

Ashe Baptist Association News



February 2026



OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM—4:00 PM Monday—Friday
Location: 204 Beaver Creek School Road West Jefferson, NC
Mailing Address: PO Box 850 Jefferson, NC 28640
Phone: 336-846-5631 **Website:** www.ashebaptist.org

Appalachian
Bald Mountain
Beaver Creek
Big Flatts
Big Laurel
Blue Ridge
Bristol
Buffalo
Calvary
Farmers Memorial
Fletcher Memorial
Friendly Grove
Friendship
God's Will Missionary
Grassy Creek
Happy Trails Cowboy
Healing Springs
Laurel Knob
Liberty Grove
Little Helton
Midway
Mission Home
Mount Olive
New River
North Beaver
Oak Hill
Obids
Old Fields
Orion
Phoenix
Pilot Mountain
Pine Swamp
Pleasant Home
Pleasant Valley
Riverview
Round Knob
Trinity
Tuckerdale
Wagoner
Warrensville
Welcome Home

Preacher David's Corner

Rev. David Blackburn, Director of Missions

Email: domdblackburn@gmail.com



Gentle, Reflective, and Rooted in John 14:27

My old Bible sits on a small wooden table by the window, its pages worn, soft from years of turning. Every morning, before the action starts, I sit beside it and listen as my quiet time unveils. Life sometimes has not been kind. Sadnesses sometimes visits my home, and fear follow those footsteps. Yet this Book remained, steady and patient.

One morning, as the sun crept through the window, my eyes fell on the words of Jesus
"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

— John 14:27

Those words felt different from any promise the world had ever made to me. The world's peace comes and goes—dependent on money, health, or people helping. But God's Word speaks with quiet authority, as if it had already seen tomorrow and knew God will hold me.

I have learned, over time, that to **value Scripture** is to treat it not as decoration, but as direction. When I trust God's Word, I find that He never fails me. People break promises. Circumstances change. But God proved Himself **trustworthy** again and again.

Obeying the Word isn't always easy. Sometimes it asks me to forgive when I want to harden my heart, or to wait when I want to run ahead. Yet each step of obedience leads me closer to life, not loss. The Word gently points me toward **salvation**, reminding me that my hope is not in this passing world, but in Christ himself. I still belong!

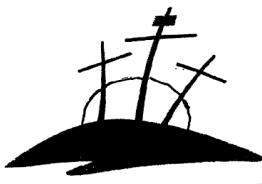
When I don't know what choice to make, Scripture **guides my steps**, like a lamp in the dark. When my thoughts feel tangled and heavy, it **gives me wisdom**, steady my mind. In my saddest moments, when tears fall onto the thin pages, God's Word meets me there—**comforting me**, holding my heart together when nothing else could.

And slowly, something unexpected happens. Joy returns.

Not the loud, fleeting kind—but a deep happiness rooted in truth. A **peace** that stays even when problems didn't disappear. Just as Jesus promised, it was not peace "as the world giveth," but peace settles my soul and reminds me I was never alone.

The Bible still rests by the window today. Its pages are still worn. But my heart is no longer troubled, nor afraid. I have learned that God's Word is more than words—it is life, light, wisdom, salvation, comfort, and peace. And in trusting it, I found that God had been faithful all along.

