

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

What is baptism? Baptism is a public declaration of one's faith in Jesus Christ. As such, it signifies that the individual has confessed Jesus as Lord and has submitted to His authority. It is, indeed, a wonderful celebration of salvation, life, and power! In part, because of this, we Baptists practice what we call "believer's baptism". Only those who have willingly and voluntarily surrendered their lives to Christ should be baptized. Such was the pattern of the New Testament church. Baptism was reserved only for those who had expressed faith in Christ!

Why should we baptize/be baptized? We baptize believers because we are commanded to baptize them (Matthew 28:19), and we, ourselves, are baptized because we have been told to submit to baptism (Acts 2:38). As Baptists, we refer to both baptism and the Lord's Supper as "ordinances" or decrees/commands. (Note: We do not call them "sacraments" because that infers that they have some salvific merit in conveying grace to us. Baptism nor the Lord's Supper provide salvation or even sustain salvation. We are saved by our absolute faith in Christ alone!). So, we are baptized as an act of obedience. As many have pointed out, baptism is one of the first acts of discipleship. And as already indicated, we baptize and are baptized to publicly display our commitment to Jesus as Lord. It is our testimony to all that we have chosen to follow Christ. We publicly and visually identify with Jesus (Romans 6:1-11).

How should we baptize? In the New Testament, the Greek word for baptize is baptizo. It means "to plunge, dip, or immerse."

Unfortunately, by the time our first English translation of the Bible was produced, many had embraced various methods of baptism. In fact, the church authorities of the day had allowed and practiced other forms besides immersion. The translators didn't want to offend their leaders (for fear of punishment!); and yet, they wanted to remain true to the text. So, their compromise? They coined a new English word "baptize." Instead of translating the word into "immerse" or "plunge," they simply transliterated the Greek word. Interesting, huh? We place people all the way under the water (We dunk them!) because we believe that is what the first century church did. Believers were immersed, and they came up out of the water (cf. Jesus' baptism in Mark 1:10). And what a picture! There is no better representation of the Gospel than baptism by immersion. When people are placed all the way under the water and brought up out of it, witnesses can observe the "death, burial, and resurrection." Every time we baptize someone, we declare the Gospel of Christ! And for the ones being baptized, they declare the Gospel's impact upon their lives. Yes, they were dead in their sins, but now they live through Jesus!

Why this brief expose on baptism? Because we are going to be able to celebrate several baptisms over the next few weeks! How blessed we are! And I want you to ponder these thoughts as we see each declaration. We are in the midst of some great days of the Lord's movement! Let's be faithful to rejoice together in worship! See you Sunday!

FROM THE RECORDS OF JULY 22, 2018

Worship Attendance		SS Attendance		'18	'17
9 a.m. Blended Worship Service	476	Adults	397	447	
9 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	130	Singles/Young Adults	117	115	
11:15 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	197	College	25	25	
Combined Morning Total	803	Youth	86	89	
		Children	95	125	
		Preschool	111	97	
		Local	831	898	
6 p.m. Evening Worship Service	130	Off Campus	108	93	
		Total	939	991	

Sunday, July 22, 2018



Budget

\$30,685.00

Share the Light

\$195.00

Extended Session 7/29/18

9 a.m. Worship—Faith Alexander, Memrie Lolley, Suzanne Tyler, Amanda Barham, Teena & Sarah Doxey, Susan Rasbury, Suzette Stroud, Carmen & Katie Echols, Doc & Brooke Hoefler

11:15 a.m. Worship—Lynne Pippen, Sherry McConathy, Anne Thompson, Leslie Bridges, Seth & Julie Riser

Neighbors and Nations

Ben Jernigan

Opportunity. We walked a dirt road. We were at twelve thousand feet above sea level. The mountains were covered with grass, and sprinkled with wildflowers. Not a tree in a couple hours drive. Destination? A Mongolian yurt.

Upon arrival, our team quickly filled the yurt to its capacity as we sat on stools and the grass floor, careful not to sit too close to the stove in the center of the 70-year-old tent. Hot yak milk tea was served. Cuts of yak meat were removed from a sack, diced and dropped into the hot oil. Vegetables followed, as the noodles came to a boil. More dried yak dung was added to the stove to fuel the flames. We are not in Kansas any more and far, far from the land of red and blue Bulldogs and fresh peaches.

As we enjoyed our special meal, I observed the opportunity the Lord had given us. We shared a meal. We shared the Gospel with a Mongolian family who only spoke Tibetan. This was the first opportunity they had ever had to hear about Jesus. And thanks to the national believers that were with us, it won't be the last.

How did this happen? After a long domestic flight to a major city in the western part of the country, the only place the foreigners were allowed to purchase a bus ticket to was the intended destination of this team Opportunity. Near the end of this 5-hour bus ride, a team member took the opportunity to speak to a young boy on the bus which led to the above invitation and opportunity for Gospel ministry. Two faithful college students from Ruston, 4 faithful Chinese believers, a college student from Ohio, and two other TBC members seized the opportunity to serve Jesus on this trip. It was no accident, no coincidence, but a part of His plan!

