

# BereaOne Life

## WISE Musings

<sup>16</sup>For God loved the world in this way: He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. <sup>18</sup>Anyone who believes in Him is not condemned, but anyone who does not believe is already condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God. John 3:16-18

March 16 was a special day for many Southern Baptist churches. The SBC's North American Mission Board encouraged churches to take advantage of 3/16 being a Sunday by preaching the simple Gospel as presented in John 3:16. Here at Berea we did just that.

The Sunday before we were encouraged to write down the name of at least one person we would invite to 3/16's service. We placed those names on the Lord's Supper table during the invitation and prayed that God would soften the hearts (and clear the schedules) of those we invite.

On 3/16 we were blessed to have many friends and family join us as guests both for the service and the delicious array of soups and sandwiches afterward. In that service we looked at our recent reading in Leviticus juxtaposed with John 3:16.

Leviticus presents a way to deal with sin that is laborious, expensive and well... bloody. The deeper we look into the regulations of sacrifice and perfection the more it becomes apparent that Leviticus' solution to sin is impossible. It just can't be done. No one can live a holy life.

This impossibility is what leads to John 3:16. What was impossible in mankind's attempts to live a satisfactory life, is made possible by Jesus. While we cannot live up to the standard, Jesus did!

Jesus, having lived a perfect life, was in the position to be able to become a perfect sacrifice in our place. Our sin requires eternal punishment and Jesus took that punishment on Himself.

IF we will simply BELIEVE we can be saved! On 3/16 we were given a clear opportunity to receive this gift. If you missed that service I would encourage you to visit our website ([bereaone.org](http://bereaone.org)) to watch and be blessed...

3/16 was a great opportunity to invite friends and family who do not know Jesus. This is something we should be doing all the time.

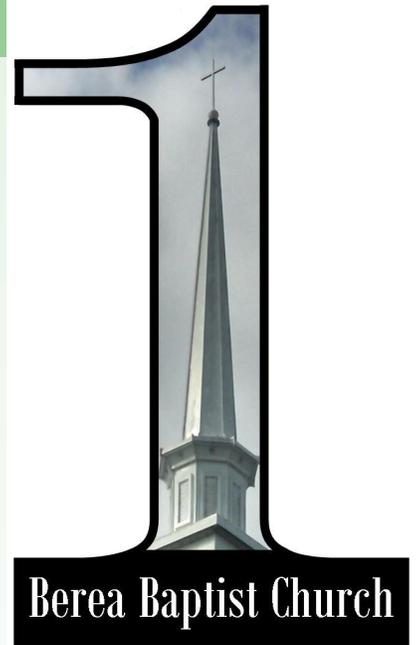
Easter on April 20 is another wonderful opportunity to share the hope we have in us. I hope you will not only join us that morning (Sunrise, 6:30; Morning Worship, 11), but that you will also invite many others to join as well.

The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions is an emphasis on the Missionary, Church Planting and Chaplaincy work done by our Southern Baptist Missionaries right here at home. It is amazing to hear the stories of how our Missionaries are taking the Gospel to unreached and under-served communities across our continent.

How is God leading you to come alongside in spreading the Good News and in supporting others doing the same?

Love you all,

Jason



## April 2025

### Inside this issue:

- ★ Deacons' Reflections
- ★ Handyman Ministry
- ★ Children & Youth
- ★ Brief History of the CP
- ★ Coming Events
- ★ CCC Stories
- ★ Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Weekly Activities:

#### Sundays

- ★ 10:00am Sunday School
- ★ 11:00am Sunday Worship
- ★ 4:30pm Puppets
- ★ 6:30pm Youth Bible Study-FLC

#### Wednesdays

- ★ 11:00am Adult Bible Study
- ★ 6:15pm Awana

### April @ a Glance:

- ★ Business Meeting  
4/13 @ 12:15pm
- ★ Deacons Meeting  
4/14 @ 7:00pm
- ★ Newsletter Deadline  
4/22 @ 12:00pm
- ★ Church Council  
4/27 @ 12:15pm

## Thoughtful Reflections from Your Family Deacons



Ross Tenny — Chairman  
Mike Hanson — Vice Chairman  
Steve Durham — Secretary  
Don Alexander — Reflections  
Bill Durham  
John Gregory  
Fahey Harrell  
Frank Lilly  
Matt Reed

It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.  
Ephesians 5:12 (NIV)

We are called to be as holy as God is holy. We should never allow anything shameful to invade the privacy of our homes, disguised as entertainment. To follow the direction in todays verse, we must be careful about what we view and listen to, for it all has an impact upon us. We will emulate what we see. Guard your eyes and ears so that your heart and mind are filled with what is true, pure, and righteous.

Next Deacons' Meeting will be April 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm  
in the choir room.



## Handyman Ministry



Lorenza Cooper's wife is confined to a wheelchair and needed a ramp to get out of the house.



This ramp was built for Paul Smith's father who is unable to use steps.



