

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
 Pastor's/Board Members/Wives
 Christmas Dinner
 December 9, 2021
 6:30 p.m.
 Briensburg Baptist Church
 892 Briensburg Road
 Benton KY 42025

Mark's Memos:

One of my goals as your Director of Missions is to promote the fact that while we are an association of 46 churches, we are all a part of the same team. One of the ways I have attempted to communicate this is through our Annual Advent Devotional. This devotional, written by many of our pastors, seeks to prepare the reader for the celebration of Christmas, and the birth of our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ.

This year's Advent Devotional will take the reader from creation to the resurrection of Jesus Christ in 33 days. My goal in this approach is to remind the reader from the Scripture of God's sovereign plan to redeem His people. In doing so, we peruse Scripture from 24 of the 66 books of the Bible.

You can read the 2021 Advent Devotional in three ways:

- On our Blood River Baptist Association Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Blood-River-Baptist-Association-125718088071779>.
- On our Blood River Baptist Association website at: <https://bloodriverassoc.org/>.
- Or by requesting the devotional be sent to you daily by email to www.director@bloodriverassoc.org.

I want to thank all of those pastors who have taken time to submit devotions for this year's Advent Devotional. It is a blessing for me to serve alongside these faithful pastors. If you enjoy these devotions, I hope you will take time to thank those who have participated.

I hope and pray that our LORD would bless you, your family, your church family, and Blood River Baptist Association this Christmas Season and throughout the coming year.

Serving Him Together,
 Bro. Mark Sickling

Newsletter deadline for January 2022 is

December 13, 2021

EMAIL US AT:
bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org
 Remember to limit your words to 175 & have your information in by the 20th of each month.



December 2021:

7th	6:00 pm	Volunteer Christmas Party @ BRBA
8th	1:00 pm	Budget/Finance Committee Mtg. @ BRBA
9th	6:30 pm	Pastors/Board Members/Wives Christmas Dinner @ Briensburg BC
13th	10:00 am	LBL Council Meeting @ BRBA
17th-31st		Christmas Holiday-Office Closed
25th		Christmas Day
31st		New Year's Eve

January 2022:

1st		Happy New Year
3rd		Observance of New Year's-Office Closed
7th		Deadline for Scholarship Applications
9th	4:30 pm	1st Place-Winter Session Orientation @ Memorial BC
10th	6:00 pm	1st Place-Winter Session Orientation @ BRBA
11th	5:00 pm	Scholarship Committee Mtg. @ BRBA
12th	1:00 pm	Budget/Finance Committee Mtg. @ BRBA
13th	6:30 pm	Executive Board Mtg. @ Flint BC
16th		Sanctity of Life Sunday
17th		Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Office Closed
19th	12:00 noon	Pastor's Luncheon - Zaxby's Murray
23rd		Bags of Hope Sunday
23rd	4:15 pm	1st Place Meets Weekly @ Memorial BC - thru 4/11/22
24th	10:00 am	WMU Quarterly Mtg. @ New Harmony BC
24th	5:00 pm	1st Place Meets Weekly @ Memorial BC- thru 4/11/22



Bags of Hope

Hours for Food & Clothing: Monday & Thursday 2-5 pm
 Food donations can still be donated at the Association Office
 Monday- Friday 9am - 4pm if more convenient.
 Phone: 270-252-9266

Bags of Hope Pantry list for December

- Altona-- pancake syrup & individual wrapped cookies for kids
- Bethel-- oats & jelly
- Bethlehem-- pancake mix & individual wrapped peanut butter & crackers
- Briensburg-- cereal & jiffy corn muffin mix
- Cherry Corner-- ravioli & canned great northern white beans
- Elva-- beef stew & canned potatoes
- Flint-- mixed vegetables & pork-n-beans
- Gilbertsville-- canned fruit & canned potatoes
- Grace-- chicken-n-dumplings & jiffy corn muffin mix
- Hamlet-- canned fruit & canned tomatoes
- Hazel-- saltine crackers & individual wrapped cookies for kids
- 1Holly Hills--pancake mix & bars of soap
- Kirksey--chili & corn
- Lakeview--pancake syrup & canned carrots
- Locust Grove--pancake mix & green beans
- Memorial-- chili & bars of soap
- New Bethel--oats & tuna
- New Harmony-- cereal & jiffy corn muffin mix
- New Zion--peanut butter & jelly
- Northside--oats & saltine crackers
- Oak Grove-- pancake mix & mixed vegetables
- Olive--peanut butter & jelly
- Owens Chapel-- cereal & individual wrapped chips
- Pleasant hope--jelly & individual wrapped chips for kids
- Salem--oats & bars of soap
- Sinking Springs--tuna & jelly
- Spring Creek--peanut butter & saltine crackers
- Sugar Creek--dry black-eyed peas & tuna
- Union Ridge--pancake mix & carrots
- West Fork-- hamburger helper & carrots

Bags of Hope Ministry

In October we were able to help 234 families, 35 of those were new. We gave out 2,541 food items, 193 bread, and 92 personal hygiene items. We were able to share the gospel with 35 people, and this month we had 1 salvation.

