

# Ashe Baptist Association News



# APRIL

## 2024

**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](http://www.ashebaptist.org)

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  
Wagoner  
Warrensville  
Welcome Home

## Preacher David's Corner

Rev. David Blackburn, Director of Missions

Email: [domdblackburn@gmail.com](mailto:domdblackburn@gmail.com)



### Spring in the Ashe Baptist Association

In the rolling hills of the Ashe Baptist Association, nestled among the rugged beauty of North Carolina, the arrival of spring is eagerly awaited by all. After a long and harsh winter, the promise of warmer weather brings renewed energy and vitality to the 44 churches scattered across the region.

As March unfolds, the last signs of winter begin to fade away. The snows that had blanketed the landscape of distant mountains for months slowly melted, revealing the vibrant green of emerging grass beneath. Streams, once frozen over, now flow freely, carrying the melted snow down the mountainsides.

In the valleys and along the hillsides, a riot of color burst forth as daffodils bloom, their cheerful yellow trumpets heralding the arrival of spring. The air is filled with the sweet scent of blossoms as trees burst into flower, painting the landscape with hues of pink, white, and purple.

Amidst this natural spectacle, the churches of the Ashe Baptist Association prepare to celebrate Easter, the holiest of Christian holidays. The congregations buzz with excitement as they make preparations for the special services and events that mark the occasion. Choirs are practicing hymns, pastors are preparing sermons, and volunteers decorate the sanctuaries with lilies and crosses, symbols of rebirth and renewal.

On Easter Sunday, the churches overflow with worshipers, as families gathered to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The air is filled with joyous music and heartfelt prayers as the faithful come together to celebrate the promise of salvation and eternal life.

But even as Easter passes, the season of renewal is far from over. Across the Ashe Baptist Association, churches begin to make plans for their annual spring revivals. These are special events, intended to rejuvenate the spiritual life of the congregations and reach out to those in need of hope and healing. For weeks leading up to the revivals, church members engage in fervent prayer and outreach efforts, inviting friends, family, and neighbors to join them in worship. Guest speakers are invited to deliver inspiring messages, and special music and fellowship events are planned to create a welcoming atmosphere for all who attended.

As the days grow longer and the warmth of spring enveloped the land, the churches of the Ashe Baptist Association come alive with the spirit of renewal. Lives are transformed, hearts are uplifted, and communities are strengthened as the faithful come together to celebrate the joy of spring and the promise of new beginnings. Amidst it all, the message of hope and love echo across the hills, a beacon of light in a world filled with darkness. **Enjoy Spring!!!!**

*Your Servant, David*



# Ashe Really Cares

336-846-5234

[ashereallycares@gmail.com](mailto:ashereallycares@gmail.com)

Psalms 23 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Whom do you follow? Even though our world is in turmoil, there is one that we can look to and have hope for the future. Jesus Christ is the only one that can give us that hope and peace that we are looking for. Share Christ to those around you that are lost and do not have the hope of eternal salvation. It's up to you and me to share that good news with everyone we come in contact with. Remember folks are going through some tough times and they need to know Jesus as their personal Savior.

Last month we were able to help 122 families which touched 277 individuals with food and other items. We were also able to help 168 individuals with clothing items for their family. Thank you for all of the prayers, donations and support that you give to the ARC. Thanks for collecting items for the Souper Bowl! We received 3063 canned items and \$2,668 to help stock our shelves. We still have two churches to bring their items in so that is not our total amount collected. Thank you so much.

Some items in need are: Jiffy Corn Mix, Saltine Crackers, 16 oz. peanut butter, Can Sauerkraut, Poptarts, small boxed Cereal. Another need is a couple of men to be put on the list to help pick up food from Food Lion and maybe one or two to be certified to pick up from Second Harvest Food Banks drop off area. Without the volunteers helping to pick up the food, we would not be able to feed those that come in needing assistance.

I am in the process of training Twila Miller, the new ARC Director. She will be working in the mornings until the end of May, then she will be going full time. I know that with your help she will be able to keep the ARC moving forward for the Kingdom of God!!!! It has been a Blessing to have worked with the churches and I will miss you and the "Neighbors" who come into the ARC. I hope to volunteer at the ARC some and maybe I will see you there. God Bless you!!!!!!

