

Blood River Review

NEWSLETTER OF BLOOD RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION



March

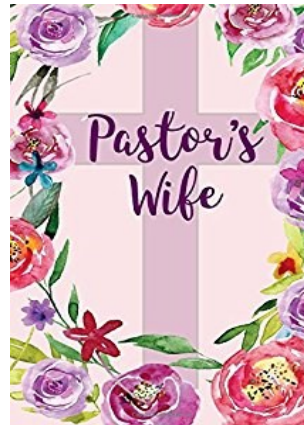
- 2nd - Robin La Chance, Bethel
- 7th - John Bedwell, Spring Creek
- 11th- Charles La Chance, Bethel
- 13th- Erin Clark, (BCM)
- 15th- Jack Henshaw, New Mt. Carmel
- 15th- Chris McKenzie, Sinking Spring
- 21st- Bonnie Coffenberry, Pleasant Hope
- 23rd- Mark Thweatt, New Bethel
- 28th- Leslie Miles, Northside
- 31st- Doug Sanders, Bethlehem

Church Anniversary

- 1st Sunday**
Brad Walker, Briensburg (2010)
- 2nd Sunday**
Ed Chapman, The Spring (2013)
Damian Alvarez, El Manantial (2015)
- 4th Sunday**
Shawn Hanes, Cherry Corner (2010)
Rick Yarbrough, Ledbetter (2016)



- March 4 - Rick & Charlotte Yarbrough (2011)**
- 18 - Randy & Karen KuyKendall (1978)**
- 28 - Mike & Alice Farmer (1975)**
- 30 - Duane & Carolyn Holland (1968)**



Don't Forget!!

Sunday

March 4th

Pastor's Wife's

Appreciation Day

"Please Let her know you appreciate her"



The Clothes Closet @ BRBA is wanting to move the winter items to make room for the spring and summer items.

Please come and check us out Thursdays 10 - 2 Pm

Everything is FREE pass the word!

NOTES FROM THE FOOD PANTRY

In January we were able to help 127 families. We gave out 3,193 food items, 219 bread items and 251 Hygiene items.

As our new families increase every month, so does our need for food contributions. Our food donations have been down for the last couple of months.

We send out each month a list of items for each church to collect. We pray that your church will continue to collect those items for us as the need is great.

Thank you for your continued support.

ATTENTION PRAYER WARRIORS: Blood River Baptist Association's food pantry, The Bags of Hope has been given notice to evacuate the building we have been using by March 12. We are currently exploring options on where to house this ministry of our association. If you would be willing to assist come moving day, please call Sandy at 270-437-4203.

Salem Baptist Church: Bro. Jim continues to be our Interim Pastor as the Pastor Search Committee continues to search for the man that God wants us to have in the pulpit. Bro. Jim and Murdena celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Feb. 4. We wish them many more years together. We have had a couple of deaths in our church family recently. We extend Christian sympathy to them. Some of our church family have had surgery, and some have been in the hospital. We pray they will be back in church soon. Bro. Kevin Riley brought the messages on Feb. 11. It was good to meet him and his wife, Tonya. Bro. Kevin used to preach at Antioch Baptist Church. We continue to pray for the students and families in Marshall County. We are continuing to plan for our 170th Anniversary coming in April. It will be a day of reminiscing with former pastors, member and guests. God is so good to us.



Free to good church or home, Hazel Bapt. Has an Organ that they would like to donate please call Bro. Jordan Roach if you are interested.

(270) 873-9222 or Hazel Bapt. 270-492-8664



Don't forget about the children's Racer event at Dexter Baptist Church March 10th @ 9:00am Please call Blood River Baptist Association if you are in need of a kit so Ms. Sandy can be ordering them for you.



Fellowship Meal

Upcoming Times of Fellowship:

- April 14: Men's Breakfast- Host church need!!!
- April 17: Retired Ministers/wives luncheon at Majestic Steak House in Draffenville
- March 18: Minister's prayer breakfast at BRBA 6:30 a.m.

CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS

Hamlet
Kirksey

Salem
New Harmony

Poplar Springs
Old Salem Rd.

