Mark's Memo:

In the classic movie, "Back To The Future," actor Michael J. Fox, as a result of a time machine built by his scientist friend, was able to transport back in time or forward in time. That has always fascinated me because if such a thing existed, we could go back in time and correct our mistakes.

In golf, there is something called a mulligan. Mulligans are "do overs." If you hit a bad shot, which I often do, sometimes I take a "mulligan" and hit another shot from the same spot hoping for a better outcome.

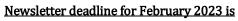
In Jeremiah 18, the Lord tells Jeremiah, "But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he remade it into another vessel, as it pleased the potter to make." Then, God added in verse 6, "Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter does?"

Friends, as we approach 2023, we can't literally go back in time to correct the mistakes we made in 2022. But, as we begin a new year, we do have an opportunity to sort of begin again and try to "do better" this year. Furthermore, the secret to "doing better" is to, as the Bible says, "*Walk in the Spirit, not the flesh.*" As we walk in the Spirit, and not the flesh, the LORD, the Master Potter, has an opportunity to re-make us into someone who is useful to Him and His Kingdom.

I pray you and yours have a blessed New Year's Day and great 2023.

Serving Him Together,

Bro. Mark E. Sickling



<u>January 20th</u>



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

EMAIL US AT: bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org Remember to limit your words to 175 & have your information in by the 20th of each month. Blood River Baptist Association Quarterly Executive Board Meeting January 12, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m. Salem Baptist Church 1034 Brown Grove Road Murray KY 42071

Bags of Hope Pantry list for JANUARY

Altona--chicken-n-dumplings & indiv pudding cups for kids Bethel--pancake mix & rice (1lb bag) Bethlehem--chicken-n-dumplings & jiffy corn muffin mix Briensburg--dry black eyed peas & dry red beans Cherry Corner--saltine crackers & dry pinto beans Elva--dry red beans & rice (1lb bag) Flint--cereal & bars of soap Gilbertsville--chicken-n-dumplings & canned potatoes Grace--saltine crackers & chicken-n-dumplings Hamlet--pancake mix & bars of soap Hazel--pancake mix & butter beans Holly Hills--hamburger helper & pancake mix Kirksey--tamales & canned carrots Locust Grove--hamburger helper & canned tomatoes Memorial--pancake mix & canned potatoes New Bethel--saltine crackers & rice (1lb bag) New Harmony--cereal & jiffy corn muffin mix New Zion--instant potatoes & saltine crackers Northside--pancake mix & dry black eyed peas Oak Grove---spam & butter beans Olive--dry white northern beans & indiv pudding cups for kids Owens Chapel--hamburger helper & pork-n-beans Pleasant Hope--cereal & jiffy corn muffin mix Salem--dry white northern beans & canned carrots Sinking Springs--dry pinto beans & canned carrots Spring Creek--dry red beans & bars of soap Union Ridge--canned tamales & saltine crackers





Prayer Requests

Our LeadersSister ChurchesOur CountryOur SchoolsThe LostEach OtherOur PastorsOur TeachersChurches without Pastors

Our Youth The Sick Missionaries **Ukraine**

Bags of Hope Ministry

In November we were able to help <u>327</u> people, <u>29</u> of those were new. We gave out <u>3,410</u> food items, <u>428</u> bread, and <u>136</u> personal hygiene items. We want to thank the Marshall County Sheriff's department, I-69 Off Road, Black Patch Jeep Owner's Club, Green's Towing and Church of the Nazarine of Mayfield who collected food donations for us this month.

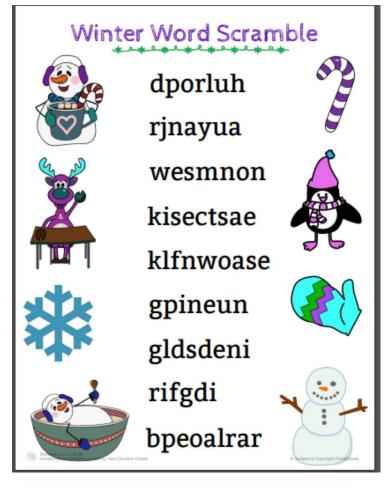
Thank you for your continued support for this ministry.

Without your support we could not do this ministry. Remember the volunteers in prayer.

Thank you and God Bless.