Sharon Coopers needed a ramp to be able to get her mother to the doctor as she could not walk.



## Children's Ministry News



**Awana on Wednesday Nights from 6:30-8**

**Awana Grand Prix - April 12 - 5-8pm**

Awana Grand Prix is coming April 12th! Pine cars are just \$8 each and clubbers can choose from precut designs or design and cut their

own car. Cars must be purchased through Berea and adhere to the rules and specifications of the Awana Grand Prix. Race night will begin at 5pm and a free hot dog dinner will be served to clubbers and their families as we take to the track!



## Awana Schedule

- April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Piñata Night
- April 9<sup>th</sup> - Pennies for the Gospel
- April 16<sup>th</sup> - Comedy Night
- April 23<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break
- April 30<sup>th</sup> - Future Night

Thank you for your continued support of Awana.

## Sunday School for Children & Youth - Sunday Mornings @ 10 am

It's time for **Operation Egg Drop** and we are looking for candy appropriately sized to fit inside of a plastic egg. Donations can be put in the church parlor and the deadline for donations is April 13. Remember, this opportunity to bless our children and their families is top secret!

## Help! We need donations for our Awana Ministry!

Our **Awana Store** is looking for items for our store nights. Toys, kids craft kits, outdoor items like bubbles, balls and jump ropes, are just a few ideas to get you going. Please turn in your items to Pastor Charlie or Jessica.



## Youth Group News



Trek for Middle School Students - Wednesday Nights during Awana April 23 - Our Awana Trek Club is going on a Field Trip! \$10 per clubber August 3-9 - Youth Mission Trip to Philadelphia

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY: All Students, 6th grade and above, are welcome to join us every Sunday evening from 6:30-8:30 in the FLC, as we share a meal together, shoot hoops, play games and study God's Word.

**Let's Try This Again!** Due to weather, **Pennies for the Gospel** has been rescheduled to April 9, so dig in the couch cushions and crack open the piggy banks and help us reach others with the gospel as we collect loose change for our Favorite Missionary.



With a quick google search you can find that the average Facebook user has 338 "friends." A deeper look at the numbers and you find that most people only consider 30% of the so-called friends to be actual "real life friends." The perception of a friend has changed a lot over the years as we become more and more distant by both location and technology and so it leads to the question: what is a friend good for?

While the worldly concept of a friend has changed, God's Word has painted a picture that has not changed at all. Proverbs 17:17 gives us our first glimpse of the masterpiece of friendship as it shows us the love of a friend that is constant through both good and bad times. Looking at the very next chapter we continue to see the picture of someone who sticks closer to us even than family (18:24). In a fallen & broken world we can find great strength in a friendship that will pick us up when we fall and, through God's mighty power, can withstand anything the world throws at us. We will find ourselves as both the blessing and the blessed, for being a part of a close, Christ centered friendship.

Simply put, we were not designed to do life alone. So how about you? Are you looking for friendship in the wrong places, like Facebook? Are you diligently being the kind of friend to others that you will most certainly one day need? Begin today to develop a Biblical view of what a friend is and make that the framework for your most intimate friendships.

Further Reading: Proverbs 17:17, 18:24, 27:17; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; 1 Corinthians 15:33

Should you ever have questions or need anything, please feel free to contact Pastor Charlie - (252) 333-4242.

# Reaching, training, sending, serving: Looking ahead to 2025



Photo via Unsplash

N.C. Baptists saw God do some amazing things in 2024.

In April, we saw nearly 900 people baptized during our “Fill the Tank” emphasis. Over the summer, more than 12,000 students attended our camps and conferences — a record number. And in August, we saw more than 1,200 N.C. Baptist churches from 92 counties come together for our first-ever “ServeNC” emphasis, displaying the love of Jesus to local communities across the state.

Last year also had some unprecedented challenges — especially when Hurricane Helene hit the state in late September. We faced a great hurdle when western North Carolina was devastated by this once-in-a-lifetime storm which changed a countless number of lives. But even in the midst of tragedy, we saw N.C. Baptists come together like never before as thousands of volunteers lined up to serve with Baptists on Mission, bringing relief and hope to those who were hurting.

Witnessing what God has done over the past year makes me excited to see what He has in store for us in 2025. As we continue reaching, training, sending and serving, I’m confident that God will guide us onward as we move forward in our mission to make disciples of all nations.

The gospel compels us to reach those who don’t know Christ. Every year, I’m amazed to see how God moves through our churches during the annual “Fill the Tank” emphasis, and I anticipate God will bring many souls to Him again this year as we fill our tanks on Sunday, April 27. Consider how your church can use “Fill the Tank” to encourage evangelism so that the lost around you can be reached for Him.

We’ll also have ample opportunities to train together throughout the year — especially at our Disciple-Making Conference that happened in Raleigh on Feb. 25. This is always a special event for N.C. Baptists, and this year was no different. The coming year will also feature numerous other opportunities for training and equipping. I hope you’ll join us for a time of teaching, worship and equipping and that it encourages you to continue in the primary task of making disciples.

