

Ashe Baptist Association News



September
2026



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

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

Preacher David's Corner

Rev. David Blackburn, Director of Missions

Email: domdblackburn@gmail.com



The Post 140 Annual Meeting of Ashe Baptist Association Report

The 140th Annual Meeting of the Ashe Baptist Association was a wonderful time of worship, fellowship, thanksgiving, and planning for another year of service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For 140 years, churches across the mountains of Ashe County have worked together to share the Gospel, serve others, and advance the Kingdom of God. This year's meeting was another reminder that God is still at work through His churches.

A special thank you goes to Midway Baptist Church and Missions Home Baptist Church for hosting this year's Annual Meeting on Friday, August 21, and Saturday, August 22. Both churches did an outstanding job of welcoming the messengers, pastors, guests and visitors. Everything was prepared in such a way that it was easy for everyone to come together, worship, conduct the business of the Association, and enjoy fellowship.

The meeting was blessed with excellent special singing and congregational singing, as voices joined together in praise to the Lord. There is something special about churches from across the Blue Ridge Mountains gathering together and lifting their voices in worship.

And, as Baptists often do, we enjoyed some wonderful meals together! The meals on both Friday and Saturday were outstanding. We are grateful to the churches and all those who prepared, served, and helped make the fellowship around the tables such a special part of the Annual Meeting.

Attendance was strong throughout the two-day gathering. More than 60 or more messengers attended both meetings, along with 30 pastors. On Friday, 24 churches were represented, and on Saturday, 26 churches were present. It was encouraging to see so many of our 43 churches taking part in the work and fellowship of the Ashe Baptist Association.

The Annual Meeting was also blessed with powerful preaching. Rev. Nate Wood, Rev. Gene Shumaker and Rev. Arvil Scott brought meaningful messages centered around The Participating Church, Be True, Give Our Best, and Worship. Their messages challenged and encouraged everyone to remain faithful to Jesus Christ and to continue serving Him with all our hearts.

Continued on next page:



The Post 140 Annual Meeting of Ashe Baptist Association Report continued:

Representatives from the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, along with its institutions, agencies, and mission partners, brought helpful reports and information. Reports included Baptists on Mission, the Catalysts from Region 7, North Carolina Baptist Children's Homes, NCBAM, Atrium Baptist Hospital, Baptist Retirement Homes, Provision Financial Resources and the new Blueprint Program, designed to help churches grow and strengthen their ministries.

A particularly meaningful report was given on Friday concerning Persecuted Christians. Rev. Getaneh from Ethiopia shared about the challenges faced by believers who suffer because of their faith in Jesus Christ. His presentation reminded us to pray for our Christian brothers and sisters around the world who continue to stand faithfully for the Gospel.

One of the special moments of the meeting was the recognition of Mr. Jerry Powers. A special presentation and plaque were given in appreciation for his 18 years of service as Moderator and Vice Moderator of the Ashe Baptist Association. We thank Mr. Powers for his faithful leadership, dedication, and willingness to serve the churches of our Association.

Saturday was filled with reports from many of the ministries that make up the work of the Ashe Baptist Association and its partners. Reports were received from the Associational Missions Strategist, Ashe Really Cares, FaithHealth, Baptist Men and Helene Recovery Missions, North Carolina Baptist Women, Disciple Making, Church Music, the Historian, the Baptist Campground, Vacation Bible School, GuideStone, Gideons International, Ashe Pregnancy Care Center, and the Ashe County Sheriff's Office Detention Liaison.

A moving Memorial Service was also held in honor and remembrance of those from our churches and Association who had passed away during the past year. We remembered their lives, their service, and their faith, while giving thanks for the hope we have through Jesus Christ.

During the business sessions, a new Associational budget was approved, and the Treasurer's Report and was received and passed. These important decisions will help guide the Ashe Baptist Association as we move forward into another year of ministry, missions and service.

As we celebrate 140 years of the Ashe Baptist Association, we do so with gratitude for those who came before us and with anticipation for what God will do in the days ahead. The churches of this Association have faced many storms through the years, including the recent challenges brought by Hurricane Helene and the continuing work of recovery. Yet through it all, God has remained faithful.

