

BereaOne Life

WISE Musings

I will sing of faithful love and justice; I will sing praise to You, LORD.
I will pay attention to the way of integrity.
When will You come to me?
I will live with a heart of integrity in my house.
I will not let anything worthless guide me.
I hate the practice of transgression; it will not cling to me.
A devious heart will be far from me; I will not be involved with evil. Psalm 101:1-4

Berea is on a "Journey Through His Word." Following in the footsteps of the first Bereans (see Acts 17:10-15), we are reading and studying the Scriptures with the expectation that God will meet us there and show us the way to go.

Eight months into this Journey, we have made it to the Psalms. The Psalms are the hymnal of Hebrew worship. You can learn a lot by reading the worship music of a church.

"Hymns" have a rich, deep theology that seems very intellectual. "Gospel songs" (think Fanny Crosby to Bill Gaither) tend to have a testimonial focus, singing to one another. "Contemporary Choruses" tend to have an upward focus, singing directly to God.

The Hebrew Psalms have a very unique, widely varied style that does all of the above, but the distinguishing characteristic is that they tend to focus on the "here and now" situation going on at the time of writing.

As our Journey has taken us to the Psalms, we have seen how willing God is to hear our praise, but also our complaints. He is just as willing to hear our frustrations as He is to receive our worship. He is big enough to take our questions and doubts, even when they can seem pointed and vindictive. He is always there to lead us back to comfort and praise.

I think that's been the biggest lesson: He is always there. In Psalm 101, David is setting up his kingdom. In the second half of the Psalm, he sets the standard for someone who will work in his court. They must be humble, honest, and faithful.

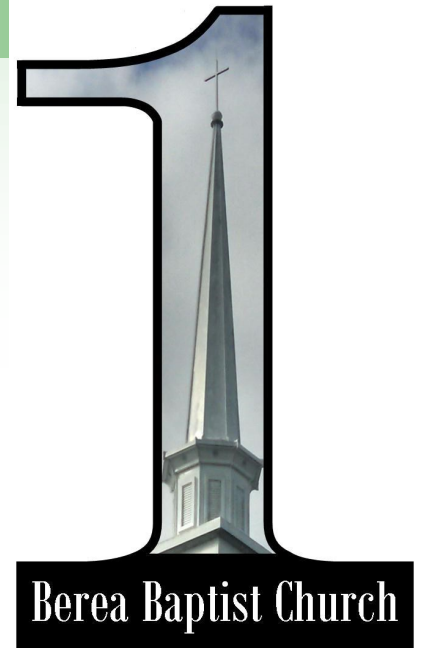
But even before he sets the standard for everyone else, he makes a promise to himself that he will likewise live a life of integrity. David promises to put God first, seek His help, and live a counter-cultural life in pursuit of holiness.

On August 10, we were encouraged to memorize these verses and make the very same promise to ourselves. Have you made the promise? Have you kept it?

As we move into the fall, we will find God's immense blessings as we study His word and live a life of integrity before Him.

Will you join Berea on this Journey? Will you come to His word expectantly, asking Him to speak to you? Will you promise yourself and God that you will follow Him with all of your life? Pray for me that I will, even as I pray that you will too!

Love you all,
Jason



September 2025

Inside this issue:

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- ★ Youth in Philadelphia
- ★ Serve NC
- ★ Hurricane Helene Update
- ★ Upcoming Events
- ★ Birthdays & Anniversaries

Weekly Activities:

Sundays

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

Wednesdays

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

September @ a Glance:

- ★ Deacons Meeting
9/8 @ 7:00pm
- ★ Business Meeting
9/14 @ 12:15pm
- ★ Newsletter Deadline
9/22 @ 12:00pm
- ★ Church Council
9/28 @ 12:15pm

Thoughtful Reflections from Your Family Deacons



Ross Tenny — Chairman
Steve Durham
Don Alexander
John Gregory
Matt Reed
Cameron Quigley

"Dear friends, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him because we will see Him as He is."

