Ashe Baptist Association News



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

palachian]

Preacher David's Corner

Rev. David Blackburn, Director of Missions Email: domdblackburn@gmail.com



A Spirit of Unity: Reflections on the 139th Ashe Baptist Association Annual Meeting

Under the banner of fellowship, faith, and service, the 139th Annual Meeting of the Ashe Baptist Association brought together 44 local churches and 80 dedicated messengers in a powerful two-day gathering held on August 15th and 16th, 2025. Hosted at Beaver Creek Baptist Church on Friday and Orion Baptist Church on Saturday, this historic event, celebrating the mission of the Association, while casting vision for the future was spirit-filled.

A Gathering of Purpose: From the opening prayer at Beaver Creek Baptist Church on Friday to the final hymn at Orion Saturday morning the meeting was marked by a profound sense of unity and spiritual renewal. There was a total of 27 reports presented. Ten reports were from the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and seventeen from local committee heads. Attendees received insightful updates and heartfelt testimonies that showcased the vitality and outreach of the Association's ministries.

Key highlights from the reports included updates on missions, VBS Youth Programs, disaster relief efforts, and discipleship training. The partnership with the Baptist State Convention continues to strengthen, providing invaluable resources and direction for local churches.

Spirit-Filled Worship and Preaching: At the heart of the meeting were three powerful sermons delivered by spirit-led preachers who challenged and encouraged all in attendance. Each message spoke to the theme of faithfulness in an ever-changing world, urging churches to remain rooted in the Word and bold in their witness.

Special music filled sanctuaries each day with praise, led by local choirs and soloists whose voices stirred hearts and prepared minds to receive the Word. The blend of traditional hymns and contemporary worship reflected the diversity and harmony of the Ashe Baptist family.

Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future: A particularly moving moment came during the sharing of the historical reflections from the two host churches. Beaver Creek and Orion Baptist shared stories of their foundations, trials/triumphs and living testaments to God's faithfulness through generations. These histories reminded everyone present of the deep roots from which the Association came and still continues to grow.

Fellowship Around the Table: No Baptist gathering would be complete without a meal and in true Appalachian tradition, both host churches provided abundant, home-cooked meals following each service. Laughter, conversation, and fellowship flowed as freely as the sweet tea, reinforcing the bonds that connect these 44 congregations beyond the walls of their churches.

Looking Ahead: As the final benediction was offered and messengers parted ways, there was a shared sense that the work of the Ashe Baptist Association is far from finished. With hearts rekindled and a renewed commitment to serve, churches left the 139th Annual Meeting with a clear vision to proclaim Christ, strengthen one another, and reach the next generation with the Gospel.

In the words of one longtime messenger, "We may be many churches, but we are one body and God is not finished with us yet."

Appalachian **Bald Mountain** Beaver Creek **Big Flatts** Big Laurel Blue Ridge Bristol Buffalo Calvary **Christian Unity** 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

Warrensville

Wagoner

Your Servant David





... and the winner of the

2024 Outstanding Achievement VBS Award

is

Friendship Baptist Church!
Congratulations

Rev Ken Jones, Pastor

Rev. & Mrs. Jeffery Cotten on a great County-Wide VBS for the 4th year held at ABA Campground.

160 enrolled & 7 saved!

Rev. David Blackburn, AMS presented the award to Friendship Baptist on Sunday, August 17th.



September 1	A- Mr. & Mrs. David Miller
September 3	B- Rev. Ken Jones
September 5	B- Rev. Homer Murdock
September 8	A- Rev. & Mrs. Joshua Dellinger
September 9	B- Mr. Butch Miller
September 13	B - Mr. Hal Monsees
September 17	B- Rev. Alan Combs
September 18	B- Mrs. Pat Miller
September 22	B- Mrs. Danna Rizoti
September 24	B- Mrs. Cindy Strickland
September 24	B- Mrs. Samatha Phipps
September 24	B- Rev. Lawrence Goodman
September 24	A- Rev. & Mrs. Steve LeaShomb
September 24	A- Rev. & Mrs. Jeffery Rizoti
September 25	B- Rev. Chris Goforth
September 25	B-Rev. & Mrs. Steve Viers
September 27	A- Rev. & Mrs. Paul Strickland
September 30	B- Rev. Danny Joe Farmer

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

ASHE REALLY CARES
Mrs. Twila Miller, Ashe Really Cares Director
Mr. Nathan McLeese, Ashe Really Cares Assistant
phone: 336-846-5234 email: ashereallycares@gmail.com

Ashe Baptist Association

would like to thank our sponsors

for the Ashe Baptist News heard on WKSK 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!

