



Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association

PO Box 391 • Eldon, MO 65026

573-392-6591 • lakeoftheozarksBA.com

Dr. Timothy Faber, Director of Missions
lakeoftheozarksba@att.net
lakeoftheozarksba.com

The Voice

JANUARY 2021

Well 2020 is over. Along with the passing of the year, I truly hope a phrase I have come to hate will also pass....That hated phrase that was so misused in 2020 is "In these unprecedented times..."

First, time is a continuum. We are always moving forward in time. We can look back on time, but cannot truly go back in time. We cannot go back to 2020 (thankfully). Nor can we go back to any other time. And because we cannot go back in time, we can never go through the same period of time twice. Thus, every moment of time is, by its very nature, unprecedented.

Also, that phrase "these unprecedented times" is an oxymoron. To say that "these" are unprecedented times implies that other times are not unprecedented. But that simply is not true. All time is unprecedented. For instance, when Israel crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land, it was an unprecedented time. The Revolutionary War, the Great Depression, and World War II, were also all unprecedented times. In fact, a child going to Kindergarten is experiencing something he has never experienced before. There is no precedent for the person learning to drive, graduate from high school, or anything else. Even if we return to a favorite place for vacation from year to year, we may say "remember that time that...." And in so doing are distinguishing that time in the past from the time in the present, and thus the present time is "unprecedented".

Having clarified that (I hope), let us remember that indeed all time is new. We are in a new month, a new year, and will be facing new challenges. Even if we have the "routine" of the same job, the same family dynamics, the same Super Bowl Champions (??) we will experience these aspects of life from a different perspective based on age, health, economy, and other factors. So you see, truly nothing stays the same (except for the Word of God, but that is for another discussion).

As Israel got ready to cross the Jordan (Joshua 3) the people were given this admonition: ...there shall be between you and it (the ark of the covenant, representing the presence of God) a distance of about 2,000 cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you shall go, for you have not passed this way before.

They were to keep God before them (as represented in the ark). They were to go where the ark went. They were not to be distracted by the enemies around them, the beauty of the land, or even the desires of their own countrymen. Why? Because they had not been that way before – it was new territory, a new time, it was "unprecedented"!

Joshua then told the people (v.5) to consecrate themselves for tomorrow the Lord would do wonders among them. He had previously told them – as he himself had been told – to be strong and courageous.

We would be wise to follow these three things as well, even as we look forward to a less noteworthy year.....be strong and courageous, consecrate ourselves, and keep the Lord ever before us. Though we have not been this way before, when we do these three things we find that He is already there before us, and where He is, we have peace.

Your Servant, Timothy



Pastor's & Wives Breakfast
Saturday, January 9, 2021
8:30 AM
Blue Springs Baptist Church

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 12, 7:00 pm
CORNERSTONE CHURCH, CAMDENTON

We encourage all pastors and executive board members to attend the Executive Board Meeting on Tuesday January 12, 2021 at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Camdenton. Cornerstone is at 747 North Business Hwy 5 in Camdenton – in the Save A Lot shopping center. The meeting will start @ 7pm. During the meeting, we will hear from a special guest about missions opportunities in Montana.

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.

ME DAY with SBU students has been scheduled for March 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 9: Pastor and wives Breakfast Fellowship, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM
January 12: Executive Board Meeting, Cornerstone Baptist Church, 7:00 PM
January 29-30: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open
January 30: Youth event at FBC Iberia
February 13: Pastor and wives Fellowship Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM
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 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

Winter Weekend

On Saturday, January 30th, we will be having an Associational Youth event at First Baptist Church of Iberia from 3:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. We will spend a lot of time playing some fast paced games and then we will come together to enjoy some taco bowls for dinner. Lastly, we will gather together to worship the Lord.

This event is completely FREE. Each student must have a waiver form that is signed by a parent/guardian. (Churches, you can find a printable copy of the waiver form in the "Info Center" tab on <http://lakeoftheoarksba.com>). We hope to see you there!



Lois McDonald
18837 Hwy 52
Barnett , MO 65011