Ashe Really Cares  
Pat Miller, Director



April 1	B- Mrs. Tina Stone
April 3	B- Mrs. April Norris
April 5	B- Mrs. Phyllis Pugh
April 10	A- Rev. & Mrs. Lonnie Carpenter
April 12	B- Mrs. Julie Jones
April 15	A- Rev. & Mrs. Tom Graybeal
April 15	A- Rev. & Mrs. Wayne Jones
April 18	B- Rev. Doug Halsey
April 19	B- Rev. Curtis Presnell
April 20	B- Rev. Steve Allen
April 23	A- Mr. & Mrs. Dan Bare
April 24	A- Rev. & Mrs. David Blackburn
April 24	A- Rev. & Mrs. John Elledge
April 27	B- Mrs. Amanda Halsey

**THANK YOU!**

**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 in West Jefferson  
Randy Marion Chevrolet in West Jefferson  
Josh Harrold, General Manager  
Krista Harrold  
Tri-County Paving, Lucian and Patricia Jordan  
Tri County Monuments, Mike and Lisa Peters  
State Wide Insurance Solutions,  
Chris and Andrea Finney.  
They are all Christians and attend church and  
welcome you to come see them when you  
find yourself in need of their services.

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

**ASHE REALLY CARES STAFF**  
Mrs. Pat Miller, Ashe Really Cares Director  
Mr. Nathan McLeese, Ashe Really Cares Assistant  
phone: 336-846-5234 email: [ashereallycares@gmail.com](mailto:ashereallycares@gmail.com)

## FaithHealth Connector Report

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity [disbelief], it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to heaven, we were all going direct the other way". Charles Dickens, "A Tale of Two Cities". Life is like a quilt--with threads of happiness as well as sorrow; success and failure; love and heartbreak. Without the worst of times, the best of times would have little meaning. Difficulties and hardships make us appreciate the seasons of joy and contentment even more. They offer us opportunities for growth, pushing us out of our comfort zones and helping us develop greater inner strength. The best of times and the worst of times are not always isolated events; they often occur simultaneously and are intertwined like a rope.

As the Faith-Health Connector for Ashe County, I see these paradoxes and complexities nearly every week. I observe those struggling with physical infirmities, financial hardships, and relational strains; that are at the same time receiving supernatural spiritual and emotional strength from the Lord. These same people regularly tell me of a new and deeper understanding of God and His Word through their struggles. Difficulties and trials are often married together with an increase in inner strength and knowledge of the Lord, His ways, and His Word. The Book of James gives us this instruction, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." The Book of 1 Peter gives us similar instructions. "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

I hope and pray that you are now experiencing the best of times in your life. As the Faith-Health Connector for our County, I am always ready to assist you with whatever life brings your way---even in the worst of times.

Paul Strickland  
Faith-Health Connector for Ashe County

EVERY CHILD  
Initiative update:

Foster Homes  
Licensed to Date

**403**

Foster Children  
Served to Date

**840**



For more information contact  
Dr. Mark E. Smith  
[mesmith@bchfamily.org](mailto:mesmith@bchfamily.org) or  
828-450-9136 cell

**HOPE FOR THE MOUNTAINS**

**PRAYER TEAM**

**MEETS EACH TUESDAY 8:00 AM**

**At**

**MIDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

**ASHE BAPTIST SUMMER**

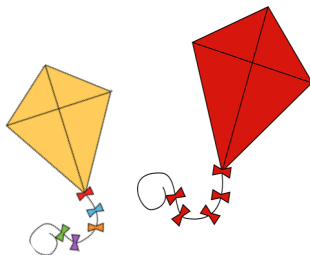
**CAMPGROUND**

**OPENS**

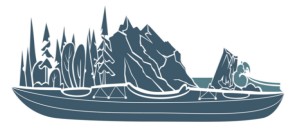
**APRIL 1, 2024**

**CALL ABA OFFICE 336-846-5631 TO  
SCHEDULE A DATE FOR YOUR EVENT!**

**COME VISIT THE ASHE BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICE  
AND CHECK OUT THE  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024 DISPLAY  
FOR**



**GOD'S ROCK-SOLID TRUTH IN A  
WORLD OF SHIFTING SANDS  
ROMANS 12:2**



**GOD'S TRUTH NEVER CHANGES**

# 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.

**Christian Unity Baptist** announces that Rev. Erick Langseth has been elected as their new pastor. Erick his wife, Alice have three children and live in Jefferson, NC. We look forward to working with Rev. Langseth.

**Farmers Memorial Baptist** Special Singing with Sacred Ground on April 6 at 6 pm. Pastor Danny Joe Farmer invites everyone to attend. Call 336-385-6642 or 336-977-1257 for more information.

**Mission Home Baptist** will have a Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser on Saturday, April 27th - 6:00 pm Plates-\$7 All proceeds will go to the local nursing homes to help with things residents are in need of. Pastor Luke Watson

**Mission Home Baptist** will be having a Men's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday May 4th 8 am in the fellowship hall. All men are welcome to attend. Pastor Luke Watson.

