

Blood River Baptist Association  
 Rev. Mark Sickling, Director of Missions  
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 Hardin, KY 42048-0018  
 270-437-4203

**DON'T MISS OUT**

Newsletter deadline for August 2026 is **July 22nd**

EMAIL US AT:  
 bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org  
 Remember to limit your words to 175.

**Mark's Memos**

We had six churches send teams to play in the annual Blood River Baptist Association Men's Golf Scramble on June 20, at KY Dam Village Golf Course. Congratulations to Bethel Baptist Church for taking home first place with a score of (-7). The Lord blessed us with a beautiful day and everyone enjoyed the fun and fellowship.

For those who didn't get enough golf, or want to support Missionaries Jason and Kelly Hart, they have a Golf Scramble coming up at Drake Creek Golf Course in Ledbetter, KY, on July 18. For more information or to sign up go to <https://servantharts.com/>.

I am still looking for a few pastors who are interested in going to the International Mission Board in Richmond, Virginia, August 11-13. The cost will be approximately \$500 per person for airfare and meals on travel days. Once in Richmond, the IMB will cover lodging and meals. We will tour the IMB main office as well as the International Learning Center where Missionaries go for training prior to being commissioned. We will also have opportunities to meet and fellowship with Missionaries. Interested pastors should contact me asap to secure their spot.

Bethlehem Baptist Church will host our Mission Board Meeting. We will meet on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. I hope many of our Pastors and Mission Board Members will be present for this meeting. I will share briefly about our recent Mission Trip to Haven of Rest.

Serving Him Together,

Bro. Mark E. Sickling



Dates	Times	Church
June 28th - July 1st	5:30 pm - 8 pm	Pleasant Valley
July 12th - July 14th	6 pm - 8 pm	Kirksey
July 19th - July 24th	5 pm - 8:30 pm	Elva
July 29th - August 2nd	Various times	Northside



**Freeda Harris Toy Drive**  
 August 1st thru October 25th  
 New toys for boys and girls  
 Ages 6 months to 16 years old  
**DO NOT WRAP!!**  
 Toys due @ churches October 25th  
 Toys due @ BRBA Office November 1st  
 Packing Party @ BRBA Office November 4th-9 am  
**NEED WRAPPING PAPER, TAPE,  
 & MEDIUM MOVING BOXES (18X16X18)**



**July 2026**

- 3rd 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
- 4th Happy 4th of July
- 5th Religious Liberty Sunday
- 6th 5:00 pm Nominating Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
- 7th 10:00 am Evangelism Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
- 8th 1:00 pm Budget/Finance Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
- 9th 6:30 pm Quarterly Executive Board Meeting @ Spring Creek, Almo, KY
- 10th 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
- 12th 2:00 pm New Bethel Deacon Ordination Service for Corey Belcher @ New Bethel, 4045 Mayfield Hwy, Benton, KY
- 15th 7:30 am Pastor's Breakfast @ Crossroads, Murray, KY
- 17th 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
- 24th 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
- 27th 7:00 pm WMU Quarterly Meeting @ Bethlehem, Benton, KY
- 30th 5:30 pm Personnel Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
- 31st 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
- 31st-August 1st Cultivate @ Little Flock Baptist, Shepherdsville, KY  
 FMI: <https://www.kybaptist.org/cultivate/>

**August 2026 (mark your calendar)**

- 1st Begin Freeda Harris Toy Drive
- 2nd Send Relief Sunday
- 4th 10:00 am Evangelism Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
- 4th 5:00 pm Scholarship Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
- 7th-8th LAUNCH Retreat @ Louisville, KY  
 FMI: <https://www.kybaptist.org/event/launch-retreat/>
- 8th 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
- 9th SBC Serve Sunday
- 10th 5:00 pm Nominating Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
- 12th 1:00 pm Budget/Finance Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
- 14th 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
- 15th 6:00 pm Deacon/Pastor Wives Dinner @ BRBA Office
- 21st 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
- 23rd Global Hunger Sunday
- 28th 8:30 am Pastor's Prayer Time @ BRBA Office

**Deacon ORDINATION**

Any ordained Pastor or Deacon is welcome to attend the Deacon Ordination service for Corey Belcher.  
 July 12th @ 2 pm  
 New Bethel Missionary Baptist  
 4045 Mayfield Hwy  
 Benton, KY



When: July 31st-August 1st  
 Where: Little Flock Baptist, Shepherdsville, KY  
 FMI: [www.kybaptist.org/cultivate/](http://www.kybaptist.org/cultivate/)

**Bags of Hope Ministry**  
 In May, we were able to help **421** people, of which **37** were new. We gave out **3,260** food items, **595** bread, and **240** 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.

