

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

The devoted Quaker, Thomas Kelly, once said, "People nowadays take time far more seriously than eternity." How true! Too often, I find myself more concerned about my responsibilities and time restraints than I do about the actual eternal significance of my life. And I am the preacher!! You would think it would be easy for me to focus entirely upon eternal matters; but like you, I can allow the everyday activities of life to become distractions. Thankfully, the Lord often nudges my thoughts back to His priorities and His plan through His Word. Just recently, He has challenged me to plan intentionally for moments where I stop, pray, and listen. I am becoming increasingly aware of the necessity for Him to work **in** me before He can work **through** me. My hope is that His Spirit will stir in you in a similar way and that you will commit to slip away regularly from the busyness of life and pray (i.e. commune) with the Father. After all, God is not just concerned about the present moment; He is building us for eternity!

I am so grateful that the Lord has allowed me to pursue His eternal agenda with you, my church family. I continue to see Him increasing our unity, fellowship, discipleship, and ministry. Add to those remarkable aspects the overwhelming joy of the Lord, and you can sense an eternal dynamic at play among us. Let me

encourage you to take the opportunities to worship with your faith community on Sunday mornings as we study the Scriptures related to David's life, a life of passion. Also, join us on Sunday nights as we talk about "Real Faith in a Real World." (I'm excited that some of our staff and a couple of our college guys will be tag teaming with me to lead this study!) This Sunday night would be an especially great time to attend since we will have our annual Chili Cook-off. Lastly, I hope you will find a place to make a difference on Wednesday nights. This campus is filled during our midweek services, providing opportunities to connect/worship/serve/study, and you should be a part!

Of course, we shouldn't just come to worship, but we should go to others! And how Temple Baptist Church does that daily! We get the opportunities to share Christ locally and globally. Many interest meetings are taking place for upcoming short-term mission trips, and we would love for you to go with us. Whether Calgary, South Asia, East Asia, South Louisiana, Montana, or other destinations, there is a place you can be used to take the Gospel and to advance the Kingdom. Check out missions.temple.life for more information, or call the Church Office. Looking forward to seeing you Sunday!

FROM THE RECORDS OF FEBRUARY 11, 2018

Worship Attendance		SS Attendance		'18	'17
9 a.m. Blended Worship Service	558	Adults	439	430	
9 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	115	Singles/Young Adults	118	123	
11:15 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	220	College	38	86	
Combined Morning Total	893	Youth	89	75	
6 p.m. Evening Worship Service	183	Children	117	108	
		Preschool	86	103	
		Local	887	925	
		Off Campus	93	103	
		Total	980	1028	

Sunday, February 11, 2018		
	Budget	\$75,674.09
	Share the Light	\$955.00

Extended Session 2/18/18

9 a.m. Worship—Kristie Frasier, Sally Graham, Rene Davidson, Mary Lou, Morgan, & Mary Lindsay Funes, Lauren & Sydney Hull, Jared & Kim Little, Chris & Angie Taylor

11:15 a.m. Worship—Brittany Albritton, Justin & Danyelle O'Neal, Kelly Guerrero, Heather Meek

Youth & Recreation Ministry

John Nugent

This Wednesday, a large portion of our teenagers were involved in a Future Business Leaders of America competition in Monroe. Many of them did very well, qualifying for state competitions and winning recognition and awards. Attending Wednesday Night Worship with our youth group becomes difficult when these teenagers have been gone from 6 a.m. until almost 5 p.m. and when they still need to complete homework assignments for their normal school work. We missed a few students Wednesday night, but I was encouraged by the large number of them who still came to worship with us.

One student took things a little further than just being dedicated enough to still show up after a long, busy day. Instead of seeing a very busy day as something that might get in the way of worship, ministry, and discipleship, he saw it as an opportunity. FBLA competitions involve students from all over the state of Louisiana, many of whom he found out were staying overnight in Ruston after the competition. So, he simply invited many of those students to come to church. We ended up with visitors from Baton Rouge, Zachary, Leesville, Pine Prairie, and Ville Platte. Many of those teenagers have church homes where they are from, but some did not regularly attend church. They came Wednesday and heard about God's love because one of our students saw the opportunity. While many see extra curricular activities as hindrances to coming to church, worship, or ministry, he saw it as an opportunity to invite new friends and even strangers to hear the Gospel and be a part of our youth group family for the night.

How do you view your busy schedule? Does it take your mind away from worship and sharing the Gospel, or do you see it as more opportunities to see people be drawn closer to God?

Senior Adult Luncheon

Tuesday, February 20 | 11:45 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

Bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert.

Music program with Margie Hearn and Barbara Washington

Wednesday, February 21

4-8 p.m.

Rooms 76 & 81

Goal: 15 Units

If we meet our goal, Temple members who need blood will move to the top of the list. Everyone come and give. Let's make and even exceed our goal!



Weekday *Early* Education Ministry

Accepting Fall 2018 applications during February for Temple members and those presently enrolled

REGISTER NOW

Applications available in *The Journey Place*.

For a digital copy, email Gina at gina@temple.life.

Contact: Gina Holstead, 255-9506



WinShape Camps

July 9-13

Completed Grades 1-9

Registration opens March 4

\$184 for the first 150 campers who register

Cost for camp is \$214.