**Old Fields Baptist** announces Revival - April 1-5, 7pm with Rev. Tommy Carver. Special singing each night. Pastor R.D. Watson invites everyone to attend.

**Pleasant Home Baptist Church- Will hold a Weekend Revival- April 12-14 (Friday-Sunday) at 7pm. Rev. Frankie Rash will be the speaker and there will be special music each night. Pastor Lonnie Carpenter and the congregation invite everyone to attend.**

**When you pray**, please remember Buffalo Baptist Church, Round Knob Baptist Church, Mt Olive Baptist Church, and Big Laurel Baptist Church, are currently seeking 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](http://www.ashebaptist.org) and the August-October newsletters. Thank you.

**Hope for the Mountain Revival Choir** will start meeting for practice on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Midway Baptist church at 1670 Mt. Jefferson Rd. Anyone from any church interested in singing is invited to join the choir. Rev. Steve LeaShomb and Brother Ron Criss Choir Director welcomes you to Midway Baptist.

**Ashe Really Cares Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 2nd at the ABA Conference Room 7pm. All Committee members are urged to attend this meeting.**

**Ashe Baptist Association Executive Committee will meet on Thursday, April 4th 7 pm at Beaver Creek Baptist Church. All pastors and committee representative are urged to attend.**

**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 .

## ASHE BAPTIST CAMPGROUND

*Mowing Season begins*

*April 13- Orion Baptist*

*April 27- Bald Mountain Baptist*

**Thank you to everyone that helps in supporting  
the ASHE BAPTIST CAMPGROUND!**

**Cub Scout & Boy Scout Troop #221**  
donated 1400 pounds of food to  
Ashe Really Cares

Thank you so much from the ARC!



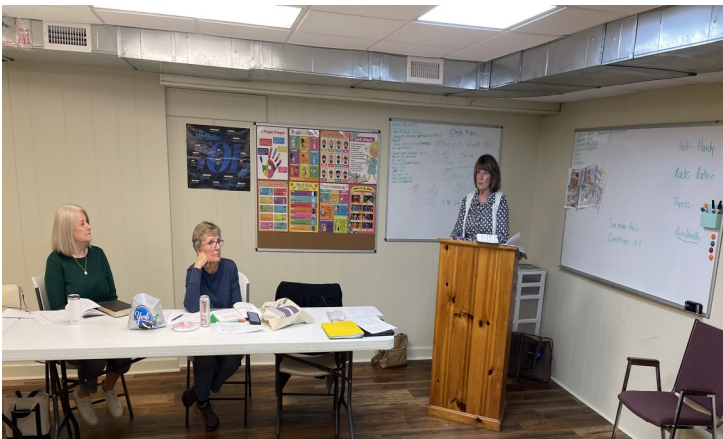
# LOOM'S

Ladies Bible Study Class  
held each Thursday at 11:30 am -12:30 pm  
at  
Midway Baptist Church

Facilitators are Mrs. Linda Blackburn  
Mrs. Jeanne Coward & Mrs. Elaine Cox

The ladies are currently studying  
***The Battle Plan for Prayer***, inspired  
by the Kendrick Brothers' movie ***War Room***.

**The LOOM Ladies would like to express their appreciation and give a special thank you to Pastor Steve LeaShomb and Midway Baptist Church for allowing them to hold the LOOM's Bible Study at Midway Baptist. THANK YOU!!!!**





Transitional Interim Ministry training was held on March the 11th and 12th at Midway Baptist Church in West Jefferson and was hosted by Ashe Baptist Association, Rev. David Blackburn, AMS. The training was a two-day event that equips pastors to serve as an interim pastor with churches in pastoral transition. The training was attended by preachers and pastors from across the state, along with a few of our Ashe Baptist pastors. Some had previously been through the training and wanted to take it as a refresher course and for others it was a first time training. The training was from 9 am to 5 pm each day, with a delicious lunch each day prepared by Mr. Paul Freedle.

The training was taught by Allan Blume, contract worker for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, retired pastor, and former editor of the Biblical Recorder. We thank Allan for coming to do the training and appreciate him so much.

Rev. Blackburn would like to thank Rev. Steve LeaShomb for providing the space at Midway Baptist for the training (it was perfect) and for assisting in providing the lunches and snacks also. We appreciate Rev. Steve LeaShomb and Midway Baptist for begin so kind and gracious to everyone that attended the training.





## Change at Ashe Really Cares

Ashe Really Cares announces Mrs. Pat Miller's retirement! We will miss Pat, we wish her the best. It has been a wonderful 25 years with Pat. We love you, Pat!

