

## Cure for the Summertime Blues



June is finally here and along with it, warmer temperatures, the end of another school year, swimming pools, and ice cream floats. For some us, it also means longer work days, yard and home projects, vacations, and busy sport schedules. Summer is meant for fun, but it often goes way too fast and we never seem to have enough time to enjoy it. I know I've often thought Ed Cochran was right when he sang, "There ain't no cure for the summertime blues." I think Jesus would beg to differ and we as St. Mark's high school ministry definitely want to follow His lead.

Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Spending time together is crucial to grow together in Christ and make the most of our summer. While many of us have busy schedules, we are encouraged by each other, and empowered by the Spirit of God when we continue to meet together.

Summertime is so important for us to get some R&R but it also presents opportunities for connection in less formal but powerful ways. Jesus tells us that He is with us when two or more are gathered together in His name. This is true not only for prayer and worship times but at all times. God is with us when we get together for fun. When we have fun together, we enjoy a stronger connection with each other that overflows into our ministry and church experience. We are filled with joy and it's much easier to worship our Father as one body and mind.

High school ministry will meet weekly this summer on **Wednesday nights at 7:00 for Fan the Flame out at the firepit starting June 6.** We are also planning a Bible study with students on Saturdays and will try to connect for a cookout or two. By staying connected, we will make the most of this summer and be available for God to use us in some amazing ways!

