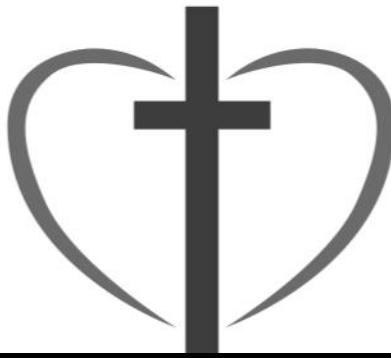


Temple Baptist Church



March 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



A lot has happened since our ACTIVATE Team was last able to meet together. In fact, it has been two years since we finalized our Mission Statement and our eight Core Values. There have been many things competing for our time and attention these past two years. When our Core Values were being finalized, we were in the midst of the foyer/bathroom/nursery remodel. This remodel was completed by March or April of 2018.

That same month, we shared the news that Pastors John O'Connor and Bryan Taylor would be making some transitions in their ministry. This began the process of looking for God's man (or men) to replace them, which consumed all unclaimed time for the rest of 2018.

Bro. John continued to serve as our Student Pastor until the end of that year. In January of 2019, Derrick Bremer took over the primary responsibilities of the student ministry as an intern. He was elected to serve as our Pastor of Student Ministries this past summer.

In case we didn't have enough going on, we decided to move forward with the remodel of our auditorium. In just over a year, we raised the \$14,000+ to purchase the new chairs. We were

also given a gift from the Vida Marler Estate that provided the funds for new carpet in the auditorium and new asphalt in the back parking lot. The auditorium remodel was completed (for the most part) by Easter this past year.

I was looking forward to getting back into the ACTIVATE process this past summer, but as you all know, tragedy struck our family in June with the unexpected death of our dear friend, Darlene. I want to thank all of you for the way that you have loved and cared for our family during this time. The vacation time we took during my sabbatical this past summer was bittersweet.

Speaking of my sabbatical, may I say once again what a blessing it was? My time away was peppered with joy and sadness—three funerals and a wedding—but it was exactly what I needed, when I needed it! I was refreshed physically, emotionally and especially spiritually. But from what I heard, this time that I was away was a special time for our church as well!

Beyond the multiple professions of faith and rededications to Christ that happened at church camp, I was told that there was a renewed fervor for prayer for our church. I wasn't here so I cannot adequately describe it, but I heard that it was special—and that has been attributed to prayer!


Prayer is vital! It is vital for the ACTIVATE

(Continued on page 4)



Ron Fields, Pastor of Senior Adults and Care Ministries

The Christmas card came from out of the blue. Enclosed was a picture of a family of five. I did not recognize any one. Nor did I recognize the name with the Indiana address. Only in the message "Aunt Leana gave me your address." Racking my memory I finally determined the card connection was a young girl in our Sunday School many years previous. We had picked up her family, mother, this girl, and her two brothers each Sunday, even keeping them at our house until after lunch before giving them a ride back home.



I have no
greater joy
than to hear that
my children
walk in truth

What an encouragement! After moving away from the area, attending seminary, and pastoring in different locations, came this notice that someone not only had continued walking with the Lord but also remembered.

The Bible says in 3 John, verse 4, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth."

On Saturday, Feb 29, Norma and I will travel to Conway to remember 50 years in ministry for a young man who married a young lady from the same church and same era. Our oldest daughter was a flower girl in their wedding! What a joy to recollect old memories!

One of the great joys of long time ministry are these kind of memories. Like the call that came from a disciple that dedicated his doctoral thesis to his former pastor, then came by and personally hand delivered a copy that now is a part of my library!

Is there someone you could bless by remembering how they influenced you in days gone by?



Derrick Bremer, Pastor of Student Ministries

WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

Can you imagine doing mission work in your own back yard? When we talk about missions, we're normally talking about the gospel advancing work that is taking place all over the world beyond our natural reach. We celebrate our ability to support missions and be a part of this great work. Who is taking that mission to our own communities?

I've been challenged by our students recently to train them to be able to have effective gospel conversations. In response, I've honestly been personally convicted of how I prioritize day-to-day missions.

This April, our youth group is going to be banding together to take mission work to our own back yard.

To be successful, we need your support. We need your prayers. Pray that our students would stay encouraged. Pray that the people we reach will have soft hearts. Our goal is to reach more than 1,000 people in the surrounding neighborhoods in a personal way. It will require money to do this and this is money that is not budgeted. Please see me if you are interested in helping to fund this outreach ministry.



Annual Chef's Auction

March 15th

Bring a dish that everyone will love and be ready to buy your favorites.

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY



John O'Connor, Pastor of Community Engagement

Ever have someone say something to you that was so out of character that you almost did not believe it came from them? Or has someone sent you a text that seemed colder or meaner than normal... Only to later find out that the intent of the comment or text was not nearly as offensive as what we perceived it to be?



When you are listening or reading anything that is not the Word of God, there are three things here that are at play that you should consider in all readings or conversations in your life: The Author, The Intent, and Your Perception.

We only know that something is out of character, when we know the character. The most important character that we need to learn is God's. God's characteristics are the only measure by which we can compare our words (digital, written, or spoken) to know if they are Biblical.

The intent of the author is as equally important as who the Author is. When you read a book or listen to a song, just because they use the word "Christian" doesn't mean that the intent or the content is truly Biblical.



March 1	Quarterly Business Meeting - 6PM
March 2	Monday Ladies Study - 6:30 PM
March 3	Tuesday Ladies Study - 10:00 AM
March 4	Awana Grand Prix
March 5	Christian Seniors - Noon
March 6	Mission Rally - Mt. Zion
March 15	TSM Chef's Auction - 6 PM
March 16	Monday Ladies Study - 6:30 PM
March 17	Tuesday Ladies Study - 10:00 AM
Mar 23-27	Spring Break
March 29	5th Sunday Fellowship
March 30	Monday Ladies Study - 6:30 PM
March 31	Tuesday Ladies Study - 10:00 AM

Last and probably most difficult to control is our perception. Perception is built off of external things we are experiencing and have experienced.

Perception is last because when we don't know who the author really is and don't know the intent of the author, we build a perception off of assumptions. Those assumptions can lead us down a logical path that is ultimately untruthful.

As you interact with any person, book or song, ask yourself these three questions: who is the author, what is their intent, and is my perception built on truth?

*"My sheep hear my voice,
and I know them,
and they follow me"*

John 10:27

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 (3/2, 16 & 30) . . . 6:30 PM

TUESDAY

Ladies Bible Study (3/3, 17 & 31) . . 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

process here in our church. As we refocus our attention to this process, I want to encourage you to not see the protracted timeline thus far, but instead, I want you to see the progress we have made and (more importantly) the future that God has planned for us together!

I am so blessed to be able to serve our Lord as your pastor! I am privileged to serve with an amazing pastoral team of men whose vision is aligned with one another! And I am honored that God has called you to be a part of this church and burdened your heart with her mission to Connect People to God, Unite People to One Another and Equip People to be On Mission.

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