

Blood River Baptist Association
Rev. Mark Sickling, Director of Missions
P.O. Box 18, 47 Aurora Hwy.
Hardin, KY 42048-0018
270-437-4203



**Newsletter deadline for June 2025 is
May 19th**
EMAIL US AT:
bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org
Remember to limit your words to 175.

Mark's Memo:

Spring is in the air, along with all the pollen that comes with it. I pray God will bring fresh life to our churches, just as he is bringing fresh life to the trees, the flowers, the grass that dot the landscape of Western Kentucky.

If you would like God to bring fresh life into your church, I encourage you to attend the "Helping Churches Thrive!" that will be held here at Blood River Baptist Association on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Brian Horton, Church Planting/Revitalization Specialist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Furthermore, Dr. Horton and I invite our pastors to join us for lunch on May 7, at 12:00 p.m. at August Moon in Murray for a time of fellowship, discussion, and prayer.

Things are coming together for our **"Fill My Cup Women's Conference"** to be held at Briensburg Baptist Church on Saturday, May 10, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. until noon. This conference will include a time of worship, and a message from Mrs. Kathy Farley, author of **"Daughter, Where's Your Crown?"**. This conference will also give women the opportunity to attend breakout sessions led by Mrs. Hailey Roach, Mrs. Kristin Sickling, or a panel made up of local ministry leaders who will discuss how ladies can get involved in their ministries. There will be a \$5 fee per person for this conference to help cover the expenses. To register call 270-437-4203 on or before May 5, 2025.

Please continue to pray for our churches without pastors; our churches that are having Revivals in May; and that God will do amazing things in our churches and communities this summer during VBS season.

Serving Him Together,

Bro. Mark E. Sickling

We are currently in need of supplies for the Disaster Relief laundry trailer! If you're able to donate, we are looking for:

Laundry pods (any brand scented and unscented)



Dryer sheets



Trash bags (13-gallon preferred)



All donations are greatly appreciated and help keep this essential service running smoothly. Please drop them by the Blood River Baptist Association Office. Thank you for your support!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2025

1st		National Day of Prayer
2nd	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
3rd		Flint Homecoming, Murray, KY
4th		SBC Seminary Sunday
5th	6:00 p.m.	100th Anniversary Celebration Banquet of the Cooperative Program, FBC Murray, Murray, KY Register @ https://www.kybaptist.org/event/cp-100-celebration-banquet/
6th	10:00 a.m.	Evangelism Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office
7th	12:00 noon	Pastor's Luncheon w/ Dr. Brian Horton @ August Moon, Murray, KY
8th	6:30 p.m.	Helping Churches Thrive! w/ Dr. Brian Horton @ BRBA Office
9th	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
10th	8:00 a.m.	Jerusalem Project
10th	8:00 a.m.	"Fill My Cup Women's Conference" @ Briensburg, Benton, KY, speaker-Mrs. Kathy Farley; Cost \$5 Register before May 5th by calling 270-437-4203
11th		Mother's Day
12th-17th	7:00 p.m.	Revival Among Churches
14th	1:00 p.m.	Budget/Finance Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office
14th-16th		AMS Leadership Advance
15th	11:00 p.m.	Young at Heart - Lunch & Learn @ Altona, Calvert City, KY Register @ https://altona.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2804279
16th	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
17th		Armed Forces Day
18th		Children's Ministry Sunday
19th-23rd	7:00 p.m.	Salem Spring Revival, Murray, KY, M-F Caleb Lindsey-speaker
21st	12:00 noon	Pastor's Lunch @ Jo Jo's Café, Benton, KY
23rd	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
26th		Memorial Day (Office Closed)
30th	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
31st		Hamlet's Vacation Bible School

June 2025 (mark your calendars)

