

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

"The Art of Neighboring." In today's culture, it can be difficult to know our neighbors in real and meaningful ways. Between the ever-increasing responsibilities of our jobs and the hectic schedules of our kids/grandkids, we just don't seem to have the time to build community relationships. And unfortunately, that lack of relational connection inhibits our ministry and witness. Significantly in times past, we welcomed our neighbors with some cookies, or maybe even a lemon ice box pie. I believe a simple invitation to dinner or even the provision of a casserole during bereaved moments spoke volumes. You see, we knew what neighboring was; now, we simply need to rediscover it. That can happen as we intentionally seek to be a neighbor. And remember, the art of neighboring is a Gospel issue! The most effective way to share the Gospel is through relationships . . . and the more relationships you develop, the greater your testimony/ministry impact!

I am grateful for a community of faith who is committed to this God-sized agenda and for my fellow leadership (staff, deacons, etc.) who daily help communicate the vision. I was especially blessed to see over 450 folks somehow involved in our *Art of Neighboring* study last Sunday night, and I pray that you will consider being a part of one of our on-campus/off-campus groups this coming Sunday. And of course, my prayer priority


is that we would activate that neighboring lifestyle throughout the week!

Also, I ask you to consider your financial support for the missionary endeavor here in the state of Louisiana. Through the collection of what we call the Georgia Barnette State Missions Offering, we support church planting/compassion ministries/disaster relief/etc. throughout our own state. The Georgia Barnette resources can even touch our local communities. For example, some of these funds assisted the expansion of Bethlehem Hispanic Mission in Vienna a couple of years ago. Many of you remember that we helped this Hispanic mission get its start right here in the Temple Chapel. Now, they have assumed the facilities at Vienna Baptist Church (which disbanded), and their fellowship continues to grow! And as I mentioned recently, Louisiana Baptist leadership has indicated that some of these funds will assist us as the work at The Springs moves forward. In other words, we will see what Georgia Barnette can do right here! Through the resources of local churches and the Georgia Barnette offering, we will continue to see God's work accomplished among the nations . . . even when the nations have arrived in our backyard! To date, we have collected approximately \$16,000 of our \$27,000 goal for Georgia. Please consider your contribution to this worthy effort!

I look forward to beginning a new sermon series on the life of Jesus this Sunday! See you then!

FROM THE RECORDS OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

Worship Attendance		SS Attendance		'18	'17
9 a.m. Blended Worship Service	594	Adults	446	412	
9 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	132	Singles/Young Adults	130	141	
11:15 a.m. <i>the gathering</i> Worship Service	353	College	128	124	
The Springs Bible Study	14	Youth	97	89	
Combined Morning Total	1093	Children	116	123	
5:30 p.m. Home Bible Studies	458	Preschool	111	110	
		Local	1028	999	
		Off Campus	93	93	
		Total	1121	1092	

Sunday, September 16, 2018		
	Budget	\$61,900.47
	Share the Light	\$1,850.00
	Georgia Barnette (YTD)	\$17,191.08

Extended Session 9/23/18	
9 a.m. Worship	Bobby & Karen Sanders, Sam & Kelly Hodge, Bill & Laura Davis, Taylor Davis, Brandon & Jordan Hearn, Justin & Elyse Mills, Jody & Emily Adams, Sara Moore
11:15 a.m. Worship	Lisa Barr, Kelsey Whitlock, Anne Thompson, Daniel & Amanda Reynolds, Ann Marie Queen, Heather Meek

College Connection

Casey Casady

TECH IS UNDEFEATED! As I write this article LA TECH is undefeated in football. We have even beaten the legendary team from Baton Rouge. This coming weekend we have an opportunity to extend our UNDEFEATED SEASON battling another instate foe from Baton Rouge. Tech is going strong both on the field and off the field. We have had two great Sundays in the College Ministry and are excited about this year.

One of the biggest areas of growth in the College Ministry is our student-led Bible studies. These are called Challenge Groups. Would you please pray for the leaders listed below as they teach, reach, and encourage their fellow bulldogs. These groups meet each week in one of our church members homes for prayer, study, and community building. Place these names in your Bible or wherever you meet God daily to spend time with Him and lift the students by name to the Lord. Thank you in advance for your prayers.

Tanner Spence and Jackie Widder
Jacob Brister and Stephen Kessler
Andrew Ebeyer and Casey Staller
Aldin Brady and Mikey Dickson
Connor Scott and Lauren Fletcher

Nathan Naranjo and Ashley Swofford
Riley Robertson and Jaina Robinson
Conner Thompson and Gracie Maxwell
Connor Gibbon and Laura McFatter

Adopt-A-School Program

Volunteers needed for a variety of projects including: visits with the students to the nursing home, providing snacks and treats for teachers and students, assisting with Teacher Appreciation Week, "The Lending Library," as well as other projects.

