



temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

Stewardship. The concept and practice are captured in one statement: God owns everything, and He has placed us as managers/stewards over His possessions. Think of it. The Lord God of heaven is the Creator, Sustainer, and Possessor of all things; He owns everything we can see and that we cannot see. That is mindboggling truth! But what is perhaps even more difficult to comprehend is that this same God has placed us in a position to manage His creation for His kingdom purposes. He has put us in charge, and He expects us to use it wisely and effectively.

Kingdom management is expected in all areas of our lives (i.e., our talent, tithe, and time) and in every sphere of our existence (i.e., personal and corporate). Through our own individual efforts as well as our corporate endeavors as a church, we should aim to use the Lord's funds to extend His work. Indeed, we should manage His resources toward the goal of seeing every individual *"growing in Christ, connecting in community, and engaging in mission."* Of course, correct "management" flows from a compassionate heart. In describing the investments we make in heaven, Jesus Himself pointed out that your treasure follows your heart's desire. Randy Alcorn summarizes such significance: "God wants your heart. He isn't looking just for 'donors' for His kingdom, those who stand outside the cause and dispassionately consider acts of philanthropy. He is looking for disciples immersed in the causes they give to. He wants people so filled with a vision for eternity that they wouldn't dream of not investing their money, time and prayers where they will matter most." Amen! And Amen! When our hearts are seized by the love and purpose of God's agenda, we manage His resources to fulfill His vision!

Why do I mention this topic this week? Perhaps because we are in midst of 2027 budget preparation and my

mind is contemplating ministries and their monies. Our Finance Committee, headed by Chris Barr, is doing its due diligence in praying to the Lord, asking relevant questions, probing possible alternatives, and proposing specific solutions. We recognize the need to undergird our weekly budget needs, support our mission offerings, eliminate our building debt, and fund upcoming projects. To be honest, it is a lot! But God has given us resources that can make a difference.

Like you, I am asked to support financially all kinds of entities. Just last night, Leslie and I pledged to give monthly to a great local ministry. And we gladly did! However, the church is the headquarters for gospel action in the community, and we only get to do what we do through the Spirit's empowerment and the Lord's provision. Through our tithe (10%) and offerings, we supply the financial fuel for generational discipleship and intentional mission efforts. In these next few months, I pray God uses us to sustain our budget obligations, reenergize our Next Chapter campaign as we reduce our debt, and fund projects (like a new driveway to a new road!) that will help us grow.

As we steward God's possessions, we embrace the Lord's character of generosity and grace. Alcorn described it perfectly: "My friend Dixie Fraley told me, 'We're most like God when we're giving.' Gaze upon Christ long enough, and you'll become more of a giver. Give long enough, and you'll become more like Christ." We will never outgive God, nor should we try. He is the most cheerful Giver in the universe! Yet, we can mirror that attribute as we give accordingly. Thank you, my friends, for your reflection of God's giving spirit every week! May He bless you so that you can turn that blessing back toward Him! Love you guys! See you Sunday!

Minister of Preschool and Children

Sally Hearn

We had a wonderful time at our Wednesday Night Kick-Off Event where we had a Birthday Party for our church to celebrate our upcoming 100th Anniversary. The kids enjoyed carnival games and jumpies, and they took a walk down Memory Lane where they learned fun facts from our church history. A big “thank you” to everyone who helped with decorating, leading the event, and crowd control. We are looking forward to our celebration in November.

M3 for 3 year olds -5th graders meets on Wednesday nights from 5:45-7 p.m.

Our **WEEKday Ministry** is back in full swing. We are so thankful for our Director Marsha Hammons, our Assistant Director Lauren Davis, and all of our teachers and staff. Be in prayer for them as they share the love of Jesus with our **WEEKday** children and families this year.

Save the dates: **Vacation Bible School 2027** is June 7-11: **WinShape Camp 2027** is July 12-16.



Welcome to the Family!



Mary Turner
(Baptism)
Also pictured: Luke Turner



the family of **Steven Roebuck**,
husband of Lauren,
father of Haley and Alex.

the family of **Betty Ruth Causey**,
grandmother of Katy (Andy) Smith,
Claire (Garrett) Haight, and Caroline Causey;
great-grandmother of Mary Katherine, James, and
Henry Smith, Graham and Annie Claire Haight.

the family of **Janice Boudreaux**,
grandmother of Scott (Ashley) Felder,
great-grandmother of Walker and Davis Felder.

the family of **Mary Christie**,
mother of Elaine (Steve) Coyle.



Executive Pastor **Jason Walsworth**

We are excited to host the **Man Up Conference at Temple** for our association and area on **Saturday, September 12**. The Lord has been moving in the lives of men in our church and it has been a blessing to witness and experience. We have a great night planned and hope you will join us. We hope to see men from every church in our association here to fellowship and worship together so invite your friends as well. We will have a huge BBQ Buffet of all kinds of meat! The meal will be in Fellowship Hall at 5 p.m. and worship will begin at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Our church will lead in music and Rubin Weaver, pastor at Antioch Baptist Church in Farmerville, will preach. We will also be giving away a \$1,000 door prize to Simmons Sporting Goods (just in time for hunting season) and many other door prizes. Help us spread the word and we will see you there!



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Week-at-a-Glance

Sunday, August 30

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

Wednesday, September 2

- 5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8, \$15 max/family; Menu: Taco Stack)
- 5:30 p.m. - Women's Bible Study (Rm 281)
- 5:45 p.m. - Men's Bible Study (Rm 264); Women's Bible Study (Rm 275); Children's M3 (JP); Junior High Worship (Youth Rm)
- 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); Co-Ed Bible Study (FLC Glass Classroom)
- 7 p.m. - High School Worship (Youth Rm); Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)

Thursday, September 3

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

Friday, September 4

Journey Place Closed - Floor Cleaning

September 5-7 - Young Adult Conference (Dallas)

September 5-12 - Honduras GO Team 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.