**Bags of Hope is needing volunteers!!**  
 Volunteer Hours Needed:

Mondays & Thursdays  
**10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
 (sort and fold clothes)  
 AND/OR  
**1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**  
 (distribution of items)

Volunteers Needed 

Contact Marvin Gore (270) 252-4051

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

CHANGE A CHILD'S LIFE

**Christmas Backpacks**

Kentucky's goal is 10,000 BACKPACKS from KBC churches!



Visit [www.kybaptist.org/backpacks](http://www.kybaptist.org/backpacks) for resources and more information.  
 Kentucky WMU COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

# Blood River Review

**JULY 2026** NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**July Pastor's Prayer Times**  
BRBA Office @ 8:30 am  
3rd, 10th,  
17th, 24th & 31st



**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**

*Prayer*  
LIST

## July Birthdays

6th David Chandler, New Bethel  
6th Charles Frazier, Altona  
10th Mark Sickling, BRBA  
15th Bernice Taylor, New Mt Carmel  
16th Shawn Hanes, Kirksey  
17th Brad Walker, Briensburg  
18th Teresa Bazzell, Sugar Creek  
23rd Jason Logsdon, Oak Level  
23rd Graig Wortham, New Providence  
26th Mike Farmer, Symsonia

## July Church Anniversaries

**1st Sunday**  
Dale Taylor, New Mt. Carmel (2024)  
**2nd Sunday**  
Robert Harwell, Coldwater (2025)  
**3rd Sunday**  
Scott Penick, New Harmony (2018)

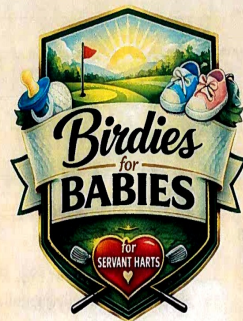
## QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

July 9th @ 6:30 pm  
Spring Creek Baptist  
995 Spring Road  
Almo, KY

Here's Wishing you a  
*Happy Fourth of July.*  
May God continue to uplift this  
country's glory!



WMU Quarterly Meeting  
July 27th @ 7 pm  
Bethlehem Baptist  
Benton, KY 42025



Join us for a fun day of golf while raising money for a great cause!

Servant Harts, founded by Marshall County natives Jason and Kelly Hart, exists to provide high quality care to malnourished babies and pregnant women in and around San Lorenzo, El Tejar, Guatemala. We desire for every woman who enters the ministry center to know that they are loved by their Heavenly Father and He wants a relationship with them.

2 Flights (if needed)  
8:00 am & 1:00 pm  
Lunch provided  
\$10,000 Chance on a Hole-In-One

Registration  
Single: \$100  
Team of 4: \$360



Drake Creek Golf Club  
1 Torrey Pines  
Ledbetter, KY

or visit:  
www.servantharts.com

Date: Saturday, July 18, 2026  
Drake Creek Golf Club

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

**DEADLINE AUGUST 3RD**

## BETHLEHEM

God Blessings are happening at Bethlehem! We want to thank everyone who helped make our recent events such a tremendous success! 400 Mile Yard Sale—Our church yard sale was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who donated items, volunteered their time, and supported the effort. The proceeds will help further the ministry and outreach efforts of our church. Vacation Bible School—VBS was an incredible week filled with learning, laughter, worship, and fun! We were blessed to see children grow in their understanding of God's Word. We had 3 children saved. Praise be to God!! Thank you to all of our volunteers, teachers, workers, and families who helped make this year's VBS a success. Upcoming Events: WMU Meeting, Wednesday, July 1, Join us as we gather for fellowship, missions education, and prayer. Fellowship Breakfast, Sunday, July 5 @ 10:00 AM Come enjoy a great breakfast, fellowship with church family, and a time of encouragement before worship services.

