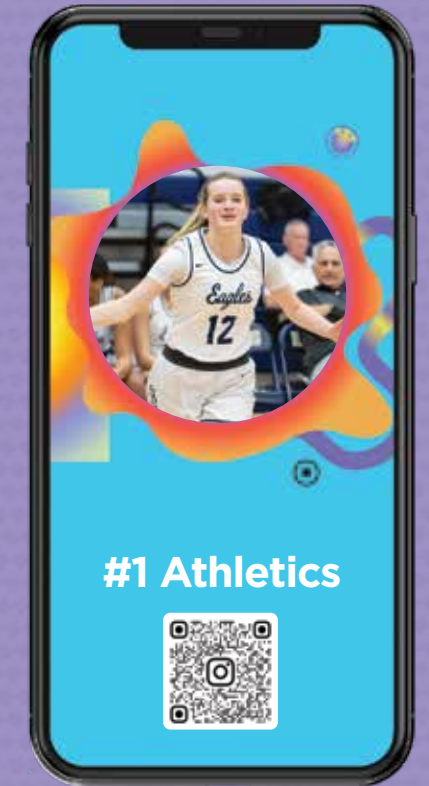
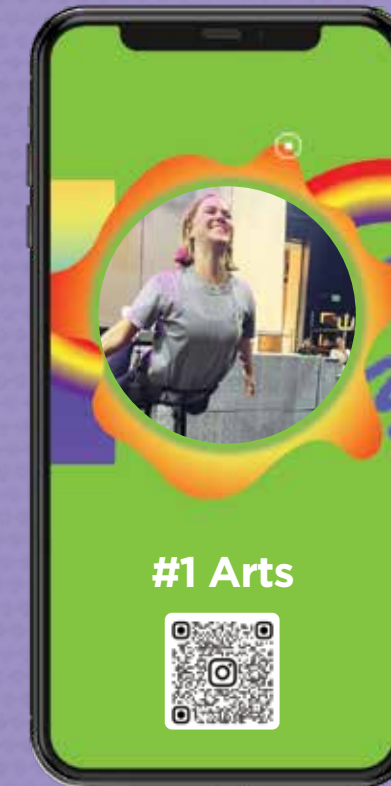
Communications Fellow  
**AVERY BODINE**  
 Class of 2025

With a passion for photography, Avery has beautifully captured the heart and spirit of our Second Baptist School community. This photo spread celebrates her dedication and talent, showcasing highlights from an unforgettable year at SBS through her lens.



# SBS Wrapped 2023-2024

Welcome to SBS  
Wrapped: Dive into  
our social media  
highlight reel! Scan  
the QR codes to  
explore our top  
Instagram moments  
of the year and  
experience the best  
of SBS social media.



# Parenting WITH PURPOSE



*Practical tools from parenting experts with a biblical perspective.*

At Second Baptist School, we recognize that parenting is one of the most rewarding yet complex journeys. Understanding the evolving needs of parents in today’s fast-paced world, we curated a lineup of experts to meet parents with meaningful content. The Parenting with Purpose series featured presenters such as Tim Elmore, leading authority on Generation Z, and Brooke Shannon, founder and CEO of Wait Until 8th. Let’s explore the biggest takeaways from this impactful series.

## Crash Course in GENERATIONAL NORMS

Dr. Tim Elmore, founder and CEO of Growing Leaders, visited SBS as we kicked off 2024. An expert on generational trends, especially Generation Z, Elmore shared valuable perspective with parents and faculty alike when he visited SBS. Dr. Elmore shared 3 common mistakes parents make with Generation Z.

### WHAT NOT TO DO WITH GENERATION Z:

1

#### RISK TOO LITTLE.

Tim Elmore revealed that one of the most common mistakes parents make leading their kids is to risk too little. **We prepare the path for the child instead of the child for the path.** Shift from *prescriptive* parenting to *descriptive* parenting. “Parents must position themselves with their children and be godly guides to equip our students for life and give them ownership of the gifts God has given them.” Risk-taking, not recklessness, allows students to grow in their ability to face obstacles on the path, rather than seeking the path of least resistance.

2

#### RESCUE TOO QUICKLY.

Are we getting our children ready for the future or causing them to overly depend on their parents? Students need parents and teachers who will equip them for adulthood. Rescuing our children leads to a lack of confidence, whereas empowering our students to solve their own problems, take responsibility and adapt in new situations will lead to adults who have strong autonomy, self-esteem and problem-solving skills. Dr. Elmore suggests leading with empathy and compassion and following through with empowerment.

3

#### RAVE TOO OFTEN.

In today’s age, many parents “rave” or praise their children too often. When we create a culture of constant praise, students begin to expect and crave external affirmation, rather than building intrinsic motivation and self-discipline. Dr. Elmore suggests that we be *realistic* in how we praise our children, not hyperbolic. This teaches our students that praise earned is praise deserved.



### GENERATION TIMELINE

**BUILDER GENERATION**  
1929-1945

**BOOMER GENERATION**  
1946-1964

**GENERATION X**  
1965-1982

**MILLENNIAL**  
1983-2000

**GENERATION Z**  
2001-2018

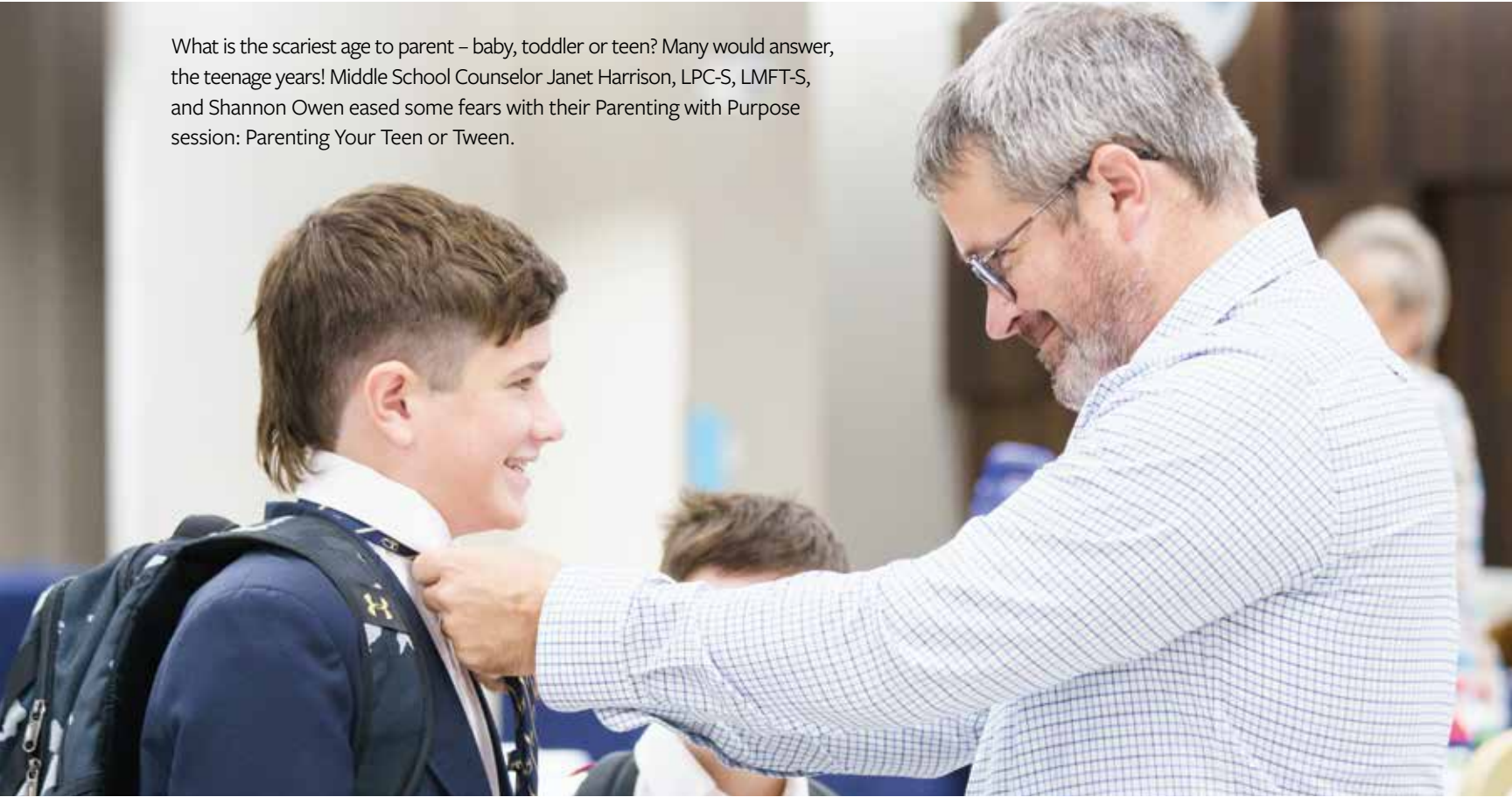
**ALPHA GENERATION**  
2019-PRESENT

*Students at SBS range from Generation Alpha to Generation Z, with most parents falling in the Gen X or Millennial generations.*

# CRACKING

*the teen communication code*

What is the scariest age to parent – baby, toddler or teen? Many would answer, the teenage years! Middle School Counselor Janet Harrison, LPC-S, LMFT-S, and Shannon Owen eased some fears with their Parenting with Purpose session: Parenting Your Teen or Tween.



“When discipline is viewed as discipleship, then we are able to use those **teachable moments** to instill values and build Christ-like character in our children as well.”

JANET HARRISON, LPC-S, LMFT-S

## TOP 5 TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR TEEN OR TWEEN:

- 1 Listen without judgment: show unconditional love, acceptance and support.
- 2 Ask questions and be curious.
- 3 Validate feelings.
- 4 Take advantage of natural discussion opportunities.
- 5 Communicate clear expectations and boundaries and consequences.

## TECH *talk*

### “Delay is the way”

Founder and Executive Director of Wait Until 8th Brooke Shannon works with parents and communities across the country to help families establish a healthy relationship with technology. “We can collectively say ‘not yet’ and put off smartphones,” said Brooke Shannon, who promotes a “slow tech, not no tech” approach to technology with children and teens.

Advocating for students to have access to smart devices until at least eighth grade, Brooke acknowledges that many families chose to use personal devices with their children earlier. She encouraged, “We are the parents. We have the authority and we can put boundaries in place.” She shared several great ways to reign in smartphone use: removing the internet browser, prohibiting a child’s access to the app store and limiting social media use until age 16. “We are the gatekeepers,” explained Brooke.

“Our ultimate goal is to teach our children how to interact with technology before they go to college – slowly and with guardrails in place to protect them,” summarized Brooke, who acknowledged that it’s challenging when students may feel “left out.”

However, “these students are also left out of things like cyberbullying, exposure to inappropriate content, FOMO, lower self-esteem and more,” emphasized Brooke. “We are the first generation of parents going through this,” and we must work together as a community of families to set impactful boundaries around technology.

“I want more time for my **kids to be kids**,” said Brooke. “I want them to read, explore, create and connect with others without a device in the way.”

### Quick Facts

The national average age for when a child gets a personal phone is ten years old.