The 140th Annual Meeting truly was a time to worship, fellowship, pray, sing, learn, plan and look toward the future. Most importantly, it was a time to remember that we are better together when we are united in serving Jesus Christ.

Thank you to everyone who attended, served, prepared meals, sang, preached, presented reports, conducted business and prayed for this Annual Meeting. Thank you to Midway Baptist Church and Mission Home Baptist Church for being such gracious hosts. God truly blessed us with His presence. As the Ashe Baptist Association begins another year, may we continue to be faithful, united in mission, and committed to giving our very best to the One who gave His very best for us — Jesus Christ our Lord.

Your Servant, David

Ashe Really Cares

336-846-5234

Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary

Greetings in the name of our precious Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." -Matthew 28:19-20

As a gentle reminder, born again Christians are to go out into the world around them telling people about Jesus and what He has done for them.

As an intrusive and "in your face" reminder, born again Christians are to go out into the world around them telling people about Jesus and what He has done for them.

Wait a minute! You just told us TWICE what we are suppose to be doing. Yes, I reminded all of us TWICE what our mission is suppose to be. WILL YOU honor our Savior by being consistent and telling people what God has done for you?!?

Allow me also to remind you that Jesus promises to "be with you always, even until the end of the world." Hallelujah!!! Praise His Holy Name!!!

This month, please take the time to tell at least THREE persons what God has done for you. And also donate to Ashe Really Cares, who strives to tell people every day what God has done. This month, we need:

- ☐ Canned Green Beans
- ☐ Ramen Noodles
- ☐ Vienna Sausage
- ☐ Saltine Crackers
- ☐ Linens (towels, washcloths and bedsheets)
- ☐ Deodorant
- ☐ Plush Toy Animals
- ☐ Fresh vegetables from your garden

Ashe Really Cares assisted in food care for 499 individuals in June and 625 individuals for clothing. Praise the Lord!

Remember, God is good..... All the time!!!

Billy Norris
Director, ARC
Faith Health Connector



September 1	A-Mr. & Mrs. David Miller
September 3	B- Rev. Ken Jones
September 5	B- Rev. Homer Murdock
September 8	A-Rev & Mrs. Josh Dellinger
September 9	B- Mr. Butch Miller
September 13	B- Mr. Hal Monsees
September 15	B- Mrs. Holly Greer
September 17	A- Rev. & Mrs. Tim Greer
September 18	B- Mrs. Pat Miller
September 22	B- Mrs. Danna Rizoti
September 24	B- Mrs. Cindy Strickland
September 24	B- Rev. Lawrence Goodman
September 24	A- Rev. & Mrs. Steve LeaShomb
September 24	A-Rev. & Mrs. Jeffery Rizoti
September 27	A-Rev. & Mrs. Paul Strickland
September 30	B- Rev. Danny Joe Farmer

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 Association

would like to thank our sponsors
for the Ashe Baptist News heard on WSKS
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!



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 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.**

**COME AND PRAY
WITH THE
HOPE FOR THE MOUNTAINS
PRAYER TEAM
EACH TUESDAY 8:00 AM
MIDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH
1670 Mt. Jefferson Rd
West Jefferson, NC
EVERYONE IS WELCOME !
See you on Tuesday morning -
bring a friend !!!!**



3470 US Hwy 221 North
Jefferson, NC 28640
(336)982-2121 (336)246-7114

Dear ,

On behalf of Ashelawn Memorial Chapel and Gardens and Badger Funeral Home, we want to express our deepest gratitude for your unwavering dedication and the spiritual guidance you provide to our community. Your selfless service does not go unnoticed, and we want to take an evening to celebrate and honor you.

We warmly invite you and your spouse to join us as our guests for a complimentary **Pastor Appreciation Dinner**. This special evening is designed to be a time of relaxation, community fellowship, and heartfelt thanks for all that you do.

