

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

A few years ago, Leslie became enamored with the Mitford series, a collection of books that focused upon the ministry of a small-town, Episcopal priest who was affectionately called Father Tim. Every evening, I would find her consumed in her literary pursuit as she moved from page to page; and I admit that I dared not interrupt her. Rather, I waited until she emerged from her text and shared Father Tim's journey. On one such occasion, Leslie drew insight from the priest's sermonic prowess and offered her suggestion. "Reg," she said, "I've just discovered the best sermon ever." "Yes?" I responded, not sure where this was about to go. She then related her thought: "Father Tim stepped to the pulpit, opened his Bible to 1 Thessalonians 5:18, and read 'In everything, give thanks.' He then sat down. Isn't that a great sermon? Why don't you preach a message like that?"

Of course, I have never quite delivered such a brief sermon (I know you are shocked!), but I recognize her point. There is something impactful about the simple, all-encompassing truth of that injunction. The straightforward command to believers is give thanks. And what is more? Our gratitude should be expressed in every imaginable context, in every imaginable way.

The literal translation of 1 Thessalonians, "in all, give thanks," underscores the exhaustive nature of our thanksgiving. I am actually convinced that Paul purposely left the word *all* vague. As such, it could mean "in all things," "in all ways," "in all times," "in all contexts," etc. We thank God for everything by using every method at our disposal in every moment of our lives. Our appreciation for God and His blessings is to be evident "in all." Pretty comprehensive for four English words, isn't it?

This week, let's stop and praise our Lord for Who He is and what He has done. Thank Him for our daily provision. Recount the blessings of family and friendship. Exalt His saving Name, and express gratitude for forgiveness. Even express your thanksgiving for the limitations/weaknesses He leaves in your life. In other words, "in everything, give thanks!"

Thank you for letting my family be a part of your lives. Each week, we are reminded of how blessed we are to serve here at Temple. God is doing some new things within our midst, and I am excited about sharing those opportunities with you. God is good! And He has been especially good to our church! Thanks be to Him for that lavish grace! No doubt, we are loved by Him!

FROM THE RECORDS OF NOVEMBER 12, 2017

Worship Attendance		SS Attendance		'17	'16
9 a.m. Blended Worship Service	601	Adults	465	444	
9 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	182	Singles/Young Adults	130	127	
11:15 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	311	College	107	116	
Combined Morning Total	1094	Youth	107	93	
5 p.m. Evening Worship Service	345	Children	122	116	
		Preschool	121	110	
		Local	1052	1006	
		Off Campus	93	93	
		Total	1145	1099	

Sunday, November 12, 2017



Budget

\$61,230.55

Share the Light

\$1,300.00

Extended Session 11/19/17

9 a.m. Worship—Tommy & Dolora Gregory, Rebecca Williams, Garson Woodard, J & Blair Walpole, Stacey Casady, Alicia Ball, Dustin & Anna Alexander, Tim & Jennifer McCarthy

11:15 a.m. Worship—Candee Anderson, April Winstead, Dale & Sadel Oden, Challys Williams, Patrick Patton

Youth & Recreation Ministry

John Nugent

Two Youth Ministry Stories and a Cry for HELP!!

Once upon a time a girl started visiting Temple Baptist Church. She started coming through WinShape Camp and then through Vacation Bible School. This summer, she started visiting our youth Wednesday Night Worship and became a little more involved. She was also one of the many students who came to our Grand Opening for the Youth Room this fall, but she also accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior on that Grand Opening night. Her parents were not involved in church and apprehensive about coming, but they came to see their daughter be baptized. Since then, this family has been fairly consistent in attending *the gathering* worship service each week! God has worked in the life of this teenage girl, and He is now working through her life in very big ways! It's a huge success story for our church, Youth Ministry; but more important than these, for God Himself!

There was also a teenage boy who started a Bible study group with some friends before school a couple of years ago. He didn't have immediate success in reaching large numbers of friends; but after a year of meeting, this group grew significantly. One of the newer members of this group was a young man who was just starting to figure out what a relationship with God really meant for his life. He was invited to church, started coming, and became more and more confident as his relationship with God grew. Boy #1 was learning real discipleship of his peers as he ministered to boy #2. This year, schedule changes has kept boy #1 from being able to lead his Bible study group before school as in the past. Yet because of his discipling efforts, boy #2 has taken some leadership in this group and has become a growing leader himself. This is very real discipleship – even a great example for adults. It's a win for our church and our Youth Ministry.

Do you want to know more about these teenagers and even more great stories? Come find me and ask me! I love talking about what God is doing!

Teenagers are coming to know Christ as Savior, and teenagers are diving into being real disciple makers. Youth Ministry is fun, rewarding, encouraging, and always challenging. Pray that we continue to see God's favor and His glory!

