



*Temple*  
BAPTIST CHURCH

# TIDINGS

A weekly newsletter for all active members of Temple Baptist Church

## *The Pastor's Perspective*

Dr. Reggie Bridges

What a blessed Resurrection Sunday we experienced! Of course, it was great to see over 2000 people actually on campus for worship. We have come to expect large crowds on Easter, but there was something more than numbers this time. Was it the vibrant worship? Well, the music was certainly powerful. But is that not characteristic of almost all Easter services? After all, we are declaring the resurrection authority of Jesus through our voices and our instruments. Maybe it was the preaching of the Word? But to be honest, the proclamation that “Jesus Lives” is always a dynamic message even if it is an unpolished, unremarkable Mississippi boy who delivers it. Was it that God simply showed up, then? Again, I affirm that the Lord was with us, but He is always present in a special way where “two or three are gathered.” So, what? What was it that made this celebration distinct? To be honest, I’m not sure. (I guess a pastor is not supposed to utter that last statement out loud!) Perhaps it was our responsiveness to God’s work, or it could have been simply God’s sovereign favor upon us. All I know is that I have seen many Easters come and go—each one carrying wonderful crowds with them. Too often though, there seemed to be little, if any, fruit from the day. But oh, how different this Easter was/is! We saw people reconnected to their church family while others became part of our congregation. At the 9 a.m. Worship Service, we baptized a young girl who had been saved last summer at Vacation Bible School. Meanwhile, another young lady who had been involved in a serious accident on Christmas Day came forward during the 10:30 a.m. invitation to profess her faith in Christ. From literal brokenness at Christmas to healing and life at Easter! It was a visible miracle. Even after the services concluded, conversations continued around baptism and

discipleship. What I am saying is that God moved! And He is still working! In fact, we continue to reach out and connect with individuals we saw this past Sunday. That is why I say that this Easter is different. It continues to inform and encourage our ministry.

In fact, Easter itself reminds us of the resurrection strength that empowers us to live out our faith in an ever-darkening world. My brothers and sisters, how we need that assurance! At least, I do! A battle in the Middle East and a war in Europe. Planes shot down in military action (but praise God for crews rescued). Energy supplies threatened. A partial government. National and global events reveal the need for a living King.

But it goes further. Separation of marriages. Diagnoses of disease. Stress of finances. Rupture of friendships. Loss of loved ones. Multitudes of addictions. These realities come much closer and become more personal. Just this past week, I have seen our church families experience such struggles, and each challenge underscores how we desperately need the power of the resurrection to overcome the evil that abounds around us.

Robert Flatt rightly contended, “The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances.” There is no doubt! The resurrection changes everything in us and for us. That is why we must live in the truth and power of Christ’s resurrection.

This day, can we give praise for what we sensed this past week on Easter Sunday? Can we continue to exalt Him? But can we also allow the resurrection power to enable us to overcome sin both around us and within us? I pray we can! See you Sunday for another resurrection celebration!

# Minister of Preschool and Children

Sally Hearn

What a wonderful Easter weekend we had as we celebrated our Risen Savior. I hope we will continue to celebrate as we “go and tell” all year long. Thank you for all the eggs and candy you brought! Thank you, Chris and Lisa Barr, for hosting our grades 3-5 hunt and to all the parents who came to help with this event. Thank you to all who helped on Friday at Lincoln Parish Park park as well. I also want to say “Thank you” to those who volunteered to serve in First Steps and taught Sunday School on Easter Sunday. There is always a huge need on holidays and special event day. Sarah and I truly appreciate each of you!

We will be hosting **Louisiana State Bible Drill** on April 21. We will have seventeen 4-6 graders participating from Temple. I am so proud of all of our students who have participated this year.

**Vacation Bible School** sign up is underway for volunteers and participants. We still need a grade 3 director and volunteers for all age groups. Visit [vbs.temple.life](http://vbs.temple.life) to register your child or to volunteer or go to [events.temple.life](http://events.temple.life) for more information.

**WinShape Camp** is coming July 6-10. Register at [winshape.temple.life](http://winshape.temple.life). Limited scholarships are available. Contact Sally or Sarah for more information.

**Weekday Summer Camp registration** is underway. Contact our Weekday Director, Marsha Hammons, for more information ([marsha@temple.life](mailto:marsha@temple.life) or 318-255-9606).

**COUNSELING CENTER**

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL 255-6940

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**ENCOUNTERING GOD**  
WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, April 1 - May 13  
5:45 P.M. | RM 275

Join Kelly Minter in this 7-session study exploring the biblical foundation of spiritual disciplines and practical ways to live them out through prayer, study, worship, rest, and more.

Register at [women.temple.life](http://women.temple.life)  
[Lifeway.women](http://Lifeway.women)

### Myrtle King Lunch Bunch

Thursday, April 9 | 12 p.m. | Fellowship Hall  
Bring a lunch.  
Speaker: David Abernathy

**Congratulations to:**  
Dennis Smith on the birth of his grandson,  
**Colsen Val-Morgan Smith.**

**WinShape Camps™ for Communities**

Monday, July 6 - Friday, July 10  
Temple Baptist Church

Come be a part of an incredible adventure as we combine sports recreation, arts, Bible study, and worship into one amazing week.

