



The Friendship Connection

Monthly Newsletter of Berea Friendship United Methodist Church...April 2023 Edition

Dear Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

I have a couple of topics to cover in this newsletter. First, I want to share some biblical truth concerning BFUMC's Attendance Crusade. Secondly, I want to announce times I will consistently be in the office.

Faith in God is not meant to be a passive, behind the scenes, flying under the radar kind of faith. Neither are we to be making ourselves the most visible, or the boldest loudest voices that are absolutely heard. We are to be witnesses of our faith in Jesus Christ. We are to operate humbly as Jesus did, laying our lives down. Study Philippians 2:1-11. The text tells how God in flesh ministered to the world effectively in His time. Now is our time BFUMC - we are to follow Jesus' lead. We are Jesus' stand-ins in the year 2023, making sure His story continues to be told and unfold.

All who came to Jesus had their needs met. Looking into His eye's, each person immediately felt unconditionally loved and accepted, and inspired to be more in His presence. Each person looking in Jesus' eyes felt as if they were the most important person in the world in that moment – and they were! Jesus considered everyone more important than himself. Every person is searching for God (the greatest need) from their present position in life. We're all coming to God from different places.

Here's how we succeed in our Attendance Crusade. Those you invite should feel as if they are the most important person in the world, unconditionally loved and accepted, and inspired to be more in your presence. The needs individuals have in the moment - be willing to lay down your life to meet those needs. Jesus humbly invited everyone he encountered into a relationship with God. Jesus invested wholeheartedly in those who accepted his invitation. Some declined Jesus' invitation in the moment, but His attitude and countenance was hope branded into their conscience forever. That's how the most humble man to ever set foot in this world changed it forever. Continue telling his story BFUMC. Continue unfolding His story BFUMC. Humbly share what Jesus has done for you with others, and they will come.

Secondly, I want to quickly discuss my time in the church office. PPRC suggested scheduled time would be helpful for the congregation. Here is the truth – if you call me and want to talk, you immediately become my top priority. If you call wanting to meet in person you immediately become my top priority. All that is needed is a simple phone call. That has been the truth the past four years and nine months. It will be your truth till the day I retire. That is how I understand my call into ministry. Beginning April 1, 2023 I will be in the office from 9:00 to 9:30am Monday – Thursday, and on Wednesday afternoon from 3:00 to 5:00pm. Like you I have appointments and commitments scheduled months in advance. Like you I have unexpected things coming from all directions that I have absolutely no control over. The hours specified will be my commitment. **But I still need the courtesy of a phone call to make sure I am available in the moment.** With the courtesy of a phone call I am available to talk or meet in person 24/7 as best serves your needs! My schedule is your schedule Berea Friendship – just call.

In Christ with you,
Pastor Davon



April Birthdays... 2nd Carol Presnell, 2nd Melissa Pressley Miller, 6th Susan Kruse, 9th Ellen Holman, 10th Jan Vaughan, 11th Patti Taylor, 18th Jean Bynum Vaughn, 20th Howard Johnson, 26th Janie Riley, 30th Stella Schaefer, 30th Eric Disher



April Anniversaries... 4th Ronald & Vickie Failor, 24th Parks & Sonya Evans, 25th Allen & Libby Gilliam



Pray For BFUMC's Ministry: Pray that God would open hearts to attend BFUMC as we embark on our Attendance Crusade.

Please Pray For: Rob Coogan (Friend of Debbie Gissendanner), Doris Harrelson, Mark Holiday, Corky Holman, Carolyn Knight (Bill Teat's Sister) Jerry Kruse (Jimmy's Dad), Jimmy Kruse, Denise McCloud (Daughter of Dennis & Terri McCloud), Robert Moler (brother of Linda Crouch), Jeffrey Moore, The Family Of Shelby Nations, Susan Ravan, The Family Of Janet Stone, Jimmy Tarrant, The Family Of Bill Thomas (husband of Sibyl...our organist before Joan), Matthew Wallace, & Gwen Williams

Continue To Pray For Our Shut-Ins: Dr. Eugene Bondurant, Sue Coggins, Blanche Creswell, Shirley Dickson, Libby Gilliam, Carolyn Hunter, Gloria Moore, Alex Stone, & Barbara



The Friendship Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 18th at 2:00 p.m.

Shalom Circle will meet at the church on Sunday, April 15th at 11:30 a.m. We will have lunch and a program.

Men's Group will meet on Monday, April 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Fitness Fellowship meet each Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 in the Social Hall. Everyone is invited to attend. These chair yoga exercises are great for men and women of all ages and fitness levels. If you have any questions you may reach out to Laura Childs.

