

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

I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD . . . Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage (Psalm 27:13-14 NASB).

There are some days when even ministers are given to despair. Days when we seek to encourage those facing physical difficulties, assist those encountering family strife, and comfort those sorrowing from death's effects. Recently, such moments surrounded me, and I found myself in despair's grip. It was then that my thoughts turned back to a daily devotion that God has used in my life before. The Scripture upon which it focused? You guessed it: Psalm 27:13-14. Listen to the following excerpt from the devotion:

Do not despair! Oh, how great the temptation is to despair at times! Our soul becomes depressed and disheartened, and our faith staggers under severe trials and testing that come into our lives, especially during times of bereavement and suffering. We may come to the place where we say 'I cannot bear this any longer. I am close to despair under these circumstances God has allowed. He tells me not to despair, but what am I supposed to do when I am at this point?' . . . Once you have come close to the point of despair, God's message is not, 'Be strong and courageous' (Joshua 1:6), for He knows that your strength and courage have run away. Instead, He says sweetly, 'Be still, and know that I am God' (Psalm 46:10). . . . That is all God

asks of you as His dear child. When you become weak through the fierce fires of affliction, do not try to 'be strong.' Just 'be still, and know that [He is] God.'" And know that He will sustain you and bring you through the fire. . . . Be strong and take heart (Taken from *Streams in the Desert*, 188-189).

When I read these words, it appeared as if God had known exactly what I was going through and that He had spoken directly to me. And then reality set in. The Lord DID know what I was experiencing, and He WAS sending me a message! He was instructing me to stop and take strength in Him.

Often, that is all we can do. Instead of struggling against the circumstances of the day, we simply rest ourselves in Christ and allow Him to refresh us. His presence reenergizes us to emerge the next day with a renewed commitment to His Kingdom. In addition, we look forward to better days ahead. We realize that the moment of crisis is temporary as we are confident that God has something much greater prepared for us believers. No need to despair! Just look ahead! And join the Psalmist's proclamation: *I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD!*

My friends, I look forward to seeing you Sunday (don't forget to set your clock back one hour) as we collectively recognize the goodness of the Lord! My prayer is that He will encourage strength and boldness in us as we rest in Him! See you then!

MUSIC MINISTRY

Jeremy Asher

*"But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.
For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress."*

(Psalm 59:16, ESV)

It is such a joy to be back at Temple following my Covid journey! Please forgive me if I have expressed that too much, but I must say again, my heart is full of gratitude! The Lord provided healing, yes; but He also sent me encouragement from so many of you through cards, texts, meals, and, most importantly, your prayers. God is so good, and He is faithful through every storm. That is my testimony! The Scripture above has recently become a focal point in my life and ministry. When we consider what the Lord has done through Jesus Christ and through the blessings we experience in life, one cannot help but to respond with gratitude to the Lord. As a worship leader, I love that the psalmist says that he will "sing aloud" of the Lord's steadfast love. His response to the work of God was to sing, and to sing loudly! Consider what the Lord has done in your life. I pray that even during the week that you will sing aloud and proclaim the Lord's goodness and love. Let's be faithful to continue to pray for those still in the midst of health battles and loss.

Operation Christmas Child

Goal: 600 boxes

You may use a regular or plastic shoebox OR pick up an empty box from *The Journey Place*, Gathering Space foyer, or outside Fellowship Hall or call *The Journey Place Office* (255-3745).



Deadline to return boxes is Sunday, November 15.

UPWARD
SPORTS

Basketball & Cheerleading!

Early Registration: November 1-22

Boys & Girls in Grades 1-6 ~ Cost: \$75

(\$85 from November 22-29)

Register online at upward.temple.life

Brochures located around the church

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

Evaluations: November 30 & December 1 | 4:30-7:30 p.m.
in the Family Life Center

Contact: Family Life Center (255-6184)
or Emma at emma@temple.life



Christmas Poinsettias

in memory or honor of loved ones
for display in the Sanctuary and Gathering Space

\$12/poinsettia - Payment is due at the time of reservation.
Red reservation envelopes are available throughout the church.

Reservation deadline: Monday, November 30



Family Ornament Party "To Go"

Registration will be online at op.temple.life.

Ornament supplies and instructions
will be bagged for pick up to do at home.

Registration Deadline: Monday, November 30

**Party Bag Pick Up: Thursday, December 3
5-7 p.m. | The Journey Place Parking Lot**

Christian Community Action Food Distribution VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

October 31 | Temple's Parking Lot (Outside Event)

Time Slots: 9-11:30 a.m. and/or 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
(You may select one or both time slots.)

