



ABINGDON

Baptist Church

... Where a warm welcome is just the Beginning...

THE BANNER

July 7, 2026

Issue 27

OLD FASHION
POT LUCK
Lunch

IMMEDIATELY
 AFTER
 WORSHIP
 Sunday,
 July 12th

★ SPONSORED BY THE SEEKERS CLASS ★

Bring your *favorite* DISH OR DESSERT and come have some *good food, good fun, & good fellowship.*

There will be a *"PASSING OF THE PLATE"* to raise money for the new *pew cushions.*

S U N D A Y	JULY 12	W O R S H I P
	11:00am	
	In Person & Live Stream	
	Bible Freedom 2 Timothy 3:16-17	
Listen to sermon recordings at www.abingdonbaptist.org		

Religious Liberty

The following article was prepared by the BGAV Religious Liberty Committee and was published in the Texas *Baptist Standard*. I pray that this article is not only informational but that it inspires us all to continue the fight for religious liberty for all people today and for future generations of Americans.

Thomas Woolsey

The Rev. Thomas W. Woolsey was born in November 1719 in Bedford, Westchester County, N.Y. In 1771, at age 52, he and his family moved, along with several other Baptist families, to settle on the South Fork of the Holston River near the present-day town of Chilhowie, Va., in an area still known as Sinclair's Bottom. The other hardy pioneer Baptists for whom Woolsey served as pastor included the Bishops, Coles, Thomases, and Wheelers.

Soon after arriving, Woolsey established a Baptist meeting house at Riverside on the South Fork of the Holston River. St. Clair's Bottom Baptist Church is perhaps the oldest church in Southwestern Virginia of any denomination.

While we are uncertain of the reasons for the migration of these Baptist families, it is almost certain their desire for religious liberty was part of their motivation in moving to the frontier.

Religious persecution

In much of Colonial America, Baptists, as well as those from other denominations, were forced to be part of the established Church of England. Baptist ministers were prohibited from preaching, conducting weddings, and performing baptisms. Baptists were forced to attend the Anglican church, to have their children baptized as infants in that church, and to pay taxes to support the state church. Those who dissented or acted in opposition to the state church were often fined or imprisoned. On the frontier, early Baptists found some freedom from this religious persecution.

Religious liberty

The call for liberty, including religious liberty, was at the core of America's battle for independence from England.

Historically, Baptists have stood on strong theological and moral ground in their fight for religious liberty for all people. Religious liberty, in essence, is the right to worship or not worship God according to individual conscience. True worship can never be forced but must be freely given by the worshiper.

Religious liberty deplores establishment by the state of any prescribed religion or religious test.

Fight for liberty

In 1780, near the end of America's fight for liberty, the British were gaining ground in their southern advance from South Carolina into North Carolina under the command of British Major Patrick Ferguson.

When the call for patriots to check this advance went out, Rev. Woolsey, along with five Baptist laymen—Levi Bishop, Matthew Bishop, Capt. Joseph Cole, Hugh Cole, and James Pierce—became part of a group of over 1,000 patriots known as the Overmountain Men.

Col. William Campbell of Washington Co., Va., assembled volunteers from Southwestern Virginia on the Muster Grounds near Abingdon, Va.

On Oct. 7, 1780, the Overmountain Men, under the command of Col. Campbell, surprised the British, who were atop King's Mountain, S.C., by attacking them from all sides and subduing them in only one hour.

Continued...

F.Y.I...

Deacon of the Month – July

George Hodnett (910) 200-8370

SUNDAY SCHOOL & WORSHIP

Attendance for Sunday, July 5
 Sunday School & Bible Study - 65
 Worship Service - 113
 Wednesday - 22
 Dinner Church - 18

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Worship Technicians:

Tim Barnett
 Jerry Culberson
 Laura Harris
 Paxton Matney
 Ray Minor
 Amanda Perry
 Tony Roberts
 Cathy Shelton
 Mel Shelton

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Extended Session Workers

July 12, 2026

Holly Stiltner & Helper

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Car Ministry

July 12, 2026

Kevin Abel 276-698-4710

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Financial Update

July 5, 2026

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Budget Funds

Weekly Budget Needs	\$10,992.00
Received 7/5/26	\$16,399.59
YTD Total Receipts	\$277,950.50
YTD Total Expenses	\$280,274.00

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Pew Cushion Fund

To Date:	\$10,441.00
Goal:	\$11,250.00

Noisy Bucket Offering 6/28/26 \$505.02
 (Pew Cushion Fund)



CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY July 12
 9:45am Sunday School
In-Person/Zoom

11:00am Worship In-person or Livestream
Sanctuary, Facebook, YouTube, Vimeo

12:00pm Potluck Luncheon
Fellowship Hall

MONDAY July 13
 9:00am Stone Soup Food Pantry
Team 1

TUESDAY July 14
 10:00am S.I.S Circle
Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY July 15
 5:30pm Coffee Time *Common Ground*
 6:00pm Quarterly Ministry Celebration
Chapel
 Young Adult Circle *Common Ground*

THURSDAY July 16
 6:00pm Dinner Church Abingdon Terrace
Abingdon Terrace Apts.

