

Blood River Baptist Association
Rev. Mark Sickling, Director of Missions
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Newsletter deadline for February 2026
is **January 19th**
EMAIL US AT:
bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org
Remember to limit your words to 175.

Mark's Memo

Phrases like "Getting a fresh start; Beginning Again; Taking a Mulligan; Getting a Do-over" are common among those of us who make mistakes. Whether it is playing golf; drawing a picture; sculpting a piece of art; writing a letter or an essay; or living life most of us are familiar with making mistakes.

In 1 Corinthians 10:11, the Bible says, "Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction..."

With those words, the Apostle Paul was communicating to the Christians at Corinth that the stories found in the Scriptures were given to us, so that we might learn from them, and not repeat the mistakes of those who lived before us.

As we begin a "New Year," I hope you will join me in making a commitment to learn from the mistakes of 2025 and pledge to be more faithful to the LORD, His Word, and His ways in 2026.

I hope you and yours have a Happy New Year!

Serving Him Together,

Bro. Mark E. Sickling

Bags of Hope Pantry list for January

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

Bags of Hope Ministry

In November, we were able to help **516** people, of which **50** were new. We gave out **5,180** food items, **385** bread, and **232** personal hygiene items. Thank you and may God Bless our donors and clients!

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

**2025 Blood River Annuals and
2026 Calendars are ready for
pickup @ BRBA Office**



**ATTENTION
PLEASE!**



YOUTH EVANGELISM SUMMIT

When: February 6 - 7, 2026

Where: Hillvue Heights Baptist, Bowling Green, KY

**Who: Middle & High School Students, also Ministry
Leaders**

Cost: \$10 (August 4 - December 31)

\$15 (January 10 - February 2)

\$20 at the door

Register @ <https://kbc.regfox.com/youth-evangelism-summit-2026>



Due to low enrollment, the BRBA Volleyball League will not be running this year. We plan to revisit the program and look forward to trying again next year.



Register @ <https://www.kybaptist.org/disaster-relief/>



Pastor's Luncheon
January 21st @ noon
Sirloin Stockade,
Murray, KY



January 5th

PRAYING YOU'LL SEE
**the blessing
OF
God's plans
UNFOLDING FOR YOU IN THE
new year.**

Blood River Review

JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2026

1st		New Year's Day - Office Closed until January 5th
5th		Deadline for Scholarship Applications
6th	10:00 am	Evangelism Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
6th	5:00 pm	Scholarship Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
7th	1:00 pm	Budget/Finance Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
8th	6:30 pm	Quarterly Executive Board Meeting @ BRBA Office
9th	8:30 am	Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
12th	5:00 pm	Missions Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
16th	8:30 am	Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
18th		Sanctity of Life Sunday
19th		Martin Luther King, Jr Day - Office Closed
21st	12:00 noon	Pastor's Luncheon @ Sirloin Stockade, Murray, KY
23rd	8:30 am	Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
26th	10:00 am	WMU Quarterly Meeting @ Briensburg Baptist, Benton, KY
29th-31st		Shepherding 2026-Lexington, KY Register @ https://www.kybaptist.org/event/shepherding
30th	8:30 am	Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
February 2026 (mark you calendar)		
2nd		Groundhog Day
2nd	6:00 pm	Constitution/Bylaws Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
3rd	10:00 am	Evangelism Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
6th	8:30 am	Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
6th-7th		YES—Youth Evangelism Summit, Bowling Green, KY Register at www.kybaptist.org/event/yes
9th	5:00 pm	Missions Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
9th		Lincoln's Birthday
11th	1:00 pm	Budget/Finance Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
13th	8:30 am	Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
14th		Valentine's Day
15th		Focus on WMU Sunday
16th		President's Day/Washington's Birthday
20th	8:30 am	Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
22nd		Racial Reconciliation Sunday
27th	8:30 am	Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office

Churches Currently without Pastors

Pleasant Valley Holly Hills Oak Grove
Ledbetter FBC Gilbertsville

January Birthdays

2nd	Jack Kee, Union Ridge
13th	Faith Swift, Ledbetter (I)
13th	Glenn Cope, Flint
15th	Theresa Wortham, New Providence
17th	Jackie Thweatt, Locust Grove
18th	Carl Butler, Pleasant Hope
26th	Ronnie Burkeen, Cherry Corner

January Anniversaries

1st	Martin & Ginger Severns, Memorial
3rd	Graig & Theresa Wortham, New Providence
7th	Phillip & Teresa Bazzell, Sugar Creek

