

2nd Baptist Church of Independence History

The congregation of Second Baptist Church of Independence, Missouri was established in November 1861. It has a rich history of more than 153 years as a vital and integral part of the Independence community. This congregation has been serving God by reaching out to people in supporting their needs and promoting Christian values and morals in the community.

The church is known as the oldest African-American congregation church west of the Mississippi River. In the state of Missouri it is known for being the first school for Negroes. The Western Baptist Bible College established by the Missionary Baptist State Convention of Missouri was organized at Second Baptist Church. Western Baptist Bible College is currently located at 2119 Tracy Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri

During the bicentennial celebration of Independence, the Bicentennial Commission appointed by the City Council as one of the twenty-four historic sites in Independence recognized Second Baptist Church. Resolution No. 1088 issued by the City council along with a Bicentennial plaque was placed at the Second Baptist church.

The current Pastor is Rev. Jon Gray.