

JANUARY 2024
**BELL ROAD
BAPTIST CHURCH
JOURNAL**

BELLROAD.ORG



MONTHLY EVENTS

- 1-13 Women's *Breathe*- 9 am- 455 Slowdown Rd. Newcastle. Contact Diana Knapp or DeLynn Rosenau for info.
- 1-27 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*



A NEW THING

BY PASTOR DAVE

"SEE, I AM DOING A NEW THING! NOW IT SPRINGS UP; DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT?

I AM MAKING A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS AND STREAMS IN THE WASTELAND." ISAIAH 43:19

AS I SIT HERE IN MY OFFICE AND PONDER THE NEW YEAR AHEAD OF US, I AM DRAWN TO THIS PASSAGE AND SEVERAL OTHERS WHERE GOD TALKS ABOUT DOING A *NEW THING*. I HAVE TO ADMIT, I ABSOLUTELY LOVE NEWNESS. HOWEVER, I UNDERSTAND THAT MANY PEOPLE FEAR NEW THINGS BECAUSE THEY GET USED TO AND ARE COMFORTABLE WITH HOW THINGS ARE NOW.

I CAN LOOK OUT MY WINDOW AND SEE THE NEWNESS OF THE GRASS IN OUR FIELD FROM ALL THE RAINS AND THE NEW GROWTH IN OUR TREES. THEN THERE ARE THE BEAUTIFUL AND AMAZING SUNSETS AND THE SUNRISE IF YOU ARE UP EARLY ENOUGH. I READ A QUOTE BY AUTHOR RICHIE NORTEN: *"EVERY SUNSET IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO RESET. EVERY SUNRISE BEGINS WITH NEW EYES."*

AS WE LOOK AT THE YEAR 2024, WHAT WILL GOD DO? HE TELLS THE ISRAELITES THROUGH ISAIAH THAT HE IS DOING A NEW THING. A NEW THING COMES FROM THE ROOT HEBREW WORD *CHADASH*, WHICH MEANS "TO BE NEW, RENEW, REPAIR." THIS WORK IS A REVIVAL AND RESTORATION OF HIS PEOPLE. FROM THE BEGINNING OF SCRIPTURE IN GENESIS 3, HE HAS PLANNED TO RESTORE, REDEEM, AND REESTABLISH HIS PEOPLE.

REVELATION 21:5, JESUS SAYS, "HE WHO WAS SEATED ON THE THRONE SAID, "I AM MAKING EVERYTHING NEW!" GOD IS STILL IN THE BUSINESS OF SAVING, RESTORING, AND REDEEMING HIS PEOPLE! WHAT IS AHEAD OF US IN 2024? GOD WILL BE SAVING AND RESTORING MORE PEOPLE TO HIS KINGDOM! WILL HE USE BELL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH TO ACCOMPLISH SOME OF THAT? I HOPE SO! I BELIEVE SO! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE NEWNESS IN OUR FRIENDS, COMMUNITY, AND FAMILY MEMBERS AS THEY COME TO A SAVING FAITH IN JESUS THIS YEAR!

GOD ALSO SAYS THAT HE WILL MAKE STREAMS IN THE WILDERNESS. I TRAVELED TO ISRAEL IN 2017, AND ONE THING THAT OPENED MY EYES WAS THAT MUCH OF THE LAND IS DRY AND DESERT-LIKE. HOWEVER, WHEN OUR BUS PULLED INTO A PARKING LOT, AND WE BEGAN TO WALK IN THIS DESERT, AROUND THE NEXT CORNER, THERE APPEARED AN OASIS CALLED "*EN GEDI*". THIS WAS THE PLACE WHERE KING DAVID HID IN THE CAVES WHEN KING SAUL WAS HUNTING HIM. IT IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL STREAM IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DESERT, WITH GREENERY ALL AROUND.

WHEN THINGS SEEM DRY AND CHALLENGING, WE MUST LOOK FOR GOD TO MAKE A WAY AND PROVIDE STREAMS OF HIS BLESSING. LAMENTATIONS 2:22-23 REMINDS US, "THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD NEVER CEASES; HIS MERCIES NEVER COME TO AN END; THEY ARE NEW EVERY MORNING; GREAT IS YOUR FAITHFULNESS."

HE IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL AND GIVES A FRESH/NEW START EVERY DAY! I PRAY THAT 2024 WILL BE A YEAR FOR ALL OF US TO LONG TO SEE WHAT HE IS DOING AND TO REMEMBER THAT HE IS MAKING ALL THINGS NEW!
SOLI DEO GLORIA!

