



Temple
BAPTIST CHURCH

TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

The Pastor's Perspective

Dr. Reggie Bridges

“And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away’” (Revelation 21:3-4 NKJV). Hear those words again: “No more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. No more pain.”

I’m grateful that the Lord gave John a glimpse into the future, and I’m especially thankful that He allowed the Beloved Disciple to record it for us. After all, the revelation of the new earth and new heaven brings us comfort and assurance—confidence we desperately need! I know I do! In just the past few days, I’ve watched members of our church family receive difficult diagnoses, go through surgeries, enter inpatient physical rehabs, struggle mentally/emotionally, experience marital strife, and grapple with the death of loved ones. And while we see such challenges weekly, this last week has seemed especially heavy. To be honest, it has been a bit overwhelming. The back-to-back-to-back text messages that announced the death of three of our members within a twenty-four-hour period . . . the phone call that indicated that she had found a divorce attorney . . . the appeal for prayer from a dear sister in Christ who had been diagnosed with an ovarian tumor . . . the student’s request to meet to discuss meaning and purpose . . . the conversation that revealed a husband’s mental strife and substance abuse . . . the empty stare that communicated despondency and depression. Through such moments, I rely upon God’s promise that there is something better than this world. Yes, I trust His promise that there is a place called heaven.

Heaven. Let your mind settle on that thought for a minute. **It is a place of paradise. No more sin. No more of sin’s destructive consequences. No more tears for they have**

been obliterated. No more sickness. No more painful experiences. In reality, it is HOME. Randy Alcorn offered this encouragement: “Think of friends or family members who loved Jesus and are with him now. Picture them with you, walking together in this place. All of you have powerful bodies, stronger than those of an Olympic decathlete. You are laughing, playing, talking, and reminiscing. You reach up to a tree to pick an apple or orange. You take a bite. It’s so sweet that it’s startling. You’ve never tasted anything so good. Now you see someone coming toward you. It’s Jesus, with a big smile on his face. You fall to your knees in worship. He pulls you up and embraces you.” For each and every believer in Christ, heaven is where we reunite with other Christ-followers and where we enjoy the presence of our Savior Himself! What a place! What a time!

Dr. Wayne Barnes, my former Pastor Emeritus at FBC Zachary, once told me that he had more friends in heaven than he did on this earth. That struck me. And each day that passes, the more of a reality that becomes in my life (although I still count many friends here!). Many of you reading this article have experienced grief because of such loss. I pray for you even now, but I also want to remind you that you do not sorrow like those who have no hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13). Indeed, you as believers have hope in Christ! He will make all things new as all this sinful world fades away! You have the assurance of heaven itself! Live like it daily!

As I close, let me encourage you to share your hope with others. The only way we can experience heaven is by submitting fully to Christ Himself. Share the gospel with someone. Pray for them. Give generously to support our missionaries. Do your part to take your friends, your family, your neighbors, and even strangers to heaven with you.

I’m looking forward to worshipping with you Sunday. You see, I need a foretaste of heaven, and I know I can experience that as I gather with you to declare His glory! Let’s taste and see the Lord’s goodness and graciousness together!

College Connection Casey Casady

It is the wonderful time of the year when Tech starts to look forward to Spring Quarter break; and for Temple College, that means one thing: **Beach Reach!** We will be taking almost 100 Tech students to Beach Reach in Panama City. In 2024, we had the privilege of serving alongside 60 other ministries from across the country. In the month of March, God moved in Panama City Beach as more than 1800 college students gave over 25,000 rides, prayed with over 17,500 spring breakers, and had more than 13,500 gospel conversations; BUT GOD brought over 750 college students to be called brother and sister during this amazing month. I hope you will join in praying for our students and adults during this REVIVAL on the beach.

1. Pray for God to MOVE.
2. Pray for boldness in sharing HIS story.
3. Pray for obedience.

It is going to be a great week as we live out Matthew 16:18 - "And I say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades (death) will not overpower it!"

Beach Reach Attendees: Anna Asher, David Asher, Jeremy Asher, Jordan Bailey, Avery Bandy, Ella Grace Barham, Mallory Blackmon, Casey Casady, Wes Cavin, Hudson Cicero, Micah Cole, Slay Coleman, Nancy Darland, David Darland, Rory Decker, Joey Derbonne, Ella Eagles, Hannah Estess, Scott Felder, Kathryn Fincher, Cole Fookes, Harper Gianelloni, Connor Gibbon, Jackson Grigg, John Gueltig, Baylee Guillory, Hannah Hammond, Micah Heflin, Mallory Hill, Vicki Hogan, Don Hogan, Briley Howard, Hannah Hunter, Kevin Inman, Ava James, Anna Grace Johnson, Hannah Jones, Elizabeth Kent, Jason Kessler, John King, Zacc Landry, Silas Lovett, Danna Mabry, Rusty Mabry, Nicholas Maupin, Anne Maxwell, Colton McCann, Ethan McCarthy, Chaz McMillan, Josiah Meissner, Baylie Menard, Landon Moore, Patricia Murad, Johnny Murad, Jack Myers, Ellie Owens, Carter Pratt, Jack Prejean, Ella Price, Addie Robinson, Ethan Rugg, Alan Sanchez, Jada Sandino, Alayna Scott, Kara Scott, Olivia Sevin, Emma Shelton, Sam Siegel, Ellie Simmons, Stuart Sitton, Lydia Smith, Ally Spencer, Lane Spurlock, Erin Stallings, Aubrey Stark, Sam Stewart, Ellie Stone, Sean Sullivan, Ellie Thames, Lauren Thomas, Joshua Thorson, Hays Tibbetts, Emily Tooke, Maddie Townley, Max Turpin, Claire Turpin, Anna Von Tress, Alyssa White, Cole Wilson, Leanna Womack, Carson Woodward, Bailey Wright



