

# Ashe Baptist Association



June  
2020



**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  
Clifton  
Cristo el Salvador  
Farmers Memorial  
Fletcher Memorial  
Friendly Grove  
Friendship  
God's Will  
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)



### "Are You Contagious?"

The definition of contagious is; (of an emotion, feeling, or attitude) likely to spread to and affect others: "her enthusiasm is contagious". What does it cost to say "Thank You"? I try to say thank you, at least seven times a day or more. Being from the south you may hear me say; "Thank you Ma'am" or thank you Sir". For me, "thank you" are two great words. Do you use them? Are you contagious? I would like to say "Thank you" to, Nurses, EMTs, Doctors, First Responders, Respiratory Therapists and all our medical folks. Thank you, Police Departments, Fire Departments, Pastors, Churches, Teachers and all our volunteers. The list goes on. Thank you, Seniors who are graduating and missing the last several months of their high school years. We must all work together in this crisis but there are better days ahead. I am praying for you as you serve. Most of all I thank God for sending Jesus that I can have a relationship with my Heavenly Father! I thank Jesus for all He has done for all of us. I thank Him for my salvation and what He did for me on Calvary. I thank Him for my wife, my family, a warm house, vehicle to drive, food to eat and work to do for His cause. The list goes on. When I think of the goodness of Jesus and what he has done for me my soul cries out, "thank God for saving me". Pastors and church leaders are working very hard to serve during this pandemic. Do you thank them? As I go to Drive-in church services I see folks setting up the sound equipment, I-Phones and cameras for videoing for viewing on Facebook or live streaming on their Website. Can you imagine preaching to an empty church building or even at home? I see Worship Leaders getting the music ready for worship. Others are directing traffic, taking up offerings and other jobs are being done. They are careful to wear masks and stay six feet away trying to keep everyone healthy. Do you and I thank them enough? Let's be contagious and encourage others to say thank you and be polite to those who are around us during this stressful time. Pastors are having a stressful time right now figuring out what to do. Do we open our church buildings to meet inside? Do we have a Drive-in Service? What do we do about Sunday School, the choir, fellowship time and the list goes on? The last thing we want to have is a member to get the Coronavirus. How can I contact my parishioner who is sick or having surgery or where death has entered in? Are our church finances doing ok? Let's be contagious and thank our church leaders and encourage others to do the same. We have a lot to be thankful for. I challenge you to look for folks to thank, TODAY! It could be your neighbor, grocery clerk, McDonald's Drive through, teenager or a pharmacist. God is my refuge and I trust in Him especially now that everyone is talking about the new Norm, our new normal. I know men will have their plans trying to figure out what's normal and new Norm, all I know is that I'm living for today trusting God and believing in God. I don't take anything for granted. The earth is the Lord's and everything in it belongs to him. I pray for people in Ashe Association, North Carolina, United States of America and all over the world because this pandemic affects the whole world. We are all in the world together. There are signs of the time among us. May I say, Coronavirus is not the only virus. There will be many more things to come that will affect the world, stay prayerful and stay faithful trusting God for everything and all things, amen. All glory belongs to God. Read Psalms 91. I have peace, love, joy, happiness David talks about and gets to feel the presence of God daily. Jesus died on the Cross for me and loves me unconditionally. I am thankful for all I have. I have my health, my wife, my children, my dog, a roof over my head, the list goes on and on! I am the wealthy one, I am the wealthy one indeed! Be contagious!!! We look forward to hearing God say one day, "Well done thy good and faithful servant!"

*Your Servant, David*



## Ashe Really Cares

336-846-5234

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

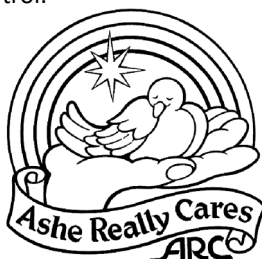
The sower soweth the word. Mark 4:14

What a ride these last two months have been with all the changes that have taken place within our world, as we try to stay our distance (which is hard because I am a hugger) to make sure that everyone is safe! We have been working throughout this crisis, trying to make sure that families who are in need of food are able to come. We have been carrying out the food boxes to their cars and putting it in their trunks. This week we have gone back to letting one person from the family come in and do their own shopping. We also are beginning to let three people at a time in to look at the clothes with a time limit on how long they can stay. We are asking that everyone who comes in to shop wear a mask for everyone's safety.