The majority of children start using social media at 11 years old.

A national average indicated that students are spending 4 to 8 hours per day on personal electronic devices.

Phones are also a proven academic distraction in the learning environment.

# Monitor, Monitor, **MONITOR**



In another Parenting with Purpose session, Media Systems owners and SBS parents Donnie and Jaclyn Boutwell share 3 practical ways to protect your children online, starting with monitoring. If we can monitor the content being consumed, we’ve won half the battle already.

“To keep kids safer online, we recommend a layered approach,” said Jaclyn Boutwell. “No system is perfect, so having more than one will help ensure kids are better protected from harmful content.”

## THREE PRACTICAL WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN ONLINE:

### 1 MONITORING

For device, wifi and content monitoring, the Boutwells recommend a company called Bark. With Bark, you can be alerted of any potential dangers that do come up with technology use in your home. They will send alerts based on subject matter such as drug use, bullying and self-harm. This tool gives parents a bird’s eye view of what’s happening online with their kids.

### 2 FILTERING

Content filtering can be established through the home WiFi system. This is almost like applying a movie rating to the internet. You can set this up through your home wifi network or call your network specialist to have them show you how to set it up.

### 3 SCHEDULING

Setting screen time limits or schedules can be accomplished through Apple Screen Time or Google Family Link. Apple and Android both offer options to manage your student’s time on their devices, and you can block specific apps or websites. By setting your child up on your account, you can manage his or her time from your own phone.

### BONUS TIP

**Keep the devices in the common area of the home. The Boutwells assert, “A phone behind closed doors is like allowing strangers into the bedroom. Keeping it in a common space provides accountability.”**

# GET CONNECTED *at SBS*

Parent partnership, caring community, shared values – these bind Second Baptist School together. “Community is one of the very best parts of SBS, and there are so many opportunities to expand your friend base,” shared SBS mom Kristin Thrasher. Moms at SBS have a special community – from volunteering together to praying together, there are so many ways to connect and grow.

## HOW CAN MOMS GET CONNECTED AT SBS:

### SERVE

Serving is a great way to build relationships with other SBS parents, serve the school community and grow spiritually. There are countless ways to get involved, from volunteering in the school library or at the Book Fair, to supporting initiatives such as Distinguished Speaker Dinner or EagleFest.

### GATEKEEPERS

Gatekeepers is a prayer group for moms in each grade at Second Baptist School. At Gatekeeper monthly meetings, SBS moms gather to pray for students, their families, faculty and the needs of the school.

### JOIN A BIBLE STUDY

The women’s ministry at Second Baptist Church is an amazing way to get connected with other moms and women in the community. Check out [second.org](http://second.org) to see what Bible studies are coming up!

## WHAT ABOUT THE DADS:

Are you a dad? Most volunteer opportunities are open for moms and dads. Consider joining **SBS Dads Club** for the inside scoop on all things SBS and how you can get more involved.

Men’s Bible studies at SBC, coaching a local sports team or attending Second Baptist School events are other great ways for dads to get a pulse on the community and connect with other like-minded families.

“I really think the best advice is to just *show up!*”  
EMILY GOOLSBY, SBS MOM



# MAMA BEAR *Apologetics*



Always **be prepared** to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

1 PETER 3:15

Educator and Bible study teacher Tammy Gibbs presented *Mama Bear Apologetics*, with tools for parents to train students to recognize truth.

What is apologetics? Simply put, apologetics is a “defense of the faith.” The Greek word apologia means “defense,” as a lawyer gives at a trial. Peter states that as believers, we are always to be prepared to give an answer, to give reason for the hope we have in Christ. This is especially true for today’s generations of youth, in the face of mounting cultural opposition.

Tammy Gibbs gave a compelling presentation to SBS parents on *Mama Bear Apologetics*, a book and movement aimed at arming parents with the tools to defend the Christian faith alongside their children and navigate the complexities of modern culture with love and truth.

Tammy Gibbs urged parents to “start with the Bible. Arm yourselves with truth.” With the foundation of a biblical worldview, we can teach our children to filter information based on absolute truth. This starts at home. Parents were encouraged to be a safe place for children to ask questions. “We also teach discernment: the skill of understanding and applying God’s word with the purpose of separating truth from error and right from wrong.”

Just scratching the surface on the wide field of apologetics, Tammy Gibbs encouraged parents to read *Mama Bear Apologetics* and arm themselves with information, tools and insights for real-world application.



# CELEBRATING *the* CLASS OF 2024



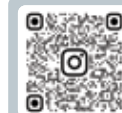
**AS THE SUN SET OVER HOUSTON, THE FUTURE SHONE BRIGHTLY ON THE FACES OF OUR GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024.**

This year's commencement ceremony not only marked the culmination of hard work and perseverance but also celebrated unprecedented achievements, most notably that of our valedictorian Olivia Smith, who made history as both the first black valedictorian and a distinguished Jefferson Scholar.

Olivia's experience at Second Baptist has been marked by both inspiration and impressive accolades. As she prepares to attend the University of Virginia this fall as a Jefferson Scholar, she reflects, "This scholarship is not just an honor; it's a testament to the support and challenges at Second Baptist that pushed me to excel." Her commitment to leadership, scholarship and citizenship is a shining example of our school's values in action. Olivia has also been selected to the prestigious University of Virginia Dance Team, demonstrating her abilities and dedication across a wide range of activities.

During her valedictory address, Olivia shared a narrative of resilience and collective growth, humorously recounting the masked beginnings of their freshman year and a senior year filled with joy and normalcy. Her reflections resonated deeply, reminding us all of the journey these students have shared.

Salutatorian Ellie Veeningen also left a profound impact with her speech. Ellie reflected on the class's high school journey, likening it to a "Hero's Journey," complete with adventure, trials and ultimate triumph. Her speech painted a vivid picture of a class that, despite numerous challenges, has grown closer and stronger, exemplifying resilience and unity.



This year's graduation speaker, Keith Garvin, a respected news anchor from KPRC, shared a compelling message with our graduates. Encouraging them to 'walk worthy,' he emphasized the importance of living a life that honors God. Referencing Colossians 1:9-10, Garvin explained, "Walking worthy means living every aspect of your life in a way that gives glory and honor to God. This requires focus because, graduates, regardless of the college you are headed to, the reality is that you are walking into a world that does not want you to focus on what is godly, right, and true." His words served as a powerful reminder of the values that Second Baptist School instills in its students.

Head of Upper School Jon Konzelman added, "The Class of 2024 has demonstrated a remarkable ability to adapt and thrive despite the unique challenges they faced. Their achievements are not just academic but are a testament to their character and determination to succeed against all odds."

The ceremony was more than a farewell; it was a vibrant send-off to a class destined to impact the world. As these graduates step forward, they carry the deep bonds and rich experiences that have shaped them into tomorrow's leaders.

We are immensely proud of each graduate as they embark on their next chapters, facing the future with brightness and promise. As this academic year closes, we eagerly anticipate the continued success of our alumni and the new heights they will reach.

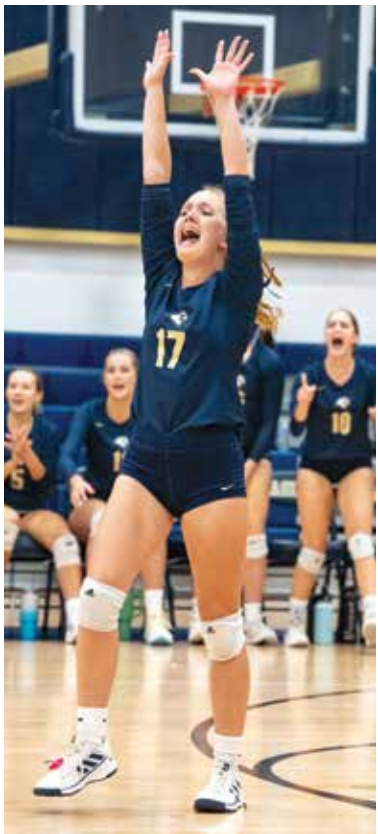
Congratulations, Class of 2024, for upholding our core values of Christ-centeredness and academic excellence within a caring community. Your legacy at Second Baptist School will undoubtedly be remembered for years to come.





# Letter from a Senior

BY ELLIE VEENINGEN '24  
Head Prefect



my SBS

In fifth grade, I began to see yellow cars. On a field trip, a friend and I created a game to pass the time on the long bus drive. For every yellow car spotted, be it a taxi, an eclectic car or a school bus, a point would be awarded to the person who first sighted it.

Impossible, I thought. There could not possibly be enough yellow cars to make for an entertaining game. Or so I had thought.

Yellow cars are everywhere. They are everywhere, yet it takes an attuned focus and a patient onlooker to recognize their presence.

Years later, I learned that this was called the Yellow Car Theory, or, more scientifically, the Baader-Meinhof phenomenon. It is the reality that our thoughts directly influence what we notice in our surroundings. When we change

what we think about, our perception of the world changes with it.

For me, it has been the same with high school.

In any stage of life, we bring our expectations when we enter a new place. When forming a new routine, a new family of friends, and new normalities, our pre-existing hopes influence what we look for. What we find is rooted in what we hope to see. I have loved my experience at Second Baptist School. Now, as I prepare to leave and open the next chapter of my life, I can better appreciate the beauty of my school. It's bittersweet because, while it hurts my heart to walk away from what has been my home for the past four years, I feel overwhelmingly grateful that this school has prepared me enough to be able to leave.

Throughout my time here, I have been stretched in every area of my life. Here, my

faith became my own. Through after-class conversations with teachers and late-night discussions with friends, I learned what it means to be Christian. Here, I discovered what truly matters to me: faith, fellowship, and love. These core values, modeled by my mentors and loved ones, formed the basis of my growing identity. Here, I became an adult; the woman who will walk out on graduation day will be undeniably different from the girl who first walked in.

At first glance, SBS looks like just a regular school. Brick walls, a standard football field, gray lockers and such. But if you look a little bit closer, you will glimpse the wonderful, beautiful community within. A school, just like any other environment, is what you make of it. Here, my expectations were widened, and I learned to anticipate love, connection, and belonging. I found these things because I began looking for them, just like a little yellow car on a busy street.

The relationships I found at this school surpassed every expectation and shaped the core of who I am today. Teachers became mentors, and friends turned into family. My teachers saw me as more than a name or a number; they cared for my spiritual and emotional health, pouring into me beyond the classroom. A ninth-grade teacher became a father figure for me, guiding me through the most difficult times of my high school career. Another teacher chose to walk alongside me through it all, showing me how to live brightly and joyfully for the Lord. With my volleyball team, the game shifted away from being simply a sport; it became a calling to pursue a lifestyle of excellence and unabashed dedication, as my coach repeatedly modeled perseverance. Most of who I want to be in life has been shaped by the family I found at my SBS.

**This is my letter from a senior. For four years, this school has nurtured and**

**cared for me in a way I never thought possible from an educational institute—with a love I can never hope to repay. This community's utmost care and influence in my life have prepared me for the world beyond, a world in which I might strive to love the way my Second loved me.**

So, Second Baptist family, if there is anything I leave with you, let it be this. Look for the magic in your school. Expect, not just hope for, goodness and beauty, and I promise you will find it waiting. I have heard it said that the world reflects your view of it, so training your eyes to look for love inevitably results in its discovery. Expand your views of the school and create a second home. Immerse yourself in the community and make it a second family. Truly embrace this chapter of your life, and I promise you will never regret it.



