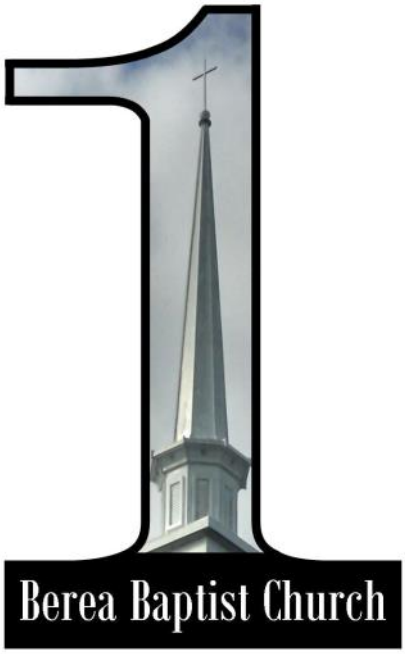
BereaOne Life



WISE Musings

Look, I am about to do something new; even now it is coming. Do you not see it? Indeed, I will make a way in the wilderness, rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19

God is on the move at Berea Baptist Church!

That simple statement has always been true, but it feels uniquely applicable to our present time. Here are a few of the amazing things He has done recently…

We collected 220 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes.

Our Senior Ministry, J Walkers, had a "packing party" for their November meeting and were able to contribute 34 of those shoeboxes.

Agape organized & delivered the shoeboxes and continues to lead us missionally.

The E.D.G.E. class's "All Wrapped Up!" Craft & Vendor Show drew approximately 1,650 people on campus, and we raised funds for various ministries inside & outside of Berea. They also collected prayer requests and made many, many contacts, sharing information about what God is doing here.

Our Youth have begun leading Sunday services monthly at Brookdale (Retirement & Assisted Living Facility) in addition to their multiple weekly Bible Studies & a rotation of Youth volunteers on our children's worker schedule.

Awana has seen 40-50 students in attendance weekly. They collected 85 cans of food to be donated during the Thanksgiving season.

Berea Basketball signups went wonderfully, with lots of kids signing up to play.

Those are some amazing things God is doing in our midst, but they are only part of the story. This Christmas season we need to maintain our focus on the Mission.

In Acts 1:8, Jesus commissions His followers to be witnesses. He specifically calls them to witness to His saving power in "Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

We have been commissioned to be witnesses in our Jerusalem (the city where they lived). We must continue to reach out into our community with the love of Jesus & the message of salvation.

We have been commissioned to be witnesses in our Judea & Samaria (the region where they lived & the neighboring region). We must continue to support and participate in mission work across our state through the Baptist State Convention and any other ways God provides.

We have been commissioned to be witnesses "to the end of the earth." Southern Baptists have thousands of missionaries serving across the globe to see Jesus praised. Every December, Berea joins our sister churches in collecting funds to support these missionaries. Ask God how much He would have you contribute to help reach our goal of $10,000 (that's a little over $90 per person at our current attendance average).

God is doing amazing things at Berea! He is calling us to follow His leadership in taking a greater part in that work as we seek to fulfill our commission.

How will you be a witness to His amazing work? Merry Christmas!

Love you all,

Pastor Jason

December 2026

Inside this issue:

- Deacons' Reflections
- Handyman Ministry
- Fellowship Meal
- Biblical Recorder
- Coming 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
- 6:30pm Adult Bible Study (OFH)

December @ a Glance:

- Churchwide Christmas Party 12/13 @ 6:00pm
- Newsletter Deadline 12/23 @ 12:00pm
- Candlelight Service 12/24 @ 6:00pm

Thoughtful Reflections from Your Family Deacons

DEACONS
Following to Lead | Leading to Serve

Mike Hanson — Chairman
Fahey Harrell— Vice Chairman
Matt Reed— Reflections
Cameron Quigley— Secretary
Don Alexander
Greg Newell
Brendan Quigley
Gary Smith
Chris Vallas

Acts 1:4-8

Before ascending, Jesus promised His disciples, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses..." (Acts 1:8). They would not fulfill this calling alone—the Spirit would empower them as a community.

The same is true for us. Witnessing is not a performance or an act of personal courage; it is the overflow of a shared life in Christ. As we trust the Holy Spirit and walk faithfully with other believers, God gives us what we need to make Jesus known.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, empower us to live and speak as faithful witnesses for Christ. Amen.

Next Deacons' Meeting will be December 7th @ 6:00pm in the choir room.

Handyman Ministry

Berea Handyman Ministry

Our team built this ramp for Mrs. Catherine Frost.





They also built picnic tables for Camp Cale.

Our Children and Youth!

YOU Are Being Called to Serve!

AWANA CHRISTMAS STORE - We need ornaments and Christmas trinkets for our clubbers to purchase for their families and friends. Want to shop yourself? Small items for kids from 3 years old to teenagers are always welcome. Check stores like Ollie's or the clearance section at your favorite department store and drop off items to the church office.

