



**BEREA**  
First Baptist Church

"REFLECTIONS" (Publication No. 549440) is published bi-weekly by Berea First Baptist Church, 529 Farr's Bridge Road, Greenville, South Carolina 29611. Periodical Postage paid at Greenville, South Carolina. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to REFLECTIONS, 529 Farr's Bridge Road, Greenville, South Carolina 29611.

# Reflections

Volume XLVII, No. 2 | January 20, 2022

NEWSLETTER

[www.bereafbc.org](http://www.bereafbc.org)

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## "So the Lord stirred up their spirit." Haggai 1:14

In my daily time with the Lord, I've been reading through the Minor Prophets. While in the book of Haggai, I came across something that resonated with me. In Haggai, a remnant of Jews have returned to Jerusalem from Babylon. They did so with the blessing of Cyrus, the Persian conqueror. At first, they were enthusiastic about rebuilding the Temple and reconstituting worship in Jerusalem.

Unfortunately, their work didn't please all their neighbors, and there was resistance. The resisters actually secured an order from the Persian court that all work at the Temple was to stop. The zeal of God's people was dampened, and they turned their focus to other things, including their own homes.

When King Darius came to power, he sought to establish good will with the Jewish people and lifted the ban on the construction of the Temple. Darius even went so far as to provide funding for the project. The problem was God's people had been away from worship and work on the Temple for so long that other interests had filled their lives, and they had little interest in rebuilding the Temple.

Tragically the people didn't realize what was happening to them. The further they moved away from worship and Kingdom work, the more the Lord allowed their other pursuits to come up empty. In grace, God sent the Prophet Haggai to help them see that they needed to return to worship and the Lord's work. In 1:5 we read, "Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Consider your ways.'"

When confronted by this call and challenge from the Lord, the people responded in obedience. Their reverence for the Lord was restored, and the Lord assured them of His presence. In 1:14, we find these important words, "So the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and worked on the house of the Lord of hosts, their God."

We have certainly faced numerous things over the last couple of years that could dampen our spirits for worship and the Lord's work. When we get pulled away from worship and Kingdom work, life always seems to present other 'fillers.' Yet, when we reflect on what God's people were called to do, we realize that nothing satisfies or fills our lives like worshiping and serving the Lord. It is what we were created to do. I'm praying that the Lord stirs our spirits for worship and Kingdom work. I pray that the Lord would stir my spirit so that there is a renewed zeal for seeing Him glorified!

Pastor Chad



Beginning this Sunday, we are excited to welcome *Iglesia Bautista La Roca* (The Rock Baptist Church) to our church as they worship each Sunday in our Chapel building at 10:15am. It will be exciting to see many new faces on our campus.

Though we communicate in different languages, we share the desire to worship God, and the diversity of languages going up from this place will indeed be a beautiful sound. As you are in the parking lot or hallways and you see someone needing assistance in finding the Chapel, please offer your help as we strive to be good hosts.

## Men's Dinner

Rescheduled for this Sunday, January 23, 5:30 pm  
Senior Adult Building  
Featuring Seth Buckley and the Fire Pit Ranch Ministry  
**Reservations Required**

## *Valentine Luncheon for Widows*

Sunday, February 13  
Senior Adult Building  
Following the Morning Worship Service  
*This event will be sponsored  
by our Student Ministry*  
**RSVP by calling the church office or sign up  
in the Welcome Center.**

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

- 5:15-6:00 Wednesday Supper (Reservations Required on Sundays)
- 6:30-7:30 KidzLife (Ages 3-Grade 5—In Gym and The Dock)
- 6:30-7:30 Student Ministry (In the Crosswalk – Doors Open at 5:30pm)
- 6:30-7:30 Adult Bible Studies
- 7:30-9:00 Worship Choir (In Choir Room along Main Sanctuary Hall)

**Get Connected!**

## What's Happening in the Student Ministry

### UPCOMING DATES TO KEEP IN MIND:

January 31, Deadline to register for our Winter Retreat.

February 6, 5:00-6:00, Important Parent Meeting for kids going on Winter Retreat.

February 13, Immediately following the Sunday morning service until 1:00pm - Widows Lunch hosted and served by the Students in the Senior Adult Building.

