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The Voice

FEBRUARY 2021

February. Here at the Lake February is a time of anticipation. When will that restaurant open? When will the tourists start arriving? When will I be able to go fishing?

February is also a time when the days get noticeably longer and we anticipate warmer weather. It is a time of scheduling Vacation Bible Schools and interviewing summer missionaries.

February is also when we cheer on the Chiefs in another Super Bowl, and "patiently" wait another 20 days for the first spring training Baseball game!

And of course, Valentine's Day is in February. Valentine's Day is supposed to be a day for celebrating love – but it is a romantic love, an earthly love. Love is so much more than red and pink frivolities and cards. And sometimes those of us who are Believers will also take a moment to reflect on the love that God has for, expressed through the sacrifice of His son Jesus.

But there is another love we should give more attention to as well. It is the same kind of love as the Lord has for us, it just involves a different lover and a different one being loved.

The One who loved us so much that He died to paid the penalty of our sin, and rose from the dead to give us the gift of eternal life also commanded us to love one another. In fact, we are to love one another like He loves us – which means that we are to love even when the other is not deserving of love – because isn't that the way He loves us?

Okay, so we can agree that we are to love one another – after all, we are brothers and sisters and we are all seeking to follow Christ, though we may have our unlovable moments we are striving for the same goal of being like Christ so we can forgive and move on and love one another. No Problem.

But wait, not only are we to love another, we are also to love "our neighbor" as ourself. Our neighbor. The Samaritan. The one who is not also a follower of Christ and striving for the same goal of being like Jesus . . . yes, we are to love them too. The means Chiefs fans need to love Buccaneers fans. Locals need to love tourists. And it even means that Republicans have to love Democrats and Democrats have to love Republicans! And Democrats and Republicans have to love the Libertarians!

Please note: Loving the person is not the same thing as condoning all of their behaviors. But it is the same thing as obedience to Christ, and therefore pleasing in His sight. After all, will it be easier to win them to Christ is we love them, or if we destroy them?

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is *that* to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ "If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is *that* to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁵ "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil *men*. Luke 6:32, 33, 35 (NASB)

Your Servant, Timothy



Pastor's & Wives Breakfast
Saturday, February 13, 2021
8:30 AM
Blue Springs Baptist Church

SAVE THE DATE

Children's Camp July 5-9, 2021 Camp P82, Rocky Mount

Mark your calendars now so your children will be able to attend. Details will be forthcoming.

CAMP COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUAY 16, 1:30 PM

ME DAY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 7

It is always good to see God raising up young people to serve Him in reaching the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. While many of us know the value of our Baptist universities, we may not be familiar with a particular program at SBU called Ministerial Experience Day. This is a time when the ministerial students are sent out to preach in real churches (as opposed to a preaching class on campus) and get experience and feedback as they work to develop their gifts and calling into greater service to Christ.

Our association will be able to participate in a Ministerial Experience Day, Sunday, March 7.

The pastors and a couple of laypeople from participating churches will fill out an evaluation form that is sent back to SBU to provide quality feedback for these young men. The churches also give a love offering (optional, not required) which is sent to SBU and used to cover the travel expense of the students, and if there is a surplus from that it is given to the students in the form of a scholarship.

If your church would be interested in participating time please let Bro. Timothy know.

Missions Opportunity!

As part of the partnership between the Missouri Baptist Convention and the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention, our missions committee is planning a mission trip to Rochester Minnesota for July 25-28. This mission opportunity involves helping the Emmanuel Baptist Church with Vacation Bible School, and also doing some work at the convention offices and in the community. To accomplish all that needs to be done we will need L15-20 people. Having someone accompany the group as a cook would be a great blessing and allow the other workers more time to do the painting and other work.

The trip is open to anyone who is at least 18 years old and a member of an LOBA church. Those under 18 may also participate as long as a parent or other responsible adult accompanies them.

Each person will be responsible for their own meals and transportation in-route to Rochester, but carpooling is encouraged. While on the field, we will have lodging in the facilities of the Emmanuel Baptist Church. Meals will be together as a team and the cost for groceries is \$75 per person with a maximum of \$150 per family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 13: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

February 16: Camp Committee Meeting at Association Office, 1:30 PM

February 26-27: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

March 7: Ministerial Experience Day with SBU Students

March 13: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

March 14: Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 22: VBS Clinic, FBC Iberia, 3 Bonnie Drive, Iberia. 6:30 PM

March 26-27: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

March 28: Palm Sunday

April 4: Easter

April 10: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

April 30-May 1: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

May 8: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM

May 9: Mother's Day

May 28-29: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

May 31: Memorial Day

July 5-9: Camp at Camp P82

July 11-16: VBS at FBC Iberia 6:00-8:30 PM

July 25-28: Mission Trip to Rochester Minnesota

July 18-23: VBS at Cornerstone Baptist Church, 9:00 AM- Noon



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