

UPCOMING Events

December 2020

1st - 6th	Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
8th 1:00 pm	Finance Committee Mtg at BRBA
10th 6:30 pm	Executive Board Mtg at Sharpe BC
21th- 31st	Christmas Holiday - Office Closed
25th	Christmas Day
31st	New Year's Eve

January 2021

1st	New Year's Day - Office Closed
1st	Deadline for Scholarship Applications
3rd 4:30 pm	1st Place Orientation at Memorial BC
4th 6:00 pm	1st Place Orientation at BRBA
5th 5:00 pm	Scholarship Committee Mtg at BRBA
10th 4:15 pm	1st Place Meets Weekly at Memorial
11th 10:00 am	LBL Council Mtg at BRBA
11th 5:00 pm	1st Place Meets Weekly at TBA
12th 5:00 pm	Mission Committee Mtg at BRBA
13th 1:00 pm	Budget/Finance Committee Mtg at BRBA
14th 6:30 pm	Exec. Board Mtg at Flint BC
17th	Sanctity of Life Sunday
18th	Martin Luther King Jr Day (Office Closed)
20th 12:00 pm	Minister's Luncheon/Fellowship at Habanero Mexican Grill-Draffenville
21st 6:30 pm	Bags of Hope Mtg at BRBA
24th	Bags of Hope Sunday
25th 10:00	WMU Quarterly Mtg at Altona BC

FREEDA HARRIS TOY DRIVE

Blood River Baptist Association would like to thank all who participated in the toy drive this year. We were able to collect **1,448** toys. Also thank you to all who came to help pack and load the toys for shipment.



The **Gospel to Every Home** is a cooperative initiative to mobilize Kentucky Baptists in prayerfully delivering a set of **gospel** resources to **each** of the 1.7+ **homes** in the Commonwealth. Ultimately, the goal is for **every** Kentuckian to have multiple opportunities to hear and respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

[We need your help with stuffing bags for this mission. You can do this individually or as a church group. Please call the office 270-437-4203 to see how you can help.](#)

Attention:

The association needs your help. Since the onset of COVID-19 our churches have not been meeting in person and it has been difficult to keep churches and church members informed on what the association is doing. If you know of someone who is not getting the newsletter, please have them call the office at 270-437-4203 so that they can be added to the list. Also, if you are getting the newsletter mailed to you and you would prefer email, please call the office and let us know. We want to make sure that everyone who wants this newsletter is able to get it. Thank your for your help.

FREE PPE!

Personal Protective Equipment
Liquid Sanitizer: Each church may fill 2 spray bottles per week until the supply is gone.

Individually wrapped cloth masks: BRBA has received 1500 cloth masks from the KBC Disaster Relief. The masks are wrapped in packs of (5). Limit 6 packs per church.

Blood River Review

DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



1 st	Jeff Norsworthy, Blood River BC
8 th	C. C. Brasher, Oak Level BC
9 th	Mike White, New Providence BC
13 th	Vivian Stom, Lakeview BC
15 th	Barbara Russell, Pleasant Hope BC
26 th	Martha Miller, Symsonia BC
27 th	Carolyn Holland, Holly Hills BC
28 th	Robin Walker, Briensburg BC

Wedding Anniversaries

5 th	Brett & Leslie Miles, Northside BC
10 th	Darrell & Cornelia Walker, Gilbertsville FBC
27 th	Scott & Katie Penick, New Harmony BC

CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS

New Bethel	Oak Grove	Salem
New Mt. Carmel	Cherry Corner	Elva

Please make note:

Deadline for January 2021 newsletter is December 15th. Please have your information to the BRBA no later than Decem-



Don't Forget Lottie Moon Christmas

Offering

Nov 29 - Dec. 6

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is an annual offering collected by believers around the world to support international missions. The offering was officially named in 1918 by Woman's Missionary Union in honor of the missionary to China who urged churches to start it and give sacrificially.

This offering is unique from other mission offerings in that 100% of gifts provide for missionaries all over the world. It is a valuable part of Southern Baptists' 175-year history of reaching the nations with the gospel and vital to reaching the vision of a multitude from every language, people, tribe and nation knowing and worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ (**Revelation 7:9**).

If any church needs material please contact the association office.

Bags of Hope

Hours for food: Monday & Thursday 2-5 pm

Hours for clothing: Monday & Thursday 2-5 pm

Food donations can still be donated at the Association Monday- Friday 9am - 4pm if more convenient.

Phone: 270-252-9266

FERGUSON SPRING: We have a new pastor. Bro. Terry Josleyn. He became our pastor on August 9, 2020. We are so excited to welcome Bro. Terry and his wife Jo Ann. We have been blessed to have 2 new members join by statement, and 3 by baptism. God is doing wonderful things here.

