

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 December 2025 is **November 17th**

EMAIL US AT:
bloodriver@bloodriverassoc.org

Remember to limit your words to 175.



Pastor/Mission Board Members & Wives Christmas Dinner
December 18th @ 6:30 pm
Memorial Baptist
906 Main Street
Murray, KY 42071

Please RSVP by 12/15/2025 by calling
(270) 437-4203

Mark’s Memo

As we turn our calendars to November, things are changing. The leaves on the trees are changing colors. The time changes and we revert back to “Standard Time”, which brings darkness upon us quicker in the afternoons. Furthermore, with the onset of fall and fewer hours of daylight temperatures typically get cooler. But, even amongst these changes we can and should be Thankful. So, in this issue of Mark’s Memo’s I hope to remind you how much you have to be thankful for.

T- Thank the LORD for **T**oday. “(Psalm 118:24)

H – Thank the LORD for the **H**oly Spirit. (John 16:13-14)

A – Thank the LORD for **A**dopting you. (Galatians 4:4-5)

N – Thank the LORD for **N**ew Mercies every morning. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

K – Thank the LORD for His **K**indness and the opportunity to show it to others. (Ephesians 4:32)

S- Thank the LORD for the **S**alvation He freely gives. (Romans 10:13)

“Lord, we thank you for the gift of today; the gift of the Holy Spirit; and the gift of adoption that you have so freely given to us. We also thank you and praise you for the new mercies and kindness you shower upon us daily. But, most of all we thank you for the salvation that comes to us through our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ, and it is in His name we pray, Amen.”

I hope and pray each of you has a great Thanksgiving Holiday.

Serving Him Together,

Bro. Mark E. Sickling



November 2025

2nd		Daylight Savings Time ends (don’t forget to set your clocks back)
3rd		<u>Freeda Harris Toys due to BRBA Office</u>
4th	10:00 am	Evangelism Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
5th	9:00 am	<u>Packing Party for Freeda Harris Toys @ BRBA Office</u> <u>HELP!! Volunteers needed!!!</u>
7th	8:30 am	Pastor’s Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
8th	7:00 pm	New Bethel Trivia Night Youth Fundraiser Contact Izzy Holbrook @ 270-703-7292 to register, \$10 per person
10th		KBC’s Pastor Conference, First Baptist Church, Cold Spring, KY
11th		KBC Annual Meeting, First Baptist Church, Cold Spring, KY
11th		Veteran’s Day
12th	1:00 pm	Budget/Finance Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
14th	8:30 am	Pastor’s Prayer Time
19th	12:00 pm	Pastor’s Luncheon @ Pagliai’s, Murray, KY
21st	8:30 am	Pastor’s Prayer Time
26th-28th		Thanksgiving Break (Office Closed) Happy Thanksgiving!!!!
December 2025 (mark your calendar)		
Nov 31st-Dec 6th		Week of Prayer for International Missions & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
2nd	10:00 am.	Evangelism Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
5th	8:30 am	Pastor’s Prayer Time @ BRBA Office
10th	1:00 pm	Budget/Finance Committee Meeting @ BRBA Office
10th-14th		Mission Trip to Casa Grande, AZ for Christmas in the Villages
18th	6:30 pm	Pastor/Mission Board Members and Wives Christmas Dinner @ Memorial Baptist, Murray, KY RSVP by 12/15/2025 to (270) 437-4203
21st		First Day of Winter
21st– 31st		Office Closed for Christmas Holiday (Merry Christmas!!)
25th		Christmas Day

**2026
BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
INDOOR WINTER VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE**

**Volleyball
Church Team
sign ups!**



Church team must consist of at least of 6 players co-ed men and women.

Players must be active members of the church they are playing for.

Players must be at least 15 years of age.

Teams can be up to 8 players, if a church has 12 or more players they can enter two teams into the league.

Cost per team is \$200 which will cover team t shirts for players, and awards for the end of the season. (Checks Payable to New Bethel)

Church league will play games in Jan and Feb of 2026

Games will be played on Saturdays starting in Jan 2026

Teams can practice from October to the start of the season.

Churches may combine to form a team if they don’t have enough players.