CLASS OF 2024 | BY THE NUMBERS | **ACADEMICS**

**73**

CLASS OF 2024  
GRADUATES

**14**

LIFERS WHO ATTENDED  
SBS PK - GRADE 12

**3**

SECOND GENERATION  
GRADUATES

**73**

SCHOOLS  
APPLIED TO BY  
CLASS OF 2024

**27**

SCHOOLS WILL  
BE ATTENDED BY  
CLASS OF 2024 IN...

**12.35 million**

IN SCHOLARSHIPS  
OFFERED TO  
CLASS OF 2024

**78%**

MAINTAINED A GPA  
OF 3.5 OR HIGHER

**1201**

AVERAGE  
SAT SCORE

**3**

NATIONAL MERIT  
COMMENDED SCHOLARS

**15**

AP SCHOLAR  
HONOR AWARDS

**360**

COLLEGE  
ACCEPTANCES

**15**

STATES AND  
TWO COUNTRIES

**1 million**

IN SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED  
TO ONE STUDENT,  
A SCHOOL RECORD



CLASS OF 2024 | BY THE NUMBERS | **ARTS**

**ATHLETICS**

2

SENIORS RECEIVED  
TAPPS ONE ACT PLAY  
DISTRICT AWARDS

9

SENIORS IN THE CAST  
AND CREW OF OUR FIRST  
TAPPS ONE ACTS  
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

3

TOMMY TUNE  
NOMINATIONS  
RECEIVED BY SENIORS

10

COMPETING IN  
COLLEGE ATHLETICS  
THIS FALL

5

SENIOR ATHLETES  
WILL COMPETE AT THE  
DIVISION I LEVEL

5

STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS  
WON BY CLASS OF 2024  
STUDENT ATHLETES

5

AWARDS EARNED BY THE  
AQUILA YEARBOOK STAFF

1

SENIOR SELECTED TO  
TMEA ALL-STATE CHOIR

27

ALL-DISTRICT  
ATHLETES

18

ACADEMIC ALL-STATE  
HONOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

17

ALL-STATE  
ATHLETES



# Senior Features

## CLASS OF 2024



# Grace Coker

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
MARKETING

“Grace Coker personifies hard work, respect and dedication. Her dedication does not stop when she leaves Second Baptist School; she is a member of many service-oriented groups such as the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the Houston Chapter of Junior League, and the As Our Own Executive Junior Board. These organizations seek to serve her local and international community. For one so young to care about people and issues beyond herself shows a unique awareness among her peers, and shows her dedication to the betterment of society. It has been a joy to teach Grace.”

– Angela King, Social Science Teacher

“Grace Coker is kind-hearted and reaches out to those who are alone. I see her seeking God to guide her steps and to help her make decisions. It isn’t an act.”

– Melissa Farias, Spanish Teacher

**My SBS is** faithful, loyal and supportive.

**Favorite tradition:** Interim Term

**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Varsity Tennis (Captain), Student Leadership, National Honor Society, Pickleball Club, Spirit Club

**Is there a particular teacher, coach or staff member that has an impact on you?**

During my time at SBS, Ms. King had the biggest impact on me. She consistently showed her love and passion for teaching, while also demonstrating what a mentor looked like for her students.

**What is one thing you learned or gained from SBS that you will carry on with you to college and beyond?**

Something that I learned from SBS is that if I trust the Lord with all my heart, no fear can take away my faith.



# Anna Drinnon

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

“Anna has an amazing way of seeing the world; she brings beautiful meaning and insight to everything she creates. She always had big ideas and new and inventive ways of doing art. When I gave an assignment, Anna’s work was always bigger, with more time put in and effort well beyond expectations. Her imagination and attention to detail inspire me all the time.”

– **GeAnna Manners**, Art Teacher

“I loved having Anna in class. No matter what was going on, she’d come in with a smile on her face. She always lifted my spirits. Anna Drinnon exemplifies the portrait of an SBS graduate by living out her faith in practical ways every day. Her relationship with Christ is on display by how she cares for and encourages others, her commitment to academic excellence, and her devotion to her family and her church.”

– **Allison Armond**, Math Teacher

**My SBS is** busy, supportive and fun.

**Favorite tradition:** EagleFest / Powder Puff

**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Visual Arts, Theatre, Softball, National Honor Society, Spanish Club, Art Club, Book Club

**How have you grown to think critically, live biblically or lead courageously?**

I’ve learned to claim my faith as my own personal choice, to believe and love the Lord.



# Sigmund Gilbreath

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  
BIOLOGY: PRE-MED

“Sigmund set a high standard for himself in class; he was goal-oriented, prepared, and consistent in maintaining his outstanding academic performance. He is the most coachable and authentic student I have ever had the honor to teach.”

– **Arthur Babcock**, Science Teacher

“Sigmund is a teacher’s dream. My favorite thing about him is not that he is brilliant, but he is incredibly humble. Once I watched him support one of his peers during a group project. He could have finished on his own and moved on. However, he chose to help knowing that it would slow him down. He is a wonderful young man of solid character.”

– **Miranda Itchon**, Math Teacher

**My SBS is** late nights, lasting bonds and a Christ-centered community.

**Extracurriculars at SBS:** National Honor Society

**Is there a particular teacher, coach or staff member that has an impact on you?**

I had no idea what I wanted to do with my career path, but when I took Anatomy and Physiology, I found out how interesting it was. From that point on, I wanted to know more about the human body and human functions. It helped that I had one of the best teachers that I’ve ever had, Mr. Babcock, teaching the class and helping me every step of the way. Mr. Babcock’s enthusiasm for teaching, providing knowledge to students, and providing a Christ-centered curriculum is why I chose a pre-med track.



# Jack Going

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY**  
AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

“Jack is one of the finest young minds I have had the privilege to teach in class and has had the distinctive effect of challenging me to learn as I teach. He is a bright, innovative and compassionate individual with limitless potential. Jack’s passion for science and engineering, coupled with his remarkable creativity and problem-solving abilities, make him an exceptional individual. He knows what it takes to be a successful student, and he has what it takes to be one of the best. I have no doubt that he is destined to be a trailblazer in his field and a force for positive change in the world.”

– **Geoff Brooks**, Science Teacher

**My SBS is** academic achievements, a community of friends and teachers, and future success in life.

**Favorite memory:** Sophomore Retreat  
**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Varsity Track, Varsity Cross Country, Spanish Club, Science Club, Chess Club President, College Guidance Fellow, Choir, Theatre Set Crew, National Honor Society

**What do you consider your greatest achievement at SBS?**

At SBS, my greatest achievement was creating a reputation of helpfulness and willingness to help the students around me.



# Geneva Hudson

**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**  
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

“Geneva is a hard-working student who shows humility, concern for others and true integrity. As an honors student and a member of the Golden Girls dance team, she had to manage her time between academics and sports. No matter her workload, she would stop what she was doing to help others. Time and again, I witnessed Geneva taking time out of her busy schedule to tutor fellow classmates.”

– **Heather Aleman**, Science Teacher

“Geneva is loved by everyone in Second Theatre Company. She has amazing relationships with her peers and is very intentional. She exudes joy when she enters our classroom and rehearsals.”

– **Cindy Blades**, Arts Director

“Geneva Hudson demonstrated unparalleled dedication, intelligence, and passion for learning. She consistently excelled academically. However, her true strengths lie beyond her academic achievements. Beyond the classroom, Geneva’s contributions to our school’s cultural and artistic endeavors have been nothing short of outstanding. Her involvement in theatre, Golden Girls and her mentorship of underclassmen highlight her multifaceted talents and her dedication to fostering a supportive and inspiring community.”

– **Geoff Brooks**, Science Teacher

**My SBS is** community, opportunity and history.

**Favorite tradition:** EagleFest / Powder Puff  
**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Golden Girls, Theatre, National Honor Society, and a number of clubs throughout my four years

**What do you consider your greatest achievement at SBS?**

My greatest achievement at SBS was being able to take on the role of stage manager in theatre my senior year and help bring to life our fall plays and spring musical.



# Isaac Konuma

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
AT AUSTIN  
GOVERNMENT: PRE-LAW

“Isaac is one of the most passionate and bold players I have ever coached. He understands that great things take hard work and determination, and he pursues them wholeheartedly. He is a student who has great respect for those above him and seeks to learn from them. His energy is infectious and his leadership qualities have great potential.”

– Doug Walker, Soccer Coach & Bible Teacher

“Isaac is the life of the party. He’s intelligent, diligent and thoughtful, but the best part about him is that he brings an element of magic to the people around him. In AP Literature class, for example, he insisted we all compete in a March Madness tournament complete with a trophy for the winner that he supplied. He always kept our class laughing, even in the midst of challenging tasks. I’m rooting for him and his future.”

– Natalie Hedges, English Teacher

**My SBS is** a close community, challenging, but rewarding.

**Favorite tradition:** Senior Fountain Run  
**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Model UN, Varsity Soccer, National Honor Society, Spanish Club, Business Club, Powderpuff Volleyball

**What is one thing you learned or gained from SBS that you will carry on with you to college and beyond?**

No matter what happens, Jesus will always be there for me.



# Samuel Konuma

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
BUSINESS: FINANCE

“Samuel was an awesome student in the inaugural SBS School of Business classes, including receiving the Honors Night gold medal for Honors Finance. His enthusiasm was contagious and all of his work, including data analysis, research reports, presentations and class participation, was consistently outstanding. He is one of those rare students who inspired the entire class to be better, including me!”

– Dr. Jill Foote, Dean of Schools of Distinction

“Sam Konuma, a natural born leader, a calming presence to all those around him, and most of all a Christ-centered person. Sam shines the light of Christ on everyone he comes in contact with. As a coach he is the exact kind of player desired and needed to grow a program and a brotherhood!”

– Joven Longee, Soccer Coach

**My SBS is** community, preparation, and impact.

**Favorite tradition:** Powder Puff

**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Varsity Soccer, Student Ambassador, National Honor Society, Business Club, Spanish Club, Choir

**Tell us about your time at SBS!**

I have been at SBS since kindergarten (13 years). The SBS experience has been great for me, preparing me for college and the rest of my life. I have grown to think critically, live biblically and lead courageously by growing my faith in God and being able to display it through my actions.



# Caroline Lane

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
BUSINESS HONORS

“It is an honor and privilege to know, work with and be a friend of Caroline Lane! From freshman to senior year, Caroline grew in so many ways, but who she is at her core has never changed. She is passionately selfless, cares for others without question and is completely sold out for the Lord. Watching her humbly and confidently lead the Golden Girls was a great privilege and so much fun.”

– **Madelyn Whitehead**, Golden Girls Coach

“Caroline Lane has been a part of Second Theatre Company all four years of high school. She was one of our leads in the musical this year as well as our dance captain, choreographing several numbers for the show. She is always happy to step up to the plate and make a number look better. This girl is SERVANT hearted. She always serves with a smile and leads her peers with dignity and grace.”