3 & 4 Year- Old Sunday School Teachers

We are looking to put together a rotation of adults to lead the 3 & 4 year - old class during Sunday School. Please speak with Pastor Charlie to secure your opportunity to serve.

Awana Buddies & Backup Helpers NEEDED

Awana continues to grow as more and more children & youth are attending each week. Spend time with clubbers both young & old. All you need is a sprinkle of patience, lots of love, and the ability to listen & read to children of all ages. Your one-on-one time can make an eternal difference in our clubbers as God uses YOU to help them go deeper into His Word. Simple skills like reading & listening are all you need to make a lasting impact in a child's life. Doors Open at 6:15 for Dinner, 6:30-8pm we play games, do crafts, and most importantly dive into God's Word through study and memorization.

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

Children's Church - Sunday Mornings @ 11 am

Youth Group News

Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21 - Youth Led Service @ Brookdale
December 20 - Youth Christmas Party
January 9 - Worship Rally hosted by Berea Youth

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, shoot hoops, play games and study God's Word.



Sitting in the driver's seat of the van, I looked down and could see a concerning message, "3 miles to E." The GPS showed 15 miles to the next gas station, as the one I currently sat in front of, had old pumps and all the lights off. What could I do but push on and hope for the best. I set out for my destination and soon found myself on the Albemarle Sound Bridge when the next concerning message appeared, "0 miles to E." With approximately 3 miles to go on the two lane bridge I suddenly found myself devoted to the same repetitive prayer, "God, please get me off this bridge!" The experience reminded me of the passage in Colossians 4:2, where the Apostle Paul wrote "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." He wrote these words while sitting in chains, but not for relief from his current predicament, rather that the Gospel he was STILL PREACHING, would be spoken clearly by him. The key word here is "devote," which means "to be committed to setting apart time". Now let's be clear, a simple distressed prayer of "give me gas in my tank" is not devotion. Instead it was a reminder to me of how necessary daily conversation with God really is. Not just to get me off a bridge, but to get me through each day. It's not enough to simply pray over food, but rather constant praise and thanksgiving for who God is, and what He has done in our lives. It's constantly dropping my burdens at His feet, so I can lift my eyes to see the beauty of His face.

So practically speaking, what does devotion to prayer look and feel like in our lives today? Perhaps it could better be illustrated by asking it this way, if your cell phone was taken from you, how would it affect your life? For the majority of the world today it would probably feel like losing connection to…well, everything. What about prayer, if we could take that away, would you notice? Would it leave you feeling disconnected and lost? If your answer is "I wouldn't even notice it was missing," then my friend, you are not devoted to prayer. If the answer is "I couldn't make it even one day without it," then pray all the more! Devoted to prayer is not capped at a certain amount of time each day, it's something we can't live without. It's a connection to God, communication with God, that never ends and we can always use more of it. So how about you? Are you devoted to prayer? So how does the story end? Did I make it off that bridge? Not just off the bridge, I made it 8 more miles past it. Then God sent my son Noah with a full gas can to save the day, while a kind servant in Jeff Wise kept a watchful eye on me all the way. So yes, God answered my prayer!

Coming Events



The Fellowship Committee still has 14 (1 pound) bags of BBQ remaining from our luncheon on October 18. The bags are available for $10 each. If you would like to purchase a bag, please see Amber Vallas, Lacy Reeder, Sydney Newell, Tina and Mike Thrasher and Kathy Waters. Proceeds will go towards future fellowship meals. Thank you for your support!



It's time for Berea Basketball! Open to boys and girls from Kindergarten to HS. Everyone makes the team and plays. You do not have to be a member of Berea to play in this league. Adults are welcome too! We could use help with coaching, scorekeeping, equipment, and concessions.
For more information contact Chris Vallas @ 252-435-7216.

Agape wants to help you with Christmas and support Lottie Moon! Our Christmas Card Delivery Project will deliver your Christmas cards addressed to your Berea Church family.
Prepare your cards, No Need to Stamp
Drop your finished cards in the boxes provided.
Between December 1 – 13th
Your cards will be delivered on Sunday morning, December 20th!
Boxes will be placed in the parlor and Old Fellowship Hall.
This Agape Project hopes to simplify your Christmas and encourage you to donate the "stamp money" you save with your Lottie Moon Christmas Offering!





J. Walkers Meeting
December 21st @ 10:30 am (OFH).



Agape Meeting
Tuesday, December 22nd @ 6:00pm in the OFH. All ladies are invited to join.



Berea now has online giving! Scan the QR code or visit our revamped website, bereaone.org, to give.



