



# Reflections

"REFLECTIONS" (Publication 549440) is published bi-weekly by Berea First Baptist Church, 529 Farr's Bridge Road, Greenville, SC 29611. Periodical Postage paid at Greenville, SC. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to REFLECTIONS, 529 Farr's Bridge Road, Greenville, SC 29611

Volume LI No. 1 January 15, 2026

NEWSLETTER

www.bereafbc.org

(864)246-1921

*Please join us in celebrating and congratulating **Natalie Cannon** and **Cameron Woiczehowski**, two of our College-age interns who will be taking on some new part-time responsibilities as they continue their education at North Greenville University!*



For the past three years, **Natalie** has served as an intern in the Student Ministry overseeing girls' discipleship and leading worship while also studying at North Greenville University. On Monday, Natalie will begin serving as our **Mission's Mobilizer**, helping coordinate our Churches Acts 1:8 Missions strategy.



For the past two years, **Cameron** has served as an intern in the Student Ministry tasked with leading our student worship team while studying at North Greenville University. On Monday, Cameron will begin serving as our **Music Ministry Associate**, where she will continue leading our student worship team, and begin serving regularly with our Worship Team on Sunday Mornings while supporting the Worship Ministry administratively behind the scenes.

**DISCOVER BEREA CLASS**  
Sunday, February 1 at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Center  
NEW MEMBERS & VISITORS ARE INVITED!  
All new members of our church are encouraged to participate in a Discover Berea Class. Also, if you're new and have only attended a few services, we welcome you to join us! This is a great opportunity to learn more about our church ministries and connect with our staff.  
*Sign up in the Welcome Center.*

### Winter Weather Information

**It's that time of year where we need to think about winter weather.**

In order to keep you updated on any changes to our services, please sign up for text and email alerts. Just text the word UPDATE to 864-660-7739. You'll be directed to our communications page, where you can subscribe to weather alerts, newsletter, and more. We will also post updates on our Facebook page and WYFF.

*Give to the*  
**SOUPER BOWL of CARING**

**Sunday, February 8 (Super Bowl Sunday)**

*Help Our Reaching Center!*  
After the morning service, our Reaching Center volunteers will be at the exits 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!*

Give to the *Souper Bowl of Caring* on **Sunday, February 8**, (Super Bowl Sunday) to help our Reaching Center. After the morning service, our Reaching Center volunteers will be at the exits 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 on Feb. 8!

### Stay Updated on Our Children and Student Activities

To stay informed about our events for children and students, simply text the word UPDATE to 864-660-7739 to subscribe to our text and email notifications about upcoming NextGEN events. You can also follow us on social media for the latest news.

### Deacon Ordination Service

**Wednesday, March 4, 6:30 pm In the Sanctuary**

As part of our Wednesday night service we will ordain three new deacons:  
Duane Brock, Atilio Sifontes, Adrian Pelaez.

## Dear Berea Church Family,

For over three decades, the Berea First Baptist Church CDC's mission has been to help each child grow physically, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. We have been honored to partner with countless families in this mission, which makes it especially difficult to share with you that the CDC will end operations at the conclusion of this school year, effective close of business on May 22, 2026.

Please know that this decision was not reached carelessly or without careful and prayerful consideration of the alternatives. Our desire to honor God in all things, including the use of resources, led us to recently undertake an in-depth analysis of the Child Development Center. This review included input from early childhood leaders, a site visit from the South Carolina Baptist Convention's preschool and children's ministry division, and conversations with other providers. The consultants, church staff, CDC committee, and interim directors are all in unanimous agreement that operational challenges are on course to overwhelm our resources and ultimately force closure. The obstacles associated with hiring new or additional qualified employees, combined with legal requirements around regulations and staffing ratios, mean that delaying this decision could result in an untimely closure with little to no notice.

We notified our CDC staff and families of this decision on Tuesday night of this week. By announcing the closure as soon as possible after the decision was made, we are making every effort to provide ample time for those affected to find alternative quality childcare or secure other employment. To help ensure the viability of the CDC, the church is offering additional funding to keep the Center open, including financial incentives to encourage employees to remain on staff through the end of the school year.

We are actively seeking God's guidance in this matter and will not rule out the possibility that one day a version of the CDC may reopen. In the meantime, we remain attuned to whatever doors God may open for us to envision our church's ministry to young families.

Sincerely,

Chad Rickenbaker  
Senior Pastor

Britni McCall

Representative of the CDC Committee

## NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHT DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS 6:30-7:30 PM

### The Glory of Heaven

Taught by Pastor Chad | Meet in the Fellowship Center/Senior Adult Building

### Marriage Study

Taught by Ford Pfister | Meet in the Patio Room

### Apologetics and Doctrine Bible Study for Ladies

Taught by Rebecca Major | Meet in Room 207 in the Sunday School Building

### Discovering Your Spiritual Gift

Taught by Sandra Owens | Meet in the Conference Room

### Friendship Group Senior Adult Luncheon

Tuesday, January 20, 11:00 am  
Menu: Fried Chicken Tenders, Mac and Cheese, Green Beans, Peach Halves  
Program: Special Music by Lauren Welch  
Call the office (246-1921) to sign up by January 15.

### Faith and Support Ministry Sewing Day

Saturday, January 24  
9:00 am—12:00 noon  
In the Fellowship Center  
If you're planning to attend, please sign up in the Welcome Center or contact Sandra Owens at 864-683-8187.

## Weekly Opportunities

### SUNDAYS

8:15 am Special Time of Prayer  
9:00 am Connect Groups  
10:15 am Morning Worship  
6:00 pm Small Group Meetings  
(reach out to Pastor Chad for more info)

### WEDNESDAYS

5:15-6:00 Supper  
5:55-6:25 Grades 1-5 Choir  
6:30-7:30 Kidzlife, Ages 3-Grade 5  
Discipleship Classes  
Adult Bible Study/Spanish  
6:30-7:45 Student Worship  
Doors open at 5:45,  
Pick up at 7:45.  
ESL Class  
7:30-8:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
7:35-9:00

### THURSDAYS

7:00 am Men's Prayer Time

## Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:  
The family of Ganelle Cook.  
The family of Angela Holly.

## Reaching Center

For the month of January we are asking for donations of  
**OATMEAL, GRITS, AND BLANKETS.**

## Wednesday Night Suppers

We offer three ways to sign up for supper: Go to [bereafbc.org/register](http://bereafbc.org/register); call the office at 246-1921; or sign up on Sundays in the Welcome Center. The cost for a meal is \$6. You can choose from a home cooked meal or chick-fil-sandwich or nuggets & chips.

**January 21:** Hamburger Steak, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Lima Beans, Corn

**January 28:** Eggs, Grits, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits, Gravy

**The deadline to register is noon, Mondays.**

## Ladies' - Mark Your Calendar for These Upcoming Events

Ladies Edisto Spring Retreat  
April 9-12

Women of Joy Conference in Pigeon Forge  
October 9-11

Sign-ups for the Spring Retreat will open in February. Stay tuned for more details!

Mark Your Calendar!  
**BFBC Prayer Conference**  
March 27-29