For further details contact
Bro. David Chandler with questions and team sign ups
Call or text (270)703-8318

Bags of Hope Pantry list for November

Altona – Cereal & Canned Carrots
Bethel – Chili & Canned Green Peas
Bethlehem – Spam & Canned Pinto Beans
Briensburg – Canned Green Beans & Bars of Soap
Cherry Corner – Ravioli & Canned Red Beans
Elva – Vienna Sausage & Pork ‘n Beans
Flint – Chili & Mixed Vegetables
Gilbertsville – Canned Potatoes & Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix
Grace – Canned Chicken & Canned Tomatoes
Hamlet – Canned Black Eyed Peas & Bars of Soap
Hazel – Pancake Mix & Syrup
Holly Hills – Peanut Butter & Mac ‘n Cheese
Kirksey – Tuna & Sweet Green Peas
Lakeview – Ravioli & Canned Red Beans
Ledbetter – Peanut Butter & Canned Carrots
Locust Grove – Instant Potatoes & Green Beans
Memorial – Pancake Mix & Syrup
New Bethel – Tuna & Canned Tomatoes
New Harmony – Vienna Sausage & Instant Potatoes
New Mt. Carmel – Cereal & Mac ‘n Cheese
New Zion – Spam & Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix
Northside – Canned Chicken & Pork ‘n Beans
Oak Grove – Canned Potatoes & Bars of Soap
Olive – Ravioli & Mixed Vegetables
Owens Chapel – Peanut Butter & Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix
Pleasant Hope – Chili & Canned Black Eyed Peas
Salem – Canned Pinto Beans & Mac ‘n Cheese
Spring Creek – Chili & Canned Tomatoes
Sugar Creek – Peanut Butter Crackers & Canned White Beans
Union Ridge – Peanut Butter & Spam
West Fork – Instant Potatoes & Tuna

Bags of Hope Ministry

In September, we were able to help **372** people, of which **64** were new. We gave out **3,561** food items, **427** bread, and **224** personal hygiene items. Thank you for your continued support. 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



5 DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF BIBLE TRIVIA HOSTED BY YOUTH STUDENTS

BIBLE TRIVIA NIGHT

WINNING TEAM WILL RECIEVE A ONE OF A KIND PRIZE!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH @ 7:00 PM IN FLC @ NEW BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$10 PER PERSON. THIS INCLUDE TRIVIA, SNACKS, AND DRINKS. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO FUTURE YOUTH EVENTS, TRIPS, AND CAMPS.

TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM CONTACT IZZY @ 270-703-7292

Blood River Review

NOVEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



November 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

Churches Currently without Pastors

Pleasant Valley	Locust Grove	Holly Hills
Oak Grove	Ledbetter	Altona
FBC Gilbertsville		

ISREAL

Our Leaders
Our Youth
Our Schools
Each Other
Our Pastors

THE LOST

Sister Churches
Our Country
The Sick
Missionaries
Our Teachers



Churches without Pastors



**DON'T FORGET TO
FALL BACK**
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS
SET YOUR CLOCK BACK ONE HOUR
2 NOVEMBER, 2025



Donate a Turkey

The Bags of Hope Food Bank is preparing to serve families in need this Thanksgiving season. We are asking individuals, Sunday School classes or churches to donate frozen 10-12 pound turkeys to help them bless as many households as possible. Every turkey donated helps provide hope and nourishment to a local family this Thanksgiving. Let's join together in serving our community with love and generosity in Jesus's name. Requesting 1-2 turkeys from each church.

Donations accepted now through November 17, 2025

Drop off at Bags of Hope, Monday or Thursday 1 – 4 pm
or BRBA Office 8 am -2 pm



November Birthdays

6th	Calvin Bryant, New Zion
23rd	Brett Miles, Northside
29th	Alice Famer, Vanzora

November Anniversaries

18th Jason & Michelle Logsdon, Oak Level

November Church Anniversaries

1st Sunday

Jason Logsdon, Oak Level (2024)

2nd Sunday

James Stom, Owens Chapel (1984)

FREEDA HARRIS TOY DRIVE 2025

DO NOT WRAP!

Toys due @ BRBA November 3rd
Packing Party @ BRBA November 5th 9:00 a.m.
HELP!! VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!
**NEED WRAPPING PAPER, TAPE &
MEDIUM MOVING BOXES (18X16X18)**



Pastor's Luncheon
November 19th
12:00 noon
Pagliai's, Murray, KY



Office Closed November 26th-28th

BETHLEHEM

We just finished Christmas Backpacks, which is a wonderful ministry to the children in our area. We are now preparing for October 25th. We will have "Trunk or Treat" from 3-6 pm. Then a fall festival, which will include games, chili and a dunking booth. Happy Halloween!

HAZEL

We welcome to our church family by baptism Justin Spinney, Timothy Dix, Scooter Paschall, and Dustin Irvan. We know they will be a blessing to our church and pray HBC will be a blessing to them. Upcoming events include our OLD-FASHIONED SUNDAY ON Sunday, October 26th, followed by a CHILI COOK-OFF that evening at 6:00 pm. On November 30th, we will have out HANGING OF THE GREEN AT 6:00 pm. The choir is working on Thanksgiving and Christmas music. "Hallelujah Christ was born".