The Administrative Council will meet on Tuesday, April 11th at 6:30 p.m.

PPRC will meet on Tuesday, April 4th at 6:30 p.m.

United Women Of Faith...The UWF of Berea Friendship will have a special recognition bulletin for the special woman/young lady in our lives on Mother's Day, May 14th . Pew slips will be available starting the week of April 9th . You can recognize a special woman/young lady in your life for \$1.00 per recognition. The deadline for submission is Sunday, May 7th . Please place your recognitions in the UWF box on the back table in the Sanctuary (please do not place in the offering plate). The donation from this special recognition goes to support our work in missions. If you have questions or need to mail recognitions, please contact Anne-Marie Wallace at 551-3605.

Our prayer focus for April is on the Good Neighbor Settlement House in Brownsville, Texas. It was established in 1953 by the First United Methodist Church in Brownsville. It was created to provide basic services to the most needy communities. As Brownsville evolved, they now strive to meet the needs of a growing homeless population. Their mission statement reads "To give clients hope by offering a community of empowerment through providing meals, basic needs, outreach, and support services while creating a legacy of positive change for Brownsville." Four of their successful programs are: Client services that assist individuals or families in areas such as resume building, applying for benefits, case management, and job search. A hygiene program that provides hygiene kits and access to showers and laundry service. Medical services where a doctor and medical staff offer free consultations one day a week. A soup kitchen that provides three meals a day as well as snack bags. Most years they serve as many as 70,000 meals.

Birthday cards will be sent to missionaries Gloria Marple in Oregon and Emma Samson in Virginia.

Outreach Ministries...The Outreach Ministries Committee has selected Jasmine Road as our agency to support for the month of April. They need Paper towels, toilet paper, and laundry detergent. You can place the items on the mission table at the back of the sanctuary. In addition to our congregation participating in this ministry, we are going to invite the children of the CDC to help with the ministry and bring rice and canned fruit to chapel weekly.

Jasmine Road is South Carolina's first two-year residential program for adult women survivors of human trafficking, prostitution, and addiction. Jasmine Road's mission is to provide a path to healing and employment for women survivors of sex trafficking, prostitution, and addiction. Our vision is that Jasmine Road will be known as a loving community that offers women opportunities to flourish, one life at a time. Jasmine Road is modeled after the very successful Thistle Farms non-profit which was founded in Nashville, Tennessee by Episcopal priest Becca Stevens more than 20 years ago. The Greenville affiliate was incorporated in 2016 as a result of a partnership between Christ Church Episcopal, Triune Mercy Center and Bon Secours, St. Francis Health System. When Jasmine Road's first safe house opened its doors in May 2018, it joined more than 40 Thistle Farms sister agencies around the country in offering a transformative two-year residential program with an innovative social enterprise component, the first of its kind in Greenville. Thank you to everyone that donated to the collections of rice and canned fruits and other canned items for United Ministries. We exceeded our challenge again.

The outreach committee will meet again on May 16th at 6:30 p.m. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or would like to be involved, please join us.

Bible Study...Pastor Davon and the 5 Lay Servants of Berea Friendship will be leading a Bible Study on the Series "The Chosen". The bible study will be held on Monday evenings, starting April 17th. The bible study will begin at 5:45. We will watch a video of each episode of the Chosen and then discuss the episode. Everyone is invited to participate. If you would like to bring a "bag dinner" to eat while watching the video, please do so. Invite your friends and family to join you in this bible study. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the lay servants: Vickie Failor, Anne-Marie Wallace, Bobby Taylor, Larry McCants, Josh Durham or Pastor Davon. We are looking forward to this bible study series.

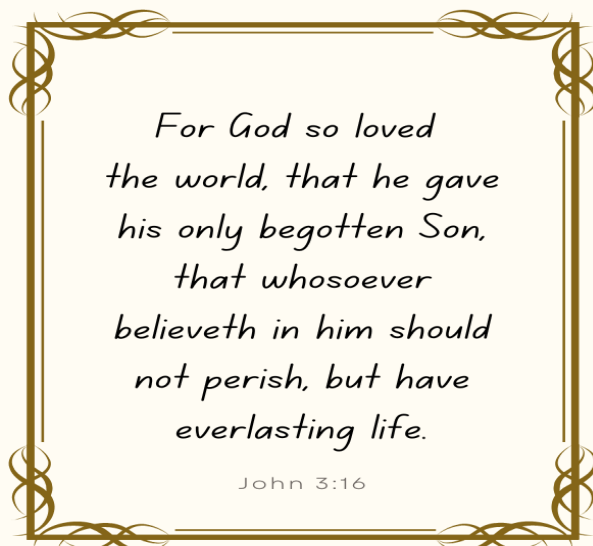
CPR Class...Church members who have interest are invited to a hands on CPR class Saturday April 1st at 9:00 a.m. One of our firemen will teach the class at Station 2 on Old Hunts Bridge Rd. The class should last about 90 minutes.