In 2025, N.C. Baptists will continue to equip churches to send church planters. Make no mistake: Conventions aren’t the ones planting churches — churches plant churches. But through SendNC, our state convention wants to ensure you and your church are equipped to raise up and send leaders to plant more churches. This year, consider how you and your church can increase your sending capacity, and visit [sendnc.com](http://sendnc.com) to start that sending journey.

Finally, for N.C. Baptists, 2025 will be a year marked by serving. We may be a few months removed from Helene, but our work in western North Carolina is not done. We plan to be serving in western North Carolina for years to come. In 2025, let’s make service in this part of our state a top priority. You can visit [ncbaptist.org/helene](http://ncbaptist.org/helene) to learn how you and your church can pray, give and go as a way to serve those affected by Helene. And as we think about serving, begin making plans now for your church to participate in this year’s “ServeNC” emphasis week Aug. 2-9. Visit [servenc.com](http://servenc.com) to learn more.

I’m grateful to be partnering On Mission Together with you once again in 2025. Last year, N.C. Baptists demonstrated that we are a convention of churches that takes the Great Commission seriously. My prayer is that this will be true for years to come as we reach, train, send and serve On Mission Together.

By Todd Unzicker,  
N.C. Baptist Executive Director-Treasurer





### Fellowship Luncheon

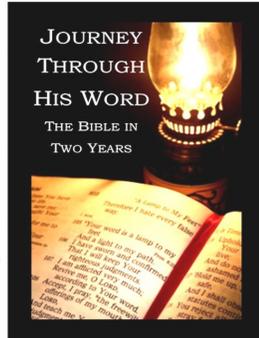
The Fellowship Committee is having a Ham and Cabbage luncheon on April 6th right after the Morning Worship. Please bring a dessert and join us for good food and great fellowship!



### J. Walkers Ministry

Our next meeting will be April 21<sup>st</sup> @ 10:30am. Please come and join us for fun and fellowship.

Berea is on a "Journey Through His Word" in 2025 & 2026. These books were written by our very own Pastor Jason and will help us read through the Bible in two years with better understanding. If you would like to join us on this journey please call the office to get your books.



### Women on Mission

Tuesday, April 15th @ 7:00pm in the OFH.



Dear Church Family,  
Many thanks to all of you for the calls, visits, prayers, and other acts of kindness and brotherly love shown to our family. Through all our troubles and illness(es) you have been there. We appreciate our church family.  
Thank you also to the Agape women for the soup, fruit, and goodies brought to our house today. We will use it to nourish our bodies and our spirits as well.  
May God bless you all and may He continue to allow us to bless one another.

In Christ,  
Mildred & Willie Godfrey



There is so much to be thankful for in this life. Thank you, God and church, for prayers offered up on my behalf. I love you all.

God Bless You,  
Alice Lewis



**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.**

### Success Stories



Albemarle Area United Way

"**Sabrina**" is a young mother who was out of work temporarily due to needing an emergency c-section. While out of work, Sabrina fell behind on her rent. CCC was able to partner with the client and another agency to pay the past due rent and prevent this young family from being evicted.

"**Darrell**" an elderly gentleman on a fixed income, has been struggling to heat his home with the cold weather and snow we've had. Darrell's oil tank was empty, and his electric very high. CCC was able to pay for a fuel delivery so that Darrell could heat his home, staying safe and warm

*Berea partners with the Community Care Collaborative in meeting human needs by providing assistance to those facing temporary emergency crisis. To learn how you can offer additional support visit: [aunitedway.org/communitycarecollaborative](http://aunitedway.org/communitycarecollaborative).*



# BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Let's celebrate together!

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 Earl & Diana Heatwole | 14 Laura Barbettini       |
| 4 Patrick Lewis         | Donovan Hodges            |
| 5 Timothy Bradshaw      | 15 Fahey Harrell          |
| Julia Vallas            | 16 James & Ruth Russell   |
| 7 Kristy & Karl Poulson | Konnie Paulson            |
| Terry & Joannie Taylor  | 18 Tyler Byrd             |
| Sammy Wise              | Kelsey Douglas            |
| 8 Kenny & Kathy Waters  | Bill Durham               |
| Mildred Godfrey         | 19 Fahey & Amanda Harrell |
| Asher Long              | 20 Don & Miriam Alexander |
| 10 Cindy Hall           | Sarah Long                |
| Jerry Newell            | 21 Pamela Robinson        |
| 11 Mike & Dawn Johnson  | 24 Sam & Paula Keith      |
| 12 Pat Lehman           | 29 Buddy Worsley          |
|                         | 30 Peggy Bunch            |

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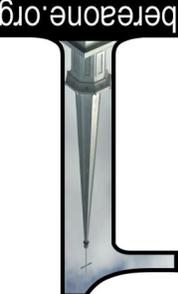
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