



temple  
BAPTIST CHURCH

# TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

## *The Pastor's Perspective*

Dr. Reggie Bridges

Every now and then, I read my own Tidings articles . . . again! Maybe I find inspiration? Perhaps, information? Or it might be I forgot what I said and want to reread it! In any case, I stumbled upon an article that I shared at the beginning of 2025. As you might imagine, the subject matter clearly focused on seasons of transition:

For us at Temple, I believe we entering into such a time. As you all know, the next few months will see us spread out all over the campus as significant areas of our building are renovated. We are beginning the Next Chapter together! We are transitioning to another century of God's mission at Temple. And while I believe worship and ministry will continue, I am keenly aware that the temporary displacement and schedule disruption may prompt a measure of anxiety and uncertainty among us. Yet, I have faith that this season will bring blessing. Why such confidence? Because the God Who has worked in us before will do it again! He is the same God! And He is just as powerful as ever!

When I penned those words, we were "entering" a moment of transition—a time of extensive campus renovation. And yes, I expressed great confidence that the Lord would see us through. Such faith has continued to sustain me over the past few months as we have met at multiple times in various places. But may I be honest with you? (I know, I know! I am "supposed" to be honest!) I had a few occasions where I was concerned about how the ministry, the discipleship, and the mission would continue through this transitional phase. But you know what? God has exceeded every expectation I had.

During this renovation period, we have seen continued growth in our regular Sunday morning worship attendance; we have continued to baptize new believers; we have disciplined more individuals through Sunday School, D-Groups, retreats, etc.; and, we have sent more out on missions for the glory of God. It has been an incredible time of ministry expansion! Moreover, a great spirit of unity, love, and commitment has overshadowed our congregation. You, my brothers and sisters, have stepped up to serve in so

many areas. You have walked extra steps (literally!) without complaint. You have been right there with us through it all. To me, it as though history repeated itself. Remember Mrs. Ree Pearce's words as she reflected upon the Sanctuary Renovation in the 1960s? She determined:

During this period of transition from the Sunday School Bible study lessons at the church to the worship services at Howard Auditorium on Louisiana Tech University campus, it was a matter of deep concern and apprehension on the part of the members because of the shift in locations. However, to the gratification of the members, there seemed to prevail a keener sense of dedication to God and loyalty to responsibility on the part of each individual, resulting in a kindred spirit of unity and love beyond expectation. Many comments have been made concerning the closeness felt and the meaningful, worshipful experiences of those days in the Tech building.

Loyalty! Kindred spirit! Love! Closeness! Meaningful! What terms to describe the season! **My simple prayer at the beginning of this year was "God, do it again." And my friends, did He ever do it again—and then some!** Whether it was the intimacy of smaller gatherings on Sunday mornings or the tremendous crowd for Easter@TheTAC, the Lord has granted us special, powerful opportunities to meet with Him and with our faith family. My prayer is that we recount this season to future generations in the years to come, and hopefully, echo Mrs. Ree's sentiments that it was meaningful and worshipful.

We are so close to completing the renovation project. Yes, we might even get it done before Jesus returns! Thank you for your work to make this happen. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this effort. Thank you for the overwhelmingly positive attitude that you have modeled the past few months. Thank you for being Temple! But remember, the mission is still ongoing! Let's continue to be faithful in our worship, our fellowship, our giving, and our going. Let's prepare ourselves for the Next Chapter as we pray our story will be for His glory! See you Sunday!

# ***Executive Pastor***

***Jason Walsworth***

Praise the Lord - we are closing in on completion of our renovations! Monday afternoon the Fire Marshal gave us permission to occupy the renovated spaces. Just as soon as the work is completed, we will be able to move back into the Sanctuary! Stay tuned for an announcement about that soon. I can't wait for everyone to see it and for us to be able to worship together in this space. It all looks so good, and our time back to normal is getting close. We have new flooring all around the first floor of the building. Our Sanctuary Foyer looks brand new after some cosmetic updates there. In the Sanctuary, every surface has been painted or updated with new carpet, pews, etc. It truly looks like a brand-new building! Our new Connections Corner will be a great multi-purpose space that leads directly to our courtyard. Be sure to stop by and see it as we reopen.

