



temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

According to the Webster dictionary, transition is “a passage from one state, stage, subject, or place to another: change.” Lately, the term has been bouncing around in my mind! It certainly appears that **we are in the midst of transition—at least within our staff**. A couple of months ago, **Andy Carter** came into my office and shared that God was opening a new opportunity for his growth and for ministry. As you might imagine, a wave of emotion washed over me. An assortment of feelings—surprise, loss, difficulty, uncertainty, and pain (to name a few!)—overwhelmed me. Andy continued and related that he planned to join a local audio/visual media/technology company where he could experience new career challenges. A wave of emotion washed over me. Wait, I already said that didn't I? I underscore my response because: 1) Andy is a tremendously talented, skilled young man; 2) Andy knows more about technology and media perhaps than anybody else I know; 3) Andy has served our church faithfully for eighteen years (seventeen on staff as part-time and full-time); 4) Andy is the only Media Director I have known at Temple Baptist Church; and most importantly, 5) Andy is my dear friend, brother, and co-laborer in Christ! I, as well as the church, am personally indebted to him. We will have a time to show our gratitude to him in the days ahead, but I encourage you to speak/write a word of appreciation and encouragement to him as you have opportunity. Oh, I should say this. Andy, Jenn, and the children are not leaving our faith family. (My wife told them that they couldn't!) Instead, you will continue to see them serving in various roles throughout the church. They truly are a part of us!

And then . . . for those of you who have not heard, **Brittany Guillot** stepped out of her role as Administrative Assistant to join another local office as well. Did I mention that church members hired both Andy and Brittany? There might be some old-fashioned “churching” before long! Just kidding! Well, maybe. Brittany did a great job assisting our ministry staff and helping us accomplish our work each day. If you see her around town, please pause a moment and give her a “thank you” for her contribution to the kingdom effort here at Temple.

And then . . . **Shirley Stephens**. When I came to Temple some years ago, I was greeted by a sweet smile in the Finance Office.

Nope, it wasn't Dwight Anderson! I'm not sure he even smiles . . . unless he is in trouble. That joyful expression was from Shirley, our full-time Financial Administrative Assistant. She could make that office hum with proficiency and efficiency. She also used her motherly tone to make sure the staff submitted receipts and requests in appropriate manner. She retired for a season, but then she came back to help us in a part-time role. We were very happy when she did. Over the past couple of weeks, health concerns have prompted her to step out again. We will miss working with her daily, but we are grateful for the journey we have had. Again, would you take a moment to express your love and appreciation to her as you have the chance.

So back to Webster. (Aren't you proud I didn't have another . . . And then?) As I reviewed the entry for *transition*, I found an alternative definition: “an abrupt change in energy state or level (as of an atomic nucleus or a molecule) usually accompanied by a loss or gain of a single quantum of energy.” Now, I know that this meaning should properly be set in a scientific context, but may I momentarily place it in our spiritual context. We are experiencing an abrupt change, and yep, we may experience some loss of energy (if nothing else, the relationships themselves). But I believe during this transition, we can also see a gain of (several quantum) of energy! After all, if it is the Lord's will, then that means it is best for all involved . . . including us (as hard as it is to believe). Pray that is the case . . . and intercede for the staff as we work to develop a plan to capture this energy!

Already, God has been providing. **I can announce the addition of a couple of new members to our team: Jacob Knight, who currently serves at the Production Director at First Baptist Church, West Monroe, has accepted the position of Media Director here at Temple, and Blayre Madison, who serves as the Wellness Director at Alpine Nursing Home, has agreed to serve here as our Discipleship Administrative Assistant.** We are so excited to welcome Jacob and Blayre to the Temple staff.

God is good—even in transitions! Let's always remember that as we give honor to whom honor is due, and let's look forward to His energizing Spirit's work in the days ahead! See you Sunday!

