



BAPTIST IN MY BLOOD


Back in the early 2000s I was talking with my great uncle David E. Reese (1933-2009) about a feeling I had that God was calling me into ministry. Uncle David proceeded to tell me that he felt it was inevitable because Baptist was “in our blood.” David knew this because beginning in the late 1970s he began a quest to trace our genealogy as far back as he could.

A couple of months ago David’s widow, my Aunt Nancy Reese, passed away, and a family member found my uncle David’s research and gave it to me. I decided to go through it and make a list of my ancestors who were Baptist ministers, the vast majority of which came from Madison county and Mars Hill College. Here is what I found:

- 1) **Joseph Reese** (1745, arrived in Columbia SC) organized Broad River Association in Western North Carolina.
- 2) **William Rees** (1800-1863) ordained June 13, 1829, and pastored the following churches: Sugar Creek Branch Church, Bull Creek Church (1841-1845, 1850-1862)
- 3) **Thomas Rees** (1822-?) licensed to preach in1860 at Newfound Church
- 4) **Rev. Jasper Reese** (1834-?) Pastor of Old Toxaway Baptist Church in NC.
- 5) **Moses Rees** (1838-?) preacher, but not much more was known.
- 6) **Dr. Martin Van Buren Reece** (1842-1895) was a practicing physician but also helped organize and form the first Baptist church in Erie, Missouri.
- 7) **Arcemus Reese** (1876-1960) Licensed to preach February 18, 1897, by French Broad Church. Attended Seminary in Louisville, KY. Pastored LaCrosse Missionary Baptist Church (Florida) (1902), became a Baptist missionary to Oklahoma Territory, served as State Baptist Evangelist in Alabama (1919-1925), pastored Jones Gap Baptist Church in Hendersonville, NC (1913), joined Home Mission Board of the SBC (1914-1919). Wrote and composed a hymn, “*Why I Am a Baptist*.” Final church appointment was at Fairview Baptist Church from 1939-1941.
- 8) **Dr. Tullius Reese** (1878-1967) State Baptist Evangelist in Florida, also pastored churches in Oklahoma and Florida. A stained-glass window in the First Baptist Church Apalachicola bears the name of T. O. Reese 1903-1905 as a testimonial to his vigorous work with the new church plant.
- 9) **Bailey Bright Reese** (1878-1950) ordained minister August 26, 1917, at Zion Baptist Church
- 10) **Rev. William Cecil Reese** (1885-1953) Pastor of Old Bull Creek Church (1920s)
- 11) **Dr. Curtis Reese** (1887-1961) Baptist State Evangelist in Illinois, prior to becoming Unitarian minister, authored a book on Religious Humanism.
- 12) **Thomas Ben Rees** (1895-1968) Baptist Minister
- 13) **Robert Harkins Reese** (1898-?) Grew up Southern Baptist but became a Free-Will Baptist preacher.
- 14) **Paul McCoy Reese** (1909-?) Pastored West Side Baptist Church in Winston-Salem.
- 15) **Wilford W Reese** (1911-1979) Pastored churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Kentucky.
- 16) **Joseph John Reese** (1920-?) Baptist Minister
- 17) **Elzaba Levi Reese** (1930-?) Baptist Minister
- 18) **Christopher Lloyd Reese** (that’s me!) (1972-) Baptist minister in WNC.

The most direct ancestor to me is Robert Harkins Reese, who was my great-grandfather.

You can see that there is a lot of Baptist, specifically Southern Baptist in my DNA. I hope you found this as interesting as I did.



I love being your pastor,
Chris
#God’s_Not_Done

Please help us prepare for
Veterans Day
November 11, 2025

If you have *immediate family* who have served in the past, or who are serving now in the US military, please help us collect the following information:



Name: _____



Relationship to you: _____

Branch of Service: _____

Date of Service: _____

A current picture if possible.

Please get this information to Mary or Chris no later than Sunday, October 26, 2025. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 828.667.2410 and leave a message. Thanks!