Your Servant, David





AT APPALACHIAN CHURCH

One Night. Big Impact

APPSTUDENTS FUNDRAISING DINNER

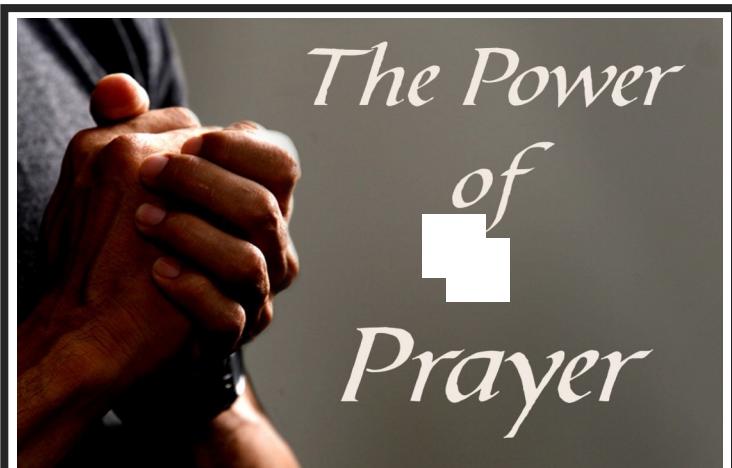
February 7th 6pm

THIS FUNDRAISER WILL ASSIST WITH FINANCES FOR THE TEENS TO ATTEND SUMMER CAMP, MISSION TRIPS AND FUN ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

CHILDCARE WILL NOT BE PROVIDED, SO SECURE YOUR BABYSITTER SOON!



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR TICKETS



**HOPE FOR THE MOUNTAINS
PRAYER TEAM
MEETS EACH TUESDAY 8:00 AM
MIDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH
EVERYONE IS WELCOME !**

**ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR
ASHE COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Applications are being accepted through March 2026 for homeownership.

To apply: go to the website at: ashehabitat.org and click Homeownership to review the requirements.

You may also email or call the office at
336-846-2525 to set up a time to meet with
someone and discuss.

Beth Sorrell
Ashe County Habitat for Humanity
AsheHabitat.org

An illustration featuring colorful balloons in shades of yellow, orange, pink, and purple, along with blue and yellow streamers. Below the balloons, the text 'BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a small, stylized illustration of a birthday cake with yellow frosting, red and blue candles, and the words 'HAPPY BIRTHDAY' written on the side.

February 9 B- Mrs. Monica Allen
February 12 A- Rev. & Mrs. Jeffery Cotton
February 18 B- Mrs. Sami Ashley
February 21 B- Mrs. Debbie Miller

ASHE BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICE
Rev. David Blackburn, AMS
Mrs. Debbie Miller, ABA Ministry Assistant
phone: 336-846-5631
email: ashebaptist@gmail.com

ASHE REALLY CARES

Mr. Nathan McLeese, Ashe Really Cares Assistant
phone: 336-846-5234
mail: ashereallycares@gmail.com



Ashe Baptist Association

would like to thank our sponsors
for the Ashe Baptist News heard on WKSX
each Saturday and on SoundCloud on the Web

**Randy Marion Ford West Jefferson
Randy Marion Chevrolet - West Jefferson
Josh Harrold, General Manager**

Tri-County Paving Lucian and Patricia Jordan

Tri County Monuments Mike and Lisa Peters

**Riverside Excavation & Grading LLC
Shepherds Collision & Repair
Sam & Victoria Shepherd**

We appreciate our sponsors & encourage you to call them when you need their services!

GOOD SOIL MINISTRY would like to remind everyone that we accept your used literature and other materials monthly at Ashe Really Cares. This literature goes out all over the world to assist in aiding those you are spiritually orphaned. We do appreciate your support with this mission.



Worthy is the Lamb!

**Life of Jesus Easter Special
March 26 - 28 & April 1 - 3 at 7pm**

Appalachian Church

787 RAY TAYLOR RD
WEST JEFFERSON

Reserve your seats now [Appchurch.org!](http://Appchurch.org)

The LOOM's are studying the Book of Jude every Thursday, at Midway Baptist Church - 11: 40 am. Facilitator's are Mrs. Linda Blackburn, Mrs. Elaine Cox and Mrs. Jeannie Coward. The LOOM's appreciate Pastor Steve LeaShomb and Midway Baptist for allowing them to use their Fellowship Hall for the Bible Study.



Ashe Baptist Association would like to thank Bald Mountain Baptist Church for hosting the Pastor, Wives, & Staff Meal on Friday, January 10th at their Barn. A wonderful evening enjoyed by everyone in attendance. The barn was decorated beautifully, we enjoyed songs, games with prizes, fellowship and the meal with desserts was absolutely delicious!!! Thank you again, Pastor John Elledge, Associate Pastor, Alan Ambrose, Youth Pastor, Joshua Dellinger, and the Bald Mtn. Food Crew and all members of the church. Thank you for everything!