"O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together." — Psalm 34:3

## HAZEL

Our ladies are still celebrating all that God blessed us with during the Women's Conference "Rooted and Radiant". You can still feel the Holy Spirit since the Conference. We are very grateful for the blessings He's bestowed on HBC!! The mission team went May 24-29 to Mountain View Baptist Camp to help get the camp ready for the summer camps and the progress was successful. At this writing, VBS, centered around Psalm 23, has been a huge success with over 100 children and youth nightly (this does not include workers or the adult class). Please keep our workers, children and youth in your prayers as we continue to study God's Word. Last but certainly not least, HBC has been blessed with new additions, and we welcome Britt Colson and Serenity Miller by baptism and Eric, Shanna and Evan Cols by letter. Prayers and best wishes to all!!!

## NEW BETHEL

Sunday Evening, May 31st, we had a Meet and Greet with Brother Joey Harrison and his wife, Roni, to consider them as our Youth Program Team. On Sunday, June 7th, we called Brother Joey to be our Youth Minister. He and Roni to be our Youth Program Team. We welcome them, their son, Blake, and daughter, Brooke, into our New Bethel family. On Sunday, June 7th, and Monday, June 8th, we had our 2026 VBS, GALAXY, LAUNCHING KIDS ON A MISSION OF GOD'S LOVE, and it was GREAT. Everyone had a lot of fun learning about the wonderful love of Jesus. On Thursday, June 11th, our Young at Heart Seniors traveled to Cypress Springs on KY Lake for their monthly outing and had some great food and fellowship. Our Youth Group teamed up with Dexter Baptist, Bethlehem Baptist and Pleasant Valley Baptist Churches to attend Crossings Camp on Sunday, June 7th, thru Thursday, June 11th, and there was 1 saved and 1 rededication in our group. 1 John 4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

## SALEM

"Count Your Blessings" has remained front and center with two youth accepting Christ as their Saviour during church camp in June, as well as one sweet lady joining by letter, reuniting at SBC! Our VBS starts Sunday, June 28th - July 2nd at 6 p.m. Come join us for fun, food, fellowship. We would love to have you! We also started having Youth Night Saturday 4-8 p.m. and plan to continue to make this a regular activity as long as it doesn't interfere with other activities, such as decorations for VBS this weekend. We would love to see youth of all ages join in fun, food, fellowship, and faith! We cannot wait to hear about the souls saved when Brother Frankie and Mrs. Kristina return from their mission trip! Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

## SPRING CREEK

We have completed the work on our replacement front porch. Looking forward to renewing old acquaintances along with making several more. Won't you come enjoy the good food, along with the fellowship, as well as conducting the business of the Blood River Baptist Association. Pastor Doug, Sarah, and Jazmine had a long but fun and productive week at Hillcrest Baptist Camp. Fun was had by all, and Pastor Doug did a lot of cooking, Sister Sarah was the nurse and washed a lot of pots and pans, while Jazmine was a Teen Counselor, Activities & Crafts, as well as helping in the kitchen. July 18th, the Church Members will once again venture to "Lamberts" to enjoy the wonderful food, along with the famous "Thrown Rolls." August 1st, we will once again sponsor a "Car Cruise In" with some really great looking vintage automobiles along with food and drinks for everyone. And the price is right, FREE!

## Prodigal Son

Everlasting Love  
Faraway Country  
Sin against God  
Lost and found  
Sorry for sin  
Prodigal Son  
Wasted money  
Fatted calf  
Forgiveness  
Selfishness  
A Servant  
God's Way  
Pharisees  
Brother  
Go home  
Wealthy  
Famine  
Father  
Hungry  
Party  
Shoes  
Pigs  
Ring  
Robe

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

Your past does not define  
your destiny.  
God can take your history  
and turn it into a legacy.

JESUS TOLD THE STORY OF THE  
PRODIGAL SON TO MAKE A POINT:  
NEVER MIND WHAT YOU'VE DONE,  
JUST COME HOME.

**LAUNCH**  
REFRESH · RECHARGE · CONNECT

AUGUST 8-9  
LOUISVILLE



FMI: <https://www.kybaptist.org/event/launch-retreat/>

**AUG 18** Paducah

**equip**

First Baptist Church,  
Paducah, KY  
5 pm-9 pm

EQUIP will cover training in each of the following areas: Assimilation, Children's Ministry, Cooperative Program, Deacon Ministry, Discipleship, Evangelism, Finance, Missions, Revitalization, Social Media, Students, Sunday School, WMU, Women's Ministry and Worship and Music.

FMI: <https://www.kybaptist.org/equip-2026/>