

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,
9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Friday—Closed
Berea Friendship UMC
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Debbie Gissendanner, Treasurer
Joan Kotrady, Choir Director
And Organist



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Berea Friendship United
Methodist Church
8001 White Horse Road
Greenville, SC 29617

November 2020
 Berea Friendship UMC Newsletter

Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

This month I am going to share a few simple thoughts from 2 Corinthians 13:8. The verse says “For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth.” Please allow me to present the verse in the context of BFUMC moving forward (Forward Focus). So let’s talk about the truth! God’s word is truth. Spirit is truth. Jesus said, “I am the truth.” Bottom line - God is truth. He determines the rules of man’s blessedness. God determines the rules of a church’s blessedness.

Which truths about God are the most important ones? I suppose that is open for discussion amongst the saints. I will share my thoughts with you. These are what I see as most important, and therefore very much connected to a church’s blessedness. What a church values is very important.

- God is passionate about eternal things. The scripture tells us that God’s Word and the souls of men are eternal. A church should be sharing the Word of God as it is, without reservation. Men make decisions in their souls, and that part of us lasts forever. A church should be passionate about the souls of men and women.
- God is love. God’s Word is contained in two commands. Love God with your whole being. Secondly, love your neighbor as you would want to be loved. Implied in the second commandment, we are to love ourselves. God has loved each of us up to his one and only Son. God gave up what he loved most in this world, in order that He could be reconciled to all mankind. God’s love is selfless and sacrificial. A church must love selflessly and sacrificially.
- God is about others. Compared to God transcendent we are definitely other. Yet God is passionately in love with us, and wants to be in a relationship with us. God is transforming us into His Son’s likeness so we can reflect that likeness back into others and all creation. A church should be passionate about others that are different from us.
- God gives! God’s original plan was to give mankind all creation, and give him all the help needed to manage it rightly. Man fell by his own choices. Through His son God implemented a greater plan! Now all that is Christ’s in heaven is ours. In humility, we are empowered to receive eternal life more abundantly. A church is never more like God than when it is giving.
- God is good! God always intends good, and always works things together for good. God always has the very best blessings laid out for us! We often decide we have better ideas and inevitably face those consequences. A church must always be about doing good; to others, to the least last and lost, to those with no voice.
- God is about salvation. He came to seek and save that which is lost. God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. A church must be about the salvation of men and women, empowering their souls to make eternal decisions. Love expressed through faith in Jesus Christ is the only thing that will remain of us.
- God is all about faith. Faith in God allows men to choose Him; to grow closer, to be blessed, to bless others, to be transformed, to come home. God wants to be near to love us ever more! Without faith we can’t please God. A church must operate by faith to grow faith.
- God is about forgiveness. There is now no condemnation in Christ Jesus!
- God is a servant.
- God is _____.

There are many truths about God, too many to number. The most understandable truth we have comes to us in the person of Jesus Christ. Are we about truth most important to Jesus? Or, have we blended human and worldly thinking with His truth. God wants us to participate in His truth for our own well-being, for mankind’s benefit, for creation’s benefit. We cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth Berea Friendship. God is truth! We are truth to the extent we follow him.

Holiday Bazaar - New set up for November 7, 2020

BFUM with host a Holiday Bazaar on Saturday Nov. 7th 8am – 5pm.

It will look very different this year. Several vendors will be sharing their products.

The BFUM Quilters will have a country store with pickles, jams, jellies and baked goods.

This will also be a quilters table with a limited number of various items for sale.

Please share information about the Bazaar and plan to attend.

As an expression of caring and courtesy to others, masks/face covering will be required

What we need from our members --

Based on COVID guidelines all food items be individually wrapped. We will be unable to have an open kitchen this time.

We request members to make cakes, pies, cookies and wrap them in zip lock bags or clear plastic wrap so they can be seen. We will sell whatever we are fortunate enough to receive for this event.

Whole / half cakes are fine. 3 brownies or cookies up to a dozen cookies are good in a bag work well. There may also be single pieces of pound cake in baggies for individual sale.

