

BereaOne Life

WISE Musings

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the place of slavery. ³Do not have other gods besides Me. ⁴Do not make an idol for yourself... ⁷Do not misuse the name of the LORD your God... ⁸Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Exodus 20:2-8

February was an incredible month of service at Berea. Our facilities, and our workers, hosted many major events this month.

Our Kitchen Team fed 130 as we hosted the Baptists on Mission Region 1 Rally. The meal & desserts were a fabulous preparation to the service of testimonials to how God is working mightily in Western North Carolina.

Our Basketball ministry hosted home games multiple times this month as a way to show God's love for the athletes and families visiting our facilities. Now, trophy day got snowed out, but I believe they brought home some hardware as well! Great job coaches! Go Green!

New Life Academy JV Basketball hosted their conference tournaments here and the place was packed as their boys cut down the nets & brought home the title. It was amazing to see our Berean Bobcats work the concession stand, play in the games & even sing the National Anthem prior to the victorious championship game! Go Green!

Kairos Prison Ministry was able to go back in to Pasquotank Correctional for the first time in nearly two years and Berea was a great support by allowing meals to be cooked in our kitchens (thank you Kathy), baking 117 dozen chocolate chip cookies (thank you Mike & crew) and allowing me to be on the inside helping to lead this powerful ministry (thank you Dr. Hankins). Through our support & service the 42 "residents" were able to clearly see God's love and many of them expressed faith in Him!

When snow blanketed our area I was amazed at the number of Bereans who took action to ensure that we would be able to have in person services warmly & safely on that following Sunday!

As our Journey Through His Word continues through Exodus we are reminded of God's rules for society and morality. His main rule is to keep the main thing the main thing. Put God first!

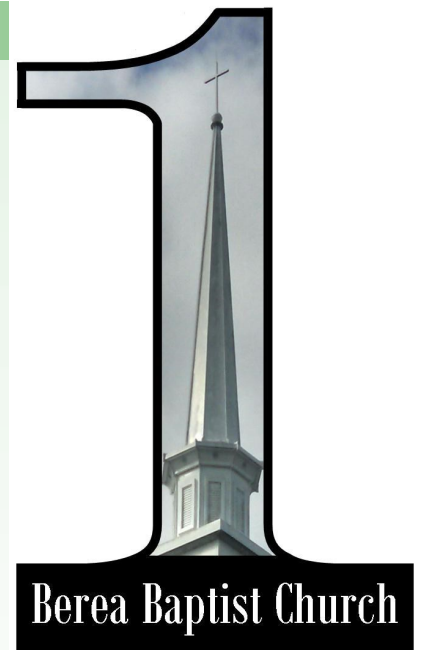
I have been very proud this month of our various crews working tirelessly to ensure that God comes first in their lives and in the life of Berea. It has been amazing to see the dedication to sharing His love with our praise, our cooking and our generosity to host various Kingdom focused events! To God be the glory!

Now that we've heard how God has used Bereans to glorify Him in the month of February, how might He be calling you to join in for March? In what areas could He be calling you to serve?

I pray we will continue to have eyes open for opportunities to serve God & share His love throughout our facilities and our little corner of the world.

Love you all,

Jason



March 2025

Inside this issue:

- ★ Deacons' Reflections
- ★ Handyman Ministry
- ★ Children & Youth
- ★ Brief History of the CP
- ★ Upcoming 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

March @ a Glance:

- ★ Deacons Meeting
3/10 @ 7:00pm
- ★ Newsletter Deadline
3/19 @ 12:00pm
- ★ Church Council
3/23 @ 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

Next Deacons' Meeting
will be March 10th @
7:00pm in the choir
room.

Handyman Ministry

Berea
Handyman Ministry



This ramp was built for Bruce
Boyd who is wheelchair
bound.



Dennis Walker is wheelchair and walker dependent
and needed a ramp to get out of the house.

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up in honor.
James 4:10(NLT)

We all have moments when we want to be recognized for something meaningful we have done. We *could* hide things of this nature in our hearts, having faith that if God chooses to lift us up, He will. It should be enough that God sees our right choices and our personal victories. At the right time, He will reward you for those times you kept quiet about your own accomplishments.

Berea Basketball News...

We would like to Congratulate All of
our Berea Teams! K-2 received **1st**
place in their division. 3-5 placed **2nd**
and 6-8 also received **2nd** place. Way
to go Berea athletes! We are proud of
you! We would also like to thank
everyone that came and supported our
teams! Go Berea!



This ramp is for Sara Obrs. Her mother came to live
with her and is confined to a wheelchair.



Children's Ministry News

Awana on Wednesday Nights from 6:30-8

Awana Grand Prix - April 12 - 5-8pm

Don't forget that March 5 will be "Pennies for the Gospel" night. This year's goal is to raise \$100 with every penny going towards the ministry of our favorite Missionary. Also, the 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!