Thank you for your continued support for this ministry. Without your support we could not do this ministry.

Remember the volunteers in prayer.

Thank you and God Bless.



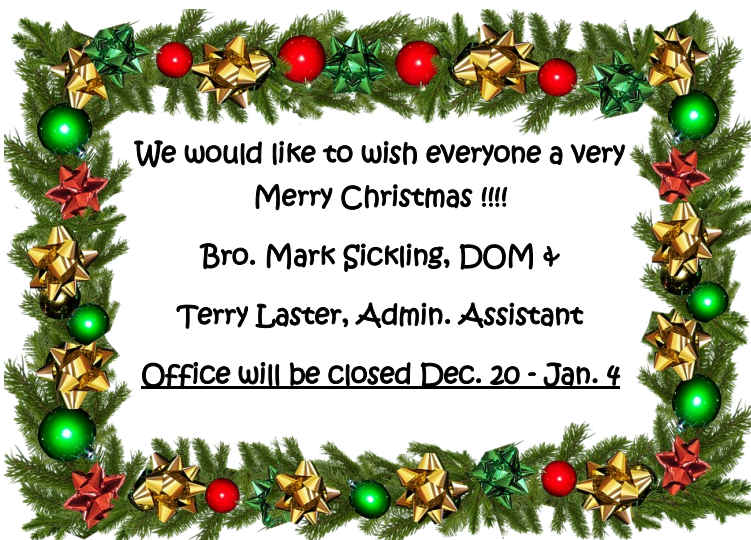
November 28-December 5

100% of gifts provided go toward missionaries all over the world.

If any church needs material please contact the association office.

Blood River Review

DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas !!!!

Bro. Mark Sicking, DOM †

Terry Laster, Admin. Assistant

Office will be closed Dec. 20 - Jan. 4

Freeda Harris Toy Drive 2021

Blood River Baptist Association would like to thank all who participated in the toy drive this year. We were able to collect 1,223 toys. Thank you to all who came to help pack and load the toys.



1st day of Winter

December 22

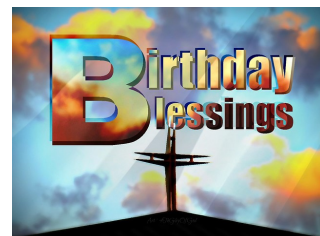
One kind word can **WARM** three cold winter months.
Be kind.....



Reminder: I need your information for the January 2022 newsletter by December 13. Let us know what your churches are going to be doing starting in 2022. Thank you!!!

Churches without Pastors

Altona	New Mt. Carmel
Elva	Old Salem Road
Oak Grove	Pleasant Hope



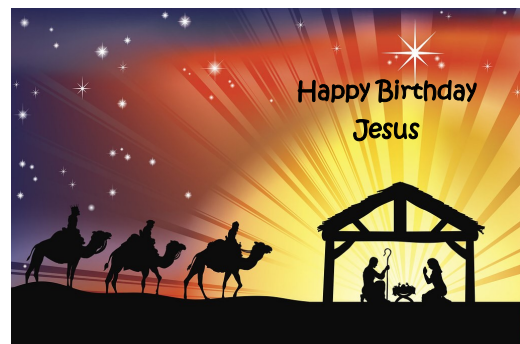
1 st	Jeff Norsworthy, Blood River
8 th	C.C. Brasher, Oak Level
9 th	Mike White, New Providence
13 th	Vivian Stom, Lakeview
26 th	Martha Miller, Symsonia
27 th	Carolyn Holland, Holly Hills
28 th	Robin Walker, Briensburg

Church Anniversaries

None for December

Wedding Anniversaries

5 th	Brett & Leslie Miles, Northside
7 th	Joel & Kathy Frizzell, New Mt. Carmel
10 th	Darrell & Cornelia Walker, Gilbertsville
27 th	Scott & Kattie Penick, New Harmony

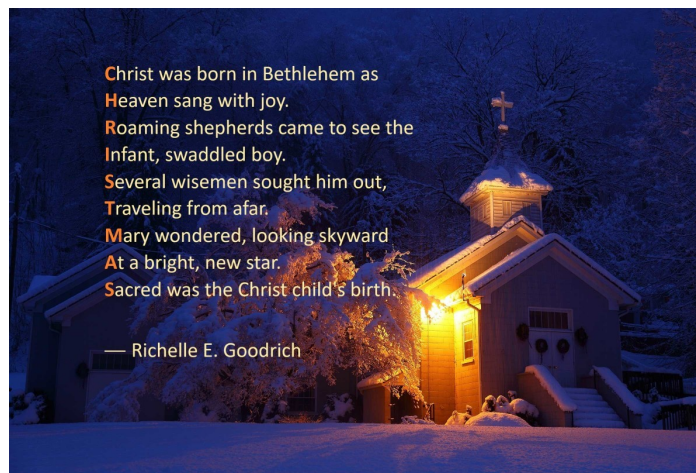


BRIENSBURG:

