



temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

“Never hire a pastor who has taken Greek or who has been to the Holy Land. Otherwise, all you will ever hear about is Greek and the Holy Land!” she advised. Perhaps no truer words have ever been spoken than those of Dr. Betty Hearn, the former chair of the English Department at Blue Mountain College. And you probably realize that! However, you made the mistake, and now, you must live with it! (Well, I pray that you will keep me around!)

The past two weeks did remind me why a Christian pilgrimage to the Holy Land is so meaningful. Whether I was on a boat in the Sea of Galilee or worshipping in the Garden Tomb area, the Lord renewed me spiritually. As I pointed out in last week’s article, the trip helped me see the biblical narrative in color once again. For example, Peter’s confession that Jesus is “the Christ, the Son of the living God” echoed across my heart as I stood at Caesarea Philippi and beheld the rocky terrain around me. Once again, the reality that Jesus was building His church upon the rock (i.e., the confession of Christ’s identity) came alive as did His proclamation that the gates of hell (or even the pagan underworld) could not prevail against His people. When I stood upon the Temple Mount, I reflected upon how God’s presence, the Holy of Holies, had dwelt there; and of course, I was troubled by the mosque that stood in its place. Yet, I was reminded how awesome it is that the Holy of Holies dwells in each believer as the Spirit has taken up residence within us. I don’t have to make trips to the Temple to have a limited encounter with God; rather, God made a trip to us so that we can know Him personally and powerfully every day!

I was especially impacted as our group was led through the Garden Tomb by our local guide, Steve Ellis. Steve

was saved and baptized at Temple Baptist Church in Ruston, Louisiana, back in the ‘60s! Think of that! God orchestrated our schedules in such a way that one of our own celebrated the gospel together with us in Jerusalem. (By the way, Steve still has many connections with us as his sister, Stacie Jimerson, and his cousins, Mary Bass and Mike Barmore, are members here still.)

You see, my time away was significant. Sure, there were moments when I felt like I was running in the footsteps of Jesus instead of walking in them! But each step helped me walk closer to Him in relationship! We prayed together, we studied together, we sang together, and we laughed together. Some of us even visited a Baptist prayer center that you support through Cooperative Program and Lottie Moon giving!

As we move toward Easter, I am grateful that our gospel is rooted in history and exemplified in experience. Jesus was a real human and walked upon the real land. He died on a real cross and rose from a real tomb. He is really alive, and He does really change lives still! I pray you are preparing yourself to experience that reality over the next few days and weeks. Join us next week for our Holy Week Bible Study as we gather at lunch to focus our minds on Christ. Invite people to come and be a part of our Easter services and activities. Give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering as we try to advance the good news of Jesus across North America. (We have collected roughly \$33,000 of our \$85,000 goal.) In other words, let’s live out the power of the resurrection as we celebrate, as we go, and as we give! Proud to be home with you, my faith family! See you Sunday for a powerful day of worship!

Youth Ministry

John Nugent

Thank You! This summer we will send out around 90 teenagers on summer mission trips! Our Junior High students are going to serve in New Orleans with MissionLab of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and our High School students will serve with four different North American Mission Board church plants in Miami, Florida. I love that our church has such a big emphasis on missions, and I love that our Youth Ministry is a big part of what our church gets to do all over North America!

We just completed our one big fundraiser with our Chicken Dinner Lunch and were able to raise almost \$6,000 to help students go on our summer mission trips! Thank you so much for helping students and families as they prepare for how God will work in and through them in New Orleans and Miami!

Big thanks to Mike Brister and his team for all their work in cooking, working, and problem solving! It's always amazing to have them helping us out!

God has been moving lately in very big ways in our Youth Ministry. We got to celebrate baptism with three of our youth a couple weeks ago, and we're seeing more and more new students come to our worship services on Wednesday nights. We've also had some great numbers in Sunday School, and we're seeing some new families visiting and joining! Please continue to pray for us and pray specifically for visiting students coming on Wednesdays that they will stick and get plugged into small groups on Sunday mornings.



the family of **Timothy Reddick, Sr.**,
father of Donte (Capri) Reddick,
grandfather of Jayden and Paityn;

the family of **Roland Ryan**,
father of Tara (Galen, III),
grandfather of Galen, IV and Ben.