– **Claire Westmoreland**, Theater Director

**My SBS is** my family, it’s spending six hours a day in 5108 for Golden Girls or theatre, and it’s deep conversations with my teachers during community time or lunch.

**Favorite tradition:** Interim Term

**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Golden Girls, Theater, Choir, National Honor Society

**What do you consider your greatest achievement at SBS?**

My greatest achievement is the impact that I have been able to have on younger girls through Golden Girls. Golden Girls is a unique team because we do a lot of service in the SBS community. We have many opportunities to connect with lower and middle schoolers, which I am so thankful for. I love being a part of a school that values family relationships and the influence of the generations on each other.



# Reagan Minter

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY  
BUSINESS

“I had the pleasure of teaching, and more importantly, getting to know Reagan for three years. Reagan is a committed academic, but what really struck me was her heart for the Lord. Reagan’s due north is God and I saw this commitment grow stronger every year. Her focus on the Lord gave her the resilience she needed to overcome challenges. Reagan is such a joy and she brightens a room with her kindness and compassion.”

– **Cal Burnham**, Social Science Teacher

“Reagan is both hardworking and intelligent. Some would choose to rely on their natural intelligence and hope for the best, but Reagan, in her maturity, matches her intelligence with hard work. This combination makes her an incredibly successful student and will make her a person to be admired in the future as well.”

– **Angela King**, Government Teacher

“Reagan is filled with joy of the Lord, regardless of circumstances or environment. From being the Ministry Prefect to an outstanding calculus student, her smile and light are contagious to all.”

– **Diane Deweese**, Math Teacher

**My SBS is** joyful, loving, and a community.

**Favorite tradition:** Senior Fountain Run  
**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Volleyball, Model UN, Honors and Reflection Choir, Student Leadership, Ministry Prefect, Chinese Club, Business Club, National Honor Society

**What is your favorite memory at SBS?**

My favorite memory at SBS was singing in a church in Rome alongside my friends during our senior year choir Italy Term trip. Hearing our voices lifted to the Lord in such a majestic way was truly special.

**How have you grown to think critically, live biblically or lead courageously?**

Throughout my time at SBS, I have grown to live biblically through my understanding that living biblically must follow you outside the walls of SBS. I know this will carry me throughout my years in college, careers, and beyond.



# Annie Rawn

**LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**  
THERAPEUTIC SCIENCE

“Annie Rawn is a young woman who lives out our mission statement of living biblically. I watched her walk through a tough valley with strength and dignity. To know Annie is to know joy. Even on her hardest days, she was kind and encouraging; she never despaired. I am excited to see how God will use her in His ministry as she experiences the next chapter of her life at Liberty University.”

– **Shannon Brooks**, English Teacher

“Annie is the definition of kindness! She has such a joy inside her; it is contagious. She is a resilient young lady who demonstrates such poise. This can only be achieved in knowing whose you are. Annie knows where her identity lies, and it shows in how she carries herself. What a blessing it is to know her!”

– **Melissa Farias**, Spanish Teacher

“Annie has consistently lived out a biblical worldview in her actions, words and attitude within our softball team settings. She has been a beacon of courage and strength for her teammates. Annie exemplifies the portrait of an SBS graduate to not only our upperclassmen, but she is also thoughtful and engaging with our underclassmen, leaving behind a powerful legacy.”

– **Jeff Schroeder**, Assistant Softball Coach

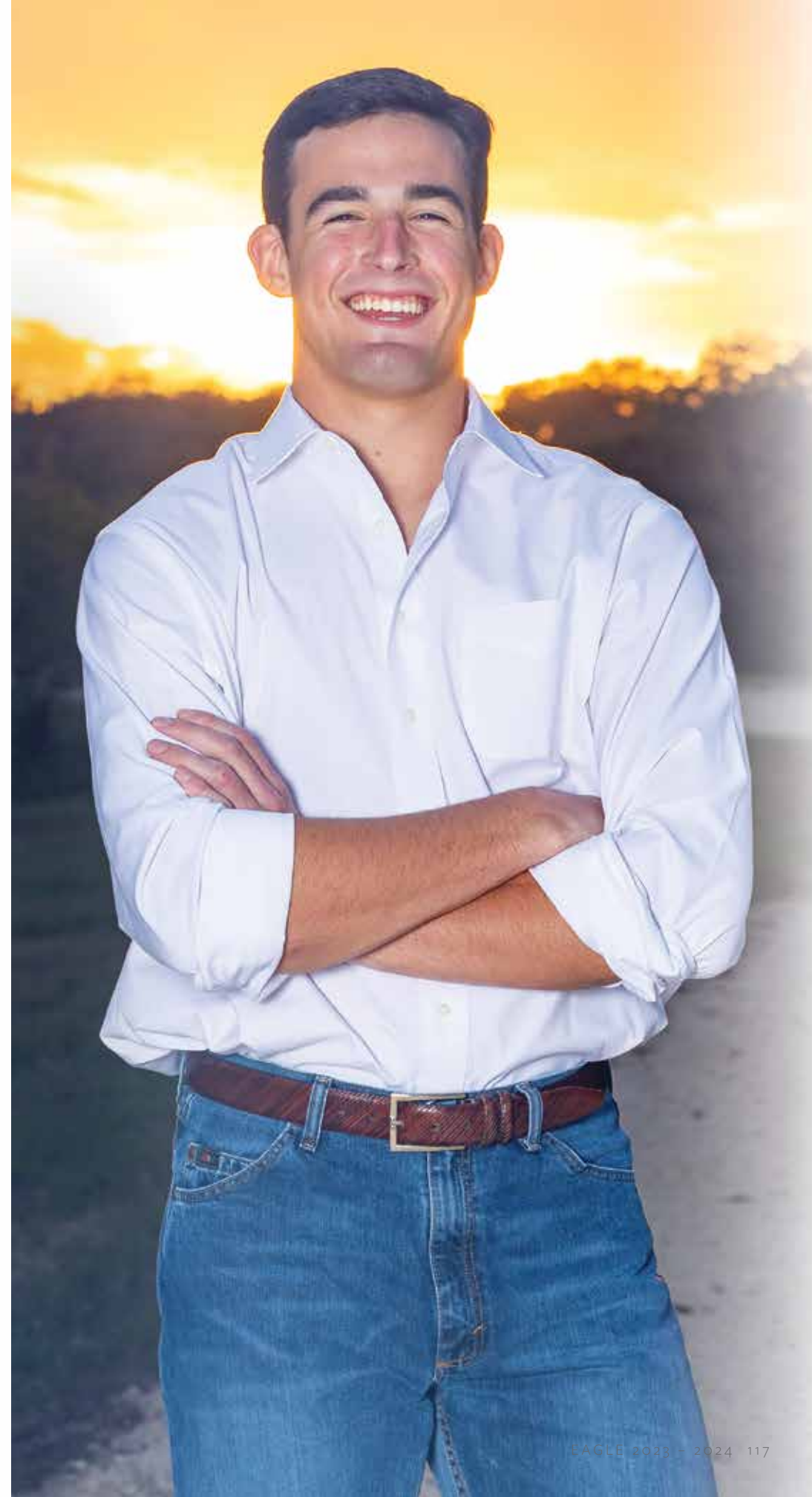
**My SBS is** late nights studying, long bus rides to playoff games, and incredible teachers who care about me.

**Favorite memory:** Walking out at EagleFest with my four-year-old nephew, Landon!

**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Volleyball, Softball, Student Leadership as the Athletics Fellow, and National Honor Society

**What is one thing you learned or gained from SBS that you will carry on with you to college and beyond?**

I have gained a strong support system and community that I know will always have my back as I face the world.



# Charlie Shears

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
COLLEGIATE SPORT: FOOTBALL

“Charlie leads by example in so many areas and really developed his vocal leadership skills this past season. He worked hard to maximize the gifts and skills the Lord gave him. But what makes Charlie unique is his life-perspective. Most eighteen year old student athletes don’t think deeply about their future beyond college and beyond sports. Charlie does, and it drives his decision-making.”

– **Beck Brydon**, Head Football Coach

“Charlie is comfortable in his own skin. He doesn’t feel the need to conform to what others are doing or saying. At an age where kids work really hard to fit in, Charlie stands out from the crowd, consistently speaking encouraging words to build up others. He is genuine, loves others and truly loves God.”

– **Denver McCollister**, Bible Teacher

**My SBS is** brotherhood, adventure, and faith.

**Favorite tradition:** Assassins

**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Varsity Football, Business Club, Service Prefect

**How have you grown to think critically, live biblically and lead courageously?**

I have learned to think critically through our difficult yet rewarding classes, I have learned to live biblically through our faith based education and athletics, and I have learned to lead courageously through the leadership positions I have earned.



# Lily Tondera

**SAMFORD UNIVERSITY**  
NURSING

“The character of this young woman is highly reflective of our Portrait of a Graduate and the mission of our school: one of discipline, determination, loyalty, humility, talent and kindness. She is welcoming and vibrant, always joyful and hardworking, making every art in which she participates flourish with respect and excellence. Lily is the type of student teachers dream of, because she is a sponge when learning vocals or roles and takes instruction, multiples it, and brings her own explosive creativity.”

– **Cindy Blades**, Director of Arts

“Lily shines in anything she does. She steps up to the plate and goes above and beyond with what she is given. She transform any situation and makes it better. I have seen her be a great source of comfort in friendships and demonstrate such empathy to those who need it most.”

– **Melissa Farias**, Spanish Teacher

**My SBS is** lifelong friends, late-night studying, and opening nights.

**Favorite tradition:** Senior Fountain Run  
**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Softball, Theater, Choir, National Honor Society

**What is your favorite memory at SBS?**

Winning the state championship in the TAPPS One Acts competition.

**How have you grown to think critically, live biblically or lead courageously?**

SBS has taught me you don’t have to have a title to lead. Leading is about exemplifying behavior that encourages others to be better. With the right mindset and attitude, you can be a leader.



# Emma Wehring

**AUBURN UNIVERSITY**  
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES  
ON A PRE-MED TRACK

“Emma was a beacon of light in my classroom. Emma notices how the talents of teachers and peers contribute to the classroom culture and takes the time to sincerely compliment others. She seeks to understand material presented in the classroom and works graciously with all members of her class. She is sure to continue reflecting Christ’s light into the lives of others as she enters college this fall.”

– **Meredith Offenbacher**, Science Teacher

“Emma Wehring was a joy to coach. She knew how to find a happy balance. She could pursue excellence, while at the same time making hard work an enjoyable experience for others. She had a playful side as well, and that made her even more loveable. She is the kind of athlete who makes your work fun.”

– **Coach Stephens**, Basketball Coach

**My SBS is** welcoming, generous, and loyal.

**Favorite tradition:** EagleFest & Powder Puff  
**Extracurriculars at SBS:** Varsity Basketball, Science Club, Environmental Club, Admissions Ambassadors, National Honor Society

**How long have you been at SBS? Describe your experience.**

I came to SBS after Christmas break in sixth grade. From the moment I stepped on campus, I felt so much peace about my decision. Coming in the middle of year, I was so scared but I instantly felt welcomed and loved. Ever since that day, I have loved my experience at SBS and would make that decision to transfer a million times over.