What opportunities has God put in front of you today to serve Him? What opportunities has God put in front of you in this coming year, in this coming season of your life to serve Him and share the hope of Jesus Christ with the world? Let's be faithful to walk in them. He is worth it! Matthew 10:38-39, "And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

For more TBC missions stories, read our blog at tbconmission.wordpress.com and follow us on Instagram at [temple.go](https://www.instagram.com/temple.go)

Launch Training for Mission Teams

This is a mandatory training for
all first-time international team members.

Sunday, August 5 | 4:45 p.m. | Room 81

OR

Wednesday, August 15 | 6:45 p.m. | Room 81

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

The Journey Place indoor playscape

will be closed Friday, July 27,
and Thursday, August 9, for cleaning.

Congratulations!

*Sally Hearn for 15 years
of service at Temple.*

Sugar for CCA

Local Mission Opportunity

We are now responsible for **75 bags**
of sugar each month.



**IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A MEMORIAL
OR HONORARIUM DONATION AT
ANYTIME, GREEN ENVELOPES ARE
LOCATED AROUND THE CHURCH.**

Our Newest Membership Candidates:



Annaliese Doss



Preston Robertson



Toby & Jacqueline
Hammons
Garrett Spearman

(also pictured: Gavin Hammons)



the family of Vera "Evalena" Moreland,
sister of Hollie Holland; the family of
Eolian Walker; the family of Mary Solomon,
grandmother of Suzette Stroud; the family of Harold
Atkins, husband of Norma and father of Carla Colvin.



Missions, Music, and More!

Teachers and Helpers are needed!!!

Leadership Meeting: Wednesday, August 8 | 5:15 p.m.

The Journey Place Multipurpose Room

Kick-off: Wednesday, August 15 | 5:45 p.m.

The Journey Place Multipurpose Room

Classes begin: Wednesday, August 22 | 5:45 p.m.

The Journey Place

*Contact: Missions - Sally Hearn, sally@temple.life,
or Music - Jeremy Asher, jeremy@temple.life, 255-3745*

Senior Adult Summer Bible Study

Sunday, August 19 | 6 p.m. | Chapel

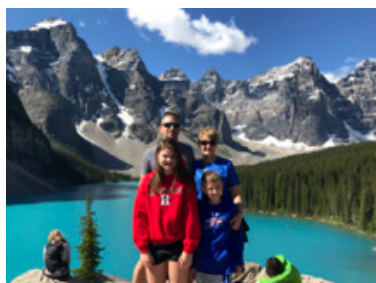
Monday-Wednesday, August 20-22
9:30 a.m. | Chapel

Dr. Argile Smith: Teaching the book of 1 Peter

Everyone is invited to attend.

YOUNG ADULT News

Jason Walsworth



We are fresh off the Family Mission Trip to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and we had a great trip serving one of our partners, Multiply Church, last week. There were a total of 20 Temple members who went with us. I am so thankful for each of them and the way they served. This picture is from the top of the pile of rocks at Moraine Lake, which is near Lake Louise. Our family went a few days early to enjoy some of God's creation and have a little fun hiking and white water rafting. The real work began on Sunday as we helped Multiply Church set up for worship early that morning at the Landmark Theatre in Shawnessy. We had a great day of worship, and I met 3 guests that morning. An immigrant family from Iran had fled from persecution. They had become Christians, and told Chris Flora, the pastor, they wanted to become members of the church. That was exciting! Another lady showed up and brought food even though she was a first-time guest!

We had a busy week of Soccer Camps in the mornings and afternoons in the Sundance and Midnapore communities. On Thursday night, we hosted a Block Party in the Sundance community and had well over 100 people attend, many of whom were not connected to the church at all. We also got to meet up with all four of our college students who are in Calgary this summer with the GenSend program through NAMB. Pray for them as they finish up this week and come home. Also, continue to pray for Multiply Church. They are hosting 9 more camps this week and block parties. Pray for the Lord to continue to build their church as they reach out to these new people and their neighbors. The Lord is at work there, and we are glad to be a partner of Multiply Church. If we send another team next year, I hope you and your family will join us on mission in Canada. To God be the Glory!

Back-to-School Supplies

We are collecting school supplies for needy students. Please look for item list at supplies.temple.life or around the Church.



Collection Ends Sunday, July 29

Baskets will be located at each entrance.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please note "School Supplies" on your check or envelope.

Deacons of the Week— July 29-August 4
Mickey Slaughter & Matt Woodard

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Label here

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

Week-at-a-Glance

School Supply Collection ~ Ends July 29

Tiny Trekker Summer Adventure Camp ~ July 30-August 2

Sunday, July 29

9 a.m. - Blended Worship | Baptism (Sanctuary);
the gathering Worship (GS)
10:15 a.m. - Bible Study for all ages
11:15 a.m. - *the gathering* Worship (GS)
6 p.m. - Evening Worship Service (Chapel)

Tuesday, July 31

11:45 a.m. - Jr. High Lunch with John and Game Time (FLC)

Wednesday, August 1

9 a.m. - Quilting/Sewing (FH)
5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Menu: Sausage and Shrimp Pasta;
Cost: \$4/person, \$2/child under 8, \$12 max/family)
6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH);
GROW Visitation - GREEN TEAM (FH);
temple-tech Summer Bible Study (Rm 76);
Youth Wednesday Night Worship (Youth Rm)
7 p.m. - CORPS Meeting (Rm 270)

Thursday, August 2

11:45 a.m. - Sr. High Lunch with John and Game Time (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