LADIES' Prayer BREAKFAST

Bring your favorite mug with you!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 | 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)



WHEN YOU PRAY

WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 4 - MARCH 25
5:45 P.M. | RM 275

In this 7-session study, join with six beloved Bible teachers who will help you study prayers in the Bible that can inspire your own.

Books are \$20 each, available at the first week.

REGISTER AT [WOMEN.TEMPLE.LIFE](https://women.temple.life)



BOSTON GO TEAM

INTEREST MEETING
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 | 4 P.M. | RM 49

COME LEARN ABOUT OUR TRIP PLANNED FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 20 - FRIDAY, JUNE 26.

LEARN MORE AT [MISSIONS.TEMPLE.LIFE](https://missions.temple.life)



CALGARY GO TEAM

INTEREST MEETING

Wednesday, February 11 | 5 P.M. | RM 82

Come learn about our trip planned for Monday, July 13 - Sunday, July 19.

Learn more at missions.temple.life

Welcome to the Family!

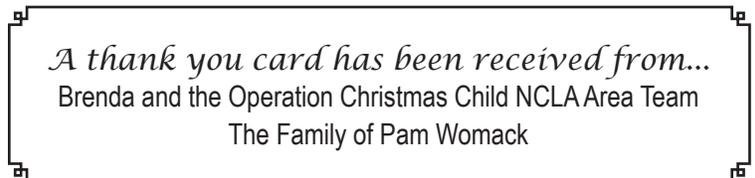
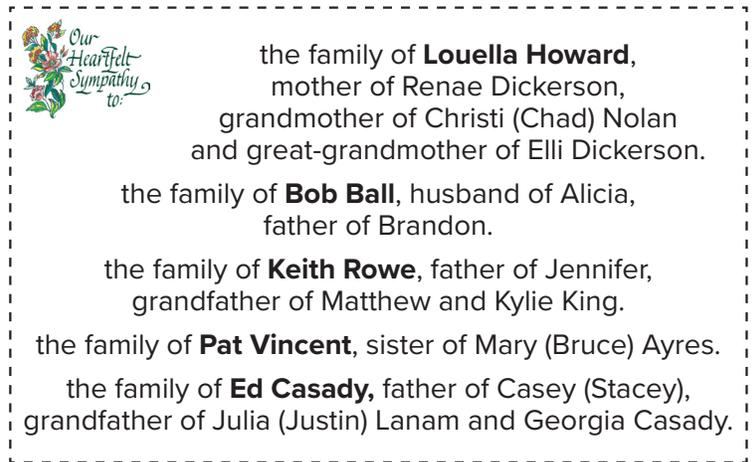


Danielle Morse
(Baptism)

VBS NEEDS

Large cardboard boxes are being collected as we begin creating decor for VBS. If you or your workplace have boxes, please bring them to *The Journey Place*. If anyone has access to large cardboard sheets, those would be appreciated, as well.

If you would like to help us with decorations, please let Sally or Sarah know.



Neighbors and Nations

Dr. John King

It's that time of year again! We kicked off our Upward Basketball and Cheer games this past weekend. It was a week later than expected because of the ice storm, but on Saturday morning our gym was warm and packed with families and kids. This season we have almost 200 players and cheerleaders, along with over 50 volunteers that make the program run.

Be praying for our Upward program as we practice on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings and gather for games the next four Saturdays. Each weekend is a chance to interact with hundreds of community members- parents and grandparents, siblings, and friends- many of whom do not have a connection to Jesus or a local church. Ask God to open their hearts to a relationship with Jesus and a connection with Christian community.

This past Sunday, we launched our new study, "God's Glory Among the Nations." This churchwide study is still open to anyone and meets at 4:45 p.m. on Sundays in Room 216 from February 15- March 1. Best of all, I have amazing co-teachers - Will and Caroline Rockett - who are staying in the Temple Mission House right now and bring their wealth of international missions experience to the table!

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Week-at-a-Glance

January 24-February 28 - Upward Games (FLC)

February 1-8 - Souper Bowl of Caring

Sunday, February 8

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); Boston GO Team Interest Meeting (Rm 49)

5:30 p.m. - The Chapel (Chapel)

5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (The Springs)

Monday, February 9

9:30 a.m. - Moms Connect (JPMR)

6 p.m. - Mary Martha Women on Mission

Wednesday, February 11

5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8,

\$15 max/family; Menu: Chili); Calgary GO Team Interest Meeting (Rm 82)

5:45 p.m. - Men's Bible Study (Rm 264); Women's Bible Study - When You

Pray (Rm 275); Children's M3 (JP); Junior High Worship (Youth Rm)

6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); Coed Bible Study - Judges

(FLC Glass Classroom)

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)

Thursday, February 12

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

Friday, February 13

6 p.m. - Father/Daughter Banquet (FH)

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.

