



temple  
BAPTIST CHURCH

# TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

## *The Pastor's Perspective*

Dr. Reggie Bridges

When I read the New Testament, I am intrigued by the relationship Jesus had with his mother. Consider for a moment His final words to His mother. As He hung on the cross, He saw Mary and declared, "Woman, here is your son" (John 19:26 HCSB). In that proclamation, Jesus designated the disciple John to take care of His mother. Obviously, Joseph was dead, and Jesus' brothers did not believe in Him. There was no one to whom Mary could turn, but her thirty-three-year-old Son made sure that she would have someone. Mary had experienced tremendous heartache as she watched her Son face growing hostility from religious leaders. Now she stood near the cross witnessing His horrific death. And as she sorrowed for her Son's suffering, Jesus appointed her caretaker. This was the final punctuation to His earthly relationship to her. Mary had nurtured the baby born in Bethlehem, had attended to the young boy in Nazareth, and had ultimately followed Him as Master. All of that was at an end.

To be certain, there had been moments in His ministry when Christ had to clarify His relationship to His mother. Remember when Joseph and Mary left the twelve-year-old Jesus at the temple (kinda like some of us who were inadvertently left at church when we were children)? When they returned to find Him, Mary asked, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you" (Luke 2:48 HCSB). Can't you hear your mother scolding you like this? "Why have you worried your mom like this?" she inquired. And Jesus' response? He declared that He had to be about His Father's business (Luke 2:49). In essence, He underscored His identity as the Son of God Himself.

In another instance, the Lord confronted Mary when she tried to force Him into premature ministry. The event

occurred at a wedding in Cana of Galilee. As the festivities moved along, the wine ran out, and Mary determined it was time for Jesus to show His power. She simply looked at Him and said, "They don't have any wine" (John 2:3 HCSB). In other words, "Use your power to do something!" Again, Jesus reminded Mary that this was not the focal point of His ministry and that He would not be forced by maternal prompting. You might say He set a healthy boundary that is worthy of emulation.

A final scene that informs us of the Lord's relationship with His earthly mother is found in Matthew 12:46-50. According to the text, Jesus' mother and brothers approached Him to seek an audience with Him. They (I believe, specifically Mary) sent a messenger to Him suggesting that they were waiting to talk to Him. However, Jesus was not controlled by their requests. He pointed out that His true family were those who obeyed the Father's will.

I do not rehearse these events in order to turn you against your mother. (Can you imagine the mail I would receive for such suggestion?) Rather, I want you to see that Jesus had a healthy relationship with His mom—one of love AND emancipation. The Lord had successfully grown into a Man, and on the cross, He clearly communicated that truth by commanding John to care for Mary. She had given up a Son to ministry and suffering, but she had gotten back a Man Who could provide for her. This God Man would not only meet her physical need through the Beloved Disciple, but He would also offer her salvation. What a Son! This Mother's Day let's celebrate those moms who nurtured us and pointed us in the right way. And let's also strive for healthy relationships in our families as we look to the Lord! May God bless our moms and help us as we honor them this weekend!

# Youth Ministry

## John Nugent

**Spectacular Seniors:** We recognized and commissioned 31 seniors at our High School Senior Send Service on Sunday, May 4.

Anna Asher	David Asher	Jack Bell	Talan Billberry
Jordan Blount	Landon Burnham	Braydon Burns	Harley Cooper
Eli Crawford	Aidan Crosby	Kelsey Duggan	Ella Eagles
Julianne Ensminger	Landon Hall	Myles Hull	Anna Grace Johnson
Mada Kneeland	Anne Claire Maxwell	James Myers	Annalise Paul
Reese Purifoy	Cannon Robbins	Joshua Robbins	John Brooks Robinson
Rosemary Sewell	Taylor Shaw	Jake Simmons	Avery Smith
Garrett Spearman	Jake Tyler	Zoey Venters	

It's always bittersweet for me to see them graduate and move out of Youth Ministry. They've been a big part of Sundays and Wednesdays for the past seven years. We've gone together on numerous retreats. They've traveled with our Youth Ministry all over North America on mission trips. They've served in our Youth Ministry, Children's Ministry, Music Ministry, and Media Ministry. They've been such a big part of things that it makes me sad to see them go. But it's also exciting to see them go because we know that we are sending them out as missionaries and ministers that are bound for even bigger things with God.

