



INFRASTRUCTURE

SERMON SERIES



Am I an actively maturing believer?

This morning, we continue our **Infrastructure** journey as we begin walking through **1 Peter 2**. We'll look at the first marker of a "*spiritual house under construction*"—a hunger for the pure Word of God, as described in **1 Peter 2:1–3**. Together, we'll talk about the **means**, the **motivation**, and the **markers** of spiritual growth.

This will not only be a time of personal reflection, but also an opportunity to reflect on how we, as a church, are doing in the work of actively maturing believers. Worship, Life Groups, Bible studies, and ministry involvement are all part of the process God uses here at Ardella to help us grow.

We are asking God to show us how we can be more effective—how to use our time more intentionally, what we are doing well so we can strengthen it, and what we may need to adjust or, if necessary, remove. I know words like *evaluation* can feel uncomfortable because they sometimes lead to another word that starts with a "c" and ends with "hange"—**change**.

This will also be part of our conversation and prayer time tonight at **6:00 in the Fellowship Hall**. I know Sunday night is family time for many, and I never want you—our church family—to feel a burdened expectation to attend church-wide prayer. My desire is simply that this time be an opportunity available to you and your family.

I love you, and I am deeply honored to be your pastor.

Pastor Mark

ARDELLA BAPTIST CHURCH (863) 646-2473 INFO@ARDELLABAPTIST.COM

January 11, 2026



2026 ARDELLA TRIPS INTEREST MEETING

Curious about where God may be leading you next? Join us for a brief interest meeting **TODAY**, **11:45 am** in the Fellowship Hall.

We'll share details about upcoming mission trips to **Brazil, Poland**, and an Adult Fellowship trip to Lancaster County, PA.

Come explore these opportunities for service, fellowship, and faith.
No commitment required!

EVENTS 2026

UPCOMING

JAN **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION**
16 **6-7:30 PM**

FEB **PITT PARTY**
7 **9-11 AM**

FEB **GRAND PRIZ**
21 **9-12 AM**

**ALL ARE
WELCOME**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
CHRISSALLSTROM@ARDELLABAPTIST.COM

FAMILY PICNIC &

CHILI COOK OFF

Saturday, January 24



Scan **QR Code** to
enter your chili.



Save the date for our **Annual Family Picnic and Chili Cook Off**. Scan the QR Code to enter your chili for a chance to win the coveted Ardeella chili cook off trophy. You can sign up to bring sides and desserts in the Chapel and Worship Center Foyer. Bring the whole family and invite some guests too. This is a great time of fellowship, food, and fun that you won't want to miss. Pastor Mark believes (and is bragging) that this is "*his year*" to win. 😊

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL

5-6 pm in Fellowship Hall

THIS WEEK'S MENU:

Taco Salad and Dessert

SIGN UP



\$5 per adult, \$3 per child, or \$15 for family (2 adults + kids)

***sign up in worship center foyer or chapel*

TODAY - INTEREST MEETING FOR UPCOMING TRIPS - 11:45 am Fellowship Hall

TONIGHT - CHOIR REHEARSAL - 4:30 pm - NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

CHURCH-WIDE PRAYER - 6 pm

MEN'S PRAYER

Tuesdays, 10 am in the Conference Room

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK PRAYER, ADULT BIBLE STUDIES, KIDS' & YOUTH

5-6 pm Family Style Supper-6:30-8 pm, Bible Studies, Kids' & Youth

WOW MINISTRY FOR YOUNG MOMS AND THEIR CHILDREN

Friday, January 16th, 9:15 am - 11 am –Please sign up!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION -THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

Friday, January 16th, 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall

ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC AND CHILI COOK-OFF

Saturday, January 24th, 3 pm in the Worship Center.

Sign up in the Foyer & Chapel to indicate a side dish/dessert you will bring.

MARK LOWRY IN CONCERT AT ARDELLA - WATCH FOR DETAILS.

Friday, January 30th, 7 pm

AWANA PIT PARTY

Saturday, February 7th, 8:30 am

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Sunday, February 8th - 9 am - 11 am - Room 108

AWANA GRAND PRIX

Saturday, February 21st, 9:30 am

**ARDELLA BAPTIST
CHURCH**

**FAMILY
MEMBERSHIP
CLASS**

**Sunday, February 8th
9 am - 11 am
Room 108**

**Attending our church and
wondering about membership?**

There is no obligation or expectation to join.

COME AND LEARN

Who we are and what do we believe?

Where is God leading us?

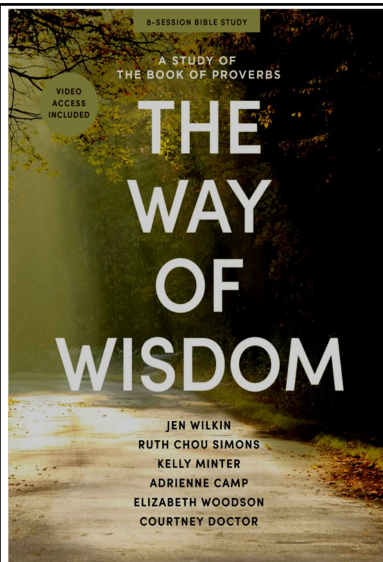
What does God want us to do as His body?

**What does God want us to be doing in the
world as His church?**

Sign up in the Foyer or the Chapel.

Or call or email the church office;

863-646-2473 / info@ardellabaptist.com



All moms with young children are invited to join us for a time of fellowship and Bible study that begins on **Friday, January 16th**, 9:15 am - 11 am in the Fellowship Hall.

WOW is a Bible based program for moms of preschoolers and school age children designed to help young moms grow spiritually, encourage them in their role as a mother, and provide a safe community with other moms.

You will be blessed by great Bible teaching, worship, craft days, and more. For more information, contact Heidi Braddock at wow@ardellabaptist.com.

Please sign up in the Foyer or Chapel.

INVITE A FRIEND!



Financial Stewardship/ Previous Week

Tithes	\$13,741.17
Missions	\$378.00
Total	\$14,119.17

Infrastructure: Actively Maturing Believers

January 11, 2026 *1 Peter 2:1-3*

Notes

The **Means** of Spiritual Growth

Pure Spiritual **Milk** (*vs 2*)

The **Motivation** for Spiritual Growth

The **Command** (*vs 2*)

The **Reflection** (*vs 3*)

The **Markers** of Spiritual Growth

Fruit in my relationship **with God** (*vs 1-3*)

Fruit in my relationship **with People** (*vs 1*)

Reflection

How does **1 Peter 1:22-25** answer the “**Why the therefore is there for**” in **1 Peter 2:1**?

Why do you think Peter uses the image of a **newborn baby** rather than an adult believer in **1 Peter 2:2**?

Have you noticed seasons when your desire for God’s Word was **stronger or weaker**? What was happening spiritually **during those times**?

How does **remembering God’s goodness** in **1 Peter 2:3** fuel present obedience? What other **motivation** can we gain from **1 Peter 2:9-10**?

How does **1 Peter 2:11-12** rely upon my life response to **1 Peter 2:1-3**?

Read **1 Peter 1:3-9** as a **proclamation prayer** to God. If you were to underline **one phrase** of this text for your “**thought of the week**”, what would it be?