CCA will distribute 1,000 boxes of food!

Contact: George in the Church Office or george@temple.life

2020 Deacon Nominees (10 to be selected)	
Curtis Barham	Fred Benefield
Mike Collie	Bill Cox
Robert Davis	Jim Davison
Terry Ewing	Kip Franklin
Paul Frazier	Gray Hipp
Richard Hood	Greg McCarter
Randy McWhorter	Graham Morris
Patrick Patton	Cullen Simmons
Leon Stamm	Brad Waller
Mike Walpole	Brandon Williams
Vote is Sunday, November 8	

Budget Proposal Discussion
 Wednesday, November 4 | 6 p.m. | Sanctuary
Special Called (Annual) Business Meeting
Sunday, November 8, during all services
 for the purpose of
 2021 Budget Approval and Election of Deacons



the family of **Chase Frasier**, father of Lillie, son of Shannon and Kristie Frasier, brother of Tanner (Lexi), and grandson of Gloria Frasier; the family of **Donnie Barmore**, brother of Mike Barmore.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are in memory of Buddy Nelson, given by Myra Nelson.

Youth Ministry

John Nugent

Get to Know Generation Z

Gen Z is the newest generation to be named. They were born between 1997 and 2012/15. They are currently between 8-23 years old (nearly 68 million in U.S.)

Here are some fun facts to keep in mind when thinking about our current youth and Generation Z:

- They have never been a part of a world without the internet.
- The average age for receiving their first cell phone is 10.6 years of age.
- They navigate multiple screens (phones, computer, television, and more) simultaneously.
- With the growing diversity of our United States population, this will be the last majority white (52%) generation. Diversity is their normal. 22% of Generation Z have at least one immigrant parent.
- They are less likely to smoke, drink alcohol, and use illegal drugs than previous generations.
- Even with all the ways they connect virtually, they are lonely. There has been an increase every year in depression and anxiety in high school students since 2012.
- 68% say they feel overwhelmed by the things they feel they need to do each week.
- 72% of older Generation Z students say they want to start their own business.
- Personalization of products and individualized marketing is normal to them and expected by them.

Here are some particularly interesting facts to me as a youth minister:

- In 1966, 6.6% of college freshmen did not identify with any religion. In 2019, over 30% did not claim any religious affiliation.
- 80% say they believe in a “God or universal spirit.”
- They are the least likely generation to tune in to a virtual worship service.

What this means is that they want to believe in something, but they don’t know what to believe. They don’t want another person on a screen telling them what to believe; they want a personal conversation about it. This is a generation that is starving for genuine friends and genuine conversation about real issues like what they believe.

I’m excited that I get to minister to this generation! I’m excited to see so many of our youth bringing friends to church and a large number of our youth engaging their friends in conversations about the gospel. If you think this younger generation is hopeless, you’re wrong. They’re poised for a great revival. Pray that they see genuine examples of what it means to follow Jesus. Pray that God will show them what a personal relationship with Him is really all about.

How can we help? Our staff is here to serve. You can contact them by calling the Church Office (255-3745)!

We are navigating unprecedented times, but we believe our God is still in control and can use us to share the Gospel in creative and powerful ways!

Church family, we LOVE you and are here to serve you!

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LUKE 5:17

THE TIDINGS (USPS #020005), Published Weekly except Christmas by:
Temple Baptist Church, Periodical Postage Paid, Ruston, LA 71270
Postmaster send address changes to:
Temple Baptist Church, 1515 South Service Road West, Ruston, LA 71270

Label here

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

Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, November 1

9 a.m. - Blended Worship | Baptism (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life (Blended Worship); *the gathering* Worship (GS);
Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. - *the gathering* Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life (*the gathering* Worship); Sunday School for all ages
5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (Outside at The Springs)

Tuesday, November 3

10 a.m. - Senior Adult Bible Study (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, November 4

5:45 p.m. - Children's M³ (Missions) (JP); Junior High Worship (Youth Rm)
6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study | Budget Proposal (Sanctuary);
livestream at live.temple.life; Women's Bible Study (Rm 261);
The Springs Bible Study (Springs Sanctuary); livestream at live.thesprings.life (The Springs Worship); Financial Peace University (Rm 275)
6:30 p.m. - Temple College Freshman Bible Study (GS)
7 p.m. - Senior High Worship (Youth Rm)
8 p.m. - Temple College MidWeek (Sanctuary)

Thursday, November 5

2 p.m. - GriefShare (Rm 76)

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

Broadcast Hours: Sundays: 9 a.m. Channel 11 (KAQY); 9 and 10:30 a.m. livestream (live.temple.life)