

BereaOne Life

WISE Musings

The fool says in his heart, "There's no God." They are corrupt; they do vile deeds.
There is no one who does good. Psalm 14:1

If I had one word to describe this time of year it would be HOT!

Through the heat, churches tend to be incredibly active. This Summer for Berea certainly will be. Here's a synopsis:

Camp Cale: 1 for kids camp; 6 for youth camp.

On Mission: Spruce Pine, July 7-12; Philadelphia, August 2-9.

VBS: July 13-17 (Volunteers still needed & pre-register the kids online).

ServeNC: August 2-9

Workday: Parsonage Project Day 2; August 9

In addition to these our **Handyman team** will continue their regular service and our other ministries will continue to be active and serving Bereans and our community. These are excellent ways that we show God is first in all things, especially in our lives.

And yet, we live in a world that does not put God first. We live in a world where Summer is for vacation and "me time." We live in a world where most live as if there is no God.

As we continue our "Journey Through His Word," reading through the entire Bible in two years, we have moved to the Psalms. In these short poems (songs really) we see wisdom, the pain of life and the hope of God.

A familiar verse comes from the beginning of Psalm 14 (above) acknowledging how foolish it is to believe there is no God. Plainly the verse says that an Atheist is a fool.

Living out their atheism these ones are corrupted by their foolishness into vile deeds. They believe there is no God, so they act according to that belief. That makes sense, but that's not the end of the verse (nor the end of the Psalm, if you were to read it all).

"There is no one who does good." That has to be an exaggeration, doesn't it? This must be hyperbole, right? I don't think so...

While the Atheist is an outright obvious fool, there are other milder forms of foolishness. The Atheist is plain and honest in their lack of faith and naturally lives accordingly. But I have met a lot of people who say they believe in God, yet live the same as the Atheist. These may be called "Practical Atheists."

The Practical Atheist believes in God when it's convenient, or maybe on Sundays, but their actions betray their heart. Their heart is filled with the fool's mantra "there's no God."

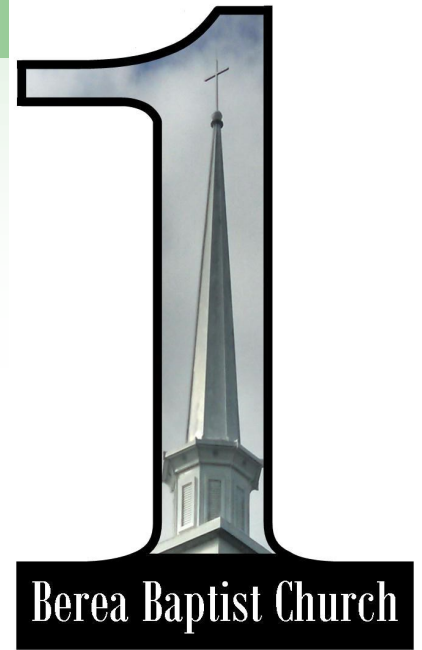
Further, I have met others (we all fall into this category at least a little) who believe in God and live accordingly most of the time. These ones live a life of faith, most of the time, but there are cracks in the armor. Maybe those cracks appear in Summer. Maybe those cracks appear when the calendar starts to fill up.

Summer is an excellent time for relaxation, recreation and vacation, and this is good. But, never allow your Summer plans to reveal the foolishness of a bit of "Practical Atheism." The Summer is a time to refresh, but it is also a wonderful time to live out the faith in deep and outreaching ways.

This Summer I pray you will be able to be renewed and I pray you would be able to share the faith, hope and love that proves you are not a fool.

Love you all,

Jason



July
2025

Inside this issue:

- ★ Deacons' Reflections
- ★ Handyman Ministry
- ★ Children & Youth
- ★ SBC annual meeting recap
- ★ CCC Stories
- ★ Upcoming Events
- ★ Birthdays & Anniversaries

Weekly Activities:

Sundays

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

Wednesdays

- ★ 11:00am Adult Bible Study
- ★ 6:30pm Kid's Summer Program

July @ a Glance:

- ★ Deacon Nominations
7/13 @ 11:00am
- ★ Business Meeting
7/13 @ 12:15pm
- ★ Deacons Meeting
7/21 @ 7:00pm
- ★ Newsletter Deadline
7/22 @ 12:00pm
- ★ Church Council
7/27 @ 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

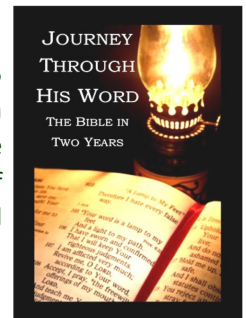
A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor.