Please let us know what you plan to donate for our event.

We would greatly appreciate people signing up or letting us know if they can assist with:

set up of tables on Friday afternoon / evening November 6th from 5pm – 8pm and/or break down Saturday 5pm – 6:30 pm.

We will also need **helpers on Saturday** to be present for sales. Each table will take money since we have individual vendors. We need between **3-5 people for the Berea Friendship table from 7:30 am -12:30p and 3-5 people from 12:30 – 5:30 pm.**

MANY THANKS! Bazaar Committee



Congratulations to **Anna and Braden Brock** upon the birth of their new baby girl **Millie Jo** who was born on Sunday October 18, 2020. Congratulations to Julie Bogan Brock & Gary Brock on the birth of their grandchild and to **Miller & Bobbie Bogan**, baby Millie Jo’s Great Grandparents.

Congratulations to **Rachel Rogers Hamrick and Todd Hamrick** on the birth of their new baby girl, Isla Cecily Hamrick born on October 21, 2020 at 7lbs. 14oz. All is doing well. Congratulations to the proud grandparents Cy & Lou Rogers and Sarah Rogers Shelton and Andrew Shelton the proud aunt and uncle.

Congratulations to **James & Krysta Ferrer** on the birth of their new baby girl Reyna Claire born on Oct. 23, 2020, 7lbs., 7 ozs, and 21 inches. Congratulations to **Jayne and Jose the proud grandparents** and to **John and Aubrey, Jaron and Rachael Ferrer the proud aunts and uncles.**



All Saints Sunday

We will remember those who are no longer with us on Sunday, November 1st during our service.

Those we have lost: Mildred Bray, Mary Childs, Don Griffin, Dot Nichols, Fredda Powell



Church Website and Facebook Information

Update on church website

A calendar has been added to the website. We are continually making changes to the website and updating information. If you have information about your group that you would like put on the website, please contact Vickie Failor, Rob Wallace, or Anne-Marie Wallace. If you have any suggestions for website, please contact one of us.



United Methodist Women

Newsletter Article

November 2020

The Friendship Circle will meet on November 17, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in the Huckaby Classroom

The Shalom Circle will meet on Saturday, November 21, 2020. We will meet at the church at 11:30 a.m. for a light lunch, devotional and work on a mission project.

PRAYER FOCUS

Our prayer focus for November is on the Wesley House Community Center in Knoxville, Tennessee. They are a United Methodist mission and also work closely with United Way.

They were first established in 1907 to provide childcare for working parents of Brookside Mills. Today they offer high quality, affordable, and accessible after school care and summer camps for children in Mechanicsville, Lonsdale, and Beaumont counties.

Their three main programs are -

1. CARES - An afterschool program serving 14 elementary schools with homework assistance, enrichment activities, and spiritual activities for young children.
2. STEP - An eight week summer camp providing breakfast, lunch, and snacks daily along with fun and educational experiences including math, art, music, games, and reading time.
3. WISE - A senior citizens program to help seniors who may be experiencing social isolation. Each Friday, they provide fellowship, activities, and a lunchtime meal to seniors in the community.

Birthday cards will be sent to missionaries Carol Mann in Illinois and Sherrie Buehl in Ohio.

Responsively Yours: Bend With Me

by Harriett Jane Olson

Recently I saw a new staging of Fiddler on the Roof, performed in Yiddish, that really drove home the ethnic/religious tension faced by the people of the Russian shtetl of Anatevka in 1905. Tevye, the protagonist and father of five daughters, must confront change and his own rootedness in tradition. He says, "If I have to bend that far I'll break!" I suspect many of us have felt this way during this time of twin pandemics—COVID-19 and racism.

Currently we're dealing with change on a large scale. We've missed family events. We cannot be present at bedsides or funerals in the ways we long to be. We cannot receive communion and sing together inside our church buildings. We have had to bend from our traditions. We're worshiping in new ways and finding online learning and connecting opportunities. Many United Methodist Women meetings have been canceled or moved online, and we have had to find alternative ways to serve, give, advocate and connect.