NEW BETHEL

Great news from New Bethel, two of our young boys recently professed Jesus as their Lord and Savior, and were Baptized on Sunday Morning October 19th. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! Our New Bethel Fish Fry on Saturday, September 20th, was a great success, with plenty of Fish and Fixings and Fellowship for everyone. On Sunday, September 28th, the Youth and Children that participated in "The Great Journey" with Isabel (Izzy) Holbrook shared with the Congregation what they learned about how the Shoe Boxes get to their destinations all over the World. On Saturday, October 25th, we are having Trunk or Treat in our Family Life Center building starting at 4:30 P.M. On Sunday, November 2nd, we will be having a Packing Party for the Shoebox Ministry. On Saturday, November 8th, we are having a Youth Trivia Fundraiser. We will be participating in the BRBA Indoor Winter Volleyball League, and are looking into starting Centershot Archery Competition here at New Bethel.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

SALEM

We have two months left to see how we Thrive in 2025! It's been a great year! This week is our Fall Meeting through Wednesday, 10/22. Join us each night at 7 p.m. Come expecting to receive a blessing. You will! Saturday, October 25th, at 5 p.m. will be our Fall Festival with a chili cook-off, cake walk, and lots of games: come join us for fun, food and fellowship. We will host our Thanksgiving joint service with Oak Grove Baptist Church November 23rd at 5 p.m.

Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10 (KJV)

SPRING CREEK

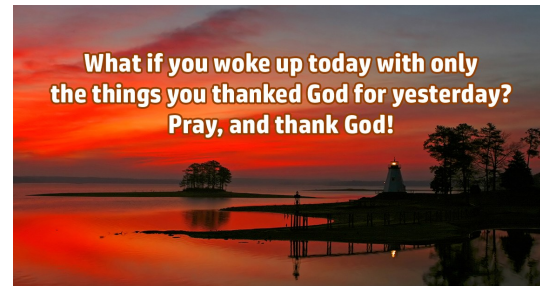
Everyone is invited October 26th for our Annual Fall Festival starting a 5:00 PM, there will be eats and games, entertainment with Rick & Shirlene Pilcher showing the youngsters what can be done with a balloon, along with information for the older generations concerning what we can do to assist youngsters in finding the Lord as their personal Savior. Music will be provided by the Palmers, on the old banjo. So, if you are free, please stop in.

On August 19th at 4:00 PM the Church took cookies and treats to the returning Murray State Students. There were several Churches participating this year, and what a wonderful time was had by all, especially the students, there was not one cookie left, but the students left with a full bag of cookies.

The Church Homecoming was held on September 21st this year. With singing by the McKendree's, and our own Margaret Rauen accompanied by Wendy Joyce and some of the most delicious food you have ever eaten. Plans are already in the works for next year, so reserve the third Sunday. See y'all then!

Several of our members attended the Life-house Banquet on September 25th. If you did not attend, you really missed a blessing. The food was great, but the testimonies from Members of the Duck Dynasty TV Program were really heart rendering. HAVING MONEY in your pockets is nice, BUT having the LORD in your HEART is a million times better AMEN.

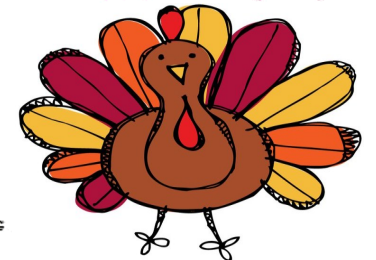
What if you woke up today with only
the things you thanked God for yesterday?
Pray, and thank God!



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

DRESSING
FAMILY
FOOTBALL
FRIENDS
GATHERING
GOBBLE
GRAVY
MASHED
MEMORIES
POTATOES
SHARE
SUPPER
THANKSGIVING
TURKEY

Happy Thanksgiving



Gobble Gobble!

November 30th-December 7th

**LOTTIE
MOON**
CHRISTMAS OFFERING

*Providing financial support to missionaries
as they share the gospel overseas.*

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Help a less fortunate family enjoy a Christmas dinner! Each day add items to a box and by December 15th donate the items to Bags of Hope Food Pantry, 3265 Mayfield Hwy, Benton, KY.

Box of cereal & 1 can of green beans
Peanut Butter & 1 can of carrots
Stuffing mix & 1 can of mixed vegetables
Boxed potatoes & 1 can of corn
Mac 'n cheese & 1 can of chicken noodle soup
Canned fruit & 1 can of tomato soup
Canned Tomatoes
Canned Tuna
Dessert mix
Jar of applesauce
Can of sweet potatoes
Cranberry sauce
Chicken broth
Canned ham
Box of crackers
Box of oatmeal
Package of pasta
Spaghetti sauce