



temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

We now refer to them as “The Seven,” a group of men who stepped up to serve the early church at a critical moment. Remember the story from Acts 6? As the number of believers grew, so did its needs. Unfortunately, some congregants (i.e. Hellenistic Jews) felt that their widows were being neglected in the midst of the growth. The solution? The Seven! The forerunners of deacons! These men were selected by the people to wait the tables of Grecian widows and minister to their needs. Through their service, the fellowship of the church was protected, and the ministry was furthered. Perhaps that is why my friend, Jim Futral, designated The Seven as “Problem-Solving Helpers.”

I am especially grateful for those brothers I call deacons here at Temple Baptist Church. They understand that initial responsibility of the deacon—to keep the fellowship of the church through service and ministry. For the past few years, I have served with some of the most solid, selfless deacons I have ever encountered. **And as we look at the next couple of weeks, we have an opportunity to nominate ten more such individuals to the Deacons Council.** I ask you to pray fervently this week for guidance and discernment as you approach this decision. Read Acts 6:1-7 and 1 Timothy 3:8-13. Consider the qualities that should define a deacon. Look across the congregation for men that embody such characteristics. And finally, seek the Holy Spirit’s prompting in your selection. **Remember that we will take nominations through Sunday, September 26, so please turn your ballot in as soon as possible.** Your vote truly matters!

Luke reminded us about the powerful results of the first deacon election: “And the word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith” (Acts 6:7 ESV). What an

awesome statement! The choosing of deacons allowed the kingdom to continue its advancement during uncertain times. Let’s pray that God will use this deacon nomination also to multiply ministry and expand the Gospel’s impact.

Also, I hope that you will join with us as we make a kingdom difference by supporting the Georgia Barnette State Missions Offering. The resources that come through this offering fund compassion ministries, church plants, and even disaster relief here in our own state of Louisiana. And what need we see! Thanks to your consistent giving, Baptists continue to respond to the ministry opportunities in South Louisiana even now. Feeding units, chaplains, and other assistance have been deployed. Of course, there is still much work to be done. During a time when many of our churches in South Louisiana will be limited in their giving to this offering, I pray we would step up and multiply our contributions to our state missions! To date, we have given approximately \$11,000 toward our \$30,000 goal, but I am convinced we are going to surpass our target.

“Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves a person who gives cheerfully. And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others” (2 Corinthians 9:6-8 NLT). Paul’s admonition to the Corinthian church still rings true today. As God witnesses His people giving joyfully, He not only meets their needs, but He also provides resources for them to share with others. How we at Temple can testify to that truth! The more we are able to give toward missions and ministry, the greater the blessings we see! Let’s be faithful and generous! See you Sunday!

Youth Ministry

John Nugent

Have you ever thanked God that you were not forced to be a teenager in today's world? Think about all the different challenges that this generation of teenagers face with what is so easily accessible on technology and the deterioration of Biblical morals. The whole idea of family seems to have made a drastic shift, and immoral decisions are championed as heroic. I feel like teenagers are constantly surrounded by temptation and things that make it very difficult to live boldly for God's glory. It's easy to feel sorry for them because they grow up in a world that is so different and not what it used to be.

I'd like to challenge you to do something different than feel sorry for them. Let's not only pray for them, but let's train them and challenge them. Why? God has created each one of them without coincidence and for this exact moment in time. It's no accident that God has put them in the exact circumstances that surround them, and He's done so on purpose.

Just like God put Esther in her circumstances "for such a time as this" and called Paul knowing that he could be bold with the Gospel in the face of persecution, God has these teenagers exactly where and when He wants them.

It's easy to see them as young people that need to be guarded and protected. It seems good to try and make everything as easy as possible for them; but it may be better to teach them, challenge them, and show them how to face the circumstances around them in God's power. Instead of modeling a fear of the world, let's show them how our faith in God and knowledge that He's in control truly makes a difference. Let's train them up to know the real authority of God's Word. Let's send them out empowered and ready to see God work in them and through them to make a difference in this world like only He can.

If you're a parent of a teenager, remember the privilege you have in raising up the generation that is facing the biggest challenges that we've ever seen – not to be fearful, but to go out into the world and live boldly for God and see Him change the world by using them!

I don't believe that God is wondering what to do with this crazy mess that the world has become. I believe He's raising up teenagers that He will use to do miraculous things.



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Our Newest Member Candidates



Ryder Walpole
(Beach Retreat)



Reese Breaux
(10:30 a.m. Gathering)



Callen Breaux
(10:30 a.m. Gathering)



LORD'S SUPPER

REMEMBERING HIS SACRIFICE
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26



A thank you card has been received from...

Jerry and Pam Owen

(Located on the bulletin board in the Library window)



the family of **Mildred Fountain**, grandmother of Bob (Jill) Myers, great-grandmother of Kate, James, and Will; the family of **Larnell Fuller**, grandmother of Lauren (Logan) Blackwell, Anna (AJ) Barbiero, and Graham (Morgan) Fuller, great-grandmother of Bentley Balckwell, Bobbi Anne and Braxon Fuller; and the family of **L.D. McCallum**, father of Janie (Ronnie) Ainsworth.

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



MUSIC MINISTRY

Jeremy Asher

Christmas is Coming! Hello, Temple family! God is so good! I am so excited to see the Lord moving in the hearts of those who have recently come to faith in Him. And for those of us who have known and followed Jesus for many years, I pray that He will work within us to renew our love for Him and our commitment to follow Him with undivided hearts.

As for our music ministry, I am so thankful to have our orchestra playing and leading on Sundays once again. But I have some exciting news: **our Sanctuary choir is restarting in October!** For those who are willing, we will begin **rehearsals on Wednesday, October 6, at 6:45 p.m.** Guess what else? Christmas is coming! Here is what you need to know. We will have our Christmas music launch on the first night of rehearsals (Wednesday, October 6). All are welcome! No singing experience necessary. All we ask is that you bring a joyful heart and a willing voice, and are eager to sing about Jesus, His coming, and His continued work in our lives. We are singing some wonderful Christmas songs that will be familiar to you, as well as some new Christmas songs that artfully tell about the Savior who came to seek and save the lost. Please join us this season. I encourage you to jump in at the start! I hope to see you soon!



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Week-at-a-Glance

September 12-19 - Week of Prayer for State Missions - Georgia Barnette Offering

September 24-25 - Women's Conference (North Little Rock)

Sunday, September 19

9 a.m. - Blended Worship; 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
 2 p.m. - Deacons Meeting (Chapel)
 5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (The Springs)

Monday, September 20

9:30 a.m. - Moms Connect (JPMR)

Tuesday, September 21

11:45 a.m. - Senior Adult Luncheon (FH)

Wednesday, September 22

5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$4/person, \$2/child under 8, \$12 max/family; Grilled Chicken Breast);
 5:45 p.m. - Junior High Worship (YR); Children's M³ (Music, Missions, & More) (JP)
 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); Men's Bible Study (Rm 256); Women's Bible Study (Rm 252); *Ready to Launch* - Parenting Bible Study (Chapel)
 6:45 p.m. - Temple College Freshmen Bible Study (Rm 216)
 7 p.m. - High School Worship (YR)
 8 p.m. - Temple College MidWeek (Sanctuary)

Thursday, September 23

4 p.m. - GriefShare (Rm 216)

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

Family Life Center Hours: Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Journey Place Playscape Hours: Monday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday 2:30-4 p.m.