HAZEL BAPTIST: We are worshipping our Lord with masks and social distancing and our numbers are continuing to rise. We are still providing our services on Facebook each Sunday morning for those who are concerned about health issues. We welcome Miss Noelle Raspberry who was baptized into our fellowship on October 11th. We are excited to announce that Bro. Jordan and Mrs. Hailey will be adopting 3 children on November 25th. These children have become part of our church family as they have been fostering these sweet children for 2 years plus. So welcome to Gabriel, Kyrie and Lynnon to one big family who loves them dearly. Our Wednesday services still consist of children and youth in the Family Life Center. At this time, we're having about 45 children and youth and they are fed physically and spiritually. This time of the year we begin the Thanksgiving season. It's been a difficult year with the pandemic but, God has seen us through and we should encourage each other and our families to be thankful for what God has given them throughout 2020.

"Oh give thanks give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever". 1 Chronicles 16:34

NEW BETHEL: Here at New Bethel we continue to have in person Sunday School Classes and the Sunday Morning and Wednesday Night Services, with both of these Services and the Sunday night Service also broadcast on Facebook. On Friday Night October 30th we had a Trunk or Treat in the Church parking lot, with lots of kids stopping by. We filled several boxes for the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Shoe Box, and will be delivering them to the Distribution Point. Our Pastor, Brother Mark Thweatt has resigned, but he will continue as our Pastor through December 27th. He and Jackie will be sorely missed here, but they will be following God's will and new direction. We have formed a Pastor Search Committee. Please pray for Brother Mark and Jackie, New Bethel, all our Churches and Pastors, our Country, State and Marshall County.

Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

SUGAR CREEK: This year Thanksgiving may look a little different to most families, but one thing we can all agree on is that God is good, and we can trust in Him through all things good and bad, and His love will never fail us. During this season at Sugar Creek Baptist Church we are doing just that, trusting God to see us through these uncertain times. We would love to have you join us and listen to God's word through Bro. Phillip Bazzell on Sunday morning for our outside service at 9:30 or join us at 10:15 for our indoor service. (Mask and social distancing required). We will have our Wednesday night and Sunday night services inside at 6:00pm. Please join us at Sugar Creek Baptist Church.

"For the Lord is good, his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations." Psalm 100:5

We want to hear from your church.

Please send us your church news. Deadline is the 20th of each month (except for December it is the 15th).

Email it to : bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org.

We can't wait to hear from you.



Notes from the Food Pantry

In October we were able to help 112 families 7 which were new families. We gave out 2,798 food items, 340 bread and 102 personal hygiene items. Our counselors also shared the gospel with 31 people in October. We want to thank you for your continued support for this ministry, without it we could not be so successful.

God Bless.

Blood River Baptist Association
Rev. Mark Sickling, Director of Missions
P.O. Box 18, 47 Aurora Hwy.
Hardin, KY 42048-0018
270-437-4203/Fax: 270-437-4228

**Blood River Baptist Association
Board Meeting:
Sharpe Baptist Church
9181 Scale Road
Benton KY 42025
December 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**

Mark's Memos:

If you were asked to describe Christmas in just a few words, what might you say?

Some might say, "Christmas is for kids!" Others might say, "Christmas is about Santa Claus and the giving and receiving of gifts!" While a few people, including many of you would say, "Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus!"

In this month's article, I want to share with you the relationship between Christmas and Missions. Please note Christmas and Missions share four common characteristics.

First, Christmas and Missions is all about **LOVE!** John 3:16 tells us, "**For God so loved the world...**"

When God sent His angel to speak to a young virgin over 2000 years ago, to share with her that she would conceive a Son, it was because God loved all mankind. In fact, I am convinced the argument could be made that the birth of Christ was the birth of Missions.

Secondly, Christmas and Missions is all about **GIVING!** Again, the Bible tells us, "**For God so loved the world that He gave...**"

Friends, no greater gift could be given to humankind than Jesus Christ. When Jesus was born in that stable in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago God gave us the ultimate gift, He gave us His Son.

December is the month we as Southern Baptist's give to our Lottie Moon Christmas offering for International Missions. As you prayerfully consider what you will give this year, I pray that you will remember that God loved you so much, that He gave His Son. Third, Christmas and Missions is all about **SENDING/GOING!** The Bible tells us in Luke 2, that **God sent His angels to a group of Shepherds** tending their flocks on the hillsides surrounding Bethlehem in order to announce the birth of Jesus.

Likewise, those Shepherds, after seeing Jesus with their own eyes, went and told others what they had experienced and what they had witnessed that fateful night. Folks, Jesus is still sending His disciples to the remotest parts of the earth to share the love of Christ with people who have never heard His story.

Fourth and finally, Christmas and Missions is all about **Salvation.** Once again, John 3:16-17 tells us, "**For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him might not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.**"

I pray that as you and yours celebrate Christmas this year, you will be reminded of His great love for you and give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Mission so that our Missionaries might have the resources necessary to share with the lost just how much Jesus loves them.

Serving Him Together,
Bro. Mark



December 15, 2020

EMAIL US AT:
bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org
Remember to limit your words to 175 & have your information in by the 21ST of each month.