

Dates to Remember

| March 2025 | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|--|
| 1st-31st | | Pastor's Wife Appreciation Month |
| 2nd-8th | | Week of Prayer - NAMB & Annie Armstrong |
| 3rd | 9:00 a.m. | 40th Annual Western Kentucky Evangelism Conference, Southside Baptist, Princeton, KY |
| 4th | 10:00 a.m. | Session times are 9 am, 1:30 pm, & 6 pm |
| 7th | 8:30 a.m. | Evangelism Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office |
| 9th | | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 10th-11th | | Daylight Savings Time |
| 12th | 1:00 p.m. | Reach: Evangelism & Missions Conf, Somerset, KY |
| 14th | 8:30 a.m. | Register @ www.kybaptist.org/women |
| 14th | 6:00 p.m. | Budget/Finance Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office |
| | | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| | | Beautiful You Conference @ Murray Room-CFSB Center, Murray, KY |
| | | Register at Beautifulyouconference.com |
| 16th | | Church Planting Emphasis Sunday |
| 17th | 6:00 p.m. | Missions4Men Rally, Altona, Calvert City, KY |
| | | Register @ https://www.kywmu.org/events |
| 19th-22nd | | Adult Changers @ Brownsville, KY |
| | | www.kywmu.org/changers |
| 19th | 7:30 a.m. | Pastor's Breakfast @ Martha's, Murray, KY |
| 20th | | First Day of Spring |
| 21st-22nd | | Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training, Southside Baptist, Princeton, KY |
| | | Register @ kybaptist.org/dr |
| 21st | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 22nd | 7:30 a.m. | Disaster Relief Volunteer Training, Southside Baptist, Princeton, KY |
| | | Register @ kybaptist.org/dr |
| 28th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 31st- April 4th | | Guatemala Mission Trip |
| April 2025 (mark your calendars) | | |
| 1st | 10:00 a.m. | Evangelism Committee Mtg @ BRBA Office |
| 4th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 4th-5th | | KY WMU Annual Mtg |
| | | Central Baptist, Winchester, KY |
| 9th | 1:00 p.m. | Budget/Finance Mtg @ BRBA Office |
| 10th | 6:30 p.m. | Quarterly Executive Board Mtg @ FBC Gilbertsville |
| 11th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office |
| 12th | 7:30 a.m. | Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Trng @ Midway, KY |
| | | Register @ kybaptist.org/dr |
| 13th | | Palm Sunday |
| 13th | | Personal Evangelism Commitment Day |
| 15th | | Tax Day |
| 18th | | Good Friday (Office Closed) |
| 20th | | Easter |
| 23rd | | Administrative Professionals Day |
| 25th | 8:30 a.m. | Pastor's Prayer Time |
| 27th | | Baptism Sunday |
| 28th | 7:00 p.m. | WMU Quarterly Mtg @ Bethel, Benton, KY |

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

| Bags of Hope Ministry | |
|---|--|
| In January, we were able to help 436 people, of which 82 were new . We gave out 3,097 food items, 525 bread, and 148 personal hygiene items. We share the gospel and pray for everyone that comes to the pantry. 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 Request | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| ISRAEL | Our Leaders | Sister Churches |
| Our Youth | Our Country | Our Schools |
| The Sick | THE LOST | Each Other |
| Missionaries | Our Pastors | Our Teachers |
| Churches without Pastors | Guatemala Mission Trip | |

Blood River Review

MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

PRAYER TIME.

March Pastor's Prayer Times

| | | |
|------|-----------|-------------|
| 7th | 8:30 a.m. | BRBA Office |
| 14th | 8:30 a.m. | BRBA Office |
| 21st | 8:30 a.m. | BRBA Office |
| 28th | 8:30 a.m. | BRBA Office |

It takes a special person to be a Pastor's wife. It is not an easy task or a simple way of life. When people need a helping hand, on you they can depend. For you always try your best to be a faithful friend.

Thank you! We appreciate you!

