



temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

Revive. The etymology of the word suggests the idea “to live again.” In other words, something that has lived is renewed and restored. Throughout our ninety-nine years of history, Temple has often stopped for a season of revival—a moment where we specifically asked the Lord to restore vitality and vigor. Sometimes, these revivals accompanied special worship services and guest speakers; in more recent times, such renewals have come through a weekend retreat. **There are so many ways in which our God chooses to work in order to refresh His people. But when it happens, we all know it!**

As the great expositor of the past, Stephen Olford, declared, “Revival is not some emotion or worked-up excitement; it is rather an invasion from heaven which brings to man a conscious awareness of God.” We become intimately mindful of Him, His presence, and His work. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, the English physician turned preacher, elaborated: “Revival, above everything else, is a glorification of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is the restoration of Him to the center of the life of the church.” The glorification of Christ. Placing Him at the center of our life. Or as the evangelist Vencer Havner simply determined, “Revival is the church falling in love with Jesus all over again.”

May we admit there are instances in our lives in which we need to live again and love again? We need a new sense of purpose, and we need a new spirit of passion. That is why we plan to pause again as a church to focus upon this reality. On October 26, we will kick off special worship services we are designating *ReSurrender: Nights of Renewal*. That Sunday morning, Todd Strain, Senior Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Alexandria, Louisiana, will be bringing our message. Todd is no stranger to Temple as he was active

in our college ministry when he was at Tech, and he has a daughter currently involved in our ministry. (Of course, his greatest honor is that Susan Williams, a fellow Templite, is his sister!) Sunday evening, our very own, George Lee, will share the Lord’s Word with us. You know that is going to be powerful! On Monday, **October 27**, Gevan Spinney, Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church, Haughton, will be preaching; and on Tuesday, **October 28**, Fred Luter, Senior Pastor, Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans, will declare God’s message. I will lead the final night (i.e., Wednesday) of our renewal focus and give us time to respond to what the Lord is doing in our midst. The musical component of our worship will be led mostly by our team, but we will welcome *Crescent City Worship* from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary on Tuesday night.

I can’t tell you how excited I am about this specific effort in our church’s life! Over the past few months of renovation, we have prayed that the Lord would not simply renew our physical facilities but that He would also renew us spiritually. We have seen that done in so many ways, but we are asking the Lord to show His favor to us in an unmistakably powerful manner through this concentrated time. That is why I am asking you to go before the Father frequently for us as we approach the services and to commit to being there for each service as you can. I know that there is a lot going on . . . ballgames, student activities, work, etc. To be honest, there always is! As God gives you liberty though, show up to the services with an expectation that He will do something amazing!

May we fall in love with Jesus all over again during our *ReSurrender: Nights of Renewal*. See you Sunday!

From The Minister of Pastoral Care

Dale Oden

Hopefully fall is just around the corner! The refreshing rains of this week brought cooler temperatures, plus the calendar declared that Monday, September 22, was the first official day of Fall. It's time for lots of football, hunting season for you hunters, and getting outside for fall gardeners.

It's also time for a couple of trips this fall for our senior adults. We will be leaving on Sunday, October 12, after worship and Sunday School for Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. We will be attending the four-day **Celebrators Conference**. It is always a wonderful time of worship and inspiration. Dr. David Jeremiah is the featured preacher. The music for the preaching services will be led by Charles Billingsley. Other music concerts will feature Mark Lowry, David Phelps, Karen Peck and New River, plus the Collingsworth Family (who will be at Temple Baptist as a part of our Centennial Celebration in 2026). Pray for our group as we travel. We will return to Ruston on Friday, October 17.

There will be one other trip for Senior Adults coming up later. It is the trip to **Branson** to see the Christmas shows. That trip is full with sixty-six signed up to go. It is scheduled for November 30-December 4. It's always a fun trip and very entertaining seeing the great shows and beautiful decorations.

Let me mention a great trip that has been planned for May 19-29, 2026. It is a trip to follow the **"Footsteps of Paul."** Dr. Reggie and I will be leading the trip. We already have several folks signed up, but there is room for more. Call or come by the Church Office for a brochure. This trip is open to all ages, not only senior adults!