1 John 3:2 (CSB)

Scripture says that when Jesus returns we see Him, and we will be changed. We don't know exactly what that will look like but we do know that the Bible says there will be no more tears and no more pain. Regardless of what we will be, we will be like Jesus, and there is nothing better. We are constrained to the limitations our present anatomical struggles in this life, but we are ordained for a new body, a new earth, and a paradise forever in God's kingdom.

Next Deacons' Meeting will be September 8th @ 7:00pm in the choir room.

Handyman Ministry



Built for Mrs. Cotrina Bryant. Her husband has Parkinsons and is wheelchair bound.



Mr. Joseph Smith needed a ramp so he could get his wife in/out of the house in a wheelchair.



Our Children and Youth!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Awana Begins September 3!

Wednesday Nights from 6:15-8

A kid-friendly dinner will kick off our evening starting at 6:15. Our clubs range from 3-4 year olds in Cubbies, to Sparks, T&T Boys & Girls as well as to our Trek program for youth. Each week we have fun and exciting themes like: Real Heroes, Pennies for the Gospel, and Sports Night while our students dive deeper into the truth found only in God's Word.

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

Awana Schedule

Sept. 3rd - Kickoff

Sept. 10th - School Spirit

Sept. 17th - Pajama

Sept. 24th - Ice Cream Sundae



Youth Group News



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.



Dirty, grease stained jeans with a heavy pair of boots on his feet. Simple t-shirts with the sleeves cut off, neatly trimmed beard, cigarette hanging from his lips, and arms covered with an assortment of tattoos. This is the making of a man that might make you a bit nervous. However, after a few minutes of conversation, a couple of his dad jokes and his unique laugh, you realize you have met someone truly special with a heart for Jesus.

It's a common enough mistake, to take stock of the way a person looks, and form an opinion. Just as commonly, we often judge a person by either their worst moments or even their best moments. In 1 Samuel we see this very scenario played out, as Samuel is meeting the sons of Jesse. At first glance each of the sons of Jesse could gain favor in the eyes of men, and each is subsequently rejected by God. Finally, the youngest, a shepherd by the name of David, is summoned and God's chosen heir to the throne is selected. Samuel is reminded that God does not look to the outward appearance. He is not looking for the markers by which we examine people, good looks, success, or even a fist full of degrees. Instead, God looks beyond all those things at the very heart of man.

This brings us to the question, what's the condition of my heart? Perhaps like Eliab, people look at us and see someone who would be the perfect choice, and yet just like Eliab, God looks to the heart and he finds us lacking where it matters the most. The good news is, we have a Savior that will cleanse and make new, even usable, the most vile heart. Choose today to allow Jesus to cleanse your heart within, so there is no question that we are acceptable in His sight.

Further Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

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

Youth Mission Trip to Philadelphia

Our youth ministry team traveled to Philly to run a VBS, serve meals to the homeless, package food boxes, distribute school supplies, and shared the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ!



NC churches join forces, partner with ministries to ‘ServeNC’

About 500 N.C. Baptist churches took part in ServeNC Week from Aug. 2-9, with many completing projects at other times this summer. This was the second year of the ServeNC emphasis, a statewide initiative that invites local churches to serve their communities in tangible, practical ways.

Churches served across the state, providing meals, hosting clothing closets, offering free laundry services, delivering baked goods to first responders and through various other ways. Volunteers of all ages and generations served together and had opportunities to have meaningful Gospel conversations with their neighbors.

Several churches encouraged members to give financially or collect donations if they couldn't physically join on-site. Southside Baptist Church in Elm City collected bedding for Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a nonprofit organization that builds and delivers beds to children in need.

God glorified and joy multiplied

Caleb Waller serves as a Great Commission catalyst for North Carolina's regions 5 and 7. Over the last few weeks, he traveled the region to visit churches as they participated in ServeNC.

"My time with our churches has reminded me that God has strategically placed His people right where they need to be — in the midst of lostness, brokenness and hopelessness — so that He might be glorified and joy multiplied, from our neighborhoods to the nations," Waller said.