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM
NO MATTER HOW BIG OR SMALL, EVERY CHURCH CAN TAKE THE GOSPEL TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.
NCBAPTIST.ORG/COOPERATIVEPROGRAM

Unzicker challenges NC Baptists to make 2033 a record year for baptisms

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Confessing that he had lost his own burden for evangelism earlier this year, Todd Unzicker challenged N.C. Baptists to renew their commitment to sharing the Gospel during the opening session of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina's Annual Meeting Monday, Nov. 16, at the Joseph S. Koury Convention Center.

During his annual address to messengers, Unzicker, the State Convention's Executive Director-Treasurer, announced ReachNC, a new statewide evangelism emphasis aimed at mobilizing N.C. Baptists to share the Gospel and reach more people for Christ. Unzicker challenged N.C. Baptists with a goal of recording the most baptisms in state history by 2033, the 2,000th anniversary of the Great Commission.

"N.C. Baptists, what would it look like if the North Star of everything we did was to see more people saved and baptized than ever before in our state?" Unzicker said.

The announcement comes amid a long-term decline in baptisms. The state convention reported 36,435 baptisms in 1959, the highest total in state history. In 2025, the number was 18,461, a 49.3% decrease from the record year. During the same period, North Carolina's population grew from about 4.5 million to 11.2 million.

"We are without excuse," Unzicker said. "We have more churches, we have more Christians, we have a larger harvest field than we've ever had before. All we need to do is pray that the Lord would save and His people would move." Unzicker told messengers that God convicted him during his quiet time this spring about his faithfulness as an evangelist. Unzicker said he shared his struggle because others may face a similar challenge.

Preaching from Acts 9:31, Unzicker pointed to three marks of the early church. He called on messengers to walk in the fear of the Lord, rely on the comfort of the Holy Spirit and watch God multiply His church. "A church not on mission, not multiplying, is simply a country club with a steeple on top," Unzicker said.

Drawing from 1 Corinthians 3:6, Unzicker framed ReachNC around three actions: pray, sow and harvest. He challenged each messenger to identify one person who needs to hear the Gospel, pray for that person daily and look for opportunities to share Jesus.

Unzicker recalled that his first pastor, Bill Ricketts of Prince Avenue Baptist Church in Athens, GA., prayed every morning for God to put lost people in his path and for the Spirit to give him boldness to share Jesus.

Beginning Nov. 18, N.C. Baptists can receive daily ReachNC prayer prompts through the end of the year by texting "REACHNC" to **919-750-0615**. The messages will arrive at 3:06 p.m. each day, based on 1 Corinthians 3:6.

Unzicker also announced TrainNC.org, a new online library of training videos taught by N.C. Baptist staff. Topics include worship, children's ministry, college ministry, adult discipleship and church communication. The videos are available at trainnc.org.

Unzicker's address was followed by a Sending Celebration recognizing 35 missionaries and college students from N.C. Baptists who have answered the call to serve around the world. Attendees gathered in small groups to pray for them throughout the auditorium as the session concluded.



Fellowship Meal













Community Care

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

Success Stories

Albemarle Area United Way

"Michael"

As a veteran facing significant mental health challenges, "Michael" carried the responsibility of being the sole income provider for a household that includes family members with disabilities. When he fell behind on his power bill and faced the threat of disconnection, he reached out to Community Care Collaborative (CCC) for help.

Taking the courageous step to ask for assistance was the first step toward stability. CCC was able to provide support that prevented the family's electricity from being disconnected, ensuring they could remain safely in their home without the added stress of losing a basic necessity.

By helping alleviate an immediate financial burden, CCC gave Michael the opportunity to focus on his health, well-being, and recovery, knowing his family could continue to rely on the comfort and security of having power in their home.

"Alivia"

When a young mother and her children relocated to our area from another state, they weren't simply moving, they were escaping a domestic violence situation. Families forced to leave unsafe circumstances often do so with very little, leaving behind their support systems, financial stability, and many of their personal belongings in order to find safety.

Through the Community Care Collaborative (CCC), we were able to assist with the cost of connecting utilities at their new home, helping ensure the family had access to essential services such as electricity and clean water. Most importantly, this assistance helped provide a safe and stable place for a mother and her children to begin rebuilding their lives.

Sometimes, preventing a crisis isn't about solving every problem. It's about providing the support a family needs to take the next step toward safety, stability, and hope.

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.



Berea Baptist Church

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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@bereaone.org

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

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

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Permit #2



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Let's celebrate together!

2	Barbara Tidd
3	Rick Romaine
	Michelle Wise
6	Brookelyn Mansfield
	Joshua Tenny
7	Tiffany Quigley
10	Robert Nall
	David Quillin
11	Gary Smith
14	Mary Pritchard
15	Emma Lee Wise
	Jason & Michelle Wise
16	Josiah Tenny
17	Ross Tenny
18	Alan Harrell
19	Riley & Nicole Hudson
21	Ross & Charlene Tenny
23	Dave Kelsick
	James Tenny
27	Paula Keith
28	Faith Long
30	Carolyn Sanders
31	Zechariah Tenny
	Kevin & Tiffany Quigley