Adjusting to a novel virus has also meant receiving reams of data before doctors and scientists can analyze and explain the numbers, leaving us with too much data and too little understanding. I had that feeling when, just as the July/August issue of response was going to press, more analysis of the racial disparities in COVID cases and deaths was published. This new analysis pointed to the disproportionate infection and death rates among Hispanic/Latinx people in addition to the Black and Indigenous people I had focused on in my column. I want to highlight that learning here, inviting us to stand with all who are disproportionately affected and demonstrate that we need to keep learning and keep updating.

Ending racism has been a priority for United Methodist Women for a long time. Even with all I've learned, during this time I've realized that there is still so much I don't know or that I need to relearn about the history of the United States and the ways that I and other white people are co-opted into a racist system and benefit from it, even without our conscious assent. Some of you may have a similar sense of needing to shift and change very quickly. How can there be so much to learn? How can there still be so much I didn't see? How can all our efforts at change (in ourselves, our organization, the church and the nation) have fallen so woefully short?

The good news is that what Tevye feared did not come to pass. He was able to bend without breaking—and so can we. Just as his love for his daughters drew him, we are impelled by our love of God and of one another and our commitment to women, children and youth. After all, our efforts to connect digitally are not about our comfort. We are focused on the urgent work of supporting women, children and youth in this time of rising hunger, health risks, racial injustice and economic uncertainty. We are concerned about the isolating effects of physical distancing and need to strengthen the bonds of sisterhood and faith. And, now more than ever, we need to listen, learn and love as our board of directors has said, going deeper in the work of racial justice that United Methodist Women has made plain for the whole church through the Charter for Racial Justice.

Listen with me. Learn with me. Love with me. Bend with me. We need one another and the world needs us to continue to put faith, hope and love into action.

Understanding Values

It is so easy to look at a list of values and say this is what I am about. I believe in this; this is important to me! As you consider discerning the values of Berea Friendship UMC stay corporately focused. The question is not - what are your personal values. The question being asked is - what are BFUMC's values! The church is the people and I understand there should logically be some parallels. Here is the pivotal point to ponder and process in order to discern BFUMC's values rightly. **Values invariably produce evidence!** What a church values can be seen. There will be clear visible evidence associated with values. Values are what we do! Values are how we behave! You have heard me say many times in my sermons that action is truth. What we value is where we put our money, time, and energy. It is where we invest ourselves. What evidence do you see? In the evidence we will find BFUMC's values.

Below is the email address that you can return this survey to, or you can place it in the offering plate on Sunday, or U.S. Mail it to the church. The church email is: info@berefrienshipumc.org

If you have questions while filling out this survey you can approach any of the Forward Focus Committee members. These are your committee members listed below.

Jan Smith	350-9280
Brenda Benton	380-7512
Dawn Stewart	907-8266
Laura Childs	915-9357
Vickie Failor	354-8842
Bobby Taylor	630-3676
Buddy Stover	235-0333
Janie Riley	380-6335
Davon Harrelson	979-6870

TO: Members of Berea Friendship United Methodist Church

From: Members of the Forward Focus Committee

The Forward Focus Committee was meeting and presented several reports to our church family prior to COVID which has changed the world. The group has reconvened and is planning to move forward – but in order to do that we NEED YOUR INPUT. Please complete the following form and return the completed form to the church office / collection plate/ or by e-mail not later than Nov. 8th.

