

THE TIDINGS

GOD'S MISSION FOR TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH IS TO LOVE HIM FULLY AND FOLLOW HIM FAITHFULLY.

The Pastor's Perspective Dr. Reggie Bridges

Since I was a boy, my Sunday School teachers would talk about the Apostle Paul and his missionary journeys, and they would even adorn their classroom walls with various maps of his travels. Obviously, I soaked up what they said (for I was a diligent, young student!), but the places seemed so removed from my North Mississippi life. Even when I tried personally to retrace Paul's steps on the maps at the back of my Bible, the areas remained rather mystical and distant. But oh, how that changed over the last couple of weeks! Cities like Corinth, Ephesus, Athens, Philippi, and Rome are now much more vivid for me and my understanding of the great missionary work. The maps indeed have come alive!

I could write so much about my adventure; but rather, let me just share a few "takeaways" I had. **First, my belief in the authority, accuracy, and clarity of Scripture was once again affirmed.** Now be assured, I have always accepted the Bible as God's inerrant, infallible Word to us. There is no doubt! But as I traveled to the different cities Luke mentioned in Acts, I once again was amazed how that physician captured the many cities, customs, personalities, and culture of the area with such precision. Think of all the various places that are mentioned in the book of Acts . . . and all the people . . . and all the titles . . . and Luke is correct in every aspect of his record! That is tremendous! I mean I still don't understand all the customs of Dubach yet! From the existence of Demetrius' store in Ephesus (Acts 19:23-27) to the Corinthian inscription that confirms Erastus as the "city treasurer" (Romans 16:23) to the archaeological evidence that proves that the Thessalonians used the term politarchs to refer to their magistrates/leaders (Acts 17:6,8), the accuracy of the biblical witness is manifested.

Second, I was once again reminded of the relentless effort of Paul and his companions to take the Gospel to unreached areas. Stop

and pull out your map of his travels again. He covered thousands of miles! No airplanes . . . no cruise ships . . . no buses . . . no Ubers. After our lengthy trip, I was tired and worn. But can you imagine Paul? He just kept going because of the Gospel! Wow!

Third, I realized again our Lord is sovereign. Our God worked through pagan leaders, emperors, and kings like Alexander the Great in order to prepare for His Son's coming and the Gospel's advancement. He allowed the Greeks to spread their language so that there would be an international vernacular to communicate the good news of Jesus worldwide. He permitted the Romans to spread their peace (Pax Romana) and to build their roads so that the missionaries could take the life-giving message safely across the empire. Yes! **Our King did that!**

Fourth, I saw how the Gospel was/is "the power of God for salvation." Whether I stood at the Philippian river where the seller of purple, Lydia, was baptized, or on Mars Hill where the philosopher, Dionysius, came to Christ, I marveled in the Gospel's ability to transform all kinds of different people in the midst of an immoral, ungodly culture. To be honest, I took note how the cities reflected religious pluralism and moral debauchery; and yet, the Gospel still penetrated such a desperate landscape. (And it still can today!!)

Fifth, I was challenged to face whatever comes our way for Christ's sake. At the Philippian jail where Peter and Silas sang hymns during their imprisonment and at the Roman dungeon where both Paul and Peter were held before their execution, I was moved to recommit myself to endure for our Lord no matter what we face. Jesus is worth it!

I look forward to integrating my trip into my preaching from Acts over the next few weeks, and I hope it brings a richness with it. Oh, did I mention I am home? Praise the Lord! See you Sunday!

FROM THE RECORDS OF MARCH 31, 2019

Worship Attendance		SS Attendance		
		'19	'18	
9 a.m. Blended Worship Service	594	Adults	407	443
9 a.m. the gathering Worship Service	149	Singles/Young Adults	103	166
11:15 a.m. the gathering Worship Service	275	College	92	44
The Springs Worship Service	116	Youth	78	79
Combined Morning Total	1134	Children	113	124
6 p.m. Evening Worship Service	259	Preschool	97	118
		Local	890	974
		Off Campus	102	93
		Total	992	1067

Sunday, March 31, 2019	
 Budget	\$37,195.80
Share the Light	\$475.00
Annie Armstrong Offering	\$54,307.40

Extended Session 4/7/19
9 a.m. Worship—Bobby & Karen Sanders, Sam & Kelly Hodge, Jody & Emily Adams, Aubrey Wood, Bill & Laura Davis
11:15 a.m. Worship—Kathryn Martin, Lisa Barr, Leslie Bridges, Ann Marie Queen, Heather Meek

Education & Administration News

Jason Walsworth

Welcome to Spring and all that comes with it! Some of those things I look forward to are Easter, baseball season, and March Madness. A few things that don't excite me are yard work, pollen, mowing; but let's not dwell on those! This is supposed to be an encouraging article to help you in your walk with the Lord and serve Him, so here are a few ways you can do that:

Armed Security Team Interest Meeting: We are recruiting men and women who may be interested in serving on an Armed Security Team once a month, and the Interest Meeting is Monday, April 15, at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This would be separate from our current Security Team and Golf Cart Patrol. Also, there are some strict requirements that we must meet according to our insurance. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, sign up in Sunday School this Sunday or contact me and plan to come.

