



May 2021

Wade Allen
Lead Pastor

David McEuen
Pastor of Family & Worship

John O'Connor
Pastor of Community Engagement

Ron Fields
Pastor of Senior Adults & Care Ministries

CHANGE: What is Normal?

Wade Allen
Lead Pastor

If there was one word that people would typically use to refer to Baptist congregations, that word would NOT be “flexible,” but you have proven “them” wrong with your accommodating spirit and adaptability this past year!

As we seem to be emerging from the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic in this area—we’ve averaged only 25 new cases per day in Benton County since March 1st—we will be exploring how this will affect our ministries and schedules here at Temple Rogers. We are excited to be able to begin scheduling events and ministry opportunities again! You will notice that we have several scheduled events coming up in the next few months (check the Upcoming Events on page 4).

So what does this mean for us in regard to ministry and other activities here at the church? Unfortunately, I cannot give you many answers at this time. What I can tell you is that we began discussing what this looks like among the church staff and a few key leaders. We will announce any changes as soon as possible.

One of our concerns is the possibility of an additional surge in new COVID-19 cases. We

want to be cautious, but we are also ready to move forward in the new normal. Please keep us in your prayers as we seek God’s will concerning these things!

In the meantime, we would encourage you to continue to wear your mask when walking, talking and singing. We recognize that there are some who suffer from medical conditions that make this difficult—please do what is best for you.

Spring Session of Community Groups

We want to remind you that our Spring Session for Community Groups will conclude the week before Memorial Day. We have something special planned for the month of June. Stay tuned for more information from your Group Leader.

The month of June will also have some special services on a few Sunday evenings. Our BMAA Missionary to Romania, Candra Barnett, will be

with us on June 6. Our Annual Chef’s Auction fundraiser for the Student Ministry will be on June 13. And we are planning to observe the Lord’s Supper on Sunday evening, June 27. Be sure to mark these dates on your calendar and plan to attend.





Gearing Up for SUMMER!

David McEuen

Pastor of Family and Worship

Summer is almost here! In just a few short weeks graduations will take place, school will be out, and summer will begin! I love summer. I love the sun, the warm weather, the time with family, all of it. But I am especially excited for this summer as it features the return of summer events for students at TBC. Take a look at these events below:

May 22—Senior Roast

May 23—Graduate's Sunday

June 13—Chef's Auction

June 21—Float Trip

July 6-8—SOAR, Dallas, TX

July 18-22—VBS

August 2-6—Church Camp

You'll notice the first half of summer is lighter on events but that's because God has provided Emily and I with a home to purchase! We are excited and so thankful for your generosity and prayers during our search. Our hope is to get

settled during June so that we'll be ready to invite students into our home for various game and movie nights throughout the rest of summer.



I am so thankful that we are able to schedule these events. Last year was difficult, but through it all God remained faithful and kind and He continues to be so. It is only because of Him that we are able to plan these things and see the return of the events that we love so much. So as we anticipate these things, let's remember to give thanks to God because, "Every good and perfect gift is from above..." and that includes summer.

Removing the WEEDS... Sowing the SEEDS

Ron Fields

Pastor of Senior Adults and Care Ministries

Twenty-three years ago, when Norma and I moved into our house, it was situated in the midst of a wilderness. A driveway ran from the road into our garage and there was a circle drive back to the road. But within the circle and on all other sides, the forest came very near.

My thoughts were to leave the brambles, vines, brush, and trees in front of the house intact. Norma had other ideas.



So the area in front was cleared, topsoil brought in, and grass seed sown. Now, it requires frequent mowing. Decorative plants and bushes need tender care.

Likewise, my life, 59 years ago, underwent a change. Jesus became my Savior and a process of spiritual discipline began that has grown through the years. Reading the Bible became a daily experience. Bible study prayer, meditation on the Word, all became a conduit of understanding who God is and what He expected of me. Times of fasting occurred.



Striking Up a CONVERSATION

John O'Connor

Pastor of Community Engagement

When was the last time you just started talking to a person in a waiting room? Or spoke to the checkout person? Or chatted with a co-worker you don't know well?

As a kid, it was pretty easy for me to strike up a conversation with anyone about anything. This stressed my parents out because they had no idea what I was going to say. My youngest daughter Allison is paying me back for this. As I got older—like junior high—I started to care about what people thought of me.

To be transparent with you, that fear—the fear of rejection—never fully went away. Not all of us are wired to just start up a question with a stranger, but all of us should be willing to when the Holy Spirit calls. There is a call on our lives to reach the lost. In 1 Peter 3:15 the Bible says:

“...but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect...”

(Continued on page 4)

The brambles and vines have fought back. There have been times when the wilderness seemed to have the upper hand. Spiritual growth comes through perseverance in spiritual discipline. God is not finished with me yet!

“I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.”

Psalm 119:16

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars



May 9	Mother's Day
May 14	Rogers High School Graduation
May 22	Senior Roast—5:00 pm
May 30	5th Sunday Fellowship
June 6	Missionary Candra Barnett
June 13	Chef's Auction
June 21	Father's Day
June 21	Student Float Trip
July 6-8	SOAR
July 18-22	Vacation Bible School
August 2-6	OBE—Church Camp

This verse has a twofold application:

- 1) For someone to ask us a question about our faith, we should be living in a manner that honors Christ.
- 2) And when someone asks us about our faith, then we should be ready to make a defense, or rather "have an answer" as to why.

Are you living a life that is honoring God?
Are you so different and hopeful during these difficult times, that people want to know how you can be so positive? Are you ready to share your faith with someone who doesn't know Christ?

I pray that the Holy Spirit prepares our hearts and our minds as the world starts to get back to normal. Be ready to have an answer!



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