



# The Heartbeat

227 Hazel Mill Road, Asheville NC 28806  
 Phone: (828) 252-1864; Fax: (828) 252-1865

[www.buncombebaptist.org](http://www.buncombebaptist.org)

**April, May, June 2026**

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**Resource Center Holiday Schedule:**

**Closed on:**

**Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>:**  
 Easter  
**Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>:**  
 Memorial Day



Baptist Children's Home Food Roundup will be collected during the month of April. *We are asking everyone to please send gift cards or money this year.* It can be Visa, Sam's Club, Food Lion, Ingles, Lowe's or Walmart cards. You can make your check out to the Buncombe Baptist Association and designate it for the Broyhill Children's Home Food Drive. This will relieve the association of the difficulty of transporting food to Broyhill if we just receive gift cards or money. It also gives the Children's Home more flexibility in buying quantities of food and supplies they need.

The Buncombe Baptist Association is open Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. to receive these cards/money, or you may mail to: **227 Hazel Mill Road Asheville, NC. 28806.**

*Thank you!*



## BUNCOMBE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION SPRING MEETING

**MONDAY  
 MAY 11**

**OAKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH  
 70 FAIRVIEW AVENUE  
 ASHEVILLE, NC 28803**

**5:45 - 6:15PM - DINNER  
 (IN FELLOWSHIP HALL)**

**6:30 - 7:10PM - OPENING  
 SESSION (IN SANCTUARY)**



### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS (7:15 - 8:00PM)**

**CHOOSE ONE SESSION TO ATTEND**

**Giving Loving Care to Aging Parents**

Jimmy Lancaster  
 West Regional Director  
 NC Baptist Aging Ministry  
[ncbam.org](http://ncbam.org)

**Regaining Mission Focus Through WMU (Women's Missionary Union)**

Norma Melton  
 Missions Mobilization Coordinator  
 Buncombe Baptist Association

Edwina Messer  
 Swannanoa First Baptist Church

**Introduction to Life 107 Ministries**

Joe Farris  
 Executive Director

**Learn About the Bright Future of the Baptist Children's Homes**

Nick Smith  
 WNC Director of  
 Baptist Children's Homes

**Introduction to Grief Share**

Susie Black  
 Woodland Baptist Church

## PERRY'S PEN



2026 is moving quickly as we start to prepare for spring and summer mission opportunities. Life continues to disappear behind us just as James 4:14 describes it; ***"Whereas, you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then VANISHES away."*** In 2024, as an association of churches, we launched the ***"CELEBRATE EACH ONE"*** challenge!!

- ***Develop a Corporate Prayer Strategy***
- ***Mobilize Disciples to Reach the Lost***
- ***Engage Community with the Gospel***
  - ***Share/Win/Baptize***
- ***Make Disciples of New Converts***

Permit me to share personal thoughts. During my childhood, the family would spend time in Alabama visiting my Grandmother Dial. My Uncle Charles would come home on weekends from Jacksonville State University. Uncle Charles had this little mutt of a dog named Dynamite. One day, the family spotted Dynamite laying on his back across the road in a ditch, all four legs straight up in the air. Family members called and called for Dynamite repeatedly, but no movement came. It was evident that Dynamite had died, hit by a car as many times before. My Uncle Charles arrived home and was informed that his dog had suffered a tragic end. My uncle stepped outside and called Dynamite; he came up from the ditch like a young pup!! Dynamite heeded his masters call. He was alive and well!!!

2025 was the year that partnering churches listened for the Masters **CALL**. 2024 recorded 1014 baptisms in BBA churches reported, the most in at least two decades. Reviewing past records has led us to believe that the **1245 baptisms** reported by BBA churches in 2025 is the greatest number of baptisms in over 74 years! Let me write that out, one thousand, two hundred, and forty five baptisms. That is an increase of **231 individuals** who came to Christ in 2025!

**To God be the GLORY! Keep plowing on church!! *CELEBRATE EACH ONE!!***

*Perry*



## NORMA'S NOTES

The jonquils and Bradford pear trees are blooming. That's a sure sign that spring is close! I'm already hearing about churches planning for VBS and for summer mission trips. I applaud our churches for introducing children to Jesus and for promoting their spiritual growth through VBS. This is a valuable outreach program which instills Christian values in children.