Greetings from Briensburg Baptist Church. It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Briensburg. With all the craziness of the past couple of years we are excited to focus on the Advent of Christ this December. During the four Sunday mornings of Advent, we are focusing on Hope, Faith, Love, and Joy. Each Sunday night we are also having a special service celebrating the coming of our Savior. November 28th will be Hanging of the Green, December 5th a Carol Singing Service, December 12th our Children's Musical followed by Christmas dinner, and December 19th our Christmas Cantata, *Christmas Changes Everything*. We are also excited to send a mission team to Charlotte, North Carolina to work with the processing center for Operation Christmas Child over the weekend of December 3 – 5. What a joyous time of year as we celebrate Jesus' coming to us. Blessings in Christ as we minister together.

CHERRY CORNER:

On November 7th we recognized our veterans in attendance during the morning service. We honored them with a fellowship meal after the service. On Sunday evening November 14th we had a joint Thanksgiving service with our sister church, Poplar Springs. We enjoyed a time of fellowship and an awesome meal together. December 5th we are looking forward to the ordination service for our new pastor, Bro Ronnie Burken on the 5th. We will also be having a dedication service and open house for our new multipurpose facility on Dec 11th. God has really blessed our congregation over the past several months and we give Him the glory for all He is doing. We are very excited for what He is going to do in the days ahead!



Christ was born in Bethlehem as
Heaven sang with joy.
Roaming shepherds came to see the
Infant, swaddled boy.
Several wisemen sought him out,
Travelling from afar.
Mary wondered, looking skyward
At a bright, new star.
Sacred was the Christ child's birth.
— Richelle E. Goodrich

LOVE PACKAGES

Heartland Ministries Radio is happy to accept used Bibles and Sunday School literature at their studios at 219 College Street in Hardin. Their partnership with Love Packages, a collector & distributor of donated Christian literature will help get those items into the hands of others who are in need. Please call Heartland Ministries at 270-437-4095 to schedule a drop-off date/time of your Christian literature, or drop it off at our office and we will take it for you.

NEW BETHEL:

Here at New Bethel, there will be a Youth Outing on Sunday, November 28th—they will be bowling at Corvette Lanes in Murray. On Sunday, December 5th we'll be having our annual New Bethel Holiday Meal, and then on Friday, December 10th our Young at Heart Seniors will be having their annual Christmas Dinner. On Sunday, November 7th we recognized all our Veterans and thanked them for their service. We filled 50 shoeboxes for the Samaritan Purse Shoebox Ministry (Operation Christmas Child) and we also donated many toys to the Freeda Harris Toy Drive. We just pray that some needy kids will have a Merry Christmas because of these two great ministries. Also, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is almost here. Brother Royce continues to bring the messages that God has laid on his heart and we're studying Joshua on Sunday night and Ephesians on Wednesday night. Please keep Brother Royce and Beverly in your prayers.

Isaiah 40:29 *He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.*

SALEM:

Our October Revival was truly a wonderful revival. We heard some really good messages from Bro. Tim Ivey through which souls were saved, lives were rededicated, and seeds were planted. For Heaven's Sake, the youth from Unity Baptist Church, Tony Ellegood, Larry Callihan, and David Barr blessed us with special music each night. On November 7 we recognized our veterans and had on display photos of them. We appreciate all the sacrifices they have made for us, and that our service men and women continue to make each day to keep us safe. On November 14 we had a special guest, a missionary from India, who gave us a report on life as a missionary and how Covid-19 has affected them. Christians continue to be persecuted. We continue to pray for their safety. We will have our Thanksgiving meal on November 21 at 6:00 p.m. We invite you to join us. We will visit our shut-ins in December and also have a Christmas program on December 19. It is certainly a good time to thank God for our many blessings.

SUGAR CREEK:

Wow! It is already December. This year has gone by so quickly, but we have so much to be thankful for at Sugar Creek Baptist church. We have continually been shown how faithful our God is each and every day. Our youth group went shopping for the Freeda Harris toy drive, they had a great time and were able to fill the car with lots of toys to take to the association. We are looking forward to our Christmas gathering and meal on December 26th. We will have service at 11:00 am and the meal to follow, we look forward to fellowshiping with one another and enjoying good food, of course. We hope everyone enjoys this season with their family and friends.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge." Psalms 19:1-2

Remember in Prayer:

Our Leaders	Sister Churches	Our Youth	Our Pastors
Our Country	Our Schools	The Sick	
The Lost	Each Other	Missionaries	