Register at [winshape.temple.life](http://winshape.temple.life)

**SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON**

TUESDAY, APRIL 21 | 11:45 A.M.  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

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

**LEARN MORE AT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](http://EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE)**

## Welcome to the Family!



Chris & Hannah Bowman,  
Jackson, Austin, &  
Emmaline Lee,  
Hillarrie Gallien  
(Letter | Baptism)

# Tiny Trekkers

## SUMMER CAMPS

AGES  
9 Months -  
Completed Kindergarten  
(As of June 2026)

Brochures can be picked up  
in the Journey Place,  
with registration beginning April 1.

For more information, contact  
Marsha Hammons at [marsha@temple.life](mailto:marsha@temple.life) or 255-9606.

SHINING A LIGHT ON  
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

# ILLUMINATION STATION

JOHN 8:12

SAVE THE DATE!

Monday, June 1 - Friday, June 5 | 9 A.M. - 12 P.M.  
Temple Baptist Church

Register at [vbs.temple.life](http://vbs.temple.life)

# The Great Temple Hunt

Mother / Son Adventure

Friday, April 24 | 5 P.M. | \$20 per family  
Lincoln Parish Park (Pavilion L-3)

Moms and sons, join us for a fun scavenger hunt  
and dinner!

Register at [events.temple.life](http://events.temple.life)

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## **Executive Pastor** Jason Walsworth

Last Easter we gathered at the Thomas Assembly Center on the LA Tech campus and had a wonderful time of worship and fellowship. This was a special time since we were separated by time and space due to our renovation project and it was Easter Sunday. That endeavor required a lot of time, work, and effort to pull off, but it was worth it as 1900 of us gathered to praise and worship the Lord. We can't hold that many people in the sanctuary at Temple and we average around 1,200 each week in worship so I was looking forward to seeing how many we would have at church this year for Easter. Needless to say, I didn't think we would reach the total from last year.

I was thrilled to see a great crowd in our 9 a.m. Blended Worship Service and awaited Cecil Sibley's count and text message update. I also attended the 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service where we had another great crowd and a lot of guests. It was an amazing day of worship and we were blessed to set a couple of records. First, we had 187 preschool children in attendance on Easter and that is the most we have ever had in *The Journey Place*. That number doesn't include grade school children. A big thank you to Sally and Sarah for their ministry and preparation. Also, to so many of you who volunteer and help regularly to take care of our children. We also set a record for attendance with a total of 2,052 people in attendance across all our services on Easter! WOW, what a day and thank you to everyone who invited someone to church or brought someone with you. Let's keep that same spirit of inviting new people, helping them feel welcome, and to find their place at Temple. So many people in our community are looking for a church home and we need to do everything we can to reach them and help them discover the Gospel and how to live out their God given calling. Thank you for all you are doing and let's continue to work together to serve the Lord and our neighbors.

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WE EXIST TO SEE EVERY MEMBER:  
**GROWING IN CHRIST,  
CONNECTING IN COMMUNITY,  
AND ENGAGING IN MISSION.**



Label here

Phone: (318) 255-3745 • Fax: (318) 255-0134  
Website: [temple.life](http://temple.life)

## Week-at-a-Glance

**April 12-26 - Lost and Found Table (Hallway by Church Office)**

**April 15-20 - Mexico GO Team (Construction) Mission Trip**

### Sunday, April 12

- 9 a.m. - Blended Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at [live.temple.life](http://live.temple.life);  
Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship (Sanctuary); livestream at [live.temple.life](http://live.temple.life);  
Sunday School for all ages
- 11:30 p.m. - Gems Luncheon (FH)
- 4 p.m. - Children's Bible Drill (JP)
- 5 p.m. - The Springs Worship (The Springs)
- 5:30 p.m. - The Chapel (Chapel)

### Monday, April 13

- 9:30 a.m. - Mom's Connect JPMR
- 6 p.m. - Mary Martha Women on Mission

### Wednesday, April 15

- 5 p.m. - Family Night Meal (FH; Cost: \$5/person, \$3/child under 8,  
\$15 max/family; Menu: Taco Stack); VBS Leadership Meeting (JPMR);  
Mexico GO (Medical) Interest Meeting (Rm 70)
- 5:15 p.m. - Boston Advocacy Prayer Time (Rm 76)
- 5:30 p.m. - Women's Bible Study (Rm 270)
- 5:45 p.m. - Women's Bible Study (Rm 275); Children's M3 (JP);  
Junior High Worship (Youth Rm); Men's Bible Study (Rm 264)
- 6 p.m. - Prayer Meeting/Bible Study (FH); Men's Bible Study (Rm 261)
- 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)

**MOMS  
CONNECT**

**MONDAY, APRIL 13 | 9:30 - 11:30 A.M.**  
**THE JOURNEY PLACE MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

A time of encouragement for moms one Monday a month.

**REGISTER FOR CHILDCARE AT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](http://EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE)**

**SUGAR  
FOR CCA**

ENGAGE IN HELPING OUR  
COMMUNITY BY BRINGING IN  
A BAG OF SUGAR!

**LEARN MORE AT [EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE](http://EVENTS.TEMPLE.LIFE)**

**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.