**What do you consider your greatest achievement at SBS?**

My greatest achievement at SBS was the women’s basketball team. Getting to play in a state championship game every year of my high school career was an honor. But more than the playoff wins was the bond I made with my teammates. Through countless hours of practice, games, and tournaments, I felt like my teammates were more like my sisters than my friends.



CLASS OF 2024

# BABY STEPS to BIG DREAMS



- KEY**
1. Anna Brandt
  2. Caroline Aycock
  3. Connor Kelley
  4. JD Crisp
  5. Chase Tepper
  6. Ashley Abimni
  7. Ben Kalife
  8. Charlotte Walker
  9. Aidan Burke
  10. Dennis Borushko
  11. Anna Drinnon
  12. Ellie Musseilwhite
  13. Dyllian Thompson
  14. Aubree Marshall
  15. Jason Oji
  16. Ani Engler
  17. Elliott Preston
  18. Caroline Lane
  19. Bella Travers
  20. Charlie Shears
  21. Graham Harder
  22. Garrison Smith
  23. Frida Olaiy
  24. Evan Killian
  25. Geneva Hudson
  26. Ellie Veeningen
  27. Grace Coker
  28. Catherine Clark
  29. Holly Horton
  30. Hudson Toon
  31. Isaac Konuma
  32. Jack Going
  33. Ivan Ramos
  34. Mackenzie Schmidt
  35. Jackson Powers
  36. Annie Rawn
  37. Jacob Morris
  38. Emma Wehring
  39. Natalia Saavedra
  40. Jayden Lundy
  41. JD Booth
  42. Sigmund Gilbreath
  43. Mackenzie Ceballos
  44. Lily Tondora
  45. Leavitt Syed
  46. Jessica McCutcheon
  47. Lauren Baker
  48. Jenny Pillitter
  49. Sam Johnson
  50. Turner Murdock
  51. Vivian Darnell
  52. John Platis
  53. Sarah Corbin
  54. Zane Luman
  55. Jazlyn Williams
  56. Katherine Ashworth
  57. Samuel Konuma
  58. Vivian Russell
  59. Mark McNeil
  60. Kaylee Marshall
  61. Stella Baird
  62. Riley Tackett
  63. Jackson Crosswell
  64. Lily Sauvageau
  65. Nick Terrill
  66. Olivia Smith
  67. Liam Gensch
  68. Morgan Warren
  69. Reagan Winter
  70. Michael Olaiy
  71. Lauren Wood
  72. Alec Scarborough
  73. Mary Claire Torn

# CLASS OF 2024

Ashley Enanga Abimni\*  
University of Texas  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Katherine Abigail Ashworth  
Texas Tech University

Caroline Elizabeth Aycock\*  
Texas A&M University  
*Cum Laude*

Stella Karen Baird\*  
University of Kentucky  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Lauren Lea Baker\*  
University of Texas  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Jonathan Dean Booth  
Texas Tech University

Dennis Borushko  
Marymount University

Anna Catherine Brandt  
University of Mississippi

Aidan Carroll Burke\*  
Auburn University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Mackenzie Annette Ceballos\*  
Louisiana State University  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Catherine Douglas Clark\*  
Texas Christian University  
*Cum Laude*

Grace Elaine Coker\*  
Texas Christian University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Sarah Rachel Corbin\*  
Trinity College of Dublin  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Joshua Demond Crisp, Jr.  
Xavier University

Jackson Mason Crosswell  
University of Texas

Vivian Elizabeth Darnall  
University of Mississippi

Anna Lea Drinnon\*  
Texas A&M University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Anika Lucia Engler\*  
University of Texas  
*Summa Cum Laude*

William Scott Gensch\*  
University of Oklahoma  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Sigmund Dai Gilbreath\*  
University of Houston  
*Summa Cum Laude*

John Walter Going, Jr.\*  
Purdue University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Graham Doyce Harder  
Baylor University

Holly Marie Horton\*  
University of Arkansas  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Geneva Rose Hudson\*  
Colorado School of Mines  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Samuel Richard Johnson\*  
University of Mary  
Hardin-Baylor  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Benjamin Michael Kalife\*  
University of Texas  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Connor Michael Kelley\*  
Rhodes College  
*Cum Laude*

Evan Grant Killian\*  
Texas Christian University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Isaac Konuma\*  
University of Texas  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Samuel Konuma\*  
Texas A&M University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Caroline Elizabeth Lane\*  
Texas A&M University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Zane Thomas Luman  
University of Tennessee  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Jayden Nasir Lundy  
US Army Reserve  
Prairie View A&M University

Aubree Lynn Marshall\*  
Abilene Christian University  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Kaylee Reese Marshall\*  
Abilene Christian University  
*Cum Laude*

Jessica Jane McCutcheon\*  
Southwestern University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Mark Anthony McNeil, Jr.  
St. San Antonio College

Reagan Sloane Minter\*  
Baylor University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Jacob Samuel Morris\*  
Texas Tech University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Scott Turner Murdock\*  
Mississippi State University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Elizabeth Catherine Musslewhite\*  
Southern Methodist University  
*Cum Laude*

Jason Dike David Oji\*  
Texas A&M University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Frida Geno Olaly\*  
Lewis & Clark College  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Michael Chiwo Olaly\*  
Undecided  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Josephine Jennifer Pilliter\*  
University of California,  
Los Angeles  
*Summa Cum Laude*

John Soterios Platis\*  
Southern Methodist University  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Jackson Ernest Powers  
Texas Tech University

Elliott Carole Preston\*  
University of Texas  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Ivan Cruz Ramos  
Friends University

Anne Landon Rawn\*  
Liberty University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Vivian Kindred Russell\*  
Texas A&M University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Natalia Sofia Saavedra\*  
University of Texas  
at San Antonio  
*Cum Laude*

Olivia Grace Sauvageau\*  
Trinity University  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Alec Paul Scarborough\*  
St. Andrew's School  
Rhode Island  
*Cum Laude*

Mackenzie Lynn Schmidt\*  
Baylor University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Charles Warren Shears II  
Texas A&M University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Garrison A Smith\*  
University of Missouri  
*Cum Laude*

Olivia Camille Smith\*  
University of Virginia  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Wares Leavitt Syed  
University of California,  
Riverside  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Riley Catherine Tackett\*  
University of Tennessee  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Chase McConville Tepper\*  
University of San Diego  
*Magna Cum Laude*

John Nicholas Terrill  
Colorado School of Mines  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Dyllan Aidan Thompson  
Georgia Tech University

Lillian Claire Tondera\*  
Samford University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Hudson Lane Toon\*  
Baylor University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Mary Claire Torn  
Texas A&M University

Isabella Traverse\*  
Texas A&M University  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Eliana Leigh Veenigen\*  
Texas A&M University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Charlotte Claire Walker\*  
Texas Tech University  
*Magna Cum Laude*

Morgan Alise Warren  
Louisiana State University

Emma Kathryn Wehring\*  
Auburn University  
*Summa Cum Laude*

Jazlynn Janeá Marley Williams\*  
Southern Methodist University  
*Cum Laude*

Lauren Grace Wood  
Southwest Baptist University

\*National Honor Society Member

# Lifers

CLASS OF 2024



Caroline Aycock  
Lauren Baker  
Mackenzie Ceballos  
Sarah Corbin

Anna Drinnon  
Graham Harder  
Geneva Hudson  
Caroline Lane

Jessica McCutcheon  
Reagan Minter  
Natalia Saavedra  
Hudson Toon

Mary Claire Torn  
Charlotte Walker

*Lifers are students who attended Second Baptist School without interruption from pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade.*

## SECOND GENERATION families



**Lauren Baker '24**  
**PARENTS:**  
Dr. Amy Woodruff '88 &  
Dr. Trent Baker  
**SIBLING:**  
Brette Baker '29



**Aubree Marshall '24**  
**Kaylee Marshall '24**  
**PARENTS:**  
Kara Willoughby Marshall '95  
& David Marshall  
**SIBLING:**  
Rylee Marshall

# Alumni Notes

## 1989

*Southern Living Magazine* featured **ELIZABETH MUNGER STIVER '00** and **AMY MUNGER** on the cover, representing their interior design firm, Munger Interiors.

## 1998

**MIKE TURNER** stepped into the role of director of coffee at Serve Hope International. In his position, Mike travels extensively throughout Honduras and Guatemala, personally sourcing the finest coffee from local farmers. Every corporation, church and individual purchasing this premium coffee not only enjoys the world's best cup of coffee but also supports Serve Hope's clean water ministry in these countries. Families receive life-changing water filters and exposure to the gospel, which has the potential to transform their lives eternally. This coffee is aptly named "Buy Coffee, Give Water."

## 2001

**DOUG WEBSTER** started a private credit business, Webster Lending, LLC, to fund real estate secured commercial loans that aren't a fit for the bank market.

**JENNIFER (MCKENZIE) WELKER** and fellow alumni **CALLIE (FINE) BURKE '09**, **ALEX (LEACH) LANE '03**, and **VAN WALKER '04** had a great time catching up at the University of Texas Cheer Alumni Weekend.

## 2002

**NARGUESS ARJOMAND** and Ali Fazel married in June in Barcelona, Spain, with family and close friends. They were introduced by a mutual family friend when she was DJ-ing, and the rest is history! Now, they live in the Heights with their dogs, Pixie and Coqui.



## 2002

**ERIN (WOODS) TATE** and Andy Tate married on October 22, 2023. They met at the height of the pandemic and quickly discovered that they grew up only 8 houses apart. After a few months of friendship, they began dating in January 2021 and were engaged in February 2023. They were married at Magnolia Bells in Magnolia, Texas, in front of family and friends. They now reside in West Houston with their Belgian Malinois, Captain Jack Sparrow. Andy is a concierge and project manager at Wynne Walker Group, where he manages high-end homes. In his spare time, he is working on a novel. Erin is currently in her fifth year of teaching middle school Bible at River Oaks Baptist School. In the summer of 2023, she self-published a Bible study. *The Exodus Gospel: Promises Fulfilled* examines God's promises in Exodus 6:6-8 and their fulfillment through Christ.

**NICI (SMITH) SNYDER** and her husband, Cliff, reside in Dickinson, Texas, with their two daughters, Lily and Whitney. Nici serves as the principal at San Leon Elementary School in Dickinson ISD and is completing her eighteenth year in education. Cliff is a P.A. and the Director of the Surgical Simulation Lab at UTMB in Galveston (LSTAR). He is also a member of the Dickinson Volunteer Fire Department. Their daughters keep them busy with gymnastics, horseback riding and softball.

## 2004

**SARAH (DODDS) GREGORY** married Matt Gregory on June 17, 2023, in the presence of cherished family and friends. They exchanged vows at the Crystal Ballroom in the heart of downtown Houston. As an SBS lifer and alumna, it was incredibly special to the couple to have so many SBS friends there. Those friends have been instrumental in shaping her into who she is today, and their continued prayers are a huge blessing to the couple's marriage.