Directions: Using the scale below, circle the number that you think best expresses the **values** that are important to our church (*actual current values*, not what we see as aspirational). Work your way through the list quickly, mark your first impression. Scale 1 = not important
2 = somewhat important 3 = important 4 = most important

- **Preaching and Teaching Scripture:** Communicating God's Word to people 1 2
3 4

- **Family:** People immediately related to one another by marriage or birth 1 2
3 4

- **Bible knowledge:** A familiarity with the truths of the Scriptures 1 2 3 4

- **World missions:** Spreading the gospel of Christ around the globe 1 2
3 4

- **Community:** Caring about and addressing the needs of others 1 2 3 4

- **Encouragement:** Giving hope to people who need some hope 1 2
3 4

- **Giving:** Providing a portion of one's finances to support the ministry 1 2 3 4

- **Fellowship:** Relating to and enjoying one another 1 2
3 4

- **Encouragement:** Giving hope to people to need hope 1 2
3 4

- **Leadership:** A person's ability to influence others to pursue God's mission 1 2 3 4

- **Prayer:** Communicating with God 1 2 3 4

- **Excellence:** Maintaining the highest standards of ministry bringing glory to God 1
2 3 4

- **Evangelism:** Telling others the good news about Christ 1 2 3 4

- **Team ministry:** A group of people ministering together 1
2 3 4

 - **Creativity:** Coming up with new ideas and ways of doing ministry 1 2 3 4

 - **Worship:** Attributing worth to God 1
2 3 4

 - **Status quo:** A preference to maintain the way things are now 1 2 3 4

 - **Cooperation:** The act of working together in the service of the Savior 1 2 3 4

 - **Lost people:** People who are non-Christian and don't attend church (unchurched) 1 2 3 4

 - 21. **Tradition:** The customary ways or the "tried and true" 1 2 3 4
 - 22. **Obedience:** A willingness to do what God asks / to serve 1 2 3 4
 - 23. **Innovation:** Using new ideas to promote the ministry as it serves Christ 1 2 3 4
 - 24. **Initiative:** The willingness to take the first step or make the first move in ministry
 - 25. **Music:** Using special music to glorify God 1 2 3 4
- Other values you deem very important _____ *

NEXT -- review your choices above.

List below the **five** values you think are **most important**.

Share how you think Berea Friendship shows or demonstrates that value.

VALUE	How Berea Friendship Demonstrates this value.
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

THANK YOU for taking the time to complete this survey. Your **INPUT** is important. The Forward Focus Committee will be sharing the results in the near future.

Your name if you wish share – otherwise survey is anonymous _____

Please return the completed form to the church office / collection plate/ or by e-mail **not later than Nov. 8th**. Thanks again. Blessings to you all!

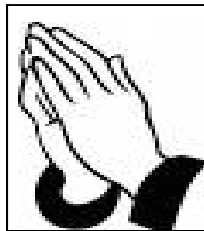


November Birthdays

- 03 Issac Stone
- 06 Hannah Claire Miller
- 08 Steve Capps
- 09 Kody Lee Bennett
- 10 Max Hovious
- 11 Julie Harrelson
- 16 Heather Philpot
- Marc Metcalf
- 18 Calley Dunn
- 21 Jan Smith
- 23 Alex Smith
- 25 Davon Harrelson
- Margaret Rawson
- 29 Gloria Adrienne Collins
(daughter of Katrina E. Collins)
- 29 Steve Hester

PLEASE HELP UPDATE THE PRAYER LIST

We are only listing those who we know are in nursing/Assisted living homes, the home-bound, those who are hospitalized at present, and those who are at present under going medical procedures such as chemo, etc. We do not want to leave anyone out so if you want your name or loved ones name listed, please notify the church office. We will up-date this list every 30 days—please help us with this important endeavor.



Family and Friends of Sgt. William Conley Jumper
 Bray family in the death of Mildred Bray
 Nancy McCants
 Richard Jardin
 Mary Penland
 Frankie Greer, Rick Greer’s Mother
 Mildred Thompson, Martha McWhite’s 96 year old aunt transferred to McCall Hospice after a fall.
 Alex Philpot healing from surgery
 Janet Stone is home healing from surgery
 Barry & Laura Childs
 Welbourne White, Ellen & Corky’s nephew is in Charleston Hospital he had a stroke.
 Caroline Shelton, Cy & Lou Rogers granddaughter and Sarah & Andrew Shelton
 Joe Philpot
 Mildred Pollard
 Blanche Creswell
 Robert Moler, Linda Crouch’s brother
 John Disher
 Allen Zorn
 Alex Stone
 Janet Stone
 Elmo Mann
 Molene McDuffie
 Troy Clements
 Millie Dunn
 Shirley Dickson
 Jane-Hunt Grady
 Kathleen Griffin