FRIDAY July 17
 9:00am Stone Soup Food Pantry
Team 2

SUNDAY July 19
 3:30pm Community Picnic & VBS Kickoff
Abingdon Baptist Church

Gifts

Have been given in memory of:

...Peggy Hughes

Have been given in honor of:

...Jim Hughes



JULY 19-22

SIGN UP TODAY



SCAN ME

Thank you for helping share God's love!

Prayer Concerns

Hospital:

Treatments Continuing/Pending:

Terry Christian, Kelly Davis, Cindy Farmer, Denise Gobble, Joel Piazza, Angie Smith.

Long Term:

Barbara Back, Ainsley Berry, Curtis Burkett, Kylee Coleman, Barbara Compton, Geraldine Culberson, Barbara Dunn, Abigail Fannin, Amylee Fannin, Allen Garrett, Lee Garrett, Barbara Gillespie, Karen Hand, Kenna Henderson, Bruce Hicks, Ron Hicks, Sarah Johnson, Kevin Leonard, Conner Mays, Wayne McCall, Karen McMurray, George Owens, Ronnie Perkins, Charlie Pickle, Joyce Powers, Paul Rich, Jimmy Singleton, Park Shropshire, Archer Skeens, Angie Smith, Rachel Stout, Candy Tignor, Stephanie Wyvill.


Independent Living/Retirement/Assisted Care & Rehab Facilities:

Linda Belisle, Mary Davis, Orville Davis, Jan Derting, Masel Dunaway, Renva Gunter, Pearl Hayter, Trula Harris, Jim Hughes, Virginia Moore, Joanna Owens, Howard Smith.

Homebound:

Becky Corvin, Nadine Culberson, Nadine Farmer, Grace Kiser, Nora Milsap, Joyce Vanover.

Homebound of the Week Virginia Moore

	<p>This week we want to lift up Patrol Officer R. Stumbo Abingdon Police Department Gordon Taylor Jacki Thurston Washington County Sherriff's Dept</p>
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Tuesday, July 14

- Adam Counts

Sunday, July 18

- Jim McCall

Wednesday, July 15

- Ainsley Berry

QUARTERLY MINISTRY CELEBRATION

July 15, 2026

6:00 pm - Chapel

...Thomas Woolsey—concluded

“The results of the Battle of King’s Mountain were far reaching. Sir Henry Clinton aptly described the situation when he said it was ‘the first link of a chain of evils that followed each other in regular succession until they at last ended in the total loss of America’”

Continuing the fight

While Rev. Thomas W. Woolsey and his fellow Baptist pioneers in Southwestern Virginia are not well-known today, it is clear they were patriots of the American Revolution as participants with the Overmountain Men in the fight for American liberty at King’s Mountain.

We must not easily surrender the liberties for which they fought. As Baptists, we must continue to guard religious liberty for all people.

We must fight against any establishment or favoritism on the part of our government for any religion or even for no religion at all. We must muster for religious liberty to ensure future generations continue to enjoy this fundamental freedom for all people.

Rev. Dr. Bill Bryan, pastor of Abingdon Baptist Church in Abingdon, Va., narrated the video that accompanies this transcript. The video, part of a series produced by BGAV’s Religious Liberty Committee, may be viewed at [Abingdon Muster Grounds - Battle of Kings Mountain BGAV Documentary](#)

SHINE THE LIGHT OF Jesus

Community Picnic & VBS Kickoff

FOOD • FUN • GAMES • LIVE MUSIC • FELLOWSHIP

SUNDAY, JULY 19

3:30–5:30 PM

ABINGDON BAPTIST CHURCH

VBS REGISTRATION AVAILABLE

Join us for an afternoon of food, music, games, and fellowship as we kick off a week of learning to shine the light of Jesus!

Everyone Welcome!

Bring the whole family and invite your friends!

Ministers			Entire Congregation
Pastor	bbryan@abingdonbaptist.org	ext. 32	Rev. Dr. Bill Bryan
Minister of Music/Worship & Young/Median Adults	showell@abingdonbaptist.org		Mr. Shawn Howell
Minister To Students	lwolfe@abingdonbaptist.org		Rev. Lisa Wolfe
Administrative Assistant	tvickers@abingdonbaptist.org	ext. 21	Mrs. Trina Vickers
Children's Ministry Assistant	hstiltner@abingdonbaptist.org		Mrs. Holly Stiltner
Church Organist			Mrs. Carol Clifton
Church Pianist			Mrs. Rose Payne

A church with a world mission and a world program in association with the Lebanon Baptist Association, Baptist General Association of Virginia, Southern Baptist Convention, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and Baptist World Alliance.

Church office hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 5:00pm, Friday 9:00-12:00pm

Phone: 276/628-8126

PRAYER LINE: extension 42, FAX: 276/628-5743

Website: **www.abingonbaptist.org**