We want to thank all of the churches and individuals who have helped the ARC with donations of food and monetary donations to purchase the food. We were struggling at the beginning of this crisis keeping food on our shelves so that we could make a good food box. We were going to the grocery store to purchase the needed food only to find there was nothing on the shelves. Then when the churches and community found out that we were struggling things began to pour in! Thank you for stepping up and helping us to be able to continue to feed families here in our county. God has blessed the ARC through His people and we are so grateful for your support.

We were able to get a grant from Food Lion for families that had lost their jobs due to COVID-19. This has helped some families with their electric bills and rent assistance. If you have someone in the church you attend that has been affected and needs help please have them call the office.

I just want to let you know that my heart is humbled with thankfulness for all of your support, prayers and love as we work to help families that are in need. I am also thankful for my workers, Shelia Miller and Kaitlyn Beaulieu. They have worked beside me even though things have been iffy these past two months dealing with the virus to keep food moving out our doors. Continue to be careful and let us always remember who is in control.



Ashe Really Cares  
Pat Miller, Director

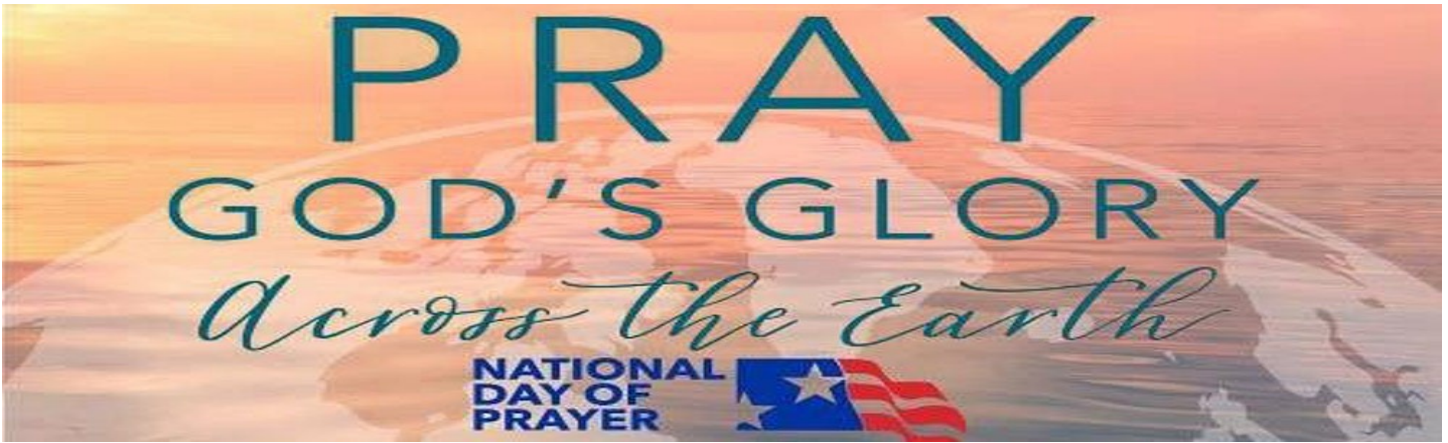


June 1	Mr. & Mrs. Butch Miller
June 2	Rev. & Mrs. Darrell Poole
June 2	Ms. Terri Shatley
June 4	Rev. J.C. Darnell
June 5	Mrs. Linda Blackburn
June 7	Mrs. Sherrie Harless
June 12	Rev. & Mrs. Kevin York
June 13	Rev. & Mrs. Steve Ashley
June 14	Rev. Mark Harless
June 14	Mrs. April Jones
June 17	Mrs. Teresa Blevins
June 19	Rev. & Mrs. John Crawford
June 20	Rev. & Mrs. J.C. Darnell
June 21	Rev. Billy Norris
June 23	Rev. & Mrs. Mark Harless
June 27	Rev. & Mrs. Brandy Phipps
June 27	Mrs. Judy Viers
June 30	Pat & Garry Miller
June 30	Rev. & Mrs. Homer Murdock
June 30	Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Houck

### Hope for the Mountains PRAYER TEAM

meets weekly at 8 AM on Tuesday mornings in the sanctuary of Midway Baptist Church. We have a short devotion, share prayer requests, and gather around the altar for prayer. It is open to the public, men and women; all are welcome!