Proverbs 29:23 (NKJV)

When we want what someone else has, our desires and jealousies can only have destructive consequences. When our pride moves us to act foolishly and it is brought to light, we are certain to experience humiliation. Avoid covetousness at all cost. Stay humble and repentant of any jealousy. In following this process sincerely, we will find God's favor.

Next Deacons' Meeting will be July 21st @ 7:00pm in the choir room.

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.



Handyman Ministry

Berea
Handyman Ministry



We built this ramp for Herman Mullen. His daughter has MS and is confined to a wheelchair.



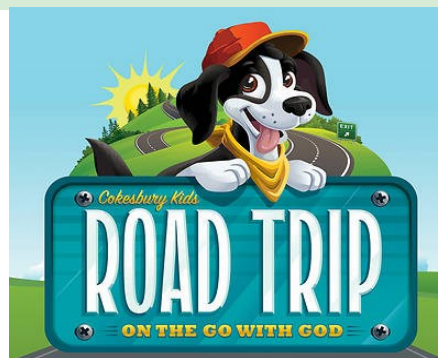
Two small ramps were built so that Patricia Hendren could get in/out of her house. She lives alone and is confined to a wheelchair or walker. Patricia is also on our meals on wheels route for Berea!

Children's Ministry News



Summer Ministry Program on Wednesday Nights from 6:30-8:00pm This Summer's Theme is Bible Scavenger Hunt

Jeremiah 29:13 "You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart."
Donations needed! Juice Pouches like Kool Aid Jammers, Fruit Snacks, Popsicles, Pretzels, Goldfish, String Cheese, GoGurt, Fruit Cups, Individual Cups of Cinnamon Applesauce



Road Trip VBS is coming! July 13-17 - 6:00-8:30pm

Volunteers NEEDED! Connect with Pastor Charlie to get plugged in! Financial Donations also needed!

Register today at:

berea-baptist-church.mycokesburyvbs.com

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



Youth Group News



Youth Bible Study 6:30-8:30 Sunday Nights
August 3-9 - Youth Mission Trip to Philadelphia

Nonrefundable Deposit of \$100 Due Now

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY:

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

Youth Supper

You can also sponsor a youth supper night!
Contact Charlie or Jessica for details.



Prayer on the Go! As we head to Philadelphia, we ask that you would begin to lift up our group in your prayers. Pray for each individual member and pray for our destinations. Pray that hearts will be open and receptive to the Gospel, and that lives will be changed. Pray that our group will have an opportunity to step outside the known, and step into a deeper understanding of who God is and how we can walk with Him more closely.

Our Team

Isabelle Biter
Timothy Bradshaw
Dontrel Lee
Liam Nolan
Ryan Robinson
Jared Tenny

Joel Tenny
Judah Tenny
Leia Troxell
Noah Troxell
Emma Lee Wise
Sam Wise

Charlie & Jessica Troxell

Our Schedule August 3rd-9th

Sunday 8:00am - Leave for Philly!

Monday Morning - VBS setup

Monday thru Friday Evening - Vacation Bible School

Tuesday & Friday - Serving Meals with Broad Street Love

Wednesday & Thursday - Packaging Food Boxes

Friday Afternoon - School Supply Distribution and Community Event

Saturday - Traveling Home

Further Reading: Matthew 20:28; Mark 10:45

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



Our Children and Youth!



Pictures from Awana over the past year.
Cubbies 3-4yrs old, Sparks K-2nd, T&T 3rd-8th, and Trek 9th-12th



Pre play while waiting on dinner to be served.

A new game this year that the kids loved playing at game time.

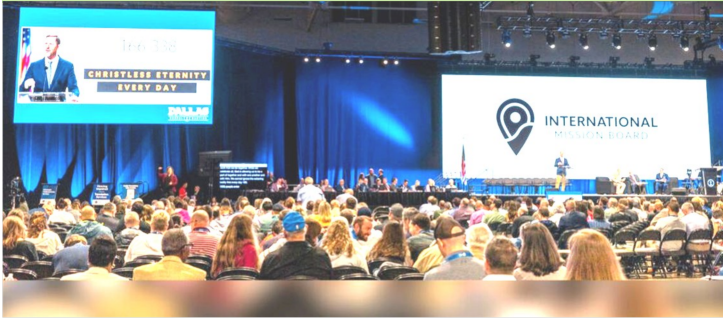


Pre-Awana Meal
Back right round table are Cubbies, back left table are T&T Boys. T&T Girls at the far left table with their backs to us. Some Sparks kids up front.