February 18-20, Winter Retreat in Blowing Rock North Carolina: Skiing, Snowboarding, Ice Skating, Snow Tubing, and more. Week-end Theme "Take a Stand".

### BIG DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:

June 19-24, Camp Forest—Grades 6-12.

June 26-30, Camp Forest—Grades 2-5.

July 8-12, FUGE at Ridgecrest.

## Student Ministry WINTER RETREAT

Friday, Feb. 18—Sunday, Feb. 20

Blowing Rock Conference Center

Blowing Rock, North Carolina

The cost to attend the retreat is \$75 per person to help offset meals and lodging.

**To register, turn in the \$75  
by January 31.**

Money will be needed for lunch on Saturday at Sugar Mountain, and for the recreational activity of his/her choice: Skiing (\$100), Snow Tubing (\$35) and Ice-Skating (\$20).

Activity money will only be collected on the day we leave for the trip.

## Financial Report

*Although we were unable to have service this past Sunday because of the weather, our ministry expenses have continued. It is vitally important that we meet our budgeted expenses particularly this early in the year. Please give online, mail or bring your offerings from this past Sunday.*

## Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

Nancy Mace in the death of her brother-in-law, Mason Speer.

Gwen Williams in the death of her mother, Mildred Pollard.

Rionne Lee Ridgeway-Howell in the death of her grandmother, Sallie Waldrop.

## Memorial Gifts

Given in Memory of:

Linda Abbott by:

Jim and Karolyn Morgan

Ken Beck by:

Steve and Annlynne Farr

Julia Dalton

Staggs Plumbing Co.

Jay and Jan Haas

Bradford North Property Owners Association

Edd Stroud by:

Jim and Karolyn Morgan

Joan Wynn by:

Jim and Karolyn Morgan

## The Reaching Center

*We are collecting the following food items during January:*  
**BREAKFAST CEREALS**

## Opportunities

### SUNDAY

9:00 am

10:15 am

Bible Study/Sunday School  
Morning Worship Service

### WEDNESDAY

5:15-6:00

5:55-6:25

6:30-7:30

6:30-7:45

6:30-7:30

7:35-9:00

Wednesday Supper  
Grades 1-5 Choir  
KidzLife  
Students  
Adult Studies  
Adult Choir

### THURSDAY

7:00 am

Men's Prayer Time

## Wednesday Night Supper

5:15-6:00 pm

Reservations Required by 11 am Mondays

### Menu for January 26

Eggs, Grits, Sausage, Bacon, Biscuits  
or

Chick-fil-a Nuggets/Sandwich

Register in the Welcome Center on  
Sundays or call the church office.

## Deacon/Wife Organizational Dinner

Thursday, January 27, 6:30 p m

Senior Adult Building

Sign up in the Welcome Center or  
call the office by Sunday, January 23.

## Help Us Tackle Hunger in our Community

In 1990, a simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat" was delivered during a church service in Columbia, SC. This gave birth to an idea. Why not harness the energy and enthusiasm of Super Bowl weekend, a time when people come together for football, food and fun, to unite the nation for a higher good? For over 30 years, the Souper Bowl of Caring movement has been inspiring people across the nation to tackle hunger in their local communities.



Sunday, February 13 you will have the opportunity to score a touchdown for our Reaching Center. Following the morning service, our Reaching Center volunteers will be at the exits with soup pots where you can give your **monetary donations** toward our Reaching Center Ministry. All of your gifts will help to continue this ministry to our community. Look for our volunteers after the service and let's fill up those soup pots!

## Landon Tatum is Turning 4!

For over 4 years now our church has been praying for Zach, Taylor and Landon Tatum. Landon's family wanted to do a big party to celebrate him turning 4, but they have to do all they can to keep him safe and healthy. So instead of a big party they have decided to host a blood drive in honor of Landon. While he was in the hospital, Landon received 70 blood transfusions! Hosting a blood drive in his honor is a way that they can give back to those that helped save his life time and time again!

All donors will receive a \$10 e-gift card and for every donor, \$10 will be donated to the American Heart Association-South Carolina.

## BLOOD DRIVE

in honor of Landon Tatum turning 4!

Saturday, January 29

1:00-5:00 pm

Berea First Baptist Church