I'm confident that this group of seniors is going to make a big gospel impact on the world. Join me in praying for them as they go out to share the gospel on college campuses, at their jobs, and all around the world through missions and ministry!



WEDNESDAY, MAY 21 | 4 P.M.  
MOBILE BUS IN THE WEST PARKING LOT  
FOR MORE INFO, VISIT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](https://events.temple.life)

## CHURCH-WIDE PICNIC

SUNDAY, MAY 25 | 4 P.M.  
LINCOLN PARISH PARK, PAVILION L-6

We will have Polish Sausage and Hotdogs.  
\$5/person, \$3/child under 8, \$15 max/family  
Bring your lawn chairs or a blanket and a dessert to share!

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

## SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

TUESDAY, MAY 20 | 11:45 A.M. - 1 P.M.  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Senior Adults (50+), join us for lunch, followed by a program.

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

## INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION TEAM MEXICO (MAY 2025)

THURSDAY, MAY 15 TO  
TUESDAY, MAY 20.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THIS  
TEAM AS THEY SERVE!





the family of **Glenda Edwards**,  
mother of Thomas (Christie) Edwards,  
grandmother of Meredith and Amelia;

the family of **Robert R Raney**,  
stepfather of Robbie (Angela) Jenkins,  
stepgrandfather of Jacob.

the family of **Johnny Maxwell**,  
father of John (Tiphannie) Maxwell II,  
grandfather of Johnny (Mary Kyle) Maxwell III,  
Kathryn Maxwell, and Anderson Maxwell,  
great-grandfather of John Emmette Maxwell IV;

the family of **David Gullatt**, husband of Sue;

the family of **Clarene Boden Simpson**,  
grandmother of Matt (Susan) Winkelpleck,  
great-grandmother of Madison and Parker.

## Welcome to the Family!



Gabrielle "Gabby" Hall  
(Baptism)



Griffin Hall  
(Baptism)



Brett & Victoria Tolar  
(Letter, Statement)  
Also pictured: Ada



**LADIES**  
*Prayer*  
**BREAKFAST**

SATURDAY, MAY 17 | 9 A.M.  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

A Quarterly Prayer Breakfast for ladies to come together to pray and fellowship together! Bring a breakfast item to share!

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



**LOADS OF LOVE**

**NOW THROUGH MAY 31**

We're collecting laundry detergent (84oz or smaller; All Free & Clear, Dreft, or Tide) for local partner ministries, The Well, CCA, F13, and Life Choices. Drop off donations in the Church Office.

LOVELINCOLN Women's Ministry

## MINISTER OF WORSHIP

*Jeremy Asher*

**Music Ministry Update:** We are excited to extend a special invitation to all singers in the congregation to join the choir for our upcoming **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Patriotic Program**. This year's program promises to be a heartfelt celebration of our nation's heritage and a time to honor the sacrifices of those who have served. The program will take place on **Tuesday, June 24, at 7 p.m. at the LA Tech Howard Auditorium** and we would be delighted to have your voices enriching the choir's harmonies.

**Rehearsals will begin Wednesday, May 21, in the Family Life Center game room** (Hood Sunday School class), **starting at 7 p.m.** This is a fantastic opportunity to come together as a community and lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving for the blessings we enjoy in our great nation. Whether you are an experienced choir member or have never sung in a choir before, we welcome everyone who has a love for music and a desire to serve the Lord through song. We look forward to seeing you at rehearsal this Wednesday!

In addition to our choir performance, we would like to extend a special invitation to all veterans in our community to participate in the Parade of Flags. This symbolic and moving tribute is a beautiful way to honor the brave men and women who have served our country. If you or a loved one is a veteran, we encourage you to join us and proudly carry a flag during this procession of patriots.



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, May 11 (Mother's Day)

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

### Monday, May 12

- 9:30 a.m. - Moms Connect (JPMP)
- 6 p.m. - Mary Martha Women on Mission

### Wednesday, May 14

- 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); Women's Bible Study (Rm 275)
- 7 p.m. - High School Worship (Youth Rm); Mexico Medical Mission  
 Interest Meeting (Rm 76)
- 8 p.m. - Temple College Night of Worship (GS)

### Thursday, May 15-Tuesday, May 20 - Mexico Contruction Mission Trip

### Saturday, May 17

- 8 a.m. - Ladies Prayer Breakfast (FH)



**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.