A thank you card has been received from...
Gloria Gullatt and family
(Located on the bulletin board in the Library window)



Myrtle King Lunch Bunch
Thursday, April 13 | 12 p.m. | Fellowship Hall
Bring a sandwich. Speaker: Anna Asher, Puerto Rico
Project: Life Choices - #4 diapers and Aveno Body Wash

Welcome to the Family!



John & Marisa Gleason
(also pictured Emerson)
(Letters)



Clay & Taylor Branton
(also pictured Brooks)
(Letter | Statement)



Pam Williams
(Baptism)



Cory, Jennie, &
Eden Dawsey
(Letters)



Caleb & Kiley Cummings
(also pictured William,
Eleanor, Levi)
(Letters)

HOLY WEEK
BIBLE STUDY

APRIL 3-5

JOIN US HOLY WEEK FOR A BIBLE STUDY DURING A LIGHT LUNCH ON MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AS WE PREPARE FOR EASTER!

Learn more at events.temple.life

VBS 2023
JUNE 5 - 9 | 9 A.M. - 12 P.M.

TWISTS & TURNS

Spin the spinner, beat the clock, skip ahead, level up, and play to win! You'll need to bring your A game for this VBS.

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

FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES THE GAME PSALM 25:4

Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering[®]
FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

Current Donations:
\$33,534.31

Our Goal:
\$85,000

WinShape Camps
for Communities

July 10-14
At Temple Baptist Church

Come be a part of an incredible adventure as we combine sports, recreation, arts, Bible study and worship into one amazing week.

Find more info, at winshape.temple.life

MINISTER OF WORSHIP

Jeremy Asher

We are just a few weeks away from one of my favorite Sundays of the year – **Resurrection Sunday!** For several weeks, our Worship Ministry has been working on music for this season, and I am so thankful to share these songs with all of you. When we think about what the Lord has done through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, we simply should not withhold our gratitude and thanks. God is worthy of all praise! Jesus lives! And by His grace, we are alive in Him!

Another important worship opportunity we will have as a church is our **"Night of Worship"** on **Sunday, April 30.** The combined worship ministry choirs and orchestra will lead in worship, and we hope you will join us that evening. I would love to have a full choir loft, so please let me know if you would like to get the music early and sing with us. You can email me at jeremy@temple.life, or call Cindy in the Church Office at 318-255-3745. God bless you all this week!

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Website: temple.life

Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, April 2 (Palm Sunday)

9 a.m. - Blended Worship | Lord's Supper (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life;
Contemporary Worship | Lord's Supper (*Gathering Space*); Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship | Lord's Supper (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life;
Sunday School for all ages
2:30 p.m. - District Bible Drill (FBC Houghton)
5 p.m. - The Springs Worship | Lord's Supper (The Springs)

Monday, April 3

12 p.m. - Holy Week Bible Study and Lunch (FH)

Tuesday, April 4

12 p.m. - Holy Week Bible Study and Lunch (FH)

Wednesday, April 5

12 p.m. - Holy Week Bible Study and Lunch (FH)
5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8, \$15 max/family;
Menu: Dog Night)
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 (FH); Children's M³ (JP);
Women's Bible Study - Anxious (Rm 252)
6:45 p.m. - Temple College Freshman Bible Study (Rm 216)
7 p.m. - High School Worship (Youth Rm); Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm);
Orchestra Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
8 p.m. - Temple College Midweek (Chapel)

Thursday, April 6

2 p.m. - GriefShare (Rm 216)
5 p.m. - Senior Adult Game Night (FLC Snack Area);
7 p.m. - Grades 3-5 Easter Egg Hunt (Barr's Home)

Friday, April 7

Church Offices Closed - Good Friday
10 a.m. - Babies - Grade 2 Easter Egg Hunt (Lincoln Parish Park, Pavillion L4)



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.