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Reflections

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May 31, 2018

(864)246-1921

Connecting!

Our purpose statement is, "Berea First Baptist Church Exists to Help People Connect with Christ." I praise the Lord that we have been seeing many people connect with Christ through first time professions of faith and others connecting to a deeper relationship with him through church membership. During this church year, which began in October, the Lord has added 52 new members to our church family. We should be thankful that the Lord is adding new people to His church! It is a great blessing to see God's activity among us! I pray that our eyes will be open to see what the Lord is doing.

As God adds new people to His church what steps can we take to help them connect more deeply with Him through the ministries of the church? I believe there are three steps we can and should take.

Step 1: Build our Sunday School and Small Group Ministry.

Jesus invited the 12 apostles to be with Him so that He could disciple them and send them out. It was in the context of this relational discipleship that the faith of these 12 men grew and they were equipped for ministry. Our Sunday School and Small Group ministry have a thoroughly biblical foundation. When believers meet to discuss God's Word in a relational environment, life transformation occurs.

Building our Sunday School/Small Group ministry will mean starting new classes and groups. It will also mean equipping and encouraging new and existing teachers. We are extremely thankful for those who commit to teach and facilitate each week. As such, we want to do all that we can to insure they are encouraged and have all the resources they need to teach and lead.

Step 2: Create and Emphasize Ministry Teams.

Every believer is gifted by God for serving and ministry. As a church, we want to insure that every new and existing member has an opportunity to serve within the church. To achieve this goal, we will create new ministry teams while emphasizing those that already exist. These Ministry Teams will be open to new and existing members. Each person can choose an area of ministry in which they would like to participate.

Step 3: Develop a Connections Team.

As the Lord adds new members to our church, the Connections Team would come alongside them to help them connect with a Sunday School class or Small Group. The Team would also assist the new member to connect with an area of ministry. This ministry team will be vital to our connecting process. It's not always easy for new members to find a class they connect with or to know about all the opportunities that exist for serving. The Connections Team will walk with them through this journey.

As we are faithful with the increase that the Lord is giving us He will entrust us with more! If you have interest in being a part of the Connections Team, please let me know. Don and Cindi Lewis are the Team Leaders. Please pray for the growth of our Sunday School/Small Group ministry and the development of our Ministry Teams.

For Him,
Chad

This Sunday at BFBC

Message by Dr. Chad Rickenbaker

8:15 am: Encounter Service

10:30 am: Cornerstone Service
Graduate Recognition

5:45-7:45pm: Church Family Night at
Otter Creek Water Park
End of the school year, FREE swimming
party for the entire church family!
Concessions will be available!
Otter Creek is located at
101 W. Darby Rd., Greenville, 29609

Summer Kickoff Service

Wednesday, June 6, 6:30 pm

On June 6 we will have a summer kick-off celebration. During this celebration worship service, we will highlight each of the ministries that will be taking place this summer through BFBC. These ministries include: VBS, community outreach at Hawk's Landing, camp weeks at Cheraw, Kentucky mission trip and Miami mission trip. This will be a wonderful time for everyone to gather together, and in faith, praise God for all that He is going to accomplish through this exciting summer of ministry and mission. We will also spend time praying for everyone who will be a part of these trips. Therefore, we are asking everyone who will participate in any of these activities to be a part of the service. This includes everyone from children to adults.

Youth Six Flags White Water (Water Park)

Friday, June 8

Cost: \$30

Register now in the church office or
online at www.thecrosswalk.info

2018 High School Graduates



Wilson Anthony
Wade Hampton
High School



Dalton Arnette
Greenville
High School



Katie Garcia
Travelers Rest
High School



Jake Gibson
Travelers Rest
High School



Perrin Lemons
Travelers Rest
High School



Hannah Rickenbaker
Foothills Christian
Co-op

2018 College Graduates



Jordan Buchanan
Converse
College



Katie Clark
Anderson
University



Scott Hicks
Limestone
College

JUNE 11-15
9 am—12:00 noon
All 3 Year Olds through Grade 5 are invited!
Children must have been at least 3 years old by September 1 of last year (2017).
ALL CHILDREN MUST BE REGISTERED.
Register Sundays in the Welcome Center or in the office during the week.

Welcome New Members



Bucky Miller
701 Hunts Bridge Rd. #22
Greenville, SC 29617
Bridgette Harper
2601 Duncan Chapel Rd. #J102
Greenville, SC 29617

Financial Report Sunday, May 27, 2018

Total Annual Budget.....\$1,356,287.67
Budgeted Gifts Rec'd 5-27.....\$15,877.00
Legacy Gifts.....\$249.00
Designated/Reimbursement.....\$5,002.00
Total Deposit.....\$21,128.00

Attendance

Sunday Morning Services.....483

Memorial Gifts

A gift has been given in memory of
Charles Hopkins by the
Loyalty Sunday School Class

Opportunities

SUNDAY

8:15 am Encounter Service
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Cornerstone Service
5:45-7:45pm Otter Creek Water Park

WEDNESDAY

6:30-7:30pm Prayer Service

THURSDAY

7:00am Men's Prayer Group

June Mission Action

Crossroads Home for Girls
Needs: body wash, deodorant, towels,
washcloths, decorative pillows



Ted and JoAnne Blevins
321 Fogil Dr.
Piedmont, SC 29673

175th Anniversary Celebration

On December 23, 1843, Berea Baptist Church was organized. Therefore, this December will be the church's 175th anniversary. To commemorate this special occasion, we will be having a church wide celebration next spring. We are in the early planning stages of this special celebration. As a part of our preparation, we would like to review any information on our church's history that can be found. If you have any historical documents about the church, please share them with us. We want to be able to present as complete a historical account of the Lord's work as possible. All help in this regard will be greatly appreciated. If you have any information, please contact Tracy Emory in the church office.