



temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

You have heard the quote many times by now: "A church in a prominent place attracts attention. Like a shining city on a hill radiating light in all directions, the church is to radiate the light of Jesus Christ to the world around us. As so graphically described by our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount, 'You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid.'" I know I have shared Dr. Magee's words many times, but they resound in my spirit frequently. Often, as I drive by our campus, I note how it stands atop the hill as a testimony of God's grace and mercy.

Many of you probably can't believe that it has been over two decades since that great march was made from the Alabama Street site to our present-day location, but this weekend marks that anniversary of that move. **Sunday will be twenty-eight years to the day since our first worship service on this site.** And how blessed we have been! Thanks to the vision of the church's leadership, the foundation was laid for future ministry growth. Our faith family united around a common effort and gave sacrificially of themselves to make that vision a reality. To those of you who played a role in the relocation, I say a special thanks to you. It truly is a grand story of the church's resilience and God's unique empowerment that deserves to be celebrated again.

Additionally, we are grateful that we were able to renew significant areas of our campus last year. Think of it. Last January, the Sanctuary was in demolition status, halls were blocked, and we were spread out in multiple locations at multiple times. Yet, God was faithful! He grew our attendance numbers, unified our hearts, and renovated our facilities and our lives!

As we approach the next few weeks, we will have special times to stop and give thanks for the Lord's goodness to us. For example, **we will recognize Dale Oden for his fiftieth year of ministry here at Temple. On Sunday, February 1,**

at 5 p.m., we will gather for a meal and program in Fellowship Hall as we honor Dale and Sadel on this special occasion. I'll have much more to say about Dale (trust me!) at this event, but I hope you will mark your calendars now to attend. Also, our TempleTech Choir Reunion will be February 21-22, so help us spread the word and encourage former TempleTech choir members to be a part.

This centennial year of Temple's story gives us a great time not only to look back but also to move forward. You see, our church family is still made of people committed to the great cause of our great God. The faith and sacrifice of our predecessors are not just characteristics of our past; they are realities of the present! I see within our congregation the same determination to let our light shine, and I am even more excited today about our work than I ever have been.

Our supreme commitment to missions is evidenced in our giving and in our going. The Lord gave us the resources necessary for us to support international missions through the recent Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. This coming Sunday, we will be reminded also that we are gearing up for short-term trips to Mexico, Chauvin (LA), South Asia, Montana, Panama City Beach (the city), Monroe, Pacific Rim, Boston, Germany, Miami, Panama (the country), etc. Our efforts certainly crisscross the globe as we take the light of the gospel to the nations. Pray for these opportunities and consider joining one of these GO teams.

Most would agree that our church campus sits in a prominent position by the interstate and can be seen from a great distance; however, the church itself is the people. We are the light of the world! We are not relegated to one location, but we are mobile lights! We can go right into the community and radiate the light of Jesus Christ. We have been set on a hill. Let's keep shining as we highlight the good news of Jesus to our community and beyond! See you Sunday!

MINISTER OF WORSHIP

Jeremy Asher

Happy New Year! And for all of us in the Temple family, Happy Centennial Year! As we begin this year celebrating such an important milestone of ministry, I pray that your heart is overwhelmed with gratitude for all that the Lord has done in and through the ministries of His church. Some of my earliest memories of Temple were as a college freshman, all the way back in last century. Ha! Memories of Dr. Magee, his warm handshake and calling me by name. Memories of Mickey Slaughter who, after I complimented his Tabasco tie, took my tie off and gave me his. Memories of TempleTech Choir tours, under Shayla Blake's direction, as we shared the good news of Jesus with the prisoners we met along our journey. Memories of Jodie Williams and Mrs. Margie working with me as I prepared to sing "O Holy Night" on the Singing Christmas Tree in a trio with Margaret Williams Jones and Mack Blake.

Such sweet memories for Catherine, whom I met my sophomore year at Tech, and me. Did you know that we were a Temple intern love story? It's true! What are some of your favorite memories? I'd surely love to hear them. And as we share these together, let us always remember that the God of the past is the same God who holds us now and in the future. At the start of this Centennial year, let us commit to serve the Lord faithfully with worship, fellowship, and a heart to share the gospel with those who do not yet follow Christ. I love you, Temple family!