The BBA is sponsoring a mission trip July 19-22 to Copperhill, Tennessee. This is an Appalachian ministry trip listed by the NC Baptist on Mission. We've often heard about the coal mines of West Virginia and the effect that these mines have had on the community of that area. However, we have heard less about the effect that copper mines have had on communities. We will have opportunity to minister in Jesus' name by conducting a VBS in a local church and by assisting a local Baptist Ministry Center in Copperhill, Tennessee.

If your church is sponsoring a mission trip, please let us know so that we can pray for the volunteers going on the trip. Also send pictures of the trip that we can share on the BBA Facebook page or our website. You may send information or pictures to [info@buncombebaptist.org](mailto:info@buncombebaptist.org). It's always encouraging to hear how the Lord is working through our church mission teams.

We are happy to announce that Rebekah Reese will be returning this summer as our College Student Summer Missionary Intern. Rebekah is attending Appalachian State University and is a member of Enka Baptist Church. Please pray for Rebekah as she serves in various outreach ministries in our churches.

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." Proverbs 16:3

Blessings, *Norma Melton*

## Church Receipts, January 1, 2026 thru February 28, 2026

CHURCH	YTD	CHURCH	YTD	CHURCH	YTD
Antioch	0.00	Glady	0.00	Pole Creek	4,666.66
Asheville City	0.00	Grace	678.00	Radiant	0.00
Asheville Deaf	0.00	GracePoint	0.00	Reach Life	2,500.00
Bald Mountain	0.00	Grassy Branch	1,000.00	Reynolds	2,000.00
Barnardsville	0.00	Grove Stone	0.00	Ridgeway	1,500.00
Berea	0.00	Iglesia Bautista Ebenezer	0.00	Riverside	0.00
Bethel	0.00	Inanda	0.00	Skyland FBC	1,350.00
Bethel Romanian	0.00	Ivy Creek	0.00	Source of Life Evangelical	0.00
Beverly Hills	439.99	Jupiter	0.00	South Asheville	0.00
Biltmore	0.00	Kerlee	0.00	Starnes Cove	1,373.96
Biltmore Espanol	0.00	Lake Hills	0.00	Steadfast	600.00
Black Mountain FBC	160.00	Lakewood	4,824.00	Sulphur Springs. Pk.	0.00
Blue Ridge Biker	0.00	Laurel Springs	0.00	Swannanoa FBC	1,300.00
Blue Ridge Cowboy	0.00	Liberty	504.31	The Peaks	0.00
Brookstone	500.00	Long Shoals	465.63	The Place Fellowship	0.00
Brown's Chapel	0.00	Macedonia	180.00	Trinity of Fairview	300.00
Calvary	0.00	Maple Ridge	0.00	Turkey Creek	450.00
Calvary at Fairview	0.00	Mills Gap	0.00	Vance Avenue	0.00
Captivate	0.00	Morgan Hill	0.00	Victory	560.48
Celebration	0.00	Mount Carmel	333.34	Weaverville FBC	0.00
Christian Creek	0.00	Mount Horeb	0.00	West Asheville	3,567.00
Community	0.00	Mount Olive	400.00	White Rock	0.00
Congregation Beth Shiloh	50.00	Mountain View	0.00	Wilkey	0.00
Corinth	0.00	New Liberty	100.00	Zion Hill	450.00
Covenant/Highlands	0.00	New Life Community	300.00	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$35,186.99</b>
Crosspoint Community	0.00	New Salem	0.00		
Edgewood	0.00	Newbridge	920.00		
Emma's Grove	675.32	Newfound	533.30		
Enka	529.00	North Point	576.00		
Erwin Hills	0.00	Oak Grove	200.00		
Fairview	0.00	Oakley	500.00		
Fellowship Asheville	300.00	Oasis	200.00		
First Moldovan	0.00	Oteen	0.00		
Flat Creek	0.00	Pine Burr Park	0.00		
Freedom	0.00	Pine Forest	0.00		
Gashes Creek	0.00	Pleasant Hill	200.00		



*Thank you for your continued support for the ministries of the Buncombe Baptist Association!*

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### SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