Upward Celebration

Sunday, February 25

6 p.m. Evening Worship | Sanctuary
Fellowship to follow in Fellowship Hall



Can't find your checkbook
or offering envelope?



Online giving is available!

Check out our website: giving.temple.life

Interest Meetings

Montana Mission Trip

Sunday, February 25 | 5:30 p.m. | Room 76

South Louisiana Mission Trip

Sunday, March 18 | 5:15 p.m. | Room 76

More information at missions.temple.life

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

New Pictorial Directory

Photography sessions are to be scheduled online at lifetouch.temple.life.

Appointments are available Tuesday, February 27-Saturday, March 3 and Tuesday, March 13-Saturday, March 17.

You may also contact the Church Office or sign up on Sunday or Wednesday. We want you to be included!

Policy for Announcements

All announcements to be considered for church-wide publications are due in the Church Office by noon on Thursday prior to the week of the next publication.



A Thank You card has been received from...

Tina McCann and the Hood Family; Melba Whitman Family
(Located on the bulletin board in the Library window)

the family of Al Brewer, father of Doug, grandfather of Matthew and Michael; the family of Edroe Pesnell, husband of Shirley; the family of Jonn Bruce, brother of Kimberly Kleinpeter.

From The Minister of Pastoral Care

Dale Oden

There have already been some exciting events here at Temple in February, and the month still has two weeks to go. Over \$20,000 for missions was raised at the Sportsman Missions Banquet. It was a fun evening at the Ruston Civic Center. The banquet that honored our volunteers was also a huge success. Over 250 folks attended that event and were well-fed and honored. I am grateful to all those who serve in various roles here at our church. And there was a lot of laughter thanks to Dr. Dennis Swanberg and his humor. I don't know when I've heard as much laughing from a crowd as I did that evening!

Our monthly **Senior Adult Luncheon** was canceled in January due to the "snow storm" that blanketed our city. We hope to be back on schedule on Tuesday, February 20, for this month's luncheon. Please bring salads, vegetables, and desserts to share. Someone asked me if they could eat twice as much since we missed our luncheon in January! We will start out with the meal at 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Following the meal, we will move to the Sanctuary for a special program. Two of our own very talented ladies, Margie Hearn and Barbara Washington, will be playing the organ and piano for us. There will also be a time for some hymn singing by those in attendance. I hope you will make plans to be here!

It is hard to believe that in less than thirty days, thirty-six folks will be on our way to the **Holy Land**. We began planning this trip in early 2017. Please keep our group in your prayers as we get ready to go and as we travel, March 5-15.

Registration for our fall trip (**October 19-26**) to the **Celebrators Conference in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee**, will begin on April 16. Brochures will be available April 1.

Chili Cook-off & Ice Cream Fellowship



Sunday, February 18,
following 6 p.m. Evening Worship
Bring your chili to Fellowship Hall
prior to Evening Worship.

Deacons of the Week—February 18-24
Donnie Barmore & Bill Belding

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Week-at-a-Glance

February 22-27 ~ Calgary Mission Trip

Sunday, February 18

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)
4 p.m. - Financial Peace University (Rm 216)
4:30 p.m. - Bible Drill (JP); Bible Skills, Drills, & Thrills for Grade 3 Only (JP);
Deacons Meeting (Rm 76)
5 p.m. - Youth Canada Mission Trip Meeting (Youth Room); Calgary Mission Trip Final Meeting (Rm 81)
6 p.m. - Evening Worship | Calgary Mission Trip Commissioning (Chapel)
7 p.m. - Chili Cook-off and Ice Cream Fellowship (FH)

Monday, February 19

5:30 p.m. - Upward Practices (FLC)

Tuesday, February 20

9:30 a.m. - Women's Ministry Bible Study - *Discerning the Voice of God* (Rm 275)
11:45 a.m. - Senior Adult Luncheon (FH)
5:30 p.m. - Upward Practices (FLC)

Wednesday, February 21

9 a.m. - Friendship International (Rm 72); Quilting/Sewing (Rm 81)
12 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)
3:45 p.m. - Women's Ministry Bible Study - *Discerning the Voice of God* (Rm 275)
4 p.m. - Blood Drive (Rm 76 & 81)
5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH); Menu: Chicken Fried Steak; Cost: \$4/person, \$2/child under 8, \$12 max/family
5:45 p.m. - Children's M³ (Missions, Music, & More!) (JP)
6 p.m. - Business Meeting/Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); GROW Visitation - ORANGE TEAM (FH); Youth Wednesday Night Worship (Youth Rm)
6:45 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm); Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary); South Asia Mission Team Meeting (Rm 75)
7 p.m. - CORPS Meeting (Rm 270); Ensembells (Rm 213B); *temple-tech* Freshmen Bible Study (Rm 216)
8 p.m. - *temple-tech* Midweek (GS)

Thursday, February 22

5:30 p.m. - Upward Practices (FLC)

Friday, February 23

6 p.m. - Father/Daughter Banquet (FH); High School Girls Night (Jenna's House); High School Guys Night (Racquetball Rm, Youth Rm)

Saturday, February 24

8 a.m.-5 p.m. - Upward Games (FLC)

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