

Blood River Review

July 2018 NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



July

- 2nd - Sandra Little, Dexter
- 10th - Mark Sickling, Director of Missions
- 16th - Shawn Hanes, Cherry Corner
- 17th - Brad Walker, Briensburg
- 18th - Teresa Bazzell, Sugar Creek
- 24th - Janice Rice, Altona
- 26th - Mike Farmer, Vanzora

Church Anniversary

- 1st Sunday
Jordan Roach, Hazel (2016)
- 2nd Sunday
Johnny Coffenberry, Pleasant Hope (2014)
- 3rd Sunday
Randall Cox, Elva (2017)



- 5th - Mike & Lana White, New Providence (1991)
- 12th - Jason & Ashley Medley, Sharpe (2003)
- 13th - C.C. & June Brasher, Oak Level (1964)
- 20th - Randal & Karla Cox, Elva (1987)
- 23rd - John & Christi Bedwell, Spring Creek (1996)
- 29th - Mark & Kristin Sickling, BRBA (1985)

SCHOLARSHIP Application

Ministry Scholarship Applications can be picked up at the Blood River Baptist Association office. Applications must be turned in by Friday, August 3rd. It will be here before you know it!

WMU Quarterly Meeting

July 23rd

7:00 pm

Flint Baptist Church

1350 Flint Rd.

Murray, KY

Everyone Invited!



Ministers Prayer Lunch & Fellowship

July 18th @ 12:00 pm

Habenero Mexican Grill, Draffenville



Revival!

Oak Grove Baptist Church
5525 Jones Mill Crossland Rd.
Puryear, TN

We would like to invite everyone to Revival August 5-8
Sunday @ 10am & 6pm, Mon-Wed @ 7pm
Speaker is Bro. Todd Gray Leader of the KBC Evangelism
& Church Planting Team.



Bags of Hope will be collecting Back to School Supplies for the up coming school year. We are collecting: pencils, college ruled notebooks, pens, rulers, glue sticks, crayons and folders.

Please bring supplies to Blood River Baptist Association by the end of July.

Freeda Harris Toy Drive

July 25-November 7

We Need new toys, \$10-\$12 price range, for boys and girls ages 6 mo.-16 yrs.

Please bring toys to the Associational Office by Nov. 7th
Do not wrap toys, you may send wrapping paper, ribbon & tape.

Toys will be packed for shipping Nov. 8th @ 9:00 am.
Everyone is welcome to come and help pack!

Notes From The Food Pantry

In May we were able to help 97 families. We gave 2,554 food items, 189 bread & 60 hygiene items. Thank you for your continued support for the ministry.

The schedule for July to work at the Pantry is as follows:

Thurs. July 5th & Mon. July 9th - New Bethel

Thurs. July 12th & Mon. July 16th - Locust Grove

Thurs. July 19th & Mon. July 23rd - Kirksey

Thurs. July 26th & Mon. July 30th - Memorial

Thank you and God Bless

The Pantry is in need of egg cartons!

CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS

Hamlet
New Mt. Carmel

Salem

Kirksey

UPCOMING Events

July

4		Independence Day, Office Closed
12	6:30pm	Board Meeting, Hazel Baptist
13-14	5:00 pm	Flint VBS 13 th @ 5pm, 14 th @ 9am
15-19	6-8:30 pm	Scotts Grove VBS "Moose on the Loose"
18	12:00 pm	Minister's Prayer Lunch & Fellowship, Habenero Mexican Grill Draffenville
23	7:00 pm	WMU Quarterly Mtg., Flint Baptist

August

3		Deadline for Scholarship Application
5		Cooperative Program Sunday
7	6:00 pm	Scholarship Committee Mtg. BRBA
9	6:30 pm	Mission Board Mtg. Union Ridge
11	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast, TBA
12	4:15 pm	First Place Victory Celebration
12		Student Evangelism Day
13	5:00 pm	First Place Celebration
19-25		Worship Music Week
26	4:30 pm	Orientation First Place, Memorial
27	6:30 pm	Orientation First Place, BRBA/ Westside

September

2		Single Adult Sunday
3		Labor Day (Office Closed)
9		Grandparents Day
9-16		Week of Prayer for State Missions (Eliza Broadus Offering)
16-21		Mission Trip to Oneida Baptist Institute
17		Deadline for ACP's
22		First Day of Fall
28	6:00 pm	Pastor/Deacon/Wives Retreat, Sugar Creek

Elva Baptist: "On Mother's Day, we held a baby dedication for our two newest babies in our church family, Eliza Baker and Ariel Holder. Such a special service for these blessings! Our remodel of the sanctuary is almost completed. The walls have a fresh coat of paint and carpet is now being laid. We expect to have it all back together soon and have our first service back in the sanctuary on Sunday, June 24th. Our VBS Kickoff/Back to School Bash is Saturday, July 21st. We invite everyone to our "Game On" VBS which will be July 22-27."