March Birthdays

| | |
|------|--------------------------------|
| 2nd | Robin LaChance, Bethel |
| 7th | John Bedwell, Locust Grove (I) |
| 11th | Charles LaChance, Bethel |
| 13th | Erin Clark, BSU Director/Wife |
| 28th | Leslie Miles, Northside |

March Wedding Anniversaries

| | |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 10th | James & Karen Oates, Lakeview |
| 11th | Frankie & Kristina McKinney, Salem |
| 18th | Randy & Karen Kuykendall, West Fork |
| 28th | Mike & Alice Farmer, Vanzora |
| 30th | Duane & Carolyn Holland, Holly Hills |

March Church Anniversaries

First Sunday
Brad Walker, Briensburg (2010)

PRAYER

March 2-8, 2025

Week of Prayer-NAMB & Annie Armstrong

Beautiful You Conference

When: March 14th
6 - 9 p.m.
Who: Girls-middle school, high school and college age
Where: The Murray Room
CFSB Center, Murray, KY
For more details or register call (270)753-0700 or visit Beautifulyouconference.com

Pastor's Breakfast
March 19, 2025
7:30 am
Martha's
Murray, KY

Spring Adult Changers Mission Trip

March 19-22
Camp Joy, Brownsville, KY
For more information
www.kywmu.org/changers

M4M: MISSIONS4MEN RALLIES

ATTENTION MEN

Join us for our Missions4Men Rally, a new approach to getting men involved in missions! On March 17, 2025 starting at 6PM at Altona Baptist Church GO Center in Calvert City. Cost is \$5 and includes a meal. Be sure and sign up on the site below: Hope to see you there!

<https://www.kywmu.org/events>

Altona Baptist Church
5827 US HWY 62
Calvert City, KY
270-395-4342

TIM BEOUGHER

IAN CARRICO

RONNIE SIVELLS

RONNIE STINSON, SR.

TIM HARVEY

40th Annual Western Kentucky Evangelism Conference

@ Southside Baptist, Princeton, KY

March 3rd

Sessions @ 9 am, 1:30 pm, & 6 pm

BETHLEHEM

February us our "Share the Love" month, God's Love! We had our 1st Sunday of the month fellowship. The 9th we had our men's bake off. Also, we celebrated our January and February birthdays. We will be taking Valentine's Day cards to Calvert City Convalescent Center. Soon we will have a "Blessings Closet" that will help disaster victims. Prayers go out to all of the sick church members. In March, we will be preparing for our Easter egg hunt coming up in April. Lots of other things on the calendar too. Love and God's Blessings!

HAZEL

We welcome to our church family Abigail & Susan Dix by baptism, Colby and Jessica by letter and Dustin Dix by statement. We know they will be a blessing to our church and pray HBC will be a blessing to them. During our "Bring Someone You Love Sunday" on February 16th, we had 122 in Sunday School, in worship 187 and for the potluck we had 140. It was a great turn out and we are very thankful for each one that attended. On March 16th, we will have our "Christ for Cobblers Cookoff" and a trophy will be given for the best cobbler. Prayers for our sister churches and may God bless each one.

NEW BETHEL

Here at New Bethel, Brother Beau has started a new Study on Sunday nights, "The Fundamentals of Faith," to firmly establish and sincerely practice your faith and grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. He has also started a new Wednesday night study, "I Will," by Thom Rainer. Our Backpacks for Homeless were delivered to "God's Promise." The Haven of Hope Baby Bottle fund raiser has ended and our Baby Bottles have been filled and delivered to Haven of Hope. What a great Ministry for us to support! On Sunday, February 16th, after our morning service, our Youth Group had a Valentine's Lunch as a fund raiser. This is a great group of kids and they have great leaders. Our Ladies are starting a new Bible Study on Esther, by Kelly Minter, on Tuesday February 25th. Pray for our Churches, Pastors and our Fellow Believers.