Mrs. Twila Miller will be the new Director at the ARC. Twila, her husband, Brandon and children attend Midway Baptist Church. They reside in the Beaver Creek area of West Jefferson. We welcome Twila to the ARC and look forward to working with her.

## Ashe County Youth Crusade

I would like to see if we can gather interest from ALL Ashe County Churches to put together a county wide youth crusade. I have had the opportunity to preach as a supply minister at five of the Ashe Baptist Churches, I've noticed one thing they all have in common and that was none had any youth at all or maybe anyone under age 25.

With that said many of these and other Churches will not be here in 10-15 years. I'm aware some of the other Churches do have vibrant youth outreach and programs. I know we have youth in the county since we have a middle and high school. So, we have a target right there.

I would like to see if we can reach out to all Ashe County Churches and set up a meeting with you to discuss, plan and promote this idea.

My thinking is it would be a 3-night event (Thursday – Saturday) a few weeks before school is out for the summer. And I'm thinking maybe a central outdoor location like Ashe High School football stadium if permissible. We should look at scheduling a few weeks before school is out for summer. I attend the Warrensville Baptist Church. Look forward to discussing this further with anyone who's interested. Please contact me if interested.

Regards,

Pete Givens

980-335-7129 or email at [Pete\\_givens@att.net](mailto:Pete_givens@att.net)



You provide NC children food while pointing them to Jesus.



## HELP PROVIDE THREE MEALS EVERY DAY

### Because too many have gone without.

When children come into Baptist Children's Homes' (BCH) care, it is obvious they have gone without: **without food, without love, without hope.** One of the first ways our children learn that they are loved is when their cottage parents serve them the regular meals they were unable to count on before arriving. This is because their families let them down. When a child can't depend on loved ones to meet his or her basic needs, trusting any adult becomes almost impossible.

### How does the Food Roundup help?

When your church, along with NC Baptists across the state, collect food, supplies and gift cards through the Food Roundup, you ensure that we can provide three meals a day plus snacks to our boys and girls and everyone we serve. Children's trust is restored! **Boys and girls see that they are loved not only by churches and caregivers but by a Heavenly Father our efforts point them too.**

