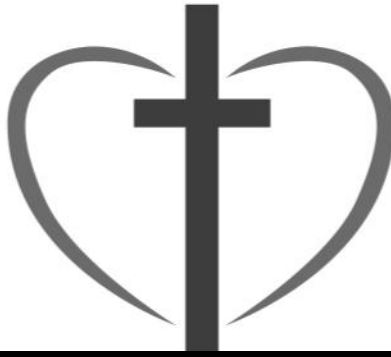


Temple Baptist Church



February 2020

Wade Allen

Lead Pastor

Derrick Bremer

Pastor of Student Ministries

John O'Connor

Pastor of Community Engagement

Ron Fields

Pastor of Senior Adults & Care Ministries



It was almost 30 years ago when my father and I went on our first mission trip. We headed south of the border to work with missionaries John Ladd and Ricky Williams in Mexico. That trip had a huge impact on my life. I started to realize that there were millions of people beyond my reach who need the truth of the gospel—and I wanted to be the one to take it to them!

Several years (and two kids) later, God was giving us that very opportunity! He had called us to serve Him abroad, and finally in 2002, the doors opened allowing us to serve the BMAA as missionaries to the Philippines.

Some of you might remember me sharing our vision for ministry and our desire to reach the 50/50 porthole for Christ by equipping Filipino missionaries and church planters to reach all the countries in this window.

God had given us a huge vision for ministry! I spent the next twelve years learning that none of us—no matter how hard I tried—is able to reach the world alone. We need to look beyond our reach and partner together with others to change people's lives.

This is one of the reasons that associational work is important among our churches! Our church may not be able to have an impact for

Christ in a distant land, but when we work together and pool our resources we can have a much greater impact for the gospel.

If making an impact for the gospel all around the world is something you would like to get involved with, I want to encourage you to plan to give a special offering for World Missions Day on February 23, 2020.

Currently, our association has extended its reach to 81 countries, 72 American missionary personnel, and more than 500 #ChangeMaker missionaries planting churches in their home countries. Your involvement in World Missions Day 2020 helps to support these #ChangeMaker missionaries as they are reaching their fellow citizens with the gospel!

Think about it... would you ever be able to reach someone in the Dodoma Region of Tanzania with the gospel? What about someone living in the Madang Region of Papua New Guinea? Do you have any travel plans to hike through the mountains of Peru, or navigate the Amazon River valley of Brazil?



No one is able to reach everyone, but everyone is able to help get the message of the gospel to the far reaches of the globe. Will you consider partnering with BMAA World Missions this year? Your gift will have an eternal impact!

For the third time in a month I am working on a funeral message. One was a long time friend and parents of former church members. We grieved and rejoiced both as we remembered a man who had served the Lord faithfully for over 75 years. The others were younger and with much different testimonies. There was less involvement with church and less hope of future reunion among those left to mourn.

In every situation I emphasize the reality of death, and the need to be prepared. Of course we need to make sure our heart is right with God, that we have been recipients of the gift of eternal life. But we also need to make some arrangements to pass on our physical assets to those we love and to honor our Lord also. Things that must be considered include having an up to date will. We should give some attention to estate planning. Will those who depend upon us be provided for in a Christ honoring way? Will we be even-handed in bestowing those assets where most needed? How about honoring the Lord with a tithe of the estate proceeds?

I don't mean to be morbid or negative but it would help your spouse or your children to know that final arrangements have already been made or at least a plan is available. Those who grieve your passing will greatly appreciate that you have chosen the type and place of the memorial service, designated who should officiate, and purchased the burial plot.

After all we do not know the day nor the hour of our passing from this life to eternity. But we do know that time will soon be here. Unless the Lord returns first we shall all go through the process of death. Are you ready? (Hebrews 9:27)



Studies show that 80% of new year's resolutions have failed by the start of February. Personally, I don't put much stock into new year's resolutions, however I do enjoy setting goals for years at a time and evaluating them as I move closer or further away to what I aim to achieve. Goals have the ability to reveal and make clear our own personal motivation and even our priorities. When goals aren't just personal, but also organizational, they work as a unifying and enabling force.

With this principle in mind, I was curious about what goals were being set for 2020. The most common goals related to physical health and weight loss. By generations, Millennials were more concerned about getting a work promotion or raise as opposed to physical wellness and Gen Z (people born after 1997) are actually more concerned with "finding love".

That discovery amazed me. I don't know that I've ever seen the brokenness of our community and neighbors so well summarized. We want to find love. Those of us who know the good news of Jesus Christ know how readily available this tangible desire is.

So, how do our goals as a church move us in unity toward answering this call? I realize it's a jump and I'm looking at secular surveys from a biblical perspective, but these results imply that 80 % of people who are open to the Gospel haven't heard it by the time February begins.