UPCOMING Events

February

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 8 6:30 PM Exc. Board Mtg. Sinking Springs Baptist Church
- 10 9-12 AM Strategy Review & Dream @ BRBA with Eric Allen
- 11 Race Reconciliation Sunday
- 12-18 Focus on WMU
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 Valentines Day
- 22 Washington's Birthday

March

- 4 Pastor's wives appreciation Day
- 5-11 Week of Prayer for North American Missions/Annie Armstrong Offering
- 8 6:30PM Mission Board Mtg. New Zion Baptist Church
- 10 9:00 AM Children's Racer Event Dexter Baptist
- 11 Daylight Savings Time
- 17 Saint Patrick's Day
- 18 Substance Abuse Prevention Sunday
- 20 Spring Begins
- 25 Palm Sunday
- 30 Good Friday Office Closed

April

- 8 Cooperative Program Sunday
- 8 4:15 PM 1st Place Victory
- 9 6:30 PM 1st Place Orientation BRBA
- 12 6:30 PM Mission Board Mtg. Poplar Spring
- 14 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast TBA



Week of Prayer
March 5-11

New Bethel: Our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for December went pretty well. The annual Baby Bottles for the H.O.P.E. Clinic fund raiser has begun and we need to fill those bottles with change, cash or checks. Pick up a couple and you will be blessed. Lifeline Screenings will be here at New Bethel again on Feb. 12th. Sign up for these affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings. On Jan. 24th, the night after the shooting at the High School, we had a special prayer service for Marshall County High School. We had special speakers Bro. Daniel Culp, a Deacon from Southland Baptist Church and Bro. Mark Sickling, BRBA Director of Missions. Bro. Mark Thweatt, our Pastor spoke, Bro. David Belcher a Deacon at church, Amy Waggoner, a former principal at MCHS and Rachel Solomon a MCHS graduate and MSU student and Youth leader at church. Keep Bro. Mark and Jackie in your prayers, pray for all the families of the kids who were wounded and recover and also pray for the boy who did the shooting and his family.

Pleasant Valley Baptist: Marshall Strong and Jesus Strong has been the focus of our community and our home church. We had nine of our own students who were in close proximity of the shooter on January 23, 2018. God is working good things thru such a tragedy. It has been heart warming to see how people from all over this state and nation have joined in prayer for those involved. Three of our students, Jalyn Bedwell, Faith Pratt, and Travis Morris did talks at the church. Their faith is where their strength has come and have been inspiring others and even talked about forgiveness. Sometimes in the midst of our trials we see how our faith stands the test. They spoke of students who had given their souls to Christ. We are so proud of all of them and thankful for God's protection. Our prayers continue to go out to all the victims and their families....especially to those of Preston Cope and Baily Holt. Robin Bedwell decorated our table, pulpit area, and doors in honor of Marshall County High School. Several of the members donated for the display football jerseys, trophies, and yearbooks. Members have worn orange and blue shirts to show our hearts are united in prayer & support with our county in this heart breaking tragedy. Our Sweetheart Banquet will be delayed because of the events of the shooting but the youth are back to practicing at this writing and the event will be scheduled around the end of March or first of April. We do want to welcome some new members to our church. We are pleased to have Randy and Toni Powell and Brian Grimes to join our church. Randy is the son of Bro. Eugene and Jessie Powell. Everyone knows Bro. Eugene. He and Jessie have been such a blessing filling in for Bro. George when needed. He is willing to pitch in wherever needed. February is the Love month. Don't forget to tell your Valentines, Jesus and our Heavenly Father how much they mean to you, because the greatest of these is Love. May God bless Marshall County and all of our churches.

Oak Grove: To show our appreciation to Bro. Carl, we started the month with a surprise birthday breakfast with good food and a basket full of birthday cards. His birthday was January 10th, and this really mad his day and gave him a good start for the month. Our services were cancelled on Jan.14th due to the beautiful snow that we enjoyed. The regular business meeting was held on Jan. 21. We elected a committee to attend a meeting in Paris, TN on Feb. 11th regarding church security. This program is sponsored by the Henry County Sheriff's Dept. We also voted to purchase a new computer system and cameras to video the morning worship service. Jan. 28th, we were blessed to have 2 new members, Joe & Melissa Frazier unite with our church. The WMU Women of Hope were busy making plans for the Winter Tea event for all the ladies, and our men were busy deciding on the menu and getting ready to Serve the ladies.

Union Ridge: On January 23rd, our community suffered a terrible tragedy with the shooting that took place at our high school. Our community mourns the loss of two of our students. We came together in prayer and support for the families who lost their children and for the children that were injured. Our community showed people from all across the country how to "Love your neighbor as yourself" and how prayer can change things for the better.

Pleasant Hope: Hello again from Pleasant Hope Baptist Church, We are still keeping the Youth of M C in our Prayers as we are sure everyone is. We have still had a lot of people sick Bro. Bill Jones had his back surgery and was at church Sunday ready to dance a jig they say. Our Wednesday Worship for Youth has grown, we had 2 young ladies baptized on the 4th and welcome them to our Church Family. We had a Gospel Singing on the 3rd and a great turn out and wonderful singing led by our own Bro. Johnny and many surrounding churches. We have been busy collecting food for the Bags of Hope, snacks for the school, started collecting our toys for Christmas shoeboxes and Freeda Harris Center, So we have had an exciting time to Celebrate our Lord and Savior this New Year because He is Good All The Time even in the darkest night.