**JOIN US FOR A PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION AT THE ANNUAL SPRING LUNCH**

**THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026**  
12:00 - 2:00 PM

MUSIC PROGRAM BY "PROCLAIM" LED BY KELVIN MOSLEY, BILTMORE CHURCH

**BILTMORE CHURCH**  
35 CLAYTON ROAD  
ARDEN, NC 28704

**\$ 12.00 PER PERSON**  
WEAR YOUR RED, WHITE AND BLUE

**CALL 828-252-1864 TO MAKE GROUP RESERVATIONS BY THURSDAY, MAY 7.**

MAKE ONE PAYMENT FOR YOUR GROUP, PAYABLE TO BUNCOMBE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

MENU: CHICKEN TENDERS, MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY, GREEN BEANS, SLAW, ROLLS, DESSERTS, TEA AND LEMONADE

### 2026 Christmas Red Box Ministry Checklist UPDATE

Note carefully sizes and number of the following items to be placed in each Red Box.

Because the boxes will be distributed at the Women's Prison, they need to be as similar as possible. Please pack your Red Boxes according to the guidelines listed below. Do not add items that are not on the list.

- One package of **blank** greeting cards with envelopes. **No "Thank you" cards.** There should be a total of 8 to 10 cards in each Red Box.
- Two transparent **Bic** pens.
- One 2027 pocket size calendar.
- One flat-spine journal. No larger than 5X8 size. **No spiral bound journals allowed.**
- One game magazine (Sudoku, Crossword, Word Search, etc.) No larger than 5X8 size.
- One **Full-Size** body wash in plastic bottle. **No pump bottles.**
- One **Full-Size** lotion in plastic bottle. **No pump bottles.**
- Two chap sticks.
- Two small packages of tissues.
- One sleeve of cotton rounds.
- One **large** bath puff.

When we receive the Red Boxes, we will place a gospel tract in each box. Please call the association office to let us know how many boxes your church plans to fill. Empty Red Boxes are now available for pickup (BBA, 227 Hazel Mill Road, Asheville, NC 28806). Filled boxes should be returned by November 19, 2026. If you have questions, please contact Norma Melton at nmelton@buncombebaptist.org or 828-252-1864.

Thank you!

**Buncombe Baptist Association**  
227 Hazel Mill Road  
Asheville, NC 28806



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Asheville NC  
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**Return Service Requested**

If you are not going to read the printed version of the newsletter, please call **828-252-1864** and have your name removed from the mailing list. You can check it out on the website at:  
[www.buncombebaptist.org](http://www.buncombebaptist.org)



**Prayerfully prepared for:**

**facebook**

Like us on Facebook:  
**Buncombe Baptist Association**

Or check out our website:  
[www.buncombebaptist.org](http://www.buncombebaptist.org)

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Monday-Thursday  
9:00 am—4:30 pm

**April**

**JUNE**

- 2 **9am—Tarheel Leadership, BBA**
- 6 **Office closed for Easter**
- 10&11 **Baptists on Mission Conference** (Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Charlotte)
- 20 **10am—“Seminary for a Day”** (Pastor Fred Baker will be sharing on “Keys to Pastoral Counseling”)
- 30 **11:30am—Retired Ministers’ Lunch** (J&S Cafeteria)



- 7 **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER**
- 7 **9am—Tarheel Leadership; BBA**
- 11 **Spring Celebration; Oakley Baptist Church**  
5:45 pm—Light meal 6:30pm—Meeting begins
- 18 **10am—“Seminary for a Day”** (Pastor Johnny Byrd will be sharing on “Missions.”)
- 21 **12pm—2pm; Senior Adult meal; (Biltmore Church)**
- 25 **Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday**

- 1 **10am—Ministers gather at ASCEND**
- 3 **11:30 am—Leadership Team Meeting; BBA**
- 4 **9am—Tarheel Leadership, BBA**
- 9&10 **Southern Baptist Convention; Orlando Florida**

The 2026 Ministers’ Roundtable of the BBA, will sponsor a **“Seminary for a Day,”** as part of our ministers’ fellowship. Listed below are the dates and participants. It will begin at 10am and end at 11:30 am (lunch is included).

- ◆ **Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>: Pastor Fred Baker** Fellowship Asheville Church in Asheville
- ◆ **Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>: Pastor Johnny Byrd** North Point Baptist Church in Weaverville
- ◆ **Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>: Ministers’ Gathering at** Ascend Women’s Center. **Kristi Brown, Executive Director**
- ◆ **No Roundtable in July**