<div>October 2025</div> <div>Small Groups meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)</div>		
OCT 01	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
OCT 05	11:00 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Communion Sunday Choir Practice Quarterly Business Meeting CIA / Youth
OCT 07	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
OCT 08	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
OCT 12	9:00 a.m. 4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	2nd SUNDAY CELEBRATION  Choir Practice Bible Study with the Pastor CIA / Youth
OCT 14	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
OCT 15	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
OCT 19 ABCCM SUNDAY	4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice Family Night Adults on Mission CIA/Youth
OCT 21	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
OCT 22	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
OCT 25	8:00 a.m.	 Men's Breakfast
OCT 26	4:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice Bible Study with the Pastor CIA / Youth Church Council
OCT 28	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
OCT 29	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
OCT 31	5:00 p.m.	TRUNK or TREAT 



Across
 2. Night flying mammals
 5. Halloween month
 7. Web creator
 8. Scary creatures, or ____ Inc.
 10. Carved pumpkin
 12. Stirs potions in a cauldron
 13. Placed over your face

Down
 1. A house where ghosts live is considered ____
 3. Ghostly talk
 4. Human that transforms into a wolf
 6. Disguise
 9. Dracula is one of these
 11. ____ or Treat!



PROJECT MISSIONS FOCUS

Our OCTOBER MISSION PROJECT is to collect
LOOSE CHANGE in the offering plates
 on **SUNDAY MORNING** for
Western Carolina Rescue Ministry.



WESTERN CAROLINA RESCUE MINISTRIES
Providing Rescue, Recovery, & Restoration in Jesus' Name

"I want a place where people can come in from the cold, have a meal, and get the help they need to turn their lives around."

~ Rev. Arch Cameron, 1979

Paul writes in the book of Romans 12:13, *"Share with God's people who need help."* That is exactly what we strive to do each and every day at Western Carolina Rescue Ministries. Whether it's by providing a warm meal, safe shelter, clean clothing, medical care, or simply a smile – we strive to share with those who need it most. It is my goal to bring people to a place where they can find a specific purpose for their life, and transform them from a place of poverty to productivity.

Our volunteers are the hands and feet of our daily operations and the heartbeat of our community outreach. We believe that every act of service, no matter how small, has a profound impact on the lives of those we serve. We offer a range of volunteer opportunities suitable for various interests and skills, and we invite you to become a part of our mission to share the love of Jesus in a tangible way. There are many ways to serve. Your time and talents can make a real difference in the lives of individuals and families facing challenging times. Volunteering is about the hope and encouragement that is shared.

Thank you for joining us in the movement to impact the city of Asheville. If you have any questions about who we are or what we do, please do not hesitate to reach out to us under the "Contact Us" tab of our website or call us at 828-254-0471. We are located at 225 Patton Avenue, Asheville.

~ Micheal Woods, Executive Director

EBC Connect

Hi Everyone . . . We need your help!

The EBC Connect is YOUR church publication and this editor would love to hear from you about the kind of information and articles you would enjoy reading.

Please submit your request, article, group activity, or calendar item to Mary at 828-667-2410 (*leave a message if no one answers*) or email your info to clerk.ebc@gmail.com no later than the 15th of each month to be published the following month.

We're looking for fun and informative articles and information to keep you "connected" to your church and church family.

Meanwhile...stay tuned for our next exciting issue where we will proudly publish whatever you send!

Much love and thanks from your editor-in-chief!

Helene Rebuild Update

Thanks to the incredible work of volunteers, we've completed rebuilding 383 homes, with 264 in the process of being worked on and 1300 total requests at this point. We have rebuild centers in Spruce Pine, Burnsville, Black Mountain, East Flat Rock and Boone.

You can sign up to volunteer and help us offer hope to our neighbors in western NC at baptistsonmission.org. Volunteers will be needed in western NC for the next four to five years.

Thank you for praying, giving and going!



trunk OR treat

Cars Wanted!

Friday, October 31
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
EBC parking lot