**RUSSELL DIXON** and his wife, Liz, welcomed their third child, Everly Ann Dixon, on April 2, 2024. Russell has been pastoring Canyon Church in Dripping Springs for almost 3 years. In June of 2022, they hired SBS graduate **STEFANIE (CURREY) LITZLER '05** to join their staff as Kids Minister. Stefanie's husband, John, and daughter, Vivian, have become dear friends and amazing co-laborers for the gospel with the Dixons in the Hill Country!



# Alumni Notes

## 2004

**ANNA (PRESTAGE) STURGEON** has worked for over 10 years in clinics and schools with children with developmental disabilities and recently started her own company, Shine Behavior Services. Her company's main purpose is to provide compassionate, timely and streamlined support for families navigating the journey of autism. Shine offers accessible private autism assessments and compassionate guidance to bypass long waitlists. They also provide educational workshops for groups and businesses to improve interactions with autistic individuals and their families. Anna's ultimate goal through Shine Behavior Services is to "shine a light on your family's autism journey."

**RAANA (ARJOMAND) BUGOS** and Nicholas Bugos welcomed their first child, Ellena Mahshid Bugos, on October 27, 2023. The 2023 holiday season was even more merry with their bundle of joy.

## 2005

In a house filled with glitter and pink, the Sweeney's were thrilled to add some blue to the mix. **LAUREN (ALLEN) SWEENEY** and her husband Roy welcomed Robert "Bo" Roy Sweeney on October 27, 2023. Now his two older sisters, Becca (5) and Kate (3), have a real baby to play with. Following his traditional Irish namesake in weight and height, this big boy is as happy as can be.

## 2006

**BEN BAHORICH** and his wife live in Houston with their daughter Emma (6) and their son Peter (4). Emma is beginning her own Second Baptist legacy as a first grade student attending SBSUM Memorial.

## 2007

**EUGENE KIM** and his wife, Jamie, welcomed their second child, Lydia Joy Kim, on December 6, 2022. Their son, Malachi James Kim, is three. They enjoy serving at their church, New Life Fellowship of Houston, where they have been leaders for the last 8 years.



## 2008

**CAROLINE (SUFFIELD) PATTERSON** gave birth to the lovely little Violet Elizabeth Patterson on February 28, 2023. Proud daddy Blake Patterson and big brother Jack (3) are so proud! Violet is the sweetest little sister and wonderful addition to the Patterson family.

## 2009

**HAILIE DURRETT** recently accepted a new job with New York Times bestselling author, podcast host, and professor Kate Bowler, PhD, and the Everything Happens Initiative at Duke Divinity School. Hailie works as a digital marketing strategist to share stories of compassion, hope, and resilience. She remains in Houston, where she practices photography and continues to oversee marketing and communications for Holy Family HTX Episcopal Church and the Lanecia Rouse Tinsley Gallery, and she looks forward to visiting Durham often with her new role!

On June 26, 2023, Aaron Jackson Ralston was born to **AL RALSTON** and his wife Sara. Aaron joins big brother Alvin "Quinn" Jackson Ralston V.

**SARAH (MAYES) HUGUENARD** and **HARRIS HUGUENARD '09** welcomed Margaret Frances Huguenard to their family on July 21, 2023. Big sister, Madeline, could not be more excited!

**TOM PEACOCK** married his high school sweetheart, Katie Murski, in 2015. They recently welcomed their third child, Claire Peacock, in March 2024. Claire joins big brother Cooper (4) and big sister Ellie (2).



# Alumni Notes

## 2009

**CAROLINE (THOMPSON) KNAPP** and her husband Wesley welcomed their son, Wesley Wren Knapp Jr., on May 5, 2024. Big sisters Gracie (4) and Annie (2) are thrilled!



## 2010

**KELSEY (NOBLE) ADAMS** and her husband, Tyler, began the adoption process in the spring of 2022. The first match fell through, but they knew God had a greater plan. On April 29, 2023, Madison Kay Adams was born. She is the answer to many prayers and a true joy!



Kelsey and Tyler want to assist families who have experienced failed adoptions. They founded The Jackson Fund, a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing financial assistance and support to families navigating the emotionally challenging journey of adoption. They believe that every child deserves a loving and stable home and are dedicated to ensuring that setbacks in the adoption process do not deter families from pursuing their dream of parenthood. They empower families to heal, persevere, and eventually provide children with loving homes through financial assistance and a compassionate community. For more information, visit [www.thejacksonfund.org](http://www.thejacksonfund.org).



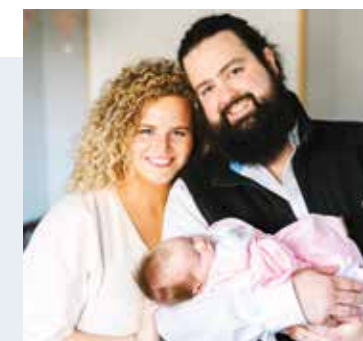
**BECCA (DIXON) MCCORMACK** and her husband Clark welcomed a new baby last year! Cole Dixon McCormack was born on July 3, 2023. His older brother, Paul (4), and sister, Molly (2), are completely obsessed! Their precious son's name is very special to them; they chose it to honor the memory of a dear friend and an exceptional SBS graduate, **GARRETT COLE LUCE '11**. Cole is the eleventh Dixon grandchild, and Becca's parents are overjoyed.



**CAROLINE JAMES MARTIN** and her husband, John, welcomed their second baby boy, William "James" Martin, in September 2023.

## 2010

**NATALIE (TOLLETT) CRAMER** and her husband, William, welcomed their daughter, Eloise Joe Cramer, on November 14, 2023. They had no idea how much joy she would bring into their lives with her laughter, smiles, and snuggles. They are extremely grateful to the Lord for such a beautiful blessing.



**EMILY (BOYD) HAMMETT** and her husband, Adam, are blessed to welcome their second daughter. Amelia "Millie" Jane Hammett arrived on March 18, 2024. Big sister Annie is in love with her already, as are they!



## 2011

**MARGARET (MAURER) VAUGHAN** and her husband, Wilson Vaughan, welcomed their daughter, Mary Graham Vaughan, on December 5, 2023.



**WILLIAM MCMICHAEL**, his wife Kristi, and big brother Jack (2), welcomed Katie Elisabeth McMichael into their family on September 25, 2023. They are overjoyed to share in her smiles and watch the sweet bond forming between siblings. William is also a member of the SBS Alumni Board, helping further the school's mission of excellence.



# Alumni Notes

## 2011

**JOHN DURIE** and his wife Erica welcomed their son, John “JP” Durie III, on March 26, 2024. They adore their little boy. John and Erica are active and valuable members of the SBS community. John is on the SBS Alumni Board, and Erica is a beloved third-grade teacher.

Sisters **DANIELLE (COPE) WATERMAN** and **COLETTE COPE ’13** work as engineers for ExxonMobil. This fall and last, they went to Texas A&M University’s career fair to recruit and interview Aggie engineers. Danielle is an engineering supervisor at a chemical plant in Corpus Christi, while Colette works as a project engineer in Baytown. They enjoy recruiting from Texas A&M, where they both received degrees. Danielle earned a degree in chemical engineering in 2015, and Colette received a civil engineering degree in 2017.

## 2012

**KRISTEN (THOMAS) EDDY** married her husband Clayton Eddy in February 2020. They have two children, Lily (2) and Grayson (6 months), and currently live in Spring Branch. She works downtown for Cheniere as a natural gas scheduler and received her bachelor’s degree in energy management and finance from the University of Oklahoma in 2016. In her free time, she loves to golf, play pickleball, tennis and mah-jong!

## 2013

**RAFAELLA CUNEO** married her high school sweetheart, **NICHOLAS VAFIADIS ’14**, on September 2, 2023. She thanks God and Second Baptist School for introducing her to her husband and best friend. They met in French class during their junior and sophomore years. In Houston, they held a large Greek wedding at St. Basil Great Greek Orthodox Church. There was a lot of laughing, eating and, of course, Greek dancing. The couple spent their honeymoon on the Greek island of Samos, where Rafaella’s family originally came from.



## 2013

**EMILY EVANS** joined the Second Baptist School faculty this year to teach middle school art. She has been a phenomenal addition to the school and the students adore her.

**AMY (ROSENTHAL) WHERLEY** and Chad Wherley welcomed their son, William Francis Wherley, on May 22, 2023.

**KEVIN SWEAT** and his wife welcomed their son, Henry Patrick Sweat, on January 24, 2024. Henry weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz. and measured 19 3/4 inches long at birth.

**JOLIE LEAH (PARRISH) GARCIA** and her husband, Danny, welcomed their first daughter, Ruth, in 2021. Jolie worked at Houston’s First Baptist Church before deciding to pursue her photography career full-time in 2022. They relocated to the Cypress area shortly after and welcomed another daughter, Olivia, who is now 7 months old. Jolie enjoys life with her husband, balancing remote work and caring for their two daughters while running her own business.

**LAUREN (WHITAKER) SANDERLIN** and her husband welcomed their new baby, Whitaker James Sanderlin, born August 16, 2023. Big sister Livi was so excited.



# Alumni Notes

## 2013

**TAYLOR DICK** and his wife, Haley, had their first child, Marshall James Dick, on July 6, 2023.

**BEN TOUR** graduated from Harvard Business School in May 2023. He graduated as a Baker Scholar, an award given to students graduating in the top 5% of their class.

**ALLI RYAN MOTLEY** married Payne Winter on March 25, 2023, at Second Baptist Church. **LAUREN WHITAKER SANDERLIN '13**, **LAURA DURIE '13**, **ALLISON GUNN KAISER '13**, **MIRANDA GIROUARD '13**, and **MARGARET HARTMAN '13** were all bridesmaids.

**KATHERINE ANN RUSH, PH.D.**, recently accepted a tenure-track position as an assistant professor of organizational communication in the Department of Communication at Baylor University. She spent the last year teaching communication courses in the Michael F. Price College of Business at the University of Oklahoma. At Baylor, she will teach undergraduate and graduate courses in organizational communication, leadership communication, nonprofit communication, and qualitative research methods. Her research is published in the *Western Journal of Communication*, the *Qualitative Research Report in Communication*, the *Journal of Applied Behavioral Science*, and the *International Journal for Business Communication*.



## 2014

**DILLON SCHROEDER** married Kandice at a resort in Tulum, Mexico, in October 2023. Prior to the destination wedding, Nate Long married them at Second Baptist Church on June 25, 2023, in front of only their parents and siblings. They surprised friends and extended family by revealing the news a week later. On October 29, 2023, they celebrated with their closest friends and family members in Mexico, with Dillon's father, Coach Jeff Shroeder, officiating. Several Second Baptist alumni were in attendance, including Dillon's classmates **JAY KENNEDY '14**, **HUNTER STOCKARD '14**, **QUINTEN SWIFT '14**, **HUGH FLEMING '14**, and **TIM STRELLER '14**. The couple honeymooned in the Bahamas and are now settled into their new home in Spring Branch.

**ANNIE (PITNER) BASS** married her husband, Benjamin, in December 2022. They welcomed their first child, daughter Marigold "Goldie" Louise Bass, on September 14, 2023.

