

BereaOne Life

WISE Musings

Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD - the people He has chosen to be His own possession! Psalm 33:12

The United States of America is turning 250 this month!

While Berea sits at a mere 170 (founded "4 score" after the nation, to use President Lincoln's mathematical terminology), we are blessed to have the foundation & support of a nation founded on Biblical principles.

It is right and good to celebrate our great nation's semi-quincentennial with fireworks, cook-outs, visits to historical sites, and whatever other patriotic means we can devise. It is a great time to wear red, white & blue, post flags (be on the lookout for the flag display around the church, including the Christian Flag and all 6 military flags, yes, even Space Force), and eat a hot dog with some apple pie.

But this time of celebration must also be a time of reflection and a time of prayer. Is our country all it was meant to be? Can we work to make it an even greater nation? July 5, the day after the celebration, we will gather for a Special Service to honor our nation and to pray for God's blessings for the next 250 (or however long Jesus tarries). In preparation for that time of worship, consider these verses:

Psalm 33:12 (above) - While we are not God's "chosen nation" (that's Israel), we celebrate our nation's Biblical foundations.

Romans 13:1 - "Let everyone submit to the governing authorities, since there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are instituted by God." So, no matter who is in office, we know that God placed them there and will use them to accomplish His purpose.

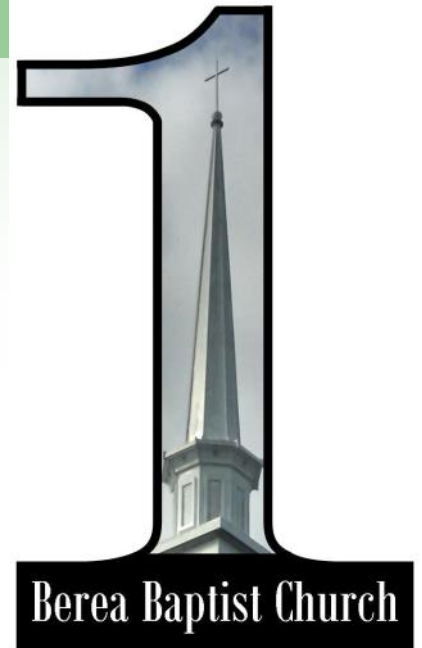
Jeremiah 29:7 - "Pursue the well-being of the city I have deported you to. Pray to the LORD on its behalf, for when it thrives, you will thrive." USA is home, but not forever. Christians have a dual citizenship, and we look forward to our eternal home.

Proverbs 14:34 - "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people." Our nation has known both. Pray that we, and our leaders, would act in righteousness.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 - "I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all those who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity." That's what we will do on July 5. We will pray for our nation, our leaders, and especially that we, its citizens, may live Godly lives.

As we celebrate our nation's birthday, let's thank God that we do indeed live in the greatest nation on earth, but let us also pray that we will seek Him and become an even happier nation as we allow Him to be who He is... LORD!

Love you all,
Pastor Jason



July 2026

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- ★ Birthdays & Anniversaries

Weekly Activities:

Sundays

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

Wednesdays

- ★ 11:00am Adult Bible Study
- ★ 6:30pm Kids' Summer Program
- ★ 6:30pm Adult Bible Study (OFH)

July @ a Glance:

- ★ Business Meeting
7/12 @ 12:15pm
- ★ Newsletter Deadline
7/22 @ 12 pm
- ★ Church Council
7/26 @ 12:15pm

Thoughtful Reflections from Your Family Deacons



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

2 Corinthians 3:1–6

Paul never asserted that he possessed the inherent capability to accomplish all that God entrusted to him. Rather, he learned to look beyond his personal limitations and to rest in the sufficiency of Christ. In the same way, we can discover profound spiritual blessings hidden within our own experiences of weakness. Our limitations compel us to turn to God. When we recognize that a circumstance exceeds our natural ability, we are drawn to seek Him through Scripture and prayer for the wisdom and strength we lack. This awareness of need fosters genuine dependence on divine empowerment. God never intended for us to navigate life in our own strength. We become truly adequate only as we draw upon the inexhaustible power of the Holy Spirit and allow Him to work through us. By choosing unlikely individuals, God displays the magnitude of what He alone can accomplish. He delights in using ordinary people to fulfill His purposes. There is no limit to what He may achieve through a life fully surrendered to Him. Acknowledging our insufficiency also stretches and refines our faith. Paul affirms, "Our adequacy is from God" (v. 5). Those who trust this truth and step forward in obedience will experience spiritual growth and increased confidence in His provision. Therefore, let the Lord work through you. Rely on Him and allow Christ to live His life in you. In doing so, He will replace anxiety with a deep and abiding contentment.