Contact Sally Hearn, sally@temple.life, 255-3745

IN-HOME BIBLE STUDY

The Art of
Neighboring

Sunday Evenings
Through October 7
5:30 p.m.

In select locations by Sunday School classes
or in the Chapel.

SUNDAY NIGHT SUPPER (FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS)

Sundays | 6 p.m.

(2 host homes still needed for fall quarter!)

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Casey or Emma in the Family Life Center Office, 255-6184.

Several options: Host Home only,
Host for Food only, or Host Home and Food



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



Thank you for your generosity during our Blood Drive. We had an all-time high number of 23 units of blood. You are the best!

Sugar for CCA

Local Mission Opportunity

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



Our Newest Membership Candidates:



Frank, Erin,
Logan and Connor
Johnson

Congratulations to:

Walter & Caryl Scriber on the birth of their grandson, Spencer
Everett Hock. Proud great-grandparents are Allen & Sue Lee.



**6-week Bible Study
on Parenting**

Learn to confidently teach your kids about God.

Wednesdays through October 17 | 6-7 p.m.
The Journey Place Multipurpose Room

Contact: *Sally Hearn, sally@temple.life;*
Jessica Williams, jessica@temple.life; or
Jason Walsworth, jason@temple.life, 255-3745

**MARRIAGE MATTERS NOW
CONFERENCE**

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

*Led by Steve and
Debbie Wilson*



Church-wide Mission Projects
Sunday, October 14 | 4-6 p.m.

We will be released into action to serve Lincoln
Parish in various ways: visit people and sing
in local nursing homes; visit and serve widows;
bless the city of Ruston and others through
acts of service.

A Thank You card has been received from...

Fred & Vickie Benefield

(Located on the bulletin board in the Library window)

MUSIC MINISTRY

Jeremy Asher

With our Fall Choir Retreat this past Tuesday, the Temple Music Ministry has officially begun the Christmas rehearsal season. The music program this year is called "Prince of Heaven," and has many Christmas carol arrangements, as well as newly written songs to celebrate the birth of our Savior. In years past, we have presented the songs in a somewhat compartmentalized manner, with our Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra presenting most of the songs, and *the gathering* band, Celebration Choir, and temple-tech Choir singing a few songs. This year will be different and, I pray, better. We are asking all the singers to sing the whole program. I believe the music will not only encourage your heart, but will inspire worship of Jesus Christ!

Choir rehearsals are not auditioned and open to anyone junior high school and above. All you need to bring is a heart for worship and the voice with which God blessed you. (I promise you He loves to hear you sing!) We meet on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m. in the Choir Room (and will rehearse Christmas music first). If you are interested in playing in the Orchestra, please contact Jeremy (jeremy@temple.life) to schedule an audition. I am so excited about this fall and the here-too-quickly Christmas season. Come be a part of our worship ministry this Christmas!



Label here

Week of Prayer for Louisiana State Missions

September 16-23

Deacons of the Week—September 23-29
Ronnie Ainsworth & Charlie Alexander

Week-at-a-Glance

Week of Prayer for LA Missions, Georgia Barnette Offering ~ September 16-23

Sunday, September 23

- 9 a.m. - Blended Worship | Lord's Supper (Sanctuary);
the gathering Worship | Lord's Supper (GS)
- 10:15 a.m. - Bible Study for all ages
- 11:15 a.m. - *the gathering* Worship | Lord's Supper (GS);
- 5:30 p.m. - In-Home Bible Studies (Chapel & Select Homes)
- 6 p.m. - *temple-tech* Sunday Night Supper
- 7 p.m. - *temple-tech* Volleyball (FLC);
Sanctuary Handbell Rehearsal (Rm 213B)

Tuesday, September 25

- 9:30 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (Rm 275)

Wednesday, September 26

- 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: Philly Steak Sandwiches;
Cost: \$4/person, \$2/child under 8, \$12 max/family)
- 5:45 p.m. - Children's M³ (Missions, Music, & More!) (JP)
- 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH);
It Starts At Home Bible Study (JPMR);
GROW Visitation - WHITE TEAM (FH);
Youth Wednesday Night Worship (Youth Rm)
- 6:45 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)
- 7 p.m. - CORPS Meeting (Rm 270);
Ensembell Rehearsal (Rm 213B);
temple-tech Freshmen Bible Study (Rm 216)
- 8 p.m. - *temple-tech* Midweek (GS)

Vision:

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

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)