

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

It is a simple, but powerful prayer: "Let me hear Your lovingkindness in the morning; For I trust in You. Teach me the way in which I should walk; For to You I lift up my soul" (Psalm 143:8 NASB). The Psalmist pleads for God's compassionate voice to speak words of wisdom and truth so that he can walk in the correct, appropriate way. Have you ever offered a petition like that? Maybe you framed it a little differently, but the essence was the same: "God, I need to hear from you. You have always been there for me, and I know you are there still. But speak, Lord, so I can hear clearly. I need to know which way to go. I want to make a decision pleasing to you and right for me. Here I am, God. Show me your will." If you are like me, that prayer has frequented your lips . . . especially over the last few months. Whether it was offered in the context of restructuring your business or caring for a sick family member, you have asked for help from the Lord each morning. Maybe you sought the Lord's wisdom in how to respond to the challenging, cultural experiences we are facing. Or perhaps you offered a prayer because you just needed guidance on whether or not to leave the house! I know I find myself daily asking for His knowledge and direction!

Admittedly, I have also been known to pray for God to return some normalcy to our lives, specifically as it relates to our church activities. Yet, I am well aware that "normalcy" is still some time away. Even the Governor's extension of Phase 2 serves as a reminder that we will be working through this recovery for months ahead. That is why we must collectively pray for the Lord to give us insight into the resumption of activities and schedules at the church. We must also ask Him to help us be creative in reaching out to our church and community members.

This past week has highlighted fresh, new opportunities for us to be the church where we are. Through Staycation Bible School, we were able to take the love of Jesus to children right in our neighborhoods. At my house, we hosted ten children! We played games, did crafts (which require a Ph.D. in craftology!), and enjoyed some awesome refreshments (Goldfish, popsicles, cheese puffs, etc). Most importantly, we shared the Bible stories of Jesus' life, work, death, and resurrection. We emphasized how Christ is the true foundation of our lives, and we encouraged the children to trust in Jesus alone. Oh, and by the way, six of the ten children who were at our house do not attend Temple! You see, God can work in different ways to show His love even in the midst of different, and even difficult, days! (We'll see that in our patriotic celebration on July 4, but I'll tell you more about that next week).

Every week, we see both of our Sunday morning and Wednesday night attendance growing. We also see how God is reviving ministries and work around us. For that I am thankful! The past few months have seemed like we are in the middle of a physical and spiritual storm; and, most likely, you have heard me use the terminology of "navigating" these troublesome waters. Speaking of the church, someone once observed: "This is a big old ship. She creaks, she rocks, she rolls, and at times, she makes you want to throw up. But she gets where she's going. Always has, always will, until the end of time." No doubt, my friends! We have heard some creaks lately. We have experienced the rocking of the waves. But we will get where we are going! How do I know? Because we have the Captain of captains navigating our ship, and He will see us into port! Until then, may we rise each morning with the prayer, "Let me hear Your lovingkindness . . . teach me the way." See you Sunday on campus or online!

YOUNG ADULT News

Jacob Ambrose

If you are in your 20's-30's, we would love for you to join us for **Young Adult Worship!** This summer we are meeting every other Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Chapel. We are going through the book of Ecclesiastes and identifying different vapors in our lives: the things we grasp for, but ultimately leave us empty. The remaining meeting dates are 6/30, 7/14, 7/28, and 8/11. This is a great way to build community with other young adults in our area! Due to continued restrictions from COVID, we are unable to offer childcare at this time.

It's almost time to start talking about Baby Steps, envelopes, and crushing debt again. What could all of that have in common? **Financial Peace University**, of course! The next semester of FPU will start on Wednesday, August 26, and will last until Wednesday, October 28. The class will start at 5:45 p.m. and meet in Room 275. More info about FPU, including cost for the class, can be found on our class website at <https://fpu.com/1118675>. No matter what stage of life you are in, the biblical concepts taught in this class can help you pay off debt, build wealth, and give generously! If you haven't gone through FPU yet, we hope you will join us this fall. You can stay updated on both of these events, as well as other discipleship opportunities for young adults, by visiting ya.temple.life.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Check out our ministry adjustments/trips/plans at www.templebestudents.org

Lunch with John

Tuesdays ~ Junior High Students

Thursdays ~ High School Students

Bring your own lunch

Eat at noon and play games until 2 p.m.