Children's Egg Hunt...We need the following donations : Individually wrapped candies (no nut products please) or other "Easter treats" for take home treats; Empty plastic eggs; Paper egg cartons. Join us for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 8, 2023 at 10:00-11:30 AM. Bring your family, extended family, friends, etc.

Prayer Vigil For Attendance Crusade...There will be a Prayer Vigil on Good Friday, April 7th to pray for our Attendance Crusade. The church will be open from 7 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Please come any time during these hours and pray for our church. The prayer team also encourages you to pray daily at 7:00 a.m. and/or 7:00 p.m.

United Methodist Church Disaffiliation and Discernment concerns: Berea Friendship church leadership has put together some information on the UMC discernment process and disaffiliation. If you would like a copy of the information, it is located in Pastor Davon's office on the bookshelves. If you have further inquiries about this and our church, you can contact one of the church leaders, Ellen Holman, Vickie Failor, or Pastor Davon. The church will continue to share information as it come available on this matter. The General Conference of the UMC will meet April 23, 2024 – thru May 3, 2024. A decision on the Methodist standings will not be made until this conference. FYI, the church does not have to make a decision at this time on our standings in regards to this matter.

Berea Friendship 3:16 Prayer Ministry



Berea Friendship 3:16 Prayer Ministry meets on Tuesday from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. We are looking for a minimum of 3 people to pray for at least 16 minutes for the prayer concerns in our church and in our community. If you would like to sign up you can do so on the sheet on the door coming into the sanctuary or by contacting Ellen Holman or the church office.

April 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1 9:00 a.m. CPR Class
2 Palm Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Lunch 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship	3	4 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Quilters 5:30 p.m. Fitness Fellowship 6:30 p.m. PPRC Meeting	5 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	6 5:30 p.m. Fitness Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service	7 Good Friday	8 10:00-11:30 a.m. Easter Celebration (Egg Hunt, Activities, Games)
9 Easter 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship	10	11 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Quilters 5:30 p.m. Fitness Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Administrative Council	12 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	13	14	15 11:30 a.m. Shalom Circle
16 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship	17 5:45 Bible Study The Chosen 6:00 Men's Group	18 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Quilters 2:00 p.m. Friendship Circle 5:30 p.m. Fitness Fellowship	19 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	20 5:30 p.m. Fitness Fellowship	21	22
23 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship	24 5:45 Bible Study The Chosen	25 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Quilters 5:30 p.m. Fitness Fellowship	26 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	27 5:30 p.m. Fitness Fellowship	28	29
30 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship 5:00 p.m. Praise & Worship						



Palm Sunday Celebration

SPECIAL MUSIC BY
CDC CHOIR

CHILDREN'S MOMENT-
PUPPET MINISTRY

APRIL 2, 2023
10:00 A.M.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH
FOLLOWING SERVICE