Here are the details for the evening:

- **Date:** Monday, September 14, 2026
- **Time:** Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM
- **Location:** Mountain Aire Seafood and Steak, 9930 NC-16, West Jefferson, NC 28694

During our time of fellowship, as we gather and enjoy a wonderful meal together, we will take a brief moment to share information about the specific benefits and services offered through Ashelawn Memorial Chapel and Gardens and Badger Funeral Home. Our goal is to ensure you are fully informed of the resources available to support both you and your congregation during times of need.

Please let us know if you and your spouse will be able to attend by RSVPing to (336)982-2121 or email@ashelawn.com by September 10, 2026, so we can finalize our reservations with the restaurant.

We are profoundly grateful for your work and look forward to sharing this evening of fellowship and appreciation with you.

With sincere gratitude,

Sincerely,

Joshua D. Roten

Owner: Ashelawn Memorial Chapel and Gardens & Badger Funeral Home

SAVE THE DATE

WALK WITH US

TO PREVENT SUICIDE

Out of the Darkness™ Community Walks

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 @ 2 PM

**West Jefferson Municipal Park,
Upper Shelter**

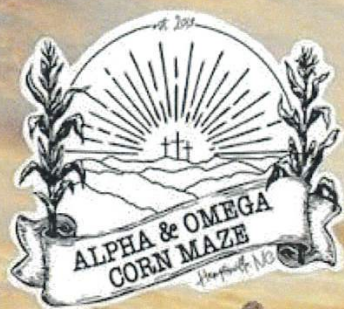
Questions? Email
AsheMentalHealthForum@gmail.com

CLICK [HERE](#) OR SCAN TO SIGN UP



afsp.org/walks





4TH ANNUAL WORSHIP *Night*

A FULL DAY
OF FALL FUN +
AN
UNFORGETTABLE
NIGHT OF
WORSHIP!



ALPHA & OMEGA CORN MAZE

HAMPTONVILLE, NC



Mickey Bell

CLEAN STANDUP COMEDIAN



Breanna Nix

AMERICAN IDOL FINALIST



Caleb & John

CHRISTIAN MUSIC DUO

35+ ATTRACTIONS

WAGON RIDES

PIG RACES

5 ACRE CORN MAZE

FOOD & DRINKS ON SITE



PRE SHOW
WORSHIP BY:
CODY WARD BAND
TICKETS AVAILABLE
ONLINE & AT THE GATE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

1129 CHEEK ROAD, HAMPTONVILLE, NC

GATES OPEN 10AM CONCERT BEGINS 6PM

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, Rev. John Elledge welcomes you to attend.
Sunday, October 4 –Evening Service 5-7 pm will have Special Speaker, Rev. Gatanneh from Persecuted Christians speaking. Rev. John Elledge invites everyone to attend this special service.

Big Flatts Baptist-welcomes you each Sunday 10 am for Sunday School & 11am Worship & Children's Church. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir practice. Pastor Darien South

Bristol Baptist– Homecoming Service September 13th, 10:30 am The Churchmen, Bluegrass Gospel Group. Pastor Keith Wagoner & Congregation invite you to attend.

Laurel Knob Baptist– Homecoming on Sunday, September 20 11 am, Guest Singer Brayden Frasure. All members, former members & friends are invited to attend by Pastor, Rev. Dr. Russell Hart & the congregation.

North Beaver Baptist-Sunday School classes for all ages starts at 10:00, with Children's Church and Worship Services starting at 11:00—Bible Study and Prayer Service Wednesday evenings at 6:30, for more information, contact us at 336-698-6396, email at mjtilley@gmail.com or www.northbeaver.org, Facebook & YouTube @northbeaverbaptistchurch
Pastor Matthew Tilley will be preaching a new series, "Jesus: Rescuer:-June 7, — September 27, 2026. Pastor Matthew Tilley and congregation invite you to come and worship at North Beaver Baptist Church.

North Beaver Homcoming– Sunday, September 13th– 10:30 am! Rev. Eli Tilley, Speaker from Upward Christian Fellowship of Hendersonville, NC. The Tuckers of Ellisboro Baptist Church in Madison, NC will be singing. Potluck lunch following the service. All members, former members & friends are invited to attend by the pastor, Rev. Matthew Tilley & the congregation.