LOUISIANA BAPTIST
Children's Home
& FAMILY MINISTRIES

"You're changing their stories..."

It's not too late to give to our Children's Home Offering!

Ways to give: online, mail/dropoff, or in person

LoveLincoln Freedom Fest

23rd Annual Celebration

Saturday, July 4

Temple Baptist Church

A pre-recorded, music program will be livestreamed online at live.temple.life and on the radio 94.1 FM on Saturday, July 4, at 8:30 p.m. The fireworks will follow that night around 9 p.m. at Temple with patriotic music being played on 94.1 FM. You can find more information at patriotic.temple.life.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are
in memory of Georgia Myers and Teresa Riley,
given by the church family.

17th Annual Beach Retreat ~ August 13-17 Panama City Beach, Florida

For all college students!

Details available at beach.templecollege.life

Contact Casey at casey@temple.life
to help financially.

If you have not heard, Temple Tech will now be called **Temple College** in hopes of reaching students not only at Louisiana Tech but also Grambling and Delta. To make room for our new Temple College shirts, we are selling the last remaining Temple Tech shirts for **\$5** in the FLC Office. Stop by today and grab your Temple Tech shirt before they are gone!

The Springs' Newest Membership Candidates



Mark and Julie
Russell

Congratulations to:

Drew and Haley Scriber Hock on the birth of their daughter, **Sarah Collins Hock**. Proud brother is Spencer, grandparents are Walter and Caryl Scriber, and great-grandparents are Allen and Sue Lee; Scott and Marla Smith on the birth of their daughter, **Landry Kate Smith**. Proud brother is Cannon, grandparents are Dan and Edna Smith.

WAYS TO GIVE
IN PERSON ONLINE AND TEXT

CHURCH OFFICE: Mail or Dropoff
ONLINE: giving.temple.life
TEXTING: Text any amount to 84321 to give



the family of **Robert "Freddie" Smart**, grandfather of Josh Fish; the family of **Olive Ann Willis**, sisiter of Sandra Williamson.

From the Associate Minister of Music Zach Husser

Happy June everyone! We still miss seeing many of you at the church, but hopefully the Lord will make a way for us all to be reunited soon.

I love leading worship. Truly, it gives me so much joy to have the opportunity to lead God's people in praise each week. I grew up with a great number of musical styles and influences, so I really appreciate the fact that we have such a diverse worship culture here at Temple. With that being said, there is a concern I have with my generation's worship style (millennial generation). Many people in my generation place such a high emphasis on worship production quality that simpler styles of worship might seem "empty" to them.

So, when I was asked to lead our Young Adult Worship with just an acoustic guitar and piano, I wondered if people would think the worship felt "empty." We met in the Chapel, the lights were up, there were two instruments, and everyone could hear each other's voices. I'm happy to say that it was an amazing time of worship! We offered up praise in response to who God is and were encouraged by the agreeing voices of God's people. That's true worship!

Ultimately, I am extremely thankful that we are a church that strives for excellence in music and production. Any tool we can use to help people engage with God is a tool worth trying! However, I was encouraged to see my generation thrive in engaging with God using a more simple style of music and production. Tactics we use to facilitate worship are not worship. The posture of our heart toward God and others is worship.

I know many of you still are not able to come back to church and worship with the grand sound of the choir and orchestra. So, whether it be with a piano or singing along to a pre-recorded track, I'm praying that you are able to have some simple, sweet moments of worship in the meantime.

Praying everyone stays safe in the midst of odd times this summer!

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!

5:17 PRAYER
LUKE 5:17

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Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, June 28

9 a.m. - Blended Worship (Sanctuary);
livestream at live.temple.life (Blended Worship);
the gathering Worship (GS)
10:30 a.m. - *the gathering* Worship (GS);
livestream at live.temple.life (*the gathering* Worship)

Wednesday, July 1

6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (Sanctuary),
livestream at live.temple.life

The Church Office is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, but we encourage you to come to the office only if it is completely necessary. To stay within the guidelines given by the CDC and our government leaders, more information about our ReGathering efforts can be found at update.temple.life

Broadcast Hours: Sundays: 9 a.m. Channel 11 (KAQY); 9:30 a.m. 94.1FM (KRLQ); 9 and 10:30 a.m. livestream (live.temple.life)

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