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# BEREA MINISTRIES









# **PARTNERSHIP UPDATES**

# **Celebrations & Highlights**

DEEP FREEZE: Newfound Lake completely froze over this year, but that didn't stop our campers from taking a dip in the freezing cold water! We had 11 wonderful weekends of Deep Freeze at Camp Berea this winter where 2,296 campers took Next Steps with Jesus! Scroll down to read stories of life change that took place during these weekends!





**ENCOUNTER:** We enjoyed 8 weekends of fun, memories, and life-change this winter! For the first time in decades, the pond completely froze over due to last summer's pond dredging. Campers were able to enjoy ice skating and broom ball all season! More importantly, we praise God for the **993 campers who took their Next Step with Jesus** during these weekends. See below to read stories of life-change! VACATION DAY CAMP: This winter, we launched our first-ever Vacation Day Camp at Camp Kerith! This week-long day camp allowed students to spend their winter break at camp connecting with others, having fun, making memories, and growing in their relationships with Jesus. We are looking forward to another week of Vacation Day Camp at Kerith later this month April 21-25!





**STAFF RETREAT:** Following a wonderful season of snow camp, our staff from all three sites gathered at Camp Spofford for the **CCCA Northeast Sectional conference.** Alongside 125 individuals from different camps across New England, we spent time together in fellowship and learned about what it means to *"Experience God through Scripture."* God blessed our team with a wonderful three days of connection, encouragement, and growing in our faith!

## **NEXT STEP STORIES**



"One girl was questioning God, but realized this weekend that God is truly real and felt apart of God's family."

"Five of our students attended the worship seminar to learn more about what worship is and what it looks like."

"One girl got saved this weekend. She is very young and impressionable but super excited to be involved and apart of the church community."

"One student doesn't normally come to our group. He started out very shy but has been warming up and getting along great. We really felt the spirit moving in our group this weekend. I prayed with him, and he was breaking down. He gave his life to Christ last night!"



"Two best friends, both Juniors in high school, are dedicated softball players. One has chosen to get baptized when she gets home, and the other has realized she's let sports dominate her life as an idol and has resolved to realign her priorities."

"One student has had deep trauma in her life. This was her first time at camp, and she was saved this weekend."



"One boy has been battling with things in his life and was angry about their group's requirement to leave cell phones home this weekend. At the end of the weekend. he told his leader he's so arateful that they did because he had time and space to reflect and hear Jesus this weekend. He had a great weekend because of it."

#### **PRIORITIES**

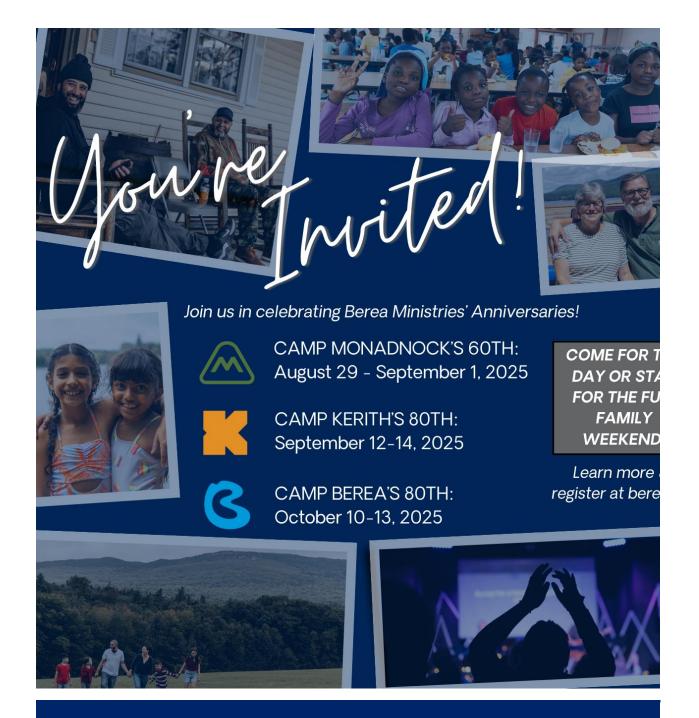
- **PROJECTS**: As we shared in recent letters, we have many needs across all three sites. Camp Berea is raising funds for their **winter needs** (furnaces, frozen pipes, etc.), as well as a **new Pole Barn**. Camp Monadnock has significant needs regarding the **pool**, as well as repair to the **pond bridge**, **insulation and roofing for the Red Barn**, and **installation costs for the new furnaces**. Camp Kerith needs **heat for the gym**, as well as support for **winterizing Capital Hall**. If you have questions or would like to support any of these needs, we'd love to chat with you! We can be reached at <u>partnership@berea.org</u> and <u>gifts</u> <u>can be made online</u>.
- ANNIVERSARIES: 2025 is a big year for Berea Ministries! This fall, we'll be celebrating Camp Berea and Camp Kerith's 80th and Camp Monadnock's 60th Anniversary. We are looking for alumni and partners who can help us spread the word about these events! If you are interested in helping out, please contact us at partnership@berea.org. We are excited to celebrate what God has done over these many decades and look forward to what He will do through the ministry in the future. Join us for the day or stay for the full Family Weekend we can't wait to see you there!

Camp Monadnock's

Camp Kerith's 80th

Camp Berea's 80th

60th Anniversary



# **Roadblocks & Challenges**

**CHURCH ENGAGEMENT:** Pray for churches across New England! In our conversations and relationships with churches, we are seeing them **struggle to engage congregations, and many churches are still lacking full-time staff and volunteers.** There was a significant drop off from the pandemic, and many churches have not yet fully recovered from that. It takes immense time and effort to rebuild after a setback such as the pandemic, and it can be very discouraging for churches. Lack of staff and volunteers cause significant strain and burnout on

churches. **Please be praying for New England churches facing these challenges!** We invite you to prayerfully consider what serving and volunteering in your church could look like for you and your family as well.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- **STAFF:** Our staff just wrapped up three busy months of winter snow camps. We are currently preparing to host some Guest Groups while we also plan ahead for our spring programs. Be praying for our staff that they would be able to find moments of rest between seasons and clarity as they prepare for upcoming spring and summer programs.
- **GIVING:** Our goal is to <u>raise \$300,000 before April 30th!</u> As mentioned above, we have quite a few urgent needs at each site. Join us in praying for God's provision in these areas! We would love to connect with more partners and help them take their Next Step with Jesus through financial partnership with the ministry. It's a special honor for us to walk alongside our partners through stewardship, and we are praying God brings more opportunity for those conversations.

## **MAKE A GIFT**

We truly cannot do the work we do without your support. Your gifts and resources allow us to continue stewarding this ministry and its people. Each project, program, and person we steward has a direct impact on building the Kingdom. *Thank you for partnering with Berea Ministries!* 

Want to learn more about how you can support us? Let us know! We'd love to chat with you.





For questions and more information, please contact our Advancement Team at <u>partnership@berea.org</u>. We'd love to hear from you!



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