

# TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR MICHAEL A. REID, SR.

JANUARY 22, 2023

HYMN 129	“At the Cross”
WELCOME	
SONG	“O Mighty Cross”
PRAYER	
HYMN 218	“Burdens Are Lifted At Calvary”
HYMN 317	“A Charge To Keep I Have”
HYMN 113	“The Old Rugged Cross”
OFFERING	
SCRIPTURE READING	James 5:1-6
HYMN 118	“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
MESSAGE	<i>Warning: What Wealth Can Become</i>

## NATIONAL SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE DAY

On January 22, 1973, exactly fifty years ago today, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the case Roe v. Wade that abortion be considered a constitutional right in our country. During those fifty years, more than 60 million have died in the US in legalized abortions (Guttmacher); that’s equivalent to an entire U.S. generation. On June 24, 2022, the Supreme Court overturned the 1973 ruling, leaving individual states to decide on whether they will permit abortion.

A Christian’s first allegiance should be to God and His Word, not to any political party or human set of opinions. So, what does God think about abortion? God has given people freedom—freedom to live and to make choices. But God commands, “Thou shalt not kill.” (Exodus 20:13) Though God has given us the ability to make choices, no person has the right to end life except God Himself.

But what does God say about the unborn—does His command apply to them? God told the prophet Jeremiah, “Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.” (Jeremiah 1:5) God *knows* the unborn, and is forming them as He wants them to be. He had a purpose and plan for Jeremiah even before he was out of the womb. The Bible gives other examples of the “personhood” of the unborn. Before Mary gave birth to Jesus, she went to visit Elisabeth, who was at the time pregnant with John the Baptist. The Bible says that when Elisabeth saw Mary, “the baby leaped in her womb.” (Luke 1:41) Then Elisabeth told Mary, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!” In Psalm 127:3, we learn God’s outlook toward children, in general: “Lo children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.” Children, the fruit of the womb, are a gift from God! The Bible also lets *(cont. in center column)*

## UPDATES & EVENTS

TODAY	<b>EVENING SERVICE @ 6pm: “Describing Spirituality”</b>
	<b>OPEN GYM DODGEBALL</b> For Adults & Teens 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade & Up
TUES, JAN 31	<b>TBC LADIES FELLOWSHIP – 6:30-8pm</b> This fellowship in room 113 is open to all ladies! We will have a potluck of soups, salads, and sweets. Lorraine McLemore will be our speaker. Please sign up in the church lobby! Questions? Contact Michelle McBride or the church office.
SAT, FEB 4	<b>GROW VISITATION OUTREACH</b>
SUN, FEB 5	<b>snac</b> All 7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade teens are invited to the Wollschlager’s house for food and fun! It starts at 6pm with the evening service, and we will return to the church by 9:30pm.
SUN, FEB 19	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADER’S MEETING</b>

we know that God cares for the helpless and considers our response to the “least of these” equivalent to our response to God Himself: “Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.” (Psalm 82:3) “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” (Matthew 25:40)

The world paints an ugly picture of God and the Bible—as if He wants to take away our fun and our freedom. But in fact, it is not God, but sin that keeps people in bondage. God tells us the truth because of His great love for us. Sin may give temporary pleasure or relief, but is never a blessing in the end, but a curse. Proverbs 13:15 says, “Good understanding giveth favour: but the way of transgressors is hard.” Under no circumstance will the choice of abortion provide lasting help, only a temporary relief that ends under the heavy weight of shame and guilt, and with a life lost.

We are thankful for Christ-centered organizations like Choices Women’s Center in Fredericksburg, that exist to provide hope and help to expectant but struggling mothers and fathers—to let them know that they are not alone and that there are options for them that can be a blessing to everyone involved, including the baby! The center also provides help to women who are struggling with past abortion.

*We are pleased to collect a special offering for Choices Women’s Center today. Please make checks payable to the church and designate “Women’s Center” in the memo line. One hundred percent of designated contributions will go to the center.*

## MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Steve & Nohemy

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

22	Warren Victor
23	Jim
25	Bill & Sherry Emily
26	Vince Rachel
27	Helen TK

# STORIES behind the SONGS

## CHARLES WESLEY

1707-1788

“One of the most powerful evangelizing influences England ever experienced was the Methodist hymnody, begun by John and Charles Wesley, in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The 6,500 hymns of Charles were written on every phase of Christian experience and...theology. Both of these brothers believed strongly in the spiritual potential of music and congregational singing. They used their hymns to ‘arouse sinners, encourage saints, and to educate all in the mysteries of the Christian faith.’ In 1780, the Wesleys published a comprehensive hymnal comprising their many hymns ...*A Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People Called Methodists.*”<sup>1</sup>

### “A Charge To Keep” (#317 in our hymnals)

“Charles Wesley is said to have been inspired to write the text for this hymn while reading Matthew Henry’s commentary on the Book of Leviticus.”<sup>1</sup> The hymn is specifically based on Leviticus 8:35, which reads, “Therefore shall ye abide at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation day and night seven days, and keep the charge of the LORD, that ye die not...” “In his thoughts on Leviticus 8:35, Henry wrote, “We shall everyone of us have a charge to keep, an eternal God to glorify, an immortal soul to provide for, one generation to serve.’... It was printed under the title ‘Keep the Charge of the Lord, That Ye Die Not.’ It is one of sixteen hymn texts by Charles Wesley based on the Book of Leviticus.”<sup>1</sup> The hymn lyrics express an attitude of remarkable devotion to and reverence for the Lord.

“John and Charles Wesley often incurred much opposition and persecution in their ministry for God. Sometimes this mob opposition was inflamed by the local Anglican clergymen, who would go from house to house, charging that the Wesleys were preaching blasphemy against the established church and hence should be run out of town. In his book, *The Gospel in Hymns*, Albert Edward Bailey gives this account: ‘If it was hard on the preachers, it was worse on the converts. They were outrageously treated—stoned, mauled, ducked, hounded with bulldogs, threatened, homes looted, businesses ruined. Anyone who walked through a town could pick out, by their ruinous condition, the homes where the Methodists lived.’”<sup>1</sup> “A doctor at the time of the Wesley’s said, ‘...I never met such people as the Methodists; none of them are afraid of death but calm and patient and resigned to the end.’”<sup>2</sup>

1. *101 More Hymn Stories* (Kenneth Osbeck)  
2. *Al Smith’s Treasury of Hymn Histories* (Al Smith)