January Church Anniversaries

1st Sunday
Randy Kuykendall, West Fork (2012)
Scott Sheppard, Altona Youth (2025)

2nd Sunday
Phillip Bazzell, Sugar Creek (2017)
Ed Chapman, Scott's Grove (2020)

3rd Sunday
Jeff Norsworthy, Blood River (2020)



January's Pastor's Prayer Times

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



ISRAEL
Our Leaders
Our Youth
Our Schools
Each Other
Our Pastors

THE LOST
Sister Churches
Our Country
The Sick
Missionaries
Our Teachers
Churches without Pastors

Quarterly Business Meeting

January 8th

@ 6:30 pm

**BRBA Office,
Hardin, KY**



BETHLEHEM

We have had so much fun. We had our Ange Tree Party Saturday, December 13th. We had over 50 in attendance. Eric Horner sang us some Christmas song. Our blessing boxes of food will taken to the Bags of Hope next week. Merry Christmas and Gods Blessings to all.

HAZEL

From the end of November until this writing we have been extra busy at HBC. We started with our HANGING OF THE GREEN" on November 30th. Our Holiday meal was catered with Italian Food on December 7th. HBC Choir Christmas Cantata. "Hallelujah Christ Was Born" was presented on December 21st. Our New Year will start off at a slower pace, but we want to wish each of our sister churches a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! God's blessings on each one!

NEW BETHEL

Our Churchwide Holiday Meal on Sunday December 7th was great--great food and great Fellowship! Our Youth Group had their Christmas Party after our Holiday Meal--a whole lot of fun going on there. On Tuesday December 9th, The Christian Youth in Action gathered in our Youth Building to dig deeper into God's Word, and there were Desserts and Drinks for the participant. On Saturday December 13th, we participated in the Benton Christmas Parade with an outstanding float, featuring the First Christmas, and had a wonderful, but chilly, time handing out candy to all the kids, and flyers advertising our "Night in Bethlehem" program. On Sunday night December 14th, our "Night in Bethlehem" featured Shops and Characters as things were in the time of the birth of Jesus, including a Stable (Cave) with baby Jesus. There was lots of hands on activities for the kids and Hebrew food and drink for everyone. Our Young at Heart Christmas Dinner will be on Friday December 19th. Everyone have a Merry Christmas, and just remember that Jesus is the reason for the Season. Luke 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

SALEM

December has been a busy month at Salem Baptist Church. We continue to see new visitors join us in Sunday School and worship service. God is good all the time; all the time, God is good! We're halfway through the month and before we can turn around twice, January 1, 2026 will be here! Brother Frankie continues to preach the Word God lays on his heart. We have enjoyed multiple sermons in a series that God doesn't leave us like He found us. Thank You, Jesus! Merry CHRISTmas and Happy, Healthy New Year!



WINTER WORD SEARCH



WORD LIST

BOOTS
CHILLY
COAT
COLD
FEBRUARY
FIREPLACE
FLURRIES
FREEZE
FROST
FROSTBITE
HIBERNATE
HOLIDAY
HOT CHOCOLATE
ICE SKATING
ICICLE
IGLOO
JACKET
MITTENS
NEW YEAR
PENGUIN
SCARF
SKIING
SLEIGH
SNOW
SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN
SOLSTICE
WINTER

Q X G H O L I D A Y F E F
R D I W I N T E R E C C R
A S T O O B U Q O T I T E
E D S N O W M A N A R H E
Y E J A C K E T N L V W Z
O P Q B X L P F S O F S E
W B P S U E R O M C N B W
E Q C J N A L D F O N B G
N V M G C S A R W H E N H
A N U S T U O F X C I Z X
W I D I I S L L M I S P B
N H C W T A M Z K T S B D
D E X B K C I S E O N S E
H B I E P I T S T H O B P
C T R E N C T N A F W T S
E S N C X E E A N R K A E
A O T A M L N G R O F O I
C H F L J S S Y E E R C R
Q Z E P X K Y K B Q O W R
I C B E F A H U I U S Y U
C H R R N T Z G H X T X L
I I U I K I B A I F V M F
C L A F G N J E M E Y Z K
L L R Q I G L O O Z L H O
E Y Y D L O C P L H A S B



Blood River Baptist Association WMU Quarterly Meeting January 26, 2026 - 10 AM Briensburg Baptist Church Benton, Ky

**We will have two speakers sharing about
missions trips from 2025.**

**Patti Messamore -
Mission Trip to Chile,
South America**



**Kristin Sickling -
Live Love Ministries,
Arizona: Christmas in
the Villages**