North Beaver Revival—Sunday, September 13th 6 pm—Rev. Jacob Hall from Pilot Mtn. Singing by Eil & Hope Tilley. **Monday, 14th –7 pm** Rev. Drake Phillips from Mt. Airy. **Tuesday, September 15th 7pm –** Caleb Waller, NC Baptist Missions Catalyst. **Wednesday, September 16th 7pm** Mr. Ethan Hooker, from Pilot Mtn. special Music by Ethan & Allison Hooker. Pastor Matthew Tilley & the congregation invite you to attend.

Orion Baptist welcomes Rev. Johnny Sloan as their new Pastor. Rev. Sloan, his wife, Kera and five children reside in West Jefferson. They are looking forward to serving at Orion Baptist. Ashe Baptist Association looks forward to working with them also.

Orion Ordination Service for Rev. Johnny Sloan-Sunday, September 13th at 6 pm. Former Pastor, Rev. Lawrence Goodman & the congregation invite you to attend.



When you pray, please remember Pine Swamp, Trinity, Mt Olive Baptist Liberty Grove, Riverview and Wagoner Baptist Churches. They are all seeking a pastor.

On behalf of Forest Hill Baptist Church, Wilson, NC of the South Roanoke Association, we are seeking a Senior Pastor. We ask for you to share our opening with any pastor that Jesus may be calling to a new ministry. We also ask you to lift us up in prayer that we may find the man Jesus is calling to pastor and lead our congregation. This job position is listed on the Job Opening at NCBaptist.org and we will be accepting applications August 1, 2026. Forest Hill Baptist Search Committee

ABA Campground Meeting

Thursday, September 24th –9 pm at the Campground. All committee members please attend. Meeting is open to public.

ASHE BAPTIST CAMPGROUND MOWING SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 5— NEW RIVER BAPTIST
SEPTEMBER 19— LIBERTY GROVE BAPTIST



A SEASONAL JOB WITH AN ETERNAL PURPOSE

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



Samaritan's Purse®, Franklin Graham, President
P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607 | 1-800-528-1980 | samaritanspurse.org
Facebook: SamaritansPurse Twitter: @SamaritansPurse Instagram: @SamaritansPurse | © 2023 Samaritan's Purse.

03-18-84

Ashe Missionary Baptist Association 140th Annual Meeting

Held on Friday, August 21st at Midway Baptist

Saturday, August 22nd at Mission Home Baptist

Friday Session was called to order by Moderator, Mr. Jerry Powers, Member at Bald Mountain Baptist. Rev. Alan Ambrose, Associate Pastor from Bald Mountain Baptist led the songs during the meeting with Mr. Butch Miller from Big Flatts Baptist on the piano. Welcome, Devotion & Opening Prayer was led by Rev. Steve LeaShomb, Pastor at Midway Baptist. The history of Midway Baptist was read by Ms. Melanie Master, Secretary at Midway Baptist. Our morning message was by Rev. Nate Wood, the Pastor at Phoenix Baptist. Mrs. Debbie Miller presented the Treasurer's Report, ABA Clerk and Treasurer. Mrs. Tonya Roark, member at Healing Springs Baptist and a member of the ABA Finance Committee presented the Proposed Budget, both of which would be voted on in the Business Section of Saturday's Session.

Rev. David Blackburn, AMS presented Mr. Jerry Powers with a Plaque for his 18 years of service as moderator and vice moderator to the Ashe Baptist Association. Mr. Powers is retiring from this position following the meeting.

Rev. Getaneh Getanneh from Ethiopia presented a report about Persecuted Christians. He is available to speak at the church you attend. For more information contact Rev. Dale Toliver.