**GOOD SOIL MINISTRY** would like to remind everyone that we are approaching the end of another quarter, so don't forget to turn in your used literature at ARC. Together, we recycled 11 TONS of materials in 2019. Thank You!



Thursday, May 7, 2020's National Day of Prayer was not the same without you this year! As things are a little different this year, this call to prayer cannot be postponed, cancelled or forgotten. So I, David Blackburn, Director of Missions for Ashe Baptist Association and Rev. Wade Huntsinger, Pastor of Warrensville Baptist Church took to the airwaves on WSKS and brought National Day of Prayer in a different way. We welcome you to National Day of Prayer.



Our theme is **“Pray God’s Glory Across the Earth”**, All across America, today thousands of Americans are praying. Not surprisingly, the theme of the 2020 National Day of Prayer includes the health and safety of everyone affected by the current coronavirus pandemic. We are a country that throughout our history, has looked to God for protection and strength in times especially like these. No matter where you may be, I encourage you to turn towards prayer in an act of faith. This year’s

observance of the National Day of Prayer will be remarkably different than any other in its 69 year history as people participate via radios, TVs, computers and smartphones instead at churches and on courthouse lawns. Prayer has always been used in this country for guidance, protection and strength-even before we were a nation or a handful of colonies. The Pilgrims at Plymouth relied on prayer during their first and darkest winter. Our founding fathers also called for prayer during the Constitutional . In their eyes, our recently created nation and freedoms were a direct gift from God, and being a gift from God, there was only one way to insure protection - through prayer. As always prayers will be offered for individuals, families, churches, schools, colleges, the government, first responders, the military, and businesses. The National Day of Prayer aims to remind everyone of their need for God’s help, more that ever during this pandemic. Be not dismayed by those who will belittle prayer. Prayer is very much alive in America and in Ashe County. Thank you for praying especially today.



**Congratulations!**

**Class of  
2020**

*To Our Ashe County Seniors*

*Take pride in how far you have come and have faith  
in how far you can go! We are proud of you!*

*Prayers for each of you and your future endeavors!*



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

Ashe County Ford, Rev. Jeff and Amy Dollar,  
Tri-County Paving, Lucian and Patricia Jordan  
State Wide Insurance Solutions, Chris and Andrea Finney

They are all Christians and attend church. They welcome you to come see them when you find yourself in need of their services.

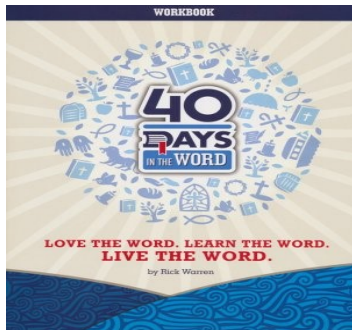


# SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS

Let Us Help You To  
SPREAD THE WORD!

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: [ashebaptist@gmail.com](mailto:ashebaptist@gmail.com), and we will announce on our WSKS weekly radio show, post on the events page of our website, [ashebaptist.org](http://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 VBS, 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.**



## LOOMS BIBLE STUDY

"40 Days in the Word"

LADIES Bible Study is held weekly on **THURSDAY**,

11:30-12:30 at the Ashe Baptist Association Office on 204 Beaver Creek School Road, West Jefferson  
Meetings are facilitated by Mrs. Linda Blackburn.

**Next session of Rick Warren's Bible Study began on Thursday, May 21st**

Join us for the fun. All ladies are welcome to join us!

Study Six easy to learn methods of Loving, Learning, and Living in the Word. 1) Pronounce it, 2) Picture it, 3) Probe it, 4) Paraphrase it, 5) Personalize it, 6) Pray it.

Reignite and Strengthen your passion for God's Word by not only being "hearers" of the word, but also "doers" of the word.

Call the Ashe Baptist Associational Office for more info.

Max of 10 and social distancing will be in place.