"ServeNC has equally reminded me of the beautiful gift of serving King Jesus together. There are few things that demonstrate the transformative and authentic power of the Gospel as much as like-minded churches locking arms together and believers serving side by side."

As districts prepare for a new school year, many churches focused on assisting local schools during ServeNC Week. Ten volunteers from Lake Church in White Lake built a deck and ramp and painted doors at Elizabethtown Christian Academy. Some walked through classrooms to pray. Cornerstone Baptist Church in Mount Airy distributed backpacks and provided vouchers for students to receive free shoes, which were funded by a neighboring church.

Churches partnered with local ministries and other organizations already meeting needs in their communities. Catalyst Church in Jacksonville supported their local YMCA's Community Day by distributing school supplies, preparing and serving food, and setting up and overseeing activity stations.

First Baptist Church of Kannapolis provided new teachers with lunch and gift bags, and helped set up classrooms in Kannapolis City Schools. In Raleigh, New Hope Baptist Church served alongside the Raleigh Dream Center and Carolina Hurricanes defenseman Jaccob Slavin to distribute backpacks.

ServeNC Week offered opportunities for collaboration. The Cabarrus Baptist Association worked with local ministry partners on a back-to-school fair while hosting the Baptists on Mission mobile health screening unit. In Stokes County, several churches also worked together to organize another back-to-school event.

Blaise Baptist Church in Mocksville mobilized about 126 volunteers to participate in 17 events. They built on ministry already happening year-round. Volunteers joined existing efforts like one member's weekly visits to a nursing home, another's involvement with Storehouse for Jesus' gardening group, and a group's weekly meals for Celebrate Recovery. New participants joined regular volunteers, offering more people a window into service that can continue beyond ServeNC Week.

Emily Angell, who coordinated the week's events, said ServeNC helped their church family grow together.

"I learn things working beside people in a project that I would not learn otherwise," Angell said. "I learn why they're passionate about going to the senior living home or about packing these backpacks. It really strengthens our relationships and our community."

Memorial Baptist Church in Williamston is using ServeNC to support new church plants in eastern North Carolina. A team traveled to Pillar Havelock, a 2-year-old plant, to tackle needed renovations and repairs. While Memorial hopes to become a sending church, they're already investing in church planting by serving Pillar, First Love in Tarboro and Gospel Hope in Greenville through three dedicated projects.

"ServeNC Week was a beautiful reminder that 'On Mission Together' is more than a slogan. It's who we are," said Todd Unzicker, N.C. Baptist Executive Director-Treasurer. "I'm so grateful for every volunteer and local church that poured out their time and energy to serve."

"Together, N.C. Baptists have shown communities across the state that Jesus brings healing for today and hope for tomorrow, and that His love is put on display when we work side by side."



Hurricane Helene Update



We are using our Helene donations to purchase building materials that will be used by volunteers to help get families back in their homes (Our goal is 1000 homes this year). More than half the cost of building is labor, but with volunteers providing the labor we can double or even triple the number of families that we can get back in their homes.

Even more than that, volunteers are providing a listening ear, a smile, a prayer and encouragement to the family that they are not forgotten. Volunteers provide hope. Baptist disaster relief volunteers have been working since Helene hit. We started with mass feeding, and along with our partners with NC Emergency Management, Red Cross and Salvation Army were able to provide almost 500,000 hot meals.

Next came chainsaw jobs, mud-outs and tear outs of homes that had been flooded. Volunteers showed up to tear out flooring and drywall, to stop the spread of mold and give encouragement with conversations, smiles and prayers. Over 5000 jobs were completed.

Then we started working to try to help get people back in their homes. As of August 10, 2025, we have completed 433 home rebuilds, we have 248 in progress and we have a total of 1300 rebuild requests. Baptists on Mission is operating 5 rebuild sites in Western North Carolina to assist those affected by Hurricane Helene. We can house, feed and work volunteers from these rebuild centers.

