



temple  
BAPTIST CHURCH

# TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

## *The Pastor's Perspective*

Dr. Reggie Bridges

In his *The 5 Levels of Leadership*, John Maxwell relates a story from the American author, Mark Twain. As Twain was giving a speech on honesty, he recounted his own experience: “When I was a boy, I was walking along a street and happened to spy a cart full of watermelons. I was fond of watermelon, so I sneaked quietly on the cart and snatched one. Then I ran into a nearby alley and sank my teeth into the melon. No sooner had I done so, however, than a strange feeling came over me. Without a moment’s hesitation, I made my decision. I walked back to the cart, replaced the melon— and took a ripe one.” Not quite the resounding example of character you expected from such a speech, huh? Or perhaps you did assume such mischievousness from Twain? Well, at least he admitted his impropriety before the audience and “fessed” up to the truth.

At times, maybe we can be like Twain. We do have “strange feelings” that overwhelm us when we mess up; but too often, it might be because we chose the unripe watermelon rather than the ripe one. It is not because we are penetrated by the Holy Spirit’s conviction; but rather, because we are dissatisfied with the scheme’s results. Instead of determining a new course of obedience, we simply return to retrieve the ripe watermelon.

**Integrity, truthfulness, and honesty.** These virtues ought to mark the lives of Jesus’ followers. From our marriages to our other family relationships to our business agreements to our community involvement, we should display the highest character. Indeed, all people need to know that they can rely on the veracity of our word as we go about our daily lives. For example, if you can’t trust me *out* of the pulpit, how can you find confidence in the

eternal principles I expound *in* the pulpit? “Certainly, you as a preacher should be trustworthy,” you respond, “but we are not preachers!” My friends, every believer in Jesus Christ is an ambassador of the King, and as such, should reflect Him and His character. **Jesus is Truth. He the True One. And if you are a part of Him, then you are to speak truth in every area of your life.**

Thankfully, the Holy Spirit gives us power to demonstrate this reality. Through His strength, you and I can let our “Yes” be “Yes” and our “No” be “No.” And when we do fail in this effort, I am grateful for the Lord’s grace to forgive us, restore us, and reenergize us to new commitment. In other words, I recognize how dependent upon Him I am to live in the truth daily.

Over the past few Sunday mornings, I have tackled some challenging subjects. Why? Because Jesus addressed those issues! Sometimes, we want to skip over certain passages that make us uncomfortable; and yet if we do, we miss out on the fullness of His intention for our lives. Again, His truth permeates our souls so that we can live most effectively for Him and in Him. **We must declare the “whole counsel of God,” or you might say “the entire truth,” in order for us to grow into the full image of Christ.** Thank you, Temple family, for the liberty to share His Word each week.

I hope you will join us this coming Sunday morning as we worship and study together. I’ll bring a message entitled, “Slapped, Sued, yet Surrendered,” from Matthew 5:38-42. We’ll also celebrate another baptism, and we’ll have time to connect in small groups through Sunday School. It is going to be an awesome day! See you then!

# Youth Ministry

## John Nugent

I love summers. I love summers because of what I get to see in Youth Ministry. While many people don't have a positive outlook on teenagers, what I get to see is something very encouraging. **I see servants.** I see lots of teenagers with true servant hearts that are living definitions of servant leadership.

It's always amazing to see how our youth step up to help lead through their service. **VBS** is a showcase for teenagers that serve and want to be involved in ministering to others. More recently, **Winshape Camps** came and many of our high school students served in big ways. I personally got to see some sharing the gospel with campers during the week and had other adult leaders telling stories about how intentional our youth were during the week to show God's love and boldly tell children about the gospel. **Mission trips** are also extremely encouraging. I love seeing youth get out of their comfort zones and do acts of service that stretch that comfort zone a little bigger. Mission trips let them exercise some spiritual muscles that aren't always on display. I'm yet to take a mission trip with teenagers and not have adults comment on how impressed they've been by students.

I think one major reason that our youth are so impressive is because of the way that our adult volunteers and adult leaders model servant leadership. We have some absolutely spectacular adults who teach Sunday School and chaperone trips who are true ministers. I'm extremely thankful for the leadership with whom God has blessed our Youth Ministry. They have developed a culture of solid servant leadership that is contagious for our youth and also fun!