Below are the Trek kids



'Stand together' for the sake of reaching nations.



DALLAS (BP) — International Mission Board (IMB) President Paul Chitwood encouraged all Southern Baptists to recognize their role in missions during the IMB report at the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting in Dallas.

"I'm honored to bring you greetings on behalf of your International Mission Board and more than 3,500 Missionaries and their families serving around the globe," "I'm here today to thank you, to celebrate with you and to challenge you, because, together, Southern Baptists are making incredible progress in this mission," he said.

Speaking to the importance of relationships that progress missions, Chitwood emphasized that relationships with home churches, the lost, local partners and all Southern Baptist sending churches are critical to the advance of the gospel around the world.

"Through these relationships, God is moving," Chitwood said. "Over the past year together, we went to the nations." He noted that in addition to IMB Missionaries, 12,000 Southern Baptists partnered with IMB Missionary teams on short-term mission trips.

"We also sent to the nations," he said, referring to all Southern Baptists, not just the IMB or particular churches.

"We sent 423 new Missionaries, he told the crowd. "Project 3000 continues to gain momentum. Project 3000 is our intentional and strategic effort to ensure the remaining 3,000 unengaged people groups are engaged with the gospel. So far, 33 Missionary Explorers have been sent, with more on the way. Together, they have found 214 people groups and engaged 109 of those people groups for the very first time. Many of these peoples were in areas once thought unreachable."

Turning to the importance of cooperative financial support, Chitwood reported that Southern Baptist giving reached a historic milestone in 2024.

"Through your sacrificial generosity, we received a record-breaking \$206.8 million through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering," he said. "And your commitment to the Cooperative Program (CP) in this 100th anniversary year remains strong, with more than 60% of your gifts that make it to IMB going directly overseas to be used on the frontlines of missionary work. This kind of giving changes eternity — it sends and it sustains a missionary presence proclaiming the gospel."

Cooperative giving by Southern Baptists fully funds IMB Missionaries, distinguishing them from those who must raise their own support. Chitwood quoted the statistic that half of Missionaries who raise their own funds end up back home before their first term comes to an end, most due to withering financial support.

"Since I became IMB President, because of your generosity, not one IMB Missionary has come home due to financial need," he said, to the applause of messengers.

Chitwood kept missionary presence at the forefront of the report.

"In 2024, more Southern Baptists answered God's call to represent all of our churches, together, on the world's mission fields. The Missionary applicant pool has grown by more than 500% since 2018, recently topping 1,600.

"That's not just a number. It's your sons and daughters, your church members, your friends who need our support."

IMB believes missionary presence is critical to addressing global lostness. Chitwood reported that more Missionaries are not only going, but they're staying longer on the field, leading to "deeper investment, stronger partnerships and lasting gospel impact."

Chitwood repeatedly voiced his thankfulness for the partnership of Southern Baptists.

"Your faithful prayers and generosity — every penny of it — enables your Missionaries to be steadfastly present and fully funded," Chitwood recognized Southern Baptists' response to natural disaster, hunger, war and trauma through Send Relief. He reported that through 471 relief projects, Southern Baptists served almost 2 million people in 78 countries with physical and spiritual care.

"In 2024, God moved," he said, reporting:

- 1.6 million people heard the gospel presentation;
- 145,000 of them professed faith in Jesus;
- 68,000 were baptized and discipled by Missionaries sent and supported by IMB;
- 84,000 new leaders were trained;
- 2,400 new churches were planted.

"As believers, we are commanded to make disciples," Chitwood said. "So we train and foster local leadership in their context to embrace the Great Commission, both locally and globally from the start of their existence as a church."

He continued, "While we celebrate all God is allowing us to be a part of together with one another and with Him, we cannot ignore the sobering reality that every day 166,338 people enter eternity, separated from Christ forever."

The number is not just a statistic, Chitwood noted. "These are people — each created in God's image — whose life can be transformed by the gospel if they have the opportunity to hear. The harvest is still plentiful, and the laborers are still too few."

"Together, we will not stop until the name of Jesus is exalted in every nation, all tribes, peoples and languages," he said. "We will not stop, we must not stop, until the Great Commission is complete and we stand before the throne and before the Lamb in that great multitude."



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

Success Stories



Albemarle Area United Way

"Eric", a dedicated farmer in our rural community, works tirelessly to support his family of four. This past winter brought an unprecedented amount of snow and frigid temperatures, making it difficult to generate income. As a result, prioritizing the mortgage meant the electric bill fell behind.

Fortunately, CCC was able to step in and provide assistance, ensuring Eric and his family remained connected to essential power services. Now, with summer on the horizon and plentiful rain nourishing the land, his family is back on track for the months ahead.

