

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

We now refer to them as “The Seven,” a group of men who stepped up to serve the early church at a critical moment. Remember the story from Acts 6? As the number of believers grew, so did its needs. Unfortunately, some congregants (e.g. Hellenistic Jews) felt that they were being neglected in the midst of the growth. The solution? The Seven! The forerunners of deacons! These men were selected by the people to wait the tables of Grecian widows and minister to their needs. Through their service, the fellowship of the church was protected, and the ministry was furthered.

I am especially grateful for those brothers I call deacons here at Temple Baptist Church. They understand that initial responsibility of the deacon—to keep the fellowship of the church through service and ministry. For the past few years, I have served with some of the most solid, selfless deacons I have ever encountered. And this Sunday, we have an opportunity to nominate ten more such individuals to the Deacons Council. I ask you to pray fervently this week for guidance and discernment as you approach this decision. Read Acts 6:1-7 and

1 Timothy 3:8-13 to help you in the process. And finally, seek the Holy Spirit’s prompting in your selection.

Luke reminded us about the powerful results of the first deacon election: “*And the word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith*” (Acts 6:7 ESV). What an awesome statement! The choosing of deacons allowed the Kingdom to continue its advancement. Let’s pray that God will use this week’s deacon nomination also to multiply ministry and expand the Gospel’s impact.

I am looking forward to gathering around the Word with you this coming Sunday as we seek Christ, the Healer! As always, I covet your prayers as I prepare His message. I want to ask you to go to God on my behalf and specifically request that He give me sensitivity and clarity as I share.

After we experience the renewal of worship and study Sunday morning, we get to serve our community through *Released* projects and through the “art of neighboring.” Hope you are intentional in participating in that special time! See you Sunday!

FROM THE RECORDS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

Worship Attendance		SS Attendance	
		‘18	‘17
9 a.m. Blended Worship Service	551	Adults	447 442
9 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	118	Singles/Young Adults	119 129
11:15 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	342	College	110 105
The Springs Bible Study	22	Youth	84 82
Combined Morning Total	1033	Children	104 119
5:30 p.m. Home Bible Studies	322	Preschool	95 114
		Local	959 991
		Off Campus	111 93
		Total	1070 1084

Extended Session 10/14/18

9 a.m. Worship—Amy Breaux, Brandi Spurlock, Paige Smith, Rob & Laura Amye Smith, Josh & Lauren Fish, Tonya Duggan, Jennifer Paul, Jennifer & Ainsley Riley

11:15 a.m. Worship—Byron & Cheryl Williams, Judith Roberts, Mitchel & Missy Jones, June & Amanda Meng, Hana Le

From The Minister of Pastoral Care

Dale Oden

Hopefully, fall is arriving soon. Most folks are ready for an end to the ninety plus daytime temperatures. The forty folks that will be leaving on October 19 for the **Celebrators Conference** in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, should encounter some cooler days and nights. Please pray for our group as we travel to participate in this four day conference that will feature some great preaching and music. On our way to the conference we are going “out of the way” to visit the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, North Carolina, and the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina. We will return to Ruston on Friday, October 26.

Next Tuesday, October 16, is the date for our monthly **Senior Adult Luncheon**. Last month’s luncheon had right at 200 folks in attendance. There was lots of delicious food, great fellowship around the tables, and a wonderful program. This month should be a repeat of food, fellowship, and entertainment! Come join us at 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our program for the luncheon will be presented by Jeff Toms, a ventriloquist, from Quitman. He is a very talented individual who is active at Ebenezer Baptist Church. Jeff gave an outstanding program for us about a year and a half ago. I understand that he has some new material and songs.

Reggie and I have been amazed at the response to the “**Footsteps of Paul**” trip in March, 2019. We have 73 folks signed up for this trip! It should be quite an adventure.