Church Announcements

Appalachian Church One night Big Impact APP STUDENTS FUNDRAISER DINNER February 7 at 6:00. This fundraiser will be to assist with finances for teens to attend Summer Camp, mission trips and fun activities through the year. Also **Worthy is the Lamb, Life of Jesus** Easter Special March 26-28 and April 1-3 at 7:00. Reserve your seat now at Appcurch.org. Pastor is Rev. Steve Ashley. See Flyer Pg. 2

Bald Mountain Baptist —Come join us! Sunday School- 9 am and Worship Service -10 am. Wednesday night services are at 6:30 pm. Pastor, Rev. John Elledge welcomes you to attend.

Big Flatts Baptist-2373 Big Flatts Church Rd in Fleetwood invite you to join them on Sunday -10 am Sunday School 11 am Worship Bible Study and Choir Practice on Wednesday at 6:30 pm. We are looking forward 2026 & what God has for us to do! Pastor Darien South & the Congregation invite you to attend.

North Beaver Baptist- Welcome you to come and Worship with them at North Beaver Baptist Church, 8000 Hwy 163, West Jefferson, NC. Sunday School starts at 10:00 -Worship Services starting at 11:00 -Bible study and Prayer service, Wednesday evenings starting at 6:30,

Pastor Matthew Tilley will be preaching on Sunday mornings, February through May, the sermon series is entitled "Christ over Everything!" From the book of Colossians.....it is a series based on the letter written by Paul the Apostle to the Colossian church.

February 8, 2026: Baptist Men's Day Rescheduled | Come join us for Baptist Men's Day, breakfast will be provided by the men of North Beaver Baptist Church, starting around 9:00.

There will not be any Sunday School, Worship Services starts at 11:00. Special Music will be provided by the North Beaver Baptist Church Men's Choirour Guest Speaker will be Pastor Gerald Hodges. Pastor Hodges has been working for the Three Forks Baptist Association in Boone and with Baptist on Mission (notably on their work overseeing Helene recovery work). Pastor Hodges is from Bethel Baptist in Vilas.

February 15, 2026: Colossians 1:9-14 | *Praying in the Power of Christ*

February 22, 2026: Guest preacher | Dr. JT Byerly, even though Dr. JT Byerly is retired after serving the Lord as a pastor at several churches across North Carolina, he continues preaching at churches across the state, he is based out of Maple Lawn Baptist in Reidsville, NC, where his son, Wesley Byerly is the pastor.

March 1, 2026: Colossians 1:15-20 | *The Supremacy of Christ*

March 8, 2026: Colossians 1:21-23 | *Reconciled by Christ*

March 15, 2026: Colossians 1:24-29 | *Christ in You*

March 22, 2026: Colossians 2:1-7 | *The sufficiency of Christ*

Pastor Tilley will be interrupting the Colossians series for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday to preach sermons on the Cross and on the Resurrection.

March 29, 2026: Palm Sunday | I Corinthians 1:18-2:5 | *The Cross of Christ*

April 5, 2026: Easter Sunday | I Corinthians 15 | *The Resurrection of Christ*

Pleasant Home Baptist will have their 4th Annual Valentine Dinner on Saturday, February 7th Doors open at 6:00, Youth will sing at 6:15 and Dinner served at 6:30 pm Congregation invites everyone.



February 2026 is Souper Bowl of Caring for Ashe Really Cares.

All canned food items donated will go to the aid our neighbors the remainder of the winter. If you choose to donate monetary gifts, please make checks payable to Ashe Really Cares PO Box 850 Jefferson, NC 28694. Ashe Really Cares appreciates your support for this mission project to help those in need.

Ashe Baptist Association Office and Ashe Really Cares will be closed to observe Presidents Day Feb. 16th . Happy Presidents Day

SPECIAL THANK YOU - Rick Ashley for scraping the parking lot at the Ashe Baptist Association Complex, we certainly appreciate Rick for scraping, it helped in getting the ice and snow to melt!!! Thank you again and we appreciate you, Rick Ashley.

