

Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Matthew 24:44 ESV



BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH

Worship & Communion Service

Sunday, September 3, 2023

SERVICES & CONTACTS

Sunday Worship Services in-person & live stream - 10:40am & 6pm

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/bereanbarbados/live>

Join us for Sunday School in-person - 9:30am

There is a class for ALL ages

Midweek Service in-person & online (Wednesday)

 **ZOOM Noon** and repeated **7:30pm** | link provided

Youth Service in-person - 7pm (Friday)

 **WhatsApp**  **Signal**  **Telegram 845-5752** or Tel: **426-4707**

email: info@bereanbarbados.org

www.bereanbarbados.org

BE ON ALERT!

By Sean Hunte

Before Rhea and Simon went on their long-awaited summer vacation, their teacher Mr Parris wished them a happy vacation. “Make sure you spend some of your vacation getting ready for back-to-school,” were his parting words as he dismissed his class for the final time that year.

Rhea and her family took a trip to Canada. This was Rhea’s first trip to a country so far away. She really enjoyed her new experiences. She got to travel like a mole as she went from location to location when she wasn’t traveling on the upper deck of a bus. Seeing polar bears and penguins outside of her television screen caused a volcano of emotions to erupt within her. However, dropping with great speed from about 50 feet was the greatest thrill for her. Rhea was now a roller coaster graduate; in fact, she would say that she had a PhD in riding these vehicles of exhilarating fun. She even got to be a princess for a few hours as she walked around the gorgeous grounds and ascended and descended the many staircases of a famous castle. After her parents ripped her away from her new home and she returned to her old home she began to get ready for back-to-school. **#bestSummever**

Simon was also able to travel this summer. He is one of the biggest Manchester City fans, along with his father. This year, the two of them attended a football match. They had tickets to watch Manchester City play in an international final. The night before the match, Simon could hardly sleep; he could hardly wait to be in the stadium. The day of the match was the first day of the summer that he took a shower without resistance. The journey from home to the stadium was unbearable for Simon. Mere hours felt like decades. Finally, he could see the stadium in the distance and his face beamed brightly. The expression on Simon’s face reminded his father of the time when Simon brought home a report with an A for Mathematics. The fans, the excitement, the oohs, the ahhs, the cheers, the near misses, the goals, the tackles, the food, the smells, everything made the experience; “Epic!”. **#mostepicSummever.**

A few days later, the glow from the match started to fade and Simon began to prepare for back-to-school.

The first day of school showed that Simon, Rhea, and their classmates had taken Mr Parris’ advice and they had indeed prepared for back-to-school. They were all smartly attired with new uniforms, accompanied by haircuts and various hairstyles. The

students had all of their school books, stationery and other supplies. None of them lacked anything. The first day of school went smoothly but then Day 2 came. Day 2 ended with Rhea rushing to her mother's car, screaming with excitement, to tell her the good news. **#bestDayever**. However, Simon had the completely opposite demeanour as he journeyed home. It was as if Manchester City had lost a match after leading 3-0 at halftime. **#worstDayever**. Half of the class was oozing with joy while the other half tried desperately to lift their chins off their chests.

Like Rhea and Simon, Mr Parris had travelled abroad while he was on vacation. Being a lover of French and French culture, he visited Paris with other members of the school's Foreign Language Club. He graciously brought back some amazing treats for his students. However, only those who were prepared for back-to-school received these treats.

Though all the students were prepared for the first day of school, only half were prepared for back-to-school. Mr Parris gave the class a quiz on Day 2. This quiz covered some of the topics that the students had learnt the previous year. Some students spent some of their vacation reviewing their work in preparation for back-to-school and these students were truly prepared based on the results they received in the quiz. Unfortunately, the others only spent time preparing for the first day of school and they fell well short of what Mr Parris had told them to do a few months prior. Those who were prepared were rewarded but those who weren't felt the disappointment and agony of not partaking in what for many was **#bestPrizeever**.

In Matthew 24 and 25, Jesus discussed with His disciples the day when He will come back-to-earth. He repeatedly instructed them to be prepared for this day. Wise people will "be on alert, because they do not know the day or the hour" but the foolish will do otherwise. Wise people will receive eternal life **#bestPrizeever** but the foolish will receive eternal punishment.

Jesus' return is imminent, when He returns will your face beam with joy or will you tremble with fear? Will it be **#bestDayever** or **#worstDayever**?

Sean Hunte is a member of Berean Bible Church Hothersal and teaches the Teen Sunday School class. He is married to Kelly for 13 years and they have two children. Sean is a teacher at Harrison College and leads the ISCF group there.

Order of Service

WORSHIP & COMMUNION SUNDAY
September 3, 2023 at 10:40am

1. Welcome – Pastor Paul Garnes
2. Announcements –
3. Call to Worship, Meditation & Invocation
4. Hymn 577: God Moves in a Mysterious Ways
5. Reading: Acts 16: 23–33
6. Hymn 74: Singing I Go
7. Offertory Hymn 871: In My Heart There Rings a Melody
8. The Choir: How Beautiful
9. Hymn 402: Like a River Glorious vss 1 & 3
10. Sermon: Pastor Paul Garnes
11. Hymn 130: When I Survey The Wondrous Cross
12. Distribution of Elements
13. Closing Song: Behold The Lamb
14. Benediction

ITEMS FOR PRAYER

- Give God thanks His mercy and Grace for a new month.
- For those grieving.
- For guidance as we build God's Church.
- Pray for the ministry and wellbeing of our Pastor and family.
- For healing for our sick members.
- For grace for our shut-in members.
- For the Berean Church, Dominica, Grenada, and DR Congo.
- For the friends of Berean – The Gilmours, Haecks, Hulls, Moores, Montagues, Porchers, Rogers, Rudders and Taylors.
- For our unemployed members to find meaningful employment.
- For the peace of Jerusalem.

REMINDERS

- **DOOR TO DOOR IN HOTHERSAL: SUN, SEP 10, 4:30PM.**
- **Sign-up SENIORS+ BUS RIDE AND PICNIC: SAT, SEP 16, 9:30AM – 5PM.**
Sign-up sheet at the back of the church. *Must be 65 years or older.
- **SENIORS' SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE: SUN, SEP 17, 10:40AM.**
- **Sign-up* for your "Building The Church" Anniversary T-SHIRT.**

September Birthdays

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2nd – Mikeala Smith-Clarke | 11th – Shelley Peters | 20th – Anne-Marie Cruickshank |
| 7th – Myrna Belle | 12th – Ormenta Hoyte | 24th – Marva Springer |
| 9th – Jared Corbin | 13th – Kenny Maycock | 25th – Esmay Maycock |
| – Julia Ifill | 14th – Peyton Garnes | 26th – Adrian Greenidge |
| – Gavin Neblett | 15th – Stephen Mendes | – Aubrey Maloney |
| – William Wells | 17th – Shelah Alleyne | 27th – Cardinal Alleyne |
| 10th – Sean Hunte | 19th – Diana Bentley | – Sylvine Marshall |
| – Cynthia Trotman | – Sherry-Ann Wiltshire | 30th – Beverley Wason |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2nd – Joan & Michael Aimey | 23rd – Shurley & Marilyn Reece |
| 15th – Leon & Debra King | 26th – Lauraine & Ian Bovell |
| 22nd – Nicholas & Rachel Williams | 27th – Patrick & Eartha Skeete |