

TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

PASTOR MICHAEL A. REID, SR.

JANUARY 1, 2023

HYMN 175	“Standing on the Promises”
WELCOME	
SONG	“Christ Is All I Need”
PRAYER	
HYMN 268	“How Firm a Foundation”
HYMN 264	“In the Garden”
SONG	“Christ Is Sufficient”
OFFERING	
SCRIPTURE READING	James 3:1-12
HYMN 228	“My Faith Has Found a Resting Place”
MESSAGE	“Attaining Perfection”

GIVING ENVELOPES & YEAR-END STATEMENTS

Giving envelopes are available for your convenience in the lobby. **Please note that boxed sets no longer contain numbered envelopes**, since our counting teams and record keeping practices do not require a numbered system. You are welcome to take one box per giver. Filling out an envelope for your financial gift is a great help and time-saver for our counting teams!

Year-end statements (giving records) will be sent out during the coming weeks. This year we will be *emailing* all statements. We are happy to provide a paper copy by request, or if we do not have your email address on file. Please help us by notifying Michelle McBride or the church office in advance if you will need a paper copy of your statement.

Our sympathy, love, and prayers are extended to Holly and family in the death of her mother, Gloria.

UPDATES & EVENTS

TODAY	EVENING SERVICE @ 6PM – “Connecting Our Mind and Time with God’s Will”
WED, JAN 4	KIDS 4 TRUTH AND YOUTH ALIVE RESTART
TUES, JAN 10	TBC HOSTS AIBF PASTOR’S FELLOWSHIP If you can bring a dessert for this event, please sign up in the lobby!
SUN, JAN 15	TEMPLE’S 62ND ANNIVERSARY - CHILI SUPPER @ 6pm
SUN, JAN 22	NATIONAL SANCTITY OF LIFE DAY We will collect a special offering for Choices Women’s Center in Fredericksburg. Choices is a Christ-centered organization that provides pro-life alternatives to women who are pregnant, to fathers, and to those struggling with a past abortion.
TUES, JAN 31	TBC LADIES FELLOWSHIP – 6:30-8pm Questions? Contact Michelle McBride or the church office.

3 PRINCIPLES *for Embracing the New Year*

“I was amused when I read a prediction offered in 1962 that reported by 1985, technology would have made so many advances, that the average workweek would be 22 hours, and we would only work 27 weeks a year. Our biggest problem would be what to do with so much leisure time! How did that work out for you? When we think of the New Year, we consider our resolutions for changing our behavior and enjoying success going forward. Sadly, we recall that some of our resolutions are repeats from last year. Ephesians 5:15–17 can help us in ordering our priorities and establishing our direction, and I believe there are 3 truths that God would have us to consider. ‘See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.’ Ephesians 5:15–17

1. OUR TIME ON EARTH IS LIMITED

God reminds us of this truth in Psalm 39:4: ‘LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.’ I remember (barely) in my teen years, that I thought 70 years old was just shy of eternity! Now as I quickly close in on that important landmark, it seems like such a brief journey. Everything depends on perspective, and we are to have a measured perspective. We do not have endless days or multiple lives to be obedient Christians, great spouses, godly... (cont. on right column)

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Jim & Barbara

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	Evelyn Matthew
2	Bill Tracy
3	Mercedes
5	Clay Tyler Jody
	Richard & Julie
6	Bill Rachel

parents, and loyal friends. We have a measured number of days. In Psalm 90:12, the Lord gives us more to consider: ‘So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.’ Several years ago, I read an article entitled ‘Dead Ahead.’ It described a new clock that was being sold. The Dead Ahead clock kept track of how much time you had left in your life. It was programmed for 75 years for men and 80 years for women. Every day when you got up and every evening before you pillowed your head, you could see how much time remained in your pilgrimage on earth... We as believers should not even boast of tomorrow, for we know our days are numbered and to be used wisely, which leads us to our next principle.

2. MAKE THE MOST OF EVERY WORTHWHILE OPPORTUNITY

Paul told us to redeem the time, because the times in which we live and the world in which we live is evil. One of the shades of meaning of that word evil is the thought of being worthless. We live in days when people spend their time, energy, and resources on worthless pursuits—things that do not matter and will not last. We as believers are to live lives that are worthwhile! Satan is a thief and his desire is to steal the best years, the best desires, the best goals of our lives and move us toward the worthless. Part of redeeming the time is carefully recognizing that we are to seize every opportunity to learn of Jesus. If we are not wise, we can miss what Mary saw. Martha was busy and cumbered with much that was good to do, but she was not careful about attending to the best. When our lives become a flurry of activity without time dedicated to sitting at the feet of Jesus, we have allowed Satan to steal something very important from us. Jesus taught us that we cannot live by bread alone, but that we need every word that comes from the Lord... In our world, it is easy to be overcome with commitments, information, and possessions, but we must make wise choices. To make wise choices requires us to understand the final principle.

3. UNDERSTAND WHAT THE WILL OF THE LORD IS

I would never suggest that I know what the will of God is specifically for anyone’s life but my own. I would, however, make one suggestion for all of us about discovering and doing His will this year. Make your greatest priority your relationship with the Lord. Making your relationship with the Lord your #1 priority will find you prioritizing church attendance, devotional time, family time, and even spending and giving practices. When our relationship with the Lord becomes our #1 priority, it is amazing how our whole perspective on life falls into a worthwhile pattern. Robert E. Lee guided his life with the phrase, ‘Carpe Diem!’ or ‘Seize the day!’ Let’s seize the day, the year, the life—but let us add to that thought: ‘Seize the day to the glory of God!’”

–Dr. Mike Edwards (ministry127.com)