Changing subjects, I want to mention some unsung heroes in our church who each week go to Alpine Nursing Home and Ruston Nursing Home to teach Sunday School to our friends and members there. If you see any of these guys, let them know how much you appreciate them for their faithfulness. Joe Rainer, Kyle Green, Ronny Volentine, JV Jones, Ben Westerburg, Dale Oden, Brad Waller, Ty Storms, and John Clary are all on a teaching rotation. Thank you so much, guys, for your time and service!



Temple Baptist Church  
**School of Ministry & Missions**  
Classes are Listed!

**APPLICATIONS DUE AUGUST 28**

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



**SENIOR  
ADULT  
BIBLE STUDY**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 | 6 P.M.  
MONDAY, AUGUST 25 - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27 | 9:30 A.M.

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



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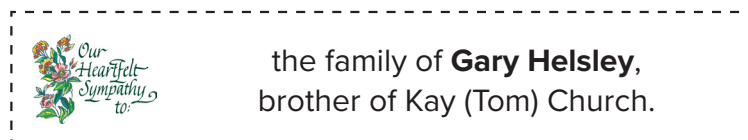
**REFRESH**  
MARRIAGE RETREAT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8  
SOUTHLAND CHRISTIAN CAMP

A 24 hour retreat for married couples! Join us to catch a breath, invest in your spouse, and connect with other married couples.

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





### Mary Martha Women on Mission

Monday, August 11 | 6 p.m. | at the home of Tara Turner  
 Speakers: Hannah J on Pacific Rim  
 Mission Project: Gift Boxes for Prison Ministry

## Minister of Preschool and Children Sally Hearn

**Reminder: Back to School Week of Prayer** is still going on through Saturday in the gym. Stop by between 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. for a self-guided time of prayer for our schools, staff, and students.

You may see new faces this Sunday as **our new first graders will be joining us in corporate worship for the first time**. Please help them feel welcome and part of our worship together.

**Sunday School promotion is this Sunday, August 10.** Parents of babies through fifth graders, be on the lookout for a postcard with your child's new class assignment. If you do not receive a postcard, please stop by *The Journey Place* desk on Sunday morning.

**M3 begins August 20** from 5:45 to 7 p.m. We are still looking for a few leaders. If you are interested in serving, please contact Sally or Sarah.

Our preschool ministry is growing by leaps and bounds! We are so thankful for our volunteers who serve once a week on an 8-week rotation. We have 24 volunteers every Sunday at 9 a.m. to care for our babies through Kindergarteners. **If you are interested in serving on this rotation, please let Sally or Sarah know.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade Bible Presentation** will be held on August 24 in both the 9 and 10:30 a.m. Worship Services in the Sanctuary.

**"Masterpiece" preteen girls and moms event** coming soon! More information to come.



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## Week-at-a-Glance

**August 3-9 - Back-to-School Week of Prayer (FLC Gym)**

**August 14-16 - Men's Retreat**

**Sunday, August 10 (Promotion Sunday)**

- 8 a.m. - Blended Worship | Educator Recognition Prayer (Chapel)
- 9 a.m. - Blended Worship | Educator Recognition Prayer (Chapel);  
livestream at [live.temple.life](https://live.temple.life); Contemporary Worship | Baptism |  
Educator Recognition Prayer (Gathering Space); Sunday School  
for all ages
- 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship | Educator Recognition Prayer  
(Gathering Space); livestream at [live.temple.life](https://live.temple.life); Sunday School for  
all ages
- 5 p.m. - The Springs Worship | Educator Recognition Prayer  
(The Springs Sanctuary)

**Monday, August 11**

- 6 p.m. - Mary Martha Women on Mission (Home of Tara Turner)

**Wednesday, August 12**

- 5 p.m. - College Bible Study (Rm 216)
- 5:45 p.m. - Men's Bible Study (Rm 264)
- 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting | Bible Study (FH);  
Women's Bible Study (Rm 275)
- 7 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (FLC)

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