Attention Church ACP Contacts: Due to weather conditions we realize getting Annual Church Profile information was not on top of our priority list. You may enter your info online at: ncbaptist.org/acp and you may mail it to Ashe Baptist Association PO Box 850 Jefferson, NC 28640 or drop it off at the Ashe Baptist Office 204 Beaver Creek School Rd West Jefferson, NC 28694 at your convenience. Thank you & Be Safe!

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering - Week of Prayer March 1-8 supports thousands of North American missionaries. Go to namb.net to learn more about The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and the North American Mission Board. Email: infor@namb.net Phone: 800-634-2462

Gideons International of Ashe County reminds you they are speaking to churches about the work they are doing. If you would like to have a speaker visit the church you attend please, contact Bill Carter at 336-877-0599.

When you pray, please remember Phoenix Baptist, Mt. Olive Baptist, Pleasant Home Baptist, Liberty Grove Baptist, Riverview Baptist and Wagoner Baptist as they search for a pastor.

New Church Announcements: please send updated church information for the church you attend to: domdblackburn@gmail.com or ashebaptist@gmail.com. We will get all new information provided on the Saturday Radio Program, the www.ashebaptist.org and the December-February newsletters. Thank you.

Building Resilience

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST AGING MINISTRY

STATEWIDE AGING

WELL CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

10am-2:30pm

Woodlawn Baptist Church

440 7th Street Place SW, Conover



Guest Speaker - Dr. George Fuller, Jr.

"Faithful Stewards of Life & Legacy"

To register or to learn more about this conference, please go to
<https://ncbam.org/events> or contact NCBAM at (877)506-2226.

- 9:30am - Registration & refreshments.
- Cost - \$20 per person (Group rate for 10 or more \$18) includes conference materials, refreshments & lunch.
- There will be a special "give-away" at the end of the day.
- This conference promises to be filled with practical tools for building resilience into the daily lives of Senior Adults!

They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing, Psalm 92:14 NKJV

2026 Presentations

A.I. for Aging Adults

A biblical view of the ever-changing landscape of Artificial Intelligence that will encourage & inform senior adults

Better Sleep

Throughout our lives, sleep patterns are impacted by our circumstances (newborns, work, volunteerism, retirement). Learn how to do a hard reset on your sleep patterns by providing real-life tips and applications for a better night's sleep.

Care for the Caregiver

Learn how caregivers can better care for themselves so they can better care for their loved ones, and how to better support the caregivers in your church.

Care Villages for Churches

Learn about this missional model of ministry for Aging Adult Ministry and how to implement it in your church

Disaster Preparedness

Learn practical ways churches can help aging adults be prepared for emergency situations

Down, But Not Out

Discover the symptoms of depression in aging adults and how to battle that in your life or in the life of others

Fall Prevention

Examine the keys to preventing falls and staying active and healthy longer

Let's Stop the Hurting

Study how to recognize elder abuse, what to do about it, and how the church can prevent that in your community

My Prayer Life for All Life

Using Jesus as our example - we'll explore how our prayer life can shake the Heavens & make an eternal impact for the advancement of His Kingdom

NCBAM Overview

Discover who NCBAM, how we can serve your church, and how you can make a difference in the life of aging adults

Reducing Stress

The Golden Years often present new stresses and participants will discover how God desires for us to handle these pressures & demands.

Scams & Frauds

Learning how to protect yourself and not become a victim of the latest scams & frauds.



January 13, 2026

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

The Ashe County Board of Commissioners will present the 41st Annual Volunteer Awards Program to honor outstanding volunteers and organizations in the county. The award ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, April 16th with refreshments at 6:00 and the Awards Ceremony at 7:00 in the Auditorium at the Ashe County High School.

The success of the awards program depends on your willingness to nominate deserving individuals and organizations. The winners of the Volunteer of the Year Awards are determined by a short written essay describing the volunteer services performed. Please attach no more than a one page typed or legibly written essay. Please be as thorough as possible as this information is used to determine the volunteers of the year in the Individual, Family, Group/Team, Youth, Senior, Faith-Based Entity, Corporation/Business, National Service, and Director of Volunteers categories.