New Bethel: "On May 8th, our New Bethel Young At Heart Seniors had their monthly outing for lunch; good food and good fellowship. May 13th was Mother's Day as we celebrated our Mother's, Grandmother's and Great grandmother's; these wonderful ladies who mean so much to us. A Mother's love, much like Christ's love, is never ending. On May 20th, "Note Worthy Music" had their Spring Recital in our Sanctuary with a dozen young people showing off their piano skills. On May 21st, we hosted a Women's Conference here in the FLC, "Hats We Wear," with a wonderful guest speaker Lori Scott, music performed By Grace and a great meal. This all added up to a great night of fellowship, music, blessings, food and fun for the over 120 ladies that attended. On May 27th, we had our Graduation Celebration with several of our young people moving on up to the next level and our Scholarship Presentation with several people receiving New Bethel Scholarships to help pay for their education beyond high school. Please pray for each other, our Community, our Country, our Leaders at all levels of Government, all our kids and their schools and pray for Brother Mark and Jackie."

Oak Grove: "May was an exciting month at Oak Grove. Bro. Tim Bertram was our guest speaker in the Sunday morning service on May 6th. Bro. Tim is a gifted artist and speaker. As both a speaker and artist, he captures listeners attention while communicating the truth of the gospel. On Mother's Day, our men prepared breakfast for everyone and all the ladies received gifts. On May 20th, we observed the Lord's Supper in the morning worship service. Our youth canvassed the area handing out flyers to announce that Bro. Roger Wood would be our guest speaker on the first Sunday in June. Baby bottles were passed out to be filled with money for Life House in Murray. On May 27th, the choir blessed us with its special arrangement of patriotic hymns in honor of our veterans."

Symsonia Baptist: "Busy days at Symsonia Baptist! We had three high school graduates that we honored in May with a meal and a new Bible. Congratulations to Madison Buzanis, Landon Dowdy, and Clay Hicks! Our "Game On" VBS was awesome! Average attendance was 88 kids and lots of workers. Our VBS offering will go to Kids Against Hunger. Friday night was Family Night and the kids and their parents packaged food that Kids Against Hunger will use to send to impoverished children and families around the world. Our Youth just returned from Crossing Camp at Jonathan Creek. Special speaker Rodger Wood will be with us Sunday night, June 24th, to speak on addictions."

Sugar Creek: *Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17* "We are so excited to start off summer with so many awesome things going on. We kicked off summer with an "out of school bash" for the youth, where they played games and enjoyed their time fellowshiping with one another. Last week we had our Vacation Bible School. God showed up, as always, and we had a great time with all the kids who came. This month, we are all looking forward to getting a new church directory, on June 20-21st. We hope all of our members are able to come and be a part of the new directory for the church. We are blessed here at the little church on the hill and so thankful our God is faithful." *Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man laid down his life for a friend.*

Salem Baptist: "On Mother's Day we recognized and honored all of our mothers. We had some good speakers who shared their memories on being a Mom. The youngest mother and the mother with the most experience were given a nice hanging basket. We had a full week of Vacation Bible School June 3rd through 7th. The theme was "Game On". Our Director, Lori Callihan, did a great job keeping the ball rolling from decorating, to meals, recreation, classes and then Family Night. The children were excited each night and had a great time! Seeds were planted. We appreciate all the teachers and workers who made this week memorable. Our Pastor Search Committee is still working to find a Pastor. We appreciate their dedication. We have been collecting monies in baby bottles for Life House which is a worthy ministry. We are looking forward to honoring our fathers on Father's Day. We are counting our BLESSINGS!"

New Zion: Ephesians 6:17 *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God.* "This month Bro. Dale has preached on how God describes himself as a mother's love, Why was I Born, The Law of Sin, Three Sins of Jerusalem, the Great Cloud of Witnesses, and The Eight "I Wills" of Jesus. When Bro. Dale came for his trial sermon he dropped his Bible and thought it had been destroyed. Last Sunday, our Deacons presented him with, as he likes to call it, his "sword". With a little help from Bernice, they had his Bible repaired and what a beautiful act of love we witnessed. Special thanks to our Deacons! With school out, our Wednesday night meal ministry is on summer break and will begin again in the fall. May 13th, we recognized our mothers for Mother's Day. May 20th we honored our three high school graduates, Evan Angle, Briley Chambers, and Ezra Darnall, and our college graduate, Travis Griggs with a reception in the fellowship hall. Please remember to be in prayer for these young adults as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives. May 27th, we recognized Memorial Day with a special reading by Briley Chambers and then dedicated our new flag and flag pole. June 1st, our youth group spent the night at the Creation Museum and also toured the Ark. June 9th, we had six from our Brotherhood play in the golf tournament at Murray and June 24th will be our Homecoming. Mark Bishop will sing at 9:30, Bro. C.C. Brasher will preach at 10:30, and potluck meal at 11:30. Hope to see you there!"