Temple Baptist Open at Squire Creek: The name has changed, but we are moving forward. We will still host a great tournament that will be a first-class event and outreach in our area. Please recruit some friends or co-workers and put together a team to play with us on **Monday, May 13**. We will have morning and afternoon groups. Contact me to sign up or for more information.

Monthly Sunday School Leadership Meeting: This **Sunday, April 7**, we will have our next SS Leadership Meeting at **5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**. I have really enjoyed getting to meet with all of you and hear from you. If you haven't been to a meeting yet, please come this week. I want this to be a monthly meeting of all of our SS Leadership, and my goal is for someone from all 83 groups and classes to be present each month. Thank you for all you do, and I will see you Sunday!

A Thank You card has been received from...

Glenda Robbins

(Located on the bulletin board in the Library window)

Temple **WEEK**day Summer Activities

Tiny Trekker Summer Camps—6 Months-completed Kindergarten

Camp is Tuesday-Thursday; \$50 per week

June 11-13, 18-20, 25-27, July 16-18, 23-25, & July 30-August 1

K Connect Readiness Camp—Entering/Completed Kindergarten

Monday-Thursday; \$100 per week

June 10-13 and June 17-20

Registration has begun. You may pick up forms in
The Journey Place or online at weekday.temple.life.

Women on Mission Groups

Myrtle King Lunch Bunch

Thursday, April 11 | 12 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Bring a sandwich. Guest Speaker: Kay Church

Mission Project: Life Choices—wipes, #4 diapers, baby rice cereal

Missionary Round Table

Friday, April 12 | 9:30 a.m. (Guests are cordially invited.)

at the home of Ann Futrell (Activities Rm. at The Arbor, Ruston)

Co-hostesses: Sandra Perdue; Reviewer: Annie Heard

LA BAPTIST SINGING WOMEN & SINGING MINISTERS JOINT CONCERT

Thursday, April 11 | 6:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

Everyone is invited to attend this concert!

Celebration Choir will sing in the *gathering*

Sunday, April 14 | 11:15 a.m.

Rehearsals:



Our **ONLY** rehearsal is

Sunday, April 14 | 10:15 a.m. | Gathering Space

(During our Sunday School hour)

Open to everyone!

No age limit and no experience necessary!

**Contact Zach Husser, zach@temple.life, 255-3745
or sign up this week during Sunday School.**

Where Moms Connect: A Time of Encouragement

Monday, April 8, 9:30 a.m., *The Journey Place*

Moms, come and enjoy meaningful conversation, laughter, and friendship!

Under Our Watchcare:



Alyssa Pippen



Kaylee
Misenheimer



Carley Strickland

temple-tech Hike-A-Thon Summer Missions Fundraiser

April 26-28

28.2 mile Eagle Rock Loop, AR

Will you sponsor a college student per mile?

Contact: Casey Casady, casey@temple.life, 255-3745

Congratulations to:

Dusty and Haley McHale on the birth of their son, **Myles Patrick**.

Proud sisters are Camryn and Lily.

BLOCK PARTIES

(Local Missions Outreach Event)

Saturday, April 13 | 2-5 p.m.

The Springs or Mayfield Park

Sign up in Sunday School!

(**Teams Needed:** Set Up & Break Down, Bounce House, Face Painting, Canvass, Hospitality, Van Driver, Basketball, Egg Hunt)

LaTEGG EASTER EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH

Mission: To increase the number of students at LA Tech's Easter Outdoor Evangelism Worship Service

Would you help us by purchasing a dark, solid-colored t-shirt for a student? Adult Large or X-Large sizes only!

<https://templetechlategg2019.itemorder.com> or purchase a package of dark-colored t-shirts from Walmart

The gospel is free and this year it comes with a t-shirt!

Ecuador Medical Mission Trip ~ August 17-24

Interest Meeting: Wednesday, April 10

6:45 p.m. | Room 76

Mission: To learn new techniques in medical mission practices as we seek to further develop our mission strategy

Contact: Ben Jernigan, ben@temple.life, 255-3745

The Journey Place **Tiny Trekkers & Summit Kids** *Sally Hearn*

What a blessing you are, church family! I am continually amazed at the way you so faithfully give of your time, energy, and resources to all areas of ministry. It is such a joy to serve with you!

We had a wonderful time with the 4th Graders from Ruston Elementary as we hosted their "Route through the USA" event. Thank you to all the volunteers who made it happen. Special "thanks" to Mr. Bill Cox and his kitchen crew for the wonderful food!