Conversations that Connect: Reaching a Reluctant Generation

Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup> @

Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> @

In an age characterized by political correctness and tolerance, anyone who still believes in absolutes comes across as "close-minded." How do we encourage others who hold radically different beliefs to **want** to continue a spiritual dialogue? Dr. Thomas McCuddy, Director of the Norm Geisler Institute offers practical training using the L.I.S.T.E.N. paradigm as part of "Conversational Evangelism" as well as insights in how to use this training to disciple believers! This event is for anyone and everyone who struggles with sharing Jesus, worries about how to share, or is anxious about "not knowing enough" to share. Believers around the world have been using these principles to effectively engage the lost in productive spiritual conversations. The training is both practical for evangelism to reach the lost and useful for "a diagnostic discipleship" to reach the saved.

For any questions about the event, contact: Thomas, reach out to him at [tmccuddy@ngim.org](mailto:tmccuddy@ngim.org)



## Our Care Bear Team

Honors all our Essential Workers and sends thoughts and prayers daily!

The Associational Office is open to serve you and Ashe Really Cares is open as well but has adjusted some of their methods to stay as healthy as possible. If you find yourself in need let us know. It is a time to help our neighbors but also to worship God.



The Ashe Baptist Association is partnering with Ashe County Emergency Management Agency, Ashe County Health Department, Ashe County Department of Social Services, Ashe Outreach, Ashe Services for Aging and other agencies to help work together during this time of crisis. If you need any assistance or further information please contact: Ashe Baptist Director of Missions, Rev. David Blackburn at 336-846-5631.

Ashe County Folks working together during the COVID-19. Check out the website listed and click around to get use to it. Lots of good accurate info.:

<https://resiliencesystem.org/dashboards/ashe-county/> .

Please take time to fill out the Community Needs Survey and the WE HAVE/WE NEED Form, Working together for a better tomorrow.



# Church Service Schedules During COVID-19

**Happy Trails Cowboy Church of Ashe** will be meeting at the Blue Ridge Dinner Theater in Glendale Springs on Sunday at 10:00 for Services inside the building. They will have Bible Study on Wednesday Night beginning at 6:30. Social distance will be observed. Pastor, Rev. Roger Blevins invite everyone to attend.

**Friendly Grove Baptist Church** will have Indoor Services at 11:00, The pastor, Rev. Kevin York invites you to attend.

**Phoenix Baptist Church** will be having Drive in Church on Sunday at 11:00. Pastor Chris Taylor and the congregation invites you to attend.

**Beaver Creek Baptist Church** on the Mulatto Mt Road in West Jefferson will Inside Church Service Sunday, Sunday School at 10:00 and Worship at 11:00 They also will have Drive in Church on Sunday at 11:00, 105.1 FM for those who do not want to come in and you are invited to attend. They will also be on Facebook and You Tube for those who cannot make it to the church. Rev, Johnny Goodman is the pastor at Beaver Creek Baptist Church.

**Welcome Home Baptist Church** will continue to provide online services on Facebook on both Sundays and Wednesday evenings. Pastor, Rev. Lonnie Jones invites to attend via Facebook.

**Pine Swamp Baptist Church** will have Drive in Church Sunday at 11:00. Rev. Steve Viers invites you to attend.

**Warrensville Baptist Church** announces Drive in Church if weather permits at 10:00. We will also have an online 10 AM service on Sunday and have a Bible study each Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. Our worship leader, Isaac Patrick, goes live on Facebook at 7 p.m. and plays everyone's favorite hymns. To access our services just go to [www.warrensvilleBaptistchurch.com](http://www.warrensvilleBaptistchurch.com).

**Buffalo Baptist Church** will be having Drive in Service this Sunday at 10:30, Pastor, Rev. Tom Graybeal invites you to attend.

**Fletcher Memorial Baptist Church** invites you to Sunday Morning Service on Facebook at 10:30 and on Wednesday Night at 6:15 live. They also have Youth and College Level Services. You can go to their website to get services or info anytime. Call the office and talk to Jean Ann for more info. Pastors Cory and Doug Halsey invite you to attend.

**God's Will Baptist Church** is more active than ever. We have service Sunday morning at 11:00, Sunday evening at 7:00 and Wednesday evening at 7:00. All on line on Face Book. Rev. Homer Murdock is the pastor.

**Appalachian Church** on Taylor Road WJ is "Live Streaming" all their church services via FB & [www.appchurch.org](http://www.appchurch.org). Everyone is invited to be a part of all services. Pastor Steve Ashley invites you to attend.

