

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

While the official start of autumn is a couple of weeks away, fall has already made an early appearance in Ruston. Sure, the reprieve from the summer heat is one indicator that a new season is upon us, but the busy university campuses are an even greater sign that fall is here. No doubt, you have probably already noticed the increased population/traffic in Ruston as Louisiana Tech begins a new fall quarter. (NOTE: For your own safety, you might want to avoid downtown until these new students figure out the one-way streets!) It is hard to believe that the campus has been largely quiet since March, and how grateful I am that students are returning! And while the quarter will clearly look different, new opportunities for ministry and growth still abound. Let me encourage you to be faithful in both your prayers and your efforts as it relates to our College Ministry. Pray for the students, the professors, the administrators, and the support personnel. Pray for physical safety, mental determination, and spiritual growth. Pray for Tech, Grambling, and Delta. And then use this season to declare Jesus in both word and deed. This is perhaps our greatest hour of ministry toward college students; let's meet it with the courage and resolve of Christ Himself!

In addition, this is the season when we are challenged to support with our finances the missionary endeavor here in the state of Louisiana. Each year, we support gospel efforts and ministries throughout our own state by collecting what we call the Georgia Barnette State Missions Offering. And how our Louisiana brothers and sisters need our love and compassion! Of course, many of our fellow believers in South Louisiana continue to struggle with the aftermath of Hurricane Laura. Specifically, areas like Lake Charles, DeRidder, and Cameron have been especially devastated. Through our collective giving, Louisiana Baptists have already responded to the crisis, and we will continue to

assist in the effort. You see, the Georgia Barnette Offering provides the primary stream of revenue for such disaster relief response. Your past giving is being used now to provide meals, chainsaw teams, etc. (And of course, we should also show our ongoing appreciation to Rolling Hills for how they join with Louisiana Baptists to deploy personnel, feeding units, etc.!) So, thank you, Temple! You are touching lives right now in South Louisiana because you gave generously to the state offering in 2019.

The Georgia Barnette resources are also touching our local communities. For example, funds were disbursed to local associations earlier in the year to help churches confront the COVID-19 difficulties. Our association has appropriated the funds accordingly. And of course, we personally know how the Georgia Barnette monies assist in planting and replanting gospel fellowships because we have seen those resources applied to The Springs. Thanks to the state missions offering, we were able to make considerable improvements to The Springs' facilities and provide a context to ministry. Already, we have seen how the Lord can utilize The Springs to extend the Gospel in great times and in perilous times. Even the recent hurricane response proved how valuable The Springs is as a ministry point for our Lord! I encourage you to check out the Georgia Barnette Prayer Guide this week, and you will note how The Springs is highlighted on Day 7. Praise God for the great things He has done and that He will do in that ministry!

My friends, I write this to remind you that we must continue to support our Georgia Barnette State Missions Offering. Our church goal this year is \$28,000. As we face a time of great need, I pray we would step up and multiply our contributions as we reach Louisiana with the love and work of Christ! See you Sunday!

The Journey Place

Tiny Trekkers & Summit Kids

Sally Hearn

Smiling faces, laughter, playing, Bible learning, singing, and so much more! It is wonderful to see these sights and hear these sounds as our children have returned to *The Journey Place*. Sunday School is in full swing, Wednesday night activities have begun, and our *WEEK*day Ministry is soaring! We are so glad to be back! Pray for our teachers and our children as we travel on our journey this year.

Fall Food Roundup is underway for the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home. Items may be dropped off in your Sunday School class. If you have not returned to church yet but would like to participate, you may drop off in the basket outside *The Journey Place* entrance. Deadline is Sunday, September 20.

Join us for **M³ Missions** on Wednesdays from 5:45-6:45 p.m. in *The Journey Place*.

Have you picked up your new **Worship Guide** to use during corporate worship time? If not, stop by the Kids Zone outside the Sanctuary or the Gathering Space foyer and pick up one. Remember, if you forget to bring your guide, there are copies of the weekly guide available at the Kids Zone as well. If you have not returned for corporate worship but are joining us online, let us know and we can get a guide to you to use at home.

Temple's Newest Membership Candidates



Kevin and
Ashley Turner



FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Wednesdays ~ September 16-November 18

5:45-7 p.m., Room 275

Register at fpu.temple.life

YOUNG ADULT WORSHIP

Every other Tuesday
beginning September 15

7 p.m., Chapel

For ANY young adult
in their 20s-30s

Childcare Reservation
at events.temple.life



Georgia Barnette
STATE MISSIONS OFFERING

The Right Time

—WEEK OF PRAYER—
September 13-20, 2020

2 CORINTHIANS 6:2 NLT
Indeed, the "right time" is now.

GeorgiaBarnette.org

STATE GOAL:

\$1,700,000

CHURCH GOAL:

\$28,000

LOUISIANA BAPTISTS

A Thank you card has been received from...
Ronnie Cole & Family; Garner & Nancy Nunez
(Located on the bulletin board in the Library window)



the family of **Bennie Mobley**,
brother of Larry Mobley; **Lillie Mae
Ledet**, grandmother of Kristen
(Mattieu) Bissell; **Ruth Carter**, mother
of Bruce Carter; **Donna Gail Peters**,
sister of Terri Lynn Johnson; **Ella Mae Bailey**
grandmother of Gail (Gene) VanDenLangenberg.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are in
memory of Merry Woodard, Ronda Dugan,
Irene Garland, Jean Cole, Betty Ray given
by the Church family.