Did you know?..

- Agriculture is a vital part of Eastern North Carolina's economy, with the region producing a significant portion of the state's crops and livestock. North Carolina ranks among the top five states in the U.S. for tobacco, sweet potatoes, and poultry production.
- The state has over 46,000 farms, covering 8.4 million acres, with a majority being family owned.
- Additionally, North Carolina farmers contribute over \$92 billion annually to the state's economy.

"Michelle", a hardworking single mother, carefully manages her finances, receiving her paycheck at the end of each month. When her car unexpectedly broke down, requiring costly repairs, she faced a difficult choice. Covering those expenses meant falling behind on her electric bill.

Fortunately, CCC stepped in to provide assistance, ensuring Michelle's power remained on and easing the financial burden during a challenging time.

Did you know?..

Single-parent households are a significant part of North Carolina's demographic landscape. Across the state, approximately 33% of households with children are led by a single parent.

In some counties within Eastern North Carolina, this percentage is even higher, with areas like Bertie County reporting rates above 47%. These families often face financial challenges, making community support programs like CCC essential in helping them navigate unexpected hardships.

As a single parent, "Jason" must cover all household expenses, including those for his child. After paying the security deposit and first month's rent to move into a new home, he fell behind on his next month's rent due to the unrealistic upfront costs required to secure suitable housing.

Often, landlords and management companies demand that renters have three times the monthly rent in income, which is an unrealistic expectation that causes more harm than good. Advocacy remains a crucial part of our collaborative effort through this program to assist community members as best we can. Let's continue to educate and empower our residents to build a future where financial security is attainable for all.

Statistics highlight the challenges faced by single-parent households:

23% of U.S. children under the age of 18 live with one parent and no other adults.

10.9 million single-parent families with children under 18 were recorded in 2022.

Solutions and support:

Financial education programs can help single parents manage their budgets more effectively.

Community resources such as food banks, housing assistance, and childcare support can alleviate some of the financial burdens.

Advocacy for policy changes to reduce the upfront costs of renting and increase affordable housing options.

*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:
aaunitedway.org/communitycarecollaborative.*



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6:00-8:30pm**

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Charlie to get plugged in!

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	<p>Church Wide Yard Sale July 12th In the Berea FLC/Gym 7am—1pm Presale Friday night 5pm—8pm</p> <p>Got stuff to get rid of? Come on out and join us, set up will be on Thursday and Friday. Questions? Contact Chris Vallas.</p>	
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J. Walkers Ministry

Our next meeting will be July
21st @ 10:30am. Please come
and join us for fun and
fellowship.



Church Business Meeting

July 13 @ 12:15pm

Church Council Meeting

July 27 @ 12:15pm

I would like to thank my Berea family for all
the cards, visits, calls, and prayers during
my time in the hospital and recovery from
my surgery. I am very thankful for all of
you!

Sincerely,
Garland Sanders

*Thank
You!*

Dear Berea Family,

Mike and I cannot thank you all enough for
the cards, prayers, and love sent to us during
my back issues and any other time we have
been sick.

We thank God so much for leading us to
become a part of the Berea family.

We love you all so much!
Kathy & Mike Duncan

From all of us in the Troxell family, we thank you for your love and support as we raced
to California to spend time with Jessica's father. Thank you to everyone that reached
out since his passing to offer encouragement and prayer.

Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

The Troxells

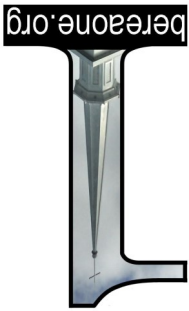


BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES


Let's celebrate together!

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------|
| 2 | Jerry & Cindy Hall
Caitlin Spear | 16 | Charlene Tenny |
| 3 | Kim Hudson | 17 | David Pritchard |
| 4 | Wayne Smithson | 18 | Betty Jones |
| 5 | Gary Markham | 19 | Dwight Cauley
Brendan Quigley |
| 6 | Austin Johnson | 20 | Karl Poulson |
| 7 | Terry Gregory | 25 | Betty Jo Layden
Darryl Smith |
| 8 | Ingrid Kitchen | 26 | Kristina Iacono |
| 9 | Traci Mitchell
Stacey Ward | 27 | Steve Long
Cameron Quigley |
| 10 | Hayden Winslow | | Michale Thrasher |
| 12 | Mark & Kim Wall | | Hannah Whitehead |
| 13 | Jeff & Bonnie Spear
Amanda Harrell | 30 | David Long |

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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