**TORREY TOWNSEND** and Matt Schmidt met during her second year of teaching prekindergarten at SBS. Matt pulled off the surprise of a lifetime when he proposed to Torrey by secretly flying to Houston a week before they moved to Arizona. Twelve months later, on June 22, 2023, they were married in Montgomery, Texas. The beautiful wedding featured Chuy's, a Sarah Bramlett cake and a bounce house castle. One of the most memorable parts of their wedding was including a few of her former students to join the "flower crew." Torrey and Matt love married life and have settled in a new house with their dog, Bailey, and cat, Pogo. Matt is currently working on an engineering project and Torrey is teaching first grade at a school in Gilbert, Arizona.

## 2015

**ELIZABETH RAMSEY** graduated with her doctorate of jurisprudence from the University of Texas School of Law in May 2023.



# Alumni Notes

## 2015

**VICTORIA (HARTMAN) MASSEY** and her husband, Mason, welcomed their son, Luke Robert Massey, on February 28, 2024. They reside in Austin, Texas.

## 2016

**RILEY BAILIFF** married his wife, Macey, in 2022. After working in Dallas for a year, they moved to London for a two-year assignment. They are grateful for this opportunity, but miss Tex-Mex, Chick-fil-A and Blue Bell.

**PIERCE DAVIDSON** and Cianka Davidson were married on November 11, 2023, and live in Waco, Texas.

**TAYTE DODDY** will serve a year-long term as a Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable Andrew M. Edison, Federal Magistrate Judge in the Southern District of Texas, starting in September 2025. Following this clerkship, he intends to return to Jackson Walker.



## 2017

**COOPER MOHRMANN** is a dentist by day and a country music artist by night. He plays over 100 shows annually across and outside of Texas while being a full-time student at UT Dental School.

Last spring at Texas A&M's Department of Visualization's art exhibition Viz-a-GoGo, **HANNAH KLEIN** received two Vizzie awards for Best Graduate Research and Best in CG Rendering, as well as the Pixar Alumni Scholarship Award. During graduation, she received the Distinguished Student Award for a Master of Science in Visualization. After graduating with her master's degree, she accepted a job at LAIKA Studios outside of Portland, Oregon, to work on their next feature film, *Wildwood*.

**JARET PROTHRO** and Suzanna Jinks married at Second Baptist Church on March 2, 2024. Alumni in the wedding party included **JACK PROTHRO '22**, **JADEN PROTHRO '21**, **JASON DANIELS '17**, **JOHN HILDRETH '17**, **AUSTIN STROZIER '17**, **COOPER CARLYLE '17**, **PAUL RUSH '17**, **WALKER THODE '17** and **JAKE LITTLE '17**.

## 2018

**KENDALL SCHROEDER '17** and **MAX MODICA** married on May 28, 2023, at Meekermark in Magnolia, Texas. The wedding party included **DONOVAN DASTMALCHIAN '19**, **RYAN ANTONA '18**, **DILLON SCHROEDER '14**, **BEN DICECCO '19**, **HANNAH PRICE RUSH '18**, **ALYSSA ARAMBURU '17**, **VENAE JESSURUN '17**, **CAROLINE WIESEN '17** and **ELLIE TOWNS '17**. Kendall and Max live in Houston, Texas.



# Alumni Notes

## 2018

**PEYTON PRICE** married his wife, Meredith, in Southlake, Texas, in October 2023. He would like to credit fellow SBS alum **KENDALL REPPERT '18** for setting them up at Baylor University. Peyton and Meredith now live in the Post Oak area of Houston.

**CONNOR BURTON** married the love of his life, Norely. They met in Austin, where they were both attending the University of Texas and became friends while attending the same church, The Well Austin, where Norely works in college ministry. Married in Houston, they currently live in Austin. Their outdoor wedding celebrated the Lord's faithfulness with friends and family.

**ALEX WORLEY** graduated from Rice University in the spring of 2022 and enrolled at Harvard Law School in the fall of 2022. He plans on graduating from Harvard Law in May of 2025 and expects to return to Texas to practice as a litigator focusing on pharmaceutical tort claims.

## 2019

**CRISTINA ILOFF** recently graduated from Texas A&M University in December 2023. Following graduation, she moved back to Houston, where she will pursue her passion for fine jewelry and design through her family's fine jewelry business, Iloff Jewelers.



## 2019

**HANNAH BERKMAN** married Matt Crossley on October 21, 2023. Matt is from Austin, Texas and they met while Matt was playing baseball for her dad at Houston Christian University. They dated for 2 years before he proposed on the beach in Seaside, Florida. They married at her family's farm in Brenham, Texas, where her parents, aunts and uncles also got married. It was the best weekend of her life.

**KALLIE STEELMAN** graduated from Texas A&M University in May 2023 with a Bachelor of Science in Education and Human Development. After graduation, she moved back to Houston and now works in the Office of Communications at Second Baptist School.

**LEXY (PETTITTE) WOLFF** attended Dallas Baptist University after graduating from SBS to further her education and volleyball career. She graduated in May 2023 with a business management degree and moved back to Houston. In June 2023, she became engaged to the love of her life, and soon after, she accepted a job at Second Baptist School as a PK3 teacher aide. Amidst the fun of working with preschoolers and coaching junior varsity volleyball, she also planned her wedding. In December 2023, she married Nick Wolff, the perfect ending to an amazing year.

**MACKENZIE KIM** married one of her high school best friends, **JC DAVIS '19**. After graduating from college, they married and moved to Houston. Mackenzie graduated from Baylor University with a degree in accounting and management and a minor in sociology and now works as an associate relationship manager at Frost Bank. JC graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in finance and business management. Their wedding was the sweetest, most joyful day – celebrating and dancing with all of their loved ones gave them a taste of what it will be like to dance in His Heavenly Courts someday! Almost a year later, and they are grateful for the many more that await them!

**PAN YUHUAN** graduated from Johns Hopkins University, Carey Business School, with an MBA and membership in the Beta Gamma Sigma society. Pan will soon be moving to California to work for Ernst & Young.



# Alumni

## Class of 2020

Our Class of 2020 alumni are getting ready to enter the 'real world' as they round out their college years. Take a look to see what 31 of them will be doing next!



**LINDSAY BELL**  
Baylor University  
Degree: Communications Sciences and Disorders  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am remaining at Baylor University to complete my master's degree in communications sciences and disorders over the next 18 months.  
**WACO, TEXAS**



**KATE BINAU**  
Texas A&M University  
Degree: Accounting  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I plan on getting my CPA and working in the audit field.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



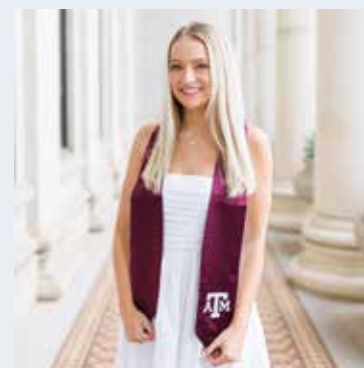
**EMMA BINGAMAN**  
Baylor University  
Degree: Human Resource Management  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will be moving to Dallas to work as an Assistant Service Manager at Sewell Lexus of Dallas! I'm so thankful for my time at Baylor and so excited for what lies ahead!  
**DALLAS, TEXAS**



**EMILY BLACKMON**  
Colorado Christian University  
Degree: Global Studies with an Emphasis on International Relations and Biblical Studies  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am moving to Washington D.C. post-graduation to work at the Heritage Foundation in their campaigns and partnerships department.  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**



**CAROL ELLIS**  
Liberty University  
Degree: Writing  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am staying in Lynchburg, working as a cycling instructor and personal trainer. I plan to get my master's in exercise science at Liberty.  
**LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA**



**JULIA (FASELER) COLVIN**  
Texas A&M University  
Degree: Psychology  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am starting my second year at the University of Houston Law Center.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**SARAH FLYNN**  
Texas A&M University  
Degree: Telecommunication Media Studies  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I plan to pursue a career in sports videography.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



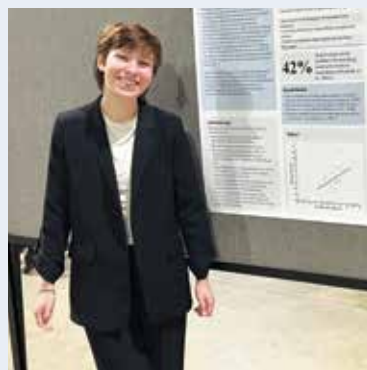
**CHRISTINA IGO**  
Texas Christian University  
Degree: Finance and Entrepreneurship  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** After graduation, I am thrilled to return to Houston and will join Amegy Bank as a credit analyst!  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**CAROLINE CARLYLE**  
Baylor University  
Degree: International Business and Marketing with a minor in Mandarin Chinese  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am moving to Dallas, Texas, to work for Accenture as a consulting development analyst.  
**DALLAS, TEXAS**



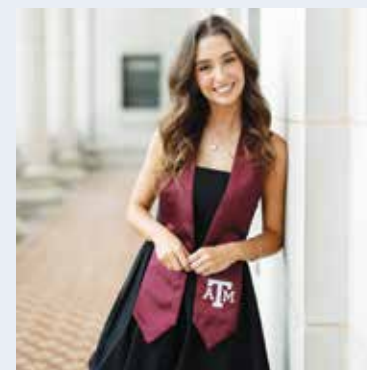
**SUMMER CONKLING**  
Texas A&M University  
Degree: Communications  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am joining the Summer Intern Class of 2024 at Dancie Perugini Ware Public Relations in Houston.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**GEORGIA DANIEL**  
Elon University  
Degree: Psychology and Economics  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** This summer, I will be working at SOAR, which is a camp for kids with ADHD. This fall, I will start my graduate studies at UNC Chapel Hill to get my masters in social work.  
**CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA**



**MADELEINE DANIELS**  
University of Arkansas  
Degree: Nursing  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am graduated from the University of Arkansas as a First Ranked Senior Scholar. I will return to Houston to work at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital in the Pediatric Heart Center ICU.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**RACHEL JAMES**  
Texas A&M University  
Degree: Honors Business and Marketing  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will work as a senior artist and stock design lead at David Gardner's Jewelers.  
**COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS**



**ANNA LEA KIMMEL**  
Baylor University  
Degree: Communications with a minor in Business Administration  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will work at Patterson and Sheridan as a law recruiting coordinator.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**NICOLE KRUEGER**  
Louisiana State University  
Degree: Kinesiology  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am applying to graduate programs to pursue a career in mental health counseling.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**ELLIE LITTLE**  
Texas A&M University  
Degree: Human Resource Development with a minor in Business  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am starting my master's program at Mays Business School in the fall and hope to receive an MS in Human Resource Management in December of 2025.  
**COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS**

# Class of 2020



**CARLOS MACIAS**  
Southwestern  
Degree: Business and Spanish  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** Last summer, I studied in Granada Spain for 8 weeks and traveled around the Iberian Peninsula. In the fall, I am attending Rice University to get my master's in accounting.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**SARAH MICHAEL**  
Baylor University  
Degree: Biomedical Engineering  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I plan to work as a biomedical engineer while I study for the MCAT in preparation for applying to medical school.  
**TBD**