Congratulations to:
Linda Echols on the birth of great-granddaughter,
Harley May Allen.

2020 Fall Food POUNDUP

Louisiana Baptist Children's Home
& Family Ministries

September 6-September 20

*Collection baskets will be
located at the church entrances
Much needed items are listed below.*

Cereal (Children's Brands)	Fruit (Canned)
Oatmeal (Instant)	Jell-O (Pie Filling/ Pudding)
Bottled Juice (Orange/Apple Grape/ Fruit Punch)	Pam Cooking Spray
Cleaning Supplies & Disinfectant Spray	Cooking Oil & Crisco Shortening
Paper Towels	Pickles & Relish (Dill & Sweet)
Dishwasher Detergent	Salad Dressing (Ranch/Italian/ 1000 Island)
Laundry Detergent (HE-Liquid)	Spaghetti Sauce
Dryer Sheets	Potatoes (Boxed & Instant)

Education & Administration News

Jason Walsworth

Grace and Peace to you. I am writing you on Tuesday morning, and I say that to you because grace and peace is what I need today! If I need it, maybe you do as well. How thankful we are to serve a Lord whose mercies are new every morning. He is always faithful! Lately, it has seemed as though we have taken one step forward and two steps back; and that has been frustrating for sure. We finally get church open and begin to build back up then a month ago cases spiked again in our state and things slowed back down. Just a few weeks ago we celebrated *The Journey Place* reopening, and we had most of our Sunday School classes back on campus which allowed some of you to return for the first time. Then a hurricane wiped us out for a week, and we had to start over again. Up and down, one step forward two steps back, or so it seems. We are going to keep walking though and remain faithful in spite of the challenges, the setbacks, and the frustrations. That is all we can do-keep pressing toward the goal as Paul reminds us in Philippians 3:14-
"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

On the good news front, we just finished our first Senior Adult Bible Study in the Sanctuary, and 47 of you were in attendance. We were so excited to see some of you for the first time in a long time. We want to provide a safe place for you to get out and among a smaller group that will make you feel more safe and comfortable. Everyone was wearing a mask, and the morning went very well. Thanks, Bro. Dale, for filling in. Dr. Turner, who had to attend the opening Faculty Meeting at Tech, will be with us next week. I hope to see many of you again as well.

It has been a fast and furious time since the hurricane hit our area. Our Chainsaw Crews have been out working with Rolling Hills. I am thankful for them and for Ben helping organize and lead those efforts in our community. I went out with them several days, and it was hard, hot work. Many of the jobs were not small jobs either. In most yards, the largest and oldest trees were taken down on power lines, across roads, and on houses. The Lord was watching over us, and no one got hurt doing the work! We were able to help many Temple members and others in our community with no affiliation to our church. I think all of the priority jobs have been completed, and I want to say thanks to those of you who volunteered and helped with the outreach and clean up. You were a bright spot among the storm and the mess it left behind. Several of our members and families work for Entergy or the city. They worked long and hard to restore power and water to our communities, and we are more thankful than ever for you. See you soon and keep pressing on!

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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17 AY
ER

LUKE 5:17

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Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, September 13

- 9 a.m. - Blended Worship (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. - *Undivided* Study (Railroad Park)

Tuesday, September 15

- 10 a.m. - Senior Adult Bible Study (Sanctuary)
- 7 p.m. - Young Adult Worship (Chapel)

Wednesday, September 16

- 5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$4/person, \$2/child under 8, \$12 max/family; Menu: Lasanga; Chicken Nuggets)
- 5:45 p.m. - Junior High Worship (Youth Rm);
Children's M³ (Missions) (JP); Financial Peace
University (Rm 275); Women's Bible Study (Rm 261);
Men's Bible Study (Rm 49); The Springs Bible Study
(Springs Sanctuary) livestream at
live.thesprings.life (The Springs Worship)
- 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (Sanctuary);
livestream at live.temple.life
- 6:30 p.m. - Temple College Freshman Bible Study (GS)
- 6:45 p.m. - Puerto Rico Mission Team
Interest Meeting (Rm 76)
- 7 p.m. - Senior High Worship (Youth Rm)
- 8 p.m. - Temple College MidWeek (Sanctuary)

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)