Now, **HELP!! Upward Basketball and Cheerleading** season is here! **I need coaches, referees, greeters, and halftime speakers!** We have a few volunteers already, but we need more! Watch for a great video in our worship services telling you more about volunteering with Upward. **Come see me and let me know how you want to be involved in the biggest outreach ministry we do at Temple Baptist Church!**

Celebration Choir Rehearsal for Christmas Program

Sunday, November 19, and Sunday, November 26
4 p.m. (**Time Change**), Choir Room

Open to everyone!

No age limit and no experience necessary!

Contact: Chris Albritton, chris@temple.life, 255-3745



Newly Elected Deacons

Jody Adams	Mack Blake
Mike Brister	David Darland
Don Hogan	John Hood
Ben Humphries	Mike Stone
Galen Turner III	Matt Woodard

2018 Deacon of the Week Sign Up

Ordained deacons lead the Offertory Prayer and Prayer of Blessing during the 9 a.m. Blended Worship Service.

During the week of their assignment, these deacons participate in GROW Visitation and maintain contact with the Church Office. They are also encouraged to faithfully attend services throughout the year.

If you are a deacon and would like to continue participating or want to participate for the first time in 2018, call the Church Office (255-3745), or email cindy@temple.life by Monday, November 27.

Children's Upcoming Activities

Family Ornament Party

November 30 | 6-8 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Come with your family to make ornaments.

We will have pizza and a birthday cake for Jesus.

M³ Children's Christmas Program

December 3 | 5 p.m. | Sanctuary

December Parent's Night Out

December 8 | 5:30-8:30 p.m. | The Journey Place

Sign up envelopes are located in *The Journey Place*



Our Newest Membership Candidate:



Julianne Ensminger



Do you have some Christmas village pieces the Decorating Committee may borrow to use for decorating this holiday season? Please call the Church Office by Monday, November 20.

Christmas Poinsettias



Reservations will be received through **November 26** for poinsettias purchased to display in the Sanctuary and the Gathering Space. \$12/poinsettia - Red reservation envelopes are available throughout the church.

Adopt-A-School Partnership Needs

Hospitality Team, Prayer Partners, and Visit with students & local nursing home residents
Contact: Sally Hearn, sally@temple.life, 255-3745

Congratulations to:

Brandon and Jessica Williams on the birth of their son, Grady Wayne. Proud sister and brother are Sadee and Barrett. Grandparents are Byron and Cheryl Williams.



the family of Jerry Whittle, husband of Merilynn; the family of Martha Davis, sister of Flo Miskelley.

Upward Basketball & Cheerleading!



Registration through December 5

Boys & Girls in Grades 1 - 6

Register online at upward.temple.life or fill out a brochure and turn it in to the Family Life Center with your payment.

Volunteers Needed: Coaches, Referees, Greeters, and Half-time Devotion Leaders.

To volunteer, contact John or Michelle in the FLC, 255-6184 or john@temple.life.

Operation Christmas Child Relay Center



LAST drop-off date: Sunday, November 19

Collection times: Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.; Sunday, 2-6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall


College Connection Casey Casady

The week each college student has dreaded but has hoped to soon see is finally here: FINALS WEEK! By this point in the quarter, students are delirious from constant stress, late night studying, and a lack of sleep. Anticipation for the holiday break is greater now than ever. Here is a small prayer you can pass along or even pray for students to help get you/them through one of the most stressful and difficult times of your college semester:

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for allowing another successful quarter to come to an end. As Final Exam Week begins, give us/them all, as college students, a stable mind so that we/they may perform on each exam to the best of our/their ability. Help us/them to study with dedication and consistency. Let us/them sleep peacefully at night, so that we/they are refreshed for each upcoming exam. Continue to guide us/them during times of trial and tribulation. And remind us/them daily that we/they are your children and that our/their relationship with you is more important than our/their grades.

Text your favorite college students and let them know you are praying for them. It will mean more than you could possibly imagine. To God be the glory for giving us grades and grace that we do not deserve. Amen



Happy
THANKSGIVING!

Wednesday, November 22,
all activities are canceled for the
Thanksgiving Holidays.

Church Offices will close at Noon on
Wednesday, November 22
through Friday, November 24

Deacons of the Week—November 19-25
Kenny Robertson & Walter Scriber

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Week-at-a-Glance

Nicaragua Construction Trip Homes Fundraiser ~ November 1-December 1
Poinsettia Sale ~ November 5-26
Operation Christmas Child Relay Center ~ November 13-19

Sunday, November 19

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 (GS)
2 p.m. - OCC Collection & Relay Center (FH)
4 p.m. - Celebration Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
5 p.m. - Evening Worship Service (Sanctuary)
6 p.m. - *temple-tech* Sunday Night Supper

Monday, November 20

6 p.m. - GriefShare (Rm 76)

Thursday, November 23

Church Offices Closed ~ Happy Thanksgiving

Friday, November 24

Church Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

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

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 Free Play Hours: Monday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 2:30-5 p.m.; Friday: 8-11 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)