Church Announcements

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

Buffalo Baptist -Homecoming Services on Sunday, September 21 at 10:30. There will be no Sunday school, special singing and former pastor AMS David Blackburn will be bringing the message, Lunch after the Worship Service, all members former members and friends are invited to attend.

Fletcher Memorial Baptist in Jefferson-Wednesday Morning Bible Study - 10:30 am. The study will be on the Gospel of John for 1 hour and only material needed is your Bible. **September 7th -10:30 am Generations Excellent** will be presenting their program, The Promised Seed. Pastor Paul Strickland invites you to attend!

Grassy Creek Baptist - Revival- September 7-9 at 7 pm. Rev. Kevin Jones will be the speaker. Special singing each evening. Pastor, Rev. Tom Graybeal invites everyone.

Midway Baptist-S.M.I.L.E. Single Mothers inspired Love Encouraged. Are you a single Mother? Our ministry seeks to walk alongside single mothers & their children by providing spiritual, emotional & practical support, empowering them to grow in faith, and to overcome challenges through the love of Christ. Free childcare provided, dinner, resources, social gatherings, devotions & more, on the third Wednesday of each month in the Midway Fellowship Hall AT 5:45 pm. RSVP by calling 336-246-2012 or email: adminassist@midwaybaptistnc.org. Pastor is Rev. Steve LeaShomb. Midway Baptist is located at 1670 Mt. Jefferson Rd. West Jefferson, NC 28694. *www.midwaybaptistnc.org*

North Beaver Baptist- September 7th HOMECOMING celebrating 82 years of God's Faithfulness...Sunday, September 14th. Worship at 11 am with former Pastor David Blackburn, currently our Director of Missions for Ashe Baptist Association, bringing the message. Special Music provided by Mountain Rain. A covered dish meal to follow. Everyone is welcome, especially those who have been part of what God has done in our church over the decades! Pastor, Rev. Matthew Tilley. Pastor Tilley will be preaching a Sunday morning sermon series from the book of Amos. Series begins August 24- November 5th. September 7th-Judgment begins with the house of God-September 21-Chosen, not exempt & September 28 - Unmasking religious hypocrisy in favor of the real God. Pastor Matthew Tilley. More dates will be listed in the October Newsletter!

Warrensville Baptist -Do you like to crochet? Knit? Would you like to learn? Or learn more? Or would you just like to meet with others who do? Come Join Warrensville Creative Stitchers Crafters for Christ Who are we A group of people who enjoy crafting and fellowship. A group of encouragers; not just with crafting but with the Christian-walk and life in general. All skill levels are welcome. Those who are not crafters at all are welcome to come for the fellowship. What We Do We make items for those in need, for ourselves, for others. There are no requirements of what you do Meeting Info Every Saturday, except for holiday weekends. 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Upper Level of the Warrensville Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. 130 Church Street Warrensville, NC 28693.For More Information Beth 828-406-8897 (text or call) or Donna 336-977-4434. Pastor Jackie Stone and the congregation invite you to Warrensville Baptist Church.

Welcome Home Baptist will be having Homecoming Services on September 21st at 10 am Special Singing and Brother Kevin Francis will be speaking. Pastor Lonnie Jones & the congregation invite everyone to attend.

Round Knob Baptist announces Rev. Lonnie Carpentar was been vote in by 100% vote as Pastor. We look forward to working with Brother Lonne and his wife Sandy. Round Knob Homecoming is Sunday, August 24 beginning at 10:30. No Sunday School as Phil Barker will be singing. Pastor Lonnie will be preaching and he officially begins on September 7. Lunch is provided. Everyone is invited.