The two of us are also making plans to take a group in May of 2020 to Oberammergau, Germany to attend the **Passion Play**. This play is performed every ten years by the townspeople of Oberammergau. It draws millions of people to the performances which are done five days a week over a six month period. I took a group in 2000 and 2010. It is truly a powerful presentation of the last week of our Savior’s life. We hope to have some brochures available in the next few weeks so folks who might be interested can make plans for this trip in 2020.



Church-wide Mission Projects
Sunday, October 14 | 4-6 p.m.
(in lieu of Evening Worship)

We will release as a Sunday School class to serve Lincoln Parish.
If you don't have a project, go to the Boys & Girls Club or D.A. R. T.



the family of John “J.B.” Jenkins,
father of Robbie and grandfather of Jacob.

Celebration Choir will sing in *the gathering*
Sunday, November 11 | 11:15 a.m.



Rehearsals:

Sundays, October 21, 28, and November 4
4:30 p.m. | Choir Room
Sunday, November 11 | 10:45 a.m. | Gathering Space
Open to everyone!
No age limit and no experience necessary!
Contact Jeremy Asher, jeremy@temple.life, 255-3745

Offering Envelopes

This quarter’s Offering Envelopes will be reissued and mailed next week. Due to a software update, some of the previous envelopes were inadvertently modified.

Special Called Business Meeting

Deacon Nomination

Sunday, October 14 | All Morning Worship Services

Christian Community Action’s
“Soup for the Soul”

Tuesday, October 23
11 a.m.-1 p.m. | Ruston Civic Center

Cost: \$10

Tickets are available in the Church Office.
There will be a silent auction at the event.



TEMPLE TECH

TAILGATING | Saturday, October 20

Tailgating at 11:45 a.m. | LA Tech vs. UTEP
2:30 p.m. Kickoff

Tailgating is at the blue and white striped tent on the hill in front of the TAC. Join us for some good food and fellowship.

Menu: Ribs, Brisket, Roll, Corn, Social Bites



Our Newest Membership Candidate:



Gavin Hammons



Monday, October 15 | 6 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$5 at the door

Men of every age and their sons are welcome to join us for a meal, some fellowship, and a special message from the River Dawgs - Jacob Brister and James Davison.

Where Moms Connect: A Time of Encouragement

Monday, October 15, 9:30 a.m., *The Journey Place*
Moms, come and enjoy meaningful conversation, laughter, and friendship!

Evening activities will be canceled on October 31 so that our church family may practice the "art of neighboring."

Marriage Matters Now

Led by Steve and Debbie Willson

Sunday, October 21 | Morning Services & 4 p.m.

Childcare for afternoon session is available by reservation only.

Online sign up at childcare.temple.life

"Prince of Heaven" Christmas Music Program

Rehearsals: Wednesdays | 6:45 p.m. | Choir Room



First on the rehearsal agenda! If you are only singing with the choir for Christmas, you may leave after the Christmas portion.

Program: Sunday, December 16
11 a.m. Combined Worship Service | Sanctuary

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Temple's 2018 Goal = 800 boxes

You may use a regular or plastic shoebox
OR pick up an empty box from *The Journey Place*,
outside Fellowship Hall, or in the gathering foyer.

Deadline to return filled boxes: Sunday, November 11



Men's Fall Bible Study: 33 The Series: Authentic Manhood

6-week study beginning Sunday, October 28
5 p.m. | Room 216

Sign up in Sunday School or call the Church Office

Youth & Recreation Ministry

John Nugent

A Peek Inside Wednesday Night Worship: Do you ever wonder what is happening during our **Wednesday Night Worship**? Well, I'm going to tell you. I love the big windows that allow more people to see that there's something happening in the Youth Room, but you need more than just a passing glance to see just how profoundly God is working in and through the lives of students.