Our next **Senior Adult Luncheon** will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. I am excited to have the Easley Family coming to do the program for us. John and Marianna, along with their three children, were members of Temple before moving to Farmerville. The three children, Luke, Anna, and Will are talented musicians who will bless you with their singing and playing instruments. Plan to join us for this luncheon and program.



Welcome to the Family!



Victor and Tejo Avery
(Letter)



Myrtle King Lunch Bunch

Thursday, October 9 | 12 p.m. | Fellowship Hall
Bring a lunch.

Speaker: Tim McCarthy speaking on Honduras
Project: Money for beans and flour
for Native American churches



the family of **Doris McCallum**,
mother of Janie (Ronnie) Ainsworth.

Congratulations to:

Steve and Sharon Bennett on the birth of their
granddaughter, **Lainee Lynn Huckabee**.
Proud great-grandparents are Bill and Linda Hamner.

Brody and Grace Johnston on the birth
of their daughter, **Mary-Maxwell**.
Proud sister and brother are Mollyfrances and Porter.
Grandparents are Troy and Amy Johnston
and Mitchell and Stormy Maxwell

Minister of Community Engagement

George Lee, IV

TWO WAYS TO SERVE THIS OCTOBER: God keeps opening doors for us to love our neighbors—here are two simple, high-impact ways you can serve this month.

1) Help Decorate the “Soup for the Soul” Educational Display (CCA)

When: Tuesday, October 14, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Where: Ruston Civic Center

Each year, Soup for the Soul includes an educational display that helps attendees understand who CCA is, the services they provide, and the realities of food insecurity in our community. In past years, our church has cooked and served soup. This year, we’ve been asked to help decorate the educational display—a creative, meaningful way to support the event and amplify CCA’s mission. CCA provides the signage detailing the educational information. Our church’s focus will be to decorate using a fall theme.

If God has gifted you with an eye for décor and you have margin to serve, we’d love your help with:

- Designing and arranging the display elements (we have pictures of previous years set up for inspiration)
- Light set-up/tear-down on the event day
- Adding warm, welcoming touches that help share the mission of CCA

To serve: Call the Church Office at 318-255-3745 or email george@temple.life.

2) Host a Trunk or Donate Candy for Trunk-or-Treat with The Springs

When: Sunday, October 19, 4–6 p.m.

Where: Cypress Springs Elementary

Last year’s Trunk-or-Treat was incredible—over 300 neighbors joined us, and several families visited The Springs afterward and got connected. This year, we’re praying for even greater gospel impact.

Ways to help:

- Host a trunk: Bring a family-friendly theme and candy to share.
- Donate candy: We’ll build up a central stash to support all trunks.
- Serve on-site: Greeting, traffic flow, set-up/clean-up.

To serve: Call the Church Office at 318-255-3745 or email CiCi Lee at cici@thesprings.life.

THE TIDINGS (USPS #020005), Published Weekly except Christmas by:
Temple Baptist Church, Periodical Postage Paid, Ruston, LA 71270
Postmaster send address changes to:
Temple Baptist Church, 1515 South Service Road West, Ruston, LA 71270



Label here

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

Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, October 5

- 9 a.m. - Blended Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life; Contemporary Worship (Gathering Space); Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship | Parent/Child Dedication (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life; Sunday School for all ages
- 5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (The Springs Sanctuary)
- 5:30 p.m. - The Chapel | Young Adults (Connections Corner | Chapel)

Monday, October 6

- 9:30 a.m. - Moms Connect Soup for the Soul (FH Kitchen)

Wednesday, October 8

- 5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8, \$15 max/family; Menu: Jambalaya)
- 5:45 p.m. - Men's Bible Study (Rm 264); Junior High Worship (Youth Rm); Children's M3 (JP)
- 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); Coed Bible Study - Psalm 23 (Chapel); Women's Bible Study "What Matters Most"
- 6:30 p.m. - College Freshman Bible Study (Rm 216)
- 7 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm); High School Worship (Youth Rm)
- 8 p.m. - College MidWeek (Sanctuary)

Thursday, October 9

- 12 p.m. - Myrtle King Lunch Bunch (FH)

October 9-18 - Pac Rim HS Mission Trip

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.



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