APRIL 2024 BELL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH JOURNAL **BELLROAD.ORG**



MONTHLY EVENTS

- 4-13 No Women's Breathe
- -4-27 Union Gospel Mission- Dinner at the Rosenau home at 5:30 pm. Leave/carpool at 6:30 pm Service at UGM from 7:30-8:30 pm



WHERE HOPE IS FOUND

BY PASTOR RYAN

ARGUABLY THE MOST FAMOUS VERSE IN THE THIRTEENTH CHAPTER OF 1 CORINTHIANS IS THE THIRTEENTH VERSE. "SO NOW FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE ABIDE, THESE THREE: BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE." HERE THEOLOGIANS RECOGNIZED THREE "THEOLOGICAL VIRTUES," QUALITIES WHICH ARE SUPERNATURALLY BESTOWED. THE FOUR "CARDINAL VIRTUES" FIRST PROPOSED BY THE ANCIENT PHILOSOPHER ARISTOTLE WERE JUSTICE, COURAGE, TEMPERANCE, AND PRUDENCE. A PERSON COULD ATTAIN THESE BY DOING PARTICULAR ACTIONS. MOST PEOPLE WHO ARE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS WORLD-EVEN CHRISTIANS-HAVE THESE TRAITS

BUT BEING BRAVE, JUST, WISE, AND SELF-CONTROLLED ALONE WILL NOT BRING YOU INTO GOD'S KINGDOM. THESE QUALITIES CAN BE PRESENT IN A PERSON WHO IS UNFORGIVING, UNGRACIOUS, AND EVEN HARSH. WHAT ARISTOTLE TAUGHT WILL HELP YOU IN THIS LIFE BUT CANNOT GET YOU BEYOND IT. ONLY THROUGH GOD'S GRACE CAN YOU BE A PERSON OF LOVE, FAITH, AND HOPE.

OF THESE THREE VIRTUES, HOPE IS PARTICULARLY RELEVANT TO OUR CURRENT CULTURAL CLIMATE. OUR YOUNG NATION HAS GENERALLY BEEN MORE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE, THOUGH NOT ALWAYS FOR REASONS OF FAITH AND LOVE. HOWEVER, A STARTLING PESSIMISTIC SHIFT, PARTICULARLY AMONG PEOPLE UNDER 25, HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SCHOLARLY AND POPULAR DEBATE. IS IT SMART PHONES? COVID LOCKDOWNS? IRRELIGIOSITY? YES.

THE LATTER CATEGORY IS OF OBVIOUS INTEREST TO ANY PASTOR. THE PERCENTAGE OF PERSONS BELONGING TO GENERATION Z WHO ARE NOT ATTENDING CHURCH AND/OR ARE RELIGIOUS "NONES" IS HIGHER THAN MILLENNIALS, BUSTERS, BOOMERS, AND THE SILENT GENERATION. THERE IS MUCH TO BE SAID, BUT PERHAPS TWO THINGS WILL SUFFICE. FIRST, HOPE-A DISPOSITION OF CONFIDENCE TOWARDS THE FUTURE-CANNOT BE SUSTAINED WITHOUT FAITH AND LOVE. SO YES, IF PEOPLE ARE NOT CHRISTIANS, TRIALS OF ANY KIND WILL SQUELCH HOPE-EVENTUALLY. SECOND, THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST IN HISTORY SHOWS US THAT DEATH AND DESPAIR WILL NOT HAVE THE LAST WORD. EASTER REVEALS THE VICTORY OF GOD, A MESSAGE WE MUST BOLDLY PROCLAIM AND WAIT EXPECTANTLY FOR OUR GOD TO TRANSFORM A GENERATION.



KID'S CAMP 2024

REGISTER HERE

MUSICAL EXPEDITION THROUGH TIME JUNE 17TH - JUNE 20TH 9:30 AM - 12:30PM WITH A CELEBRATORY PERFORMANCE ON JUNE 23RD EXPLORE PAST COMPOSERS AND THEIR MUSIC BY SINGING, DANCING, AND HEARING THEIR STORIES! FOR THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED 1ST - 6TH GRADE LUNCH PROVIDED

KID'S MUSIC EXPEDITION 2024 <u>REGISTER HERE</u>



YOUTH CAMP-PETRA SPRINGS JUNE 27-30 ALL KIDS 6TH-12TH GRADE ARE IN VITED TO JOIN US. WE WILL JOIN WITH WOODLAND CHURCH -<u>LIVING HOPE</u> WE WILL BE SPENDING LOTS OF OUR TIME EXPLORING GOD'S BEAUTY IN NATURE THROUGH HIKING, SWIMMING, GAMES, ETC. WE WILL ALSO BE FOCUSING ON GOD'S WORD, DIVING INTO BIBLE STUDIES, HAVING CONVERSATIONS, AND WORSHIPPING TOGETHER. <u>WWW.PETRASPRINGSCHRISTIANCAMP.ORG</u> SEE PASTOR DAVE FOR MORE DETAILS

> YOUTH CAMP 2024 <u>REGISTER HERE</u>



WEDNESDAY DINNER AND BIBLE STUDY WILL START UP AGAIN APRIL 3RD AND CONTINUE FOR THE NEXT 10 WEEKS. JOIN US AT 5:30 EACH WEDNESDAYS AS WE EAT TOGETHER, WORSHIP TOGETHER, AND STUDY TOGETHER! 6:30-7:30 IS OUR ALL AGES BIBLE STUDY TIME.





EVERY TUESDAY MORNING, THE MEN GATHER AT OUR CHURCH IN THE CAFE FOR AN EARLY MORNING DISCUSSION/STUDY OF THE SERMON FROM THE PREVIOUS SUNDAY. 6-7 AM JOIN US FOR SOME COFFEE AND A GREAT DISCUSSIONI THIS WILL BE LED BY OUR PASTORS AND WILL INCLUDE A TIME OF PRAYER FOR EACH OTHER. COME READY TO APPLY WHAT WE ARE BEING TAUGHT EACH SUNDAY TO OUR EVERYDAY LIVES.