1st		Disaster Relief Sunday
1st-5th		New Zion VBS
1st-6th		New Harmony VBS
3rd	10:00 a.m.	Evangelism Comm. Mtg @ BRBA Office
6th	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
7th	8:00 a.m.	BRBA Men's Golf Tournament, Miller's @ Murray, KY
8th-9th		WMU Missions Celebration, Dallas, TX
9th-12th		Bethel VBS
10th-11th		SBC Annual Meeting, Dallas, TX
13th	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
14th		Flag Day
15th		Father's Day
16th-20th		Briensburg VBS
20th		Summer Begins
20th	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
22nd		Mission Dignity Sunday
22nd-24th		Olive VBS
23rd-27th		Vanzora VBS
27th	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Prayer Time
28th		New Bethel VBS
28th-July 4th		Student Changers @ Mayfield/Fulton, KY Register @ https://www.kywmu.org/studentchangers

Bags of Hope Pantry list for MAY

Altona – Chili & Canned Tomatoes
Bethel – Spam & Pork 'n Beans
Bethlehem – Ravioli & Canned Black Eyed Peas
Briensburg – Cereal & Instant Potatoes
Cherry Corner – Vienna Sausage & Canned Pinto Beans
Elva – Ravioli & Canned Carrots
Flint – Chili & Canned Red Beans
Gilbertsville – Tuna & Mac 'n Cheese
Grace – Chili & Canned White Beans
Hamlet – Vienna Sausage & Canned Green Peas
Hazel – Pancake Mix & Mixed Vegetables
Holly Hills – Pancake Syrup & Individual Wrapped Cookies
Kirksey – Canned Chicken & Canned Potatoes
Lakeview – Spam & Jiffy Corn Mix
Ledbetter – Chicken Noodle Soup & Canned Tomatoes
Locust Grove – Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce (no glass jars)
Memorial – Canned Chicken & Canned Tomatoes
New Bethel – Vienna Sausage & Mixed Vegetables
Hew Harmony – Ravioli & Pork 'n Beans
New Mt. Carmel – Chicken Noodle Soup & Individual Wrapped Cookies
New Zion - Tuna & Peanut Butter
Northside – Canned Chicken & Peanut Butter Crackers
Oak Grove – Mac 'n Cheese & Canned Green Peas
Olive – Spam & Canned Potatoes
Owens Chapel – Chicken Noodle Soup & Bars of Soap
Pleasant Hope – Peanut Butter Crackers & Canned White Beans
Salem – Cereal & Canned Black Eyed Peas
Spring Creek – Pancake Mix & Canned Tomatoes
Sugar Creek – Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce (no glass jars)
Union Ridge – Peanut Butter Crackers & Jiff Con Muffin Mix
West Fork – Pancake Syrup& Canned Red Beans

Bags of Hope Ministry

In March, we were able to help **367** people, of which **55** were new. We gave out **3,328** food items, **490** bread, and **254** personal hygiene items. Thank you for your continued support that keeps this ministry going. Please continue to pray for each client and volunteer.
Thank you and God Bless

Bags of Hope

Hours for Food & Clothing: Monday & Thursday 1 - 4 p.m.
Food donations can still be donated at the Association Office
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 2:00 p.m. if more convenient.
Phone: 270-252-9266

Prayer REQUESTS

ISRAEL	THE LOST	Our Leaders
Sister Churches	Our Youth	Our Country
Our Schools	The Sick	Each Other
Missionaries	Our Pastors	Our Teachers
Churches without Pastors		Disaster Relief Team
Tornado and Flood Victims		

Churches Currently without Pastors

Elva	Pleasant Valley	Locust Grove
Ledbetter	Holly Hills	FBC Gilbertsville

Blood River Review

MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PRAYER
TIME.

May Pastor's Prayer Times

2nd	8:30 a.m.	BRBA Office
9th	8:30 a.m.	BRBA Office
16th	8:30 a.m.	BRBA Office
23rd	8:30 a.m.	BRBA Office
30th	8:30 a.m.	BRBA Office

The 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Cooperative Program

First Baptist Church Murray,
May 5, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Inspirational worship, testimonies, and speakers

FREE BANQUET:

Register at <https://www.kybaptist.org/cp100>



Helping Churches Thrive!