### By filling their plates, you fill their hearts.



## Food & Supplies Needs List 2024



- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p><b>MOST NEEDED: (in bold)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... Canned Fruits</li> <li>... Fruit Juice (Apple, Orange, Grape, Cranberry)</li> <li>... Laundry Detergent</li> <li>... Paper Products (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, Kleenex)</li> <li>... Bottled Water</li> <li>... Canned Vegetables (green beans, corn, etc.)</li> <li>... Dry Cereal</li> <li>... Baked Beans</li> <li>... Spaghetti Sauce</li> <li>... Pasta (Spaghetti, Lasagna, Macaroni)</li> <li>... Canned Tomatoes (diced, sauce, paste)</li> <li>... Pancake Mix and Syrup</li> <li>... Soups (All types &amp; condensed)</li> <li>... Sugar: Granulated &amp; Brown</li> <li>... Flour</li> <li>... Stevia and Splenda</li> <li>... Popcorn, Kettle Corn</li> <li>... Apple Sauce</li> <li>... Fruit Pie Filling Cherry, Peach</li> <li>... Beverage Mixes (Tea, Tang, Kool-Aid, Lemonade, Cider Mix - All Sugar Free)</li> <li>... Vegetable Oil, Shortening, Olive Oil, Pam Cooking Spray, Bakers Choice</li> <li>... Canned Sweet Potatoes, Canned Yams, Canned pumpkin</li> <li>... Canned Meats (pink salmon, tuna, roast beef, chicken - packed in water)</li> <li>... Stuffing Mix</li> <li>... Gravy Mixes</li> <li>... Hamburger, Chicken, Tuna Helper (all types)</li> <li>... Pickles (Sweet &amp; Dill)</li> <li>... Refried Beans</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... Hot Chocolate Mix</li> <li>... Snack Foods with &amp; without sugar (Fruit Rollups, Fruit Cups, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, Pepperoni Sticks, Cheese Nips, Pretzels, etc.)</li> <li>... Health Snacks (Dried Fruit, Nuts, Raisins, Cranraisins, Trail Mix)</li> <li>... Individual Cookie Packs</li> <li>... Jello</li> <li>... PopTarts</li> <li>... Rice</li> <li>... Instant Potatoes (scalloped, au gratin, mashed, julienne)</li> <li>... Muffin Mixes</li> <li>... Bisquick Mix</li> <li>... Kidney Beans</li> <li>... Pickle Relish</li> <li>... Cranberry Sauce</li> <li>... Mac &amp; Cheese</li> <li>... Corn Meal</li> <li>... Jiffy Mixes, Corn Muffin Mix</li> <li>... Potatoes</li> <li>... Hush Puppy Mix</li> <li>... Peanut Butter</li> <li>... Jelly, Jams, Preserves (Strawberry is a favorite)</li> <li>... Pizza &amp; Pizza Dough Mix</li> <li>... Saltine Crackers, Ritz Crackers, Graham Crackers, Nabs</li> <li>... Sauces (A-1, Steak, BBQ, Texas Pete, Cheese, Soy, Worcestershire, Teriyaki Sauce, Sweet and Sour)</li> <li>... Spices and Seasonings (including Salt &amp; Pepper)</li> <li>... Dishwashing detergents</li> <li>... Laundry pre-treating products (i.e. Shout, Spray and Wash)</li> <li>... HE Laundry Detergent</li> <li>... Brooms, Mops, Scrub Brushes, Dust Pans</li> <li>... Foil and Plastic Wrap</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... SOS Pads</li> <li>... Fabric Softener (Dryer Sheets)</li> <li>... Sanitary Pads &amp; Tampons</li> <li>... Hand Lotion</li> <li>... Shampoo</li> <li>... Body Wash</li> <li>... Soap</li> <li>... Household cleaning products (i.e. bleach, Comet, Lysol spray and wipes, Clorox spray, Windex, Pinesol, Pledge, Tilex, etc.)</li> </ul> <p><b>OTHER NEEDED ITEMS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... Brownie, Cookie, Cake Mixes &amp; Icing</li> <li>... Canned Vegetables (no corn or green beans)</li> <li>... Individual Chef Boyardee cups</li> <li>... Cliff nutritional bars</li> <li>... Hot Dog Chili</li> <li>... Coffee (Regular &amp; Decaf)</li> <li>... Coffee Creamer</li> <li>... Sweetened Condensed Milk</li> <li>... Evaporated Milk</li> <li>... Powdered Milk</li> <li>... Flavorings (Vanilla, etc.)</li> <li>... French Fried Onions</li> <li>... Honey</li> <li>... Ketchup</li> <li>... Mustard</li> <li>... Oatmeal</li> <li>... Parmesan Cheese</li> <li>... Puddings, Pudding Cups</li> <li>... Salsa</li> <li>... Vinegar</li> <li>... Paper Products (Cups, Plates, Bowls, Plastic Ware, Dixie Cups)</li> <li>... Copy/Printer Paper</li> <li>... Trash Bags (large &amp; small)</li> <li>... Zip-Loc bags (Sandwich, Snack, Quart &amp; Gallon Sizes)</li> <li>... Band Aids</li> <li>... Rubbing Alcohol/Peroxide</li> <li>... Anti-bacterial ointment</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... Razors</li> <li>... Shaving Cream/Shaving Gel</li> <li>... Dental Floss</li> <li>... Hair brushes</li> <li>... Deodorant</li> <li>... Conditioner</li> <li>... Tooth Paste</li> <li>... Tooth Brushes</li> <li>... Diapers (all sizes)</li> <li>... Baby Wipes</li> <li>... Bug Repellent</li> <li>... Wasp/Hornet Spray</li> <li>... Sunblock 30+</li> <li>... Batteries (AA, AAA and D)</li> <li>... Disposable Gloves (Non-Latex ONLY)</li> <li>... Heavy Duty Soap (Fast Orange)</li> </ul> <p><b>FINAL NOTES:</b></p> <p>Gift Cards are appreciated for buying perishables and items not received. (i.e. Wal-Mart, Sams Clubs, Food Lion, Lowes, Ingles, Piggly Wiggly).</p> <p>We can use all size cans. Some locations prefer #10 cans (family size).</p> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> Please check for expired dates on food – we cannot accept expired items.</p> <p>Please help our volunteer truck drivers by packing your church's donations in small, sturdy boxes.</p> <p>Pack like items together. Please do not pack chemicals with food.</p> |
|--|---|---|--|

**Questions?**

Contact Alan Williams at  
1-800-478-3669 ext. 1277 or  
[williams@bchfamily.org](mailto:williams@bchfamily.org)