Big Laurel Baptist announces, Rev. Tim Greer is their new pastor, He resides in Marion, VA. We look forward to working with Brother Tim.

When you pray, please remember Pleasant Home Baptist Church, Liberty Grove Baptist Church, Riverview Baptist Church, and Wagoner Baptist Church. They are without 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 July-September newsletters. Thank you.

Ashe Pregnancy Care Center - Walk for Life on September 27th at Ashe Park in Jefferson! Registration will begin at 09:30 and the walk will start at 10:00. We have changed locations this year to the Ashe Park...this will allow for more parking, a safer environment for the walkers and seating for the elderly. Zella Gaeta, Executive Director Ashe Pregnancy Care Center-336-846-4100

Ashe Baptist Campground Mowing Schedule

for September

New River Baptist- September 13

Liberty Grove Baptist - September 27

We appreciate and thank all the churches & volunteers

Ashe Baptist Association & Ashe Really Cares
will be closed on
Labor Day, September 1
Have a HAPPY LABOR DAY!!!

Ashe Baptist Association



Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025 Post Office Box 850, Jefferson, North Carolina, 28640-0850 E-mail domdblackburn@gmail.com Cell 336-877-7233

RE: Invitation

Dear Friends,

I want to encourage you-to attend this meeting at Midway Baptist Church, on Tuesday, September 30th at 6:00. This is available to ministers and lay folks. George Fuller will explain more about learning tools of Life Compass Living, (a guide for growing up and growing old together.) He is from Center for Congregational Health. You may have seen his article in the newsletter in August or heard him speak at the Annual Meeting on Friday. Please let me know if you are planning on coming and we will have a lite supper for you. Let me know if you need child care and we will try to have that covered as well. Deadline to have your seat at the table is September 23. We have 6 already signed up, that wants to learn more.

AsheStrong,

David Blackburn

ASHE REALLY CARES UPDATE

This past year has brought challenges and accomplishments, loss and growth, grief and joy, tragedy and triumph. From the shadows of the valleys to the glory of the peaks, we have seen the presence of God moving in our community.

June 2024 - July 2025 Overview

- Food Pantry: We served 561 households, impacting 1,449 individuals, through 1,692 food appointments or boxes—distributing over 175,000 lbs of food.
- Clothing Pantry: We welcomed 2,195 visits from 711 households, supporting 1,874 people with essential clothing and personal items.
- Total Impact: 816 unique households, 2,121 individuals, and 3,887 total visits.

Hurricane Helene Response

- ARC responded to Helene with a drive-through distribution to hand out emergency supplies, food, water, cleaning supplies, hygiene kits, and more. In just four days, we served 186 vehicles with over 6,000 lbs of food and 4,000 lbs of disaster supplies.
- Bald Mountain Baptist Church provided hot meals through their Eleventh Hour Ministries food truck.
- ARC Disaster Relief Fund, we raised \$47,521.30

New ARC Delivery Van

• Second Harvest approved a grant for \$50,000 for a new box van with a lift gate allowing us to load entire pallets at a time and enough space to load 3 pallets.

Renovation and Refresh

- Second Harvest Grant awarded for \$45,000
- Special thanks to: ARC volunteers, Appalachian Flooring and Tile, 2 Gals Graphics, Woodland Baptist's Phil Cox for his handmade crosses, and Midway Baptist Church for sponsoring part of the renovation.

Visit <u>ashereallycares.com/news</u> to see pictures and learn more.

As we look back on a year marked by both challenge and incredible growth, one truth stands above all:

Ashe Really Cares exists because you care. Yes, we've been blessed with generous grants, essential partner-ships, and new tools to help us serve more people—but none of it would be possible without our local churches, our volunteers, and the people of Ashe County. It's the hands that stock shelves, the hearts that serve with compassion, the donors who give a little—or a lot—because they believe in loving their neighbor. That's what keeps this mission alive. That's what brings hope to our community.

So from all of us at ARC, thank you for walking with us, for praying with us, and for showing our community what it truly means to care and to love like Christ.