**GRANT MUELLER**  
University of Oklahoma  
Degree: Aviation  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** Upon graduation, I will be commissioned into the Air Force as a remotely piloted aircraft pilot.  
**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**



**KENDALL PENNINGTON**  
Texas A&M University  
Degree: Communication Honors  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will attend Georgetown University in Washington D.C. this fall to pursue a master's in integrated marketing communication.  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**



**VICTORIA RYAN**  
Texas A&M University  
Degree: Business Honors and Finance  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am returning to Houston to work as a strategy analyst for Deloitte Consulting.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**SAVANNAH SMITH**  
Texas Christian University  
Degree: Finance with Real Estate and Business Management  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will work with Trademark Property Company as a Leasing Representative and getting married on November 9.  
**FORT WORTH, TEXAS**



**TY STRICKLAND**  
University of Houston  
Degree: History  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am excited for my next adventure, which will be moving to Florence, Italy, to attend art school.  
**FLORENCE, ITALY**



**ANNA BETH SWAIN**  
Dartmouth College  
Degree: Molecular Biology with a minor in Spanish  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I graduated from Dartmouth College as a valedictorian. After graduation I will continue studying for the MCAT!  
**TBD**



**CHARITY PERITO**  
University of Houston  
Degree: Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and in the Professional Program of Accountancy (PPA)  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I plan to continue my education to obtain a master of science in accountancy. My goal is to become a CPA. I will spend the following two summers interning at Andersen and PwC, within the tax service, to expand my knowledge and gain valuable experience.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**BELLA PHILLIPS**  
Mississippi College  
Degree: Business Administration  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I am currently working for The For All Mankind Movement, in Houston, until I go to culinary school in August 2024. I am also getting married this year and starting my own catering business!  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**MCKENNA RATLIFF**  
Samford University  
Degree: Early Childhood Special Education, Elementary and Collaborative Education (ESEC)  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will be moving back to Houston to teach kindergarten at Frostwood Elementary, in Spring Branch ISD.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**ALEX ROA**  
Texas Christian University  
Degree: BS in Computer Science and BA in Economics  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I started a few business ventures in college and post-grad that have been successful. I plan to continue these endeavors. I am based in Houston but will travel internationally for work for about half of the year.  
**HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**KARA SWAIN**  
Emory University  
Degree: Business Administration, Organization and Management  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will work as a Strategy Analyst for Deloitte Consulting.  
**ATLANTA, GEORGIA**



**CHLOE TONDERA**  
University of Houston  
Degree: Mechanical Engineering  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will head to San Diego for Surface Warfare Officer training. After that, I'll report to my ship the U.S.S. *San Diego* in Sasebo, Japan!  
**SASEBO, JAPAN**



**JOHN YOUNG**  
Baylor University  
Degree: Sports Marketing and Management  
**WHAT'S NEXT:** I will be pursuing a career in the sports marketing industry.  
**TBD**



## 20 QUESTIONS WITH SBS COACHES



### 1. WHY DID YOU START COACHING?

I wanted to be a positive influence in the lives of young athletes by showing them the love of God through character development and discipline. – **Kevin Gamas (soccer)**

I was led by the Lord to use football as a tool to disciple young men in Christ. – **Beck Brydon (football)**

### 2. WHO WAS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE COACH?

My mom! She was my track coach in high school and always gave me the perfect balance of praise and discipline needed to succeed. – **Chandace Tryon (volleyball)**

My most memorable coach as a player was Hal Mumme and Mike Leach. Both made a huge difference in my life as a player and coach. They were both very innovative and treated their players with respect. – **Tim Smith (football, basketball)**

### 3. WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR SPORT?

I love that it is the one place where you can truly control your success. If you show up consistently, you will get better. Talent means nothing in the weight room; hard work does. – **Nick Mascioli (athletic performance)**

Softball is a game of failure in which you learn how to deal with difficult times. Because it is a team sport, the friendships will be strong. – **Lauren Harris (softball, volleyball)**

I love being with the players. – **Keith Page (football, baseball)**

### 4. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PROFESSIONAL TEAM?

Hometown is it! Rockets, Astros, Texans!

– **Jim Stephens (basketball, track)**

The USA recently started a professional volleyball league (2024) so I am excited to watch the evolution of this and pick a team!

– **Blair Johnson (volleyball, basketball)**

### 5. WHY DO YOU LOVE COACHING AT SBS?

SBS affords coaches the ability to impact students based on the school's mission, while also coaching at a high level.

– **Mike Walker (Director of Athletics)**

I love helping my players exceed their potential. I love when they do things they didn't think they were capable of. It's amazing seeing that joy in their eyes! – **Lisa Kroll (tennis)**

### 6. IF YOU COULD GIVE YOUR ATHLETES ONE PIECE OF LIFE ADVICE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Eat the yellow Skittles. They taste bad, but they make the red and green ones taste so much better. – **Brad Lane (football)**

Character is doing the right thing when no one is looking. The best and most respected athletes are the ones who are not just great at their sport but are humble people as well.

– **Elleana Yarborough (Middle School Spirit)**

Never give up... be persistent. – **Mark Hahn (swim)**

### 7. WHAT IS YOUR BEST VICTORY MEMORY?

Too many to choose one, but our shut-out victory over Fort Bend Christian this past football season was my 200th win. This milestone is a testament to all of the players and coaches I've been alongside over the years. – **Beck Brydon (football)**

Women's softball beating Fort Bend Christian in the 2021 TAPPS semi-finals, then going on to win state the next day.

– **Mike Walker (Director of Athletics)**

Better than any of the championships won, my greatest victory would be the guys I coached 20 plus years ago calling me and thanking me for encouraging them to follow Christ.

– **Jim Stephens (basketball, track)**

### 8. IF YOU COULD HAVE DINNER WITH ANY PRO ATHLETE, PAST OR PRESENT, WHO WOULD IT BE? WHY?

Michael Jordan because I could show him some of my customized Jordans! – **Rayner Noble (baseball)**

Cristiano Ronaldo. He inspired me as a 6 year old kid to play and love soccer. To this day, he inspires me to be better in my sport!

– **Kevin Gamas (soccer)**

### 9. WHAT IS YOUR PREGAME RITUAL?

16 oz Red Bull. I can't eat on game days due to nerves, so the Red Bull gets me going. – **Robert Cooper (baseball)**

Turn up the Spotify tournament playlist. Warm up on the range. A few putts. Deep breathing. Smiling. Appreciating. Envisioning. Anticipating success. I am ready. – **Scott Dawley (golf)**

### 10. WHAT IS YOUR HYPE SONG?

"This is My Fight Song" by Rachel Platten

– **John "CH" Herndon (basketball, golf)**

"Lil Boo Thang" by Paul Russell

– **Lauren Harris (softball, volleyball)**

"No Longer Bound" by Forrest Frank, Hulvey

– **Nick Mascioli (athletic performance)**





**11. HOW DOES YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS IMPACT YOUR COACHING?**

It focuses my heart and leadership qualities on Him. It allows me to know that we are playing for something greater than ourselves and the scoreboard, but something eternal.

– **Joven Longee (soccer)**

We are an extension of Him as Christians. I think that the Holy Spirit allows me to build genuine relationships with our players.

– **Jason Kates (football, baseball)**

**12. WHAT IS ONE THING IN YOUR LIFE YOU COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT?**

My family! Or on a lighter note...queso.

– **Madelyn Whitehead (Golden Girls)**

Probably mentoring, including public speaking and coaching. I don't think I've gone a single week in the last 30 years without doing this. It brings me a lot of joy to see others achieve their goals.

– **Lou Hughes (track)**

**13. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SNACK?**

Del Dixi hamburger pickle slices and Skinny Pop with Frank's Red Hot drizzled over it. I know that's oddly specific.

– **Chandace Tryon (volleyball)**

On the field, gum and pickle seeds.

– **Margo Ostarticki (softball)**

**14. WHAT IS ONE FACT EVERYONE WOULD BE SURPRISED TO LEARN ABOUT YOU?**

I know the mascot for every Division I college. I can also name every World Series and Super Bowl winner.

– **Robert Cooper (baseball)**



I'm a legit bowler. I've got a little game.

– **Keith Page (football, baseball)**

**15. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING TO DO WITH YOUR FAMILY?**

Hanging out on a Sunday afternoon with my family on the patio; swimming, watching a game and eating together.

– **Charlotta Wharton (golf)**

Drive to Dairy Queen and get dipped cones together.

– **Brad Lane (football)**

**16. HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR SUMMER BREAK?**

Traveling in a minivan across the country with my family and dogs. (It's crazy!)

– **Scott Dawley (golf)**

Softball camps, traveling and going to see family.

– **Margo Ostarticki (softball)**

**17. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN THE WORLD?**

Home (Redding, California)

– **Joven Longee (soccer)**

Tortola

– **John "CH" Herndon (basketball, golf)**

**18. IF YOU COULD HAVE A SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

Telekinesis. It would be a big help for my golf game.

– **Jason Kates (football, baseball)**

My superpower is forgetting movies and being able to rewatch them and enjoy them again!

– **Lisa Kroll (tennis)**

I would fly. It would be peaceful to rise above the clouds. I would probably have a different perspective of the world.

– **Lou Hughes (track)**

**19. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TYPE OF MUSIC TO WORK OUT TO?**

I work out to Latino pop music

– **Charlotta Wharton (golf)**

Spanish music and hip-hop. If I am running, Christian music

(I need Jesus to help me push through.)

– **Elleana Yarborough (Middle School Spirit)**

Anything happy or upbeat! Taylor Swift, the Spice Girls, Backstreet Boys...a millennial's dream.

– **Madelyn Whitehead (Golden Girls)**

**20. DO YOU HAVE ANY PHOBIAS OR FEARS?**

Missing a two foot putt for eagle.

– **Rayner Noble (baseball)**

I am terrified of horses and cows, but grew up in a town and in a family of ranchers – ironic!

– **Blair Johnson (volleyball, basketball)**

Open-air heights!

– **Mark Hahn (swim)**

PARENTS OF ALUMNI: If this magazine is addressed to a graduate who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, notify the Office of Alumni Relations at [sbsalumni@secondbaptistschool.org](mailto:sbsalumni@secondbaptistschool.org). Please forward this edition of the *Eagle* on to your SBS graduate. Thank you.



## 2024-2025 IMPORTANT DATES

- August 14, 2024: First Day of School
- August 30, 2024: Student Holiday
- September 2, 2024: Labor Day Holiday
- October 14, 2024: Fall Holiday
- October 30, 2024: Parent/Teacher Conference Day for PK3-Grade 8
- November 25–29, 2024: Thanksgiving Break
- December 20, 2024: Early Dismissal for Christmas Break
- January 7, 2025: Spring Semester Begins, Students Return
- January 20, 2025: Winter Holiday for Students, Faculty and Staff
- March 10–14, 2025: Spring Break
- April 18, 2025: Good Friday Holiday
- April 21, 2025: Easter Monday Holiday
- May 22, 2025: Last Day of School
- May 23, 2025: Class of 2025 Commencement

\*Reminder: All dates listed are subject to change.