Sugar Creek: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres. **1 Corinthians 13: 4-7.** The month of Feb. is about love and we are so thankful for Gods love. We celebrated with our annual Valentines potluck dinner Feb. 11th with lots of good food and great fellowship. Coming up this month we are going to visit nursing homes in the area to share Gods love and hand out blankets that our youth has been making on Wed. night. Our Baptist men's day has been postponed due to the severe weather we have had; a new date will be scheduled for that event. Come and visit us at Sugar Creek Baptist Church! **"Surrender to what is. Let go of what was. Have faith in what will be."**

Symsonia Baptist: We had a great Men's Day with special guest speaker Roger Woods for the breakfast and Bro. David Hitchcock during the morning and evening services. In honor of Sanctity of Human Life, we are filling baby bottles with change to help "The Hope Center" pregnancy and family center raise money to help provide free services to families. A group of 17 people from our church is going on a mission trip to Guatemala in March for "The Walk A Mile Project". They will be helping with building projects, medical treatment, and will be purchasing water filters for the villages to have clean water. Welcome to our newest members: Briar Overstreet, Emma Overstreet, and Lillian Overstreet.

Vanzora Baptist: Vanzora Baptist has been going through many changes over the course of the last year. We have had to say goodbye to dear friends who have been called home to be with the Lord. Like our sister churches, we have also been in prayer for our brothers and sisters in Christ who have been battling sickness, cancer, and the loss of loved ones. Also, one of our congregation members lost his great-nephew, Preston Cope, during the tragic shooting at Marshall County High School, on Jan. 23, 2018. But in the midst of these trials and sorrows, we have also had much to rejoice about. Our congregation has welcomed the birth of several babies, the addition of more children and families utilizing our van ministry, and most importantly, we've seen an increase in the number of people coming to Christ. Over the course of eight weeks, we have welcomed Katelyn & Sydney Tucker, Blayne Lynch, Jesse Tucker, Amarah Alderdice, and Cheyenne Maynard through confession and baptism, and these teenagers are already becoming active, involved members of the Church. We have welcomed new members who have not been to church in a while, or who have family members or friends already attending Vanzora. We owe this growth to the leadership we have in Pastor Mike Farmer, whose passion for outreach is unwavering. Vanzora has come alongside HR Prison Ministries, of Princeton, and our men and women have been bringing the Gospel to inmates in local county jails through the Malachi Dads program, and the Rubies program for ladies. Not a month goes by that there isn't someone who comes to salvation because of these visits. In addition to these outreach ministries, we continue to make time for fellowship. We have enjoyed activities such as a field trip for the youth to "Walk Through Bethlehem," in Mayfield, during Christmas. We've had a Secret Pals program running through the Fall, and on Feb. 9, invited individuals and families to participate in our annual Valentine's Dinner. So far we are off to a good start for the new year.

**Blood River Baptist Association Board
Meeting
March 8th @ 6:30 PM
New Zion Baptist
2900 Wadesboro Rd. South
Benton Kentucky**

Mark's Memos

As I sit and stare at my computer screen and ask God for words of wisdom that I might impart to you, another community in our nation, like us, is reeling after senseless mass murder at a public high school in Florida.

I have been encouraged to see how our community and our state has rallied around Marshall County since that tragic day in January. In this edition of our newsletter you can read how some of our churches have ministered to students and families affected by this tragedy.

The nightly news reported last night that there have been 18 school shootings this school year in the United States. What is wrong with our society?

Brothers and sisters in Christ, regardless of whether our politicians in Washington; our media outlets in New York and elsewhere; or the Hollywood elite want to admit it, the problem in our nation is not economic; educational; philosophical; political; or even psychological in nature. **The problem in our community; this state; this nation; and around the world is that men and women, boys and girls all over this community and around the world are walking around with a terminal disease in their heart called SIN.**

The GOOD NEWS is that this heart problem in our community; our nation; and the world has a solution...and **HIS NAME IS JESUS CHRIST**. The Bible tells us, *"If My people, who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and heal their land."*

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I encourage you to use the current environment we find ourselves in to begin gospel conversations with people in your circle of influence. Let's get off the bench and get into the game, our LORD is counting on us to share the Good News with people in our community who are lost in their sin.

Praise the LORD, I know many of you are doing just that, because I know several of our churches that have baptized new believers in recent weeks. Let's continue to shine our Light For Jesus and be His obedient witnesses.

Please pray for our sister churches seeking Pastors(Hamlet; Kirksey; New Harmony; Poplar Springs; Old Salem Road; and Salem) and the interim pastors that are currently leading these churches.

Serving Him Together,
Bro. Mark

February 19, 2018

EMAIL US AT

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You MUST LIMIT your article to 200

WORDS!



Blood River Baptist Association

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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