Thank you for all the **Easter eggs and candy** that has been donated. Invite your friends to join us for our Annual Easter Events. **Grades 4-6 Flashlight Egg Hunt and Cookout:** Thursday, April 18 | 7-9 pm. | Chris and Lisa Barr's home. **Babies-Grade 3 Easter Egg Hunt:** Friday, April 19 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m. | Larry and Nelda Neal's home.

VBS Registration is online at vbs.temple.life. Join us as we venture "In The Wild" and have some real-life encounters with Jesus. **June 3-7 | 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | children entering Kindergarten-Grade 6.** We still have some leadership opportunities available. Contact Sally or Jessica to find out how you can serve. **T-Shirt Order Envelopes** are available in *The Journey Place*. Deadline to order t-shirts is Sunday, April 28. Cost: \$10.

WinShape Camp 2019, July 8-12. Registration is underway at winshape.temple.life. Kindergarten has a limited number of spaces this year. If you have a kindergartner who wants to attend, sign them up today and get them on the waiting list. \$50 deposit will be refunded if space is not available. Space is still available for all other grades! Scholarship envelopes are available if you would like to help send a child to camp. If you know of someone who needs a scholarship, contact *The Journey Place* Office for a Scholarship Application.

Community Evening Worship Service & Fellowship

Sunday, April 7
6 p.m.

First Baptist Church, Ruston

Everyone is encouraged to attend!
This service is in lieu of our
Evening Worship Service.

Preacher: Paul Watts,
Emmanuel Baptist Church

Community Choir
(Rehearsal: 5 p.m. | FBC Sanctuary)

Deacons of the Week—April 7-13
Robert Hearn & Leon Stamm

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Week-at-a-Glance

Baton Rouge Mission Trip ~ April 12-13

Sunday, April 7

9 a.m. - Blended Worship (Sanctuary); *the gathering* Worship (GS)
10:15 a.m. - Bible Study for all ages
11:15 a.m. - *the gathering* Worship | Parent/Child Dedication (GS)
2:30 p.m. - Children's District Bible Drill
5 p.m. - The Springs Worship Service; Sunday School Leadership Training (FH)
6 p.m. - Community Evening Worship Service & Fellowship (First Baptist Church, Ruston);
temple-tech Sunday Night Supper

Monday, April 8

9:30 a.m. - Where Moms Connect (JPMR)
6 p.m. - GriefShare (Rm 76)

Tuesday, April 9

9:30 a.m. - Women's Bible Study - *one in a million* (Rm 275)
6 p.m. - The Crossing Bible Study (JP)

Wednesday, April 10

9 a.m. - Friendship International (Rm 72); Quilting/Sewing (FH)
12 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)
3:45 p.m. - Women's Bible Study - *Psalms 23* (Rm 275)
5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Menu: Fried Fish; Cost: \$4/person, \$2/child under 8,
\$12 max/family); Small Group at The Springs
5:45 p.m. - Children's M³ (Missions, Music, & More!) (JP)
6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study | Baton Rouge Mission Trip Commissioning (FH);
GROW Visitation - RED TEAM (FH); Youth Wednesday Night Worship (Youth Rm);
You & Me Forever-Study for Young Couples (Rm 49)
6:45 p.m. - Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary); Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm);
Ecuador Medical Mission Trip Interest Meeting (Rm 76)
7 p.m. - CORPS Meeting (Rm 270); *temple-tech* Freshman Bible Study (Rm 216)
8 p.m. - *temple-tech* Brinner (FH)

Thursday, April 11

12 p.m. - Myrtle King Lunch Bunch (FH)
6 p.m. - Adulting-Study for Singles/Young Professionals (Mission House)
6:30 p.m. - LA Baptist Singing Women & Singing Ministers Joint Concert (Sanctuary)

Friday, April 12

9:30 a.m. - Missionary Round Table (The Arbor Activities Rm)

Saturday, April 13

2 p.m. - Block Parties (Mayfield Park & The Springs)

Family Life Center Hours: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Wednesday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday: 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
The Journey Place Playscape Hours: Monday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 2:30-5 p.m.; Friday: 9 a.m.-12 a.m.
Media Center Hours: Sunday: 8:15-9 a.m.; 10:15-11:15 a.m.; Wednesday: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; 1:30-5 p.m.
Broadcast: Sundays at 9 a.m. Channel 11 (KAQY)

Phone: (318) 255-3745 • Fax: (318) 255-0134
Website: temple.life

Vision:

To become authentic, loving followers of Jesus,
who are experiencing life transformation through God's Word,
For the purpose of impacting our world.



TEMPLE

BAPTIST CHURCH

COME GATHER AROUND THE WORD

Core Values:

Authoritative Truth • Strengthening Worship
Authentic Community • Intentional Transformation
Hands-On Missions • Relational Evangelism
Compassionate Servanthood