DEAR BRBC FAMILY,

OUR HEARTS ARE OVERFLOWING WITH GRATITUDE. FROM THE MOMENT OF OUR SON'S LOSS WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED ABUNDANTLY BY YOU, OUR CHURCH FAMILY. BRINGING FOOD, PHONE CALLS, GOING ON WALKS, SITTING WITH US. PAINTING, CLEANING, DECORATING, CHECKING IN, SHARING MEMORIES AND PHOTOS, CRYING AND LAUGHING WITH US, LISTENING AND JUST BEING PRESENT IN OUR SILENCE. WITHOUT YOU, AARON'S BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL SERVICE WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED. WHAT A BLESSED EVENT IT WAS TO OUR COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS AND ESPECIALLY TO OUR EXTENDED FAMILIES. BECAUSE OF YOU, FENCES WERE MENDED AND OUR LORD WAS ON DISPLAY FOR ALL TO SEE. IN SO MANY WAYS YOU WERE THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS AT THIS TRAGIC TIME. YOU GENEROUSLY GAVE, AND IN MANY WAYS, STILL ARE GIVING TO OUR FAMILY. WHAT A BEAUTIFUL LIGHT YOU SHINE INTO OUR LIVES. THERE ARE NO WORDS THAT CAN EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE AND LOVE FOR YOU. THANK YOU DOESN'T SEEM ENOUGH TO SHARE THE EMOTIONS THAT ARE WELLED UP INSIDE BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY. THANK YOU FOR BEING THE HANDS AND FEET, LIGHT AND LIFE, AND EXAMPLE OF CHRIST'S LOVE TO OUR HURTING FAMILY.

WITH MUCH LOVE AND APPRECIATION,

THE KNAPP FAMILY
BOB AND DIANA, HANNAH, PETER, DAVID, AND ISAIAH

ALL CHURCH BIBLE STUDY AND DINNER

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, FAMILY DINNER, AND BIBLE STUDY WILL BEGIN AGAIN ON JANUARY 10TH. WE WILL BEGIN OUR NEXT 10-WEEK STUDY SESSION. WE OFFER CLASSES FOR ALL AGES, AND DURING THE WINTER SESSION, PASTOR MARK WILL CONTINUE OUR ADULT CLASS USING THE BOOK OF MARK.

WE BEGIN AT 5:30 WITH A MEAL TO SHARE TOGETHER, FOLLOWED BY A COUPLE OF WORSHIP SONGS WITH A SHORT DEVOTION BEFORE HEADING OFF TO OUR CLASSES AT 6:30.

JOIN US AND BRING A FRIEND AS WE EAT, WORSHIP AND STUDY GOD'S WORD TOGETHER.

FEBRUARY 9-10

WE ARE HOSTING A FRIDAY EVENING AND SATURDAY MORNING MARRIAGE "TUNE-UP."

THIS IS NOT JUST FOR THOSE STRUGGLING IN THEIR MARRIAGE BUT ALSO FOR THOSE WHO ARE DOING GREAT.

WE ALL NEED REGULAR CHECKUPS AND NEW TOOLS TO HELP US COMMUNICATE BETTER.

JOIN US AND INVITE ANOTHER COUPLE AS WELL. IT WILL BE HELD AT OUR CHURCH, AND CHILDCARE WILL BE AVAILABLE.

***A NEW SUNDAY AFTERNOON STUDY
BEGINNING JANUARY 14TH
4-5:30 PM***

**"CREATION, FALL, AND ITS
IMPLICATIONS: EXPLORING GENESIS 1-3"**

THE FIRST THREE CHAPTERS OF GENESIS ARE FOUNDATIONAL FOR UNDERSTANDING THE WHOLE SCOPE OF THE BIBLE. IT IS ARGUABLY IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND THE GOSPEL WITHOUT KNOWING GOD WHO IS THE CREATOR, HUMANS WHO ARE HIS CREATION, SIN, SATAN AND THE MESSIAH.

PASTOR RYAN WILL BE LEADING AN EIGHT-WEEK STUDY ON GENESIS 1-3...

***ANNUAL CHURCH BUDGET MEETING
JANUARY 14TH IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.
MEMBERS JOIN US IN APPROVING
THE 2024 BUDGET!***