**Midway Baptist Church** (across from Walmart) will be livestreaming all their Sunday Services and doing Drive in Services @ 10:00 am & Wednesday Services @ 6:30 pm on their FB Page & via their website @ [www.midwaybaptistnc.org](http://www.midwaybaptistnc.org). Past services may be watched anytime on their website. Rev. Steve LeaShomb pastor invites you to attend.

**Bald Mountain Baptist Church** will have Drive-in Church Sunday — Park and tune to FM 100.1. at 10:00 am. Our Sunday services are recorded as well as livestream on Facebook and can be viewed on SkyBest Channel 1 the following Sunday. Bald Mountain has Bible Fellowship on Sunday nights now as well Bible Fellowship Monday thru Friday on Facebook at 7:00 PM each day for you to view. Pastor John Elledge invites you to attend.

**Friendship Baptist Church** is doing Drive in Service on Sunday with Bible Study at 9:00 and Worship at 10:00 as well as Facebook Live along with several adult Bible Studies and Youth Ministry via Facebook and Zoom. Sit in car or bring a lawn chair and be 6 feet away from your neighbor. Rev. Ken Jones pastor invites you to attend.

**Liberty Grove Baptist Church** has Sunday Morning Service, live at 11:00 on Church's our Facebook Page. Pastor, Rev. Toby Oliver invites you unto attend.

**Orion Baptist Church** invites you to Indoor Services 9:45 and 11:00. 60 and up Worship in the sanctuary at 9:45. Then at 11:00 under 60 will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor, Rev. Lawrence Goodman invites you to attend.

**Christian Unity Baptist Church** will begin having Indoor service with a soft opening of the church on Sunday, May 24 at 10:45 am with Worship Service at 11 am with Rev. Darren South as the speaker. Covid-19 Safety Precautions will be taken. 11 am service will also be on Facebook. We welcome you!

**Riverview Baptist Church** will have Indoor Services at 11:00 Sunday. Rev. Allen Huffman as their speaker this Sunday. The congregation invites you to attend.

**Big Flatts Baptist Church** will have Drive in Service once again with the ability to sit outside in lawn chairs, six feet apart. Rev. Billy Norris invites you to attend.

**Peace Haven Community Church** will be having an Inside Service this Sunday 10:30 am, but will still be broadcasting over Facebook and transmitting over FM for those that want to sit in their cars and listen. Pastor, Rev. Mitchell Mash invites you to attend.

***I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Psalm 122:1***

**NOTE:** Other churches are doing Drive in Service and are on Facebook.

These times are subject to change check with your pastor if you have any questions or concerns.

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA INC  
**2019 NORTH CAROLINA MISSIONS OFFERING**

Association	Ch ID	Church Name	2019 NCMO Amount	2019 10% Refund
Ashe	0061	Bald Mountain- West Jefferson	(\$1,262.00)	
Ashe	0074	Friendship-Jefferson	(\$1,065.00)	
Ashe	0077	Healing Springs	(\$979.76)	
Ashe	0082	Midway-West Jefferson	(\$2,625.00)	
Ashe	0089	Old Fields	(\$840.00)	
Ashe	0090	Orion	(\$300.00)	
Ashe	0099	Round Knob	(\$1,430.00)	
Ashe	0106	Warrensville	(\$725.00)	
Ashe	5250	Riverview Missionary	(\$600.00)	
Ashe	5360	Appalachian	(\$1,000.00)	
<b>Ashe Total</b>			<b>(\$10,826.76)</b>	<b>(\$1,082.68)</b>