# **Christian Unity Baptist Church**

**513 East Main Street**

**Jefferson, NC**

**Sunday School 10 am Worship Service 11 am**

**Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm**

**Pastor - Rev. Erick Langseth**

**Pastor Langseth and the congregation invite you to join them  
each week for services. Classes for all ages.**

**Come worship with us!!!**

**Enter and receive a blessing, Leave and be a blessing.**

**Christian Unity Baptist is happy to have Pastor Erick Langseth, his wife Alice, Elijah, Amanda & Stephanie. They reside in Jefferson, NC. Pastor Langseth was elected by the members at Christian Unity Baptist on March 3rd by 100%. We are excited to see what God has in store for us with Pastor Erick leading the way! He was a great helper to our former Pastor Darien South, who resigned in February due to health reasons. We love Pastor Darien and Holly and continue to pray for them and wish them the best. If you would like to contact our Pastor, please give him a call at 336-977-4996.**



## Ashe County Habitat for Humanity

Ashe County Habitat for Humanity is committed to increasing the availability of affordable housing in Ashe County. Homes are built and sold to partnering families, who “sweat equity” working along with volunteers to build their home. We provide a hand up to help create stable lives for Ashe County families. Want to Help? Read on for way you can contribute to this important, life-changing work!

### How You Can Help Provide Affordable Housing in Ashe County

- **VOLUNTEER** -- Did you know that Ashe Habitat is almost completely run by volunteers? We have a few part-time Employees, but we depend heavily on our volunteers and absolutely could not do our work without them. Volunteers needs include:
  - Working at the construction site - **NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY!** We have tasks for all skill levels and are happy to teach new skills. Volunteers must be at least 16 to work at the construction site.
  - Work in our Restore - We need volunteers to greet and assist customers; work the cash register, and clean, price, and stage items for sale.
  - Serve a meal to our volunteers! We love to eat, and good food fuels us for our workdays.
  - Serve on our board or a committee to help us plan and expand our reach.
  - Work behind the scenes on office-related tasks.
  - Write grant proposals with us.
- **DONATE** -- Much of our work is funded through donations. Items donated to our Restore and dollars donated to our mission are turned into an affordable home for partner families in Ashe County.
  - Support us with financial contributions. Please consider donating funds to support our work. You can donate at our website, on our Facebook page, or by mailing a check (PO Box 392, West Jefferson, NC 28694). Contributions may be tax-deductible.
  - Donate items you no longer want to our ReStore - furniture, appliances, household items and building supplies are welcome. Check our website for a complete list of what we can and cannot accept. We can arrange pick-up for large items.
  - Hold a fundraiser for Ashe Habitat! Bake Sales, car washes, etc. are great ways for church and civic groups to support us and raise awareness at the same time! Use your creativity to come up with a fun idea to raise financial support for us!
- **COMMUNICATE** -- Help us spread the word about the good work we are doing. This is a low-time commitment activity that makes a HUGE difference!
  - Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and like, comment on, and share our posts. Find us @ ashehabitat on both platforms. Your interactions help others see our posts!
  - Word of mouth publicity is the best! Please mention us to others every chance you get! Let your friends know about our great ReStore, suggest us as a place for others to get involved, and generally tell Everyone that Ashe Habitat is amazing!

Ready to join us? To find out more, visit our website, [www.ashehabitat.org](http://www.ashehabitat.org). You can find links for volunteering and Donating there, and you can sign up to get our quarterly newsletter via email. You can also email us at [info@ashehabitat.org](mailto:info@ashehabitat.org) or call us at (336) 846-2525. (Please leave us a message if you get our voicemail). Be sure to Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @ashehabitat!



College Students Volunteering!



Mother & son in their new house!!!



House #9 Dedication!

## GriefShare

The GriefShare experience includes three key elements that work together to help you recover from the deep hurt of loss. It is Bible-based and includes a Video Seminar, Personal Workbook and Group Discussion. A new updated Version 4 was published last year and has been well received by the Bald Mountain GriefShare leaders. They have donated several Version 3 Leader Guides, participant workbooks and videos, these are available at the Ashe Baptist Association Office if your church is interested in using them.

I have been the leader at Bald Mountain Baptist Church for 5 years and have felt led to pass the baton to 3 of the leaders who have assisted me and are able to resume the leadership role. Each of them have experienced as loss and participated in one or more GriefShare Sessions.

The next Session will begin Thursday, April 4, 2024 from 6-8 pm and be held in the Fellowship Hall at Bald Mountain Baptist Church. GriefShare Sessions will continue each Thursday evening for 13 weeks.

For more information or questions call the church office at 336-877-1550 or Peggy Ashley at 336-877-7775.

## Newsletter

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 WSKS 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 680+ 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.**

## L.I.F.E. Club

A club for girls ages 10-14

Learn to do cool things:

*garden*

*COOK*

*Bake*

*Sew*

More...