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

Awana Schedule

March 5th - Pennies for the Gospel
March 12th - Crazy Hair Night
March 19th - Vacation Night
March 26th - Awana Store Night

Thank you for your continued support of Awana.



Youth Group News



YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Trek for Middle School Students - Wednesday Nights during Awana
 SUNDAY MORNINGS @ 10 AM
 August 2-9 - 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.

Youth Supper

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



Many years back we were wrapping up the moving process and I was left with one final piece of furniture, our upright piano. I stood in our empty living room waiting for my help to arrive when I decided I could move the thing myself. I backed the truck up to the front porch, propped open the doors, grabbed the piano and half dragged, half carried it out the front door and into the bed of my truck. I was pretty strong that day, and quite proud of myself.

It was a simple task to be sure, one that with a bit of strength that I could get done on my own. However, in Ephesians chapter 6, Paul describes a battle that we can not fight under our own meager strength. Paul speaks of a battle that is raging around us that is not physical, rather one that is spiritual. This battle is against demonic forces led by the schemes of the devil (v. 11-12). Described throughout scripture as a deceiver, and even specifically as a lion looking to devour us, the Devil is not someone that we can stand against alone, nor an enemy that can be taken lightly. So how do we stand against such attacks? In verse 10 we see the only way to do it is "in the Lord" and "in His mighty power." Indeed, it is through His strength and through the empowering of the Holy Spirit that we are able to stand under the onslaught of spiritual attacks that will come. Finally, we see the familiar picture of a soldier getting ready for battle as we are instructed to put on the armor God has provided (v. 13-17). Key to the preparation is not a matter of *if* we will be attacked, rather it is a matter of *when* we will be attacked.

So how about you, are you prepared for the day of battle? Are you trying to do battle under your strength? What about your armor, are you diligently putting on each piece every day? My friends, the battle is real, it's time to get ready.

Further Reading: Ephesians 6:10-18

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

The Cooperative Program: A brief history



George W. Truett addresses messengers to the convention in Washington D.C. Photo courtesy of SB Historical Library and Archives.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Southern Baptists have been Missionary minded since their first day and their first action. When 293 delegates gathered in 1845 in Augusta, Georgia, for the inaugural meeting of the convention, their first resolution expressed the desire to “organize a convention for the propagation of the gospel.” Before leaving Augusta, they had formed Foreign and Domestic Mission Boards, and appointed presidents to lead these efforts. These entities were the new Southern Baptist Convention’s (SBC) priority, and they remain so to this day.

Messengers to the 2024 SBC meeting approved a \$190.3 million allocation budget that designates 50.4% to the International Mission Board (IMB) and 22.8% to the North American Mission Board (NAMB), the modern counterpart to the Domestic Mission Board of 1845. But a lot of history lies between Southern Baptist beginnings a and today.

An era of challenges

Even a casual reading of history reveals major obstacles that affected the early growth of Southern Baptists’ Missionary enterprise. A devastating civil war left the American South in ruins, and the years

following that war were lean for the churches in that region. By the end of World War I, the entities of the convention were more numerous, in debt and unable to make realistic plans for growth. Funding had become the major obstacle in the convention’s primary mission.

Although the denomination’s entities were not independent of the convention, they were funded as if they were unrelated institutions. In what was called a “societal” method, the convention’s entities — including our mission boards — competed with one another as they solicited designated offerings from the churches in the same way independent efforts might petition for financial support. The results were unpredictable, inconsistent and the furthest thing from strategic.

The 75 million campaign

The financial situation had become desperate by 1919. That year, the convention in Atlanta approved a plan to expand the state and national work of the denomination and to settle its debts. A goal of \$75 million was set and George Truett was appointed to lead the campaign. When the effort got underway in 1920 — the 75th anniversary of the SBC — pledges had far outstripped the goal and receipts were far below it. Churches pledged \$92.6 million but were only able to give \$58.5 million. It was a good news bad news report.

Though the 75 million campaign provided a significant amount for Southern Baptist ministries, it highlighted the weakness of such campaigns in sustaining a thorough — denominational — missions strategy. But it also provided the first gleam of an idea whereby all the things Southern Baptists had determined to do could be funded according to a workable plan.

The Southern Baptist Cooperative Program

By the time the SBC met in Memphis in 1925, it was obvious that the churches needed to speak with a more unified voice both doctrinally and organizationally. The doctrinal voice was expressed by the adoption of a confession of faith, The Baptist Faith and Message (1925). Organizationally, messengers adopted a truly denominational funding plan for their Missionary work, the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program (CP).

The plan was to strategically limit the number of designated offerings upon which the convention’s work depended in favor of a common fund, given by the churches and evenly divided by the state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention. Both the state and national bodies would then allocate the money according to their own adopted budgets.