Each week we have around 80 students from grades 7-12 come together for a worship service that is designed specifically for them. We usually start with a game that takes advantage of their energy, competitive spirit, socializing, and desire to be involved. Students don't want to just sit back and listen to a lecture. A well-designed game is crucial in helping students begin to engage with the evening's theme and set up the lesson they are about to hear from God's Word. Then, we have a group of 6-7 students who lead a time of musical worship by singing and playing in our Youth Praise Band. Many of our praise band members rotate from week to week and we have around a dozen students who are currently involved in leading music on Wednesday nights. The praise band is made even better with the students that work in the media booth to make sure that words to the songs are displayed properly and lighting on the platform frames the atmosphere for worship. The media team is trained by Andy Carter and will be ready to serve in our church-wide worship services because of how they have used their talents in our youth services.

Every week we examine God's Word together. I usually take the opportunity to speak to students, but they are also given opportunities to talk through questions and Scripture in smaller groups, pray for one another, and challenge each other. Some of our own students, who feel called to ministry, take advantage of Wednesday Night Worship as their first preaching experience! I'm always humbled by how students crave to hear truth from other students.

Students who come to worship with us are: openly seeking to find out for themselves what they really believe about God and Jesus Christ, doubting what they've been told for many years, firm in their beliefs but need to learn application of God's Word, or followers of Christ who are better disciple makers than most adults I know.

This last school year we had 8 different students make professions of faith in our Youth Room on Wednesday nights. We have students surrender to spend their next summer doing missions in a foreign country. We have students who commit to reaching their friends with the Gospel. We have students who feel left out and find a much needed friend. We have students who learn how to lead others and further develop their spiritual gifts.

You may not always see what's happening with our youth on Wednesday nights, but I promise that God is doing BIG and amazing things every week. Pray for Wednesday Night Worship that even more students will come to experience God and more closely follow Him.

Special Called Business Meeting

Sunday, October 28

All Morning Worship Services

to present an Associate Minister of Music
candidate in view of a call.

An Informational Meeting

will be held Wednesday, October 24

6 p.m. | Fellowship Hall

Meet & Greet

Saturday, October 27

2-3 p.m. | Family Life Center

Bring your family to meet the candidate.

Deacons of the Week—October 14-20

Bill Austin & Matt Barham

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Week-at-a-Glance

South Asia Mission Trip ~ October 12-21

Sunday, October 14

9 a.m. - Blended Worship | Special Called Business Meeting | Deacon
Nominations (Sanctuary); *the gathering* Worship | Special Called Business
Meeting | Deacon Nominations (GS)
10:15 a.m. - Bible Study for all ages
11:15 a.m. - *the gathering* Worship | Special Called Business Meeting | Deacon
Nominations (GS)
3 p.m. - Deacons Meeting with Finance Committee (Rm 76)
4 p.m. - *Released*
6 p.m. - *temple-tech* Sunday Night Supper
7 p.m. - *temple-tech* Volleyball (FLC); Sanctuary Handbell Rehearsal (Rm 213B)

Monday, October 15

9:30 a.m. - Where Moms Connect (JPMR)
6 p.m. - Man Up Monday! (FH)

Tuesday, October 16

9:30 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (Rm 275)
11:45 a.m. - Senior Adult Luncheon (FH)
6 p.m. - The Crossing Bible Study (JPMR)

Wednesday, October 17

9 a.m. - Friendship International (Rm 72 & 76); Quilting/Sewing (FH)
3:45 p.m. - Women's Bible Study (Rm 275)
5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Menu: Breakfast for Dinner;
Cost: \$4/person, \$2/child under 8, \$12 max/family)
5:45 p.m. - Children's M³ (Missions, Music, & More!) (JP)
6 p.m. - Quarterly Business Meeting (FH);
It Starts At Home Bible Study (JPMR);
GROW Visitation - ORANGE TEAM (FH);
Youth Wednesday Night Worship (Youth Rm)
6:45 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm);
Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7 p.m. - CORPS Meeting (Rm 270); Ensembells Rehearsal (Rm 213B);
temple-tech Freshmen Bible Study (Rm 216)
8 p.m. - *temple-tech* Midweek (GS)

Saturday, October 20

11:45 a.m. - *temple-tech* Tailgating (LA TAC)

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)

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