BEREA
FRIENDSHIP

REGISTERED BY
APRIL 5

EASTER

• CELEBRATION •



SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH FROM 10:00-11:30


EGG HUNT, ACTIVITIES, & GAMES

INFANTS THROUGH CHILDREN IN GRADE 5
NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR INFANTS THROUGH AGE 3

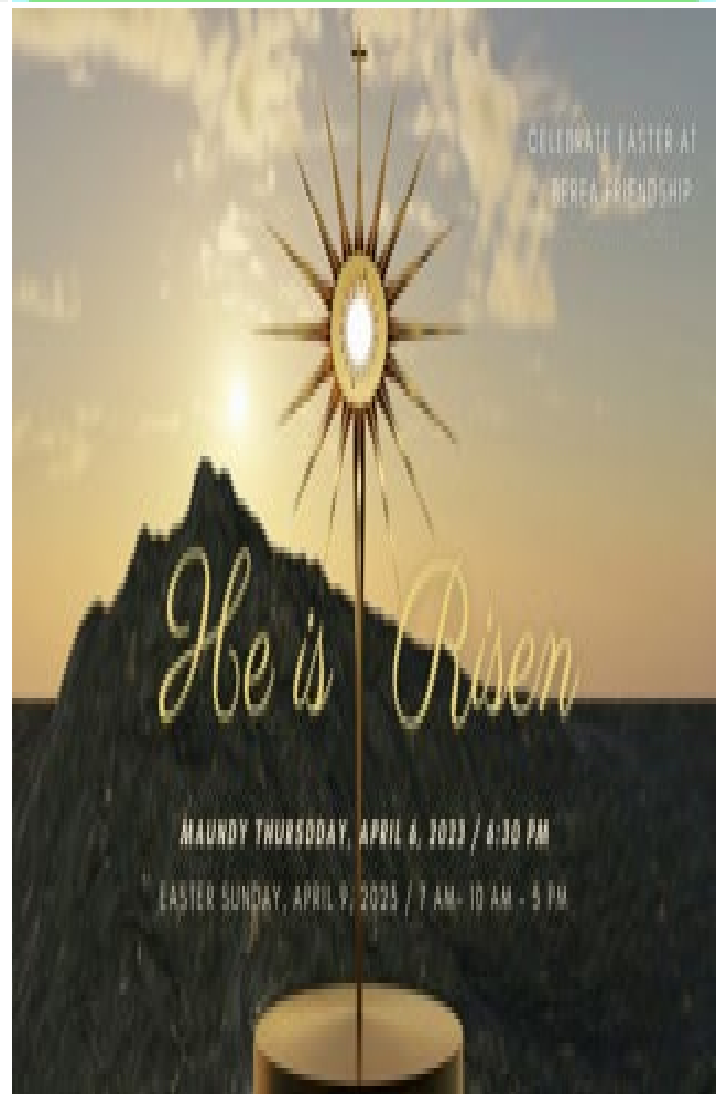
SPONSORED BY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY & OUTREACH MINISTRY

Berea Friendship
BIBLE STUDY
The Chosen

Starting Monday, April 17th at 5:45 we will watch an episode of The Chosen followed by a discussion of the episode.



CELEBRATE EASTER AT
BEREA FRIENDSHIP



He is Risen

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023 / 4:30 PM
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023 / 7 AM - 10 AM - 5 PM

BEREA FRIENDSHIP

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship

ATTENDANCE

CRUSADE

APRIL 16TH-

MAY 28TH

The Crucifixion and Resurrection

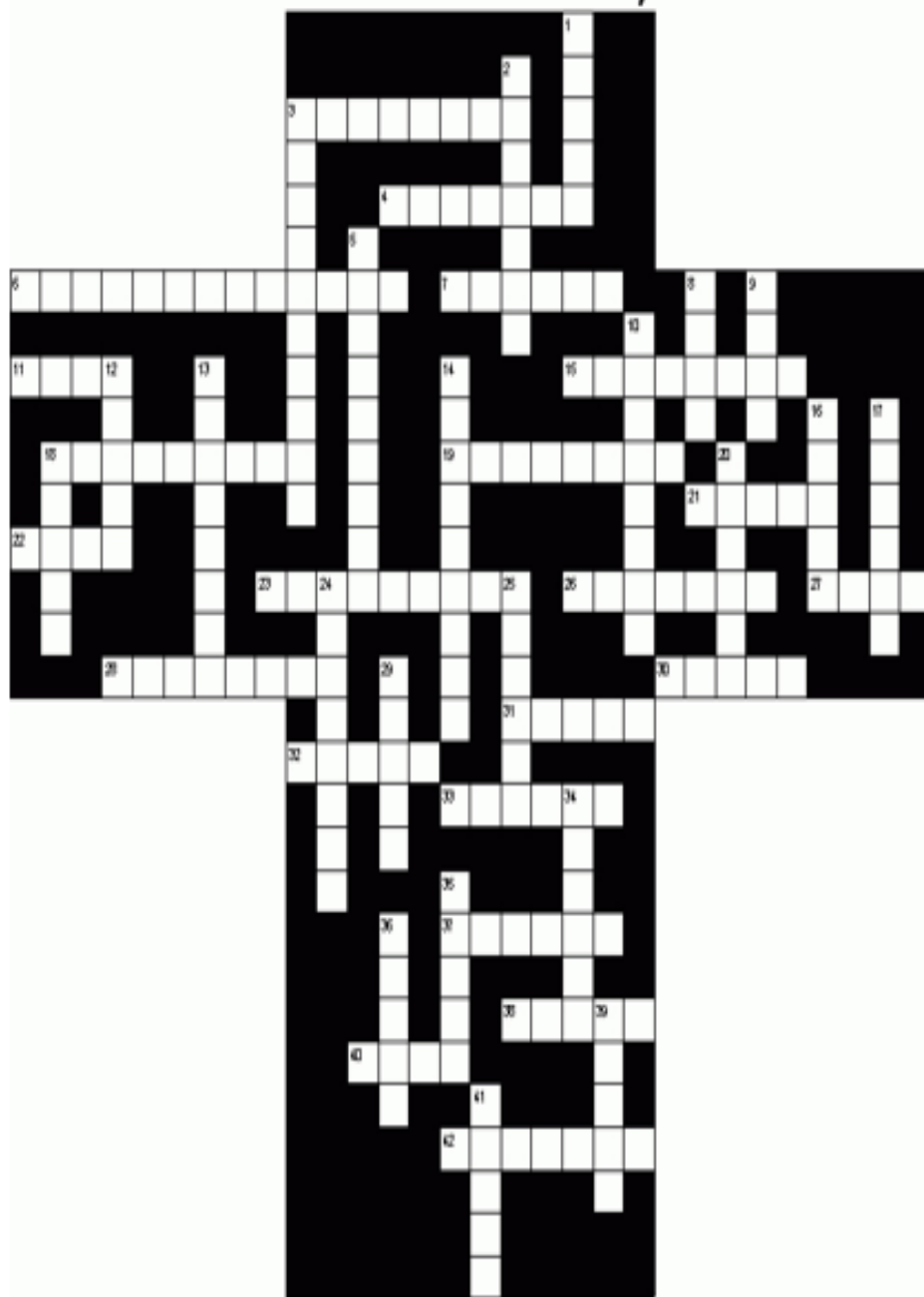
A N G E L S Y D M T G A Q Z N Q
K N L X E N R W I Z V O Z E E F
I R S C T O M B J S P R S L X D
X P I W O R S H I P C I A P L I
A P H E A V E N J U R I O P E C
S Z U R M G V E M O R C P D V L
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E E A O I R V E E N V H O U M J
R G E D B I T R D B G Q M N P E
M V L S L E S V T O T U E D T S
W O B A S T O N E D E A N A Y U
S C A L V A R Y B Y L K V Y I S
M N A I L S D A W N L E L G Y U