It was a challenging time around the world. The 1920s were especially difficult for rural people — the mainstay of Southern Baptist church membership — and this was followed by a depression beginning in 1929. In one year, household income was halved, and the Cooperative Program diminished in the same measure. Two years later, in 1931, the Foreign Mission Board appointed three Missionaries. The next year it appointed only one and held 30 in the U.S. until adequate funding was available. This hard time coincided with embezzlement scandals at both mission boards.

The Home Mission Board was \$2.5 million in debt by 1933. A grassroots effort called the 100,000 Club raised \$2.6 million in 10 years, helping the convention, in 1944, to declare itself debt free. Freedom from the debt that had plagued the convention for decades allowed the cooperative work of the churches to take off, and the Cooperative Program to show its strength.

Bold expansion at last

The next 20 years saw the Cooperative Program bear fruit as the convention added seminaries and various commissions to undergird the work of the churches in reaching the world. The mission boards were sending thousands of workers across the country and around the world. Between 1941 and 1961, Cooperative Program giving to the SBC grew from \$7.8 million to \$84.4 million.

During this time, the Southern Baptist Convention became more than “Southern,” as state and regional conventions covered the U.S. This enabled church-planting efforts within the least-reached places in North America. The partnership between state conventions and the SBC was always between autonomous bodies, but it has been very much a partnership between conventions that shared the same goal.

The 21st century has seen increased giving from state conventions for worldwide missions. Additionally, the Southern Baptist Convention has increased the percentage of its budget allocated to the IMB. This real and crucial partnership has built a network of state, national and international Southern Baptist entities interconnected for Great Commission ministry.

Southern Baptists were, from the beginning, a Missionary people. By God’s grace, the convention survived the most challenging days of its history to surpass even the imagination of our founders in 1845 and 1925. The Cooperative Program has been an essential tool for making this possible.



March 2 - Fried Chicken Luncheon, (Rescheduled from 2-23)

March 16th - Soup & Sandwich Luncheon

April 6th - Ham & Cabbage Luncheon

April 12th - Awana Grand Prix

May 4th - Finger Food Pot Luck & Bingo

More information will be available as we get closer to the dates.

We hope to see you at all of our upcoming events!

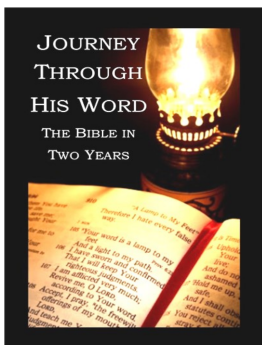


J. Walkers Ministry

Our next meeting will be March 17th
@ 10:30am. Please come and join us
for fun and fellowship.



Deacons' Meeting
Monday March 10th @
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.



Women on Mission
Tuesday, March 18th @
7:00pm in the OFH.



We will have a Soup & Sandwich Luncheon on March 16th right after the Morning Worship Service. Please bring desserts. We hope you will join us for good food and great fellowship!



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

Success Stories



Albemarle Area United Way

"Shaunta" reached out for help with her electric bill after falling behind due to her disabled daughter's severe illness. The situation forced her to miss work, as she dedicated her time and energy to caring for her daughter. In this challenging time, CCC stepped in with compassion and support, covering part of the bill to prevent disconnection. This act of kindness provided Shaunta with much-needed relief and hope, knowing that next month she will be able to manage the payment on her own.

"Darius," an elderly gentleman on a fixed income, found himself in a dire situation with no heat in his home. His electricity was out, and his kerosene tank was empty, leaving him in the cold. In his time of need, CCC stepped in with heartfelt support, paying for a fuel delivery to restore warmth to his home. This service provided Darius with the comfort and security he needed while he works to repair the electrical problem.

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.



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Let's celebrate together!

- 1 John Hudson
- 3 Mark Wall
- 4 Janet Cooke
Robert Payne
Pam Price
- 5 Chuck Lewis
- 6 Mike Hanson
- 8 Kimberly Smith
Charlie Troxell
- 9 Dickie Sanders
- 11 Earl Heatwole
Leia Troxell
- 14 Trey Kitchen
- 15 Justine Brown
Cindy Vallas

- 16 Ruth Russell
Jessica Troxell
- 17 Cody Johnson
Sylvia Whitehead
- 18 Kenny Waters
- 19 James Russell
- 20 Anita Byrd
- 22 Jade Tenny
- 24 Becca Robinson
- 25 John Gregory
- 27 Lori Mann
- 28 Joanie Taylor
- 29 Noah Troxell
- 30 Cathy Markham
Billy Spencer
- 31 JoAnn Beasley

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Permit #2

Berea Baptist Church

2033 North Road Street
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Find us on the Web: www.bereaone.org

Like Us On 

facebook.com/bereaone.org
facebook.com/bereastudentministry
facebook.com/bereabaptistchildrensministry

Email Us: office@beraone.org

Contact Us:
Phone: (252) 338-8128
Fax: (252) 335-7524

Regular Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
9:00am – 2:00pm

 beraone.org