May 8, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

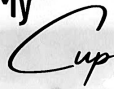
Blood River Baptist Association

Dr. Brian Horton, Church Replanting Specialist with the Kentucky Baptist Convention

Come learn principles that will help your church get spiritually healthy!



Fill My



Blood River Baptist Association
Women's Event

Saturday, May 10, 2025

Briensburg Baptist Church Activity Center

Breakfast and Registration at 8:30 a.m.

Worship led by Olivia Hawthorne & Kattie Penick

Keynote Speaker, Kathy Farley

Breakout Sessions:

- Ministry Outside the Church Walls Panel
- Balancing Life with Your Walk with Jesus
- Discipleship 101:

\$5 Fee

*Register by calling 270-437-4203

Young at Heart - Lunch @ Learn

May 15th 11 am – 1 pm

Altona Baptist Church

Calvert City, KY

Register @

<https://altona.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2804279>



May Birthdays

11th	Hailey Roach, Hazel
22nd	Scott Penick, New Harmony
23rd	Ann Salmon, Coldwater
25th	Mae Cope, Flint
27th	Damian Alvarez, El Manantial

May Wedding Anniversaries

13th	Robert & Sarah Bratcher, Altona
18th	Dale & Bernice Taylor, New Mt. Carmel
24th	Glenn & Mae Cope, Flint
25th	Brandon & Heaven Shropshire, Bethlehem
29th	Calvin & Annette Bryant, New Zion

May Church Anniversaries

First Sunday

Chris Moore, Sharpe (2008)

Second Sunday

Carl Butler, Pleasant Hope (2022)

Fourth Sunday

Beau Parker, New Bethel (2024)



REVIVAL AMONG CHURCHES

May 12-17, 2025

7:00 pm Nightly

Scheduled Churches and Speakers:

Monday: Owens Chapel, Murray-Bro. Kim Reeder

Tuesday: Grace Baptist, Murray-Bro. James Stom

Wednesday: Services at home churches

Thursday: New Harmony, Benton-Bro. Jack Kee

Friday: Union Ridge Baptist, Aurora-Bro. Mark Sickling

Saturday: Holly Hills Baptist, Calvert City-Bro. Scott Penick



Pastor's Lunch
May 21st @ noon
Jo Jo's Café
Benton, KY

BETHLEHEM

We have had a busy April doing the Lord's will. We had our Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 12th. Oh, it was a huge success! We are so thankful we had such a great turnout and that the weather was so nice. Thank you Lord! Our church is having its revival April 26th-29th. Phillip Chambers will be preaching 6 p.m. each night. Praise the Lord!!

HAZEL

We are excited to welcome to our church family, Debbie Nesbitt and Deane Frederick by baptism. We know they will be a blessing to our church and pray HBC will be a blessing to them. On May 4th during the morning service, we will have our Baby Dedication. May 23rd is our Friends and Family Day/Graduation Celebration to be followed by potluck lunch. On May 30th, let us not forget to remember those who have fought for our country & those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to give us the freedoms we have. We should pray for our country daily and ask God to bless America.

NEW BETHEL

On Sunday March 30th, we had a combined Sunday School Class in our FLC, along with breakfast prepared by our Revelation Sunday School Class—a great morning of Fellowship before the message that God laid on Brother Beau's heart. On Thursday April 10th, our New Bethel Young at Heart Seniors traveled to Duncan's near Murray for their monthly outing and had a great time of food and Fellowship. On Sunday April 13th, we had a Churchwide Fellowship Meal, and afterwards several of our members attended "The Promise" at Trace Creek Baptist Church, and what a blessing that was! On Saturday April 19th, we had our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Church grounds, with lots of kids, lots of fun, candy filled eggs galore and a light lunch afterwards. On Easter Sunday, Brother Beau brought the Easter message, the Death, Burial and Resurrection of Jesus, and our hope of eternal life through our belief in Him, and after the message, we observed the Lord's Supper. Luke 24:34 "Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon."