Reports from our NC Baptist followed with (L to R) Rev. Jody Yopp, NC Baptist Children's Home, Rev. Jimmy Lancaster, NCBAM, Calab Waller, Great Commission Catalysts Region 7. Mrs. Stephanie Shaffer, Baptist Retirement Homes of NC (Thrivemore), Rev. Wesley Smith, AMS for Stoney Fork and Three Fork Associations. Rev. Smith presented the BluePrint, BSC of NC Info. Mr. Chris Jones, Provision Financial Resources of NC Baptist and Rev. Paul Langston, Baptist On Mission. We thank all these NC Baptist for speaking at the meeting. Their reports are in the Book of Reports, call the office if you would like a book, also these folks are available to speak at your church anytime just give them a call. We enjoyed the Midway Singers, it was wonderful music. Rev. Gene Shumaker, Pastor at Buffalo gave the evening sermon, which was followed by a wonderful meal by the ladies of Midway Baptist.



2026

NC Baptist's



Friday, August 21st Session of 140th Annual Meeting.



Saturday Session 9 am, August 22nd at Mission Home Baptist

Saturday's meeting was called into order by Vice-Moderator, Rev. Allen Huffman. Rev. Alan Ambrose and Butch Miller led the congregation with the songs for the meeting. Rev. Luke Watson, Pastor at Mission Home Baptist opened with Welcome, Devotion and Prayer. The history of Mission Home was presented by Mr. Sammy Surber.

We began with Mission Report by Rev. Blackburn, Billy Norris, David White with BOM, and Rev. Homer Murdock. Special Music was provided by Mrs. Katy Watson, wife of Pastor Watson. She sang two hymns beautifully.

Message was by Rev. Arvil Scott, new pastor at Pleasant Home Baptist. Following the message several more reports were given by Mrs. Elaine Cox, Mrs. Linda Blackburn, Mr. Butch Miller, Mrs. Debbie Miller, Rev. Johnny Goodman, Mr. Mark Bower, Mrs. Zella Gaeta and Rev. Michael Carter.

The Business Portion of the meeting began with Old Business with none, we moved to the Adoption of the 2026-2027 Budget, which passed and with no other Old Business, we moved to New Business. Pastor Gene Shumaker, mentioned that Buffalo Baptist would host the Friday Session on August 20, 2027. Motion was made to accept, and a second follow, Motion carried and the meeting will be held at Buffalo in August 2027. We still need a church for the Saturday Session. With no further new business the business section of the meeting was closed.

Rev Wayne Jones, Pastor at New River Baptist read the In Memory List of members that passed in 2025-2026 and we observed a Moment of Silence in their Memory.

Rev. Luke Watson dismissed and blessed the food.

Mission Home served a delicious meal enjoyed by all in attendance.





S
A
T
U
R
D
A
Y

S
E
S
S
I
O
N





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

Are You Listening?

Jesus said in John 16:13 "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth..." What a wonderful promise! God has not left His children without direction. The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, guides us. But we must be willing to listen. Sometimes the problem is not that God is silent. Perhaps the problem is that our lives have become too noisy. We can spend hours listening to the opinions of the world and only a few minutes listening to the Word of God. We check our phones before we check our hearts. We listen to news, commentators, and social media, but do we take time to open the Bible and ask, "Lord, what are You saying to me?"

September 7 Labor Day

- ABA & ARC Offices Closed
- 22 Fall Begins
- 24 ABA Campground Meeting
6 pm at the Campground



2026 SEPTEMBER						
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			

- ### October 6 ARC Committee Meeting
- @ ABA Conference Room 7 pm
 - 8 ABA Ex. Committee Meeting
@ North Beaver Baptist 7 pm
 - 31 ABA Campground Closes
(Open to Volunteers Only)



2026 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

- ### November 11 Veteran's Day
- 15-16 NC Pastor's Conference &
NC Baptist Annual Meeting
 - 26- Thanksgiving
 - 26-27 ABA-ARC Offices Closed



2026 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					

ASHE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Rev. David Blackburn, AMS

Mrs. Debbie Miller, ABA Ministry Assistant

336-846-5631 Email: ashebaptist@gmail.com

ASHE REALLY CARES

Rev. Billy Norris, Director

Mrs. Dana Phillips, Assistant Director

336-846-5243 Email: ashereallycares@gmail.com