

## What's Happening at Berea – April 2024



### ***A Note from Pastor Study***

It is our prayer that this past Easter has been one of the most meaningful Easter's you have experienced. At Berea we were blessed by a powerful cantata, Amazing Grace; our children inspired us with Bible verses and songs they have learned; and we were able to experience the Passion and Resurrection of Christ through our Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise and Easter Morning services. We were reminded that we are sinners saved by grace. It is through the sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus, our Lord and Savior that our sins have been forgiven, the power of death has been defeated, and we are promised eternal life! But what are our next steps?

As followers of Jesus, as disciples of the Way, we have been commanded to share the Good News, baptize new believers, and disciple new and older believers. In other words, we are to be the light in a world filled with darkness and chaos. But how are we to do this?

As Jesus was completing His earthly ministry, He reminded His followers that He would not abandon them when he ascended into heaven. He reminded them that His spirit would continue to live in them through the Holy Spirit which would descend upon them. This same spirit is now also available to all believers.

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, but too often in our churches, we do not spend much time on knowing the how the Holy Spirit comforts and empowers us. This is why Phil and I are committing the next ten weeks, beginning April 7, to a sermon series on "Living a Spirit-Filled Life." Here we will address such critical issues as being empowered disciples, paying more attention to hearing God's voice, the relationship between baptism and the Holy Spirit, living a forgiven life, experiencing a spiritual heart transplant, being willing to submit to God's will for our life, embracing the power of solitude, and worshiping in spirit and truth.

We live in a world where committed followers of Jesus must be willing to live and share the gospel with love, compassion, and kindness. The Holy Spirit is our helper and counselor. We can trust the Holy Spirit and learn to live a spirit-filled life. May the following words of Jesus inspire and encourage us. If you love me, you will keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive him because it doesn't see him or know him. But you do know him, because he remains with you and will be in you (John 14:15-17 CSV).

**Robbie**

**If you are unable to join us in person, please check out the website/worship services for Live on YouTube or Listen only Podcast.**

**Website: [www.bereabaptistdurham.org](http://www.bereabaptistdurham.org)**

**email: [bereabaptistdurham@gmail.com](mailto:bereabaptistdurham@gmail.com)**

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- Sunday School for Adults: 10:00 a.m.
- Sunday Morning Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.



**Prayer Request:** If you have a prayer request or need, please let us know and let us pray for you.

### **Remember in prayer:**

Russel Hamlet (eye issue) Joanne Maynor Massey, Wanda Hutson, Ray Inscoc, Ellen Weddendorf, Caroline Longhorn, Arlene Willis-hospice care (friend of Sandra), Faye Bradley, Joyce Ellis, Peggy Barringer, Ann Williams, Our Pastors, Deacons, Church families and children.

### **Missions:**

Berea will be collecting wish list items for the Ronald McDonald House. These are items they need: individual serve chips, Jello, pudding, cookies, crackers, and one dish microwaveable meals like ravioli, SpaghettiOs. They also need laundry detergent and dryer sheets for laundry room. They need items like paper towels and takeout food containers. They can always use gift cards for gas or to local destinations like Wal-Mart or Walgreens or others such stores. We are researching for current guidelines regarding Berea being able to provide an in-house meal. We will discuss this at next business meeting.

Initial contact has been made with a Gideon representative and a Gideon Sunday service at Berea is in process.

**Susan**

### **Music Update:**

The Berea choir found so much joy in preparing for Easter. If you weren't able to join us for the Easter Cantata, check it out on YouTube! We are taking a short break and then will be diving into some fun new pieces for the Summer and as we gear up to fall.

**Jessica**

### **Children's Ministry:**

March was a great month for the kids at Berea. All of the kids did a great job learning several bible verses and songs for Easter. The kids did a great job with their portion of the Cantata performance. They also had a great time at the Easter Egg Hunt. Most importantly the kids at Berea are learning about how much Jesus loves them and how Jesus lives in their hearts.

**Grace**

### **Calendar of events:**

- April 7 12:15: Deacon Meeting
- April 10 11 am-1pm: Bible Study and Fellowship
- April 21: Church Conference

**May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14 NLT**

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