SALEM

We turned around twice and we're over halfway through the month of April. God is still blessing us at Salem Baptist Church. We had another young lady from our youth saved and baptized! Thrive in 2025! Praise His Holy Name!

May 4th is our Homecoming with a catered meal and singing by Common Bond Quartet. Come join us and receive a blessing! Don't forget to come out and join us again May 18th-May 23rd for our Spring Revival. Brother Caleb will be here from Livingston, Louisiana. You'll be blessed! We are excited about our new recipe submission and production real soon. They make great gifts.

"And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; the toil not, neither do the spin. And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his gory was not arrayed like one of these." Matthew 6:28-29 KJV

SPRING CREEK

We continue our mid-week service with the 4th week of a nine-week study of prayers from the Psalmist. What a blessing this has been, with Bro. Doug opening the Psalms in a very new and exciting format.

Landon Roach was named CCHS Rotary Technology Student of the Month of March. Calloway County High School Senior Landon Roach has been recognized as the March Area Technology Center Student of the Month by the Rotary Club of Murray. Landon is a standout in the Culinary classes at ATC. Landon is our "go-to-guy" at Spring Creek running the sound board, the TV Monitors and keeping everything on track. Good job well done by one of God's children.

Spring Creek Sunday School attended the presentation of "The Promise" at Trace Creek Baptist Church 3577 State Route 131, Mayfield, KY.

The annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be held May 10 starting at 6:00 AM until 10:00 AM at the Church. As in years past, come early, fill up, and visit with old friends you have not seen in years.

SUGAR CREEK

As we step into the month of May, we are excited to invite you to some wonderful events and opportunities for fellowship and worship.

We are thrilled to announce our **Annual Fish Fry** on **Saturday, May 10th at 4:00 PM**. This event is always a favorite, and this year we are gathering to honor our graduating senior, **Joshua Walker**. Let's come together to celebrate Joshua's achievements and this special milestone in his life. We'd love for you to join us for delicious food, great company, and a time of honoring our youth.

Our Sunday School classes are growing! We've recently expanded to include a **Women's Class** and a **Class for kids ages 5 and under**. These new classes are a great opportunity to learn, grow, and connect. Join us every Sunday at **8:30 AM for Sunday School**, followed by our **Worship Service at 9:45 AM**. There's a place for everyone, and we'd love for you to be a part of our growing church family. We look forward to a joyful and busy May with you. Let's continue to grow together in faith, fellowship, and celebration!



**Blood River Baptist Association
2025 Men's Golf Tournament
Saturday, June 7, 2025
Miller Golf Course, Murray
8:00 a.m. Shotgun Start**

BIBLE MOTHERS

*Delve into the heart of biblical heritage
with this word search, spotlighting the
names of mothers whose faith and
strength echo through generations.*

ABIGAIL
BATHSHEBA
BILHAH
ELIZABETH
EUNICE
EVE
GOMER
HAGAR
HANNAH
JEZEBEL
JOCHEBED
JUDITH
KETURAH
LEAH
LOIS
MARY
MILCAH



NAOMI
PENINNAH
RACHEL
RAHAB
REBEKAH

RUTH
SARAH
TAMAR
ZILPAH
ZIPPORAH

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Charm is deceptive, and beauty
is fleeting; but a woman
who fears the Lord
is to be praised.

PROVERBS 31:30 NIV

Wishing you God's unending
favor, kindness and love this

Mother's Day
and always.

Important Notice

A new policy has been implemented regarding our W.I.N. program. In order for a person to have a ramp built they need to be sponsored by a church. This is so the church can follow up with the individual to possibly lead them to the Lord. Gerald Hill and his crew get so busy building the ramps that they don't get to share the gospel with them. This is where the local church sponsorship comes in; they share the gospel with them. Money does not have to be included in the sponsorship, but would help to continue this ministry. Thanks so much---W.I.N. ministry