Every Monday night 6-8pm  
(beginning March 4th)

Meets at Midway Baptist Church (next to Walmart)

Questions? Email [L.I.F.E.Clubforgirls@gmail.com](mailto:L.I.F.E.Clubforgirls@gmail.com)

To register:

<https://forms.gle/qnr2Vj2KKN724MYH7>

or point your camera on the QR code





ServeNC is a missions blitz in your community. Imagine your whole church active in missions in your community! The dates for 2024 are August 3-10, 2024. Pick one day or several days during this ServeNC week. Imagine the impact of hundreds of churches across North Carolina serving their communities during this week!

Move your church out of their seats and into the streets!

Rev. Paul Strickland is our Ashe County leader for ServeNC, call the ABA office at 336-846-5163 to get in touch with him.



**Join us for *Rampin' Up* 2024!**

***April 27 & May 4***

***Rampin' Up!*** NCBAM partners with Baptist churches to provide wheelchair ramps. Rampin' Up, held biennially in conjunction with Operation Inasmuch, brings attention to the accessibility needs of seniors.

Teams of ramp builders will **improve safety and quality of life** for aging adults all across North Carolina.

**A new generation of builders will engage in missions and learn new skills!**

Seniors will **no longer be trapped inside their homes**. Loneliness, depression, and other adverse health effects will be reduced.

**We can put you in touch with an aging adult in your community!**

**Call NCBAM at 877-506-2226**

**Let us know you'd like to build a ramp!**

**Call us!**

## What is true religion?

Perhaps the first scripture that comes into your mind is James 1:27. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the world"(KJB). I particularly like the King James Version because it is keyed to the Strong's Concordance. To really understand the meaning of biblical scripture one must go to the original languages. The Strong's Concordance states "visit" means "to inspect, i.e. (by implication) to select; by extension, to go to see, relieve:--look out, visit.

In our everyday lives when something is not working or growing we go to inspect it. When our churches or congregants are not growing or those planted in the House of God are withering on the vine, we must inspect the situation and find the answer in the Word of God. 2 Peter 1:3 states, "For His divine power has bestowed on us [absolutely] everything necessary for [a dynamic spiritual] life and godliness, through true *and* personal knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence"(Amplified Bible)

Life is challenging and becoming increasingly more so. We believers need each other more than ever. Hebrews 10:24 states, "Not forsaking or neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching Amplified Bible)."

It is often difficult for single mothers and fatherless children to fit into a modern congregation. Acts 6:1-7 is our example of addressing this need. I personally have only known four churches in my forty years in church who have "appointed godly men over this business" as the Book of Acts instructs. How many of us currently know the people in our churches like family? Do we know what their needs are? What is challenging them in their walk? Do you take the time to know them more than just on Sunday morning?

Last Fall I had the opportunity to have a meeting under a tent in West Jefferson titled "Testimonies from the High Country". By inviting people during my everyday activities I found that most of the people to whom I was sharing the event had lost someone close to them on drugs or had a child addicted to drugs or die from an overdose. Some shared the heartache of losing someone to suicide. Many said, "thank you for doing this" but they did not attend. Many have been wounded in church or feel shame in their circumstances that prevents them from coming into the fold.

We had fourteen different churches represented. The largest nightly attendance was twenty-five. It was incredibly cold that week but it was a start. The saddest thing to me was that those who needed to hear the testimonies and be prayed for by those who overcame addictions were not there. Saints testified of their victories in Christ.

Currently our minds are filled with stressful thoughts of a changing American culture. We all have our personal problems, just as the early church did. If we look at individual churches one might say "we only have fifteen people what can we do"? However, looking at the Body of Christ as a whole, we have numbers, we have influence and we have power.

God did not make men and women the same on purpose. Women and children are weaker vessels in physical strength.

Women are being injured and are dying in women's sports now by men presenting as women. Even the word "woman" is trying to be usurped by deceived men. Right now the biggest fight presented to the church in my opinion, is defending women and children. The Word of God focuses a lot on women and children. Part of the tithe is to be set apart and given to women and children in need. Every third year the entire tithe is to be given to qualifying women and children.

We need to guard our children more than ever. Men have a role and women have a role. Combined as one they become a whole. If we go to the Greek to the scripture about women being "keepers at home" that word in the Greek is a "oikourgos". It means "guard". God is telling women to guard the interior of the home. Men on the other hand, have a different musculature, beards and demeanor to be outside the home and protect the home from invasion.

I believe it is increasingly becoming critical to have a specific outreach to women and children. We can't leave it all to Social Services. The Mormons don't. The Muslims don't. I could follow with a list of groups that reach out and supply the needs to their own people. That is what God instructed we Christians to do in His Word.

