

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

The NEED to Be Remarkable

Wade Allen

Lead Pastor

For my Christmas and birthday gift this year, I put all my gifts together to get a new tablet, but not just any tablet—it is the world's thinnest tablet. It is a next-generation paper tablet called a reMarkable 2. It's not like your typical iPad. It's more like a paper notebook that converts all your handwritten notes into digital documents and integrates with your favorite cloud storage, and the battery lasts for weeks!

I could go on about it, but I think you would agree that it sounds like a pretty remarkable gadget! Yes?

This got me thinking about that word—remarkable. According to the Cambridge English Dictionary, the word “remarkable” means “unusual or special and therefore surprising and worth mentioning.” This little gadget is true to its name—that's why I'm mentioning it to you.

If you were to research the reason why some churches grow and others do not, one of the things that you would discover is that growing churches grow because the people who attend those churches tell their friends about their church! Author Rich Birch writes, “What's the difference

between the dying churches and prevailing churches? The latter is simply more remarkable. I mean that in a literal sense, as in thriving churches are literally *worthy of the remarks of the people who attend them.*” He goes on to say, “Growing churches are worthy of remarks, and over time, your church must become more remark-worthy.”

If you think about it, everything that is important to us in this life is remark-worthy. The things we talk about reveal what is important to us. We talk about the things we like to our friends on a daily basis.

If this is true—and I believe it is—I wonder how much we are talking to our friends about our church. Is our church remarkable from your point

of view? Are the things we do as a church valuable enough to you for you to share them with your friends? “The reality is that the only way to make an impact in an increasingly secularized world is being Jesus on the move. As a church, make a collective impact to mobilize people in mass service events to make a difference together.” (Rich Birch)

We'll be looking at some opportunities for serving our community in the coming days, but what can you do right now to connect with people?

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Meet Neighbors' NEEDS

Ron Fields

Pastor of Senior Adults and Care Ministries

In 1 John 3:17, the Bible says, "But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?" As individuals we have opportunities to bless someone else when they are in need. As a collective body we have the same opportunities.

- As an individual I have had opportunity to come to a neighbor in need when the ambulance showed up to take him to the hospital.
- To another I have had opportunity to share equipment to assist in his need.
- For another I have been blessed to labor with chain saw and wood splitter to see they had sufficient supply.
- With another I have prayed and encouraged by sharing Scripture.
- With yet another I have sat and counseled and comforted when things went wrong.



What can we do as a community of believers? The same. Only we do it as a group. There are countless opportunities to be a blessing to those who are experiencing hard times. A death in the family, a child in an accident, a loss of income, these are all opportunities to close ranks and go to the aid of others.

Recently some of our community groups reached out to show love and compassion to families in need primarily by supplying food over a period of time. In doing so, every one, givers and receivers, experienced the touch of God.

Meet Community NEEDS

John O'Connor

Pastor of Community Engagement

Hello church family! We have an opportunity to love on our community. The pandemic has hit our schools hard—mentally, physically, and emotionally. Students of all grades are being sent home daily because of exposure. For teachers and principals, it's not a matter of if they get exposed but when.

The first way we can show our love for the school district is to pray for the administrators, teachers, and students. Through the month of February, I will be praying for our schools. I will also be doing some intermittent fasting to focus on the physical, spiritual, and mental health of our students, and teachers. Let me know if you would like more info about this.

Over the years Temple has had a relationship with Westside Elementary.

The school has some specific needs that we can help with if you are interested. They need:

- Boys and Girls Sweatpants, sizes 5T to 10-12.
- Germ-x (if possible, the one with the push down dispenser)
- Black Expo Markers
- Kleenex

I will be putting a tote with "Westside" on the side in the foyer if you would like to donate towards this effort. Thank you for prayers for our schools and partnership in blessing Westside.

Do We NEED Interruptions?

David McEuen

Pastor of Family and Worship

As many of you know, my wife and I recently emerged from quarantine due to COVID. I'm pretty sure we were stuck at home for 2 or 3 months but the calendar says it was only ten days. By the end of this time, I was ready to get back to my routine and get out and about again. It's not that I don't enjoy time with my family. I just don't like interruptions. And this was definitely an unwelcomed and unexpected interruption.

Jesus was no stranger to interruptions. Once, when he was preaching, a group of friends cut a hole in the roof of the building he was in and lowered a paralytic man through it. Another time, Jesus was on his way to heal a man's daughter who was on her deathbed when someone touched Him and He stopped to ask about it because he perceived that power had gone out of Him. Jesus was interrupted often and you could imagine that it would have been frustrating.

Yet, have you ever noticed that it was in these moments—these interruptions—that Jesus chose to do the miraculous and grow people's faith?

When the paralytic was lowered through the roof, he literally walked away not only healed

but with his sins forgiven. And the woman with the issue of blood who touched Jesus' garment was not only healed but her faith was commended



and is now recorded in the Bible. Jesus didn't get frustrated but instead recognized the opportunity the Father had placed before Him.

So next time you and I face interruptions, embrace it. With God's help, don't ask, "Why?" but, "What?" What does God want me to learn? What does He want me to do? Ask taking the truth of Romans 8:28 to heart: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (NIV)

Inspired by Mark Lowry, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cslxkwzdc8&t=420s>

(Continued from "REMARKABLE" on page 1)

Recently, one of our members had a friend who was dealing with some issues that had been addressed in a recent sermon. They asked if there was a way that they could share that sermon with their friend so I sent them a link to that page on our website. I found out later that this individual listened to that sermon 6 or 7 times. That would have never happened if the church

member had not made a remark about a sermon that had helped them with that particular issue!

Did you know that we have 400+ sermons and counting on our website? And all of these are shareable through social media, text or email. If you remember a sermon but aren't sure when it was, we can help you or you can use one of the built in search engines. This is just one way we can connect our friends with the truth of God's Word.

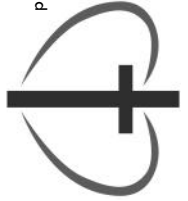
MISSIONS

BROKEN

2022 WORLD MISSIONS DAY

SUPPORT WORLD MISSIONS BY GIVING TO THE
JERRY KIDD MISSIONS OFFERING

Temple
Baptist
1812 South Dixieland Road
Rogers, Arkansas 72758



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

- Feb 10** **Christian Seniors**
12:00 PM
- Feb 27** **WORLD MISSIONS DAY**
- Mar 20-26** **Spring Break**
(No Community Groups)
- Apr 17** **Easter Sunday**
- Apr 18-20** **BMA of America Meeting**
Springfield, MO

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