

A banner image for the 'Infrastructure Sermon Series'. It features a grayscale background of industrial and urban scenes, including a large refinery or chemical plant on the left and several modern skyscrapers on the right. The title 'INFRASTRUCTURE' is written in large, bold, orange capital letters at the top center. Below it, 'SERMON SERIES' is written in smaller, gray capital letters. A small orange circle with a white right-pointing arrow is located in the bottom right corner of the banner.

INFRASTRUCTURE

SERMON SERIES



WE ARE A HOLY NATION.

When Peter calls the church “*a holy nation*,” he isn’t offering a compliment. He is stating a calling. Holiness, by its very nature, assumes contrast. A holy people will always feel a certain tension while living in an unholy world.

One of the quiet assumptions many of us carry—often without realizing it—is that faith should make life smoother. Safer. That suffering will be the exception, not the norm. But Peter writes to believers who are doing nothing wrong—and yet are experiencing real hardship. His words in 1 Peter 4 are not pessimistic, but they are honest.

Peter invites believers to see hardship not as evidence that something has gone wrong, but as part of what it means to belong to God in a world that does not share His values.

As we gather to worship this morning, our goal is not to brace ourselves for bad news, but to listen with clear expectations. The Christian life is deeply joyful—but it is also costly. And when we understand that, we are better prepared to hear what God wants to form in us: endurance, trust, and a holiness that shines most clearly in the dark.

Pastor Mark

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

February 8, 2026

THE CORNERSTONE UNIVERSITY CHORALE



Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Ardella Baptist Church is excited to present to our community, on **Sunday, March 8th, 4 pm**, The Cornerstone University Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Kent Walters. The University Chorale performs a broad spectrum of choral pieces for national and international audiences. Each public performance is a means of worship through heartfelt, artistic expression. They will be joining us beginning Sunday afternoon and leave on Monday morning. We need **host families** to provide one night of housing, a breakfast and a sack lunch. There will be two students per household. Please sign up in the Foyer or Chapel and contact Nancypatten@gmail.com for any questions. ***Invite family, friends and neighbors!***



THE CORNERSTONE
UNIVERSITY
GRAND RAPIDS,
MICHIGAN
BUILT ON THE WORD
OF GOD

**Join with us in Welcoming this World Renowned Chorale,
Sunday, March 8th, 4 pm.**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL

5-6 pm in Fellowship Hall

THIS WEEK'S MENU:

BAKED POTATO BAR
AND DESSERT



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

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

TONIGHT - NO CHOIR REHEARSAL
NO CHURCH-WIDE PRAYER

MEN'S PRAYER

Tuesdays, 10 am in the Conference Room

EMBRACE WIDOW MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, 10 am in Room 101

WED. MIDWEEK 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

Fridays, 9:15 am - 11 am in the Fellowship Hall

EMBRACE WIDOW MINISTRY TO SWEET MAGNOLIA TEA ROOM

Friday, February 13th - Sign up in the Foyer

QUARTERLY MISSION MEETING - EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Sunday, February 15th, 4 pm

AWANA GRAND PRIX

Saturday, February 21st, 9 am

RECONNECT DONOR APPRECIATION DINNER

Friday, February 27th, 6:30 pm

ANNIE ARMSTRONG WEEK OF PRAYER-NO. AMERICAN MISSIONARIES

Sunday, March 1st-Sunday, 8th

CORNERSTONE UNIVERSITY CHOIR IN CONCERT AT ARDELLA

Sunday, March 8th, 4 pm

UPC

MINING EVENTS

Grand Prix Feb. 21



**Compete
in design or speed
as Awana kid or
Youth/Adult**

Registration 8:30-9 am

Racing begins @ 9 am

NEED TO CONTACT OUR TEAM?

Meet the talented/gifted people on our staff who strive to serve you, the people we love and serve.

Pastor Mark Bedwell - Senior Pastor

markbedwell@ardellabaptist.com

Pastor Mark Thompson -

Family Pastor

markthompson@ardellabaptist.com

Chris Sallstrom-Children's Director

chrissallstrom@ardellabaptist.com

Brad Weishaupt

Sanctuary Worship Director

bradweishaupt@ardellabaptist.com

Eva Pike-Chapel, Worship Director

evapike@ardellabaptist.com



Maria McClintock-Nursery Director

mariamcclintock@ardellabaptist.com

Alexis Corso - Pre-school Director

alexiscorso@ardellabaptist.com

Marge McClintock - Ministry Assistant

margemcclintock@ardellabaptist.com

Financial Stewardship/ Previous Week

Tithes

\$17,099.50

Missions

\$418.00

Total

\$17,517.50

Infrastructure: Holy Nation

February 8, 2026 *1 Peter 2:9,4:12-19*

Living as a Holy Nation in an Unholy World

The reality. *(4:12)*

The response. *(4:13-14)*

The responsibility. *(4:15-16)*

The reason. *(4:17-18)*

The rest. *(4:19)*

Reflection

According to **1 Peter 2:9**, how does Peter **describe believers** before he ever addresses suffering?

In **1 Peter 4:14**, why does Peter tell believers not to be **“surprised”** by suffering?

In **1 Peter 4:13-16** what does Peter tie **joy** and **blessings** to?

Acts 5:40-41; Philippians 3:10; Colossians 1:24; Romans 8:17-18; Hebrews 11:26

Why is **1 Peter 4:15** **not** considered Biblical persecution?

What does Peter mean when he says **“judgment begins with the household of God”**? **Malachi 3:1-3**

What does **1 Peter 4:18** mean?

What does it mean to **“entrust your soul to a faithful Creator”**? **1 Peter 4:19**

How might this passage (**1 Peter 4:12-19**) challenge the way we evaluate **“success”** in the Christian life?