Bags of Hope

Hours for Food & Clothing: Monday & Thursday 2-5 pm Food donations can still be donated at the Association Office Monday– Thursday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm if more convenient. Phone: 270-252-9266





JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION BIOOD River Baptist Association

<u>Birthdays</u>

- 2nd Jana Kee, Union Ridge
- 13th Glenn Cope, Flint
- 18th Carl Butler, Pleasant Hope
- 20th Jerry Rollins, Oak Level
- 26th Ronnie Burkeen, Cherry Corner

Wedding Anniversaries

1st Martin & Ginger Severns, Memoria
 7th Philip & Teresa Bazzell, Sugar Creek

Church Anniversaries

First Sunday Randy Kuykendall, West Fork (2012) Larry Salmon, Coldwater (2002) Second Sunday Philip Bazzell, Sugar Creek (2017) Ed Chapman, Scott's Grove (2020) Third Sunday Jeff Norsworthy, Blood River (2020)



January 2, 2023

Office Closed



Quarterly Executive Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. - January 12, 2023 Salem Baptist Church 1034 Brown Grove Road Murray KY 42071



| January 2 | 2023 | |
|-------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1st | | New Year Day - Happy New Year !!!!! |
| 2nd | | Observance of New Years - (Office Closed) |
| 6th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 6th | | Deadline for Scholarship Applications |
| 11th | 1:00 p.m. | Budget/Finance Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office |
| 12th | 6:30 p.m. | Quarterly Executive Board Mtg @ Salem Baptist |
| 13th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 16th | | Martin Luther King Jr. Day - (Office Closed) |
| 18th | 12:00 noon | Pastor's Luncheon @ August Moon -Murray |
| 19th | 5:00 p.m. | Missions Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office |
| 20th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 22nd | | Bags of Hope Sunday |
| 22nd | | Sanctity of Life Sunday |
| 23rd | 10:00 a.m. | WMU Quarterly Mtg @ Briensburg Baptist |
| 27th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 31st | 6:00 p.m. | Church Security Mtg @ BRBA office |
| | | |
| February. | <u>, 2023 (Mark your cal</u> | endars) |
| 3rd | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 8th | 1:00 p.m. | Budget/Finance Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office |
| 10th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 8th-10th | | Shepherding's Conf. 2023 |
| 12th | | Lincoln's Birthday |
| 14th | | Valentine's Day |
| 13th - 19tł | h | Focus on WMU Week/Sunday |
| 16th | 6:00 p.m. | Constitution Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office |
| 17th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 20th | | Washington's B-Day/Presidents Day |
| 24th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 26th | | Racial Reconciliation Sunday |
| | | |



Scholarship Applications Due January 6, 2023 to BRBA Office

Pastor's Luncheon January 18th @ 12:00 noon August Moon in Murray KY

NEW BETHEL:

Here at New Bethel on November 27th, we had a baptism service for a sweet lady who is now a member of our congregation. Also, one of our young men was saved recently, and will be baptized before Christmas. Praise the Lord! Our annual Young at Heart Christmas Dinner is on Friday night, December 9th in our FLC. Our annual holiday meal will be on December 11th, also in our FLC, after our morning worship service. We are having a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on Saturday December 24th at 7:00 p.m. and on Christmas Day we will have our 10:00 a.m. worship service only. Our special Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will be collected at our Christmas Day service. Amid all the hustle and bustle, let's all just remember that Jesus is the reason for the season, and celebrate His birth. Pray for our Kids, schools, churches, pastors, leaders and our Great Country at this special time of the year.

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

SALEM:

On November 27 in our evening service the Advent candle was lit by a family, and the meaning explained. We then had our Hanging of the Greens ceremony with hanging of wreaths, decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias, holly, candles, gifts and the Christmas tree along with singing Christmas carols and lighting candles. Bro. Frankie was the narrator and explained the meaning of each as we decorated. It was a fun evening for all. The silhouette created of Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus for our baptistry is beautiful, and we thank those involved for your hard work. We want to thank all those who created our Christmas float which enabled us to be in the Christmas parade. Everyone had fun! We will be delivering baskets and caroling to our shut-ins on the 11th. We always look forward to visiting with them. The children and adults are practicing for our Christmas program for the 18th at 6:00 p.m. On the 25th, Christmas morning, we will have services at 9:30 a.m. to celebrate the birth of our Saviour. On New Year's Day we plan to have Sunday School and worship, then a catered meal. The gospel group KT&T will bring special music after the meal around 1:30. Come join us! It has been a blessed 2022, and we are looking forward to what God has planned for us in 2023.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11 KJV

Churches Currently without Pastors

Bethlehem Elva Lakeview New Mt. Carmel New Providence Oak Grove Pleasant Valley



January 2023 Pastor's Prayer Times

| 6 th | 8:30 a.m. BRBA Office |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 13^{th} | 8:30 a.m. BRBA Office |
| 20^{th} | 8:30 a.m. BRBA Office |
| 27^{th} | 8:30 a.m. BRBA Office |

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| See how many of these words you can find in the puzzle. The words can be forward, backward or diagonal. | | | | |
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Answers to Winter Word Scramble: