

THE BRIDGE

A Newsletter Connecting You to Temple Baptist Church

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Love is in the Air



*Lead Pastor
Donald Calder*

I have “fallen in love” with the city of Sarnia and its people, and I fell hard and fast.

I never imagined moving from the city I grew up in, BUT GOD had other plans for my life and ministry. After living 17 years on the East Coast, God transplanted me to the beautiful province of Ontario.

I need to say a special thank you to the leadership, staff and congregation for making me feel so welcome to the church and community. I experienced an immediate connection with this church family, and I am excited to be part of the journey that Temple has been on for nearly 80 years.

Each day I am learning more about the impact Temple has made in this city. God strategically placed us

here with a mission to reach our city. There are still thousands who walk these streets who are far from God. They are our co-workers, neighbours, family and friends.

With such a rich spiritual history, Temple is poised to make significant gains in the next year. We have been blessed with financial resources and talented people. We are a church of influence and I pray our influence will continue to grow as we launch into our Fall.

Fall gives us the opportunity to refocus after a warm and relaxing summer break. It’s not simply getting back into a regular routine, it’s the opportunity to consistently meet together and reach this city for Jesus.

If you, like me, are fairly new to Temple, let me encourage you to get connected as soon as possible. Temple has a lot to offer! As well, there are many opportunities to get connected through serving.

September 11th is the “Kick Off” for our Fall ministry season. Exciting things are already planned and there is a sense of expectation in the air as to what God might do among us. God has put together a great team of staff ready to serve you and help launch us into the future.

I appreciate your prayers as I continue the transition into the Lead Pastor role at Temple.

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Fall Clothing Drive a Wonderful Success

by Pat Bell, Clothing Drive Co-ordinator

On Saturday, August 27th we held the best clothing drive to date! What made it the best? Could it have been the over 400 breakfasts we served? Or the 335 filled backpacks we handed out? Or the almost 500 people who came through our doors? Was it all the people of our church who wrote cheques, donated items, or bought school supplies? Maybe it was the scores of people who went shopping and stuffed back packs and handed them to kids? Or the people who bought the groceries to cook the breakfast and flip the pancakes, made casseroles, and served the food to all who came through the line? Possibly the ladies who emptied our donation bin and then sorted everything

into categories and bagged and boxed all that we gave away? Was it the amazing turnout of people who helped us to set everything up Friday night and then tear everything down Saturday; who mopped, cleaned, and stacked the chairs and put away all the tables?

Maybe it was all of these things and more! We can't forget the staff in our church office that made our flyers and put notices in our church bulletin and answered phone calls about the clothing drive. Or the few volunteers who delivered 1,000 flyers throughout the city or the people who drove folks home after the drive. Or the people who acted as greeters and hostesses and folks who took care of looking after

people's items while they ate breakfast and helped them to their cars with their new treasures!

To all these and the many who were there to help people find things and wipe tables and just listen to folks and talk to them we give a huge thank you! We serve our community twice a year in this way and it takes a village of workers to put it together.

The real reason why this was a success can be summed up in a conversation Edna had with a woman as she handed her cutlery and a drink in the food line. The woman said "I come here for two reasons, one I like the potatoes and two I don't feel like you guys look down on us."

What joy to be the hands and feet of a God who loves us ALL!



Blood Services are Booming



by James Bekkers,
Executive Pastor

Every month at Temple, Canadian Blood Services hosts a blood donor clinic in our church gym. It's one of the tangible ways we

as a church can love our neighbours.

A small but committed team of people led by Mike Salisbury, Amelia Salisbury and Laura Raiger prepare the church on the fourth Saturday of every month receive donations.

In the span of one year we expect to collect almost 900 units of blood. Given the urgent need for blood in Sarnia and around the province,

Canadian Blood Services have been very grateful that we make our space available.

On behalf of the leadership of the church I want to thank our leaders and volunteers who make this event possible each month – a special thank you also to all those who participate in giving blood. It's a small way in which we can "love our neighbours." If you would like to get involved in setting up or

cleaning up after a clinic, please contact Pastor James at:

jbekkers@templebaptist.com

We would be extremely thankful for your help.



An Update from Our Elders



*Chair of Elders
Dave Lawrence*

Dear Church Family:

I wanted to write you a short note to say thank you for your support on the recent changes to our *Letters Patent* through the *Supplementary Letters Patent*. Further, your approval of certain resolutions required to be

completed pursuant to our incorporation in Sept 2002 is deeply appreciated. We continue to work on updating our By-Laws. Our lawyers provided us with a By-Laws template to work from, as a starting point. This summer, a sub-committee consisting of our Executive Pastor along with two Elders and one Deacon reviewed and revised that template document titling it "By-Law 2016". Presently, the Elder Board is reviewing By-Law 2016. Once we have completed our review and recommendations, we will have our lawyers look it over to ensure we are

remaining compliant with the Ontario Corporations Act, as well as giving due consideration in addressing current issues that the church is facing today. Once we have that document back from the lawyers, we shall make the document available to our members for review. Further, we plan to announce a meeting schedule so that we may have a series of question and answer meetings with our members. Once those meeting have been concluded we shall call for a vote to accept the revised By-Laws.

Although this work may not be the most exciting, it certainly is important. To that end, we shall remain focused on completing the task at hand. It is our hope that we can complete this revision and have new By-Laws in place by the end of this year.

On behalf of your Elders board, thank you for your continued prayers and support.

In Christ,

David Lawrence,
Elder Chair
(*Phil. 4:13*)



Pictures from Day Camp Carnival (left) and our fall Clothing Drive (right).

Day Camp Celebrates 35 Years



by *Katheine Reyes*
Director of Children's Ministry

Our 35th summer of *Day Camp* was spectacular! The kids learned about Jesus, some for the first time, and campers had fun at all their activities. Seventy-five children accepted Jesus as their forever friend this summer and now those children are being prayed for this year. Our camp theme was *Time Shift*, seeing what God has done in the past, how He is with us now and will be present in the future. The kids had a blast traveling through time with our actors as they uncovered the mystery of where the professor went.

On August 14th, we hosted *Carnival Day* after the worship service. We had popcorn, cotton candy, inflatables, tug of war, character costumes and a pie eating contest! Families from the community came and celebrated with us. God has done great things through *Day Camp* at Temple. We are thankful for all the parents who sent their children, safety over the years, financial provisions and the freedom to tell children about God.

Here are some quotes by campers from this summer...

"I LIKED BOWLING, IT WAS MY FIRST TIME. I LEARNED HOW TO BE A 'GIRL' KNIGHT AT CAMP."

"I am very quiet but I like to pray"



"My favorite part about camp is everything were learning about God and Jesus. I loved doing the maze at Korny Korner's too".

"I had lots of fun and loved everything about camp. I accepted Jesus as my forever friend on Wednesday after the salvation message. I don't like that camp makes me tired."

"I love camp and had lots of fun. My favorite is the slip and slide. I learned that Jesus died for our sins."

"If I had to go choose to go to Canada's Wonderland or camp, I would choose camp."

THIS IS MY LAST YEAR OF CAMP AND I HAD SO MUCH FUN. I LIKE THE FUN THE LEADERS PROVIDED AND HOW THEY ALWAYS HAD A SMILE.

I LOVED EVERYTHING BUT CRAFTS, IT'S JUST NOT MY THING. AND I LEARNED FROM AGENT 07 THAT WE DON'T ALWAYS HAVE IT ALL TOGETHER.



Glimpses from the Mission Field

Here are some of the happenings with Temple supported missionaries! It is but a glimpse into their lives. In the coming months, we will look for opportunities for those on furlough and at our church, to further share their ministries. Continue to pray for our missionaries. There are cards in our foyer that serve as a reminder of those we partner with.

Suttons – You may have noticed Beth and Mike on Sunday mornings attending our services. The Suttons began a one year furlough in April from their ministry in Papua, New Guinea. It a “working furlough” and they have rented an apartment in Durham, helping at New Tribes Missions with various jobs around the Training Center. This allows them to spend time with friends, family, churches and supporters throughout the year.

Palmers – After 6 years of ministry in the “jungles” of Indonesia, the Jeff, Naomi and their 3 girls, Eliana, Daniella and Olivia have safely returned to North America for their furlough. Currently, they are travelling throughout the States, visiting with Jeff’s family and their supporting churches. In early October, they will arrive in Sarnia and will settle themselves in our church house. They will be with us through April 2017. We’re looking forward to reacquainting ourselves with this lovely family and the opportunity for them to further share about their ministry.

Karwurs – This August, after their one year furlough, Edwin and Helmi returned to Manado to continue their ministry at the Seminary. However, they left with mixed emotions, in that, their two boys, Kyle and Toar, stayed here in Ontario with Helmi’s sister to continue their education. Since returning much has happened in their lives, the most significant being Edwin’s new role. He is appointed to lead the Seminary as its new principal. As the school continues to grow in size (34 new students in the bachelor of theology and Christian Education program), it faces administrative and logistical challenges, however the Karwurs continue to pray and work through these opportunities.

Janks – Wesley and Tenley continue to their ministry “grounding” in Paraguay. A key challenge to this is their ability to learn the Spanish language. They have recently completed a trip to Chaco, a region they are considering to serve long term. Time was spent in a small supply town with local missionaries before visiting a tribal location. As Tenley shared, this trip ignited a fire for every tribe, tongue and nation to receive the Word of God in their own heart language.

Rusos – An exciting event is about to happen with the “church plant” in Laval, the official launch of the 180Church is this September. This past year, the focus has been on securing a building for the church, raising ministry leadership and establishing key programs such as a children’s and youth ministry. In one year, on the Sunday’s Dom preaches, the attendance has already reached nearly 100 people. You can always keep up to date with this church plant at www.theoneeighty.ca.

Care Ministries at Temple



by Jim Train,
Pastor of Congregational Care

There are seasons of needs in all our lives and so it has been for many since my last report in *The Bridge* in April. The rise in hydro/water bills, groceries, clothing, etc., has placed numerous people from our church and community in dire straits. The generosity of Temple’s congregation has made a huge difference in many lives as we care by assisting with rent payments, groceries, gas and many needs that we all face on a monthly basis. It is a great way to demonstrate the love of God to His own, as well as the spiritually lost.

I have found over the years of ministry, that requests for counseling needs generally diminish in the summer, but that has not been the case this year. Life is difficult for many and even people from the community will call looking for guidance and help to deal with problems. It is a joy to help others and it encompasses all the pastoral roles.

Visitations to hospital, homes, retirement village and nursing homes is a constant ministry and a delight as I get to visit, read God’s Word and pray not only for the ones I know but often with those in the same room. I’ve never yet had anyone refuse for me to pray for them.

This Fall in Youth and Family Ministries



by Dave Lane,
Pastor of Youth and Family

It is hard to believe that September is already here. It means back to school, but it also means excitement. We are so looking forward to what the fall holds for our *Youth and Family Ministries*. Let me take a few moments and share with you what you can expect this fall.

SONIC (Gr. 6-8)

Sonic kicks off Tuesday, September 13 @ 7 pm in the youth room. We are asking that all parents please register their children on that night or they can register before by dropping by the church office. Sonic is every Tuesday night from 7-8:30pm. There is no registration fee, but we do have the Snack Shack, where students can buy their own snack for the evening. Also, there will be a cost for any special events. This fall our special events will be Korny Korner and the YMCA.

We are also excited to announce that Andrew Miller will be our youth intern this year overseeing our Junior High Ministry. Andrew has grown up in our church and being involved with our Youth Ministry, Children Ministry and Day Camp. He is studying to be a youth pastor at *Heritage Bible College* and is in his last year. Andrew has chosen to do his internship for his degree with us. Please pray that God will use Andrew in some incredible ways this year.

H2O (Gr. 9-12)

H2O begins Sunday, September 11 @ 7 pm in the youth room. This group runs every Sunday night from 7-9 pm unless otherwise stated. Some special events we have planned for this fall include Whirlyball, Annual Fall Retreat, Airtime Trampoline, and CAS shopping/Christmas Party.

We are looking forward to what God will do as we begin a new series this fall entitled, "The Unshakeable Truths". We will be spending 8 weeks studying truths that every believer should know. I believe that this will help our students make bold stands for God in their high school.



H2O at Cedar Point in August

UNDERGROUND (College)

Underground resumes Monday, September 12 @ 6:30 pm in the youth room. It will be a time of worship, teaching and fellowship. The heart of this ministry is to provide a place where young adults can come to hear from God's word, to encourage one another and to grow in their desire and pursuit of Christ

FAMILY MINISTRY

For this year, we will be doing our Grace Based Parenting Series one last time. We will be doing all three parts through out the year. We have also decided to offer it on a new night. The first series "Creating an Atmosphere of Grace" will be begin on Thursday, September 29th at 7 pm at the Church in our family room. And it will run for 7 weeks. The cost is only \$10 per couple, simply the cost of the workbook. This series will revolutionize your parenting skills. If you are interested, contact the church office to register. Hope to see you there!

We are looking forward to what God has in store for our youth and family ministries this fall. Please keep us in your prayers.

Why We Worship



by Andy Sherlock,
Director of Worship

I read an article recently about why a church community should sing together. It listed 7 reasons. Here they are:

1. When you sing, you obey. Singing isn't an option in Scripture. It's a command.

Colossians 3:16 says, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

2. When you sing, you dig deep roots in the Word.

Again. Colossians 3:16 says, "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly...singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs..."

3. When you sing, you build up others.

First, you build up fellow believers when you sing:

Note Ephesians 5:19 specifically says, "addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs..."

We see the same thing in

Colossians 3:13-16: the exhortation to sing comes on the heels of bearing with one another (13a), forgiving one another (13b), putting on love (14), being at peace as one united body of Christ (15), and teaching God's Word to one another (16).

4. When you sing, you make war.

Chances are you didn't connect singing and warfare together, but it's a theme visible in Scripture. In Colossians 3, Paul is challenging the Colossians to literally put sin to death in their lives – to kill sin. And so all the commands to love and peace and forgiveness and teaching and SINGING, are, therefore, the Bible is teaching, attitudes and habits of the believer that will kill sin!

5. When you sing, you are spiritually strengthened for trial.

Often times, we think only of singing when we're happy and when times are good. However, singing that brings strength for trials is described in Acts 16. Paul and Silas are unjustly imprisoned for the sake of the Gospel, and what do they do while they're in prison? Sing! (Acts 16:25)

6. When you sing, you walk a God-designed pathway to joy.

Here is a sample of what the Psalms say about singing:

Psalms 5:11: "Let all who take refuge in you

rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you."

Psalms 9:2: "I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High."

Psalms 51:14: "Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness."

Psalms 59:16: "I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress."

Psalms 63:7: "For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy."

7. When you sing, you glorify God.

True obedience, deep roots in the Word, building up others, making war against Satan and sin, persevering, finding joy in God – all of these things bring glory to God – each person's chief goal and chief purpose in life.

Colossians 3 & Ephesians 5 simply and powerfully tell us to sing "to God" and "to the Lord" because He is the object of our praise. Ephesians 5:19: "singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart." It is to HIM and about HIM that we sing!

In Revelation 7:9-10, the Apostle John describes a glimpse of eternity with a great multitude of people from every tribe, peoples, and languages singing before the Lamb, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" Singing matters. And it matters that we do it together.

Way back in September of 2015, we had a night of worship here. It was an amazing night. Songs were sung, Scripture was read, new songs were introduced, but most importantly Jesus was worshipped.

What some of you may have forgotten, is that we recorded the service that night with the intention of putting out a live CD. The plan was to record, mix, master and produce it all in house. It has been a very long process but we are thrilled to say that it is finally here.

The overall vision of the project was to record the worship team singing the songs that we love to sing, as well as some new ones, and be able to offer that to you. The reason we decided to do all the production and mastering in house is that it gave us a way to gift the album to you without charging for it. Get your copy now.

Fall Programming at Temple

The chart below summarizes the programs in children, youth and adult ministries this fall. Please see our website (www.templebaptist.com) and our Facebook site (<https://www.facebook.com/templebaptistsarnia/>) for more information.

	CHILDREN	YOUTH	ADULTS
SUNDAY AM	Nursery (Birth-2yrs) Toddlers (2-4yrs) Temple's Treehouse(SK-Gr. 5)	Train Track Crew (Gr. 6-8) <i>(Train Track Crew serve our in children's ministry during the morning service providing snacks, taking attendance and helping in areas of need)</i>	Sunday School Classes offered 9:15am (occasional) Worship Service 10:30am
WEEKLY	Girl's Alive (Gr. 1-5) & Boy's Xtreme Team (Gr. 1-5) Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15pm <i>Both groups are now full. Registration for these two groups has passed.</i>	Underground (College & Career) Mondays, 7-9pm H ₂ O (Gr. 9-12) Sundays, 7-9pm SONIC (Gr. 6-8) Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm	Small Groups Registration (Sept 18 & 25) Small Groups Meet (Oct 2-Nov 27) Starting Point (Oct 11-Nov 29) Parenting Class (Oct 6-Nov 17)
SPECIAL EVENTS		SONIC – Trip to <i>Korny Korners</i> (Sept) H ₂ O – Fall Retreat (Oct 28-29) H ₂ O – Swimming at YMCA (Nov)	Baptism Service (Sept 18) Membership Class (Sept 24) Forever Young at Heart 55+ with special musical guests <i>Mercy</i> (Sept 23) Tim & the Glory Boys Concert (Dec 2)

Pastoral Search Update



by James Bekkers,
Executive Pastor

A few months ago we said goodbye to Pastor Greg MacRobbie as he and his wife, Julie, made their way from Sarnia to Brookside Baptist in Kanata, Ontario. Over the last couple of

months our Elder Board has been discussing what our next step will be in the hire of a new pastor to fill Pastor Greg's former role. When we, as a Board, realized that there was a possibility that we might begin the fall with a new Lead Pastor we decided to wait and invite Pastor Donald into the process of deciding on the next stages we would like to take.

During the next month we would encourage all of

you to pray for God to direct our next steps in this hiring. Beginning in September, I will be working with a dedicated team of volunteers to get many of the ministries that are a part of Connections Ministries (small groups, Starting Point, welcome ministries, ushers, baptisms, membership, greeters, etc.) off the ground for the fall season.

We are trusting that God will provide us with

someone who will be a great fit for the future of Temple. As more news becomes available, we will take time to share it with you as a congregation.



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