1 John 4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

SALEM

Praise His holy name! He is still at work at Salem Baptist Church! We had another precious soul saved and baptized. We rejoice in getting to witness God's hand at work in our families. We will celebrate our church homecoming May 4th with singing by the Common Bond Quartet and a catered meal to follow.

Romans 12:1-2 KJV I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

SPRING CREEK

The Lord continues to bless us each and every day, Bro. Doug Sanders has accepted the Lord's Call to be the Pastor here at Spring Creek. Bro. Sanders has been our Supply Pastor on several occasions and has felt the Lord's Calling for him to be our Pastor. His first day will be March 1, 2025. Bro. Sanders will be welcomed into the fellowship with a Potluck Dinner after service on March 2, 2025. We are blessed to have him, and his wife Sister Sarah join us, and are looking forward to a long and wonderful relationship.

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

Romans 10:14



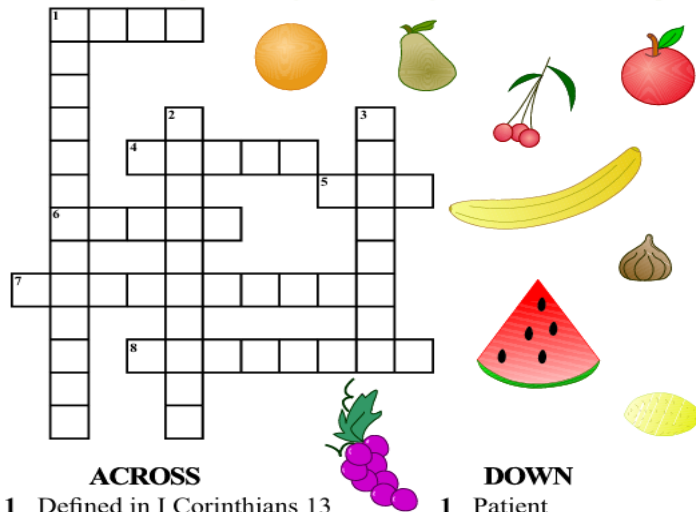
Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training
Southside Baptist, Princeton, KY
March 21-22

Disaster Relief Volunteer Training
Southside Baptist, Princeton, KY
March 22 @ 7:30 a.m.

Register @ kybaptist.org/dr

Fruit of the Spirit

For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth; ~Eph 5:9



ACROSS

- 1 Defined in I Corinthians 13
- 4 Rest, quietness
- 5 Delight, cheerfulness
- 6 The substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. ~Heb 11:1
- 7 Self control
- 8 Humility

DOWN

- 1 Patient
- 2 Moral excellence of character; kindness
- 3 The quality of being beneficial; kindness

Churches Currently without Pastors

Elva Pleasant Valley Locust Grove
Ledbetter FBC Gilbertsville



Kentucky WMU Kids Summer Missions Adventures will be starting soon. Check out their schedule of events at kywmu.org/events



Please be in prayer for the Guatemala Mission Trip.

And He said, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."

Mark 16:15

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 April 2025 is March 19th
EMAIL US AT:
bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org
Remember to limit your words to 175.

Mark's Memo:

The month of March came be quite unpredictable in KY. We might have days of 75 degree weather and we might have 12 inch snow. In other words, the month of March is often a month of change or transition.

A number of years ago, Robert Dale wrote a book entitled, "To Dream Again." The premise of the book was that every church goes through a specific life cycle that includes times of growth and times of decline. According to the author, in order to stop or reverse the decline, a church must dare to dream again.

Unfortunately, many churches across our nation choose not to change their approach to ministry; refuse to dream again; and are very reluctant to accept help from other churches or denominational leaders. For many, the end result is a continual decline in membership and effective ministry in the community.

On May 7-8, 2025, Dr. Brian Horton, Church Replanting Strategist with the Kentucky Baptist Convention will be leading a seminar for our association. Brian has a passion to assist struggling church rekindle their ministry to their community and the lost. I hope you will put these dates on your calendar and stay tuned for additional information about this upcoming seminar.

Serving Him Together,

Bro. Mark E. Sickling