This has been a great summer and the beginning of school is just around the corner. Join me in praying for our teenagers as they begin to shift back into school mode. Pray with me that they will continue to be bold with the Gospel, will lead each other through service, and will continue to be used by God in miraculous ways.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL PROMOTION**  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 7  
PROMOTING OUR STUDENT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AND CREATING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ADULTS TO START AND JOIN NEW CLASSES.  
LEARN MORE AT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](https://events.temple.life)



Temple Baptist Church  
**School of Ministry & Missions**  
Fall Classes are Listed!  
APPLICATIONS DUE AUGUST 15  
LEARN MORE AT [SCHOOL.TEMPLE.LIFE](https://school.temple.life)



**Educator's Recognition**  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 7



TEMPLE COLLEGE MINISTRY  
**BEACH RETREAT 2022**  
AUGUST 18-22  
INCOMING COLLEGE FRESHMEN,  
MEET AND CONNECT WITH OTHER STUDENTS  
AND A LOCAL CHURCH!  
LEARN MORE AT [BEACH.TEMPLECOLLEGE.LIFE](https://beach.templecollege.life)

**SENIOR  
ADULT  
BIBLE STUDY**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 | 6 P.M.  
MONDAY, AUGUST 15 – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17 | 9:30 A.M.

LEARN MORE AT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](https://events.temple.life)

Welcome to the Family!




Ryan, Laura Roberson  
(Statement)  
Ava Roberson (Baptism)

Adeline Reed  
(Baptism)



*Jeremy Asher for 10 years  
of service at Temple.*

STRATEGIC PLANNING  
**COMMITTEE REPORT**

TIME OF DISCUSSION  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17 | 6 P.M. | THE CHAPEL

SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING FOR VOTE  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24 | 6 P.M. | FELLOWSHIP HALL

FIND MORE INFORMATION AT [THEPLAN.TEMPLE.LIFE](https://theplan.temple.life)



**BLOOD  
DRIVE**

AUGUST 14 | 11:30 A.M - 5 P.M.  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](https://events.temple.life)



the family of **Beth Purvis**,  
sister of Bill (Laura) Davis.

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**MUSIC MINISTRY**  
*Jeremy Asher*

Temple family, thank you for your ministry to my family during this season of grief. The meals, cards, prayers, and words of encouragement have helped us in the days and weeks since Catherine's mom died. Thank you for your ministry to our family in such a tangible way. Please continue to pray for Daniel Huey and his daughter, Faith, as they both continue to heal physically and emotionally. We are grateful that the Lord will never leave us nor forsake us, and He has walked closely with both of our families through these losses.

Our Worship Ministry is back in full swing after a short break following the patriotic program. Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra are leading again in the loft, and I am so thrilled to have you all back! Choir rehearsals have resumed on Wednesdays from 6:45 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Choir Room. (Please check the Church Calendar for Orchestra rehearsals.) As always, I am grateful for the worshipers whom God has called to lead on platform with me each week, and encourage each of you to pray about joining with us. It won't be long before we will begin looking at Christmas music, and we hope to build momentum in the fall through the Christmas season. Always remember that God is real, He is working, and He is worthy to be praised! God bless you, and I hope to see you in worship soon.

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BAPTIST CHURCH

# COUNSELING CENTER

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

## Week-at-a-Glance

July 1-31 - Christmas in July

August 2-4 - Tiny Trekkers Summer Camp

August 4-6 - Men's Retreat

### Sunday, July 31

9 a.m. - Blended Worship | Baptism (Sanctuary); livestream at [live.temple.life](http://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](http://live.temple.life)  
(*the gathering* Worship); Sunday School for all ages

5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (The Springs); Church Plant Interest Home  
Group (Ambrose Home)

### Monday, August 1

5 p.m. - Rolling Hills Disaster Relief (Rm 216)

### Tuesday, August 2

5:30 p.m. - Welcome 6<sup>th</sup> Graders (Youth Rm)

### Wednesday, August 3

5 p.m. - Temple College Summer Bible Study (FLC)

5:30 p.m. - South Asia Advocacy Prayer Time (Rm 72)

5:45 p.m. - Junior High Worship (Youth Rm)

6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting | Bible Study (Chapel)

6:45 p.m. - New Orleans Mission Trip Meeting (Rm 76); Orchestra  
Rehearsal (Sanctuary); Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)

7 p.m. - High School Worship (Youth Room); YA Ladies Bible Study (Rm 252)

### Thursday, August 4

5 p.m. - Senior Adult Game Night (FLC)

### Saturday, August 6

10 a.m. - Back-to-School Block Party with Zion Traveler (Mayfield Park)

# BACK TO SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY

WITH ZION TRAVELER

AUGUST 6 | 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

MORE INFO AT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](http://EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE)

## CHRISTMAS in July

FRIDAY, JULY 1 - SUNDAY, JULY 31

TAKE AN ORNAMENT, PURCHASE THE GIFT LISTED,  
AND RETURN BOTH TO ONE OF OUR  
CHRISTMAS IN JULY COLLECTION POINTS.

LEARN MORE AT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](http://EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE)

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