**Thank you to the churches that gave to the 2019 Missions Offering.**

**The Ashe Baptist Association does receive ten percent of your offerings to NC Missions.**

**The 2019 amount was \$1,082.65**



## HAPPENINGS

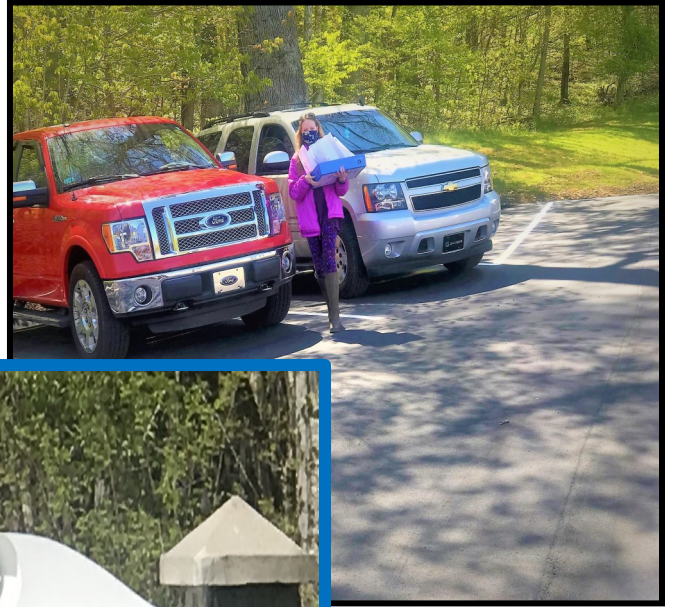
Not All  
**SUPERHEROS**  
Wear Capes!



*We would like to give out a heartfelt thank you to all who are helping us in getting through the pandemic of coronavirus-COVID-19! Thank you to Nurses, Doctors, EMT'S, First Responders, Respiratory Therapist's, and all our healthcare workers. Thank you to Police and Sheriff Departments, Fire Departments, Postal & Shipping Employees, Pastors, Churches, Teachers Employees of all essential establishments, and to all Volunteers. We are all working to together in this crisis for better days ahead.*

*We are praying for you as you serve. Thank you again!*

# Beaver Creek Baptist Church has a nice new paved parking lot!



Drive-in Church  
Sunday Mornings  
11 am  
tune to 105.1 FM  
to hear  
God's Word!

New paved  
parking lot with  
several  
handicap spaces  
available!



# Ashe Really Cares get a load of extra food !

Thank you to Travis Birdsell, NC Cooperative Extension Service

Dillon Culbreth, Ashe Outreach Ministries & Emergency Management Team for Ashe County



Pat Miller & Sue Fox with the ARC are pleased to have the extra food for folks during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

# Ashe Baptist Campground Road



The campground road suffered water damage near the gate. Thanks to Tim Hamby of Mission Home Baptist Church, Jim Walters of Warrensville Baptist Church & Tri -County Paving, Lucian Jordan of Friendship Baptist Church for their work the road is now in great condition.



# ASHE BAPTIST CAMPGROUND



**Churches that are mowing, feel free to do any additional work that you may see needs doing when you are at the campground.**

**Your assistance is greatly appreciated!**

**Thank you to each church that is mowing this year!**

**All announcements are on web site at [www.ashebaptist.org](http://www.ashebaptist.org). Check out the newsletters in color as well as list of all churches and lots of more information. We do update daily.**

## INTERESTED IN HANDS-ON MISSION WORK?

NCBM Lumberton Rebuild Coordinators are requesting assistance as they continue to serve the needs of hurting folks in Robeson County who are still suffering from the storm impacts in that area. Many are still without homes. Don't let your supposed 'lack of skills' keep you away. There are opportunities for anyone who is willing. We'd love to see Ashe Baptist Association represented!

Contact DOM David Blackburn for more information.

**When you pray, remember the following churches that are seeking a Pastor:**

Grassy Creek Baptist Church  
Christian Unity Baptist Church  
Riverview Baptist  
Pleasant Valley Baptist Church



## ASHE BAPTIST CAMPGROUND

Churches: Please take note of the following dates that you are scheduled to mow at the Baptist Campground. We appreciate all that you do to keep the property in good shape!

June 13	New River
June 27	Friendly Grove
July 11	Fletcher
July 25	Warrensville
August 8	Friendship
August 22	Clifton
September 5	Liberty Grove
September 19	Mission Home
October 3	Beaver Creek



**We need another church to take the Oct 17 date to mow. If you can help out, let us know.**

If you would like to schedule a date to use the Campground, please call the ABA Office as soon as possible. We like to let churches have a couple months to make their plans before we make it available to the general public the first of April.

## **UPDATES at the Campground:**

We have wall-mounted a large screen TV in the downstairs area for use in trainings and meetings and hope to soon be supplying a DVD player. The computer will be moved to that side of the room as well to be used with the TV.

Electric service will be improved to alleviate breakers throwing when AC or other appliances are being used.