Twila Miller, Director Ashe Really Cares



PRAYER TEAM PRAYER TEAM MEETS EACH TUESDAY 8:00 AM MIDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



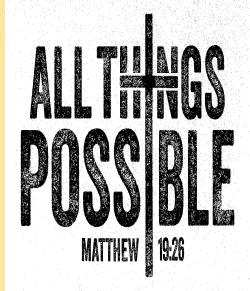
GOOD SOIL MINISTRY

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.



We want to CELEBRATE with you and share the GOOD NEWS when exciting things are happening at the church you attend! Please send articles, pictures or flyers to our e-mail address at:

ashebaptist@gmail.com, and we will announce on our WKSK weekly radio show, post on the events page of our website, ashebaptist.org, and on our Facebook Page, in addition to printing in this monthly newsletter publication that is posted in color on the website and mailed to 580+ folks in Ashe Co., all across NC, and neighboring states! As you set dates for church events, Special Singings, Revivals, or Speakers, let us know! You must submit articles for the Newsletter NO LATER THAN the 20th of each month in order for them to appear in the next month's publication.







YOU ARE INVITED!

Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025 at 4 pm at Broyhill Home in Clyde

111 Sneed Dr., Clyde, NC 28721

Join us and celebrate God's goodness at our Western NC ministries

FREE BBQ MEAL | LIVE GOSPEL MUSIC

HEAR FROM THE CHILDREN AND



26

AT 7 PM

WESTERN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

1206 Museum Rd, Statesville, NC



Might of Worship
FEATURING

THE LIBERTY WORSHIP GROUP | LU PRAISE GOSPEL CHOIR BRADLEY AND HOLLY KNIGHT

FREE! You do not need to be registered for the Renewing Worship EXPO to attend this event.

NCBAPTIST.ORG/EXPO



Growing up in Rwanda. Alex Nsengimana experienced firsthand the tragedies of his nation's genocide. At the height of tribal unrest, the genocide claimed the lives of his caregivers. Fleeing for his life, Alex escaped gunmen and eventually ended up in an orphanage. He received a shoebox from Operation Christmas Child a year later and remembers being so excited to have a gift to call his own. The shoebox gift sowed seeds of hope and love that he desperately needed. He realized that God had a specific plan for his life. Alex now serves with Operation Christmas Child, paying forward the hope and love he received through a shoebox gift. Join us for a special time of Alex telling his story of redemption and forgiveness.

Date: September 6th

Time: 2:30 pm

Place: Midway Baptist Church

1670 Mount Jefferson Rd West Jefferson, NC 28694

The High Country Project Leader' be held at Midway Baptist in Ashe encouraged, informed, and get su season



ON MISSION TOGETHER

WOMEN'S EVANGELISM + DISCIPLESHIP CONFERENCE

SCHEDULE

 8 am
 Doors Open

 9 am
 Main Session

 10:30 am
 Break

 10:50 am
 Breakout Session 1

 11:50 am
 Lunch

12:45 pm Breakout Session 2 1:45 pm Break 2:00 pm Main Session 3:30 pm Dismiss



CATHERINE RENFRO

is a church planter's wife, a mom, and serves as the National Director of Women's Evangelism at the North American Mission Board. She graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 2010 and has a passion to see lost people come to know Jesus and for believers to live out their purpose of making Jesus known.

Special Thank you to Liberty Grove Baptist Church Youth Group and Leaders

They came and did some landscaping work at the back of the Ashe Baptist Complex Building. WE appreciate it very much; they cut and hauled off a trailer load of limbs and debris. If your church group would like to help in this area, please give me a call at the Ashe Baptist Office: 336-846-5631.

Liberty Grove Baptist Church invites Kids of all ages (Pre-K to High School)

to a new fun fellowship "GO" while learning about the Bible and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Come to the 2nd,3rd & 4th Wednesday's of each month from 6:00 -7:30. Dinner provided and transportation available.

For more info contact Lynn at: lynn@libertygrovebc.org.







Out of the Darkness™ Community Walks

Date: September 14, 2025

September 21 is our rain date

Location: Paddy Mountain Park

Ridge Avenue, off NC HWY 194 in West Jefferson

Time: 2:00 pm

Questions? AsheMentalHealthForum@gmail.com

Please sign up here OR scan below









INTRODUCING ...



A fun and interactive Bible Study beginning Wed, September 10th.

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creatures."

Mark 16:15

What It's About...

Kids of all ages - from Pre-K through High School - are invited to join us for fun and fellowship while we learn about Bible and the Gospel of Jesus Christ! We want to lay the foundation and prepare our children to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creatures."

Join us at Liberty Grove and...



Schedule:

- o 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday's
- September May
- o 6:00 7:30 PM

Dinner Provided Transportation Available

Want More Info?

Contact Lynn Gilbert at <u>lynn@libertygrovebc.org</u>

WWW.LIBERTYGROVEBC.ORG



Work with Operation Christmas Child to process gift-filled shoeboxes for children around the world in Jesus' Name.

Whether you're a people person or like working behind the scenes, we have a variety of seasonal employment openings-from assisting teams of volunteers to lifting cartons of shoeboxes or operating forklifts in our warehouse.



Work from approximately mid-November to mid-December at one of our regional shoebox processing centers:

Atlanta, GA | Baltimore, MD | Boone, NC | Charlotte, NC Aurora, IL | Coppell, TX | Englewood, CO | Fullerton, CA

Apply at samaritanspurse.org/occseasonaljobs



139th Ashe Baptist Association Annual Meetings took

place on Friday, August 15th at Beaver Creek Baptist Church and Saturday, August 16th at Orion Baptist Church. We heard reports on Friday, from our friends at the NC Baptist Convention. On Saturday, we had local reports from the Ashe Pregnancy Center and the Ashe County Sheriff's Department among other's. Lots of good fellowship, music and food was enjoy by all in attendance on both days along with sermons from Rev. Luke Watson, Pastor at Mission Home, Rev. Cory Halsey, Pastor at Old Fields on Friday and Saturday we heard a sermon from Rev. Gene Shumaker, Pastor at Buffalo Baptist. If you missed this year's meeting's we invite you to the 140th Annual Meeting in 2026. They will be held at Midway Baptist on Friday, August 21st and at Mission Home Baptist on Saturday, August 22nd. Mark your calendars and we will see you in 2026!



Our NC Baptist Speakers on Friday at Beaver Creek Baptist!



Rev. Paul Langston Baptist On Mission



Rev. Dr. Brian Davis Atrium Health-FaithHealthNC



Rev. Jody Yopp NC Baptist Children's Homes



Mr. Luke Lunsford
Great Commission Catalyst, Region 7



Rev. George Fuller Congregational Health



Rev. Jimmy Lancaster NCBAM, Western Regional Director



Mr. Rick Norman Every Child Foster & Adopt Program



Mr. Chris Jones
Provision Financial Resources



Mrs. Stephanie Shaffer Thrivemore Baptist Retirement Homes of NC

Friday, August 15th at Beaver Creek Baptist Church



Saturday, August 26th at Orion Baptist





Ashe Baptist Association PO Box 850 Jefferson, NC 28640

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Permit No. 1

Discipleship Tip of the Month

Obedience in the Life of a Believer John 14:v15, 21,23,24

- 1) The first lesson on obedience is found in the very beginning of the Bible with Adam and Eve.
- 2) Obedience is the first lesson we should teach in the home with our children
- 3) Obedience starts in the morning. Begin with prayer with a sensitive Spirit.
- 4) An obedience life is not one of perfection. We don't always make the right choices.
- 5) The opposite of obedience is rebellion. Remember God is the ultimate authority.
- 6) Obedience is doing what God says, how He says, and when He says to do it.

September 2025

1 Labor Day (ABA/ARC Closed)
21 Autumn begins



October 2025

- 7 ARC Committee Meeting -7 pm @ ABA Board Room
- 9 ABA Executive Committee7 pm at Bald Mountain Baptist
- 31 Campground Closes for Season



November 2025

- 2 Time Changes
- 2-4 NC Pastor's Conference & NC Baptist Convention Meeting
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 27-28 Thanksgiving- ABA/ARC Office Closed 27-28



2025 SEPTEMBER						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	ABA/ARC	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				

2025 OCTOBER						
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	

2025 NOVEMBER						
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						