Nomination forms can be found online at www.asheaging.com or email jenniferrichardson@ashecountygov.com. Nomination forms must be returned to Jennifer Richardson at Generations Ashe no later than 5:00 pm, Friday, February 13, 2026 or they may be emailed to jenniferrichardson@ashecountygov.com. Nominations will not be accepted after this date.

Ashe County owes a great deal of gratitude to the hundreds of individuals who volunteer their time in so many ways to make our county a better place to live and work. Since Hurricane Helene hit Ashe County, we have seen so many people giving of their time and talents to help their neighbors. We want to take this opportunity to honor those volunteers and show our heartfelt appreciation for the services they have provided, but we need your help. Get those nominations coming in.

For further information, please contact Jennifer Richardson, Ashe County Volunteer Coordinator, at 336-246-4347.

Sincerely,

Adam Stumb

Adam Stumb
Ashe County Manager

Enclosures

The Ashe Food Council was formed in November 2025

in order to bring together leaders in the food distribution area to identify gaps, develop strategies to address those gaps, and work together to support our community to improve food security and systems, not just for today but for the future.

One of the many focus areas of the Food Council is home-delivered meals in the County. There are two agencies which currently offer a Mobile Meal program – Ashe Outreach Ministries and Generations Ashe. Ashe Outreach provides over 1,000 meals per month to elderly shut-ins and those recovering from medical procedures covering the west and northwest parts of the county with five delivery routes. Generations Ashe provides home delivered meals to home-bound adults each weekday and offers a backpack program to adults for the weekends.

Ashe County has a need for increased home delivered meals. In addition to the nutritional value these meals offer, it also offers a wellness check and a friendly face to those who are shut-in. These deliveries create invaluable relationships between the volunteers and the recipients that can bring a much needed blessing. We are seeking volunteers to assist both Ashe Outreach and Generations with the meals they provide. If anyone can help, please reach out to these organizations directly to learn more.

Ashe Outreach Ministries – Dave Ahrens – 336-336-1314 or asheoutreach@gmail.com

Generations Ashe – 336-246-2461 or info@generationsashe.org

If a church or church ministry would be interested in providing their own home-delivered meal program, that would also be very beneficial to our community. If there is a church or ministry interested, please reach out to:

Tracie McMillan or Michele Blevins at Ashe Department of Social Services.

Tracie McMillan – 336-846-5719 or traciemcmillan@ashecountygov.com

Michele Blevins – 336-846-5702 or micheleblevins@ashecountygov.com

Thank you,

Ashe Food Council

BAPTISTS ON MISSION



Rev. Paul Langston with NC Baptist On Mission in Cary, NC pays Rev. David Blackburn, AMS at Ashe Baptist Association a visit in January. Always enjoy when Paul visits. He is definitely a true Baptist on Mission and just a wonderful Christian man spreading God's Word as he is the hands and feet of Jesus in so many places.

David White, another Baptist On Mission guy, has been a God Send for Ashe County since Helene. We do love and appreciate Mr. White. Below are pictures of some of the jobs he has been working on. Mr. White is still here in Ashe working, The ABA Campground has been his home away from home in Lexington for quite some time now along with the many volunteers that come to help from across our country.

If you see a couple of men with the Yellow Baptist On Mission attire on here in our county, it is probably Paul or David, so be sure and say Hi and Thank You!!!! We love & appreciate these men & volunteers!



January 8th - Quarterly Executive Committee Meeting at Big Flatts Baptist

Meeting was called to order by Moderator Jerry Powers. Mr. Jackie Blevins led the congregation in a hymn followed by devotion by Butch Miller. 17 Associational Churches were represented with 35 representatives of the churches present. Reports were given, and following Old and New Business we adjourned with alter prayer. Offering taken at the door for Ashe Really Cares totaled \$30. Next meeting will be held April 9th at Bristol Baptist Church at 7 pm.



Ashe Missionary Baptist Association				
Treasurer's Report October - December 2025 (2nd Qtr.)				
Church Name	2nd QTR	Year-To-Date		
APPALACHIAN CHURCH		\$500.00	Churches	23,140.24
BALD MOUNTAIN	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	Other Income	12,542.30
BEAVER CREEK	\$450.00	\$900.00	Reimbursements	54,953.72
BIG FLATTS		\$0.00		
BIG LAUREL		\$200.00		
BLUE RIDGE		\$600.00		
BRISTOL	\$600.00	\$1,000.00		
BUFFALO	\$450.00	\$900.00		
CALVARY	\$200.00	\$200.00		
CHRISTIAN UNITY	\$300.00	\$600.00		
FARMER MEMORIAL		\$0.00		
FLETCHER MEMORIAL	\$521.69	\$1,011.09		
FRIENDLY GROVE	\$300.00	\$1,150.00		
FRIENDSHIP	\$1,650.00	\$3,300.00		
GOD'S WILL		\$0.00		
GRASSY CREEK	\$457.40	\$956.65		
HAPPY TRAILS		\$0.00		
HEALING SPRINGS	\$409.71	\$601.05		
LAUREL KNOB	\$519.82	\$1,030.66		
LIBERTY GROVE	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00		
LITTLE HELTON	\$120.00	\$180.00		
MIDWAY	\$1,750.00	\$2,625.00		
MISSION HOME	\$500.00	\$1,000.00		
MOUNT OLIVE		\$0.00		
NEW RIVER	\$631.75	\$1,270.46		
NORTH BEAVER	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00		
OAK HILL	\$500.00	\$500.00		
OBIDS	\$250.00	\$500.00		
OLD FIELDS		\$0.00		
ORION	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00		
PHOENIX	\$600.00	\$1,200.00		
PILOT MOUNTAIN	\$176.35	\$483.35		
PINE SWAMP		\$0.00		
PLEASANT HOME	\$451.00	\$910.00		
PLEASANT VALLEY	\$250.00	\$500.00	All checks sent to the Associational Office written directly to either	
RIVERVIEW	\$150.00	\$300.00	Ashe Really Cares or ABA Campground are recorded in	
ROUND KNOB	\$514.00	\$758.00	separate bank accounts	
TRINITY	\$338.52	\$665.42		
TUCKERDALE	\$300.00	\$600.00		
WAGONER	\$100.00	\$200.00		
WARRENSVILLE	\$1,200.00	\$2,400.00		
WELCOME HOME	\$450.00	\$900.00		
Totals	\$23,140.24	\$40,941.68	<i>Every man according as he purposeth in his heart so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver.</i>	<i>2 Corinthians 9:7</i>



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Discipleship Tip of the Month

Is snow a blessing from God?

Yes, snow is seen as a blessing from God symbolizing purity, forgiveness, provision, and a call to reflection, even though it brings inconvenience; it's viewed as God's creation that provides rest, protects wildlife, and offers spiritual lessons about being cleansed from sin. On frosty mornings when my body is slow and doesn't want to move, I feel powerless, like I just want to curl up and do nothing. It's so different from those summer days when I feel all-powerful, filled with energy to socialize, travel and live. Yet, getting up and going for a walk, can help remind me of God. Though he may seem distant in our winter struggles, this verse reveals His presence in the weather. All the days of the earth, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. — Genesis 8.22

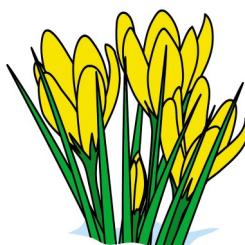
February

- 8 Souper Bowl Sunday
- 16 President's Day
- ABA/ARC Offices Closed



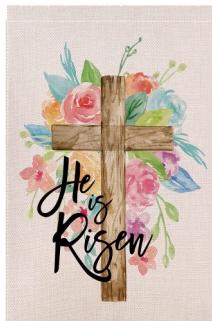
March

- 1-8 Annie Armstrong Week of Prayer
- North American Missions
- 8 Spring Forward
- 20 Spring Begins
- 22 AMS Conference-Caraway



April

- 1 Campground Opens
- 3 Good Friday
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 6 Easter Monday
- ABA /ARC will be closed 3-6
- 7 ARC Committee Meeting 7 pm @ ABA Conference Room
- 9 ABA Executive Committee Meeting @ Bristol Baptist



2026 FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

2026 MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

www.calendar-to-print.com

2026 APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

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