Ashe Baptist Association Vacation Bible School Outstanding Achievement Award is presented to the recipient each year at the VBS Clinic held in April. This year due to Coronavirus the VBS Clinic had to be cancelled. The 2020 award will be presented to Mission Home Baptist Church in Fleetwood at our next associational meeting.

## **Congratulations to Mission Home Baptist Church**



## **REOPENING THE CHURCH**

As North Carolina officials consider a phased-in approach to reopening. N.C.Baptist churches are anxious to gather in person for worship. Below is a helpful guide of ideas to assist you in making the most of this reengagement.

Please note, the item below are suggestions and in now way should replace guidelines from the government officials and health care professionals. Every local church is autonomous and must therefore make their own decisions about ow to move forward in order to be the church, honor earthly authorities, and love their neighbors.

Pastors, consider making a video to share with your church telling them what to expect their first Sunday back in the building. The video should outline traffic flow, seating guidelines, children and preschool expectations, etc. Emphasize safety! Think in terms of over-communicating the precautions your are taking as a church.

Keep in mind that while gathering together is a gift to believers and a witness to unbelievers, our desire to return to the building should never replace our Great Commission responsibility to “go and tell.” We pray that soon, you will be able to say to your church, “See you on Sunday.”

### **Preparing the Facility**

Sanitize

Deep clean your entire church. Consider shampooing carpets, sanitizing seating, bathrooms, doorknobs, light switches and microphones.

Preschool / Children Areas

Pay attention to the preschool and children’s areas. Consider removing everything nonessential from the room to limit surfaces for potential contamination, and do a thorough cleaning in between uses.

### **Fellowship / Greetings**

Post signs about not shaking hands and doing noncontact greetings. Coach ushers and greeters to use appropriate social distancing.

Offer Sanitizer

Place hand sanitizer stations throughout the facility.

Traffic Flow

Designate one-way pedestrian traffic flow to facilitate social distancing

Service Options (including ideas for limited gatherings)

Stay Outside

Continue or consider drive-in worship gatherings (where permitted by local authorities).

## **Stay Virtual**

Stay virtual on Sunday with smaller in-person prayer gatherings during the week using an online sign up to limit the number.

## **Multiple Services**

Organize multiple worship services by Sunday School classes/small groups or age. (Use online registration and cap the number).

## **Simultaneous Services**

Simultaneous services in two areas of your buildings may work if attendance is **restricted per gathering rather than per facility.**

## **Small Group Meetings**

Have small groups meet in homes to tune into worship together. (Offer training for group leaders to handle follow up, invitations, discussion, etc.)<sup>{SEP}</sup>

Those Not Joining

Keep a virtual service option going for those who cannot or are not ready to rejoin.

Instructional Video

Film a walk-through video to prepare guests for flow of traffic when they return.

As North Carolina officials consider a phased-in approach to reopening, N.C. Baptist churches are anxious to gather in person for worship. Below is a helpful guide of ideas to assist you in making the most of this reengagement.

Please note, the items below are suggestions and in no way should replace guidelines from government officials and health care professionals. Every local church is autonomous and must therefore make their own decisions about how to move forward in order to be the church, honor earthly authorities, and love their neighbors.

Service Options (including ideas for limited gatherings)

Worship Service Considerations

## **Social Distancing**

Arrange seating to maintain social distancing. Either remove chairs from the usual setup or block off pews. While families can sit closer together, there should be appropriate spacing on either side of each family unit.



## **Offering**

Have offering boxes in various entrances to receive offerings instead of passing the offering plates. Encourage online giving, as well.

## **Lord's Supper**

Consider using prepackaged communion sets. The individual sets can be picked up from tables as people enter the service and used at the appropriate time in the service.

## **Baptism**

It may be best at this time to limit baptisms to one person per filling of the baptismal pool in the sanctuary. Consider the use of a chlorinated swimming pool for larger services.

## **Older Members**

Older members and those with vulnerable health conditions may be fearful of returning at once, and it may be advised for them not to. Continue offering online worship and discipleship for this population of your church.

## **Cleaning Between Multiple Services**

For those who have multiple services, have a plan in place to sterilize as much as possible between services. Actions such as wiping down pews and placing hand sanitizer generously around the church and encouraging its use.

## **Choirs**

With social distancing in effect, traditional plans are probably not feasible. Consider holding a rehearsal in a large room that allows people to sit with appropriate distances to begin getting the groups back together.