Pleasant Valley: "Ever lost your way? It is not a great feeling. Shipwrecked is the theme of our VBS Bible school this year, June 26-29th. The writer of the song, "Work Till Jesus Comes" must have been a VBS worker and felt inspired. It is definitely a time that you can earn some stars in your crown. It is a busy but blessed time. It is a resource tool that has led many youth to find the way to salvation. The Ladies group is hosting a Dad's and Donuts on Father's Day. I remember my mom sitting me down to sing a song to my dad. It was "Dear Daddy". At the time, I was concerned about how I performed but when I got older, I understood the words of that song and it became a precious song. I am thankful God blessed me with such a wonderful earthly dad. The words of that song say, "Have you told that ole daddy you love him today?" Take the time out to tell your dad and don't forget to let your Heavenly Father know how much you love Him from whom all blessings flow. We got another addition to our congregation. Hunter Eugene James Erhlich was born on June 4, 2018. Travis and Cari, his mom and dad, took him to church and dedicated him to the Lord. Bro. George and the Deacons said prayers of blessings over his life. He has an older brother, Connor Gibson. Bro. Eugene & Jessie Powell are filling in on Wednesday nights at Little Cyprus. They have been such blessings. We miss them but God just keeps using them for His work. Hope you are soaking up the joys of summer and may God bless each and every one."

Union Ridge: "Our first Block Party went very well. We got to meet a lot of new people in Pirates Cove. We enjoyed good food and everyone had a great time. We had another amazing Vacation Bible School. We had 33 kids to raise a total of \$338.42 during the week. That money will be donated to CASA By The Lakes. These kids worked hard all week and that money is going to a good cause to help other kids. We had 60 enrolled in V.B.S. counting the workers."

Vanzora Baptist: "Vanzora is entering the Summer season full of energy and ready to share the message of salvation! On June 3rd, we welcomed Danielle Barrett, Mikayla McKeough, Jesse Soto, Jordan Crass & Dylan Morris to the church body through baptism, and Heather Soto joined by statement. At the end of the service Chris Beecham gave his heart to Christ. Our Spring League 2018 Basketball program for youth and adults wrapped up for the summer. Several participants accepted Christ through this program, and many of the youth were also able to attend the Idols Aside program in Paducah featuring NBA champion AC. Green, and witness others coming to Christ. Some of our other recent activities include a special day of fishing for the youth; thanks to Thomas and Shannon Thompson, who organized the event at their home. Also, thanks to a gracious anonymous donor, we have a new sign in front of our church. We are actively preparing for Vacation Bible School "Game On" on June 24-28, from 6-8:30 p.m. each night. We can't wait to see what God does in our future!"

**Blood River Baptist Association
Board Meeting
July 12th @ 6:30PM
Hazel Baptist
301 Gilbert St.
Hazel, Kentucky**

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

Mark's Memos

On behalf of my father, Oral Sickling, and the entire Sickling family, I want to express my appreciation for all of the calls, texts, and prayers that have been offered on our behalf since my mother's passing. Your prayers and the presence of the Great Comforter in our lives have certainly helped sustain us as we have been walking through the "valley of the shadow of death."

I also want to express my appreciation to all who served in this year's Jerusalem Project. We had several volunteers that led morning and afternoon Backyard Bible Clubs at Dexter Baptist Church. We also had a construction team that tore down an old deck and replaced it with a new deck for a widow in Dexter. Finally, our Associational WMU director, Dee King enlisted a number of churches to prayer-walk our schools and government facilities.

I want to remind our pastors and church members that our **Scholarship Trust Fund Scholarship deadline for the fall semester is August 3**. If you have a student that is preparing for ministry, please encourage them to contact the office to receive a scholarship application. We want to help as many students as possible equip themselves to serve the LORD and our churches.

I realize that it is only JULY, but October will be here before we know it. So, if you are responsible for any part of our budget (Personnel Committee; WMU; Brotherhood; Youth: Transportation, etc.) please be thinking about and preparing your 2019 Budget Proposals. The Budget and Finance committee will begin that budget preparation process soon. So, please have those 2019 Budget Proposals back to us no later than August 15, 2018.

We had a small hiccup with the Bags of Hope Building, but things are progressing now. I hope all of the deed work will be completed soon, so we can begin making the needed repairs and renovations. I want to thank those churches that have already sent in funds to help with those repairs.

I am excited to report to you that Dr. Kevin Harris began serving as pastor of Poplar Spring Baptist Church on June 3; Bro. Scott Penick began serving as pastor of New Harmony Baptist Church on June 17; and Bro. Tom Winston began his service as pastor of Old Salem Road Baptist Church on June 24. Continue to pray for Salem; Hamlet; Kirksey and New Mt. Carmel as they seek pastors. Serving Him Together, Bro. Mark



July 25, 2018

EMAIL US AT:

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Remember to limit your words to 200