Handyman Ministry

Next Deacons' Meeting will be July 13th @ 6:00pm in the choir room.



Built for Glenn Rountree and wife who has difficulty going up/down steps.



Built for Karen Johnson. Two people in the house have difficulty with steps.





Our Children and Youth!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Kids' Summer Program on Wednesday Nights from 6:30-8
Worship, Bible Study, Crafts, Games, Snacks and more!

Ministry Needs

Sunday School Volunteers - Nursery & 3 thru 5 year old Sunday School Volunteers. Contact Pastor Charlie to begin serving in these vital areas of the church.

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

Children's Church - Sunday Mornings @ 11 am



Youth Group News



Burger Bar Fundraiser Update

Thank you to each person that came out to support the youth of Berea. As a result of your generosity we were able to raise nearly \$2,000 to help fund the trip to Philadelphia. Thank you!

July 26-August 1 - Built to Serve Philadelphia - \$125 Due Now

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.



The moment I first heard the phrase, "You've Got Mail," I entered into the world of instant communication. Shortly after, I got my first beeper (if you don't know, look it up) and then it would become a constantly evolving cell phone to the now "smart phone" where we can receive hundreds of emails, phone calls and text messages all in an instant. Couple that with microwaves, fast food, and all the modern conveniences of today and we hardly wait on anything. Perhaps you know where I'm going with this.

Life, both the good and unfortunately the bad, comes at us fast. Often a great day turns to tragedy in just seconds, or a moment of excitement is swept away by fear. The comforting part is that Jesus offers divine help in an instant. Look to Matthew 14, as Jesus comes walking across the water towards the disciples they are gripped by fear, or just a few verses later we see Peter beginning to sink beneath the waves crying out "Lord, save me!" and with no hesitation and in fact scripture says, immediately, Jesus reaches out to bring comfort and salvation. There is great comfort in the fact that Jesus doesn't make us wait, or try to teach us a lesson, He reaches out immediately, right when we need Him most. That means no matter what season of life you may find yourself in, no matter the circumstances or the mountain you may be facing, Jesus is still in the business of taking care of His own. You can be sure that when you call His name, with greater speed than an instant message, Jesus will be there.

Matthew 14:25-27 ²⁵Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶When the disciples saw Him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. ²⁷But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Further reading: Matthew 14:22-33

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

Burger Bar Fundraiser



'He gets all the glory': Canes' Slavin reflects on Stanley Cup win

RALEIGH, N.C. — When Carolina Hurricanes defenseman Jaccob Slavin finally wrapped his hands around the Stanley Cup and hoisted it over his head, he felt what every hockey player dreams about. "Pure excitement," Slavin said nearly a week after the Hurricanes beat the Vegas Golden Knights to win the franchise's second Stanley Cup title. And that's not the only achievement Slavin has experienced of late. In February, he captured an Olympic gold medal with Team USA. Winning the Stanley Cup four months later put him in some exclusive company as just the second American and eighth player overall to win Olympic gold and the Stanley Cup in the same year. For many players, such accomplishments would naturally lead to reflections on legacy and career milestones.

But Slavin, who has long spoken openly about his Christian faith, viewed the moment through a different lens. "I'm just grateful," Slavin said shortly after the Stanley Cup win. "Grateful for the win, grateful for the opportunity to glorify God on this stage, biggest stage in hockey. Got to at the Olympics and now the Stanley Cup. God's so kind. He gets all the glory. So I'm just thankful and grateful." Slavin added that the gold medal and Stanley Cup are remarkable achievements, but not ultimate ones. "It's pretty crazy. It's pretty crazy, but again, going to that perspective of 'Those things are definitely rewarding; it's amazing, but I can't take them with me when I die.' Just gonna lay them at the feet of Jesus and give Him all the glory for it." Nearly a week after winning the Cup, that perspective remains unchanged.