## **Bulletins**

Do not distribute bulletins unless they are distributed electronically.

## **Masks**

If wearing masks is suggested by health officials, consider providing masks for those who don't have them.

## **Volunteers**

Many volunteers may step down for a period of time. Roles may need to change. There will be a need for a sanitation team to keep things clean. The greeting ministry will look different while maintaining social distancing.

## **Health Monitoring**

Consider temperature checks for all staff and volunteers.

## **Coffee Stations**

Eliminate coffee stations until we receive an “all-clear.”

## **Meet-and-Greet Time**

These times may need to be eliminated altogether or have people just wave from a distance.

## **Hymnals and Pew Bibles**

It may be best to eliminate the use of these items until after the threat is over.

## **Preschool and Children**

### Toys

Eliminate toy boxes and an overabundance of toys. Bring out only the amount of toys that volunteers are willing to clean at the end of the session. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

### Train Leaders

Train leaders on sanitation guidelines for handwashing, diaper changing and cleaning toys. Clearly state expectations for sanitizing during the session. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

### Take Temperatures

Purchase no touch thermometers, and perform temperature checks on children and leaders before being allowed in preschool or children’s classrooms. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

### Restrict Numbers

Restrict numbers and ages of those who can be part of the preschool or children’s ministry, or open without preschool or children’s classes. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

### Check-in Station

Have volunteers staff the check-in station to limit physical contact with the check-in station. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

### Drop-off and Pick-up

Consider options for dropping off and picking up children: Allow only one parent to drop off and pick up children, or have designated drop-off and pick-up locations at the entry to children’s areas with only the teacher escorting the child to class. <sup>[L]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

## Restrict Personal Items

Restrict diaper bags and other personal items from being brought into classrooms. Consider allowing only those items needed for the day to be placed in individual containers or baskets in the room. (Make sure bags, diapers, wipes, bottles, etc., are clearly marked.)

## **Sunday School / Small Group**

### Seating Guidelines

Provide seating guidelines to maintain social distancing in classrooms.

### Provide Training

Provide training for leaders to understand guidelines, as well as pastoral care responsibilities for the group.

### Care

Keep the emphasis on caring in between meetings.

### Stay Virtual

Consider virtual small groups for a season to limit traffic throughout the facility.

### Those Not Joining

Consider virtual groups for those not yet comfortable or not able to return.

### Sanitize Between Meetings

If rooms are shared by multiple hours, sanitize between hours

## Discipleship Tip of the Month

Jeremiah 5:24 'They do not say in their heart, "Let us now fear the Lord our God, Who gives rain in its season, both the autumn rain and the spring rain, Who keeps for us The appointed weeks of the harvest." I am glad for the rain. I am thankful that God controls the rain, not man. God controls the times of harvest and the seasons. His beauty is beyond measure. We have had a lot of rain in Ashe County but I respect God for I know, He knows what we need. The New River is full and it is wonderful just to watch it flow. Flowers and grass look beautiful. We have water to drink and are not in a drought. For me and my house we will praise God for all His blessings including the rain. He took care of Noah and his family and I suspect He can take care of us as well if we follow Him. Enjoy the rain!



**Ashe Baptist Association**  
**PO Box 850**  
**Jefferson, NC 28640**

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**June**

- 20 First Day of Summer
- 21 Father's Day
- 29-July 3 ABA/ARC offices closed



**July**

- 4 Fourth of July
- 7 ARC Committee Meeting 7 pm at ABA
- 9 ABA Executive Committee Meeting 7pm At Round Knob Baptist Church



**August**

- 21-22 ABA Annual Meeting  
 North Beaver Baptist- 21st at 2 pm  
 Beaver Creek Baptist -22nd at 9 am
- 24 First Day of School



**ASSOCIATIONAL OFFICE & ASHE REALLY CARES STAFF**

Mrs. Debbie Miller, ABA Ministry Assistant, phone:336-846-5631, email: ashebaptist@gmail.com  
 Mrs. Myra Phillips, ABA Ministry Assistant, phone: 336-846-5631, email: ashebaptist@gmail.com  
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 Mrs. Sheila Miller, Ashe Really Cares Assistant, phone: 336-846-5234

### 2020 JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	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	1	2	3	4

### 2020 JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	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	1

### 2020 AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	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	1	2	3	4	5