— — — — —



TEMPLETECH CHOIR
REUNION
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22
TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Who's ready to reunite with college friends, meet family members and step back into fun-filled choir rehearsals with Shayla?!

LEARN MORE AT EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE



Freedom¹³
DONATIONS
DROP OFF THROUGH JANUARY 24

DONATION ITEMS NEEDED:
GENTLY USED PURSES/TOTES, JEWELRY, AND SCARVES.
UNOPENED BATH PRODUCTS, BODY WASH, LOTION AND SOAP.

LEARN MORE AT EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE



Temple Baptist Church
**School of Ministry & Missions
Spring Classes are Listed!**
APPLICATIONS DUE JANUARY 20
LEARN MORE AT SCHOOL.TEMPLE.LIFE



First Impressions – Golf Cart Volunteers

We're looking for volunteers to help shuttle folks with the golf carts on Sunday mornings for 1 hour 45 minutes or on Wednesday evenings for 1 hour 15 minutes.

For more information, please call the Church Office at 318-255-3745 or email helen@temple.life.

Welcome to the Family!



Carson Cary
(Baptism)



Tristen & McKenzie Giger
also pictured: Walker
(Baptism | Letter)



Veda Vining
(Baptism)



Denise Cox for 40 years
of service at Temple.



the family of **Jerry Rugg**,
father of Jared (Tracie) Rugg,
grandfather of Allie.

the family of **Peggy Bain**.

the family of **Elizabeth (Liz) Mack**,
grandmother of Kathryn (Brent) Causey,
great-grandmother of Carter and Cole.

the family of **Betty Paul**,
mother of Aaron (Jennifer) Paul,
grandmother of Annalise and Andrew.

Congratulations to:

Andrew and Savannah Amram on the birth
of their daughter, **Annabelle Elizabeth**.

Proud brothers and sisters are Adan, Ava, Ashelyn,
Patty, and David.

Garrett and Claire Haight on the birth of their daughter,
Annie Claire. Proud brother is Graham.

Grandparents are Mike and Donna Haight.

Ashley Ellis on the birth of her granddaughter,
Elaina Frances Ellis.

Youth Ministry

John Nugent

Pray for Princess & Warrior Weekend: January 16-19 will be our annual **Princess & Warrior Weekend!**

We'll take 300 people to Southland Christian Camp in Ringgold, Louisiana for the best four days of the year! Students will be led by amazing ministers from all over the southern United States tackling topics with lots of Scripture and discussion. This year we're letting the Bible answer questions like these: What's so great about the Bible? How do I spend purposeful time with God on my own? What does it mean to be in the world but not of the world? How do I share the gospel? How am I supposed to interact with the opposite sex? What do I need to know about other world religions? And how do I get real freedom from sin?

Students will have a lot of fun playing games and deciding which gender will reign supreme in this year's Competition for the Crown. There's zip lines, dodgeball, bonfires, putt-putt, frisbee golf, and so much more that students enjoy; but the real thing that makes this event special is how God works through the small group studies. Every year God brings salvation, repentance, and real life change.

Please pray for our leaders as they teach and guide discussions. Pray for safety and health for us as we are away. Pray for students to be receptive to God's Word. Pray that students would respond to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Pray that God would be glorified!

LORD'S SUPPER

REMEMBERING HIS SACRIFICE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

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, January 11 (Lord's Supper in all services)

- 9 a.m. - Blended Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at live.temple.life;
Contemporary Worship (GS); Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at
live.temple.life; Sunday School for all ages
- 4 p.m. - Bible Drill (JPMR)
- 5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (The Springs)
- 6 p.m. - The Chapel (Connections Corner, Chapel)

Monday, January 12

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

Wednesday, January 14

- 5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8,
\$15 max/family; Menu: Chicken and Dumplings)
- 5:45 p.m. - Men's Bible Study (Rm 264); Children's M3 (JP);
Junior High Worship (Youth Rm)
- 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); Coed Bible Study - Judges
(FLC Snack Area)
- 6:30 p.m. - Temple College Freshman Bible Study (Rm 216)
- 7 p.m. - High School Worship (Youth Rm);
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Rm)
- 8 p.m. - Temple College Midweek (Sanctuary)



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.