"As much and as big of awards that they are, you also sit back and realize they don't fulfill you," Slavin said. "You can appreciate them for how rewarding they are, but you can also understand that there's nothing like having that relationship with Jesus." That perspective has been a hallmark of Slavin's career. Long regarded as one of the premier defensemen in the NHL, he has consistently spoken about playing for God's glory rather than his own. And that conviction was tested throughout the season. Slavin battled injuries early in the year that sidelined him for roughly two months, then briefly again after his return in December. Despite the setbacks, he won gold with the U.S. Olympic team and helped Carolina capture the Stanley Cup. Yet he said neither adversity nor success altered his foundation.

"My faith has played the most important factor in all of it because ultimately my faith is what gives me my joy," Slavin said. "That relationship with Jesus is where my joy is found. It's not circumstantial joy. It's not based on circumstances, on winning or losing or being healthy or being injured. My joy was complete the whole time, as complete as it could be this side of heaven. It wasn't something that wavered with my circumstances, it was something that was constant throughout my circumstances." Slavin said the highs and lows of the season only deepened that reliance. "It really just makes you lean into it more, and truly understand that joy is only found in the Lord," Slavin said. Slavin is not alone in that perspective within the Carolina locker room. Veteran captain Jordan Staal, who at 37 became the oldest player to win the Conn Smythe Trophy as the playoff MVP, has also reflected on the emptiness of chasing hockey success. Staal previously won a Stanley Cup with the Pittsburgh Penguins in 2009, and the 17 years between Stanley Cup championships is the longest gap in NHL history for a player. Staal was traded to Carolina in 2012.

"I really did have hockey as my identity, and it definitely pushed me to the player I was, but at the same time, it still left me empty," Staal told Hockey Ministries International in 2016. "I think I finally more or less realized that once I made the NHL, and once I won the Stanley Cup (in 2009) and fulfilling all my dreams that I could ever think of, and then waking up a week later and realizing, 'That's it?' It didn't quite sit right at times. "And now I understand, looking back, that hole that you might search for can only be filled by God. It's definitely something that's been nurturing in me and that I've tried to nurture and tried to grow in my faith and fill that hole with Jesus." For Slavin, hearing teammates point to Christ in moments of success is one of the greatest encouragements of the season. "You hear other guys in that locker room after the game giving glory to God, and it pumps you up," Slavin said. "It excites you. I'm out here battling with my brothers in Christ." Slavin's influence in the locker room is perhaps most clearly seen in his relationship with fellow defenseman Jalen Chatfield. Chatfield has described Slavin as both his best friend and a spiritual mentor, crediting him with helping him navigate the early stages of his Hurricanes career after beginning his NHL journey with the Vancouver Canucks.

After arriving in Carolina in 2021, Chatfield began attending chapel services and church with Slavin. Their friendship deepened over conversations about faith, eventually leading Chatfield and his wife, Drew, to profess faith in Christ and later be baptized by Slavin in the family's backyard pool. "I had said before that if I never won a Stanley Cup in my career, but Jalen Chatfield came to know the Lord, I would consider that a successful career," Slavin said. "Now you can consider it a successful career in both aspects, right?" Since arriving in North Carolina 11 years ago, Slavin has been part of Carolina's transformation from a rebuilding team into an annual Stanley Cup contender, culminating with this year's championship. At the conclusion of the team's championship parade — which drew an estimated 180,000 people to downtown Raleigh on Saturday, June 20 — Slavin recalled a midweek home game during his rookie season in 2015 that only drew about 5,000 fans. Today, the Hurricanes regularly play before near-capacity crowds of roughly 18,500 fans per game.