We are trying to get homeowners back into their homes as quickly as possible. We will be working for the next 4-5 years to help with rebuild efforts. You don't need to be trained to serve. We're grateful to the more than 16,000 people who have volunteered since the storm hit our state.

Thank you for helping us offer hope to families affected by this massive storm. Please continue to pray for everyone impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Thank you 

I have enjoyed my time at Berea both as the Secretary and as a member. I am sad to be leaving, but God has clearly called us somewhere else, so we will go see what He has in store for us.

I would like to thank a few people, starting with those on the Fellowship Committee for the awesome luncheon they held for my family and I. All the food was delicious especially the chicken (thank you Kathy!) I would like to thank Jan Sawyer for not only helping me learn every-

body at Berea but also for the wonderful friendship! You are truly one of a kind and I look forward to staying in touch.

Matt, thanks for taking over. You are going to do a wonderful job. Thanks to you and Jessica for your leadership and friendship. Thanks to Pastor Jason and Chellie for having the faith in me to be able to do the job and for having the patience to work with me. I am going to miss the nights at the ballfield next summer and watching your wonderful children grow up and find their way in life.

Lastly, I would like to thank **everyone** at Berea for all that you have done for me and my family. Thank you so much and I will miss

ALL of you!

Love in Christ, Pamela Robinson



J. Walkers June Meeting

Please join us for our September 15th
Meeting in the OFH @ 10:30am.



Women on Mission
Tuesday September 16th, 6pm
in the OFH.

Come join us. Our guest speaker will be Sue Newbrough with Kairos Outside. We will be collecting gum for Redbox Mission. (5 stick packs ONLY)

I can do ALL THINGS
through Christ
who STRENGTHENS me.
—Phillippians 4:13



Church Business Meeting
September 14th @ 12:15pm
Church Council Meeting
September 28th @ 12:15pm



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

Success Stories



Albemarle Area United Way

"Jim" arrived in our community recently, hoping for a fresh start—but life had other plans. After suffering two strokes, he was left physically unable to work. With his disability application still pending, Jim found himself homeless, alone, and unsure where to turn. When he came to CCC, he was exhausted and out of options. But thanks to the compassion of our donors, we were able to offer him something powerful: a way home. We purchased a bus ticket to his hometown, packed his bag with snacks and drinks, and made sure he traveled safely. Today, Jim is back with loved ones, beginning a new chapter.

"Sabrina" is a devoted teacher and single mother who, like many educators, doesn't receive income during the summer months. When her car's tires became dangerously bald, she faced an impossible choice: risk driving her children in an unsafe vehicle or go without reliable transportation. Thanks to CCC, Sabrina didn't have to choose. We were able to cover the cost of new tires, ensuring her family's safety and giving her one less worry during a financially stressful season. This is just one example of how your support helps us meet real needs in real time. Your generosity made this support possible. Thank you for bringing relief and compassion when it was needed most.

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 Dawn Lilly | 12 Don & Peggy Bunch |
| 2 Doug & Mary Pritchard | Jasper Nelson |
| Nicole Hudson | 14 Rayman & Amber Vallas |
| Sawyer Smith | Wesson Elmore |
| 4 Kaliyah Jackson | 16 Marta Boyce |
| Jared Tenny | 17 Troy & Penny Elmore |
| Kaitlin Whitehead | Lydia Hall |
| 5 Montgomery Smith | Diane Heatwole |
| 6 Sydney Newell | 23 Sam Mickey |
| 7 Tom & Lisa Finley | Libby Sanders |
| Sam Keith | 25 Rick & Nancy Romaine |
| Eliab Long | 26 John & Terry Gregory |
| 10 Cassandra Hodges | 27 Patrick Agnor |
| 11 Nancy Romaine | 28 Mike & Bobbie Hanson |
| | Janet Quillin |

Berea Baptist Church

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Find us on the Web: www.bereaone.org

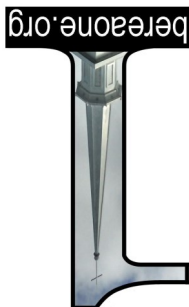
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