Find these words:

alive	Gospel	rolled
angel	guard	soldiers
body	hammer	spear
burial	Heaven	spices
Calvary	Jesus	stone
cross	joy	Sunday
dawn	king	tell
disciples	morning	tomb
earthquake	nails	women
empty	risen	worship
Galilee	robe	



The Easter Story



Down

1. The father-in-law to the high priest. Jesus was first brought to him
2. Another name for the place of His crucifixion.
3. The garden where Jesus prayed before He was arrested
5. And it was the third hour, and they _____ Him.
8. This was written and set over His head: "_____ of the Jews"
9. Judas betrayed Jesus with a _____.
10. "Go ye into the world and preach the gospel to every _____."
12. Joseph took His body down and wrapped it in fine _____.
13. The prisoner released by Pilate instead of Jesus
14. The pharisee that brought spices for His burial
16. The apostle who betrayed the Christ
17. "Why seek ye the _____ among the dead?"
18. He was taken up; and a _____ received Him out of their sight.
20. Judas betrayed Jesus for thirty pieces of _____.
24. And they crucified Him, and parted His _____, casting lots:
25. He appeared to two disciples on the way to this village.
29. Jesus told Peter to feed His _____.
34. The Roman governor who washed his hands of the whole affair
35. This was rolled in front of the tomb and then sealed.
36. and His sweat was as it were great drops of _____.
39. The soldier pierced His side with this
41. He is not here: for He is _____ as He said.

Across

- | | |
|--|--|
| 3. It means "A place of a skull;" Where He was crucified | 26. "Father, _____ them; for they know not what they do." |
| 4. These guys were crucified on each side of Him. | 27. He shed His blood so our _____ would be forgiven. |
| 6. And He was numbered with the _____. | 28. The Last Supper was a celebration of this Jewish holiday |
| 7. Jesus was anointed with precious ointment in preparation for His _____. | 30. The ruler of Galilee |
| 11. This part of the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom | 31. This was sent to strengthen Him when He was praying in the garden. |
| 15. And when the sixth hour was come, there was _____ over the whole land. | 32. This apostle denied that He knew Jesus three times. |
| 18. This Roman said, "Truly this was the Son of God." | 33. This wealthy man of Arimathea buried Him. |
| 19. The high priest who said it was expedient that one man die for all. | 37. The doubtful apostle |
| 21. The _____ of blood was purchased with the betrayal money | 38. "A spirit has not _____ and bones as ye see me have." |
| 22. The disciple that took Mary home as his own mother | 40. And they stripped Him, and put on Him a scarlet _____. |
| 23. He appeared first unto Mary _____. | 42. They gave Him this to drink when He was on the cross. |