(For more about the statistical information that was shared in this article, please contact Pastor Derrick. He will be happy to share his source materials with you.)

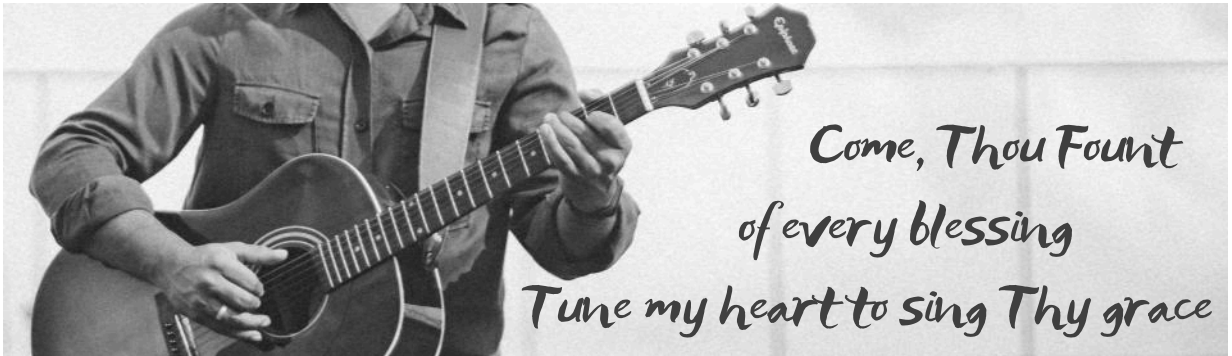
ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY



John O'Connor, Pastor of Community Engagement

One of my favorite hymns as a kid and even today is “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing.” As a kid, it always made me think about drinking from a water fountain in school. I’d run in from recess, super hot and sweaty, and super thirsty. A group of us would wait in line for our turn to take a drink from that fountain. Oh how sweet it was when that cold water would hit your lips. You could feel the temperature difference, as the liquid made its way down your throat and into your stomach. It was just wonderful to get that water back into your system, almost instantly making you feel better. In that same thought, a life without God is dry and lost.

Robert Robinson, the author of this Hymn, grew up far from God. All Robert knew from life was the cleverly packaged dryness and lostness of sin. After a divine meeting with Pastor George Whitefield, Robert was brought face to face with his lifestyle of sin. Ultimately he chose to join the ministry, and wrote this hymn for one of his sermons. Calling for the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His streams of mercy, to bind our hearts to Him, to take our Heart and seal it... The love of Christ is never ceasing. Christians know where the life giving water fountain is, which leads me to just two questions.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars



February 2	TSM Superbowl Party 5:00 PM
February 3	Monday Ladies Study - 6:30 PM
February 4	Tuesday Ladies Study - 10:00 AM
February 6	Christian Seniors - Noon
February 17	Monday Ladies Study - 6:30 PM
February 18	Tuesday Ladies Study - 10:00 AM
March 1	Business Meeting - 6:00 PM
March 4	Awana Grand Prix

- 1) Why are we not drinking from His streams of mercy, purposefully living a dry life?
- 2) Why aren't we inviting others to get in line for that fount?

My prayer this year is for you to not wander from His fount, and invite others to come know Him. No matter how far you've gone, no matter how long you've been away, you are never too far from His love.

2 Peter 3:9—“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

*Come, Thou Fount
of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace*

Opportunities for Worship & Service

SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:45 AM
 Worship Service 10:45 AM
 Children’s Church 10:45 AM
 Choir Practice 4:45-5:45 PM
 Student Life Groups 6:00 PM
 Alpha Sigma Bible Study 6:00 PM
 Kidz Choir/Preschool Praise. . . . 6:00 PM
 Evening Worship Service 6:00 PM

MONDAY

Ladies Bible Study (2/3 & 2/17) 6:30 PM

TUESDAY

Ladies Bible Study (2/4 & 2/18) . . 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAY

Awana 6:00 PM
 TSM (Temple Student Ministry) 6:00 PM
 Men’s Bible Study. 6:00 PM
 Bible Study/Prayer Group 6:30 PM

THURSDAY

Christian Seniors (1st Thursday). NOON
 Alpha Theta Bible Study 6:45 PM

Women’s Bible Study - Spring Semester

Monday Group

Begins February 3 @ 6:30 PM

Studying “Gideon” by Priscilla Shirer

Tuesday Group

Begins February 4 @ 10:00 AM

**Studying “Heaven” by Randy Alcorn
 (Both groups meet every other week)**

All Women are Invited!

**Return Service
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