There are more slaves in America now than any other time in history. There are approximately 27.5 million victims of human trafficking at any point in time in the world. The US figure alone is 5.1 million. The vast majority of them are women and children. The statistics concerning our youth coming from single mother homes is alarming:

- 63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes.
- 90% of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes.
- 85% of all children who show behavior disorders come from fatherless homes.
- 80% of rapists with anger problems come from fatherless homes.
- 71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes.
- 75% of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers come from fatherless homes.
- 70% of juveniles in state-operated institutions come from fatherless homes.
- 85% of all youths sitting in prisons grew up in a fatherless home. (Fixfamilycourts.com)

America has the largest number of single mother homes in the world. About one in four homes are single mother homes. Many children are in daycare or after-school programs or are "latchkey kids" from birth to the time they leave the nest. They spend very little time with their parents. Social media now instructs them and they are exposed to every kind of evil befalling them. The sins of Sodom listed in Ezekiel are very present today. Will America escape judgement? I believe that depends on the churches' response.

We will all be grateful when the Lord returns and removes us from this time waxing worse and worse. But He also asked what will He find us doing when he does return? Will we be working for Him? Will we be evangelizing the lost? What will you be doing the second the sky opens up? That's a question each and every one of us must answer.

Addressing the needs of our culture as Christians takes more than just hearing the Bible. It's more than attending church a couple hours a week. It's applying the Word of God in our lives and doing it I'm asking you to pray about how you can as a church or as an individual support and outreach to women and children in Ashe County. Your questions and suggestions can be sent to: anchorcounselingmp@gmail.com. We can organize ourselves as a Body of Christ in Ashe County. I know there are good works going on here and they are very much appreciated. After speaking to many people in the community it appears the need is greater than what's already in place. We can be the answer. Written by: Mary Piazza

04  
07  
24

Fill the  
**TANK**

FILLTHETANKNC.ORG



# Fill The Tank NC

Sunday, April 7th, 2024

What if we could see thousands profess Christ through believer's baptism on a single day? That's the heartbeat behind the statewide "Fill the Tank" baptism emphasis.

We're encouraging every N.C. Baptist church to fill their baptism tanks on April 7 and trust God to save people between now and then. Will you sign up to "fill the tank?"

**Step 1: Sign Up** Sign up today. Begin praying and trusting God to save souls between now and April.

**Step 2: Call** Introduce "Fill the Tank" to your congregation, and call people to repentance, faith and baptism.

**Step 3: Celebrate** We want to celebrate with you so share your story! Tag @ncbaptist and #fillthetanknc on social media.



Western Region

## Aging Well Conference

Thursday April 18, 2024

10:00-2:00

Join NCBAM as we explore aging well  
Spiritually, Emotionally, and Physically

- How to be Strong in the Lord
- Finding Strength to Overcome Your Circumstances and
- Building Physical Strength to Prevent Falls

South Mountain Baptist Association  
3639 NC 18 Hwy, Vale NC

\$10 includes lunch and program

To register go to:  
<https://ncbam.org/events/>  
Or scan the QR code





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

**Come ,See, Go, Tell.**

What we hear affects what we know. What we know influences what we believe. What we believe impacts what we do. That's why it is so important to listen to God's truth. Throughout the Gospels, we see Jesus inviting His followers to "come and see", to "go and tell" and listen and understand. Paul explains why "going and telling" matters in a letter to the Romans 10:13-15. So what is he good news? To truly understand it ,lets first look at the bad news; we've all messed up. Our sins separates us from a good and holy God, and there's nothing we can do to bridge that gap. Now the good news; God loves us so much that He has already made a way for us. That is why everyone who calls upon His name shall be saved, so, Come ,See, Go, Tell.

### April 2024

- 1 Easter Monday  
ABA/ARC Offices Closed  
ABA Campground Opens
- 2 ARC Committee Meeting - 7pm  
@ ABA Conference Room
- 4 ABA Executive Committee Meeting  
7 pm @ Beaver Creek Baptist



### APRIL 2024

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				

### May 2024

- 2 National Day of Prayer 11 am  
@ Ashe County Courthouse
- 5 Senior Adult Sunday
- 12 Mother's Day
- 27 Memorial Day  
ABA/ARC Offices Closed



### MAY 2024

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	

### June 2024

- 9-10 SBC Pastor's Conference  
Indianapolis, Indiana
- 11-12 SBC Annual Meeting  
Indianapolis, Indiana
- 16 Father's Day



### JUNE 2024

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	30	24	25	26	27	28
						29