Happy Anniversary

November Anniversaries

- 01 Rhonda T. & Mike Hovious
- 06 Jim & Jan Martin
- 11 Dawn & Shain Stewart
- 23 Tari & Dismas Beeson

Thank You

Thank you for all the cards & notes Alex and I have received from church members. Your caring prayers are uplifting. Janet & Alex Stone

Mary Penland has been moved back to St. Francis hospital downtown Room 623 for more treatment before she can return to Oakview. Her wounds have gotten worse with her stay at Brushy Creek Rehab and she needs more professional care for now.



Dear Friends,

I do not know how to express enough how very much the many cards, calls, well wishes and prayers from you meant to me during my surgery this summer. Yes, I said this summer. I am not sure where the time has gone. I have been able to communicate with some of you but not everyone. Your kindness made me realize how very important it is to send a card or make a call. It cheered me up many days. Some of you know that Joe’s condition has been getting progressively worse over the last few months. We are getting to the point of having almost around the clock help with him. Most of the time his spirit is good and he is still our sweet Joe. Please remember him, Heather, Haleigh and Claire as they adjust to this new situation in their home.

Again, I want to thank you, our wonderful church family, for your many kindnesses to me and my family.

Becky Philpot

P.S. I am a big fan of The Upper Room. If you have one, read again Tuesday, September 29, 2020 by Natalie D. Hall (Texas, USA). Some of you will remember that our nephew Steven Hall and his wife Natalie have been missionaries to Alaska for many years. They are now living in Houston, Texas, as they continue to work in the mission field of Alaska.

Help Needed Part Time/Full Time

Janet and Alex Stone are looking for help with home care. They need someone to assist with meals and with daily activities as needed. And help care for small dog. \$12-15/hr. If you know someone who can help it would be so appreciated.

My email is Jhstone56@gmail.com

Phone 864-430-9926

Sympathy.

The pastor and congregation express their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Master Deputy Conley Jumper’s family while responding to a traffic stop that led to his death on October 20, 2020. Our prayers go out to his family and all the many friends.

Monthly mission collections for 2020

Do not forget that we are still collecting donations of nonperishable food, cleaning supplies, paper products, personal care items, etc. for North Greenville Crisis Ministries.. The food pantries are being hit hard during this pandemic. If you would like to assist with delivery, please let Vickie Failor know.



Serving in November

Altar Guild - Jane Walker

Trustee—Howard Johnson



The Berea Friendship United Methodist Quilters

Invite you to Mini Bazaar and Vendors Fair

Saturday November 7, 2020 8am – 5pm

8001 White Horse Road, Greenville, S.C. 29617

Participants include but are not limited to:

Berea Quilters: pickles, jams, jellies, baked goods, crafts, quilts

Thirty One

Scentsy

Mary Kay

Paparazzi

Lula Roe

Avon

Debbie Waynick Crafts

Ashley’s Hustle-apparel

Crafts from Beachwood Church

Bags/Purses by Wendi

The Pound Cakery

Rada Cutlery

Southern Flavoring

ENTRY FEE \$1 donation or one canned good to donate to NG Crisis Ministry

Happy Holidays!

To respect and keep others safe – **face coverings or masks are required.**

The Blood Mobile will be on site the day of our Mini Bazaar and Vendor Fair on Sat. Nov. 7th The blood mobile will be at BFUMC from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We need 30 people to donate for them to come out.

All donors will receive a \$20 gift card.

Masks are required and donors will be screened for Covid-19 Antibodies after every completed donation.

There is a link below to make appointments online. We want to get at least 30 people to sign up to donate.

Please spread the word in as many ways possible.

Sign-up link: https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/155350