Slavin also used the moment to point to what he says has remained most important to him throughout that journey. "You guys know my faith is the most important thing to me," Slavin told the crowd. "I give all the glory to God. I love this city, I love this team, and I can't wait to be a Hurricane for the rest of my life." Since putting down roots in Raleigh, Slavin says he has experienced the depth of a church community he never fully knew growing up in Colorado as part of a busy hockey family. He attends The Summit Church and says he has found people there who support him not because he is an NHL star, but because he is a fellow brother in Christ. "They're fans because I play for the team, but they're brothers and sisters in Christ that support me in prayer, that encourage me, that hold me accountable," Slavin said. "They don't see me as Jaccob the hockey player. They see me as Jaccob the person, Jaccob the brother in Christ. They want my faith to excel more than anything else." As is tradition, each member of the Stanley Cup-winning team receives a day with the trophy during the offseason, allowing players to share it with family, friends and their community. "I've been talking a lot about it with my wife," Slavin said. "We're trying to figure out the logistics, the details and all of that, but it will involve family, friends and good food. Just enjoying the day with it." Following the Hurricanes' 2006 championship, former defenseman Glen Wesley took the Cup to his church in Cary during his day with the trophy. "I don't know what we're going to land on," Slavin said. "But we brought up taking it to church, so we'll see."

Camp Cale Interns



Please pray for our Camp Cale Interns: Emma Lee Wise (Front Row, third front left), Tim Bradshaw (Top Row, Second from left) Joel Tenny (Top Row, far left) and Judah Tenny (Fourth Row, second from right).



J. Walkers Meeting
July 20th @ 10:30 am in the OFH.



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

“Thank You” Cards

Dear Church Family,

Thank you to each and everyone of you for all the care shown to my father, Willie Godfrey Jr. these last 4 or 5 weeks. He is still healing and doing therapy for his pelvic fracture. Just taking one day at a time. Thank you for every prayer, card, call, text, visit, food, or anything you did to comfort him and our family up. We are grateful to you all. May God continue to guide and comfort each of us, both directly by Him and through each other. We sincerely thank you. Lisa, Wil, Mildred & Willie G.

Berea Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness in my time of need. The prayers, phone calls, food, and visits were very uplifting and appreciated. I love my church family!

In God’s Love,

Krystle Nall & Family



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

Success Stories



Albemarle Area United Way

"Christina"

When a single mother delivered her newborn earlier than expected, she suddenly found herself without the income she needed to pay her light bill and was at risk of having her power disconnected. Because her final paycheck hadn't arrived before she began an unpaid maternity leave, she turned to CCC for support.

CCC verified that she would be returning to work once her maternity leave ended and stepped in to pay her past-due balance, preventing the power shutoff. This ensured that she, her newborn baby, and her other children could remain safely housed with essential utilities in their home.

"Jaiden"

Finding a job that pays a livable wage, or finding a job at all, can be incredibly challenging in our area. The search for stable employment can take months, leaving single income households in especially vulnerable financial situations. At United Way, we often talk about the impossible choices families are forced to make every day. Do you buy the medication you need, or do you buy groceries? Do you pay your car payment so you can get to work, or pay your rent so you don't lose your home?

"Jaiden" found himself in exactly this situation. After months of searching for work, he finally secured a job, but by then, his rent had fallen behind, and eviction was imminent. With his income now in place but not yet enough to catch up, he turned to CCC for help. Once we verified his new employment, CCC stepped in to cover his past due rent, preventing eviction.

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.

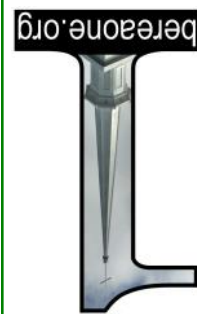
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Let's celebrate together!



2 Caitlin Spear
3 Kim Hudson
5 Gary Markham
6 Austin Johnson
7 Terry Gregory
10 Hayden Winslow
12 Mark & Kim Wall
13 Jeff & Bonnie Spear
Amanda Harrell

15 Kayden Matta
16 Charlene Tenny
19 Brendan Quigley
24 Julianna Guerrero
25 Betty Jo Layden
27 Steve Long
Cameron Quigley
Michael Thrasher
30 David Long



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