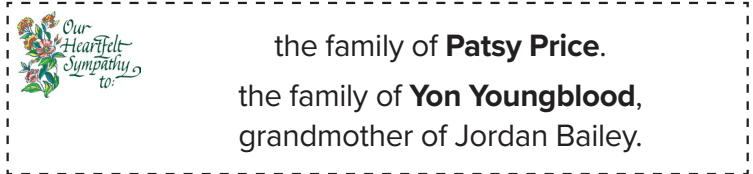
Neighbors and Nations

Dr. John King

It has already been an exciting summer in missions at Temple! We have college students serving across the country and around the world. Our Temple high school team just got back from Miami. Last week we welcomed back the Pac Rim team. This week we have a team serving with Valley Church in Boston. I'm getting jet lagged just thinking about all of it!

If you are looking for an opportunity to serve this summer but weren't able to take a whole week off and travel, there are still ways you can get involved. There are people right in your neighborhood and workplace whom you can invite to church, offer to pray for, or start a spiritual conversation with. In addition, we have our Monroe GO Team that will be serving on August 21 or 22. Yes, I'm talking about that Monroe. A group of Southern Baptists from across the region are convening in Ouachita Parish to do service projects ranging from block parties to demo work. You can come as an individual or as a group and you can take on a project for Friday and/or Saturday. If you are interested in bringing a group (Life Group, D-Group, etc.), reach out to me (johnk@temple.life) soon because spots are filling up. If you want to come as an individual or family, join us for an interest meeting on Wednesday, July 22, at 5 p.m. in Room 82.

Let's keep engaging in God's mission together- wherever He leads!



Welcome to the Family!



Cannon Smith
(Baptism)

Congratulations to:

Ed and Margaret Aston on the birth
on their great-grandson, **Henry Michael Hines**.

Garrett and Abby Hipp on the birth of their son,
Beau Henry. Proud brother is Hunter Joseph.
Great-grandparents are Ronnie and Janie Ainsworth
and Gray Hipp.



College Connection Casey Casady

Summer may be in full swing, but in the life of the college ministry, we are already looking toward to the fall with great excitement. We have officially completed the first Louisiana Tech student orientation of the summer, and it was a great reminder that God continues to bring new students to our community, our church, and our college ministry.

Each orientation gives us the opportunity to meet incoming students, connect with families, and help new Bulldogs know that there is a place for them at Temple Baptist Church. We are praying that every student who steps onto campus this fall will find not only a school but also a church home, a Gospel-centered community, and a place to grow in Christ.

We also want to remind everyone that the annual College Beach Retreat will be August 16–20. Beach Retreat is one of the most important weeks in our college ministry's life. It helps set the tone for the entire school year by giving students time to worship, build friendships, study God's Word, and prepare their hearts for what God wants to do on our campuses.

Please begin praying now for this retreat. Pray for the students who will attend, the leaders who will serve, and the new friendships that will be formed. Pray that God would use these days to call students closer to Himself and send them back to Ruston ready to live on mission.

Thank you, Temple family, for continuing to love, pray for, and invest in college students. If you know an incoming Louisiana Tech, Grambling, or local college student, please let me know so we can help them get connected. Contact me at casey@temple.life. We believe God has great things ahead, and we are grateful to be part of His work in this next generation.



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Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, June 28 (Lord's Supper in All Services)

9 a.m. - Blended Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life;
 Contemporary Worship (GS); Life Groups for all ages
 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life;
 Life Groups for all ages
 2 p.m. - Deacons Meeting (Chapel)
 3 p.m. - The Springs Worship Service (The Springs)
 5:30 p.m. - The Chapel (Connections Corner | Chapel)

Monday, June 29

6 p.m. - Patriotic Program Final Rehearsal #1 (Sanctuary)
 6:30 p.m. - College Evangelism Study (Rm 216)

Tuesday, June 30

9:30 a.m. - Senior Adult Ladies Bible Study (Rm 216)

Wednesday, July 1

5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8, \$15 max/family;
 Menu: Salad Bar); College Summer Bible Study (Rm 216)
 5:30 p.m. - Women's Bible Study (Rm 270)
 5:45 p.m. - Men's Bible Study (Rm 264); Women's Bible Study (Rm 275)
 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); Patriotic Program Final Rehearsal #2
 (Sanctuary)

Thursday, July 2

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

Friday, July 3

Church Office Closed for Independence Day
 7:30 p.m. - LoveLincoln Freedom Fest Patriotic Program and Fireworks
 (Sanctuary | Parking Lot)

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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